

The Acton Free Press

Ninety-Fifth Year. — No. 18

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1969

Eighteen Pages—Fifteen Cents



ADMIRING THE gift of the town, a golden tea service, are well-known couple Mr. and Mrs. Bill Denny. They observed their golden wedding anniversary last week and the traditional gift was presented from the town.—(Staff Photo)

Golden anniversary marked by Mr. and Mrs. Bill Denny

Residents of Acton for the past 24 years, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Denny of Elizabeth Drive quietly observed their 50th wedding anniversary last Wednesday with their family.

The well-liked couple are widely known in Acton and district where they have immersed themselves in many activities from municipal work to service in St. Alban's Church. They've made a host of friends since they moved here from Kitchener in 1945 to operate an insurance agency.

Born and raised in the Listowel area the couple was married in Listowel on October 22, 1919 and the Denny's both remember it was a very warm day in contrast to last Wednesday's weather which was

sunny and cold with several inches of unseasonal snow on the ground.

It didn't matter, however. Son Harold and his family, who live very close, took the anniversary couple to dinner and the occasion was celebrated in festive fashion. Although they didn't make the event public friends showered them with cards, good wishes and visits to mark the occasion.

Bill Denny has taken an active interest in the town since he arrived here to live and naturally this culminated in three years on Acton Council where he served two years as deputy reeve as well as serving on county council.

He is a past warden of St. Alban's Church and his experience in that capacity has

led to a position on programming and planning for the Anglican diocese of Niagara which Mr. Denny admits is a "heck of a big job."

While the couple lived in Kitchener Bill also served in the Boy Scout movement for 12 years, seven years as scoutmaster.

Mrs. Denny is a past president of the W. A. of St. Alban's Church which is now known as the Anglican Church Women.

Although Bill Denny retired from the insurance business recently his other activities keep both him and his wife fully occupied. "There isn't much spare time," he admits.

The Free Press joins in wishing the popular Acton couple many more happy years of married life.

School board deficits are due on 1970 taxes

Milton, Oakville and Acton taxpayers will be picking up deficits incurred by school boards in 1968, when they receive their 1970 tax bill.

A report of the board of arbitrators circulated Monday notes a deficit on Milton District High School 1968 operations of \$25,147 and on the Milton Public School operations of \$3,967. Taxpayers will have a total of \$29,114 to pay in 1970. The Milton deficit on the high school is incurred largely by the installation of a track at the High School costing \$26,500 which was paid from current revenue rather than capitalized. The deficit on high school operations affects areas of Esquesing and Nassagaweya.

The Acton deficit includes a \$31,203 deficit on high school

operations in 1968 and a surplus of \$11,241 on public school operations. Acton taxpayers will be picking up a deficit of \$19,962 when they receive their 1970 tax bills.

Oakville taxpayers face a deficit of \$119,084 which is made up of a \$127,084 deficit on secondary school operations and a surplus of \$8,826 on public school operations.

Nassagaweya, Esquesing, Georgetown and Burlington taxpayers come in for some relief as a result of surpluses accrued in the 1968 year of operations by their local boards.

Nassagaweya accumulated a surplus of \$36,379 on its public school operations and picked up a deficit of \$13,641 on its district high school participation. Tax bills in 1970

should reflect allowances for the \$22,738 surplus which resulted in 1968.

Esquesing had a surplus of \$52,952 on its public school operations and picked up a deficit of \$12,612 on its district high school boards. A surplus of \$40,340 will be applied to 1970 levies.

Burlington operated in 1968 with a surplus on both public school and secondary school operations, as did Georgetown. In Burlington the total surplus will be \$77,262 while in Georgetown the surplus will be \$65,060.

Cars collide at crosswalk

When a car stopped for a crosswalk on Queen St. at Acton Blvd. Friday at 1:20 p.m., another car hit the back of it. One of the drivers was Margaret Dedman, R. R. 2, Erin, in a Volkswagen and the other John Bouwman, 31 Church St. W., Acton, in an Austin. Each car received \$300 damage. A boy was using the crosswalk when the accident occurred.

