

Milton Deputy-Reeve Ron Harris chairs North Halton Urban Board

Ronald Harris, Deputy-Reeve of Milton, was elected chairman of the North Halton Urban Board at the group's inaugural meeting in Milton Wednesday. Georgetown councillor John Hole will be vice-chairman for 1968. Secretary-treasurer is Acton's clerk-administrator Jack McGeechie.

The board is comprised of council delegates from the three North Halton towns, who meet regularly to discuss common problems of municipal administration. While it remains an "urban" board there have been suggestions in recent years that Nassagaways and Residing Townships be invited to join so the group could cover the entire north end of the county. Decisions made by the board are not binding, but after discussions at the tri-town level councillors go back to their individual councils with new ideas and any legislation suggested in the joint discussions can be ratified by the individual councils.

A financial report on 1967 indicated a bank balance of \$317. Major expenditure was for a year-end dinner for all councillors and their wives, which cost \$467, and the secretary's remuneration. A motion was approved increasing the secretary's wage by \$50 to \$300 per

annum. Each town annually grants \$300 towards expenses of the board.

A vote of thanks was tendered to Councillor Robert Drinkwater of Acton, who chaired the board in 1967.

Thirteen attended the board's first meeting of the year. Seven were from the host town of Milton, five from Acton and one from Georgetown.

A brief discussion was held on the county assessment commissioner's system, which was voted down by County Council when an attempt was made to introduce it last year. Under this system local assessors would be relieved of their duties and all assessing would be done on an equitable basis through a county assessing office, using data processing equipment and inspection staffs situated throughout the county.

Acton Reeve H. H. Hinton said the county was going to take "a real strong look at it this year" and he predicted the attitude would be different among the councillors compared to last year. He predicted if the system is adopted, the re-assessment would increase rates in the north of the county and "some of the northern municipalities will start paying their share."

A straw vote was taken and

five members favored the system. Five others were non-committal — all of them fairly new councillors who admitted they did not have enough knowledge on the subject to participate in a vote.

Milton Councillor William Ferguson suggested each council should be considering a special grant toward recreation for retarded adults in the county. Some recreational facilities, such as swimming twice a month at a Milton school's pool, are being arranged through the North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded. But there are no government grants to cover recreation costs and rebuilding the pool is costing \$40 a month alone.

A complaint on the rising interest rates on municipal debentures was voiced by Milton Councillor Percy Barr. Acton Mayor Les Duby suggested a resolution be forwarded through the Ontario Municipal Association, where it would gain greater support before presentation to the government.

It was suggested that one meeting this year could be devoted to a discussion with the county engineer, so members could learn more about the county roads system, its operation and its costs.



MARIE HOLMES and Dugald Dick rest appropriately enough beneath the motif for Thursday's Valentine dance at the high school. A teachers' convention the next day meant no school and a chance to keep weekend hours. (Staff Photo)

Second 4-H club formed by W.I. to accommodate number of girls

Although it was one of the coldest nights this winter, a splendid turnout of members attended the monthly meeting of Dublin Women's Institute last Thursday evening. Mr. Horace Blyth was hostess at her home on the Blue Springs Road, Nassagaways, for the gathering.

Presiding for the opening exercises was the president, Mrs. M. Nellis. Mrs. Duncan Moffat read the minutes and called the roll which was answered by "A Canadian Advertising Slogan."

A sheet of correspondence was read by the secretary. The Officers' Conference will be held on April 30, May 1 and 2 and Mrs. M. McCullough was named as a tentative delegate. The loan of a Travel Film from the Department of Tourism was received and further particulars will be obtained.

An invitation was received from the Bannockburn Women's Institute to celebrate their 50th Anniversary on March 20, and accepted. Farmer's Conference with sessions for men and women is being held from February 20-23.

Even with the north winds blowing very cold outside, shadows of the coming Fall Fair loomed up when the subjects for the exhibits were named. At Acton it will be "Dress Up your Kitchen Accessories," and at Milton "Let's show at the Fair."

A financial appeal from the North Halton Musical Festival was responded to with the usual annual donation.

An advanced Training School on "Hats for You" will be held on April 24 and 25 in Milton.

Mrs. M. Nellis who instructed for the first course will again attend. The value of the work of the 4-H Leaders among the teen-age girls of the community has been very encouraging for a good many years, and this year is no exception. A second club has had to be formed from Dublin Women's Institute branch on account of the number of girls desiring to take the next course.

Mrs. F. McCarron and Mrs. N. Douglas are leaders of one group and Mrs. E. Wilson and Mrs. H. Blyth, leaders of the new group of girls. Some charts and some evening garments made under the last instruction course "Sleeping Garments" were purchased by the members.

