

Fall fair in red, president reveals

The 1976 Acton Fall Fair saw red last September, and Acton Agricultural Society President Russell Murray hopes he has a solution for future years.

Secretary-treasurer John Rowe read last year's financial report to members present at the annual meeting

last Tuesday. He announced that although more money was taken in than in previous years, more money was also spent. In the end, he said, the society was almost \$2,600 in the hole.

Mr. Murray blamed the loss partly on Friday evening's rain storm, and partly

on too few people on the fair board trying to do too many jobs. Inflation was another reason cited.

"We cannot afford it (a loss) next year. Next year we could be completely ruined out," he said.

Get involved
Mr. Murray suggested that

more members must get involved in the event, if the fair is to remain the largest agricultural exhibition in North Halton. He stated that he realized everyone worked on a volunteer basis, but further commented that if the members were going to volunteer, they should be

ready to work hard.

The president agreed with past president Ken Murray's statement at the last meeting that Society executives should not sit on committees. He stated they had enough to do overseeing the fair, without being on a certain committee, such as tractor pull or

entertainment.

Ken Murray had also suggested that the board of directors help run the fair; each committee cut \$200 from its 1977 budget; security is on the gates from 9 a.m. if necessary; and the cattle committee get out and get sponsors for their prize

money, as other committees have done.

As head of the cattle committee, Mr. Murray said they upped the prize money last year in order to attract the best of breeds. Doing this, he claimed, would attract more people and also raise the class of the fair.



CINDY MCGILLOWAY holds the bronze medal which she won for taking third place in novice ladies' combination free style and figures competition at London last weekend. Cindy, who is a member of the figure skating club here, was skating in the Great Lakes Winter Skating Festival.

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Hydro court case Tuesday, Feb. 8

A Divisional Court hearing has been set for Tuesday, February 8 at Osgoode Hall to decide whether expropriation hearings for the proposed Bradley to Georgetown hydro corridor can permit evidence and cross-examination of alternate routes.

Lawyers for landowners along the route co-operated with Hydro lawyer Tom Marshall in expediting the hearing before a panel of three judges for what lawyer Dick Howitt called a "precedent setting decision." The Ontario Expropriations Act has never clearly defined whether expropriation hearings should allow evidence or cross-examination on alternatives to the proposed route. Precedents could be used to determine.

Hearing Officer Donald Meyrick adjourned the hearings at Acton Legion hall November 25 when his ruling that such evidence or cross-examination could not be accepted was challenged by lawyers for the landowners. Hydro tried to reopen the hearings again January 24 by asserting counsel for landowners was "dragging its feet" in arranging for a Divisional Court hearing. However, Mr. Meyrick, argued nothing could be decided by continuing the hearings until a decision was handed down by the court. He urged both parties to expedite the court case, noting his report was published four days after the hearings were adjourned November 25.

Lawyers Dick Howitt, Leon Paroian and Ms. Susan Tanner are representing land owners contesting Mr. Meyrick's ruling while lawyer Tom Marshall represents Ontario Hydro. Both parties insist they are interested in speeding up procedures.



WEE ELIZA MCEACHERN, 10 months, was too young to give blood at the Acton Red Cross Blood Donor Clinic at the Legion on Monday, so she was just contented to sit on Red Cross helper Dorothy Corvers knee while her mom was donating blood. Both Eliza and Mrs. Corvers live in Acton.



CAROLE HAYES, Toronto, a clinical assistant, left, takes blood from Laurie McEachern Acton, at the local Red Cross blood donor clinic at the Legion on Monday.

Russell Murray remains president

Russell Murray is, for the second year in a row, president of the Acton Agricultural Society.

Mr. Murray was acclaimed to office last Tuesday evening after first vice president Brent Marshall declined nomination to the top position.

Bert Davidson, upon Mr. Marshall's nomination from the floor, announced he thought Mr. Murray should automatically be president for another year. He explained that now that his first year was over, he could use his experience in a second term.

Mr. Davidson said he thought the young people were coming up the ladder too fast, and not having the proper experience. "I would like to see Brent president," he said, "but he should wait his turn."

Directors
Mr. Marshall was acclaimed first vice president, the same position he held last year, and Brian Evans second vice president.

On the new board of directors are Bill Yundt, Murray Wallace, Rae Swackhammer, Steve Lister, John Ottaway, George Milne, Keith Aitken, Paul Thompson, Cathy Lasby, Ted Brown, Robert Murray, Brian Hammond, Bert Robertson, Garry McEachern and Carmela Gubian.

