



Harry Mainprize quietly celebrated his 91st birthday at his John St., home last Friday, with only a few family members and friends in for the evening. Wife Martha made all the arrangements.

# Harry Mainprize celebrates 91 years

Remember when a shave cost 15 cents and a haircut two bits? Everyone got their hair cut regularly and kept it close to their scalps. It was a long time ago, but Harry Mainprize remembers.

Mr. Mainprize was a barber in Acton for many years before his retirement several years ago. Friday, on his 91st birthday, he chuckled at today's hairstyles. The long hair, the curls and waves but most of all, the prices.

However, Mr. Mainprize does not think everything in the modern barbershop is a joke. Wife Martha laughs when she points out her husband could hardly wait to

have his hair cut by Acton's only female barber. He would never go to a hairdresser, he said, but doesn't object to a woman cutting his hair.

After 40 years as a barber, what does Mr. Mainprize do with all his free time? Nothing, says his wife. Most of the day is spent sitting in front of the window of their John St. home, "watching the world go by." Mr. Mainprize enjoys seeing old friends and new walk past, and in the warm weather, when he sits out, everyone has a kind word to say to him.

He is disturbed however at the number of people who he does not know. He points out at one time he knew every-

one. Now, there are many strange faces.

The soap opera The Young and the Restless is his favorite television show, he claims. He sips orange juice while watching TV, and between glances out the window.

Mr. Mainprize does not know the reason for his longevity, other than the fact his father William lived to be 101 years. He eats a bowl of porridge every morning and thrives on orange juice. He hates carrots, and every now and then talks wife Martha into baking an apple pie.

Mrs. Mainprize feels the good life he has lead has been the reason for his long life.

Mr. Mainprize doesn't think much of the cold weather, and until three years ago escaped it. Two winters were spent in Hawaii, four in California, six in Florida and a few winters spent in Vancouver.

Much of their time in the summer is spent at their son's Muskoka cottage, where they soak up the sun. They label themselves sun worshippers.

The most memorable day in Mr. Mainprize's long life was the day before his wedding day. He almost didn't make it. He laughs as he explains he was to get a ride to the bus station, where he was to catch a bus to Wyevale, where the wed-

ding was to be. However, his friend slept in, and only awoke after the groom knocked on the door.

Mr. Mainprize enjoyed fishing until, he claims, all the fish disappeared from Lake Muskoka. He used to catch some beauties there, but now, it is empty. It seems, he says whenever anyone fishes there, the fish return, but leave whenever he drops his pole in the water.

Even though the days of their winter-long vacations are over, the couple still enjoy the cottage and trips to Montreal to visit son Jack, who is an engineer. They

have another son Bill, at home and a daughter Helen of Guelph. There are six grandchildren and one great grandchild, in Edmonton.

A clock sits on a table in the Mainprize home which was bought the day of his birth, 91 years ago. Both the clock and Mr. Mainprize have grown

**EARLY CAVITIES**  
Dental disease is one of Canada's most common diseases affecting 95 per cent of the population. It is estimated that by age 16 most children have had as many as 10 cavities. Neglect is the main reason most people lose their teeth and 90 per cent

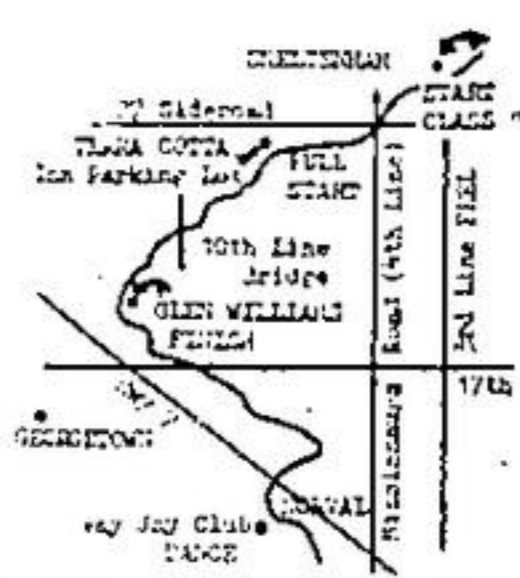
old together, and both are as rare and priceless as the other.

## Georgetown Jaycees

### Launch 12th crazy boat race

The 12th Annual Crazy Boat Race on the Credit River is about to be launched by the Georgetown Jaycees.

Since it started 13 years ago with three boats, the race has grown in size and fame. Last year 105 boats were entered, between 300 to 400 persons participated and an estimated 2,000 persons watched the race.



