

# The Acton Free Press

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## Esquering turns down request for dump site

Esquering council unanimously turned down a proposal from the town of Acton to establish a dump on the property owned by the town to the west of Fairview cemetery, Monday night.

Meeting in the township offices, Esquering councillors felt if they let Acton establish a dump they could not contain further requests from anyone else.

Referring to the possible purchase of an incinerator by the town, Councillor George Currie said, "If they put something in there burning, you can't tell me nothing will be smudged. And land

fill will make a real rat hatchery. I've got more respect for people laid to rest. Say no," he urged council.

Reeve Leslie put the matter to a vote on a resolution and it passed unanimously.

A delegation from the Acton council, headed by the mayor, appeared before the township council on March 20, asking for a change in the present by-law so a dump site could be established on the property. Esquering promised an answer by April 29.

Asked his reaction to the news, Mayor Les Duby said that was the "kind of an answer we wanted." — a positive

yes or no. "Now we know what direction we'll have to take," he continued.

The mayor said plans would have to be made to expand at the present site. "Esquering's answer leaves us no alternative."

The dump has undergone an extensive face-lifting in the past two weeks. It has been fenced in, supervised and the hours of dumping posted and enforced.

Old refuse has been covered by earth and a loader has been employed in levelling off the ground.



BONNETTED and shawled, regent Mrs. Cecil Nelles welcomed 175 at the Lakeside chapter I. O. O. E. centennial tea. Story and pictures inside. (Staff Photo)

## Urban board secretary Projects county-wide welfare scheme

Plagued by lack of support in the past few months North Halton Urban Board took a new lease as representatives from all three member municipalities attended a meeting in Acton Wednesday night.

Studied during a three hour session were a county welfare unit to update and strengthen the weak welfare set-up in the five northern municipalities, garbage removal, incinerators, dumps and spiralling costs of education.

Board secretary Jack McGeachie, Acton clerk - administrator, brought the proposal of a county-wide welfare set-up to the meeting. Estimated cost to the county would be \$108,700, a saving of \$13,000 on the present system in which the five northern municipalities treat welfare cases independently and of necessity are curtailed.

The expanded services would include a family counselling service which is subject to a 50 per cent provincial grant. Although there are no administration costs because town clerks handle cases, the present set-up is not suitable for grants.

Mr. McGeachie told the Board welfare services would be set up along the same lines as the county health unit. A

welfare administrator in a salary range of \$10,000 would head the unit with field officers at \$6,000.

"The five northern municipalities are not getting full benefit of welfare services now," said Mr. McGeachie. "They haven't the facilities to give it."

With a county-wide service, there's a 50 per cent grant available on administration costs as well as another 50 per cent on family counselling services.

One hitch was the secretary didn't know whether Oakville and Burlington, both with a full service now, would go for it since they would bear a large part of the cost.

A comparison between Acton Georgetown and Milton showed Acton welfare costs exceeded Milton's while Georgetown had no accurate record to gauge costs with.

Members decided to take the matter back to their respective councils before making a final decision on whether to pursue it. Mr. McGeachie suggested a separate board composed of the five northern municipalities could be set up if the Oakville and Burlington councils didn't agree to go along, but didn't know whether.

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## Acton's "Music Man" named Citizen of Year

DECLARED CENTENNIAL Citizen of the Year for Acton is George Musselle, active Legion member, dedicated director of the Chorallers and owner of Lakeview Greenhouses just west of Acton. Talented Mr. Musselle will hear his citation read at the annual Citizen of the Year dinner, given by the Chamber of Commerce, at the band hall on Saturday evening, April 29. With the town's honors, Mr. Musselle will lead the Legion Chorallers to sing at Expo on the July 1 weekend.

(Staff Photo)

## Lot sizes, separations, late bids on Esquering council agenda Mon.

Esquering Council, meeting with the township committee of adjustment for the second time in two weeks, passed a resolution from the committee amending the present by-law to make the minimum lot size in the township 20,000 square feet with a minimum frontage of 125 feet and a minimum depth of 160 feet.