Meeting at church

Prefer 'St. Joseph's' name for school

A quick consensus of opinion showed the name St. Joseph's School would be preferred for the new separate school in Acton. The quick poll was part of a meeting of interested parents and members of the Halton separate school board and staff, at St. Joseph's church Thursday evening of last week.

Over 30 parents saw a slide presentation and then discussed curriculum, bussing, shared facilities and the school's "principles."

Chairman of the meeting was Cliff Byrnes, director of education for the separate school system. Assisting him was Kay Kenfick, superintendent of program and staff development.

Board members attending were chairman Bob O'Brien, Halton Hills board member Hartley Smerk and Gord Mackan.

In business
Mr. Byrnes began by updating the group on the progress of the Acton Separate School. The board officially signed the lease last Tuesday night, he said, and they are just awaiting confirmation from the Board of Education.

"The school will be in the old stone school presently used by the Robert Little School. The kindergarten students, in one classroom, will have a

half-time teacher. Two grades will be accommodated in each of the other three classrooms, grades one and two together, grades three and four together, and grades five and six together.

There has not been sufficient enrollment for grades 7 and 8 but Mr. Byrnes told the parents these grades could be taught if there were sufficient registration. About 15 students are expected.

The principal will teach part-time.

Share facilities
The separate school students will use the Robert Little school library on a charge back basis. They will also use the Robert Little playground. Gym classes will be in the scout hall, and new equipment will be purchased. Use of the Robert Little gym is also planned, perhaps for half a day a week.

The building will be repainted and structural changes made to provide a staff room. The separate school board will provide furniture and equipment.

Students who are presently bussed for those grades will continue to be bussed, but arrangements will have to be made for children from the M. Z. Bennett school area. In general the rule is that children be bussed if they would have to walk over a mile to school.

Registration
A registration day will be held at the end of February, conducted by the principal. The principal will be named soon, Mr. Byrnes said. There will be another registration day in August.

An ad in the paper will explain the details, he said.

Lease
A lease has been signed for the stone school for three years, Mr. Byrnes explained, with an option for another two years. He thought it would be 1980 or 1981 before the separate school board has its own building here. He referred to the government's restriction of funds, which limits plans.

"I have every faith the school will grow," he said. He envisions 100 students after the first year.

Principles
Miss Kenfick spoke of the principles of education, laid down by both the Ontario Department of Education and the Separate School Board. She said the school will foster a spirit of mutual respect and the students will develop by achieving success. The principle of continuous progress is adhered to. The idea of grades is not really important, she said, but

rather what the children are ready to learn.

Not different
Questioned by a parent who opposes open concept schools, Miss Kenfick said the children in Acton would not likely notice much difference in the way they are taught. Mr. Byrnes also thought the teaching "strategies" would be the same as at the Robert Little school.

Religious instruction will take 15 minutes a week, or about an hour a day. The staff will also expect the philosophy of Christian beliefs will permeate the program during classroom teaching.

Father Smye will be extensively involved and there will be Masses in the school, Mr. Byrnes said.

In a quick survey, the name St. Joseph's found approval. Mr. Byrnes said there was no problem with the fact other schools in the County have the same name.

Driver age two

Police records of accidents always require a lot of information, and one of their report sheets this week revealed some surprises.

Age of driver: two
Driving experience: None

It happened on Tuesday in the Queen St. Parking lot, when the young son of the original driver put the family car into drive. He sent it on its way right into a parked car.

The Acton car had about \$500 damage and the parked Guelph car about \$300.

Youth strikes store owner

Police are investigating Friday's attack on Mrs. C. K. Browne, who runs Browne's Confectionery store on Main St. N. She was struck on the head by a battle-wielding youth who was apparently trying to rob the store.

Doris Browne told the Free Press that two youths entered the store and started looking around, without saying anything. She said that she asked them what they wanted but got no reply.

Both finally went to the door, where one picked up a large bottle of pop and brought it back to the counter. When Mrs. Browne turned around to get something from the shelves behind the counter for him, she was struck.

Can't print
"I didn't know what had happened," she said. "I

turned around and he was still holding the bottle over his shoulder. You can't print what I said then."

She asked them what she thought they were doing, and got no reply. The youth by the door finally bolted, followed by the youth who struck Mrs. Browne.

Mrs. Browne usually keeps a cane and a shillelagh handy for such situations, but they were out of reach next to her coat in this case.

