

The Acton Free Press

Eighty-Ninth Year—No. 17.

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\$145,000 Sales Arena Grows Prepare for November Opening

County Population Up 6,566 to 128,005

Haltom County's population jumped by 6,566 to a new high of 128,005 during the past year, according to figures released this week by County Registrar Ford Rogers. This represents a 5.40 per cent increase over last year's total of 121,439 residents.

Once again Burlington showed the largest increase, with 3,042 more residents, bringing its total population to 51,066. Oakville showed an increase of 2,453 for a new high of 46,136.

Population figures for the other municipalities in the county, with the increase since 1962 in brackets, are as follows: Acton 4,354 (64); Georgetown 11,195 (503); Milton 6,073 (209); Esquesing 6,998 (184) and Nassagaweya 2,483 (111).

A new \$145,000 sales arena springing up in Esquesing Township north of Stewarttown on the Seventh Line will open its doors November 5 and buyers will purchase cattle and hogs on the auction block there in the new business which will be known as Georgetown Sales Arena and will be operated by Rockwood International Ltd., with Les Millington as president.

The arena is being erected on the farm purchased recently from Charles Gregg, R.R. 1.

Renovate Barn
Besides utilizing the old barn, the owners are erecting a 176-foot barn which will accommodate a 40 x 70-foot sales arena complete with bleachers and the arena to handle 80 head of cattle at one time as well as accommodation for 136 hogs in pens.

The old barn is being renovated and will provide space for a veterinarian's office, horse housing and testing equipment as well as four ramps for loading and unloading purposes.

Mr. Millington and family who will operate the business are no newcomers to this line of work. Before coming east eight years ago, they operated a farm at St. Norbert, Manitoba and were well-known throughout the world for their Rockwood Hobbies for 25 years before selling out through Hays Farms.

Moves East
After their sale, Mr. Millington and family headed east where he has been general manager of Hays Farms sales arena at Oakville. His son Jim has worked as farm manager for Agro Acres farm near Dundas. Jim will do some of the auctioneer-

ing as well as handle sales. His brother-in-law Emil Oliver, who is a chartered accountant, will be in charge of the office.

Patrons to the sales arena will park their vehicles in a 460 x 400 foot area at the front of the building.

The building, which is being erected by Kemo Construction of Exeter, is considered one of the most modern in North America.

The farm home occupied by the previous owner will undergo renovations for the Millington family. Additional land on the 100-acre farm will be used for grazing.

Set Nomination Election Dates

Nominations for candidates for the positions of mayor, reeve, deputy reeve, six councillors, public school board trustees and hydro commissioners will be held Thursday, November 21, in the Robert Little School auditorium. If an election is necessary voters will go to the polls Tuesday, December 3. This action was finalized Tuesday evening during council meeting when a by-law was approved.

If an election is necessary voters will cast their ballots at the following places under the watchful eyes of listed deputy returning officers: ward one, polling division one, Y.M.C.A. Vera Ingle; ward one, polling division two, Y.M.C.A. Kathleen Hurst; ward two, council chambers at town hall, Harvest Hollow, ward three, Laxton Memorial Hall, May Dumars; ward four, Y.M.C.A. Annie Anderson.

It was also agreed to notify voters by card where to vote.

Fires 'State of Emergency' - Issue Plea for Caution

The grass and bush fire threat in Halton County was considered a "state of emergency" Saturday night when Halton Warden Dr. C. W. Martin and county "Emergency Measures" officials met with the county's five fire chiefs to review the mounting threat and property damage toll.

The Warden issued a strongly-worded plea for cooperation by all citizens (reprinted elsewhere in this issue) which was distributed immediately to all press, media and through all Halton schools.

At the meeting, the officials heard reports of more than 150 fire calls in Halton during the first half of October — most of them grass and bush fires. At last report, fires were still burning under piles of leaves and undergrowth in several bushes, and the toll in firefighters' time and use of equipment was nearing that of the Spring fire season.

The cooperation of citizens — in the interest of protecting life and property. "It is a critical condition," the warden said. "Calls are not quickly dealt with. The Oakville Brigade has been working on one fire for nine days. Halton firefighters are reaching the point of exhaustion."