Reeve George Leslie broke a tie in the recorded vote by casting his hat with the yeas along with councillors Jim Goodlet and Pat Patterson. Councillors George Currie and Tom Hill voted in the negative.

Another companion resolution forwarded by the committee calling for new legislation on the number of land separations in the township was shelved until legal advice could be sought.

The resolution asked council to amend the present legislation so no separations were available on 15 acre lots. Other recommendations:

- 15-25 acres—one separation.
- 26-50 acres—two separations.
- 51-75 acres—three separations.
- 76-100 acres—four separations.

Committee of adjustment chairman Edwin Harrop explained the committee felt it could discourage people from buying 10 acre lots by limiting separations to parcels 15 acres and more in size.

Council reshaped their previous meeting with the committee with Councillors Patterson and Currie, spokesmen for opposite sides of the fence, airing their views again.

Council accepted the advice of the clerk who felt there was some question as to whether the amended by-law would "stand up in court".

Threats from Georgetown that they would discontinue fire protection in the township unless an agreement was signed by April 30 were dealt with several ways by councillors.

Councillor Pat Patterson urged immediate signing of the agreement. "I don't think you can do any better than they've told you they can do," he said.

Councillor Tom Hill had a different reaction. "I sure did not like that report in the Georgetown paper. I'd like to see us train our own volunteer firemen," he said urging the establishment of a township fire department.

Reeve Leslie explained pay-

ment on the last quarter of last year was the big stumbling block in the coming agreement with Georgetown.

There were approximately 30 fire calls in the township last year and 40 or 41 in Georgetown. The new agreement calls for \$10,800 plus major maintenance of the truck and insurance.

A further meeting with Georgetown will be held with the fire committee possessing full authority to sign an agreement.

Earlier in the meeting Mr. Connors of Connors Transport was present asking why his firm's bid for the township gravel contract was unsuccessful. The third year in a row he has bid unsuccessfully. Mr. Connor said he noticed his bid envelope was marked 12.13 p.m. (bids were closed at 12 noon) and he insisted his bid was in before 12 o'clock.

Mr. Connor said he believed the township paid 30 per cent more for gravel than they needed to. He also asked why the price and successful bidder's name weren't forwarded to his firm. "It's our privilege to know," he said.

"Your bids haven't been considered in the last three years because they haven't been on time," stated the reeve.

Mr. Connor insisted he was on time this year.

Councillor Patterson asked why he left it till the deadline when sealed tenders could have been put in days before if he wanted the business. Mr. Connor said that was the way the trade operated despite denials by Mr. Patterson who accused the people in the gravel business of "holding hands".

"Your tender was marked late and that's the only thing we can go on," said Councillor Goodlet.

Council agreed with Mr. Connors regarding his right to come and question them and promised further bids would receive their every sympathy if it was in on time.

Successful gravel supplier this year is Acton Limestone Quarries at \$1 a ton.

Council also:

- Passed a motion that the annual share of costs for the Credit Valley Conservation Authority be provided from current taxation. It is based on 90 cents per capita.

## Bogus \$10s at Mohawk

A large quantity of phoney \$10 bills was seized by Milton O.P.P. at Mohawk Raceway last night (Tuesday) after a man attempted to pass a bogus bill at the part-mutual tickets. At press time, descriptions of the home-made bills were being circulated to police forces throughout the district, in case any of the money went beyond the raceway.

A Delhi area man was apprehended and questioned by police but later released, an O.P.P. spokesman told The Free Press this morning. A security guard found 21 of the phoney bills stashed behind a pillar in the race track grandstand and

another \$10 bill was passed in the parking lot.

