

Possible \$59,500 building to be erected for Hydro

Prospects of a new hydro building on Alice Street appeared brighter following a meeting of the Hydro Commission on Thursday night of last week. It was learned from architect Donald Skinner, Whitney Construction Co., that the firm was willing with a few minor changes in the plans, to erect the building for \$59,500.

Contacted by phone, D. R. Crawford of the Brampton firm stated his company was willing to delete all wiring and the loading ramp at the rear of the building, as well as a few other minor changes, without changing the general interior or exterior appearance for this price.

It was stated, however, the company would approve of these changes providing it was chosen as the contractor. During the past two years, commissioners have been studying tenders ranging as high as \$125,000 for a new building. Originally it was hoped a building could be erected for around \$40,000.

After all attempts had failed, Mr. Skinner was re-engaged to revise plans and talk to some of the contractors who had originally bid on the building.

Mr. Crawford is to be notified that if revised plans meet with the approval of the local commission and Ontario Hydro, his company can proceed.

Chairman E. G. Tyler Sr. informed Mayor Les Dudy the Hydro could be in its building before the new centennial library is opened, yet. In reply, the mayor commended workers on the library for the excellent and

speedy work they are doing. Hydro superintendent Doug Mason informed members he had a visit from an inspector who arrived in town to study the new hydro building. Unable to produce such a building (it's only in the blueprint stage), Mr. Mason said the inspector left and hasn't been heard from since.

Secretary-treasurer Mrs. Audrey Urquhart noted safety badges for workers had arrived. The hydro department obtained the safety badges for having another accident-free year. Accounts totalling \$2,959.80 were approved for payment.

Back to School issue today

This special "Back to School" issue of The Free Press is of particular interest to students. On the front page of the second section and inside the issue, you'll find news stories that include:

- Robert Little school
- M. Z. Bennett school
- Christian school
- Eramosa schools
- Nassagaweya schools
- Esquesing schools.

You'll find special articles and informative advertisements that cover:

- school bus routes
- school supplies
- high school uniforms
- full page ad on safety.



—Staff Photo

A WEEK EARLY but anxious to get back to classes, a group of youngsters watch school caretaker Colin McColl paint the entrance to the M. Z. Bennett school, Teacher Mrs. Glenda Benton answers a few questions fired by the

youngsters. Left to right are Robin Incoe, Jane Leader, Joan Leader, John Hanson, Eddie Ensing and Chris Tennant with Mr. McColl and Mrs. Benton.

Two safety patrolmen attend training camp

Public school safety patrolmen Henry Van Stralen from the M. Z. Bennett school and John Rozszo from the Robert Little school left Wednesday for the second annual Officers' Training Camp for school patrol members at Canterbury Hills Camp near Ancaster.

The two pupils were chosen before school ended in June and will return the day before school begins.

Constable Bruce McArthur of the Acton O.P.P. Detachment is unable to accompany the boys but hopes to attend Saturday for the general review.

The camp began last year and

is sponsored by the Hamilton Automobile Club which sponsors the school safety patrol.

Two parked cars struck in accident

Two parked cars in the lot at Pete Mason Motors Ltd. came out second best Saturday night when struck by a car driven by Ray Hibbard, Acton.

Constable Bob Joyce of Acton O.P.P. Detachment investigated and reported the Hibbard car was travelling north on Churchill Road and crossing the intersection of No. 7 highway.

Diesels delayed, buses bulge no strike settlement in sight

Acton members of striking railway unions are reading papers, listening to the radio and television with the rest of the country to learn the latest news in the possible settlement.

"Everything seems to be at a standstill," remarked station agent Charlie Perry Wednesday.

He has no direct word from his union but any settlement will have to be voted on. He expects the men would be phoned and asked to go to union headquarters to wait for him headquarters are in Stratford.

Since there is no strike pay, there is no requirement for the strikers here to picket. There are demonstrations in some large centres.

Mr. Perry explains that the seven employees at the Acton station belong to different unions. Six or seven unions are involved in the strike which has halted all rail service in the country.

Jean Marcoux is the operator here and George Collins of Kitchener is the clerk. There are three sectionmen under foreman Bert Urquhart.

There are several other railway employees living in Acton and not working here who are affected by the strike.

The station is closed and the tracks silent all day. There have been more passenger trains than freight trains each day through Acton but only three of the passenger trains stopped here, the morning commuter train to Toronto, the evening commuter train west and the midnight train west.

With about a week's notice that the strike was coming, affairs at the station here were in good order when the doors were closed. Freight in the warehouse was cleared out.

There was no refund given on tickets.

Bus service has increased considerably following the onset of the rail strike. With many extra passengers because of the Exhibition in Toronto, and a few taking the bus instead of the train, extra buses are coming through at the regular times. As many as three pick-up passengers waiting here.

However, as well as the regular buses, there are about four extra buses a day passing through and picking up passengers, if any, at unspecified times. Len Adams at Wiles' bus depot says the service is very good this week.

Some of the drivers are on this route for the first time and are asking directions. One went into Watson's Restaurant by mistake, thinking it was the bus station.

