

# Red Tape Strangling Conservation Authority Flood Control Planning

To the Editor:

The problem of where conservation ends and recreation begins has created many a heated argument everywhere from "over the back fence" to the floor of the legislature. The federal government department of northern affairs and national resources not to participate in the financing of the \$8 million flood control plan of the Credit Valley Conservation Authority has brought this argument out in the open again.

Through the years since 1954 when the CVCA was first formed the aim has been to conserve and rebuild the Credit River Valley; recreation was only incidental. During the past three or four years many acres of land have been acquired by the authority. Most of this land has been retained in its original state. Only the Terra Cotta Conservation Area and the Belfountain Conservation Area are used for recreation.

Starting near Orangeville at the headwaters of the river, 200 acres are owned by the CVCA. This land will be flooded if and when the flood control plan is ever implemented. It was required for this purpose and any recreation which species would simply have to be accepted. Just south of Orangeville in north Caledon Township is 450 acres including Caledon Lake and other small lakes. Most of this land is swamp and bush and it will be kept this way. In the same general area is the Willow Conservation Area. Heavily wooded, this area is used only for Boy Scout camping and has been partially reforested.

Your forest conservation areas covering a total of 635 acres have been the scene of much activity, more than a million trees have been planted, both on public (authority-owned) and private lands. A subsidy is paid to all landowners planting trees under the guidance of the authority and the department of lands and forests. Two tree planters and staff to run their are available.

Belfountain Conservation Area is used for recreation and the dam originally built there many years ago has been repaired. This is not a large dam but the location is scenic and historical. At Terra Cotta five lakes make up 15 per cent of the 350 acres contained in the area. Bush covers a good percentage of this area and is carefully preserved for nature trails laid out by Prof. A. F. Coventry. More than 75,000 people visited the area last summer and 80 camp sites are available for campers. The lake levels are carefully checked and fish stocking is done through the department of lands and forests.

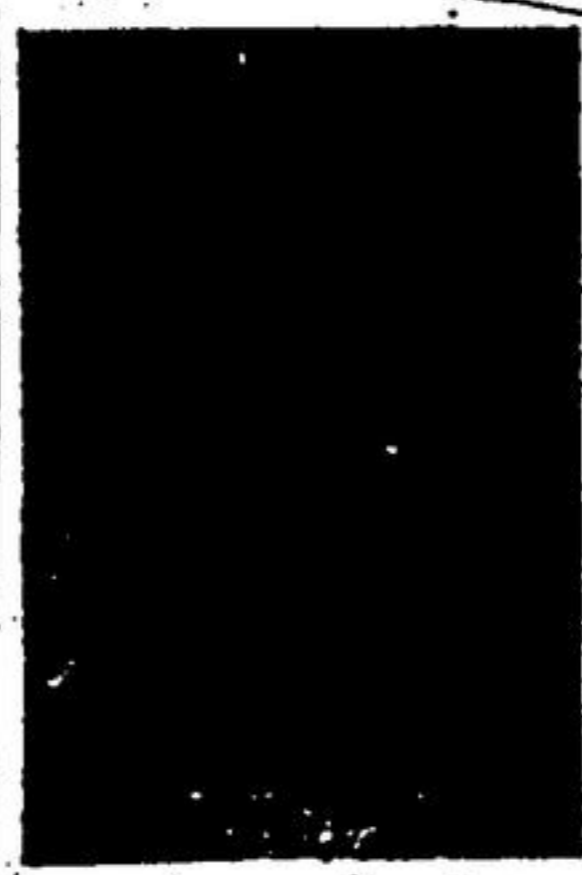
Meadowdale Conservation Area, 118 acres bought last year, has not been developed yet but a complete scheme has been prepared for the department of energy and resources management which has the final say in any scheme proposed by the CVCA. Much of this area is to be preserved as conservation land. At Erindale Conservation Area where much havoc has been caused by the river in past years, the old hydro dam abutments were blown to clear the river and a series of weirs constructed to prevent the erosion cutting into the stream banks.

Originally the flood control plan was suggested by the department of planning and development when its engineers presented the Credit Valley conservation report in 1956. Action was started when a committee of the Authority, headed by Chairman R. K. McMillan and R.R. Parker, chairman of the flood control and pollution advisory board, presented the plan to the 18 municipalities of the watershed early in 1963. Formal approval was received to proceed at the provincial level.

Provincial approval was verbally given subject to the federal government participating. During this time several sets of engineers and planners revamped the original plan and eventually it arrived at the department of natural resources in Ottawa. By this time the plan bore little resemblance to the committee's initial ideas. It was suggested that, as the Credit River Valley was close to metropolitan Toronto, more emphasis should be placed on the reservoirs created by these dams in the plan. This suggestion was accepted by the authority.

