

June 1980

## Thurlow Township thirteen years late in paying land bill

June 3/80

By CHRIS MALETTE  
Staff Reporter

CANNIFTON - A group of angry landowners confronted Thurlow township council, here, Monday evening, demanding payment - plus interest - for land turned over to the township for the widening of Concession 8 in 1968.

The landowners said although some of the people living along the stretch of road have been paid for the land taken by the township in the road project, most of the people who own land adjacent to the concession road haven't been paid a dime.

"I just got my tax bill in the mail and you (Thurlow township) are demanding one and three quarters per cent interest on overdue payments," said Allan Hamilton, who led the delegation of eight property owners. "Why do we have to pay interest on money owing to you, but you don't even want to pay us money that has been owed to us for 13 years."

The township entered agreements with the landowners in 1967 to buy the strips of land, along their property, needed to widen Concession 8. Councillors were unanimous in agreement the problem has been delayed and passed down from one council to another over the years, but could offer no tangible reason for the 13-year delay in payment.

Morden Brough, another of the delegation, told council Ontario Hydro paid them retroactive interest on money owed to landowners in the area when payment on a power line was recently collected. He asked council why they could not pay the landowners interest if Hydro could.

"For a while we were satisfied to just have the widened road," said Brough, "but after 13 years we are getting tired of hearing the same promises from Thurlow council."

The agreements were signed between the township and the residents in 1967 and 1968. The road widening was completed in 1969. Since that time, the residents said they have been paying taxes on the land the township agreed to purchase, but has never paid them for.

"To be honest," said Chapman, "it's a damn shame. This problem should have been cleared up years ago and I know it has appeared before council before."

Councillor George Beer proposed to take the names of those present and have them receive immediate notification of the amount council records show being owed to them. He said the township employee who had been dealing with the payments would be returning to work, after a brief absence, and would begin investigating the payments owed to the landowners. He asked the residents at the meeting to review the money offered them by council and to attend the June 23 meeting of council to accept or refuse the proposal.

## Hayride becomes nightmare

June 1/80

By CHRIS MALETTE  
Staff Reporter

THURLOW TOWNSHIP - What began as a lazy Sunday afternoon hayride for the First Bayside Brownie Pack ended as a nightmarish calamity which has left one of the girls in fair condition in Belleville General Hospital.

Selina Osborne, 8, of RR3 Belleville, one of the Brownies on the hayride, was kept in Belleville General Hospital and is being treated for injuries sustained when the wagon she and 23 other Brownies was riding on became detached from the horse team pulling it and crashed into a tree stump, throwing many of the riders off on impact.

Belleville OPP report there were eight adult super visors and 24 Brownies on the wagon, owned and driven by Gordon Phillips, of RR 2 Stirling, when the yoke of the two-horse team broke while the wagon was headed down a steep hill on Concession 9 of Thurlow, just east of Highway 62. The wagon rolled forward, hitting the horses, when the yoke broke and the animals bolted. The wagon continued some 50 yards down the hill at a high rate of speed and veered into a ditch, where it struck a large tree stump.

The accident occurred at approximately 2:05 p.m., Sunday. Belleville OPP, and city ambulance services transported all of the people who were in the accident to BGH, where all but Selina Osborne were treated and released for minor cuts and bruises.

Brenda Stanley - Brownie  
Rider - Gordon Phillips  
Con 14 - owner of horses

Oct. 1980.

Gerald Timmon had the misfortune to lose his right hand and part of the arm in the corn harvester.