

First Christmas carol subject of Yule stamps

The Nativity story, with a truly Canadian flavor, is the subject of this year's Canadian Christmas stamps.

The three new stamps, issued in 10-, 12- and 25-cent denominations, are based on the first Canadian Christmas carol "Jesus Athonhia". Although the carol was originally written in the Huron language by Father Jean de Brebeuf, both English and French adaptations are well-known. All three languages are used on the stamps, making them the first trilingual ones issued by the Canada Post Office.

More than 200 million stamps of this issue were printed by the Canadian Bank Note Company, Ottawa.

"Christmas is a religious celebration to be enjoyed by all, but it is particularly a time for children, and I think the designs chosen this year evoke the wonder and excitement that children experience at this time of the year," said Postmaster General Jean-Jacques Blais.

Soon after disease and warfare decimated the Huron nation, a few of the half-starved survivors straggled into Quebec, bringing with them word of Canada's first Christmas carol. Father Brebeuf, S.J., a missionary, had composed the carol sometime around 1641.

Brebeuf arrived in New France in 1625, hoping to bring salvation to the Indians. After roving with the Montagnais for five wintery months, he departed for the Georgian Bay and Lake Simcoe region, home of the Huron Confederacy. His work was difficult. Only complex political negotiations convinced the Hurons to take him on the grueling voyage to their country.

Later, when plagues ravaged the natives, some threatened to kill Brebeuf and his colleagues, suspecting that they had created the disease through witchcraft. The Iroquois, hereditary enemies of the Hurons, captured Brebeuf in 1649 and put him to death.

The new-found faith of the converts no doubt consoled Brebeuf throughout these trials. In 1642, he noted with pleasure that "The Indians have a particular devotion for the night that was enlightened by the birth of the Son of God... Even those who were at a distance of more than two days' journey met at a given place to sing hymns in honor of the new-born Child." One of the hymns was Brebeuf's own "Jesus Athonhia". J.E. Middleton's interpretation of the carol is reproduced below.



"'Twas in the moon of winter time when all the birds had fled, That Mighty Gitche Manitou sent angel choirs instead. Before their light the stars grew dim, And wand'ring hunters heard the hymn: "Jesus, your King, is born; Jesus is born; In Excelsis Gloria!"

Within a lodge of broken bark the tender

Babe was found. A ragged robe of rabbit skin enwrapped His beauty 'round And as the hunter braves drew nigh, The angel song rang loud and high: "Jesus, your King," etc.

The earliest moon of winter time is not so round and fair As was the ring of glory on the helpless infant there. While Chiefs from far before Him knelt, With gifts of fox and beaver pelt. "Jesus, your King," etc.

O children of the forest free, O sons of Manitou, The Holy Child of earth and heav'n is born today for you. Come, kneel before the radiant Boy Who brings you

beauty, peace and joy. "Jesus, your King," etc.

Ronald G. White, of Stroud, Ont., artist and illustrator of children's books, has used North American Indian motifs to create a fanciful and reverent setting for the Nativity story.

On the 10 cent stamp, the three hunter braves follow the star to the lodge where the infant is found. The 12 cent stamp shows the angelic choir in the subtle and radiant glow of the northern lights in the night sky. The 25 cent stamp depicts the Christ Child surrounded by the "ring of glory," blessing the "Chiefs from far" and their gifts.

Board after Wintario

Halton Board of Education would like a piece of the Wintario pie.

Thursday trustees supported a call by the Simcoe Board of Education that Wintario money be made available for library and general purpose room additions at schools.

Superintendent of Business

and Finance Bruce Lindley from Wintario for a tax support system.

The board agreed with Trustee Don Long who noted the board wouldn't be limiting itself in any way when it comes to grant support by going after Wintario funds. "We have everything to gain and nothing to lose,"

Presentation

A dinner and presentation at Acton curling club Thursday marked the departure of clerk-administrator Doug Pritchard from the Halton Hills staff. About 30 councillors and staff members gathered for the informal get-together.

