

## On the Leavell

With Helen



Acton churches will be holding their ministerial exchange this Sunday to begin a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

Acton Baptist minister Jean Stairs and Trinity United's Andy King will be trading pulpits, and Salvation Army Captain Wilson Perrin and St. Alban's Anglican Church minister Art Tribe will be taking over each other's Sunday duties. St. Joseph's Catholic church priest Ralph Diodati and the Pentecostal's Cliff Hodgson will be standing in for each other.

Gerald Rennie of Knox Presbyterian Church will be conducting an ecumenical service at Knox on January 30.

Dave and Sue Sale, and children Margaret and Jim, have been busy the past few weeks with company from Australia.

Dave's brother Peter, wife Donna and son Darian, from Sidney were at the Sales' RR 3 Acton home for one week at Christmas before heading to

Baysville to spend time with Dave's parents. They returned last week to spend another three days in Acton before heading home on Sunday.

The family usually comes home every couple of years to have a visit.

Talent will be coming out of the woodwork at McKenzie-Smith Middle School on February 8 for a talent show entitled Tunes and Talents.

Not everyone will be amateurs. The Royal City Ambassadors (Barbershoppers) from Guelph will be on hand, and the brand new McKenzie-Smith school band will make its first public appearance. Other talent from the school will also entertain.

Tickets are \$3.50 for adults and \$1.50 for children for the 7.45 p.m. show to be held at Acton High School. Come out and have a good time. It will be well worth the money.

I can't tell you yet who the local talent is. As of this writing the auditions haven't been held. Besides, I wouldn't want to spoil your surprise.

The Excursions Gallery in the Artisans' Village at the olde Hide House will be showing the works of Carole Black, from the Norval area, who makes handmade period costume dolls. With her will be Elmira's Edna Bowman with her patchwork quilts. The displays will be on from now through to January 30.

500 Club winners for last Saturday were: 66, A. Burton; 27 Kay Hotchen; 340 Al Holmes; 484 Phil Pumpfrey; and 75, Ivy Hall.

I got a call from Ed Hawes last week to tell me a bit of news on the mourning dove.

Ed was challenging Bill Benson who the week before had told me he saw two mourning doves in his backyard, and said it was very rare to see them around in the winter.

Well, according to Ed, mourning doves don't migrate south in the winter, but stay around here. Ed says he has seen as many as 30 at a time at his bird feeder in his backyard on the Sixth Line, all year round. And he says, he's been feeding them for six or seven years now.

Ed says the more snow the more birds. This year being a poor year for snow, he hasn't seen as many birds. He figures they do not have to rely on his bird feeders and are getting their own food.

Ed admits that the mourning dove stay in the bush in the winter, so an urban person wouldn't see as many as he does. Living on the edge of a 75 acre swamp helps him see a lot of nature.

Not knowing too much about birds, I have to rely on other sources. I thank both men for calling me. Until Mr. Benson called, I had never heard of a mourning dove.

## Township committee members are named

Eramosa Township Council last month made several appointments to various boards for the coming year. Reeve Murray Cox was appointed to serve

on the Guelph-Wellington Fringe Area Liaison Committee, while John Galda, Rita McPhedran, Lawrence Lloyd, Ken Mackay and Betty Marshall were all named to the Eramosa Library Board. The Rockmosa Community Centre Board will consist of Elda Jackson, Don

DeLaporte, Gary Ritchie, Walter Swanston, Donna Ford and Harry Bonner. The Eramosa Recreation Committee is made up of Gordon Baldwin, John Galda, Lorraine Root, Lloyd Dyer, Alex Lush, Jim Brown, Norman Beattie, Gordon Tosh, Michael Kelly and John McLeod.

