



ROBERT LITTLE PUBLIC SCHOOL junior choir, from grades 5 and 6, took top honors in the North-Halton Music Festival-Tuesday. Adjudicator Mr. Garfield Bender of Kitchener chose the local

group from eight other Halton district schools. They were presented with the Lakeside Chapter I.O.D.E. trophy by Jean Barber. (Staff Photo)

## General down, roads up total hits \$2,463,095

Halton taxpayers will be responsible for raising an extra half a million dollars for County Council this year. A 1968 mill rate of 6.98 mills, established Friday afternoon at a special meeting of Halton County Council, is a 1.03 mill increase over last year's rate and will provide an additional \$519,307 in taxes.

Total county spending will hit a record \$2,357,305 this year, which includes \$1,377,909 for the general expenditures and \$979,396 on roads. The general mill rate was reduced to 4.08 from 4.19 last year but the higher taxable assessment this year (\$337,722,826) means the new rate is worth an extra \$83,588.

Road expenditures took the biggest jump. The county is now in its second year of a five-year roads improvement program, and expenditures will total \$979,396 -- up \$435,719 from last year.

In addition to the general and roads expenses, County Council is still paying off debentures on district high schools for which only the five North Halton municipalities are responsible. Milton, Georgetown, Acton and the Townships of Esquesing and Nassagaweya will contribute an extra \$99,790 toward these debentures this year.

The same five municipalities will also pay \$6,000 towards the total salary of the new construction safety officer, a county employee who will also serve as C.S.O. for each of the municipalities in the five northern towns and townships. Oakville and Burlington have their own safety officers.

These two additional items bring the county spending total to \$2,463,095.

Here is a breakdown on how each municipality is assessed for county taxes. In the case of the five northern members, the total includes the high school and construction safety officer levies. The figure in brackets is the percentage of the normal county levy the municipality will pay:

Acton (2.22) \$87,991; Burlington (42.81) \$1,009,197; Georgetown (5.03) \$153,699; Milton (3.02) \$92,391; Oakville (42.01) \$990,325; Esquesing (3.45) \$105,336; Nassagaweya (1.45) \$44,152.

In addition to the \$1,377,909 general levy local municipalities must raise, the county council will receive dominion grants totalling \$14,070 and provincial grants of \$121,664 this year, plus \$19,600 from other sources and \$105,790 from other municipalities. This makes a total general expenditure of \$1,684,051.

A major change in county finances this year is the dropping of all costs of administration of justice, registry office and jail. The province is taking over these costs, although final legislation has yet to be approved. In the meantime the county is covering the costs and expects to recover all justice expenses at some future date.

Debt charges account for \$613,177 of county spending this year. General government will cost \$264,195; protection of persons and property \$134,136; public welfare \$293,353; and other expenditures \$379,188.

The finance committee spent several weeks and many meetings of reviewing budget figures from the various committees and organizations requiring county funds for 1968. Many cuts were made, and the final budget the committee presented to the council on Friday was accepted with one small change. The Children's Aid was allowed to keep \$5,000 the finance committee had asked it to cut from the 1968 expenditures.

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## Competition keen

(Continued from Page 1)  
Junior choir, four rooms and under, "Slumber Song," Norval, Milton Heights, Campbellville. Four entries.

Junior choir, grades four to six, seven rooms and under, "Country Garden," W.L. Dick, Bruce St., Campbellville. Four entries.

Boys' unchanged voices, "It's the Boy," M. Z. Bennett, Robert Little, Brookville. Eleven entries.

Grade four choir, "Breeze of the Night," W.L. Dick, J. M. Denyes, Robert Little. Nine entries.

Senior choir, one selection of own choice and The Dutious Day Now Closest, Martin St., Stowartown, Martin St.

On Tuesday, Halton Music Festival trophies were presented by Mrs. G. W. McKenzie, Mrs. T. Watson, Mrs. H. H. Hinton and Mrs. Frost; the John Milton I.O.D.E. trophy by Mrs. Martin, the Duke of Devonshire I.O.D.E., Acton, award by Mrs. Ann Mowat; the Lakeside I.O.D.E. Acton, trophy by Miss Jean Barber, Milton Rotary club award

by Mrs. C. Hiltz; Milton Home and School trophy by Mrs. Ptolomy; Georgetown Bank of Commerce award by Mrs. M. Helson; Milton Bank of Nova Scotia award by W. Wood; Acton Bank of Montreal by G. W. McKenzie; Sarah Martin I.O.D.E., Milton, by Mrs. John Beverly; White Oaks I.O.D.E. by Mrs. E. Hanson; Mountain Union W.I. by Mr. J. Marcoux; Countess of Strathmore I.O.D.E., Georgetown by Mrs. Cascadden; Campbellville W.I. by Mrs. Vansickle; Acton Home and School by Mrs. Loutell.

