

Halton senior citizens sing, dance in Acton

Upwards of 250 people from round Halton gathered in Acton's Legion for the Zone 13 United Senior Citizens of Ontario annual rally Monday.

USCO president Tom Smith, of Etobicoke, told the gathering that Queen's Park is showing interest in the Link Program, a system in which senior citizens barter for services. One of the main points of the system is that there is no exchange of money involved, Mr. Smith said.

He stressed two themes in his talk. There are many senior citizens' organizations cropping up, he said, and there is a need for more co-ordination and less duplication.

The USCO also wants to become a very strong organization, he said, because it deals with government on questions of housing, pensions, health and leisure time needs.

Speeches aside, the main business of the day was entertainment. And entertainment there was.

Acton Golden Age Club president Bert Davidson introduced the acts, choirs and music groups from Georgetown, Oakville, Milton, Aldershot and Acton.

Starting the bill of entertainment fare were Edith Petch and Maude Lewis, of Georgetown, in a comic duet.

Rousing renditions of old favorite tunes were produced by the Milton Orchestra. The group consists of Mae Crawford, Dorothy Willison, Bill Greenfield, Jim Sorensen, Margaret Biggar, Tom Bradley and Bob Laking.

Minerva Bonner sang a sparkling solo of Bei Mir Bist Du Schon. She is a member of the Oakville Senior Choristers, who were led by Audrey Davis. The choristers rounded off their presentation with a rendition of Let There be Peace on Earth.

The Happy Gang plus a harmonica crew from the Kerr Street Recreation Centre, Oakville, entertained the gathering.

Acton's Golden Age Rhythm Band was able to work in only one rehearsal before they went on stage, but the members scored with All the Nice Girls Love a Sailor, Comin' Through the Rye and the Solo of Danny Boy by Mrs. Cameron Leishman.

The Acton group, under the direction of Mrs. Nellie Merkley, was accompanied by Mrs. Lena Mann and Miss Marjorie Hall on the piano.

The Golden Age Rhythm and members are Mr. and Mrs. Bert Davidson, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Besley, Johnny Watkins, Cameron Leishman, Mrs. Greta Perkins, Mary Massey, Mrs. Jean Precious, Mrs. Willa Morrison, Mrs. Laura Jordan, Mrs. Margaret Capperault, Mrs. Evelyn Near, Mrs. Annie Lambert and Mrs. Catherine McCristall.

Kay Richardson, Bill Fellows and Rita Lester from Aldershot Club 95 read poetry and verse to draw the afternoon's program to an end.



NELLIE MERKLEY leads the Golden Age Rhythm Band in a rendition of All the Nice Girls Love a Sailor. The group performed during the U.S.C.O. at the Legion Monday.

Monday meeting for women

Washday has been moved in Rockwood! On Monday mornings the women are meeting at the home of Mrs. Vera Patterson on Main street for coffee and study. Not since grade school has there been such earnest research and homework done and because they like to do it!

An informal gathering around the coffee cup, gives way to a serious study of the Bible. Answers are discussed and corrected before the next week's assignment is given out.

What prompts these women to return to school habits so willingly?

The studies are approved Bible studies, and are meant to provide an incentive to read the Bible for meaning and application to life. Since the studies are meant to be used by an interdenominational group, the basic concepts of the Christian belief are stressed.

In spite of dwindling numbers in the churches the "house" Bible-study movement is growing. The group is meant to increase, and then split into two, with each group attracting still more students.

A typical comment heard is "I never knew there was so much in the Bible that I could use every day," and "I never thought I'd be studying the Bible on my own, and enjoying it."

How many haven't complained at one time or another at the number of tag days, or door-to-door collections? Mrs. Margaret McPhedran had a story of the benefits of

the donations to the Bible Society; a young Chinese man in Hong Kong was a gang leader and thief, until he studied the Bible while in a jail, and is now a distributor of the "Good News to Modern Man." "I studied to try to find satisfaction somehow, and freedom from my evil life-style, I had tried in my own way to change but I had failed," he said.

"One night God showed me He loved me however wicked I was; I cried out to Him for help and I was changed. Now I want only to tell others."

