

Trip to Ottawa— 'emotional high'

Being awarded the National Potato Award was one of the many highlights on Steve Buchanan's Adventure in Citizenship trip to Ottawa on May 11.

Steve, a grade 12 Acton high school student, was one of 276 teenagers chosen by the same number of Rotary Clubs across Canada to represent their community in Ottawa.

The Ottawa Rotary Club sponsored the whole project, with the separate clubs paying the way of the student.

Steve was chosen for his academic achievements and his participation in school.

When his plane landed at Ottawa airport, Steve received his first taste of organization and sense of being welcomed. A booth was set up at the airport for the students arriving by air which supplied them with kits about the coming four days.

The students were billeted in homes of Rotary members or their friends. Steve was especially honored to stay in the home of Archdeacon Christie, archdeacon and neighbor of the Governor General. It was here he met his friend from Calgary.

For the rest of the day, Steve was given the grand tour by the Christies.

The actual program began Monday morning, when all 276 students gathered at the Parliament Buildings where they talked with former Prime Minister John Diefenbaker. They had a group picture taken before having a tour of the House of Commons and Senate. An hour and a half was spent in each of these places, with the

students sitting in their own member's chair. Pictures were allowed to be taken, something which is not allowed by the general public.

While in here, everything in the chamber and the workings of the governmental system were explained to the group. With the whole project bilingual, the students got a chance to listen on special earphones for the French version of what was being said.

A formal luncheon was held in the ballroom of the Chateau Laurier, with Donald Jamieson speaking to them.

Following the luncheon, the students were split up into separate groups and went to different embassies. Steve went to the People's Republic of China embassy, receiving the honor of being one of the first persons to be allowed in. Here he met the ambassador, the high commissioner, and other noted dignitaries.

Steve felt as if he had walked into a different country when he walked in the building. Everything was in Chinese, with no hints of the western world.

A dance Monday evening gave the students a chance to get to know each other. However, even by this time, according to Steve, most of the people knew each other, and became good friends.

Tuesday, the group prepared for a debate. It was a simulation of Parliament in the Ottawa University. The topic was Confederation—renegotiable?

In the afternoon, the 276 students were given a special concert by the R.C.M.P. band, and a tour of their

headquarters.

Wednesday morning was the debate. Each region chose a leader and although no particular side was chosen the winner in the debate, they all had a good time.

The afternoon was very special to Steve, as they had a formal tour of the city with the R.C.M.P. escorting them. Six buses were taken, and all the main thoroughfares were closed to traffic as the buses took them around.

Helps eastern neighbours
A tree planting ceremony was next, with each province planting one tree. With 97 students from Ontario, their tree was planted in no time. However, there were only two girls from Prince Edward Island, whom Steve helped plant their tree.

On Thursday, there was a windup banquet. Students, their billets, and other noted dignitaries were invited. Each province had a representative giving a speech, and it was then that Steve received his Potato Award.

The girls from P.E.I. awarded it to him for his federal aid for helping plant the tree and for his excellent choice of a delegate from P.E.I. to give the speech. (It was Steve's idea for this particular girl to speak.)

Just prior to the banquet, each student received his or her citizenship papers from Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, who spoke to each individually.

Many close friends
"You get an emotional high when you see people like this," he commented on his new friends in general. "We all became very close." He left Ottawa on May 15 feeling very patriotic, and he knows everyone else did, too. "When we sang O Canada at the end of the banquet, I sang it like I never sang it before."

He was very impressed at the organization of the whole project. "Everywhere we went, people knew why we were there. We were treated like V.I.P.'s," he said.

The trip to Ottawa unfortunately fell on the same day as the Halton Track and Field meet, which Steve was going to enter. Without his qualifying at this meet, he was unable to advance to other more wide-spread meets but, "It was more than worth it. I'll never forget the trip as long as I live."

Steve had to agree with his friend from British Columbia that no matter how much detail they go into when telling about the trip, they will never be able to express how it felt to be so important.



STEVE BUCHANAN was the Acton Rotary's representative at the Adventure in Citizenship project held in Ottawa, May 11 to 15. Steve met such noted dignitaries as Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, John Diefenbaker, Donald Jamieson, and the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China. He is a grade 12 student at Acton high school.

AHS Notes

by Marg Jongasma

On Thursday, May 29, Stephen Gyns and Carl Cayer, along with the grade 12 Geography and French students will travel to Quebec City. They will be leaving by train from Georgetown on Thursday night and will return the following Monday. An itinerary has been prepared for the students to follow on their trip. All will enjoy themselves.

On Wednesday, May 28, Jim May will be going with 55 grade 11 students to the Royal Ontario Museum from 9.00 to 3.20.

Splash flashes

The purpose of the Red Cross Water Safety Service is threefold: 1. to reduce drowning and water accidents 2. to improve health and fitness, and 3. to encourage the development of ideal aquatic facilities.

June 1 marks the beginning of water safety week all over the country. It stresses fun and safety with common sense in the water. It is one way Red Cross tries to put an accent on public education.

Water Safety originates almost all safety rules, and water safety is no exception, begin with the word don't; don't swim alone, don't dive into unknown waters, don't overload the boat, etc. etc. Public Relations experts have known for years that negative-type messages are best associated with a non-human but likeable character. Thus, "Walter Safety" - a lad with a shock of hair, big round eyes and a two dimensional body, was born. He could be associated with all of the don'ts for safe swimming and boating without antagonizing anyone.

