

# 'NO DRAG' SAY RED BADGES, TWP. SEEKS LEGAL OPINION

Thirty ratepayers adorned with red badges saying "No Drag" crowded Esquering council chamber Monday night, leaving no doubt as to their position on the proposed drag strip on the Don Matthews farm, between the 5th and 6th line north of Highway 7.

R.J. Swaisie, lawyer for Peter Bowman, the organizer of the petition protesting the drag strip, stated his client did not want a drag strip next door to his property. He claimed that the recent holding by-law made it clear that the drag strip could only be permissible if the land had been used for such a purpose before the passing

of the by-law.

### CONTROL TOWER

An application for a building permit for a control tower on the property to be considered that night, should not be issued, continued Mr. Swaisie. "It is my firm opinion that the holding by-law clearly prevents the land being used as a drag strip," he concluded.

W.J. Sopinka, appearing for Carl Bristow, owner of the property on which the drag strip would be built, maintained it was obvious the drag strip could have gone through, if the freezing by-law had not been passed. He pointed out that

no building permit was needed for a drag strip, and claimed further that Mr. Bristow had relied on and complied with all existing by-laws of the municipality at the time he started, and spent money on the project.

### NO RIGHT

"If somebody buys a piece of land," said deputy reeve Tom Hill "council has no right to ask them, what they're going to do with it," he remarked. "Before this holding by-law was passed, as long as none of our by-laws was broken, you could build what you want." He reminded the group that Mr. Bristow had already been issued a permit for a 1440 square foot garage on the property.

stated everybody had to submit plans before they got a building permit, and no plans for a drag strip or even an application had been submitted.

"We're not objecting to a garage," replied Mr. Swaisie. "We're objecting to a drag strip."

"Anybody can come and get a permit for a garage," commented Reeve George Currie. "People were coming here and asking what was happening on the Matthews farm as if we should know. I could do what I like if I sell my farm, nobody can stop me until I come for a building permit," he added.

R.J. Swaisie stated the Planning Act says, "It becomes effective on the day of passing," and contended the land was not a drag strip on the day of pass-

ing. "I submit there were no plans, no approvals," and warned against proceeding.

### HOOTS FROM GALLERY

W.J. Sopinka's statement that his client was not secretive was greeted with hoots of derision from the gallery. Despite the accompaniment, he repeated that all bylaws were complied with when he began construction. He reminded the ratepayers that they knew the township was not zoned when they bought here.

In answer to a question from the audience, Clerk Delmar French stated the land was all

owned by Mr. Bristow. The fifty acres in question last week, was in the name of his lawyer as a trustee, explained the clerk.

"What did the township lawyer say," a voice from the gallery asked.

Reeve George Currie replied "the solicitor says you people had better take action, instead of the council, if you want to restrain some development on neighbouring property."

Another ratepayer M.M. Coles described the proposed track as "a menace, comparable to an earthquake" "a distressing, disastrous innovation," which vio-

lates the sacred rights of private and public ownership."

### WILL SEEK ADVICE

After some discussion with the building inspector, Reeve George Currie announced that the matter of the building permit for the control tower would be held until they received the township lawyer's advice.

"Don't worry, you'll all be notified of the meeting," the Reeve reassured the group, as he pointed to each lawyer and the audience. "If we let one of you know," he said to the ratepayers, "you'll all know in a few minutes."

Printing - Publishing

The Georgetown Herald has served Georgetown and District as Printers and Publishers for over a century offering the best in fine printing and news coverage.

**Ads That Pay**

You can place an ad in the Herald's Classified pages by phoning 877-2201. Buying or selling. The Herald is where you will find the results you want.

# GEORGETOWN HERALD

The Home Newspaper for Georgetown and District

Second Class Mail Registered Number - 0943

Return Postage Guaranteed

Georgetown, Ontario, Thursday, December 4th, 1969

\$7.50 per year, Single Copy Price Fifteen Cents

## 107 March, Point Biafra Plight in Civil War

Despite wind, and blowing snow 107 marchers walked from Georgetown Market to Moore Park Plaza, Thursday night, to mark the National Day of Mourning for Biafra.

Students, clergy and members of various churches in town carried placards, telling the world, "Hunger Hurts," "Does P.E.T. Care?" (Pierre Elliott Trudeau), "Revive Canaille!" and a particularly touching one, with a picture of a starving baby, saying "It's Our Baby Too."

