



Fire destroys Erin feed mill

Loss was estimated at between \$75,000 and \$100,000 when Kay's feed mill in Erin was completely destroyed by fire Saturday night.

The 64-year-old building, 185 tons of grain, supplies, equipment and records were all destroyed by the flames. The loss was partially covered by insurance.

When Erin fire brigade arrived at the building, located next to the C.P.R. station, flames were beginning to break through the roof and nothing could be saved. They concentrated their efforts on preventing the fire from spreading to Harvey Povosky's fuel oil and gas sales wooden building and weigh scales next door.

Garnet Kay of R. R. 4 Rockwood, had purchased the mill last August.

Art Hawos, Acton, his son-in-law, is the mill manager and bookkeeper and was the last to leave the building at 4 p.m. A friend returning to Acton told him of the fire Saturday night

two hours after it was reported at 9:30 p.m. to Erin fire brigade, and he rushed to the scene. Mr. Kay was away for the weekend. The building was a complete ruin when Mr. Hawos arrived. It wasn't until Tuesday afternoon he recovered the safe from the ruins, and then it was too hot to touch. The debris was still smouldering.

Mr. Kay hopes to rebuild soon. Meanwhile, he and his son-in-law will be operating the business from the Kay farm at R.R. 4, Rockwood, where they have three mobile mills mounted on trucks. He operated from home before buying the Erin building.

The Erin mill, built in 1904, was of steel-covered wood and included an office, heated by an electric heater, and storage space. They had hoped to build a store there. In the spring, grain lost included oats, corn, barley and wheat.

The fire is being investigated by police. Cause has not yet been determined.



MOVING THE TOWN OFFICE for a temporary period of from four to six weeks into the council chambers, kept town workmen and office staff busy Monday afternoon. Renovations at the older location will be speeded up by the move and the office staff is glad to escape from the clamor of building noises. Left clerk administrator J. McGeechie, assistant clerk Joan Harrison, to reassemble her desk. Right Sam Tennant, office manager Joe Hurst, clerk and John Dunn place a desk in position. The council chambers is smaller but brighter and the town staff was right on the job Tuesday morning. (Staff Photo)

Esqueusing hires caretaker

Esqueusing council interviewed eight applicants for the caretaking job at the township offices before deciding to accept the bid of Halton and Pool Maintenance, R.R. 1, Georgetown, to keep the building and property maintained. The successful bidder will do the work under the supervision of the clerk for \$28.50 a week.

On the urging of Councillor C.F. (Pat) Patterson who felt previous methods of reviewing salaries in the township were "by gosh and by golly," council passed a resolution that the reeve and deputy reeve meet employees first and bring their recommendations back to council. Negotiations were to be left, however, until after county council had settled county salaries.

Councillor Patterson felt township salaries were low compared to neighboring municipalities. "We need more careful scrutiny of them," he told council. "Everyone should be paid commensurate with what they do."

Sidewalks in Norval which are covered with snow by Department of Highways plows drew a resolution from council requesting the highways department to remove the snow since it created a dangerous situation. Children, unable to walk on sidewalks were forced to walk on the road.

Widening of the highway in Norval created the situation. Snow which normally would be plowed on boulevards is now spilled onto sidewalks. Council felt the

township was not responsible for "highways" plows.

While on the subject of snow removal, Mr. Patterson said he'd like to commend road superintendent Bud Snow on the job he and his staff did after the recent storm. His thoughts were echoed by the rest of council.

After a discussion on its merits, Reeve George Currie was appointed to the County Industrial Committee for 1968.

"You can put me on it but I won't take a fee at the end of the year. That's what I think of the job," commented the reeve.

"What is this committee?" asked Mr. Patterson.

"A committee supposed to get industry into the county," answered the reeve, "but I don't remember Esqueusing benefiting from their activities."

Council had similar thoughts about the county Emergency Measures Organization after Deputy-Reeve Tom Hill produced a by-law which the E.M.O. coordinator had asked every municipality in the county to pass. The by-law would include Esqueusing in a county-wide scheme in the event of an emergency.

Mr. Hill buttressed his argument with a document outlining the E.M.O. part in the search for Marilyn Schuett. He also emphasized other municipalities have passed the by-law.

The federal government is the biggest contributor to the

O.P.P. weekly report

Acton's first Break and Enter since October of 1967, aptly demonstrating the importance of locking doors of unoccupied premises, the O.P.P. weekly report status. A local place of business was entered through an unlocked door this past week, allowing the cupriffs to steal a quantity of money and cigarettes.

Would these thieves have been successful if more time had been taken to check the premises before closing up? Aside from the Break and Enter, criminal and general occurrences reported to the Acton Police Office this week were few, but traffic accidents readily filled the gap.

Three motor vehicle accidents, one resulting in a minor injury to a party involved, caused \$1850. damage to the cars.

Slippery snow covered streets can perhaps explain away the accidents, but in the end, it all comes to rest on the shoulders of the drivers. We must adjust our driving habits to the ever changing road and weather con-

Free Press Local News Items

—Quite a few have been enjoying tobogganing in Glenlea Park. The lights for night tobogganing aren't in operation yet.

—There's plenty of news from the district this week after last week's slump. There was no rural mail for a day or two after the storm.

—A minimum of time was spent in Magistrate's Court this week as only three convictions were registered. The three guilty parties paid fines totalling \$104.

—Meetings which are usually held in the council chambers are being transferred to the library or hydro building.

—Church annual meetings are coming up in the next couple of weeks.

—Some sidewalks were still pretty well impassable a full week after the storm.

—A travelling salesman in town last Wednesday, told town works superintendent Al Daily that all the towns had begun through, Acton streets were in best condition after the weekend storm.

Ice on road causes crash

icy road conditions were blamed for a two-car collision Tuesday morning at 8 a.m. on the Crescent bridge. Gary McFadden, Post St., was leaving the Crescent and Ethel McMillan, Poplar St., was entering the Crescent when Mr. McFadden braked and skidded, according to police. Damage to the McFadden car was estimated at \$125 and to the McMillan car at \$150. No charges were laid.

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tor at the registry office, just deposited.

Councillor Patterson said it was up to council to straighten out the boundary dispute but the deputy-reeve acknowledged the clerk's argument that solicitors can draw up legal descriptions "better than we can" had more merit.

Explain Everton dam plans at meeting January 29

A public meeting to explain plans for a proposed dam in the Everton area has been called for Monday, Jan. 29 by the Grand River Conservation Authority. The meeting will be held in Ospringe Public School, off Highway 24 at Ospringe, starting at 8:15 p.m.

A meeting planned for Jan. 15 was postponed because of bad weather.

Property owners in the area of the proposed dam have been invited to attend, along with representatives of Erin and Erasmos township councils.

The Everton dam is one of five large dams proposed by the authority in a \$30,000,000 program now before the federal government for approval.

The provincial government has approved the project but federal approval has been awaited for several months. The authority is seeking grants from the two senior levels of government totalling 75 per cent of the cost.

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DO YOU KNOW THE ANSWERS?

1. It's dark and snowing heavily as you drive along the highway. For best visibility, switch your headlights to high beam. True or false?
2. You're driving along and hit an unexpected patch of ice. You should:
 - (a) Maintain speed and let your car "roll" through the slippery area.
 - (b) Apply your brakes lightly.
 - (c) Accelerate slightly.
 The answers to these questions:
 1. False. The high beams would cause more glare from the snow.
 2. (a)

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