By now the committee had become a little desperate as time lapsed and no word had been received from Ottawa. In January of 1964 a delegation went to Ottawa to emphasize to the department the importance of this plan to the valley. At this time they were assured that there should be no trouble in financing the plan. Now in early 1965, two full years after the plan was presented to the municipalities, word has been received that the federal government will not participate in the financing.

Recreation was not the aim



ROY McMILLAN

of the Credit Valley Conservation Authority in the first place and two years of work and worry have gone "down the drain." And land acquired in those two years has been bought with the thought in mind that work could be set aside at any time to proceed with the flood control plan when approval was received.

Negotiations will now be started with the provincial government to build the reservoirs under a new scheme recently inaugurated at Queen's Park. The members hope that time wasting red tape can be cut and work can proceed in the near future.

At a special meeting of the Credit Valley Conservation Authority last Thursday night, members voted that a committee meet with the department of energy and resources management to have as much of the flood control plan as possible with provincial backing started immediately.

The authority will request approval from the minister to secure preliminary engineering and feasibility of costs of flood control measures at Glen Williams; preliminary report, design and field supervision for construction of Orangeville dam reservoir; preliminary engineering to create a reservoir at Meadowdale.

R. K. McMILLAN, Chairman, Credit Authority.

## Red Ensign Now Surplus Will Be Sold - Harley

When the Canadian Maple Leaf flag was raised over Parliament Hill in Ottawa Monday, the Red Ensign became government surplus.

Dr. Harry Harley, MP for Halton County, said today that unless a future use for the Red Ensign is found, it will be disposed of by tender through the Crown Assets Disposal Corporation, a government agency.

"It is possible the Red Ensign will be retained by the government for special occasions," Dr. Harley said. "The government of Ontario might even adopt it as an official flag."

He said he believes the new flag is the wish of the Canadian people. "It is the flag of Canada now."

Any further changes in the English influence on Canada are "unlikely" at this time, he said.

"Changing the flag won't change the royal influence in any way. The governor-general for instance, will not be removed because he serves a useful function and has a place in the parliamentary system."

"The flag has been an issue in many party platforms," he remarked, "and the majority have talked about it for a long time."

Mr. Pearson was the only leader with the courage to bring in a new flag.

"I'm glad a nation-wide election on the flag issue wasn't held," he said, "because it would have tended to divide the country."

"Within a relatively short time most Canadians will be happy with the flag," he said. "When a new government takes over it is possible the flag design could be changed, but I don't think any party would want to go through a flag debate again."

### Notice to Creditors

IN THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM HOWARD KENTNER, Deceased.

All persons having claims against the Estate of William Howard Kentner, late of the Town of Georgetown, in the County of Halton, Gentleman, who died on or about the 20th day of July, 1964, are hereby notified to send particulars of same to the undersigned on or before the 22nd day of March, 1965, after which date the Estate will be distributed with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice, and the undersigned will not be liable to any person of whose claim they shall not then have notice.

DATED at Georgetown, this 15th day of February, A.D. 1965.

William Claude Kentner and Marjorie A. Bailey, Executors William Howard Kentner Estate, by Their Solicitors, Dale, Bennett, Lattimer & Haines, 23 Mill Street, Georgetown, Ontario.

### 283 Placed in January Employment

The number of persons placed in employment during the month of January 1965 was 283.

Manufacturing accounted for 150 of these placements, 33 of which were female. Forty-eight (48) placements were recorded in wholesale and retail trade, while placements to the service industries were 36. Construction with 28 placements, a low for the year was adversely affected by the weather.

There were 1,524 persons registered for work at the end of January, down 438 from the same month last year when the number of job seekers stood at 1960.

The Brampton office serves Chingusousy, Caledon all of Dufferin County and part of Easington Township including Georgetown.

The moon is a quarter of a million miles distant.

### ELECTRICITY ON THE FARM

Cost of goods and services to Ontario farmers rose 22.5 per cent in the 10-year period ending in 1963. During the same

time the average cost per kilowatt-hour of electricity dropped 17.4 per cent.

