



INSIDE:  
Review the Sixties  
on pages 6, 7

## Mayor concerned over drag strip's effect on Acton

Mayor Les Doby told council he is really concerned about the possibility of a drag strip being constructed on the Fifth Line of Esqueping, a few miles east of Acton.

The subject was introduced by a letter from Beardmore and Co. which claimed the track would contribute to vandalism, noise and add to air pollution. The company, which has over a third of its employees living outside of Acton, objected strongly to the proposed strip and the effect it would have on the area.

The mayor said he had made enquiries about the effect on the municipalities around the raceway at Mosport and it gave him serious concern, especially for Acton police.

He referred to the two recent fatalities on 7 Hwy.,

commenting that the road was not built to carry heavy traffic. He could envision more danger when traffic to the drag strip was added to already dangerous roads.

Council should seriously consider the implications of the drag strip although it was being proposed in Esqueping township, not Acton.

Councillor Peter Marks didn't see eye to eye with the mayor especially to the idea it was young people who were always involved in the trouble. Mr. Marks claimed the sport is wholesome, well accepted and very professional.

"I've no personal objection to a drag strip," the mayor replied. "I'm concerned about the effect on the town. The fringe benefits we accrue are most undesirable."

"I think it is time council passed a resolution asking the Department of Highways when they are going to give us something besides a roller coaster on the highway. We've had promises for the last five years and the road from Rockwood to Georgetown hasn't improved."

The mayor said the Department of Highways had used all the funds available on the western approach to Georgetown where a new bridge was constructed and it was conceivable some money might be spent in improvements next year.

## Thermoid closing

The Thermoid Division of H. K. Porter has been closed, the Free Press was told by company officials this week.

Company officials will be releasing a statement in time for next week's paper.

The division employed approximately 20 persons.

The company also operates the Disston Saw and refractories divisions here.



EIGHTY YOUNGSTERS and adults from the Legion town league Atom series went to Maple Leaf Gardens in Toronto Monday morning to witness a Toronto Maple Leaf practice session. Trip on a Tyler bus was courtesy of the Legion league and tickets for the practice were supplied by Dominion Stores and Gabriel Rosenberky, R. 1, Acton. (Staff Photo)

# Crash takes life of Ed Woynarski last week

Another highway tragedy - the second within five days - marred the holiday season for Acton and district.

Ed Woynarski, of R. R. 2, Acton, a 36-year-old father of two, died in the wreckage of his car last Tuesday night, Dec. 23, when he lost control of the vehicle which left the road, hit a hydro pole and overturned on the Seventh Line, half-mile south of Ballinfad, about 6.45 p.m.

Police, suspecting carbon monoxide poisoning, called in the Centre of Forensic Sciences, to determine causes of the crash. No report has been received.

Milton O.P.P. said the car was a total wreck.

Ed Woynarski, popular and well-known in this area, leaves his wife Verna, daughter Carol Ann and son Kenneth, who reside on their Third Line, Erin township, home. He has lived in the Acton district for nine years.

Son of Mrs. Frances and the late Joseph Woynarski, of Wishart, Saskatchewan, Ed came to Ontario from the west in 1952. He was employed in maintenance at Standard Products in Georgetown and also operated the farm.

He enjoyed carpentry work, especially around his home, was a member of Acton Agricultural Society where he liked working with poultry. He was also a member of

the Georgetown and Halton County Poultry Association.

His wife, the former Verna Cox, lost her first husband in an automobile accident several years ago.

The funeral for Ed Woynarski was held in St. Joseph's church Saturday morning with Father V. J. Morgan saying requiem mass. Interment was in St. Joseph's cemetery.

The church was crowded for the last rites. Pallbearers were friends Tony Ostrow, Fred Koziwka, Mike Koziwka, Steve Koziwka, Henry

Koziwka and Fred Archibald.

Besides the family in Acton, and his mother, Ed Woynarski left six brothers and nine sisters. Brothers are John, Port Arthur, Albert and Andy, Wishart, Sask., Peter and Stanley of Regina, Sask., and Paul of Toronto. Sisters are Mary, Katie and Ann of Yorkton, Sask., Sophie, Anglia, Rose and Victoria of Windsor and Julia and Stella of Toronto.

The accident was investigated by Constable Donald Hicks of Milton O.P.P. Georgetown coroner Dr. A. R. McIntosh pronounced Mr. Woynarski dead on arrival at Georgetown hospital.

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## Democracy dead, says Greer

# Marks, McKenzie back Halton-Peel wedding but council wants Halton to stay single

Acton's voice is lost in the strident propaganda emanating in the south of the county and large municipalities in Peel, during discussion about regional government at the final meeting of the year last week.

Councillor Jack Greer observed that in his opinion the democratic way of doing things has gone by the board, a statement which rankled freshman councillor Peter Marks, an outspoken exponent of regional government.

The men who are proposing regional government, declared councillor Marks, are not afraid to toss out the old for the better. Give them credit, he urged, for studying the minister's proposals and realizing that regional government is a better mode of governing.

Upshot of the lengthy

discussion, conducted in Yuletide rhythm, was a resolution endorsing a resolution from Nassagaweya township on the form regional government should take, which precipitated the argument in the first place. Opposed were Councillors McKenzie and Marks.

Nassagaweya's resolution asked that Halton should remain as one unit rather than wed with Peel in any regional government set-up, that the resolutions of the Halton reeves be heeded and more important that equalized assessment, area and population be considered when mapping out regions.

Regional councillors the resolution concluded, should also be elected directly.

The disappointment of Acton representatives on county council over the county's decision to endorse a Halton-Peel merger is evident in Reeve Frank Oakes' review of the situation. Acton and Nassagaweya representatives along with Esqueping deputy-reeve Tom Hill opposed the Peel-Halton merger. They were outvoted 28-6.

