

The Acton Free Press

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SATURDAY'S BOTTLE DRIVE had members of Acton Y's Men peewee hockey team tired out by the end of the day. The drive netted the boys \$280. John Goy, Jack Ridley, Herb Dodds and Paul Hurley supplied trucks for the day and Harold

Townsend and the arena staff helped the boys sort the bottles downstairs in the arena. The boys appreciated their help very much. Pictured above left to right are: Kent Kentner, Wayne Allan, Steve Brunelle and John Soayne. — (Staff Photo)

Would raze old post office for Toronto-Dominion bank

Acton's fourth bank — a branch of the Toronto Dominion — will open in a new building on the site of the old post office if committee of adjustment accepts planning board's recommendation and grants relief from the zoning by-law's parking requirements.

Alec Johnson appeared at planning board on Thursday of last week and presented plans on behalf of Ray Olan, who has purchased the old post office building. Mr. Olan has submitted the plan to the Toronto-Dominion, which would see a new one-storey building erected on the old post office site.

The building fronting 66 feet on Mill St. and 33 feet on Willow St. covers one-third of the total lot area. Mr. Johnson pointed out to planning board in the submission that the present building now provides two parking spaces. With the erection of the new bank building 11 spaces would be available giving a net increase in the downtown area of nine parking spaces.

"Parking is the problem. The building calls for 21 parking spaces according to the town by-law," Mr. Johnson pointed out.

Planning board members were generally agreeable to the recommendation to committee of adjustment.

Councillor G. W. McKenzie said "I personally think it would enhance the corner."

Councillor Earl Masales pointed out another bank has come to town, rented a building, and provides no parking space. (He refers to the anticipated Bank of Commerce in the store formerly occupied by Morris Pharmacy.)

All the paperwork is completed with the Toronto-Dominion bank subject to the approval of the planning board. The sooner approval is received the sooner the construction program will start. Demolition of the present building would begin within seven days of the approval, Mr. Johnson said.

Mr. Johnson also presented plans to the planning board on a

proposed apartment building on Churchill Rd. S., on behalf of Frid Construction. The Frid company constructed the first of the present two apartment buildings at the site and now presents plans for an additional third building of 36 suites.

Frid Construction asked for permission to build a building higher than 35 feet, the present guideline. The building would be 46 feet high, have five storeys and include an elevator.

Planning board suggested that the elevator should be larger than the 6 by 6 by 7 proposed so that stretchers could be handled inside the elevator. This is a problem that has been

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Damage estimated \$5500 two car collision Tuesday

A two car collision on Highway 7, just north of the Seventh Line railway crossing, near Georgetown, last night caused an estimated \$5,500 damage and sent two people to hospital with minor injuries.

Carolyn Norton, 23, of Guelph, driver of the first car, was treated for a sprained right wrist at Georgetown District Hospital and later released.

Damage to the Norton car amounted to approximately \$2,500.

Driver of the second car Phillip MacFarlane, 38, of Damascus, Ontario, was treated for abrasions to the right wrist and shins, at Georgetown District Hospital and later released.

The MacFarlane car received an estimated \$3,000 damage.

The collision occurred about 11:30 p.m. last night. Constable Devine of the North Halton detachment O.P.P. investigated.

Dragway special meeting slated for Friday night

Construction of a control tower for the proposed Golden Horseshoe Dragway, on the former Matthews property, between the Fifth and Sixth Lines of Esquesing, just north of Highway 7, will likely hinge on the outcome of a special meeting, reeve George Currie has called for the township council chamber, Friday night at 7.30.

The reeve set the special meeting for Friday night after promoter Karl Bristow appeared at Monday night's meeting of Esquesing Council, explaining he understood Council was to reach a decision that night on whether or not to issue a building permit for the tower.

Council had previously refused to issue a building permit, until Mr. Bristow had plans for water and sewage disposal systems, for the proposed dragway, approved by the Halton County Health Unit.

However at Monday night's meeting clerk-treasurer Delmar French read a letter from the Health Unit informing council they had no objection to the issue of building permits for a control tower and two buildings to contain sanitary facilities, since Mr. Bristow had given them a written commitment he would install the required facilities before the start of the 1970 racing season.

Mr. Bristow told council he was sure he had complied with every regulation he was asked to. "When I was out here before you told me we wouldn't be held up too long," he reminded the reeve.

Deputy-reeve Tom Hill was concerned about township residents who oppose the proposed dragway.

"We made an agreement there would be no permit issued until both parties were here," he recalled.

Reeve Currie agreed. "This was supposed to be a special roads meeting tonight," he said.

Deputy-reeve Hill went on to question Mr. Bristow about the effects the drag strip would have on the township.

"Does the Department of Highways think Highway 7 is

noisy" he said. The possibility of the township having to hire extra police protection also concerned the deputy-reeve.

But Mr. Bristow informed council it is his intention to hire extra police if they are needed. "Having crowd control is my responsibility" Mr. Bristow

explained, "If additional law enforcements are necessary, as far as traffic control is concerned, we pay the shot."

Referring to letters of objection to the dragway, he had read in various newspapers, Mr. Bristow said, "I think there are some pretty ill-informed people in this township."

"There'll be no booze or anything like that, allowed," Mr. Bristow assured council.

After some discussion on suitable meeting nights, council agreed to the Friday night special meeting.

Clerk-treasurer Delmar French is to notify lawyers for both groups.



No snow dumping in Prospect park

Town workers will not dump excess snow at the far end of Prospect Park this winter, a letter from town council informed members of Acton Board of Parks Management and Recreation Committee, at their first meeting of the new year Thursday. Workers will use alternate dumping sites instead.

The letter also assured Board members that after heavy snowfalls, the parking lot at the community centre will be plowed out as soon as fire areas and main arterial roads are cleared.