At the same meeting members of the county's Emergency Measures committee spelled out the cooperation they could extend to the Halton brigades during the critical situation.

The cooperation of citizens — everything — in meeting the call for elimination of all possible fires was felt the only possible immediate step to cope with what is reported as the driest October on record.

On Thursday, October 18, a grass fire was doused on Beardmore property at the corner of Maria and Church Streets. Saturday, firefighters made a quick run to the farm home of J. Tizzard, Esquesing, to extinguish a grass fire burning out of control.

Saturday evening, shortly after midnight, firefighters were called to the residence of John Big Cameo where a chertfield chert fire filled the home with smoke. The fire was extinguished after the chertfield was hauled outside.

Sunday evening a return call was made to the farm home of Gordon Fisher on No. 25 Highway where a bush fire flared up again from the previous week. Around midnight, fire chief Mick Holmes was recalled to the farm but found no danger of the fire spreading.

POST-GRADUATE STUDENTS studying town and regional planning at the University of Toronto have adopted Acton as the project for this year. They'll make a survey, predictions and proposals and submit their conclusions to council in the spring. In the group on the town hall steps are Dr. Dakins of the U. of T.; Queen's graduate Miss L. C. Waring; U. of T. grad Miss Marcia Cuthbert; U. of T. grad Miss Regula Madlich of Switzerland and Germany; U. of T. grad Miss Kady MacDonald; Shakil Quarishi of Pakistan; Jack Bourne, Duncan Marshall, Prof. A. Adamson (who designed Upper Canada Village); Prof. E. Matlyasovskiy; L. Kristof, an engineer from Hungary; A. Jerome, an architect from Port-au-Prince, Haiti; R. W. McCabe; U. of T. geography grad P. Marcelline of Trinidad; A. Schlier, W. Elgie and B. Chatterpashyay of Ceylon, with Reeve Bert Hinton and clerk-administrator Jack McGeachie.

Beardmore Production Not Hampered By Area Drought Yet; Farm Wells Low

Rumours that Beardmore and Co. were being affected by the drought throughout the area and the low water level at Fairy Lake were retorted Wednesday by assistant general manager Norman Braida who stated "there isn't any immediate danger of a water shortage affecting production."

Mr. Braida said the pipeline from Fairy Lake had been extended up the bottom of the lake to the source of springs and unless the drought continues extensively and the water level becomes dangerously low, he didn't believe production would be hindered. As well as the supply from Fairy Lake, the plant is also serviced from private springs on its own property.

Warden called it a "state of emergency" as he issued a strongly-worded appeal to the residents following a Saturday night meeting with the county's five fire chiefs.

The situation is "critical" he said.

Chief's Appeal
Fire chief Mick Holmes appealed to Acton and district residents to use every precaution in burning leaves and not to leave a bonfire unattended. He suggested it would be better not to burn leaves at the present time due to the high fire hazard. He also urges motorists to use their ash trays in the car rather than toss cigarette or cigar butts out the window.

Turnip crops are reportedly half the size of former years, and while apple quality is still excellent, harvest is a little smaller than in previous years.

Milk Okay Here
Most farmers have plenty of winter feeding on hand for cattle and no shortage is predicted unless the drought lasts longer than another week. Milk production has dropped in some areas, because of dried-up pasture lands but this has not affected Halton to date.

One observer suggested the county could use a good two-to-three-day rain before the first freeze-up, "or else it's going to be a dry winter."

Official figures on rainfall in the Hamilton district show the last rainfall in this area was September 29, when .22 inches fell at Hamilton. The last appreciable rainfall fell September 12, when .6 inches came down, and there hasn't been a drop of living water during the entire month of October.

Earle F. Muir, Fruit and Vegetable Extension Specialist with the Department of Agriculture who provided these figures, pointed out September's rainfall was 1.4 inches below normal. In fact, except for July, the rainfall since the first of May has been well below normal figures.

