

# Disposal plant establishment referred to planning board

Establishment of a centralized waste disposal plant near Highway 25, south of Acton, will definitely be referred to Esqueing township planning board, reeve George Currie assured a deputation of about 25 ratepayers in the township council chamber, Monday night.

Trecan Limited of Mississauga, in conjunction with Goodfellow Enterprises of Corunna propose to build the plant on 98 acres of land on the east side of the highway, just below 22 Sideroad.

Lawyer Ken Langdon spoke on behalf of the deputation, four of whom visited a similar plant at Corunna near Sarnia last week, along with deputy-reeve Tom Hill, councillors Russell Miller, Ken Marshall and clerk-treasurer Delmar French.

Mr. Langdon admitted that residents had certain areas of common ground with the developers in that the establishment of the plant would eliminate the existing open dump operation, which he conceded was unsatisfactory.

However, he maintained that the disposal of industrial waste products from as far away as Toronto, Hamilton and Kitchener would represent the larger part of the business at the proposed plant. He pointed out that Trecan had offered to dispose of municipal garbage free of charge and asked council how else the plant would make money except by disposing of industrial waste products, the contents of which, he added "are a completely unknown factor."

"Please don't look on this only as a proposal to get rid of municipal garbage," he warned council.

Mr. Langdon went on to say that waste management restrictions will be imposed shortly by the provincial government and suggested that council would be doing ratepayers a disservice to implement anything before the promised legislation is passed.

Mr. Langdon also questioned the Trecan proposal to bury ash, left after burning, on the same property. Investigations, he explained, have shown that only about one plow depth of earth lay on top of a layer of limestone. He warned if the wrong materials were buried, the area water supply could be seriously damaged.

A letter from a Moore township ratepayer, living near the Corunna plant, complimented Mr. Langdon's presentation. The letter claimed that residents living up to two miles away from the plant have complained about odors and smoke and that those within a mile are bothered by annoying noise. Severe fires have also occurred at the plant, the letter claimed.

The letter also explained that the township collects very little tax revenue from the plant.

Mr. Langdon told council that Esqueing residents who visited the Corunna plant, all noticed a distinct oily odor and felt definite vibrations. He wondered why a sign saying "no cameras" appeared at the plant. At a previous council meeting, Trecan representative Bill Lombard had said, "this plant operates every day and there's nothing to hide."

It was Mr. Langdon's opinion that Moore township officials are beginning to recognize the

effect the plant has had on property values since area residents are now successfully appealing their assessments.

Mr. Langdon read a passage from a University of California document concerning the location of an incinerator. The document suggested incinerators be built in industrial areas.

On the subject of the building of lagoons in connection with the proposed plant, Mr. Langdon suggested the township had had enough experience with Dornier in Georgetown, Beardmore's in Acton and P. L. Robertson's in Milton.

"And you've got to hurry, when you're going by them, if the wind's in the right way," reeve George Currie interjected.

The tremendous natural resources Esqueing township possesses was also cited by Mr. Langdon as reason enough why the plant should not be built on the proposed location.

"If we permit this and if it is established, what will grow up next door?", he asked council.

## Rec. committee will operate arena booth at all times

The question of whether or not booth facilities in the community centre should be leased out took up considerable discussion time at Thursday night's regular meeting of Acton Board of Parks Management and Recreation Committee.

The committee began operating the booth April 23 and realized a net profit of over \$1,000 until December 31.

Chairman Peter Marks thought the booth should be operated by the committee at all times but said he would not be against local service clubs operating separate concessions at special events.

Committee member Art Gordon disagreed. "There's only room for one concession in that community centre", he said. Mr. Gordon said he had no objection to service clubs operating booths outside in the park, however. He thought the committee should establish a policy for the

## Halton schools active in drug instruction

Several members of Halton Board of Education, press and representatives of the clergy got a first hand description of the drug education program in Halton County Schools.

Nick Volpe, co-ordinator of physical and Health education for Halton County outlined the current programs in the schools and showed films dealing with the subject.

Mr. Volpe noted the drug education program was more intensive in the high schools than elementary schools but noted the value of this is under criticism and the problem educators face now is how soon to start the program. Many feel high school is too late.

The co-ordinator said Addiction Research Foundation is working closely with the schools in an educational and preventive capacity. He noted some of the schools were using a machine they called "Smoking Sam" on the grade five level. Smoking Sam actually smokes a cigarette and filters the nicotine and by this students see the danger they face in smoking. Mr. Volpe said alcohol is still a bigger problem in high school than drugs.

Mr. Volpe challenged a reported figure of 50 per cent of all students in Oakville as being on drugs. He said the 50 per cent figure had been quoted by a high school principal and after he investigated with youths who he felt were in the know came up with a figure of less than 20 per cent who drank on a regular basis or used drugs frequently.

The Board of Education is a co-sponsor of a six week seminar with Sheridan College. The course will accommodate about 60 or 70 people and will be held at Sheridan College in Brampton April 2 to May 7.

Mr. Volpe noted the presentation of films, guest speakers, including former users, social workers and representatives from A.R.F. and several others were all part of the program.

"Something that smells just as bad", he suggested.

"Raising skunks?" reeve Currie asked jokingly.

Mr. Langdon concluded his presentation by reading a letter from James A. Douglas, former owner of the property on which the Corunna plant is located. The letter pointed out several items officials of the Corunna

plant had promised, but had not yet completed. A green belt, 500 feet from the property and a six foot high fence were two of the items. Mr. Douglas also questioned whether or not more than 5% of the land was being used for lagoons.