Police say the bills felt "funny" and were printed on very thin, poor quality paper. A ticket seller at the \$5 window accepted one of the bills during the second race and when she noticed the money felt different, the man grabbed the bill and ran through the crowd. A security guard and Const. Walter Jordan of Milton O.P.P. apprehended him.

The bills were taken to Burlington district headquarters to test for fingerprints.

Two accomplices in Toronto were also questioned.

## B.P. expands Acton plant

Preparing to meet the existing challenges that are fast developing in the construction industry, Building Products of Canada Limited is making significant capital improvements to its plant at Acton.

Already the largest plastics extrusion plant in Canada, the Acton complex will play a key role in the future of the company as a leading manufacturer of building materials.

About \$1 million has been spent in the last year on new sophisticated equipment and improved facilities for materials handling.

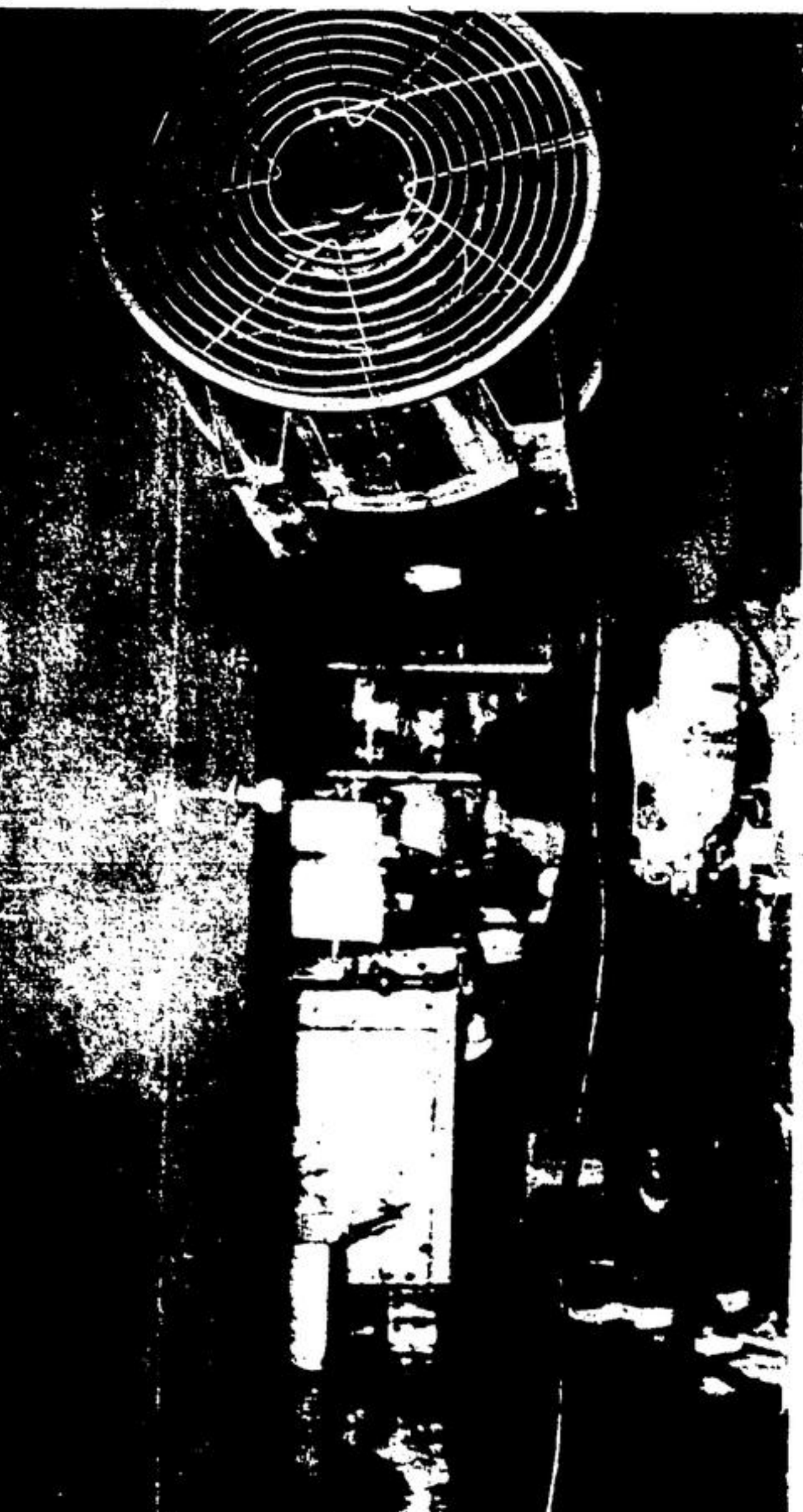
Unique in Canada, an extrusion line capable of producing high quality acrylic sheet has been installed and the product compares favorably with the sheet produced by the more costly casting method.