Mario Venditti, the town planner was chairman. As he received best wishes for his future in British Columbia, Mr. Pritchard was presented with a set of binoculars and a pocket calculator.



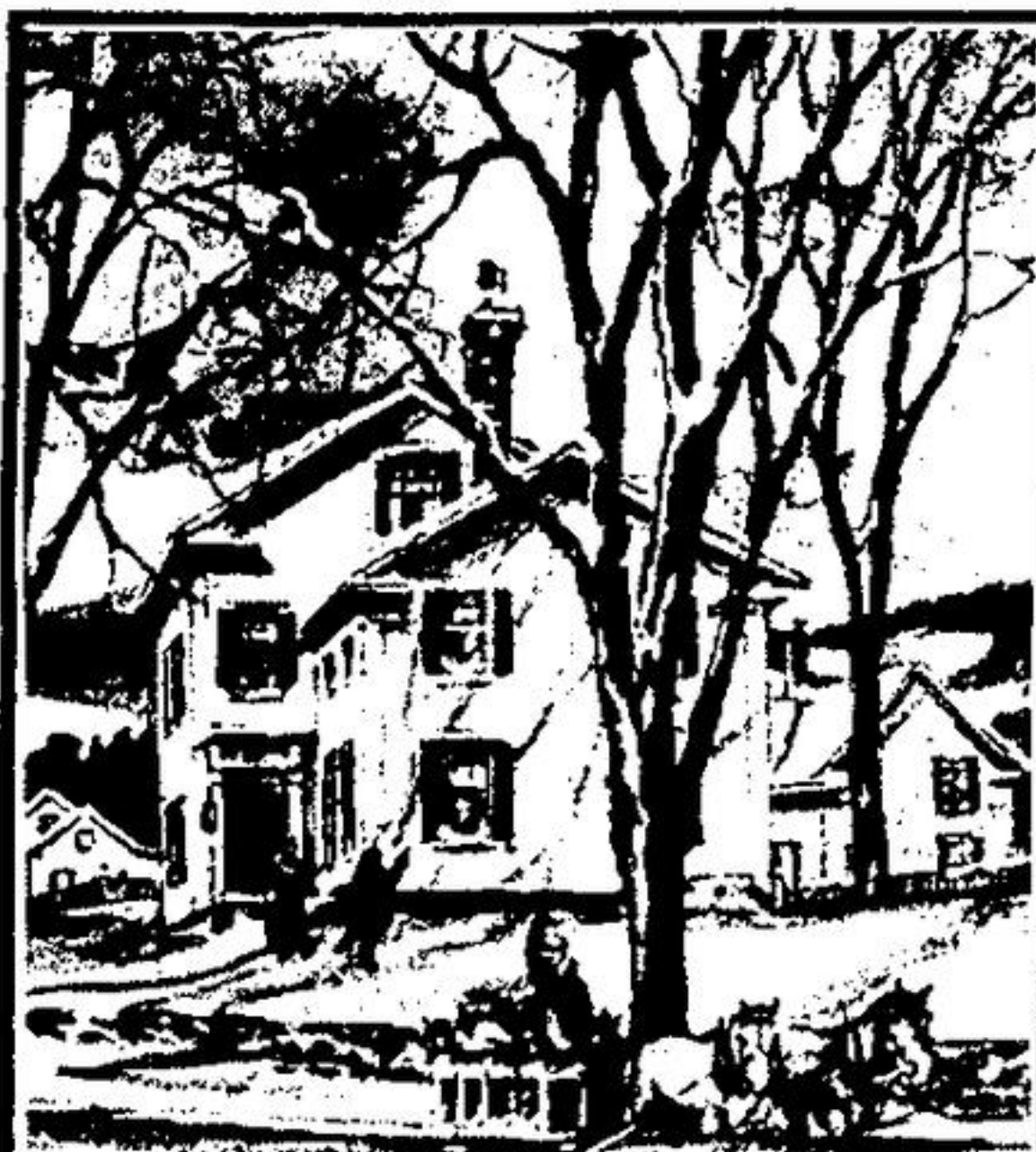
Permits issued

Building permits for Acton for November totalled \$22,900.

