

Saturday closing of post office starts February 1

Acton post office will be shut down on Saturdays beginning February 1, Halton M. P. Rud Whiting confirmed this week.

The lock box lobby will be open and rural route delivery will operate as usual. No parcel post service will be available.

The Post Office Department expects to save \$13 million by shutting down urban post offices on Saturdays, the Halton M. P. said. He has received only two letters opposing the move and one concerned keeping rural delivery.

Mr. Whiting was one of 35 Members of Parliament that met in a special caucus with Postmaster-General Eric Klerks to appeal the extra mail shutdown. If Saturday delivery is a necessity, the Halton M. P. said, town residents can rent

lock boxes to receive mail. The mail will be sorted and put in the boxes.

The House of Commons gave third and final reading Monday to a bill that would raise Canada's postal rates. The bill must still pass the Senate and get royal assent.

An N.D.P. amendment that the bill be given third reading in six months—the traditional bill-killing move—was defeated 100 to 86. Only the government voted against the amendment.

Under the bill all first class mail would cost six cents. Rates on second, third and fourth class mail will also be increased. The N.D.P. and the Conservatives opposed increasing first class rate and did not go along with the government's intention to stop Saturday delivery of mail in urban centres.



OLENIA CHILDREN lose a friend this week. for the last time on Thursday night. After 12 years as crossing guard on Hwy. 7, John Bruce is handing in his white patrol belt.

(Staff Photo)

12 years as crossing guard John Bruce hands in his hat

"I'm going to miss the children all right. That's the thing I hate about quitting," admits John Bruce.

He retires this Thursday night after 12 years and two months as guard at the crosswalk on Highway 7 by Glenlea.

Mr. Bruce had worked at Beardmore and Company. He took on duties at the crossing before M. Z. Bennett school was opened and just a handful of students came out to the east end from Robert Little. As the subdivision grew, the numbers crossing the highway got larger and now a junior patrol is on duty to help him.

"I've enjoyed it," sighs Mr. Bruce. Most of the children greet him by name as they cross to and from school. He has watched some through all their public school years.

One little girl may remember the day he snatched her off her bicycle when the brakes failed and she was heading into the path of a transport.

Mr. Bruce is proud of his accident-free record, and says he has never had a serious problem with discipline.

Even though he turned 80 a couple of weeks ago, Mr. Bruce would keep on if it weren't for the winter. He is bothered by arthritis and the crossing offers no shelter on a frosty winter morning.

No doubt the children will miss the little blue Volkswagen parked by the corner and the friendly Mr. Bruce who stopped the traffic for them.

And Mr. Bruce will miss the children. "They're so friendly," he beams.



Planning board quorum problem shortens meeting

The once-postponed planning board meeting dealt with only two matters before the necessary departure of one of the members left it without a quorum again.

The board met the second Thursday in a row, after lack of a quorum had cancelled the previous meeting.

Meeting in the council chamber last Thursday were chairman Bob Drinkwater, Charles Perry, Meh Blow and Grant Allan, with board secretary Iain Williams.

Lawyer Aldo Braida appeared on behalf of a developer, asking a zone change to allow a proposed apartment building. After discussion about the allowed height of apartment buildings in Acton the application was withdrawn.

A severance of property for Mrs. Mary Seynuck, including the land surrounding her home,

was approved. The land is being separated from the adjoining property, earmarked for subdivision.

After adjournment members continued their discussion of planning problems without a quorum.

Parked car struck Sunday

Sunday morning at 2.05 a.m. a car driven by Donald McIntyre, Mill E., Acton, travelling west on Mill, was in collision with a car parked on the north side of Mill, facing west.

The parked car, with an estimated \$100 damaged, was owned by Fred Waller, Agnes St. Acton.

The other car had an estimated \$300 damage to the right side.

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Jim Snow wants new look in Halton County

If Jim Snow has his way, Halton County would take on a radically new and different look. Snow, M.P.P. for Halton East has submitted a plan to Darcy McKeough, Minister of Municipal Affairs suggesting Halton County be split into five sections or divisions rather than seven as at present.

Snow said he would favor a two-tier system for regional government during the introductory period and then a transition to a single-tier system of government.

During the introductory period the local government would be charged with parks and recreation, roads, garbage and sanitation and some of the lesser responsibilities.

Mr. Snow proposed the five new municipalities would be made up as follows:

—Acton would take over that portion of Nassagaweya north of Highway 401 and Esqueving Township west of Third Line.

—Georgetown would be linked with the rest of Esqueving north

of Highway 401, the village of Glen Williams and Norval.

Esqueving and Nassagaweya south of Highway 401 would be combined with the north halves of Burlington and Oakville and the Town of Milton, with the Lower Base Line the probably-southern boundary.

Oakville and Burlington's southern portions would be two separate municipalities.

Snow said Milton Heights would be linked with the Town of Milton. He explained Milton would be in a position to solve the water crisis in that area if the area were within the town's boundaries.

"As it is now," Snow explained, "part is in Nassagaweya and part in Esqueving and this makes for an awkward situation."

Snow's plan met with the Minister's approval. The plan was a result of a few months of study and consideration. Several reports have been made on regional government, Snow explained, "so I thought I would submit mine for what it is worth to the Minister."