Three polyethylene pipe extruders have been replaced by two larger machines and two new PVC pipe extruders and an extruder for custom profiles have been installed.

Currently being introduced is a monitoring system for the pipe extrusion lines. Under the system the pipe wall will be constantly measured and the equipment automatically adjusted to ensure that correct thickness is maintained. Monitoring systems also will be installed on the PVC pipe lines.

Two injection moulding machines were installed last year and they are now producing polyethylene couplings for Bernico bituminized fibre conduit as well as PVC pipe fittings which previously were

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## Firefighters save Dominion Hotel

The Dominion Hotel, threatened by a destructive blaze which started in a chip fryer and surreptitiously crept up wall partitions, was saved from destruction Friday night by a well-drilled team of Acton firefighters.

The Main St. Hotel caught fire about 11:30 p.m. and it took a two hour battle with smoke and flames before it was brought under control.

Damage was confined to the rear, older frame section of

the three storey hostelry, estimated to be nearly 125 years old. The fire started in the kitchen in the french fryer grease, raced up a partition to the upstairs bedroom of chef Joe Malleck where it went through the ceiling to the attic.

Efforts to locate flames were hampered by the dense smoke and the direction flames took through partitions. Firefighters arrived on the scene minutes after the alarm was turned in by bartender Dunc Ellis and Bus Fitzgerald.

Ed Startek, co-owner with absent Louis Wasowicz, and chef Joe Malleck fought the flames with hand extinguishers until the firefighters arrived — many of them from a dance at the Legion Hall across the street. The building was filled with smoke.

Firefighters donned Scott air packs and with the aid of roomers escorted guests to the safety of the street as well as fighting flames.

Many guests had been awakened by the hotel alarm and hastily evacuated their rooms but two older men — Charlie Allen and Ernie Rookes — both in their 80's, had to be notified and assisted downstairs when Percy Gilbert noticed they were not out yet. Mr. Gilbert and other guests assisted the elderly men down with the aid of firemen. Mr. Rookes was taken to the Acton Medical Centre, nearby, for treatment for smoke inhalation.

A dance go surrounded the building while firefighters attacked the fire from the kitchen and from the other side. Chief Mick Holmes called all three fire trucks to the scene with their available equipment.

Traffic was diverted from the scene by Acton O.P.P. Air packs were soon exhausted and refilled but more had to be brought from Guelph before the fire chief pronounced the fire defeated. Fear was evident the fire would get out of hand and cause a major conflagration about half past 12 but the relentless pursuit of flames finally succeeded.

Spectators who witnessed the battle praised the efforts of firefighters who had to chop their way through ceilings twice to get at the fire. Hoses were attached to hydrants on Main and Mill Streets and they were used effectively with chemical extinguishers.

Cars ringing the hotel had to be moved so firefighters

could move around freely and prevent the spread of flames.

Hotel co-owner Louis Wasowicz told the Free Press Tuesday he and his brother-in-law partner Ed Startek hope the old section of the hotel which was almost gutted can be torn down and a new section built but much will depend on insurance adjusters. Negotiations are still in progress.