Local truckers are so busy they can't keep up with the work. Some shipments from the district have been refused by truckers in other centres who are unable to transport them further due to the increased volume of business.

The first class mail is all going through, says postmaster Gordon McKeown. There is an embargo on second, third and fourth class mail going out of the province. Inside the province all mail is going through by truck.

Nursing dispute

Hutton County Council has turned down an attempt to engage an outside consultant to represent the county in negotiations with the 22 Hutton County Health Unit nurses who plan to resign on Monday, September 12.

A special two-hour meeting of the county council's personnel committee and Board of Health was held "in camera" on Friday afternoon, followed by a 45-minute session of the whole council. B. Paulin of the firm of Ferguson, Montgomery, Cassels and Mitchell, barristers and solicitors, appeared briefly at the earlier closed session but stayed just five minutes. It had been expected Mr. Paulin would be engaged by the county to act on their behalf in the dispute with the nurses.

There was no open discussion of the nursing situation during the brief open council meeting. A report from the "Wardens' Special Committee" was listed on the agenda but never discussed. This special committee had met a week earlier but the report was not made public.

Following the meeting R. R. Parker, Deputy Reeve of Acton and chairman of the county's Board of Health, said he had no statement to make at the time. The County Council has decided not to make the report public," he said.

Mr. Parker indicated the Board of Health has not yet made definite plans for any meetings with the nurses.

Problems over the Health Unit nursing staff began a year ago when the nurses applied, through the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario, for certification under the Labor Relations Act. The County Council blocked this move by invoking Section 89 of the Labor Relations Act, excluding themselves from its provisions.

The Board refused to recognize the R.N.A.O. as a bargaining unit. "At no time since the present Board took office in January has there been any request by the nurses of the County Health Unit to discuss working conditions or other matters," Mr. Parker points out.

The R.N.A.O.'s Director of Employment Relations, Lloyd B. Sharpe has asked the Board of Health to begin a series of meetings pertaining to salaries and working conditions. Further correspondence indicated the

R.N.A.O. would "green-list" the Hutton Health Unit by asking other nurses in Ontario not to work there, and by having the present staffers submit resignations, if the Board did not comply.

The Board of Health notified Mr. Sharpe the Board was prepared to negotiate with the nurses, when and if they were certified as a bargaining unit. Mr. Sharpe was reported as stating the nurses do not wish to be certified.

On August 11, the letters of resignation were mailed from 22 of the 26 public health nurses, indicating they would resign September 12.

Pressure of business can be blamed on the largest timepiece in town indicating the wrong time.

Local jeweller B. R. Rachlins well aware his large clock on the former post office building, now owned by himself and his partner George Robertson is showing the wrong hour. Both have climbed the many stairs in the tower to inspect the intricate mechanism but found the trouble of a major nature.

Ben, as he is better known to his many patrons, takes great pride in his clock and watch repairs and is bothered about his largest timepiece being inaccurate.

However, residents are reminded the clock at the old Toronto city hall is also out-of-kilter and so far even the experts haven't come up with an answer there.

Ben intends to repair his clock and get it set accurately but due to the pressure of business he finds it difficult to take time off and check everything carefully. He promised the clock will be back in working order if at all possible.

C. of C. to discuss university fund

At the next meeting of the Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, September 8, the purpose and requirements of the Gladph Development Fund will be explained to members. The president, Rev. A. H. McKenzie has requested a good turnout of members to hear a request for an "inplant" solicitation of various Acton industries.

Will Gray and Ralph Orlich, co-chairmen of the employees' group division, will attend the meeting. They will explain the Development Fund's objectives from both the point of view of management and labor. They will outline the university's plans, funds, needs and particularly its relationship to Acton.

County turns down consultant

In an August 16 letter to the Board can decide only that Mr. Sharpe is determined to obtain the power to negotiate a union contract for the Hutton nurses without recourse to the Ontario Labor Relations Board. Why he should choose to operate in this way, the Board does not know. If you want a union, by all means tell us, it, on the other hand, you are concerned with other matters, we are ready at any time to discuss them with you.

He urged the nurses to call a meeting with Dr. A. Bull, Medical Officer of Health, to discuss their problems.

Mr. Dudy said council could justify themselves by adopting

Two-year council term sparks lively discussion

Adoption of a two-year council term reached the first plateau Tuesday evening when the majority of council members favored the move. A by-law will be prepared for the usual three readings and final approval.

Both hydro commissioners and public school board members are already serving two-year terms, with some of the members elected each year in the annual December elections on a rotation basis.

To prevent a yearly election if the two-year term is approved, at the next municipal election voters would name a full hydro commission and full public school board, all for two-year terms.

During the discussion, Reeve Hinton suggested the two-year council term be left to the decision of the ratepayers and a plebiscite be called at the next election.

Councillor Mrs. Doris Fryer said the two-year term was in effect in many places now and referred to a recent visit to Owen Sound, where the plan was adopted. She said council there found it to great advantage.

