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Finish Painting At Arena Tonight

Their numbers were few but their enthusiasm was high. About a dozen men arrived at the arena Sunday morning for the painting job which by the end of the afternoon saw all the seats painted. Penalty box and central sections are scarlet and the rest a soft grey.

Recreation director Jim Casburn was in charge.

Some of the men stayed all day while others set shifts for themselves. Among the group were several firemen and Legionnaires who had agreed to send helpers that day. There were 12 in the morning and 14 in the afternoon.

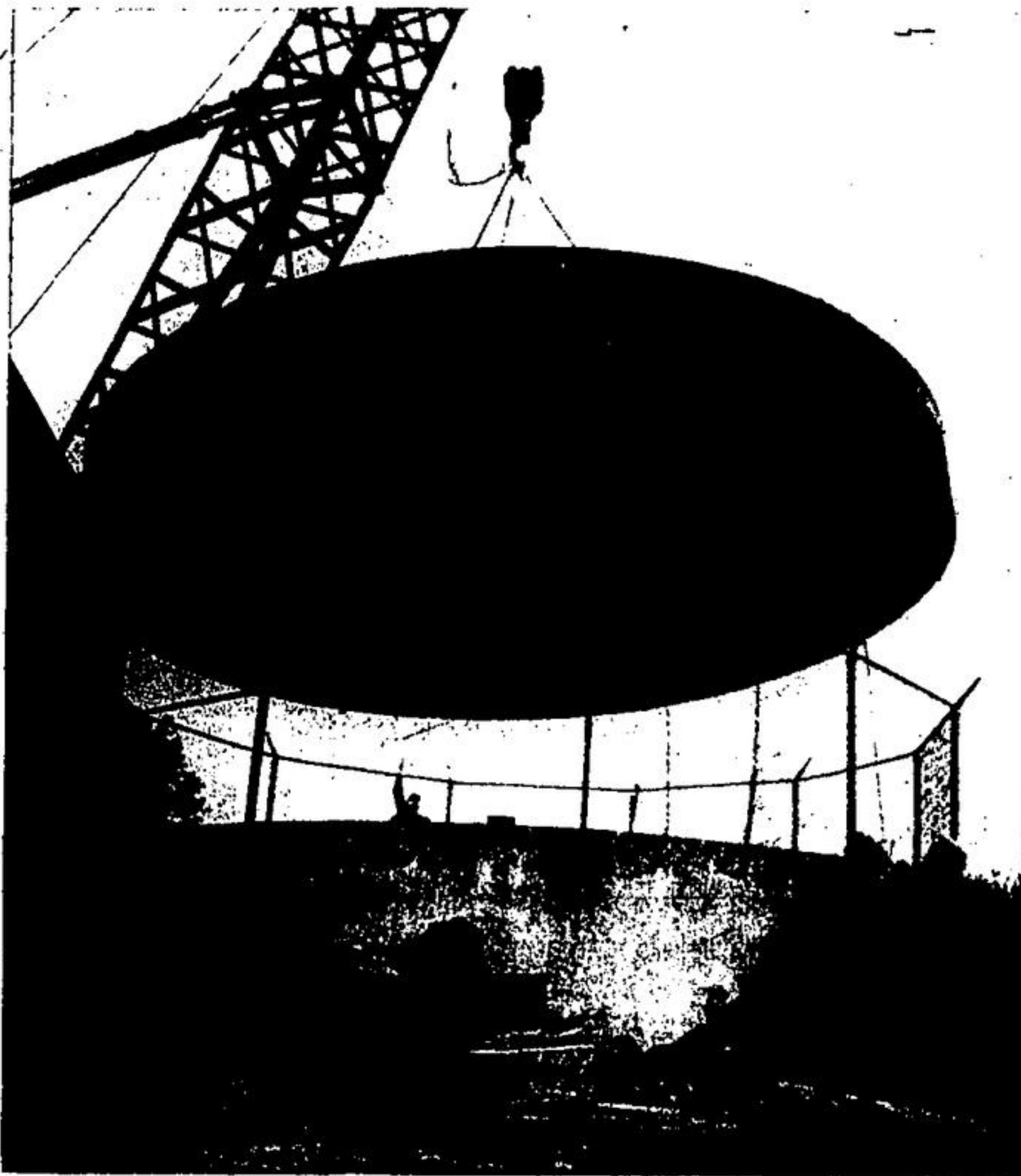
Last licks will be tonight (Thursday) when another bee will finish up the screening, pillars, posts and stairwells. More firemen are expected as well as industrial hockey league members who volunteered at their meeting Tuesday in the community centre.