Wednesday's results will appear next week.

## Theatre reopens this weekend

Grand reopening of the Mustang drive-in theatre will take place this weekend.

Formerly called the Jam Theatre, the drive-in is located a mile east of Guelph city limits just off No. 7 Highway. Although the name is changed it will be under the same management.

Manager Nod Hill says the theatre is all refurbished for the Spring opening.

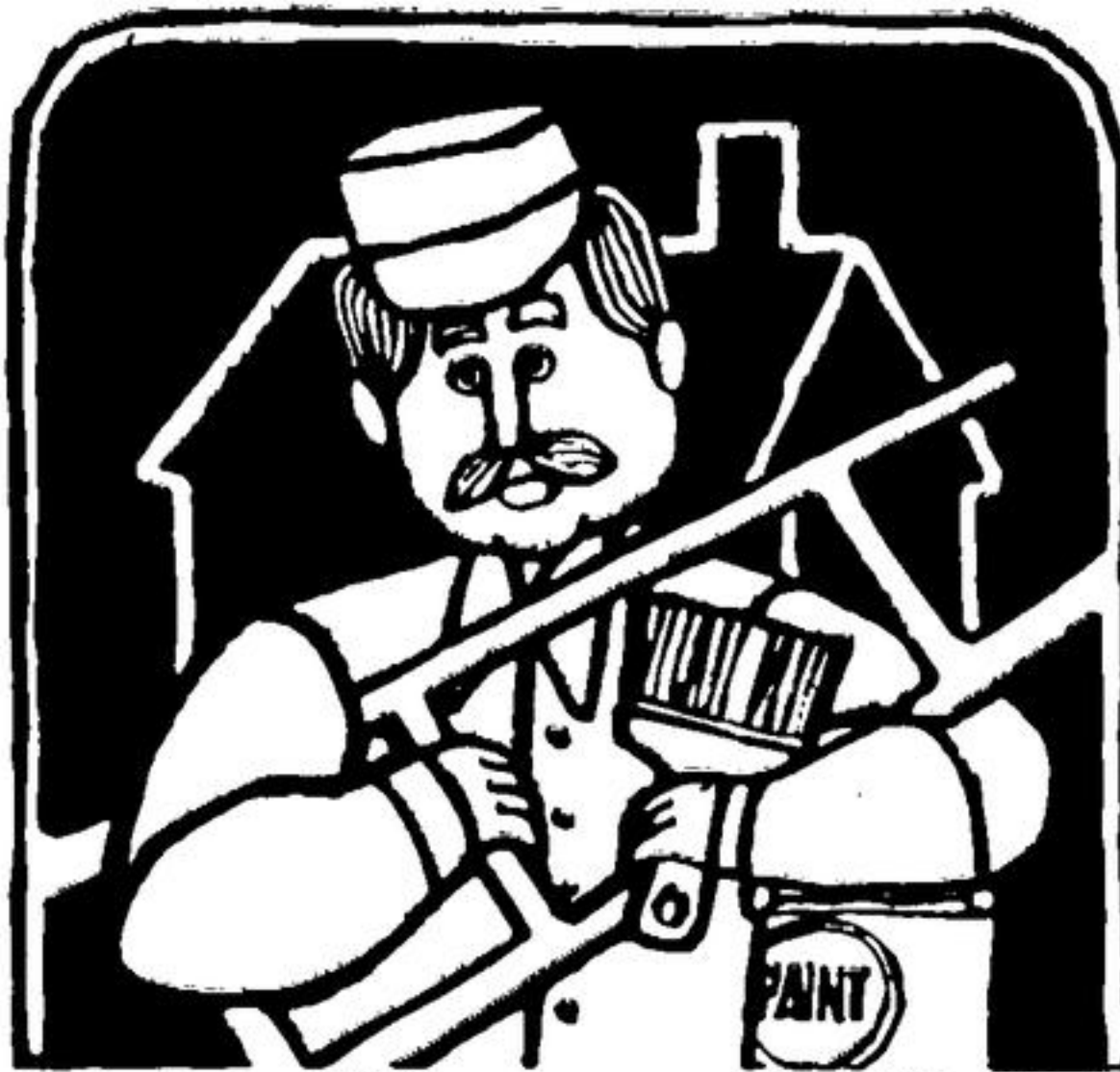
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