No further delays

Full steam ahead on industrial park

Acton Council last night confirmed their decision to develop the industrial park in the north end of town immediately despite a plea for a two week delay from freshman councillor Peter Marks, supported by Reeve F. Oakes.

In a procedural wrangle, Councillor Marks tried to introduce a motion to postpone council's decision on the industrial park until results of a joint meeting between the development commission and Building Products of Canada were known. He lost the decision.

Council, after listening to a plea from a Chamber of Commerce delegation asking them to make up their mind about the future of the 50 acre industrial park, later heard a letter from Building Products asking for a delay until the plastics company can resolve plans for expansion.

BP asked council not to sell land in the industrial park adjoining their property until the company knew the extent of additional space they would need in their current expansion program which included plans for a railway siding. The company stated it would be early 1970 before plans were resolved.

This information, Councillor Marks contended, changed the complexion of a submission on which he had spent considerable time and preparation. He advocated a two week delay on any decision to proceed until results of a proposed meeting between the development commission and the company were known.

The mayor and other councillors, briding at suggestions from the Chamber of Commerce delegations that the disputed property had sat idle six long years through neglect, were open to suggestion but would not back down on their determination to get something going to develop the park.

"This is a prime example of what happens to delay the development," Mayor Duby, a long time advocate of developing the park, pointed out to the delegation. Councillors felt the railway siding could shatter their plans but also felt there had been enough foot-dragging on the issue.

Deputy-Reeve Tyler couldn't believe that the company was just aware that council intended to develop the industrial park.

"It appears," Councillor Coats said cryptically, "that BP is taking an option on the land without paying for it."

Councillor Greer was more conciliatory. "They knew full well we were going to develop it but didn't know when. But we should go ahead. We can't subsidize industry and we won't have to spend money on development until we issue debentures," he maintained.

"I'm more than ever convinced we must develop this land as an industrial site," the mayor affirmed. Spur line or road. They're intangible. I go on record as supporting development of the park."

Councillor Pat McKenzie asked for a firm commitment to go ahead or else unload the property.

Mr. Marks asked how council could proceed until they knew the cost of the development. "The spur line alters the course of the road," he maintained. "I'm the last one to want to stall on this but after six years surely two weeks is not too long to wait."

"This is exactly what has happened over the last four or five years," the mayor said. "Nothing this important has happened in the last six years," Mr. Marks continued.

Councillor Coats conceded there was a "grain of truth" in Councillor Marks' statement but asked what action would be taken on the proposed motion, anyway.

"Meet with BP and find out what they want," the reeve urged. "There's no authorization for us to spend money."

Mr. Marks said the motion meant spending another \$50,000

of taxpayers' money and asked what benefits would accrue if the land was sold unreserved. Why not sell it to a private developer, he urged. He would look after everything. It would be his baby and cause less headaches.

"In no time at all there would be no land available to Acton

Councillor Marks submitted another mystery resolution asking it be handled before a motion confirming the decision to go ahead with development of the industrial park.

The mayor ruled the motion must go to the tail end of the resolutions since it had been received last. Councillor Marks

SEE STORY ON PAGE 5 REGARDING INDUSTRIAL PARK

Wood Products or Heller's," answered the mayor who felt this would write off local industries planning expansion as well as taking control of the type of industry wanted away from the town. Councillor Masales agreed. Councillor Marks did not, asserting it could be controlled.

Discussion was curtailed until resolutions were voted on at the tail end of the meeting when

appealed the mayor's ruling and lost by a round-the-table vote.

But council passed the resolution to proceed with development immediately claiming it did not necessarily mean spending any money.

"It will cost at least \$50,000," Councillor Marks insisted. Reeve F. Oakes agreed but their motion to postpone a decision was withdrawn when the prior resolution passed.

Peel County opts out of merger committee

Peel County Council last week terminated its participation in the Peel-Halton inter-municipal regional government committee, after stormy council debate.

