## Rev. McKenzie reviews 22 years of life in Acton

There is a definite swing back to the church, according to Rev. Andrew McKenzie, minister of Knox Presbyterian church. And with the comeback, come much appreciated volunteers to work with the church.

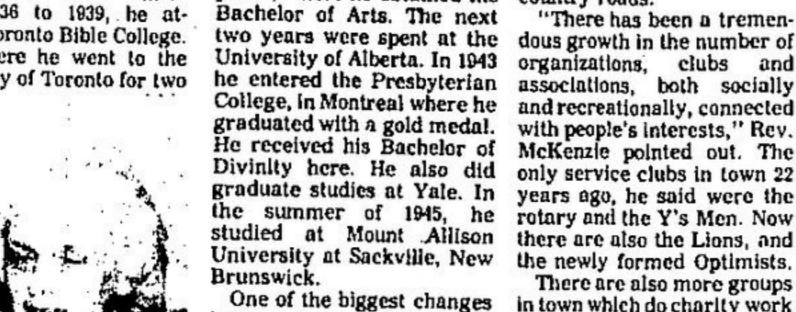
It is these volunteers who are making it difficult for him to leave Acton and the local church after 22 years in town. He will be leaving for a congregation in Perth in January.

Rev. McKenzle explained in the past three years more volunteers than ever before have come forth to help him in his duty to spread the Christian work. "It is leaving these people which is especially hard," he said, and continued "but they also make it easier to leave in that I know they will carry on my

Rev. McKenzie and his family first came to Acton from St. Andrew's church, Islington in 1956. He had spent nine years serving the congregation there. Prior to that he had spent 15 months in three charges in New Bruns-

wick, in 1945-46. years of schooling began in a tended Toronto Bible College. small country school in Huron From there he went to the

school in Hensel and Clinton. Rev. McKenzie's many From 1936 to 1939, he atcounty. He attended high University of Toronto for two



in Acton in the past 22 years is that the vast majority of people are not employed in the town, according to Rev. McKenzie. "A lot of people eat and sleep here, but have not been integrated in the community life."

has changed also, he says. The minister explained that when he first arrived, Glenlea subdivision was only one quarter done, and Lakeview about half-way completed. Since then, Kingham and Bovis have sprung up as well as ribbon development on the

years, where he obtained his country roads. "There has been a trementwo years were spent at the dous growth in the number of University of Alberta. In 1943 organizations, clubs and he entered the Presbyterian associations, both socially College, in Montreal where he and recreationally, connected with people's interests," Rev. McKenzie pointed out. The

> there are also the Lions, and the newly formed Optimists. There are also more groups in town which do charity work for such causes as Muscular Dystrophy, Multiple Scierosis, the March of

Dimes, Arthritis, Cancer,

Red Cross, and the Blind.

only service clubs in town 22

years ago, he said were the

"With all these things going on around us, the church has to compete with the people's The physical appearance interests and time." Rev. McKenzie admitted, "As far as the church is concerned, we are in a more competitive time than we were formerly."

He blames the apathy of the 1960s for the decline of the role of the church. "There was a disinterest in the church, religion, and all other

institutions. Our way of life president from 1964 to 1968, has a 12 year old daughter. was being re-examined at the He has held all offices in the time. However, now there is a Acton Clergy Association, definite swing back to the and eight of his first 12 years church."

McKenzle has officiated at 335 weddings, 420 funerals, (172 members, 248 others), 530 Baptisms (472 children and 58 adults), and received 545 new members into Knox church.

Of the 335 weddings he has performed, 75 to 60 percent of the couples are still married. He blames immaturity for marriage breakup. One immature person can ruin a marriage, but two immature people can wreck it fast, he says.

In between weddings, funerals, baptisms, church services, visits and all other duties expected from a minister, Rev. McKenzie has found time to be president of the Acton Rotary club, in 1960-61, and has been a member for 22 years. He has also been a director of the Chamber of Commerce, and

he was on the board of While in Acton, Rev. directors for the Acton Curling Club. He was president of that group in

> In addition, he has been a member of Walker Masonic Lodge, and the Cutten Club in Guelph. He has been Leglon Padre since his arrival in

Mrs. McKenzie has served on several church groups, and been a member of the curling club also. She recently graduated from University with her Bachelor of Arts in English-quite an accomplishment for a woman who raised seven children before enrolling.

Most of their family, is coincidentally living in where Alberta, McKenzie began his service. Eldest daughter Joanne Anderson is a secretary to a police inpsector in Rexdale. She lives in Bramalea, and

TOWN OF ACTON BUS SERVICE

Son Alan recently graduated with his honors philosophy and is a well site geologist in Alberta working for a Calgary company. Marsha Roughley is a teacher at the University of Alberta, and lives in Edmonton. Husband Rob is formerly from Lime-

study of insects. Next in line is daughter Bonnie Alain who is a bank She and her husband Robert of Acton.

house and is taking his

of Quebec, just presented the McKenzies with their first grandson, Vincent, born in September.

Glen is living at home and is working in the CN express warehouse in Brampton. Daughter Carol lives in Kingston and is engaged to be married to an Acton man. Youngest son is Bill, who is in doctorate in entomology, the grade 10 at Acton high school.