While the march was organized to call attention to the plight of the Biafrans, further action is planned to raise money for Canaille.

Form letters to be signed and sent to the member of parliament are in many of the churches right now.

### MASKED INTRUDER

When billiard hall operator Ab Williams arrived home shortly before 11 o'clock Wednesday, November 19, he got a surprise reception. Standing in the shadows near the front door was a man, masked and armed, who stepped out to confront him as he arrived.

Williams was able to bang his foot against the door which caused the would-be holdup man to take flight.

# TOWN MANAGER IN PLAN FOR NEW MUNICIPAL SET-UP

## Candies Along Route is Santa Parade New Idea

Santa arrives Saturday triumphantly bringing up the rear of the Lions Club Santa Claus parade.

He would like all the children to know the candies will not be handed out downtown. The candies will be given out by Santa's helpers, dressed in white bulky sweaters, white leotards, and red mini-skirts along the parade route.

Santa asks all children to stay back on the sidewalk and wait for his helpers to come to you. "Please don't push forward, we'll get to everyone eight years old and younger."

The parade leaves Armstrong Avenue at 1:30 sharp. Proceeds along Guelph St. to Main and goes south on Main through the downtown business section.

## PARENTS TO TALK JUNIORS' LANGUAGE

Today's much talked about generation gap may be nothing new in most phases of life, but when a parent gets into helping junior with his homework, it's something else again.

New trends in teaching mathematics have parents, schooled in the more traditional methods, stymied.

To help the problem, principal Peter Orica had an idea which he has put into practice.

He offered Monday night instruction, and to date some twenty parents have taken advantage of this and are going back to school to keep pace with their youngsters.

## No Separate Halton In McKeough's Mind

Darcy McKeough, Ontario's Minister of Municipal Affairs, ruled out Halton as a separate community and made it plain he had relinquished his original idea of a Halton-Peel region when he spoke at a Rotarians dinner in Milton last week.

Nixing the Halton county council proposal for a separate Halton region he said, "I'm not willing to enact only those reforms that preserve the existing structure of county government."

"Two reformed counties is not a good enough solution in my opinion," McKeough said.

### WITH OR WITHOUT

He told the large audience he still sees merit in creating a Halton-Peel region with or without the town of Burlington. The Steele Commission recommended that Burlington leave Halton county to join a Metro-Hamilton regional area.

"I think Halton-Peel would be an enduring region even without Burlington," he said.

"Halton county without Burlington does not represent an effective regional unit," said McKeough.

### REACTION UNFAVOURABLE

He ruled out the Plunkett report recommendations for an urban community across the southern ends of Halton and Peel and a rural community across the northern sections of the two counties because the reaction from local municipalities was "overwhelmingly unfavourable."

McKeough said that if municipalities in Halton and Peel counties want to run their own destiny they had better talk about a Halton-Peel region "or Toronto will do it for them."

A number of municipal councillors from throughout the county attended the dinner.

## SING TO SAVE THE STARVING

With proceeds to be donated to Biafra relief, several church choirs in the district will combine for a concert next Wednesday.

The combined choirs, with soloists will perform in St. John's United Church at 8 p.m.

It is one of several fund raising projects designed to send food to this war-torn African country.

## Seek Private Bill to Disband Parks Board

The Ontario legislature will be asked to pass a private bill to disband Georgetown's Board of Parks Management which has operated the arena since the forties.

Either this, or a vote of the electors is necessary because the board was established after such a vote.

It is planned to replace this, and other boards with one which will have control over all forms of recreation in town next year.

In Monday's council vote, Cr. Ern Hyde was the sole opponent to the idea.

## Dodokin Heads New Park Parent - School Group

A new parent-school organization has been formed at Park public school.

Purpose, according to principal Peter Orica, is to provide liaison and improve communications between parents and the school which their children attend.

An executive was established at a meeting two weeks ago, and plans for a program and general meetings when needed are being devised.

## Marshall Fails in Bid as Milton's Deputy Reeve

Esquering councillor Ken Marshall failed in his bid to become Milton's deputy reeve in the municipal election in the county town, Monday. Last week, he said he would deal with the question of serving on two councils at the same time when he came to it.

Milton voters solved his problem Monday when they elected Percy Barr deputy reeve by 1,070 votes to Marshall's 720.

At an Esquering council meeting last week, township resident William Lawson charged Marshall had broken faith with the electors of Esquering by accepting the nomination to run for office in Milton.

