

Woodpecker says "farewell"

Crooked Elm tree dead cut down for museum



Museum Curator Major H. J. Newman tries his hand as the final cut takes place



View of the bottom of the tree shows how badly Elm disease hollowed the trunk (Staff Photos)

A woodpecker flew to a branch of Halton's famous crooked Elm tree on Highway 25 near Milton last Wednesday afternoon, and took a few final pecks "for old time's sake" scant moments before a Department of Highways crew moved in to take the tree down.

The tree, a famed landmark that once appeared in Ripley's "Believe It Or Not" column, is gone but not forgotten. Killed last spring by the dreaded Elm disease, it was rescued from the bonfire by Major H. J. Newman, Curator of the Halton Museum. At his request, the curved section of the old tree's trunk was saved and trucked to the Museum site at Kelso Conservation Area, where it will be treated, mounted in a concrete base and displayed to the public.

A special detail of seven D.H.O. men cut the tree down in less than an hour. Allan Bush of Milton brought a crane and flat-bed truck to help take the curved section down gently and truck it to the Museum.



D.H.O. men begin the task of removing the old crooked Elm tree on Highway 25

County plans tree project

Representatives from the Halton County Road Committee and the Oakville Tree Committee met recently to discuss organizing a tree planting project on County roads.

After discussing the project Warden William Coulter suggested a recommendation go to the county roads committee urging a start on the project using Trafalgar Road north of Highway No. 5 as a pilot project to be started this fall if possible.

The Oakville Committee recommended use of Norway Maple, Red Maple, Crimson King Maple, Red and White Oak, White Ash, Carolina Poplar and London Plane varieties.

They also urged the County Road Committee to determine the types of trees and quantities of each to be planted annually, rather than allowing abutting land owners a choice. This would eliminate problems in purchasing and help ensure tree types matching soil conditions.

Preliminary planning shows yearly costs would be approx-

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mately \$3,000. Oakville Council pays \$1,500 for street planting. Stock and labor costs are included. Chill candles in the refrigerator for 24 hours before using. They will burn evenly and not drip.

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News of the district

MILTON:

A good antidote to air pollution? "Bubble Bath Laboratories", a chemical manufacturing firm presently located in Dunnville, is building a new plant on a section of the Wilson farm on Ontario St. N. in Milton.

The new Milton plant will replace the Dunnville operation. Several products including bubble bath, car fresheners and numerous other related items will be manufactured at the new building.

He could not say how soon the operation would start here, or how many would be employed.

GUELPH:

The stone cottage birthplace of Col. John McCrae, who wrote *In Flanders Fields* was not opened on Remembrance Day as planned. Barclay Holmes, president of the Col. John McCrae Birthplace Society, established two years ago to preserve the home, which was to be demolished, said that construction delays will put off completion until spring. He expects an official opening in May.

GEORGETOWN:

The proposed reconstruction of the Georgetown Main Street bridge over the tracks, commonly known as the "White Bridge" will cost an estimated \$510,000, it was learned at council.

Cr. W. Smith claimed the cost to the town would be between \$25,000 and \$35,000, since the Railway Crossing Fund bears 50 per cent of the cost, and the C.N.R. 12-1/2 per cent. The remainder would be 80 per cent subsidized by the Department of Highways.

The projected starting date is in April of 1968 and the hoped-for completion date is late fall.

Some adjacent property will have to be acquired.

Again in the traffic picture, Georgetown council will request the Department of Highways to make the necessary traffic study to enable the town to erect traffic lights at Mountainview Road and No. 7 Highway, at Maple Ave. and Guelph, and Main and Maple Ave. The department traffic study is necessary in order to obtain subsidy on the lights.

Maple Ave. Baptist church in Georgetown is seeking corridor space in the Wrigglesworth school for Sunday school. The auditorium is always in use for classrooms.

ERIN:

The Erin Advocate has words of praise for the Acton Legion Chorallers in their account of the United church anniversary service....Erin post office will increase service by remaining open six days a week now.

Brigade honors Acton officer

Flight Lieutenant J.C. Rowles, Acton, has been honored by the St. John Ambulance Association. In recognition of his continued good works in the interest of the Order, F/L Rowles has been appointed a Serving Brother.

The honor was announced in the 1967 list published by the St. John Ambulance Association and F/L Rowles was present at the Government House ceremonies at which Governor General Roland Michener officiated on Oct. 26.

F/L Rowles is on the staff of the surgeon general at Canadian Forces Headquarters, Ottawa.

Chimpanzees are the only apes known to make tools.

Let's Play Bridge

No trump contracts are more difficult to play than suit contracts. At least that's what many bridge writers say. One reason for this may be that at no trump you often should postpone taking your high cards for a while. Many people are reluctant to do this. Let's look at this example from the Acton Bridge Club.

Both sides are vulnerable and the dealer is East.

NORTH
S - A Q
H - A Q 7 5 4
D - 6 4 2
C - J 8 2

WEST
S - 8 6 4
H - J 8 6 2
D - A 10 9
C - K Q 4

there is no future in leading from four to the jack. West's choice of the nine of diamonds is as good as any. This was taken by the jack in declarer's hand.

Too many people would now try the hearts. However if they are good now they will be good later and declarer should work on other suits. Spades are the best bet for the king may be on side or the 10 might fall in three rounds.

Declarer tried the spade finesse but it lost and back came a diamond. West took two diamond tricks and tried to set up some club tricks by leading the king. This was all declarer needed.

He won the king and came right back with a club. West won and led a spade but it was too late.

The club jack was cashed and declarer entered his hand with the heart king. The thirteenth club proved to be the needed trick when the heart suit did not split. In all, declarer took two spades, three hearts, one diamond and three clubs.

If declarer tried hearts at the beginning he will lose a heart as well as the spade, a club and two diamonds. If the clubs had not been so favourably placed, declarer could always try the heart at the end anyway.

Last week's winners at the Acton Bridge Club were: first, Jackie Nolan and Barbara Smith; second, Kay Campbell and Gwen Jeffares; tied for third, Harry Frost and Bill Hamilton with Gloria Coats and Duke Wilson.

The bidding:
EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH
Pass 1 C Pass 1 H
Pass 1 N.T. Pass 3 N.T.
All Pass

Opening lead - nine of diamonds.

I suppose South could have passed but things like that just don't happen at duplicate bridge. The rest of the bidding is straight forward.

West has a problem right at the start. With North bidding hearts

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