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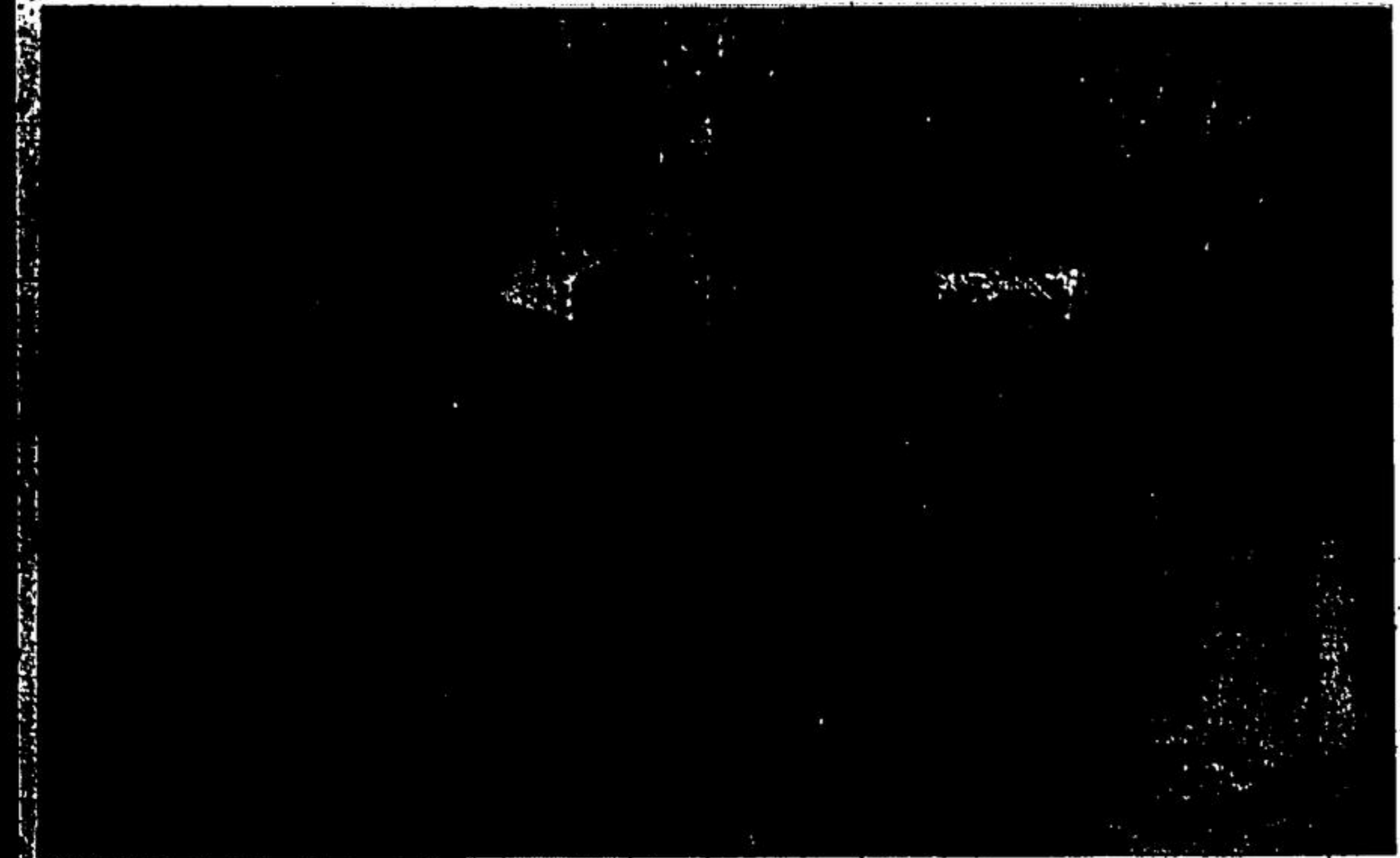
### PAUL MAY, RUTH MASON NAMED PRESIDENTS



— Peter Jones Photo

### NORVAL JUNIORS HEAR FORMER PREXY TELL TAPE TIPS

FORMER NORVAL JUNIOR FARMER president George Atkins (centre) tapes an interview for his junior farmer forum audio program with immediate past-presidents of the Norval Junior John Wilson, and Aileen Harrop (left) and two German junior farmers touring local farms, Dagmar Schneider, and Urgan Bennowitz, at the Norval Junior Farmers Annual in Stewarttown Hall Friday night. George Atkins, the guest speaker at the banquet, spoke on using the tape recorder and demonstrated some audio tricks made possible with tape.



LEADING THE NORVAL JUNIORS through 1965 will be these members of the executives. In the front row are Doris (clerk, secretary); Gail McCollum, vice-president; Ruth Mason, president; Diane May, joint secretary. In the back row are: Ernie Alexander, secretary; Edna Fisher, treasurer; Paul May, president; Wilma Mason, press reporter; and Keith Dawson, vice-president.

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