In the Milton district, trucks have been going "night and day" to haul 1,000 gallon loads of water to parched farms. Cost is about \$5 a load depending on distance. Water is being supplied to Percy, Merry, Snider's and Palumbo schools. Many dairy farmers are buying water. Water is being hauled from Oakville P.U.C. or Halton town hall. Many farmers are hauling their own water as well, not many miles south of here.

Agricultural Representative J. A. Francis, reporting from the Department of Agriculture of the five in Milton, said the drought

was making pasture lands useless for feeding cattle, and farmers are having to provide extra supplemental feeding. Fortunately, it was a good year for hay.

Farmers are "going through plowshares like crazy" because the ground is so hard and dry, he added. (The Halton plowing match is scheduled for this Saturday in Esquesing Township and veteran plowmen are praying for rain to loosen up the ground.)

The growth of fall wheat is slow, he noted, but there's a bright side. The dry weather is making it ideal for corn picking.

Landowners Upset
Various hunting seasons are open in Halton this week, and already started to be heard about the banging of guns — "What can we do to keep hunters off private property?"

Angry homeowners invaded by gangs of city hunters (many of whom don't speak English) have burnt up the telephone lines to the Game Warden and Provincial Police with complaints of bullets whizzing by cattle, houses, and even children.

"We aren't even safe in our own back yards" one distressed district mother complained. An other reported bullets rickshooting off the house. One Campbellville man lost a dozen pet ducks he kept in a private pond near the house. From east and west north and south, the complaint's pour in.

Halton's game warden, R. M. Reid of Milton said he had received dozens of complaints, most of which he had personally checked out. However, he can only lay a charge if the hunters do not have the proper gun or

township licences, and "99 out of 100 have them." But if the person wants trespassing charges laid against the intruder, the landowner must personally press the charge, and the matter usually drops when the owner learns he must appear in court to prosecute.

The Game Warden did charge two men with jackinglighting near Terra Costa last week. He reports no shooting incidents involving humans — yet.

If a resident wishes to lay a trespassing charge, however, they should call Provincial Police as the Game Warden hasn't any authority to institute such a charge.

The best way to keep hunters off your property is to erect "no hunting" or "no trespassing" signs around the entire perimeter of the property (including the back 40) not just along the roadside. Signs should be placed close enough together that one can be seen from the next sign, so trespassers have no excuse for being on the private land, he added.

Mr. Reid said the best way to keep up the farmer-hunter relationship was for hunters to ask at the farmhouse if they wish to hunt. Take the farmer's advice about where and what to hunt and remain on that farmer's property. Often an overzealous hunter who has permission to hunt on a 10-acre farm will wander into a neighbor's by mistake.

False Reports
The influx of hunters got big early this week when a Hamilton radio station and an Oakville newspaper incorrectly reported there was a deer hunt in progress in Halton. Both were quickly chastised by the Game Warden who noted Halton has not had a deer season for about four years.

Present seasons include partridge, pheasant, rabbits, ducks and fox.

Hunting sportsman clubs in Halton are being formed by hunters' reports. All members of legitimate local clubs appreciate the farmers' cooperation who's clubs and will always ask permission to seek game on a farm. Mostly to blame are the parties of city dwellers who know little about local regulations and care less about courtesy.

The Game Warden added a word of caution to those traveling in bush areas this fall — "but your cigarettes; better still, no smoking in dry areas."

Clinic Appeal

Blood is needed urgently! Donors can give a pint of blood during the blood clinic at the Legion auditorium Thursday, October 31.

The Red Cross Society is prepared to handle all donors during the afternoon and evening. Anyone who has not received a card or filled out one denoting specific times is asked to contact the Legion. Last-minute donors will be accepted and no one will be turned away.

Hunt Season Danger

Warden Martin noted the opening of the hunting season on Monday posed an increased threat, as more people entered bush and brush areas. He appealed to citizens to stay out of hazardous areas as long as the unprecedented drought conditions continue. He urged citizens not to light unnecessary fires.

Extra Hour's Sleep Daylight Time Ends

Town and district revert to Standard Time this coming Sunday morning (Oct. 27) at 2 a.m.