After many hours of expert needlework, by a few faithful members who had gathered at the home of Mrs. George Robertson on many cold and stormy days, a beautiful quilt had been completed for a former member now living in Guelph. It was on display at the meeting.

Mrs. Alex Near, Resolutions Convener, read a resolution that had been prepared by the F.W.I.C. on the very vital subject pertaining to the Ontario Water Resources Commission.

Canadian Industries was the theme of the meeting and the history of a Milton industry was well given by Mrs. W. Britton. This was followed by a paper on "The History of Agriculture" by Mrs. E. Norton.

A contest with considerable activity was presented by Mrs. N. Douglas, with her daughter Gail, assisting. Winners were Mrs. G. Robertson, Mrs. A. Near, and Mrs. J. Donnis.

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More than half the fatal accidents in urban areas happen at speeds under 30 mph, says the Ontario Safety League.

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Joe won't take any Swap info on council pay

An information-swapping session at the February meeting of the North Halton Urban Board in Milton Wednesday brought out three interesting facts. Councillors from Milton, Georgetown and Acton traded salary lists during a discussion and found:

on each salary.

- * Georgetown's Mayor Joseph Gibbons won't accept his pay as Mayor.
- * And Milton's Mayor Brian Best wasn't even sure how much he was supposed to be paid for his work.

Milton pays its mayor \$2,000 and councillors \$750 per year.

A councillor is allowed four weeks off for sickness and holidays, but after that he is docked \$10 a meeting off his \$750 total. Acton's rate is \$1,200 for the mayor and \$12 a meeting to a maximum of \$600 for councillors. Georgetown's rate for the mayor is \$2,500 (although Mayor Gibbons hasn't accepted it since he used "no pay" as an election promise four years ago) while councillors got \$20 for their weekly council meeting and \$10 a meeting for bi-weekly committee meetings.

He cited the case in Milton where the Recreation Committee members are paid, while the Parks Board is not. He felt both bodies held similar responsibilities and it was not fair for members of one to accept remuneration while the other contribute their services without pay.

O.P.P. report \$1,150 damage vehicles involved in accidents

Just one week ago we were able to boast of an accident free week, however, that was a week ago. This week, February 11 to 17, three accidents, resulting in one person being injured and hospitalized and \$1,150 damage to the five vehicles involved, were reported to the Acton O.P.P. In each of the accidents one of the persons involved was found to have committed a Highway Traffic Act violation.

Other traffic statistics compiled during the 200 hours worked and 775 miles patrolled show six persons were charged with traffic offences and 10 others were warned.

General and criminal occurrences numbered seven and resulted in two persons being charged under the Liquor Control Act of Ontario. The remainder of the complaints were settled without charges being laid.

At Magistrate's Court in Milton, 10 persons were convicted of various charges and paid fines totalling \$481. Two other persons previously convicted of 'Assault Police' arising from a July 1967, event, were sentenced to terms in the Ontario Reformatory at Guelph.

Today, with the majority of people over 16 years of age owning or at least being licensed to drive automobiles, Police Constables' duties are becoming more and more concentrated on traffic control. In fact, a recent survey of police departments has revealed that less than 10% of the average police budget is spent on crime investigation. This being the case, it is reasonable to assume that most police officers are more than just a little traffic conscious. But, it would appear from here that too few of the motoring public are anywhere near being traffic conscious enough.

Many of you have come into contact with us through traffic or more pointedly, through a traffic violation you might have committed. Some of you were warned and most likely made aware of why this course of action was taken. Others of you were the recipients of traffic citations, but before you can fully realize the "why" of this it is important that you understand the attitude of the police officer.

Any police officer engaged in traffic patrols is an employee for your protection and he believes in his job. He receives neither praise nor abuse from his superiors whether he charges you

or not. It is, to use an athletic cliché, "strictly a judgment call".

Taking this into consideration, we must attempt to arrive at a conclusion as to why the constable did charge you. The only reasonable explanation, as seen from this side of the table, would seem to be that the officer judged the offence committed serious enough whereby only a traffic citation would effectively impress upon you the gravity of your error.

Think it over and perhaps, if you are stopped in the near future, we can all be a little more objective in our overall appraisal of the situation. The contact, despite its punitive purpose, will probably be far more pleasant and effective for all.

The millionaire's wife hovered at her husband's sick bed, as the doctor conducted his examination. Afterward, in the hall, she asked, "Is there any hope, doctor?"

"That depends," said the physician. "Just what are you hoping for?"

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