The county also disbanded its own regional government committee following the resignation of Mississauga Mayor Robert Speck as chairman of the committee. The resignation came without public comment and was accepted by the council without debate.

Mississauga councillor Lou Parsons charged the council with abrogating its responsibility in the regional government matter and said any faith Municipal Affairs Minister Darcy McKeough had had in county leaders here had been "misplaced."

The issue is now in the hands

of local councils in each Peel municipality.

"Warden Nance Horwood said she regretted the move and a move to put the regional government proposal directly into the hands of local councils.

"It looks like a straight collision between the north and the south and that is one thing that disturbs me greatly," the warden commented.

She said if local councils expected Mr. McKeough to appear at each of their meetings on the topic it was nothing short of "audacity."

Meanwhile Halton's regional government committee has carved up the county of Halton and continued to press for designation of Halton as a single unit rather than merged with Peel. Voting strength on the Halton unit was proposed by County Council last week giving two votes to Milton, two to Nassagaweya-Acton, three to Georgetown-Esquesing and four to Oakville with five to Burlington.

Firefighters roused early

Fire in some plywood boards over a machine at the H. K. Porter plant on MacDonald Blvd. gave Acton firefighters an early morning run Wednesday.

The alarm sounded at approximately 1:45 a.m. Two trucks responded to the call. The plywood was thrown outside and soon doused with hoses.

Firefighters returned to bed.

Bigger bank

Excavation began this week for the new addition at the back of the Bank of Nova Scotia. It's expected the new area will be ready in three or four months.



ACTON FIREFIGHTERS together with the Erin brigade prevented a fire which started in an adjoining garage from causing serious damage to a house owned by Wilbert Brown on the Fifth Line of Erin township Thursday.—(Staff Photo)

Lack of attendance cancels Urban Board

Since its recent decision to disband itself at the end of this year, North Halton Urban Board has been having a hard time scraping up enough delegates to hold a regular monthly meeting.

The October meeting was scheduled to be held Wednesday, October 15 in Milton but it fell through when just four councillors arrived—two from Milton and one each from Acton and Georgetown. The four councillors held a general discussion for an hour—then went home.

A representative of the Ontario Department of Energy and Resources Management was also on hand, to speak to the group about centralized garbage incineration. He didn't bother delivering his talk due to the small attendance.

Urban Board, after about 20 years of successful existence, is fading away slowly. While Acton representatives favor its

continuance the Milton and Georgetown councils have withdrawn their support and attempts over the past few years to interest the rural townships Esquesing and Nassagaweya have all failed. The Board operated as a sounding board for discussion of mutual problems although it had no official functions.

Just one more get-together is planned—the annual year social dinner and dance party at which a good attendance of councillors from the three towns is expected.

Federal approval six more houses

The federal government has approved a loan of \$89,575 to assist in the construction of six more geared-to-income housing units at the proposed Ontario Housing development in Acton, M.P. Rud Whiting informed the Free Press this week.