When the McKenzles leave for Perth next month, they will be missed not only by teller in Innsvale. Alberta. their congregation, but by all

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REV. AND MRS. Andrew McKenzie will soon be pulling up stakes in Acton after 22 years, and heading to Perth, where he will serve with the Presbyterian church,

## Christmas meeting for Knox Aid

Twenty ladies attended the Christmas meeting of Knox Ladies' Aid on Wednesday. It wick" was read by Mrs. was the last meeting of the Musselle and enjoyed by all.

Presiding was Mrs. W.J. McIntyre in the absence of Mrs. H. Murray the president, who is ill. She opened with a poem, "Going Home For Christmas".

Christmas Carols were sung to the accompaniment of Mrs. A.K. Mann and Miss Marjory Hall.

Reports were given by the secretary and treasurer and they summarized the year's activities. They had been busy months but enjoyable, and showed a fine financial balance in the bank.

A short business period decided the group would look after the serving of the lunch following the church service the first Sunday in March.

A cheque for a substantial sum of money was approved to be forwarded to the board of managers.

As usual, the sick and shutins of the congregation will be remembered and Mrs. C.M. Davidson and Mrs. H. Besley will arrange for the details.

Roll call was answered by "My Most Favorite Christmas Carol". The devotional part of the meeting was taken by Mrs. E. Beerman reading the Scripture Lesson and Mrs. G. Musselle giving the

Delightful piano duets were played by Mrs. A.K. Mann and Miss M. Hall when they played Silver Bells, Winter Wonderland, Rudolph, the Red Nosed Reindeer, and

LIQUIDATION

Amazing Grace. "A Page from Mr. Pick-

Following the program, there was an exchange of Christmas gifts, and a happy

All were pleased to have a member of long standing. Mrs. E.W. Masters, with them again after a long illness, and many good wishes were extended to her.

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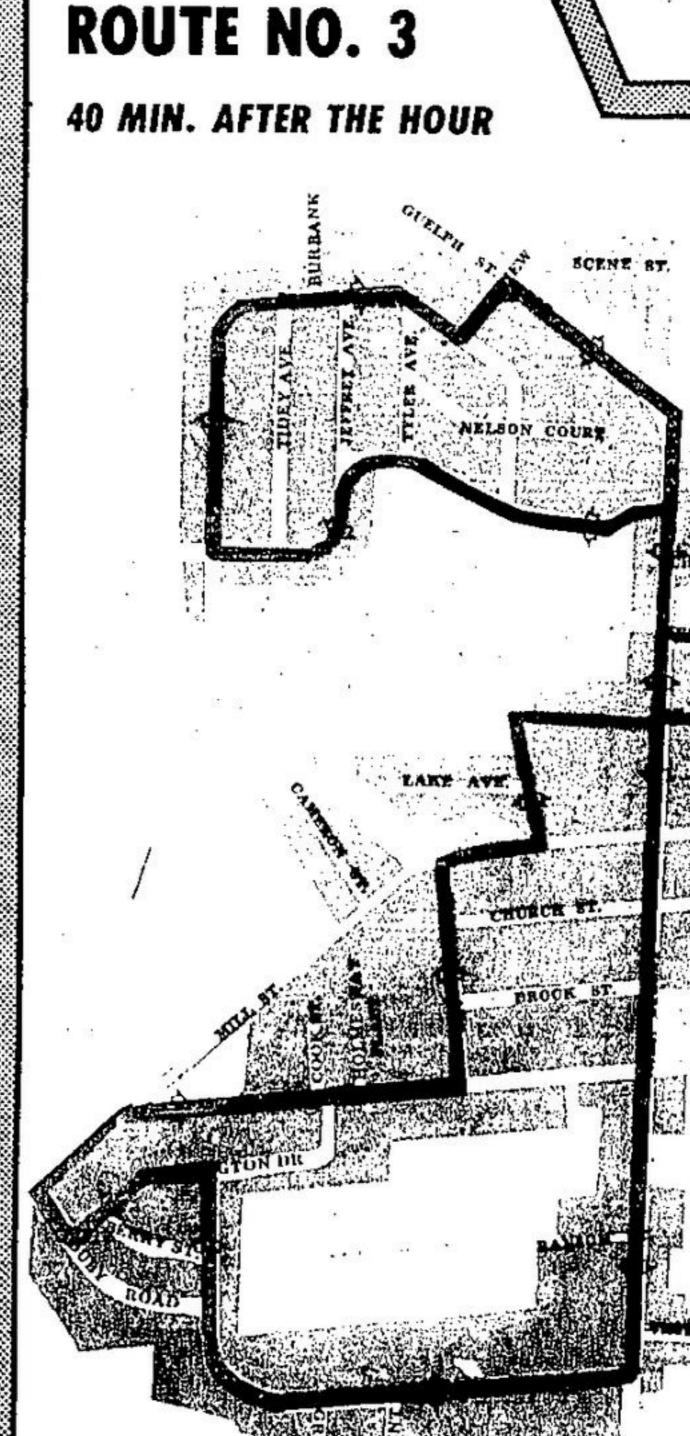
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