National Water Safety Week began in 1957. Special press, radio and T.V. hits are prepared and distributed throughout the country. Each community water safety committee does something in aid of this special and important week. The public schools can look forward to a visit by the staff of Acton Pool, and the community can take part in the special

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Speyside school



RICK ROCHER, not shown, is the student volunteer teaching Speyside school children the art of tie dying. Alicia Adema and Jimmy Stewart twist their cloths to get the right effects in the arts and craft program.



EMBROIDERY CLASS is well attended. Patty McClure, Susan Fisher, Kathy Griffiths, the teacher's daughter, Diane Schmuki and Alisa Conber are hard at work at their elective in the Speyside school arts and crafts program.

You're Invited to the
OFFICIAL OPENING
of the
GORDON ALCOTT MEMORIAL ARENA
May 31st at 12:30 p.m.

PROGRAM

- 12:30—Ribbon Cutting
- 12:30 - 1:00—Tour of the Arena
- 1:00-2:30—Opening Ceremonies and Program
- 2:30-4:30—Public Skating

Scout and Guide news

by Mark Howe

No one could pass up last weekend's beautiful weather. There were nine mighty tired Scouts in Acton Sunday afternoon. It was a result of a fantastic weekend spent in Niagara Falls, Ontario.

Setup camp
We pulled out from the Scout hall at exactly six o'clock. The camp site was located on the Niagara River between Queenston and Niagara-on-the-Lake. We arrived about eight and helped put up the tents. After the opening horseshoe, Scouter Allan Cole of 10th Niagara took the Scouts on a tour of the campsite area.

As darkness settled in, a game of flashlight tag was organized. We took a break for mug-up (snack) and then resumed the game until about 12.30. The boys were then confined to campsites where they could do as they wished. We have reason to believe that some Scouts saw the sun rise, but no leaders were awake to verify the fact.

Saturday started at 7 a.m. The Scouts were served breakfast and then, after a quick flag break, we all loaded into the cars. We

drove to the Sir Adam Beck generating station, where the electricity for Ontario and New York is generated.

After a short tour, we were driven to the city of Niagara Falls. A kind museum proprietor gave us free admission into his five-storey museum. The Scouts were then given an hour free time after we found the line-up for the Maid of the Mist to be of extraordinary length. We are quite sure that the city had more Americans than Canadians thronging the streets because of the many foreign licence plates.

Guests at camp
We returned to camp for lunch about two. After a short break, all the Scouts participated in a game of soccer. The boys cooked foil dinners for supper. Parents and some Cubs began to arrive about eight for the Campfire. It was an excellent campfire with Rick Saville officiating.

After mug-up the Scouts were driven up to Fort George at Niagara-on-the-Lake. After receiving permission we played an invigorating game of catch the leaders, around the outer defenses of the fort.

Sunday morning, after breakfast, we all drove back to Niagara Falls where we had a ride on the Maid of the Mist. It was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. Acton Scouts left about three Sunday afternoon. Many

thanks go to John Allison and Rick Saville who drove us down and back. Every single Scout go back tomorrow. We will be inviting Tenth Niagara up here in the fall.

Cubs go camping
The senior Wolf Cubs also enjoyed themselves last weekend. James Lambden, Paul Carter, Jock Garton, Frank Goulding, Mark Dawkins and Chris Wood were taken to the Glen Cedar Campgrounds two miles northeast of Bolton. All the district Cubs, who will be advancing to Scouts in the near future, attended the event. Camp Chief, Jean Layman, organized the 49 boys into nine patrols. Friday night the future Scouts went on a night hike. Saturday the Cubs practiced Scout skills, had canoe practice, went swimming in the creek and went on a scavenger hike. All these activities were interspersed with games. At nine o'clock they held a Scout-type Campfire. Sunday morning, after "Scout's Own," (church service), the boys were taken on a nature hike by the district commissioner Gord Douglas and John Lambden took the Cubs on the camp, which everyone enjoyed. It was certainly a valuable experience for these Cubs.

Acton's Cubs will be advancing to Scouts Thursday evening. Parents are invited to attend.

Robert Little News

By Merle McNabb

The students' council is planning to have a dance this Thursday.

The grade sevens are going to Ontario Place this Wednesday. They will be leaving at nine and returning around 3.30.

Most of the classes at our school just finished taking the Halton Board of Education Math Test. Good results were made.

Tuesday, May 27 there was a Jr. track meet at Robert Little. It began at 10.30 and was over at about 3.45. Results will be in next week's column.

FASHION DESIGNING COURSE

Those Interested in an advanced Fashion Design Program in the fall are asked to drop down to Cedarvale Community Centre on Wednesday, June 4th, 1975 from 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. and speak with our instructor Baberel Schirm or call the Recreation Department on Wednesday June 4th at 877-5185.

The Interim Draft Parkway Belt West Plan

is available from
The Ontario Government Bookstore
at 880 Bay Street.
or
The Parkway Belt West Information Centre at
801 Bay Street

For additional information
call 965-3243
(outside Toronto) call
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