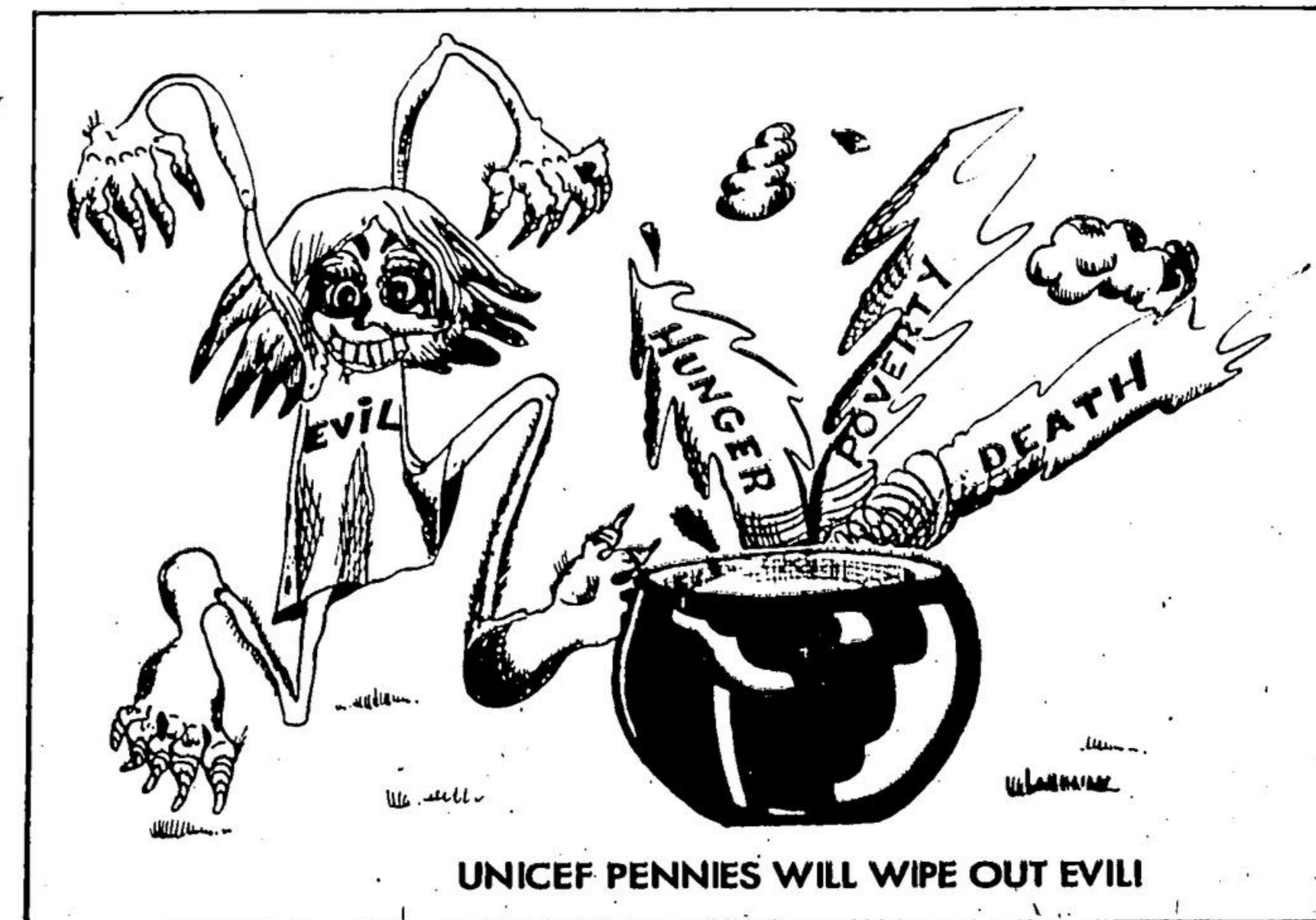
The loan is for two 2-bedroom and four 3-bedroom semi-detached housing units which will be added to the present proposed development on Cobblehill Road. Council approved the addition of the six extra units at a recent meeting.

Although the OHC looks after construction and administration of geared-to-income projects, the federal government bears 50 per cent of any operating loss, the OHC 42½ per cent and the municipality must look after 7½ per cent.

Suggests United Appeal

Annoyed by repeated pleas for funds from door knockers at this time of year, Reeve Frank Oakes suggested to council Tuesday that all fund-raising drives in Acton amalgamate along the lines of a United Appeal.

"I wish we could have all the campaigns for funds amalgamated into one instead of having people knocking on doors continually," he said.



UNICEF PENNIES WILL WIPE OUT EVIL

Award safety shield to school next week

The new safety shield will be awarded the winning public school next week, after the month's points are tallied up. This is the first month of the competition, when policemen watch and list the boys and girls who break safety rules. The Alec

Johnson shield goes to the winning school each month in the new contest, arranged by Con. Roy Wood. The police will be watching for any infractions of rules especially carefully during this last week of the month.