Council had previously requested permission to dump snow in the park, but board members were concerned about broken bottles and other debris that would be left in the park after the snow melted in the spring.

Education costs criticized

Parents, politicians are invited to board's budget setting sessions

After severe criticism concerning its 1969 budget, Halton County Board of Education is taking steps this year to educate politicians and parents on their budget policies and spending. Municipal politicians will receive invitations to the budget meetings where they can learn what the 1970 budget will look like.

There will be a series of six meetings between now and March 26 to work on the

budget. The first is slated for Jan. 29 and the budget is to be finalized March 26.

Newly elected board Chairman Douglas Wood told a press conference Thursday he was distressed over what he termed "outlandish statements by both municipal and provincial politicians" who had suggested budget cuts from \$32,000,000 to \$25,000,000.

He and finance chairman Fred Armitage agreed the goal of the board in 1970 would be to show ratepayers and politicians where the education dollars are going.

The chairman congratulated Mr. Armitage for "standing his ground" on the Board's first budget. "He weathered the waves well," Mr. Wood told the conference.

Mr. Armitage said every attempt would be made to correct the problem experienced last year. Anyone interested will be advised well ahead of the budget meetings.

He noted part of the problem last year was people, including some Board members, were not ready to accept large numbers like \$32,000,000. Director Jim Singleton insisted the \$32,000,000 figure was meaningless unless it was broken down to a cost-per-pupil figure.

Mr. Singleton said it wasn't a matter of "do you want high or low taxes, but whether you want to pay for the package or not. It is a matter of the value you get for the dollar you spend," he explained.

Mr. Armitage criticized the news media for the way they have handled budget matters. "Budget goes up \$5,000,000" is an exciting headline, he pointed out, but he wondered if it was fair as many people don't read further than the headline. "Perhaps I would do the same thing in your position," he admitted.

No indication was given on how much the budget would be for the coming year. "Anything we said would be speculation at this point," said the Director.

Asked about the salary demands from Halton teachers, Board members agreed that while there would be increases for teachers it was safe to assume they wouldn't be in the range of 35 per cent hikes. Instructional costs which include salaries and supplies now account for 70 per cent of the budget.

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Friday accident on Mill St. W.

An accident occurred Saturday afternoon at 5:45 p.m. on Mill W. when a car driven by James Morrison, R.R. 1, Acton, struck a parked car owned by George Nieponnik, Toronto. Mr. Morrison explained he was blinded by headlights.

Damage to the parked car was estimated at \$150 and to the Morrison car at \$200.

Power break

Last night's power interruption in town was once again caused by overloading on rural lines. The overload caused a 300 amp fuse at the Willow Street sub-station to blow.

A similar interruption occurred December 21.

Acton Hydro superintendent Doug Mason told the Free Press this morning that Ontario Hydro should have a sub-station on the Sixth Line in operation later this week to handle the overload.

Last night's interruption occurred about 7 and lasted approximately 30 minutes. Only parts of town were affected.

Steam engine sounds again

This Sunday another steam excursion will pass through Acton. Steam locomotive 6218, the only one of its type still in operation, leaves Toronto at 9 o'clock Sunday and will pass through Acton about 10 a.m. It will stop in Guelph to stock up on water and then proceed to Stratford.

The return trip takes the same route, and 6218 should whistle through here between 4:30 and 5:30 p.m.

Photographers will have a hey-day at Guelph and Breslau where main stops are made.



COUNCILLOR PETER MARKS was elected chairman of Acton Board of Parks Management and Recreation Committee for 1970, at the Board's first meeting of the new year, Thursday night. Three new members Gil Malcolm, Mrs. Diane Spielvogel and Art Gordon also made their debut on the Board. Pictured left to right are: arena

manager Harold Townsend, Mr. Malcolm, Mrs. Spielvogel, secretary Doris Townsend, councillor Marks, vice-chairman, Bob Laughlin, Mr. Gordon, councillor Orval Chapman and Phil McCristall. — (Staff Photo)

Nassagaweya could secede join Wellington county

Nassagaweya Township, an area of 45,000 acres in the north-west corner of Halton County, could secede from the county if a Halton-Peel form of regional government is adopted.

This drastic action was suggested Monday night at a regular meeting of the township council by Councillor Alan Ackman who asked council members to study the possibility of joining Wellington County.

His suggestion surprisingly got the support of the other four members of council.

Ackman's suggestion came after the council received a motion from Acton Council which asked that a plebiscite be held in Halton County, sponsored by the county, to enable residents to show how they felt about joining Peel County or remaining an independent Halton unit.

He explained the town of Guelph could expand south in the near future into the township and the township would be given a fair shake by

Wellington County. "Our concern on rural matters is that we should have certain powers with checks and balances of the larger urban centres. Wellington County now has these checks and balances."

All members of the council agreed their area would be on the extreme western perimeter of the Halton-Peel area and Mississauga would become the centre of the region, which was too far from the township to

suit them. Reeve Mrs. Anne MacArthur proposed the township hold its own plebiscite on whether Nassagaweya residents would rather join Wellington County or stay with the Halton-Peel region, if it is adopted. "Whichever way we go, I want to see our township retained as a single unit, be it a ward or whatever. Leave us together," emphasized the reeve.

Two break-ins, attempt reported during weekend

Two break-ins and an attempted break-in were reported to Acton police this week and are under investigation.

William Haulta, Orville Road, and Herbert Massey, Scene St., reported break-ins Saturday night while T. Henderson, Elmore Dr., reported an attempt

had been made to open his back door. At the Haulta home a screen to a bedroom window was removed and the front door forced. Cigarettes and a carpet sweeper were taken.

At the Massey home entry was also through a rear door and window. A Polaroid camera was taken, and drawers ransacked.