Residents are reminded to turn their clocks one hour BACKWARD before going to bed Saturday night. That gives you an extra hour's sleep to make up for the hour you lost last spring. Remember, one hour BACKWARD.

Planning Students Adopt Acton Listing Past, Present and Future

Have you noticed strangers peering behind buildings, measuring lots, sitting soil, inspecting houses, counting heads and always asking questions?

The 20 young students who came to town Monday and Wednesday have taken us over as they know all about us.

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They've prepared a report and show what they've learned with council. They will likely come back in the spring with a survey to answer any questions about what they've learned for their own future.

Predict Their Own Future
They are attending a one-year post-graduate course and many will likely become employed in planning departments of cities and municipalities in Ontario and elsewhere.

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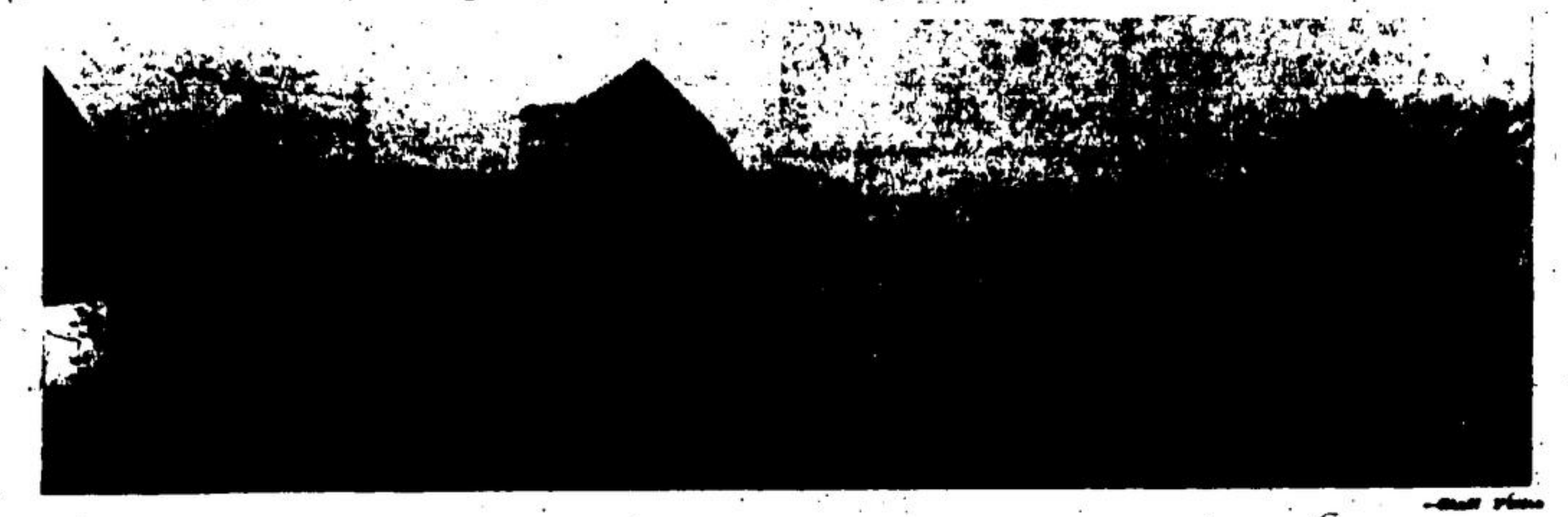
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MALTON'S NEW M.P.P. George Kerr and his wife Merrydith hosted a "thank you" dance and social evening at Brookville Hall on Saturday evening, for his constituents who worked especially hard during the recent provincial campaign. Nassagaweya Conservative president Floyd Hammond appears ready to vociferate while George beats the drums and Duncan Currie shows Mrs. Kerr how to play the fiddle.



NEW SALES ARENA near Stewarttown is expected to be completed for the first sale November 5. The building is located on the former Charles Gregg farm, R.R. 1, Georgetown. The business is owned and operated by Rockwood International and renovations are expected to cost in the neighborhood of \$145,000. The Millington family have been in the cattle business all their lives and formerly