Three Youngsters Four-Time Winners

At least one family in town has children with built-in horse shoes. Three out of four members of the Harold Townsley family have won a total of \$250 in lucky draws.

A monthly draw staged by the Acton firefighters awards some lucky winner \$50. Karen Townsley, age 10, has won once and Julie, age 2, has won twice within the past two years.

This summer, Milton firemen held a Santa Claus Fun Fair to raise funds for their annual Christmas party. Tiny Julie and brother Jeff held the prize winning ticket jointly and rumped home with \$100.



14 TONS OF LID was raised from the ground and finally placed back on the top of the digester plant Wednesday morning. The lid deteriorated six months ago and has been under repair ever since. The above photo shows the huge crane lifting the heavy digester top back into place. Bill Assink, contracting welder was on hand to assist in replacing the lid. Sewer and water chairman J. Bert Wood protested that the bottom of the lid had not been protected with paint in four spots and the top would begin to rust immediately.

Hydro, Employees Still at Stalemate On New Three-Year Term Contract

Guck Gulch Episode

Bert's Lid Returns to Digester In Spite of Chairman's Protests

After almost six months on the ground, a 14-ton, sleek black digester lid finally was raised and lowered in place by a huge crane Wednesday morning, in spite of protests from water and sewer chairman J. Bert Wood to halt the progress until four obviously unpainted spots were covered.

The chairman's pleas went unheeded as the large lid dropped into place on the digester plant beside the dump. Only complaints heard after the cover was swung on its moorings was that of Mr. Wood. "How are you going to paint those bare spots on the underneath side now?" Came the curt reply from Bill Assink, contractor for the repair job. "I guess I'll have to dive for it."

Since the lid first rotted away and fell into the digester plant April 6, the sewer and water chairman has been taking quite a beating from fellow councilors. The top was even nicknamed "Bert's Lid." The chairman has fought a single-handed battle to have the lid repaired to satisfaction and after several false starts and postponements, work was begun some time ago. Not until this week was it ready for a return trip to its final resting place.

On various occasions at council, Mr. Wood has stated his objections to the methods used in repairing the lid. Wednesday he took the last-minute stand to have four bare spots (where the 14-ton lid rested on supports) painted in order to prevent the newly-repaired top rusting within a short time. His pleas fell on deaf ears as the rest of the crane crew and motor dived out on his protests.

After taking several feet of moves of the aerial trip of the lid, Mr. Wood shrugged his shoulders, pulled in his car and mumbled "It's going to start rusting again sure as gun."

Crane Late
Bright and early Tuesday morning, water and sewer chairman Wood, photographers, reporters and town workmen were on the site as the word had spread "The crane is coming today! This is the day the lid goes back on." Disappointment spread over everyone's faces after several fruitless trips to the site and still no sign of the crane.

Late Tuesday night the word was spread again the crane would be in early Wednesday morning. Sure enough! Two operators and a large crane were on the spot before the early morning fog had raised. Within a short time, the huge machine had a firmly blocked to avoid a mishap, the fog lifted and every one was ready for the big moment when the digester lid was to be returned.

A sick benefit clause in a proposed new agreement between hydro linemen and the commission proved a stumbling block during a round-table discussion at the regular meeting Thursday evening, September 27. Other items in the proposed agreement met with approval of linemen Don Frizzell and Ken Hodgson but the \$40 per week sick benefit clause was flatly refused.

Both linemen are members of local 1766 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers whose representatives have failed to reach an agreement during discussion with Acton commission since the spring. Prior to reaching the conciliation stage, the commission invoked section 89 of the Labor Relations Act which excludes the Commission from the Labor Relations Act.