She put her attacker at the age of 10 or 11. "One had his tongue down to here," she said, indicating a point just above the eyes. The youth who attacked her "had a sad face."

"Most kids are good," Mrs. Browne feels. "They're just cheeky. But then again so am I."

This is the second time that the store has been a target for thieves.



THE SHILLELEGH in Doris Browne's hand was brought over from Ireland years ago for her father. She now keeps it nearby to protect her while she works. She was hit on the head by a youth Friday in her store.



LORNE DOBERTHIEN prepared to assist skiers negotiate upward climbs during the Track Three program for handicapped skiers taking part near Collingwood the past few Sundays. Full story on Page B10.

Ted Tyler Sr. dies suddenly on Friday

Acton's second mayor and a former Citizen of the Year, Ted Tyler Sr., is dead at the age of 70.

Mr. Tyler died in Guelph General Hospital Friday evening after being rushed there from the Acton Curling Club, where he collapsed on the ice.

Mr. Tyler was born in London, England in 1907 and came to Acton with his parents in 1910.

His first job was with John R. Kennedy's general store. From there he went to Beardmore and Co. for several years, before purchasing one

truck and going into business himself in 1929. The business boomed, and with his wife, the former Gwen Homewood, and son Ted Jr. he built up Tyler Transport into a fleet of trucks and buses.

In politics
In 1948, Mr. Tyler threw his hat into the political ring and was elected deputy-reeve of the village of Acton. He later went on to become the second mayor of the town of Acton in the 1950's.

It was while Mr. Tyler was on council that Glenca and Lakeview subdivisions were built, and sewers and water

installed in the town. He was instrumental in helping form a Chamber of Commerce industrial committee, and also had such a committee working on council.

During the hunt for industry for the town, Mr. Tyler went to Montreal and other cities to entice industry to Acton, at his own expense.

He was involved in the building of the music centre and scout hall.

He was the first volunteer driver for the Cancer Society branch here, and instituted the service.

While deputy-reeve, he attended meetings of the Public Utilities Commission. This started an association with Hydro. As mayor he served on the PUC in 1950 and was on the body when it was changed to Acton Hydro Commission and control of the water reverted back to council. He sat on this commission until his death.

Three weeks ago, Mr. Tyler was awarded a 25-year gift from the Ontario Municipal Electrical Association, for his service to the Acton community.

Mr. Tyler was actively involved when the new Hydro

office was being built. He also devoted a lot of time to the building and organizing of the Acton Curling Club on the building committee and then on the club executive.

Citizen of the Year
In 1971, Mr. Tyler was proclaimed Citizen of the Year. Les Duby, who was mayor at the time, best summed up the honored guest. "He has always taken a strong stand on issues when he felt he was right, and this certainly has gained him respect and admiration over



(Continued on Page 3) Ted Tyler Sr.

Winter deals another blow

The "Year of the (unprintable) Winter" is seeing plenty of print these days. It just won't quit. The blizzard which struck on January 9 and is still making its presence felt as additional snow coupled with high winds and extreme cold continue to cripple the area.

The high wind, with gusts to more than 80 km per hour (50 mph), threw snow back onto freshly plowed roads and brought near zero visibility in places. Roads in many places were closed, and people reported difficulty getting into Acton.

Some vehicles unable to reach Acton on Highway 25 came up the sixth line of Nassagaweya, which was in better condition.

No mail
Bad road conditions on Friday night forced the mail trucks coming from Toronto out of service, according to Postmaster Gord McKeown. As a result no out-of-town mail came into Acton on Saturday. "I guess we're fortunate," he said. "The Niagara area is still without service."

Telephone lines were kept tied up on Friday night. "Everybody and his brother was calling," said one Bell Canada switchboard operator. Manager Paul Whitaker agreed, saying "bad weather generates more calls."

People were getting a delayed dial tone because of the high volume of calls, according to Mr. Whitaker. He emphasized that there were "no service breakdowns."

Fuel up
A spokesman for Thompson Fuels of Acton reported that fuel consumption this winter is up enormously so far. "This may balance out by May," he added. It is too early to tell yet how much fuel oil will finally be used, but so far the amount is up by about 25 per cent more than the same period last year.

Halton schools were closed on Friday after opening for the morning. Buses were called for the early dismissal before noon Monday night's storm dumped fresh problems on the schools, and all buses north of Highway 5

(Continued on Page 2)