A blind family in Ceylon with a very meager income saved one tenth of their monthly income to give to the Bible society canvasser, who confided "I was glad the generous donor was blind, so he could not see the anguish

in my heart, as I accepted his gift 'precious with love.'"

Several members of the Rockwood United church's Unit One took part in this study of the work of the Bible society; they were Mrs. Verna Root, Mrs. Jessie Dunk, Mrs. Alvina McDougall, Mrs. Minnie Hatburn, and Mrs. Sytske Drijler.

During the business session the members were reminded of the upcoming Christmas bazaar on November 26; they were asked to bring donations of baked goods and other items for sale at the annual event.

Mrs. McPhedran also provided a thought-provoking study on I Corinthians 13, the Love chapter. Through many clever illustrations she explained that God is love, just

Senior citizens upset on hospital care unit

Advised as "A public meeting and open forum involving information and discussion about your Halton District Health Council," a meeting at Georgetown's St. George's Anglican Church Hall, last Wednesday night, developed into a debate. The debate centred around why Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital Board is still waiting for Ministry of Health approval for construction of an extended care unit, four years after they made application.

Council Chairman Terry Baines and David Corder, area planning co-ordinator for the Ministry's Central West Region, were bombarded with questions from an audience which included several members of the hospital board. Two senior citizens walked out in disgust when they got no assurance the unit will be built.

Judge Kenneth Langdon of the hospital board was the first to express concern, claiming there aren't any extended care beds in the area of Halton Region north of Steeles Ave. The hospital is ready to begin construction, but has been consistently

refused licenses by the Ministry of Health, he said.

"We got the impression the council was just an alter ego for the ministry. My feeling is that the council should tackle the ministry if they agree with us," said Judge Langdon.

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Eden Mills Guide and Brownie news

by Ann Chesworth

The highlights of the past few weeks for the Eden Mills guide company have been many.

The Jean Dance which we sponsored in Eden Mills Hall was a fantastic success, with 140 boys and girls enjoying the splendid (ear shattering) music provided by Tracy Clifford. Incidentally, Tracy donates his D.J. services to the local youth because he feels it is important that teenagers have somewhere they can go and enjoy themselves. Our Guide parents did a superb job as chaperones and we do appreciate their time and support.

The dance was held to welcome our Guide guests from Scarborough, here, in Eden Mills on our fourth exchange visit.

After they arrived on Saturday we took off on a hike along the Guelph Trail to the Halton Railway Museum, where we ate our packed lunches. The railway was especially opened for our benefit and over 50 girl guides with their leaders and parents enjoyed rides on the old streetcars, a tour of the museum and the gift shop. We spent a busy hour practising the construction of wilderness shelters in training for future

camping activities.

The previous weekend we had planned a wilderness camp but had been unable to get a camping permit. In order to convince our Camp Adviser that our location was suitable we changed our plans to a Day in the Wilderness and invited her along to enjoy the sunshine, hot soup and pioneer activities.

Some of our guides took advantage of a beautiful fall professional development day and hiked over an abandoned farm covering four and a half miles. Other guides have been able to work at the Rockwood Nursery School on similar days thanks to the interest of Mrs. Ann Vos, the teacher.

Our four week interest badge program has now been completed with Creative Craft, Leatherworker, Baker and the proposed Sandwich-maker badges being earned between our 32 girls. At Stockton of the Tandy Leather Company, provided all of our Guides with a very enjoyable evening stamping key tags and bookmarks, and seeing movies of more advanced leatherwork. Thirteen girls have completed the Leatherwork badge, and as a result several have taken up Leathercraft as a hobby.

Region to tender

After a prolonged debate Halton Regional Council on Monday night approved the decision of the Administrative Committee to discontinue the region's agreement with a financial agent.

Treasurer Don Farmer told council there were advantages to having an agent when it came to issuing debentures but he acknowledged tendering could save as much as 35 cents for every \$100 sold in debentures.

In accepting the committee recommendation over the recommendation of the treasurer, councillors indicated a preference for the tendering because it allows a competitive situation and possibly better prices.