Two residential permits were issued for repair, addition or alteration totalled at \$2,900. One permit for a swimming pool was issued for \$3,000 and one institutional permit for \$15,000. A \$2,000 permit was issued for demolition.

MANY HAZARDS

There's no place like home for the holidays... and there's no place like home for Christmas fire hazards. Keep that tree but immersed in water, check those strings of lights for frayed insulation and possible short circuits.



Christmas Joy
As this quiet scene reflects Christmas peace, may all share its true tranquility.
Management & Staff
G. ALEC JOHNSTON LTD.
REALTOR

a note of cheer
at Christmas to you and those you love.

HALTON HILLS ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR
Lyle Prueter 853-2572

There's no time quite like Christmas for remembering all the friends we cherish, and for wishing them all a *Happy Holiday*

DAN KOCIUK, JOHN BUGALA and STAFF

HALTON HILLS COLLISION

Hi at Christmas

We take pride in our many satisfied customers and want to express our appreciation for their continuing trust and confidence.

HOLIDAY HOURS

Service Department
Closed 6 p.m. Friday, December 23 until Tuesday, December 27 at 8 a.m.
CLOSED 6 p.m. Friday, December 30 until Tuesday, January 3 at 8 a.m.

Gas Bar
CLOSED 6 p.m. Saturday, December 24 until Tuesday, December 27 at 6 a.m.
CLOSED 6 p.m. Saturday, December 31 until Monday, January 2 at 6 a.m.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

from **DICK - JAKE - DANNY - MARK**

Shortill's Chalet Service Centre
Corner Churchill Road and Hwy. 7, Acton

Branch 197 news

By Harry Norton
Last Saturday when the power was off things were quite around Acton, Santa Claus decided to slip into the Legion for a rest.

What a surprise! Someone had leaked the news and over 100 excited children were waiting for him. As always old Saint Nick came through and every child got a present. A number of Comrades, also resting at the Branch, pitched in to entertain and feed all the children.

A hearty thanks to Santa and all his helpers. We have been advised that Comrade E.G. Traversy, C.D. the Service Officer of the Provincial Command will be at Branch No. 120, Georgetown during the week of Jan. 9.

If you would like to visit with the Provincial Service

Officer please advise the Branch Service Officer, Vic Patrick at 853-0006 no later than Dec. 26.

At press time team points in the Cribbage League were as follows: Command Records - 82; Legion 'A'-77; Aiton-McIsaac Construction-77; Station Hotel-70; Halton Hills Work Dept.-69; Firemen 'B'-68; Firemen-'A'-67; 230 Club-67; Seven '118'-60; and Die Hards-51.

Livestock killed
The town paid out \$430 for livestock killed by dogs, Monday night.

Reford Garthouse, R.R. 5 Milton received \$200 for a registered ewe, and John Brown, R.R. 2 Acton, \$230 for two geese, two chickens, and two sheep killed and two more injured.



GREETINGS at Christmas

We're wishing you all the pleasures of an old-fashioned Yule, complete with long-lasting peace and joy.

Drs. Robt. S. J. Steen DDS, A. Mikelenas DDS and Staff

HOLIDAY CLOSING
Acton Hydro Electric Commission

CHRISTMAS
From Friday, Dec. 23 - 12 Noon until Wednesday, Dec. 28 - 9 a.m.

OFFICE CLOSED

ALSO

NEW YEAR'S
From Friday, Dec. 30 - 12 Noon until Tuesday, Jan. 3rd - 9 a.m.