The two linemen concerned were informed the commission was willing to discuss the problem with them on a private basis. Chairman Gordon Beatty and the two linemen discussed their viewpoints of the proposed agreement.

Terms of the agreement were openly aired Thursday evening when it was learned the commission offered a six cent per hour increase each year for the three-year contract.

When asked if he and his work partner were willing to accept terms of the new contract, Mr. Frizzell objected to sick benefit clause providing employees with \$40 per week for a 13-week period while off work due to illness.

"Even top employees get about \$60 per week which is a better deal than this," replied Mr. Frizzell.

The two linemen were told that both the commission and the town share a cost basis insurance plan with their employees in a package scheme which combines life insurance protection and sick benefits. According to Mayor John Gray, town employees enjoy additional benefits which are underwritten by the town. The mayor explained that a salaried employee on sick leave receives \$60 per week made up of \$40 from the insurance fund and \$20 from the town. Maximum amount for salaried personnel is 10 per cent of gross earnings. He also explained that hourly rated employees were treated the same with the exception of a maximum five per cent.

Normal Responsibilities

Chairman Beatty explained the commission had no control over the group insurance plan. Mr. Frizzell maintained the \$40 per week benefit was not sufficient when a man was off work for 13 weeks at \$40 per week it would take me two years to catch up." Mr. Beatty said he thought the agreement covered the normal responsibilities to employees by their employers. "If it becomes beyond this point I am opposed unless any change can be done within the limits of the insurance plan," he stated.

Mr. Frizzell suggested two alternatives, either accumulative sick pay at one and a half days per month or a similar plan to the town.

Mayor Retracts

Mayor Gray entered the discussion at this point and said, "I don't view this as a wage increase but think of it as protection. I feel it is a reasonable request."

Commissioner Gordon McCutcheon said he didn't disagree with the mayor's views and stated that modern supplementary benefits provided a less complex solution than involvement in accumulative sick pay. The Mayor quickly changed his viewpoints however when Mr. Frizzell enquired if the commission would consider making up the difference in sick pay benefits to the amount of the worker's salary.

"If you are talking now in figures of \$50 instead of \$20 I retract my statement," exclaimed the mayor.

The chairman clarified his point in the discussion by saying "This might not cost us one cent and again it could cost us \$400 per week." The linemen claimed it would be a gamble on both sides. "It might never be used and again it might be. It is a gamble however you look at it," he stated.

Doesn't Blame Them

Commissioner Roy Arbo conceded the argument boiled down to one basic issue. "Our employees are here to get as much as they can. Not that I blame them I would do the same thing in their position."

The chairman suggested before any agreement could be reached the commission should have a written statement defining how (Continued on Page Eight)

Public School

Parking Problems Bug Board

Parking problems, leaking roofs, and an injured caretaker were on the agenda of an agenda Tuesday evening for the public school trustees. On the brighter side members learned that library books have been set up, trees will be planted and a free supply of report cards is available for this term.

Principal Elmer Smith of the M. Z. Bennett school told the board clerk Jack McGeachie had advised him through Corporal Ray Mason of the Acton O.P.P. Detachment that teachers are being prohibited from parking cars on Acton Boulevard opposite the school. The corporal had instructed him the cars would have to be moved or parking violation tickets would be served.

The principal reviewed the system of the caretaker moving teachers' cars during the winter months in order to allow town workmen to plow the street and said this action had not caused any great concern in the past. Property committee members were instructed to review the problem and bring in a recommendation.

G. W. McKenzie, principal of the Robert Little school, also presented some parking problems when it was learned a caretaker had obstructed to high school teachers with classes in the stone school parking on River Street. Mr. McKenzie added some teachers had driven their cars onto the lawn opposite the stone school.

Following a recommendation from the board some time ago town council approved a by-law

prohibiting parking on the north side of the school lane. This had been requested in order to prevent a disastrous holdup in the event an ambulance or fire truck had to reach the school during a public function in the auditorium. Both sides of the lane have been crammed with vehicles, making it impossible for passage.