Mr. Farmer explained a lot of the savings could be lost if he didn't go to the market at the right time with debentures. He explained the financial agents would be in the best position to know when an issue should be sold because they are working in the market every day.

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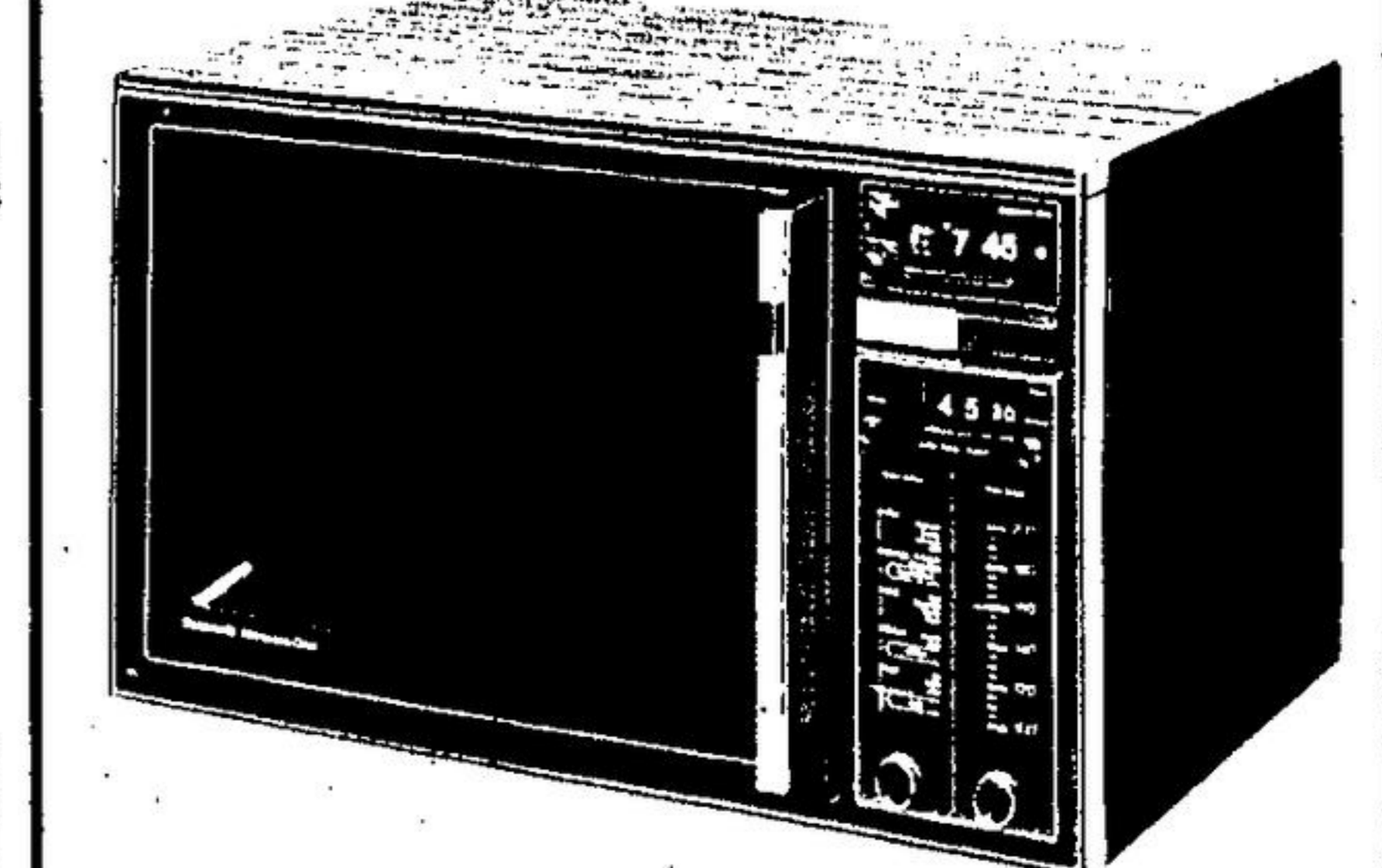
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