Mayor Les Dudy informed the council members were elected to represent the public and were familiar with the problems entailed. He noted it was the third time the two-year term had arisen at council.

The mayor said he had been opposed to it the first time, suggested a plebiscite on the second occasion, but was now convinced it should be accepted because of the difficulties of the present working year for council. Members don't take office until January, the budget isn't set until April and it isn't until around September that things level off and new business can be considered.

"If we had a two-year term, council could plan ahead and avoid a vote to continued business."

Mr. Dudy said council could justify themselves by adopting

the two-year term on the basis of the time the ratepayers were asked by plebiscite to approve a new municipal building. "That was over 10 years ago and now we are building some of the facilities required at a higher cost than at that time." Most communities have adopted this two-year term.

Councillor Robert Drinkwater agreed with the mayor and noted the Ontario government had recently passed legislation allowing communities to adopt a three-year council term. "They must realize the burden of council can't be accomplished in one and even a two-year term in some cases."

Councillor Earl Masales favored the two-year term, noting that as a new member this year, he found it took several months to become acquainted with routine and business.

Mrs. Fryer said it took more than one year to get into the routine. She also said the council knew best what was involved and were familiar with the benefits of a two-year term in transacting business.

Reeve Hinton was of the opinion the town wasn't ready for a two-year term. Mrs. Fryer said it was, as several people had already spoken to her favoring this.

Smoke from dump "terrible" Longfield man tells council

A one-man delegation aired his grievances regarding the Acton dump burning, suggested action be taken immediately to relieve the problem, and left council with a smile on his face Tuesday evening.

George Collins, 155 Longfield Road, told members the smoke from the dump created quite a problem, not only to him but several residents in the area.

"The tannery is no problem to me, but the dump is terrible," he stated as he noted his home filled with burnt smoke, causing discomfort and preventing him and his family from sleeping.

Mr. Collins told council the dump site is too close to the town and is not healthy. "The whole thing is cockeyed," he emphasized, he suggested the dump should be land-filled, in place of burning, which would result in the area being filled in, in place of constant burning.

The delegate was told council was quite aware of the problem and had been trying desperately for several years to obtain another dump site. Councillor Robert Drinkwater told him different sites had been negotiated for, but no finalization could be made to obtain the land.

Mayor Les Dudy said council was very much concerned about the dump problem and was doing its best to contend with it. "I am concerned about the fires and want to get the dump closed as soon as possible," he stressed.

Mr. Drinkwater told the delegate it was not easy to obtain another location as other township councils had objected to a dump within their boundaries when a new site had seemed possible. "Our hands are tied to a certain extent but we are not quitting now. We know we have to get out of the present site within this year," he stated.

Mr. Collins said he was worried someone might become ill as a result of the smoke. His wife had hung clothes out on the line and had had to rewash them because of the smoke.

Before leaving, he thanked council for its attention and said he hoped the problem could be overcome shortly.

Change in council pay studied Tuesday night

A change in pay for council members carried a lengthy discussion Tuesday evening with several differences of opinion aired before it was agreed to draft a by-law increasing the rate to \$12 per meeting from the present \$10.

Before the conclusion was reached, members were forced to deal with a resolution, an amendment to the motion and an amendment to the amendment.

Under the present by-law, councillors receive an honorarium of \$10 per meeting up to a maximum of 60 meetings per year, making a total of \$600 annually. Under the proposed change to \$12 per meeting with a maximum of 50 meetings per year, the \$600 total will not change.

Following a recommendation by No. 1 committee to adopt

the change and a discussion by members in committee of the whole, Reeve H. Hinton moved a motion to refer the recommendation back to No. 1 committee.

Councillor C. F. Leatherland voiced an amendment to proceed and prepare a draft by-law adopting the two-year term and councillor Robert Drinkwater moved an amendment to change a part of the recommendation from a total of 50 maximum meetings per year to 60 meetings.

After the motion and amendments were sorted out, it was decided the Reeve's motion should be dealt with first. This was defeated with everyone but the Reeve voting in the negative. It was then agreed Mr. Drinkwater's amendment pertained

to the Reeve's motion and should be dealt with next. This, too, was defeated with Mr. Drinkwater, councillors F. G. Oakes and William Williams giving the only affirmative votes.

Mr. Leatherland's amendment was considered to be a separate issue and taken as a resolution, which was finally approved over opposition by councillors Drinkwater and Oakes.

Councillor Drinkwater stated that due to business, one committee might attend more meetings than the other, which could reach as high as 70 meetings per year. He felt these members should be paid for all meetings attended and didn't agree with the 50 meetings per year maximum for payment.

Clerk McGeehan quoted attendance (continued on Page Six)



—Staff Photo

SCARCELY RECOGNIZABLE were the girls of the Acton Wildcat softball team when they donned their best bib and tucker for the season's wind-up banquet at the legion hall Tuesday night. Even coach Frank Spielvogel had

difficulty recognizing the girls out of uniform. The girls gave manager, coaches and umpires gifts in a surprise presentation during the pleasant evening.