When Mr. Langdon asked why council has been dealing with drag strip and plant proposals in the township, instead of planning board, deputy-reeve Tom Hill defended council's position.

"We haven't agreed to anything since the holding by-law has been passed", he said.

The deputy-reeve added that

with all the talk on regional government nobody knew how regional planning would work. However, he agreed this matter should go before planning board.

A subsequent motion to refer the matter to planning board passed unanimously.

## First industry for industrial park

Acton may soon have its first industry in the industrial park if the final agreement between the town and Acton Wood Products is signed.

Council gave the mayor and clerk authorization to execute an offer of purchase with the company for five acres of industrial land in the industrial park following an animated discussion and a change of opinion by deputy-reeve Tyler.

The five acre parcel fronts on Main St. N. and the offer is \$3,000 an acre providing the company obtains a building permit within six months. The town also has the option of repurchasing the land at the sale price if no building was done in 18 months.

Deputy-reeve Tyler opposed selling the land at first, later changing his mind when it came to a vote on a resolution. Mr. Tyler thought other prospective purchasers should be notified. Selling the land at \$3,000 an acre was \$200 an acre below cost he said, and he was against subsidizing industry.

Third point he made was there was no clause to put the land back in shape if the company dug a hole and the land reverted back to the town. He also objected to the possibility of outside storage yard where lumber could be piled next to homes.

Council answered each objection in turn with councillor Marks remarking that the points were valid but it all goes back to the original agreement. "We accepted an occupational hazard when we agreed to accept this as development for an industrial park. If we receive \$15,000 for the land the six months' interest accrued would look after a

community centre building only. "As long as we can provide," councillor Orval Chapman added, "If we can't provide, this is something else."

Mr. Marks said he wouldn't feel the same about profit-making organizations but felt when charitable and service groups were using the community centre any profit made on concessions would eventually be redistributed in some way among members of the community.

"If you feel this is a money maker, why take it away?", Mr. Gordon argued.

A subsequent motion by Mr. Gordon that the booth in the arena building be operated by the board at all times, with enough help to provide, was passed.

The booth netted the committee approximately \$675 during January.



# Budget committee meets barred to Coats, Marks



A resolution sponsored by Councillors Peter Marks and Bill Coats that all members of council be appointed to the 1970 budget committee was decisively defeated at Tuesday's meeting of council. But the mayor had to cast the deciding vote to defeat an ensuing motion asking that all non-members of

the budget committee be invited to budget meetings as non-voting and non participating observers.

Temper flared during the discussion on the second motion with deputy-reeve Tyler accusing councillors Marks and Coats of "pussyfooting around". "They don't think the budget committee is capable of doing the job and won't come out and say so," he charged.

"We just want to be informed," answered Mr. Marks. "You have every opportunity to speak and ask for more information at meetings," the deputy-reeve continued. "You're questioning the ability of the people on the budget committee."

"Read the motion again," Councillor Coats asked the clerk. "I'm sure Mr. Tyler's got something to hide. . . Bring him to order please."

Order was restored with Mr. Coats telling council they merely wanted to attend budget meetings as spectators. Councillors Marks, Chapman, McKenzie all agreed. But they were outvoted by the reeve, deputy-reeve, and councillors Masales and Greer with the mayor casting the decisive vote.

Earlier in the meeting Councillor Marks said he and Mr. Coats could not make intelligent decisions on budget matters because they were not armed with enough facts to back up decisions. He said the first motion was no reflection on the budget committee and they were just asking to participate in the "essence of democracy."

Councillor Coats added that as a freshman councillor he had been "ignorant" last year with

the budget so early in the year. Admitting he was better informed this year, he still felt participation would help him make decisions.

Most members of council thought the move would be retrogressive and make the committee unwieldy when the stress now was on streamlining the function of council.

Reeve Oakes said he had always attempted to get budget figures in all councillors' hands prior to the final budget night. He failed to see how four more people could add to the meetings.

"I don't see the point," said Councillor Greer. He pointed out things could still be changed during the year.

Mayor Dudy said one of his

principal jobs was to keep council informed on the work of committees and the resolution intimated he was not doing his job. Both councillors denied intent to do so.

"I see nothing wrong with the present situation," said the deputy-reeve. "We are trying to streamline operations. The mayor or clerk can give them information or the finance chairman."

The vote seems to indicate we don't want them to be informed. "It's not true," said Councillor McKenzie.

On the budget committee are the mayor, reeve, deputy-reeve and Councillors Masales and McKenzie.

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## Preparing blind conference

W. K. Lawson, Field Secretary for the County of Halton with The Canadian National Institute for the Blind, has just returned from a special conference in Toronto. He was one of 22 blind CNIB district representatives and assistants across the province attending an annual review of their work.

During the conference, the men heard from two newly appointed CNIB Ontario Division department heads, D. Stewart Hayter, totally blind Recreation Director, and Miss Phyllis Church, Supervisor of Eye Services and Prevention of Blindness.

## Tyler wants . . .

(Continued from page 1)  
helps prevent tooth decay, especially in children, by forming a coating on the teeth, is artificially added to the water, the count would only be 0.8.

The deputy-reeve admitted, however, there is a fluctuation of the fluorine count in Acton's water and at certain times it is lower.