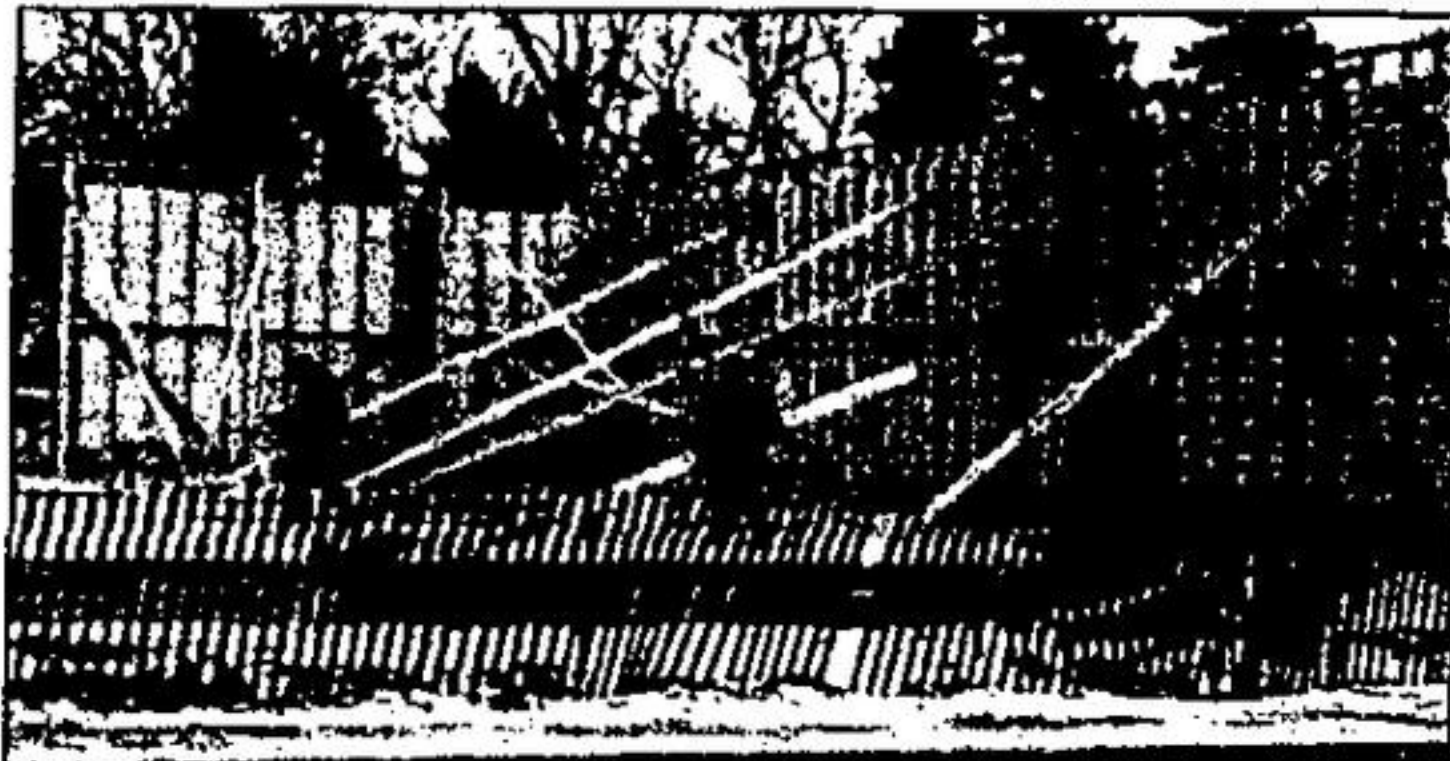
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Walls for the new Salvation Army Citadel started going up last week.

## Citadel on schedule

Construction of the Salvation Army Citadel on Mill St. East is coming along on schedule, according to Captain Wilson Perrin, of the local group. Captain Perrin pointed out the project is actually ahead of schedule a bit, and workers expect the building to be completed "in the near future," he said.

## Ebenezer Annual meeting

by Mrs. R. McLean  
Following the regular service, and lunch, the congregation held their annual meeting. Rev. Russell Finley presiding. The secretary, Eleanor Ferguson, read the minutes of last year's meeting.

Arkel and Ebenezer each constitute 40.5 per cent, with Eden Mills, 19 per cent. Eli Daigle read the trustees' and stewards' reports. Some \$1,600 is budgeted to operate the manse. Eleada Thomson thanked Delys Joss for all her work, as treasurer, coordinating the shares paid by the three congregations. A unanimous vote of appreciation to the three Diamonds: Marion to carry our love back to Art who was not able to attend, with hopes that his progress towards a complete recovery continue, was passed.

The date for the next meeting was set for January 29, to leave the auditors more time.

## Clergy Comment

by Pastor John Cooper

Winter is with us again. It certainly has been an unusual winter. Most people make some observations about the weather. It's a condition with which many people have to reckon.

And then there is the remark: "Everybody talks about the weather, but nobody does anything about it. Rather an interesting, if not jesting, poke at our humanity with its powerlessness. As the singer of Israel wrote of the Weather Controller: Who can stand before your cold; who can endure your heat.

The Word of God declares that thorns and thistles would produce beads of perspiration on man's face. "In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread." Comparing the warm, stable climate of the Garden of Eden with the instability and bitter cold of the polar caps, some have concluded that the curse which came upon all mankind extended to all aspects of this planet earth. This curse found expression also in the Flood recorded in Genesis (Beginnings), the first book of God's reliable Word, the Bible.

In Siberia, huge Mastodons have been preserved in the ice with grass in their mouths. This is difficult for scientists to explain. Some scientists, who also believe the biblical record, can make sense out of this phenomenon in the light that the Word of God sheds on it.

The Lord created plant and animal life on the planet earth. "The waters above" or moisture in the atmosphere caused a hot house effect and

vegetation from pole to pole.

Man's disobedience brought God's judgement. This had immediate results in his person and relation to God. The ground was cursed because of man's rebellion and God said "in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life."

Later the Lord sent the Flood in judgement against man. "The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and it grieved Him to His heart. So the Lord said, I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the ground, man and beast and creeping things and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them. But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord." Genesis 6:5-8.

The Flood was a catastrophe on the earth. Catastrophe means a down turn and when used by geologists means a violent altering of the surface of the earth. The dust that went up caused the rain to come down. The hot house effect was gone. The sudden difference in temperatures caused the winds to blow violently for the first time. The mastodon, peacefully grazing above the Arctic Circle, was fast-frozen.

The effects of man's rebellion against God are still with us in the wintry blasts, yet man continues to violate himself, his home, and his Creator. God's creation cries because of man's pollution of land, sea and air. Some scientists monitoring air pollution warn of a different harmful hot-house effect which will make the earth's surface uninhabitable. So enjoy the snow while it reminds you that, relative to God, man is out in the cold. Yet the prophet Isaiah uses the snow as a sign of grace, a show and tell: Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow. Where sin abounds, their God causes grace to ever-abound, to overcome. In Christ, who died for us and arose again, we have the washing away of our sins. Through Christ's atoning sacrifice, we are made whiter than snow. In Him, who will return again to renew the earth, we have the assurance of the warmth and peace of the Paradise (park) of God.

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