Earlier the seven municipalities were unanimous in favor of a Halton region and this was conveyed to the minister," Reeve Oakes said. He put the onus on the municipalities in the south for capitulating to threats that the Minister of Municipal Affairs would pull Burlington out of Halton.

The well-publicized vote in which Burlington went for a Peel-Halton merger was cited as the deciding factor by deputy reeve Ted Tyler. "They were given an ultimatum to take this or that," the deputy declared.

## Pat band on back

An unsolicited Yuletide pat on the back for Acton Citizens' Band and bandmaster George Elliott came from a Georgetown lady last week.

Reeve Frank Oakes told Acton Council at their year end meeting last week that a Georgetown lady called him with effusive congratulations for the Acton band.

Two car loads of ladies from the neighboring town were travelling through Acton when they heard the band playing a street corner Christmas concert. They pulled over to the curb to listen, enjoying the music very much.

The lady told the reeve that the leader and the band deserved a lot of credit for the calibre of their music.



SHOTGUN WEDDING

"and they started to run scared. The people in the south will take anything rather than join Hamilton. They forgot all about still having a voice."

Mr. Tyler referred to Councillor Jack Greer's notice of motion for a plebiscite on regional government as appropriate right now. Mr. Greer

agreed, commenting that "it looks like the democratic way of doing things has gone by the board. It looks like a plebiscite is in order."

He questioned whether Oakville council's decision to agree to a Peel-Halton region as being representative of opinion in Oakville.

Councillor Peter Marks, committee of the whole chairman, contested Mr. Greer's statement. "We elect council to make the decisions. I don't think democracy is gone."

Plebiscite idea to county council? "We'd be defeated hands down," the reeve observed gloomily.

"I'm firmly convinced of the stand we should take," Mayor Doby said, "but our opinions just go by the board. We haven't the population to argue effectively. Burlington had no choice," he agreed.

A subsequent Burlington resolution which endorsed the Halton-Peel marriage came under heavy fire with the reeve firing the first broadside. "The big heavy population areas are taking this stand, he declared, because they stand to benefit." "You don't see the townships up here doing it because the little ones up here don't have much say."

Councillor Earl Masales reminded council there were also voices in Peel which would like to keep Peel one region.

"Why don't we jump, too, like Burlington did, when they thought they were going to be gobbled up?" Mr. Greer demanded.

"There is more guides the action of interested men in the south than just holding power," councillor Marks defended the resolution for merger of the two counties. "Give the people credit for studying the minister's proposals and figuring regional government was a better mode of government. They are not afraid to toss out the old for the better."

"They've changed their minds now," the mayor reminded Mr. Marks. Earlier they said the opposite.

"I haven't heard any real good constructive criticism of the minister's proposals yet," continued Councillor Marks who said he was disappointed in Acton council's refusal to recognize the imminent.

"That resolution won't have a flea bite chance against the Steele report," said Councillor McKenzie.

"I agree but I'd like to see

(Continued on Page 13)

## Snowmobiles present new set problems \$2,100 damage firefighters get present

Councillor Orv Chapman opened a new Pandora's Box of complaints for council to mull over at the year-end meeting last Tuesday.

The subject? Snowmobiles! Police committee chairman Chapman acknowledged the popular machines had been

creating problems for some residents of town. While the O.P.P. were handing out Christmas crackers he thought it might be a good idea to put snowmobile operators wise to the laws regarding their operation.

He had complaints and some

first hand observations about minors operating the ski machines, some on sidewalks, and pointed out owners are liable when accidents happen.

Mr. Chapman advised operators unfamiliar with the laws regarding operation of their machines to get in touch with the local detachment of the O.P.P.

This drew an immediate amen from Mayor Les Doby who related a close brush he had with a snow machine on Churchill Rd. recently, when a snowmobile raced across the road in front of his car.

"They're using sidewalks, tearing up and down Main St.," the mayor complained.

"I'm no prude and I think they are fun," the mayor declared but he foresaw some serious accidents unless there were some curbs. He pointed out there had already been some mishaps in this area.

The mayor said he had several calls on the subject, some from residents near the park who complained of snowmobiles upsetting TV reception.

## \$2,100 damage firefighters get present

A two car collision near Limehouse Wednesday afternoon injured four persons and caused \$2,100 damage, Milton O.P.P. report.

Vehicles driven by David Carl Bross of R.R. 1, Limehouse and David Edwin Ogier of Port Credit collided on the Fifth Line, Esqueping. Mr. Bross had bruised legs, Mr. Ogier head lacerations, and two passengers in the Ogier vehicle suffered facial and head lacerations.

## Christmas lights missing again

Christmas has been slightly marred, in the police books and at two homes, by the theft of Christmas lights during the past week. Other similar incidents were reported the week previous.

This week's incidents occurred on Meadvale Rd. and on Willow St. In one case, two nine-year-old boys were reprimanded. The lights they had taken were broken.

## Firefighters get present

Acton Firefighters received a Christmas present they would have just as soon have done without when they answered a call to a fire at the Esqueping township dump at 6 p.m. on Christmas Eve.

Mrs. Paddy Dunn turned in the alarm, when she noticed the huge illumination in the sky, from the window of her Churchill Road apartment. Mrs. Dunn feared the fire might have started in a farm house or barn.

When Acton firefighters arrived and discovered the flames coming from the dump, deputy-chief Bern Van Fleet immediately contacted the Esqueping township clerk.

The fire eventually burned itself out. The cause is not known.

Esqueping council received a letter from Minister of Energy and Resources Management George Kerr, earlier this year, asking them to submit plans for the discontinuation of open air burning at the dump by December 1.