The M.P.P. said the boundaries he had specified were not necessarily final. He said consideration would have to be given to that. "Perhaps part of Peel should be joined to Halton and the opposite would apply in some spots," he said.



FURROW QUEEN Mary Picket was selected as Halton's 1968-69 Queen of the Furrow at the Halton Plowing Match on Saturday.

Sight U.F.O. Monday night

A wag has observed that U.F.O.'s are real! The air force does not exist.

For many people in Acton Monday night U.F.O.'s did exist. One was sighted high in the sky around 10 p.m. flashing red and blue lights. It was stationary.

Just to prove it did exist several people observed the object through binoculars and phoned others who could see this Unidentified Flying Object with the naked eye.

Speculation was rife that it was a Russian or American space shot. Others thought it was some sort of weather balloon.

At least two Free Press staffers will vouch for the authenticity of the object (whatever it was).

Value drops car for sale

Glass littered the intersection and over \$1,000 damage resulted when two cars were in collision at Main and Church Sts. Friday at 5 o'clock.

Agkun Hayrettin, Main St., Georgetown, was test driving a car he was considering buying along Church St., when he went into the path of a car coming north on Main St., driven by Mario Baginski of Acton.

The Baginski car received an estimated \$400 damage to the front bumper, radiator, right front hood.

The car that had been up for sale received \$650 damage to the left front fender, bumper, hood and headlight. It was owned by R. Holmes, Church St.

Petitions opposing taxes on churches circulated

Copies of a petition opposing any change in tax regulations regarding places of worship were distributed at St. Joseph's Church on Sunday and will be given out at Trinity United this Sunday.

Anglican, Catholic and United Churches in the province have united in a campaign to oppose the proposal by the Select Committee of the Ontario Legislature on Taxation that churches and synagogues be taxed. Premier John Roberts said he personally found the idea objectionable but that he welcomed comments on the proposal.

St. Alban's rector, Rev. H. Dawson, said his parishioners would not receive any of the petitions because only the

Bishop for the Anglican Diocese of Toronto signed the document agreeing to oppose the tax. Acton is in the Niagara Diocese.

Wording of the petition is: "In this province, built as it is on spiritual values fostered by religion, I declare that I am emphatically opposed to any change in tax regulations regarding places of worship."

"The only funds available from which the churches could pay taxes," says the pastoral letter signed by the three clergymen, "are the charitable donations of the people who come to worship God. It is evident that such taxation would place an inequitable burden upon the poor. As a matter of fact, to tax places of worship is

to tax the worship of God itself. This, we are convinced, is incompatible with the free Christian-Judaic tradition upon which our nation is founded."

Court of Revision open hearings

Halton's 1968 Court of Revision hearings open today (Wednesday) with a hearing in Milton—the first of 33 days of hearings scheduled for the five appointed board members who face a record 1,332 appeals in the weeks ahead.

The Court is appointed to listen to ratepayers' appeals against their 1968 assessments in six of the seven Halton municipalities. There were no appeals in Acton this year. Milton has the least with 17 while Burlington topped the list at 591. About 340 of the appeals deal with farm land values which were upped this year to about one-third of the present market value.

Members are John Blair and Arnold Coulson of Burlington, Ralph Featherstone of Oakville, Jack Armstrong of Georgetown and Don H. McMillan of Nassagaweya. Mr. Blair has been on the court of revision for

several years. Mr. Coulson and Mr. Armstrong were appointed to it last year, and Mr. Featherstone and Mr. McMillan are new members this year.

The Court will appoint a new chairman for each municipality. Halton residents received their 1968 assessment notices, on which 1969 taxes will be based on or before Sept. 30.

Three candidates on campaign trail

Bob Drinkwater, one of three declared candidates for the seat of mayor, is putting his words in black and white. He has had a sheet of information and questions distributed door-to-door.

All the candidates are making many personal calls. As well as Mr. Drinkwater the candidates are present mayor Les Doby and reeve Bert Hinton.



Dredging continues

Tour lake on Sunday

Interested in the significance of the dredging at Fairy Lake?

The Credit Valley Conservation Authority, in co-operation with Acton Chamber of Commerce, is sponsoring a guided tour of the lake area this Sunday afternoon to explain exactly what's being done in the \$200,000 project. Acton's member of the Authority, R. R. Parker, will conduct the tour.

Time of the tour is 1 p.m. The public is invited but warned to wear rubber boots or overshoes of some type because damp and muddy areas will be visited.

Dredging has been continuing in the lake since early

April, resuming after the start of the project in the summer of 1967. Recently a large shovel joined the dredge in emptying the lake of silt. It is estimated almost 400,000 cubic yards of muck will be moved before the job is finished.

Although it was hoped the dredging would be finished this year, prospects grow dimmer as the colder weather draws nearer. Almost half of the job was done in the early summer months.

Now the dredge is situated at the point in the park while the shovel is at work completing a dike along Elizabeth Drive.



HMMM... RASPBERRIES! Ben Kulpary of R.R. 1 Acton found a branch of ripe juicy raspberries in his backyard. (Staff Photo)