Cr. Marshall is in the middle of a two year term as Esquering councillor.

Mayor Brian Best was re-elected defeating incumbent reeve Austan Ledwith; and deputy reeve Ron Harris defeated incumbent councillor Colin Smillie for the reeve's chair.

Former mayor Syd Childs topped the poll for the six council seats.

Others elected to council were Charles Fay, Art Melanson, Gordon Krantz, Charles Johnson and William Woods.

A referendum on liquor in restaurants was approved by more than four to one, while establishment of cocktail lounges was approved by a little over three to one.

## Consultants' Report Would Make Sweeping Change in Council's Role

A plan which would add two senior officials to the town staff and elevate one part-time position to full time, was accepted by Georgetown council Monday.

The report, prepared by a management consultant firm, Stevenson & Kellogg, Ltd. was ordered earlier this year by council.

It suggests a chief administrative officer who would be responsible for all staff activities and approve all appointments. Next in line would be a town engineer, a clerk-treasurer, a full time welfare administrator, full time building inspector and fire chief.

And at a later date, a recreation director could be added to the town's payroll.

### SWEEPING CHANGE

A deputy clerk and deputy treasurer would work directly under the clerk-treasurer, with the deputy treasurer heading a staff which would include an accountant, tax clerk, cashier, and machine operator.

The engineer would administer such personnel as works superintendent, design technician and construction supervisor.

The building inspector would have an assistant and a plumbing inspector in his department.

The new plan would make no change in the present fire department, which would continue on a volunteer basis.

The consultants recommend a sweeping change in council's role. It would place more emphasis on committee-of-the-whole work, divorce committee chairmen from staff jurisdiction and rid council of much of its detail work.

### WASTE OF MONEY

Objection to accepting the report came Monday from Cr. Ern Hyde, who termed it a waste of \$4,000.

"I opposed this from the first," he said. "They have cleverly put together what they believe to be the popular opinion of the majority of councillors. I had hoped there would be separate motions dealing with various aspects of the recommendations."

"Adopting the report leaves us free to implement recommendations to the best advantage of council and staff," said Cr. Harry Levy. "In ten years there has been a transition from a rural to an urban community and municipal government has not kept pace."

Cr. Hyde argued that such radical changes as the report implies are the actions of "conformists."

### NEW CONFORMIST

"Today we have a new type of conformist," he said. "The ones with beards and long hair, and anyone who suggests we have to change is a conformist. This report

anything but bring a costly tax increase, and I oppose it. I guess that makes me a non-conformist."

Reeve Hunter said he had opposed hiring the firm too and that the findings were only things he and other councillors have suggested in the past.

"But because this is so, I can't vote against it," he said. "He said he does not think a full time welfare officer is needed, but if the government is going to pay full cost of his salary, the town will be dollars ahead," he said.

"If a conformist is one who looks at a report, makes up his own mind and then approves the report, then I'm one" said Cr. Ric Morrow. "The town can't double or triple without changes."

### BEEN WEAK

Cr. Sandy Mackenzie said the town must have trained staff for certain jobs and it is impossible to expect councillors to be so qualified. Council has been weak on delegating responsibility, spends too much time on day to day issues without looking at long term projects. The report fits well into regional government which will be here in 1971, he said.

While saying he did not favour everything in the report, Cr. Bill Smith supported its adoption.

"We are told costs will increase," he said. "Perhaps this isn't as important as to spend and control properly. This will guide us in spending money where it should be spent, a place where this and other councils have been at fault."

The vote carried 7-1. (Cr. Donna Denison was not present at the meeting).

## Tough Month for Heavy-Footed Drivers

Georgetown police laid 271 charges, 163 of them under the Highway Traffic Act during the month of October according to their monthly activity report sheet. Most of the Highway Traffic Act charges are for speeding.

Sixty-one of the charges were for by-law infractions and 25 under the Liquor Control Act. Twenty-eight arrests were made, 14 under the Criminal Code of Canada, and the rest under Liquor Control. The department also issued 84 summonses.

### FIVE BREAK-INS

A total of \$3,628 in fines were imposed, \$3,980 of it against drivers.

There were six thefts of over \$50, 19 under that amount, five break-ins, two car thefts and 18 miscellaneous occurrences. There were also six missing person investigations.

In all, 300 complaints were investigated.

Six people were injured in the month's 23 automobile accidents, one of them fatally, and 15 charges were laid as a result.