Board members thought the "no parking" signs should be installed on the south side. During a discussion it was noted that parking facilities might be arranged for high school teachers at the Scout Hall grounds. The property committee will investigate.

Possible Relief
The problem of leaky roofs sprang up again and this time members were greeted with the possibility of relief when G. M. Elvey from Texaco Refiners Corp. was present and produced samples of a roofing material guaranteed for seven years. He estimated the amount required for the schools here and gave the board a price for the Robert Little school. Before any action will be taken the board is to receive word from the architect regarding the guarantee on the bonded roof presently installed.

Principal Smith noted the board that caretaker Colin MacCall had been injured when he fell from a ladder while repairing a window broken by youngsters playing with a football in a forbidden area. He notified the parents they would be liable for the damage as both football and window were trimmed. Two parents expressed their intentions of paying their share but the third has refused to do so.

well by R. E. Davidson's farm and the storage tanks will be filled automatically.

Also automatic will be the use of the reservoir water in the town's system.

Work began early in May. The two tanks are all of poured concrete except for the two hatches on the top. When completed earth will be banked up over them.

The reservoir is located between Churchill United Church and the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Ledger.

Pressure Control Valves
Turnout date has not yet been established. Feasibility of installing pressure control valves in the distribution system is being studied by R. V. Anderson, Associates, engineer, and the Water Resources Commission. Pressure valves would eliminate the possibility of extremely high pressure of 100 pounds in some sections.

First Rah-Rahs For Cheerleaders

Senior gunders at Acton high school racked up their second straight win Wednesday afternoon when they defeated Macdonell College, Guelph, 25-6, on Acton playing field.

Allan Howard, fullback for the local squad, carried the ball for three touchdowns while team mate quarterback Fred Dawkins accounted for one touchdown and a convert. The locals were cheered on to victory by the recently picked cheerleaders and the student body as they charged up and down the field to victory.

Acton is now tied for first spot with the heavy Georgetown team with two wins apiece.

The new cheerleaders were on the field for the first time in white sweaters and red plaid skirts, the attractive auxiliary team will be in charge of enthusiasm at the home games.

Cheerleaders yesterday were: Maxie Orsoway, Gail Gilmore, Vicki Newton, Nancy Reid, Janet Rogstadson, Caroline Williams and Wilma Van Der Polder. Substitutes are: Karin Heller and Susan Radford.

Share Costs

During the digging for installation of storage tanks for the new converted of furnace an underground electrical cable had been split. Thompson Fuel Oil Limited, supplier for the oil, paid the cost of splicing the cable \$576.68. Tuesday evening board members shouldered a certain amount of responsibility for the broken cable and agreed to accept 50 per cent of the cost of repairs.

Boost Scholarship Awards At Monday Board Meet

During the fall commencement exercises at Acton District High School, the grade 13 student achieving the highest average in nine grade 13 papers within this year will receive a \$200 award. The award is in addition to the present scholarship given by the board.

This action was finalized Monday evening following a lengthy discussion on the present system of determining winners of scholarships. Trustee Dwight Engel stated his dissatisfaction with the present system. Some time ago and had been requested to present a suggested method of altering the system.

Monday evening Mr. Engel presented each member with a draft copy of his proposal.

Present System
Under the present system the two top students in grade 13 receive \$20 and \$10 respectively. grade 10, \$30 and \$15, grade 11, \$50 and \$25, grade 12, \$100 and \$50 and grade 13, \$200 and \$100.

Awards in grades 9, 10 and 11 are based on highest average per cent and grades 12 and 13 are based on highest total marks on papers passed.

Under the revised system, the amounts will remain the same but an additional award will be given to a grade 13 student.

When the resolution to adopt the revised plan was presented, trustees Jack Reid, Dwight Engel, Duncan Moffat and Wallace Swackhamer voted in the affirmative with chairman T. S. Force voting a dissenting vote.

Mr. Engel emphasized the importance of rewarding students for high average in type papers as well as highest aggregate marks in any number of papers tried.