The race was also telecast nationally on CBC

and CTV and organizers this year are hoping for even more television coverage in addition to press and radio.

The race has grown so much that for the first time its organization is a joint effort between the Jaycees and the Jayettes, assisting on race day are the Acton Outers Club, a team from Georgetown Venturers, and Halton police.

Jaycee spokesmen say the race is done merely for fun and publicity and not meant to raise money, although it does have high commercial value. However, there is fund raising at the victory dance in the evening at the Way Jay Club in Norval where the trophies will be presented to the winners.

This year there are five classes: Class A for two man canoes, Class B comic including home made rafts, barrel boats and, bath tubs among other things, Class C for boats of all types including rubber craft, Class D for crazy craft from community service clubs and Class E for commercial comic crazy craft.

Registration takes place race morning at Terra Cotta Inn. The registration fee is \$5 per craft. There is a \$2 deposit on racing bibs. More information about the Crazy Boat Race can be had by calling 877-5211.



Halton Hills workmen were busy removing dead trees from the banks of the "School Creek" on Monday. The trees were dead and according to one of the workmen there was concern the tall pines may have broken away during severe winds.

### New policy on planting

The practice of the town planting trees on boulevards in front of houses after receiving written requests from owners, will be stopped and a new policy implemented.

Now the town works force will plant trees on boulevards as the streets are being reconstructed, and any surplus of the estimated 100 trees planted yearly, will go to streets unplanted to date.

Town engineer Bob Austin explained he budgets for 100 trees, but around 30 usually go to replace winter-killed trees. He said the "trees on request" program led to hostility and poor public relations, as well as poor distribution. Halton Hills general committee agreed and accepted the recommendation.

### CVCA acquires 115 acres

The Credit Valley Conservation Authority finalized the acquisition of 115 acres of land on the Credit River, north of Highway 24, for \$192,441.40. This land, known as the CAHO

property on the unopened road allowance on the Second Line West in Caledon, was purchased with the assistance of the Richard Ivey Foundation through the Nature Conservancy of Canada.

### GRCA budgets for dam north of town

The Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA), which plans to dam the Eramosa River north of Acton, budgeted \$100,000 this year to buy land near Everton.

The money for land acquisitions is part of a plan by the authority to build, perhaps, a dam at Everton, north-west of town. The lake created by the dam would back along the river valley. The lake would cross Highways 25 and 24 south and east of Ospringe.

The \$100,000 sum was part of the more than \$9-million GRCA operating budget for this year. During the past four years the authority spent \$1.3-million for land in Erin Township.

The proposed dam, so far not a GRCA official project, is ostensibly for flood control along the

lower Grand River, which the Eramosa feeds, at Gall, Preston, Hespler and Brantford. The authority has about 1,200 acres of farm and swamp land in the township. Authority sources maintain the Everton area lands are designated for a reservoir though a final decision to build the dam is yet to be made by the GRCA.

About eight years ago GRCA held a public meeting at Ospringe School concerning the authority's plans to dam the river. Residents' reaction was generally against the project.

Since then a study by University of Waterloo students revealed residents still oppose the project, though many who were interviewed knew little or nothing of the

scheme. The university report also shows farmers resent having to pay for poor decision making. Other residents feel they are getting the worst of the deal. Again farmers are concerned about the loss of land and homeowners are disturbed about changes in their home atmosphere. The report was finished last year.

### Blaze guts Fergus core

An early morning fire gutted businesses in a century old section of downtown Fergus Saturday.

The Red and White food store and a bakery are out of business while nearby Home Hardware and sweet shop received smoke damage as a result of the fire.

The Ontario Fire Marshal's office is investigating. No estimate of damage has been released by Fergus fire chief Wally Ward.

Guelph and Elora firefighters helped Fergus battle the blaze which broke out at five o'clock

in the morning. No one was injured though several apartments were damaged.

The stores and apartments are located in a long row of three-story units which were built in the 1850s.

An explosion and fire sent apartment dwellers into the streets. Many lost clothes and other possessions.

Service clubs and the Royal Canadian Legion in Fergus are helping victims. Other aid is coming from as far away as Guelph, Acton, Orangeville, Alma and Erin.



Halton Hills Mayor Pete Pomeroy made himself available to citizens at Acton's public library last Tuesday (March 6) evening. Phil Macdonald, Rosemary Rd., was one of a few with whom the mayor chatted.

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