

CHANGES COMING—A major reconstruction project at the corner of Main and Mill Streets that will see the present Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and Garner's Store disappear will start in April. In their place will be constructed a larger, modern bank, patterned after the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce in downtown Brampton.

Disasters Large or Small, EMO Is at Public's Call

A violent thunder storm wiped out a boy scout camp in North Halton and leaves 3,000 boys with no place to stay. Halton's EMO is called.

A 10 year old girl is missing and thousands are searching bush area and farmland. EMO is called.

The Emergency Measures Organization is mainly a volunteer organization set up to coordinate emergency and relief work following disasters of any kind.

Bruce McGregor, Halton County co-ordinator of EMO said many people mistakenly have the idea EMO is concerned only with nuclear war.

He said another misconception some people have is that EMO moves in takes over any time a disaster occurs. It does not take action until requested by the municipal leader or the police chief of a municipality.

Since McGregor became co-ordinator in 1958, there have been no major disasters but there have been numerous "small local emergencies."

McGregor gave examples of how the organization works. When the Ontario Scout Jamboree held at the Kelso Conservation area had to evacuate the site because of a bad storm last August, McGregor was called.

He called his secretary who called rescue and communications volunteers. They in turn called other volunteers. They worked on finding accommodations and making feeding arrangements for the boys. The EMO's mobile canteen unit was set up in the Milton arena to provide food.

The mobile canteen truck was also used in May, 1967 during the search for 10 year old Marianne Schuett, a Kildee schoolgirl last seen getting into a car outside the school.

Search Party
EMO, besides providing food and coffee for the searchers, organized the many volunteers who contacted EMO in an effort to join the search party. Despite their efforts, Marianne was never found.

Because EMO has its own broadcasting frequency, it was able to provide another frequency in addition to the police one during the Schuett search.

The EMO's radio equipment includes a portable base station, nine mobile radios and two portable radios. As well as the truck which provides hot food, the organization has a rescue truck with extension ladders, heavy jacks, portable generators, blocks and tackle and crow-bars.

The organization receives its funds from three levels of government. The federal government pay 75 per cent, provincial 15 per cent and the county 10 per cent. The county receives its money from the seven municipalities in Halton.

McGregor and his secretary make up the paid staff in Halton. They work in an office in the old courthouse in Milton.

Halton is in Zone 2 in the province which includes 10 counties. There is a zone planning officer who works out of Guelph and is in constant touch with the zone committee.

Volunteer Force
The volunteer force is made up of people from all walks of life in different parts of the county. EMO run training courses at the municipal level for these volunteers. They learn first aid, rescue techniques and communications information.

McGregor said it is difficult to pinpoint the number of volunteers because some are always moving.

Death Duties, Estate Taxes Have Halton MPP Concerned

Halton East MPP James Snow has lashed out against federal and provincial death duties and estate taxes during debate in the legislature.

"I am very sorry to say that some of the present taxation policies in this country and especially those policies pertaining to death duties and succession duties are not only undermining the incentive and initiative of our people," he said, "but are also in many cases, making it most difficult, if not impossible for the family-owned business to be passed orderly from one generation to the other."

Snow included the family owned farm in his remarks saying that today with the high cost of land, machinery and the complexities of modern farming, death taxes seriously affect and sometimes devastate the value of the farm unit.

Wants Study
He urged the provincial government to take another look at the matter, including finance minister Edgar Benson's similar considerations on estate taxes.

Mileage Allowance Upped For School Board Members

A two cent increase in mileage allowance paid board trustees has been approved by the Halton County Board of Education.

An allowance of 12 cents a mile will now be paid trustees for travel to and from residence to attend meetings of the board or a committee of the board.

The recommendation for the increase was made by the Ad Hoc Committee on Board Policies chaired by John C. Benson of Burlington.

Trustee Liberty Pearce of Oakville warned of unnecessary changes, reminding the board the original allowance figure was only an interim policy to be reviewed in a few months' time when the conditions and difficulties of travel have been investigated.

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"But whenever there's a disaster we have lots of volunteers," he added.

As long as EMO have key personnel then there will be no problems, he said.

He admitted training has been at a low ebb recently. In recent years it has been more difficult to get volunteers because there are now so many other interests to choose from, McGregor said.

ASK Georgetown Consider Adding VON as Town Service

The North Halton Urban Board and the Victorian Order of Nurses have taken the first step towards officially extending VON services to the area.

The board decided to write letters to the five northern municipalities, asking that they "seriously consider the institution of VON services in their municipalities."

The board will also ask the Ontario Department of Welfare to send a representative to its next meeting, March 12, in Georgetown, to explain how home-making care can be tied in with nursing service.

North Halton
Lorne Skuce of the VON's Oakville Board of Directors said places have purposely been left vacant on the board for representatives from North Halton.

Jean Cline representing the VON, said the tendency has been to organize VON service on a county basis. Halton is surrounded by counties in which service has been set up in this way.

Home Care
She said the function of the voluntary organization is to provide skilled home care on a visit basis so patients can leave hospital earlier and thus leave hospital beds vacant for very ill patients.

Miss Cline stressed that the service does not conflict with the service already being provided by the Halton county health unit. "Their function is mainly in the prevention field," she said.

She said some confusion has arisen because VON nurses, in addition to being registered nurses, have certificates in the public health field.

Funds come from four main sources — patient fees, municipal grants, donations from United Appeal, and under the Homemakers and Nursing Services Act.

Patients pay the full amount for service if they can afford it, but reductions are made according to their ability to pay. Some patients receive the service free.

The nurses' salaries would run to about \$4,000 and with care expenses of \$450, the total budget including miscellaneous expenses would be around \$5,000.

Local Charges
Municipal contributions would be based on population at 10 cents per capita. Thus Acton would be asked to pay \$460; Esqueping Township \$860; Georgetown \$1,452; Nassagaweya Township \$304; Milton, \$672.

Some fees could be paid under the Homemakers and Nursing Services Act if requests were made for approval of care under the act, she said.

She said extension of services to north Halton probably would require a small sub-office in Milton or Georgetown.

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Brownridge Cooper, vice president; Mary Anderson, secretary; Margaret Robinson, treasurer and Lois McNabb, press reporter.

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PAGE 6

Mrs. Rentenaar and Mrs. Cox introduced the "New" Project "Cottons May be Smart". Cottons special finishes and the effect of colour were discussed. The girls divided into pairs to discuss their own pattern size and then looked at dress patterns.

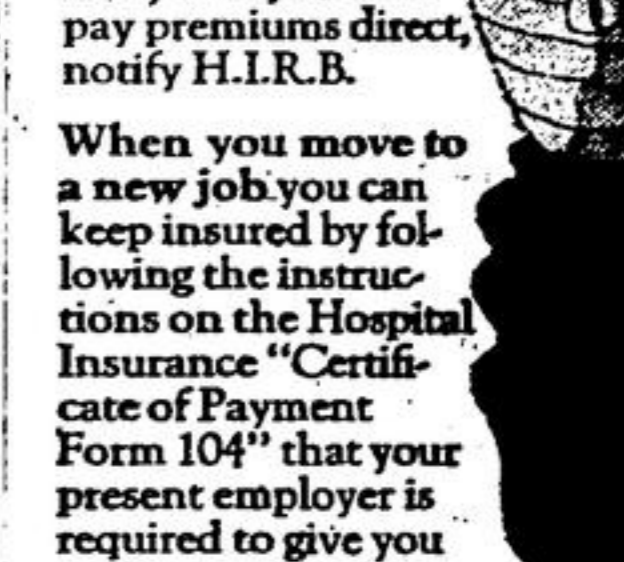
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