The old section of the hotel is at least 111 years old and estimated to be 125 years of age. A picture of Acton in 1856 shows the old part of the structure distinctly and it wasn't a new structure then.

Destruction of the kitchen and extensive damage to his bedroom put cook Joe Malleck out of business temporarily. Only cold sandwiches are being served guests until some arrangement can be made for hot meals. Beverage rooms are back in operation.

Hotel guests are back to normal, many of them returning to their rooms that morning around 2:30 a.m. after firefighters completed the job of mopping up. There are 25 rooms on the second and third floors.

Smoke ejectors emptied the hotel of acrid fumes which made it uninhabitable during the blaze. Some roomers had to be restrained from returning to rooms for warmer clothing before the fire was out.

Firefighters said the early hour of the fire probably saved the building. It happened later with everyone in bed the extra time allowed for their arrival would have given the fire a good foothold.

It was the third call for the firefighters last week and they received another on Sunday.

## LATE NEWS in Brief

- COUNTY COUNCIL BRIEFS — At the regular meeting of Halton County Council on Tuesday, members:
- \* Confirmed the appointment of John H. Watson as the county personnel officer.
  - \* Learned the consultative committees on education would present their report to the council at a special meeting on April 27 at 7:30 p.m. Representatives of the school boards and boards of education in the county were to be invited to attend. The report has been more than 12 months in preparation and is expected to include some far-reaching recommendations.
  - \* Approved an agreement with Robert J. 1 Mayer Productions for the preparation of a movie on Halton County.
  - \* Noted a committee was investigating way to reduce the deer population in Halton without an open season. Discussions are to be held with the Department of Lands and Forests.
  - \* Decided to await finalization of anticipated legislation before presenting a report on the establishment of a county welfare unit.
  - \* Authorized the Warden William Coulter to attend any conventions, conferences or meetings at which the County is represented by delegates.

### Traffic lights go on Monday

The long awaited stop lights installed at the Mill - Main St. corner will be turned on Monday morning at 9 a.m. At the same time, parking regulations as posted by signs will be enforced.

### Spring building starts

## Issue permits worth \$410,000

The anticipated spring building in Acton is off to a start. Clerk-administrator Jack McGeachie revealed building permits worth over \$410,000 have been issued for construction of houses in Lakovier subdivision.

Building has already started on some of the 41 houses which are being built by Rubin Corporation (Chrysler division), A & Z Construction and Sesto Construction.

Stabin Corporation took 30 of the permits. They'll be building 10 houses on the section of Elmore Drive not completed which runs parallel to Tidesy Avenue. Services are not in that area yet but the town will be starting soon.

Five more houses will be

### Bedding set alight at Anglican rectory

Burned bed, ruined bedding and a damaged room resulted from a fire Wednesday of last week at the home of Rev. and Mrs. R. McMurray, Jeffrey Ave. Children playing with matches were blamed for setting the bed on fire.

Neighbors came to assist and the damage was confined. Firefighters concluded the task of carrying out the smouldering bed.

FIREFIGHTERS DONNED Scott air packs to combat Friday's treacherous fire at the Dominion hotel. Dense clouds of smoke filled the hotel and some guests evacuated from rooms on the second and third floors had to be led to safety. A fan is employed here to help expel smoke from the kitchen where the fire started in a chip fryer. (Staff Photo)

built by Rubin on Tyler Ave., three on Tidesy and most of the remainder will be constructed on the northern part of Elmore Drive and Nelson Court.

Eight houses, some of which are already being built, are planned by A & Z Construction for a start, and it's expected they will be building more

when these are sold.

Sesto Construction is building three more houses on Elizabeth Drive, one of which is already in the process of going up.

Mayor Les Duby told the Free Press recently that the town could expect considerably more residential development than in recent years.