For Emergencies: Christmas and New Year's
Phone 853-0813

Town of Halton Hills Recreation Department SPECIAL CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES
GEORGETOWN MEMORIAL ARENA

Friday	December 23, 1977	Public Skating	Noon Hour - 2:00 p.m.
Monday	December 26, 1977	Public Skating	Noon Hour - 2:00 p.m.
Tuesday	December 27, 1977	Shinny Hockey	9:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.
Wednesday	December 28, 1977	Public Skating	Noon Hour - 2:00 p.m.
Thursday	December 29, 1977	Shinny Hockey	9:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.
		Parents & Tots	1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Friday	December 30, 1977	Public Skating	Noon Hour - 2:00 p.m.
Monday	January 2, 1978	Public Skating	Noon Hour - 2:00 p.m.

GORDON ALCOTT MEMORIAL ARENA

Friday	December 23, 1977	Shinny Hockey	9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
		Parents & Tots	1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Saturday	December 24, 1977	Public Skating	2:15 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday	December 27, 1977	Public Skating	1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Wednesday	December 28, 1977	Shinny Hockey	11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Thursday	December 29, 1977	Public Skating	1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Friday	December 30, 1977	Shinny Hockey	9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
		Parents & Tots	1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Saturday	December 31, 1977	Public Skating	2:15 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Monday	January 2, 1978	Shinny Hockey	9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

ACTON ARENA

Friday	December 23, 1977	Public Skating	1:40 p.m. - 3:40 p.m.
Monday	December 26, 1977	Shinny	10:25 a.m. - 12:25 p.m.
		Public Skating	1:40 p.m. - 3:40 p.m.
Tuesday	December 27, 1977	Shinny	10:25 a.m. - 12:25 p.m.
		Parents & Tots	12:35 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
		Public Skating	1:40 p.m. - 3:40 p.m.
Wednesday	December 28, 1977	Shinny Hockey	10:25 a.m. - 12:25 p.m.
		Public Skating	1:40 p.m. - 3:40 p.m.
Thursday	December 29, 1977	Shinny Hockey	10:25 a.m. - 12:25 p.m.
		Parents & Tots	12:35 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Friday	December 30, 1977	Public Skating	1:40 p.m. - 3:40 p.m.
		Shinny Hockey	10:25 a.m. - 12:25 p.m.
Monday	January 2nd, 1978	Shinny Hockey	10:25 a.m. - 12:25 p.m.
		Public Skating	1:40 p.m. - 3:40 p.m.

Admissions:
Public Skating: 35¢ per person, \$1.25 per family
Shinny Hockey: \$1.00 per person

Note: The Arenas will be closed Christmas Day & New Year's Day.

"A Merry Christmas & a prosperous New Year to all our Patrons"

FRONTIER FLORIST & GARDEN CENTRE LTD.
"Quebec's Largest Flower Shop"
R.R. 2, Quebec
3 Miles West of Rockwood

FLORAL DESIGNS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

WE CARRY A LARGE SELECTION OF CHRISTMAS PLANTS, POINSETTIAS, CYCLAMEN, AZALEAS, MIXED PLANTERS, CHRISTMAS AND CEMETERY WREATHS, "TROPICAL" AND FLOWERING PLANTS. SPECIALISTS IN PERSONALIZED ARRANGEMENTS, FRESH, SILK AND DRIED FLOWERS.

"3 Experienced Designers To Serve You"

Free Delivery in Quebec, Acton, Rockwood, Eden Mills

OUR NEW GIFT SHOP IS NOW OPEN

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
CHRISTMAS HOURS
Mon.-Fri. 9-9
Sat. 9-6 Sun 10-5

WE ARE AS CLOSE AS YOUR TELEPHONE
822-2361

Happy Holiday

We hope your Christmas will be carpeted with all the joys of the season

Wall-to-wall thanks for your patronage.

PLEASE NOTE: To allow our staff to have an extended Christmas and New Year's we will be 'CLOSED' Saturday, December 24 at 1:00 p.m. until Tuesday, January 3 at 8:00 a.m.

DON, CHARLIE, VERN and ANNE

Lakeview Centre
MAIN ST. NORTH-ACTON