Chairman Force reminded Mr. Engel the Queen Mother had been the first to present an award for the aggregate in total papers tried.

Mr. Force and Mr. Eng entered a discussion on the pros and

cons of award systems prior to the vote being taken.

Stiffen Regulations

Restrictions may be tightened on students desiring to enter a higher grade when they haven't obtained pass marks on all subjects. Board members discussed methods of making students realize the importance of education in order to prepare for university. Principal E. A. Hansen was asked to obtain a recommendation from staff members to implement higher standards.

The principal informed members that, newly appointed, district inspector F. W. Vickers had paid a visit to the school and had interviewed new teachers on the staff. The inspector suggested that department visits within the school would be a good way to establish inservice training.

French Department

It was also learned A. I. W. Hodgson, staff inspector in modern languages, had visited the school inspecting the teaching of French.

The inspector was pleased with what he observed and stated the school will be able to develop an excellent French department. Teaching French at present are Miss June Conway, Miss Louise Macdonnell and Mr. Jean C. Leroy.

During a previous meeting board members approved payment of 10 cents per mile for teachers commuting between the stone school and the high school for classes Monday evening. A request was received from staff members for 15 cents per single trip between schools. Assistant principal Michael Bevan told the board he had checked the distance at 1.25 miles. The previous resolution to pay 10 cents per mile was rescinded 30 cents for the round trip was approved.

Property chairman Wallace Swackhamer told members the watermeter at the school had still not been replaced. He said on three occasions workmen had been engaged to do the work but something had always happened to prevent it being done. This time I thought I had it booked for the man has gone missing hunting.

Prohibit Cars

The principal was instructed to have a sign posted at the school prohibiting parking of unauthorized vehicles or driving on school property. Members learned that recently several cars had been leaving on school property and screeching tires on the pavement.

A complaint regarding teachers parking their cars on River Street was received from members of the stone school. Board members also learned that parking on the school lane was prohibited and suggested some arrangement be made with the public school board regarding parking cars.

Overconfidence Killed Farmer, Inquest Finds

Overconfidence in the operation of a machine was the verdict handed down by the coroner's jury investigating the death of William Harold Ferguson, a Nas-sauweewa custom harvester.

Mr. Ferguson, 38, was caught in the chopping blades of his own harvester while working on the farm of Willard Horton, Lot 23, Concession 2, in Espey township on September 19.

Hours after the stone school under coroner Dr. George Sney on September 25.

They found death had been caused by fractures to the skull neck and right chest and severe hemorrhages. Mr. Ferguson was found to have some torn hose from the machine when his right arm was caught in the mechanism and he was pulled back first into the blades.

Jury recommendations that be made to stress the need to guard safety precautions and rules of operation of farm machinery through farm publications and organizations.

It was a case of a labor saving device becoming a labor killing device, Crown Attorney Peter McWilliams said.

Members of the jury included Herbert Reid of R.R. 2, Georgetown; Elmo Atkinson of R.R. 3, Georgetown; Alex. Cushman of R.R. 1, Acton; Charles Gough of R.R. 4, Acton; and James Stark of R.R. 3, Georgetown.

Fill New Reservoirs To Test for Leakage

Water gushed into two new half-million gallon reservoirs on Churchill Road North this week when they were tested for water tightness for the first time. Rubber-boated workmen lowered themselves through small openings in the solid concrete roofs of the two deep slab tanks and clambered down ladders to clean out the bottom.

Then, when the valve was turned in the small brick control building beside the tanks the water gushed in through a large pipe at the rate of 460 gallons a minute. As the water level rose so did the men (and photographers) — back up through the man door. The tanks were filled to within eight inches of the top and inspected for leaks. They'll be pumped out, then thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before water reserves are stored there.

The water will go north up Churchill Road from the town



J. BERT WOOD, Council sewer and water chairman, turns the large valve at the reservoir to start water flowing into the one million gallon capacity reservoirs on Churchill Road North. With the chairman is Mike Kobik, job engineer from contractor, Kemp Construction Company. The valve house is a separate building adjoining the reservoir and houses all the controls.