Second Class Mail Registration Number - 0515

## Many problems but few answers revealed at Chamber survey forum

Surprising and depressing answers to the Chamber of Commerce shopping survey prompted the group to mail out 120 invitations to a public meeting Tuesday to discuss the problem-but just five merchants, a few Chamber members and reporters turned up, totalling 13.

the responses to the questionnaires, the Chamber members agreed to set up a average 61, poor 23 per cent. "task force" to study parking problems, and a phone survey will be taken to assess the desire for increased calling area.

Chamber president John Shadbolt presided for the meeting in the library and explained the survey sheets showed the opinion of 25 per cent of Actonians. About 50 per cent of the town had received survey forms, and about half of these had been filled out and turned in. The Chamber felt it was a good cross-section.

Overall rating of the Acton shopping area showed 30 per cent rated it good, 55 per cent average and 13 per cent poor.

mile from shopping and 55 per parking. cent shop here occasionally, 43

32 per cent of shoppers go by foot, 55 by car and 13 by public transportation.

A surprise to the chamber was the figure of 67 per cent who rated the shopping hours as poor. Just 25 per cent felt shopping hours were average and 7 per cent good.

Merchants present wondered the reasons. They agreed they would soon stay open Mondays and evenings if there was enough business to make it pay. They felt there was not, judging by slow business during Christmas longer open hours.

A recent newcomer to the area, John Secord felt Acton should be adjusting already to the coming "boom". He favored open Mondays.

Discussion revealed neighboring towns the same as Acton, with many Guelph stores Acton's 6 p.m.

considered. . .

A request for financial aid to

Acton's parks and recreation

program, submitted by Board of

Parks Management and

Recreation Committee chairman

Peter Marks received favorable

response at Monday night's

regular meeting of Esquesing

The chairman appeared at the

meeting to follow up a letter the

board sent the township council.

felt a request for financial aid

from Esquesing was in order

since such a large percentage of

township residents use parks and

recreation facilities in Acton at

Mr. Marks explained the board

Council.

no extra charge.

One of the almost-unanimous reports came in the answer to the question about after sale service - warranty, repairs etc. 92 per cent felt service was poor; just 7 per cent average and 1 per cent good.

Selection in stores brought results: good 10 per cent, average 59 per cent, poor 31 per However, after puzzling over cent; prices good 24, average 53, poor 23 per cent.

> Entertainment: good 16, Rest rooms good 3, average

24, poor 73 per cent. Eating places good 2, average

12, poor 86 per cent. Knowledge of sales people good 43 per cent, average 41 per cent, poor 16 per cent; attitude good 35 per cent, average 41 per cent, poor 24 per cent; handling complaints good 47, average 39, poor 14 per cent; telephone manners good 10, average 48, poor 42 per cent.

Prices good 24, average 53, poor 23 per cent.

Parking good 5, average 14, perhaps five years. poor 81 per cent. Dave Manes said he could not

understand how the banks were 59 per cent lived less than a not assessed to help provide

per cent usually and 2 per cent the recommendations of Goodwin said. council's parking authority for improved driving and parking. (Chamber representatives had attended a special meeting and some of this discussion was reviewed, including merchants' willingness to co-operate and even contribute personally.)

Fifty-six per cent said they'd larger calling area. like to see Mill St, turned into a pedestrian mall, with 44 per cent not in favor. A previous attempt glumly.

chairman commented.

Chambers allow results of such cost high 55, average 29, low 16; surveys to be made public, service good 62, average 28, Those present agreed some of poor 10 per cent. A slight the answers were very hard to majority avored expanded understand. service to Guelph and Milton but understand.

Bell telephone district not Toronto. manager Lloyd Denby was closing at 5.30 - earlier than present when Roy Goodwin emergency number, 32 per cent Paul Nielsen thinks Thursday nearly 3,000, numbers in this 51 per cent said they would open nights should be area could be phoned to ask participate in an adult education about extended coverage.

Esquesing looks favorably

on Board's request for aid

After all revenue from the

collected, the board still has to

go to Acton ratepayers for three

Mr. Marks went on to point

out that the board also

subsidizes many Esquesing

residents through minor sports

programs and said he hoped

council would look on the

matter "as a slight moral

couldn't get a good hockey team

without players from

Esquesing!" reeve George Currie

informed Mr. Marks, jokingly.

"I happen to know you

obligation".

\$20,000), Mr. Marks added.

parks and recreation program is of council to Mr. Marks' request

or four mills (approximately deputy-reeve Tom Hill

was favorable.

commented.

anymore."

on the board.

Mail survey would cost \$350 which the Chamber does not have, and returns would not be high, he felt.

There are presently 2,870 numbers beginning with 853. Acton now has access to 13,658 phones without long distance changes, including Rockwood's 1,215 and Georgetown's 13,658.

Extended calling area would include Milton with 6,126; Guelph with 35,213 and Campbellville with 800 phones. Increase in rates, Mr. Goodwin stated, would be \$4.60 a month

to \$13.70; and 90 cents a month for a private residential phone, from \$4.40 to \$5.30. Mr. Goodwin had all the rates listed, presently and with the

for an individual business phone,

possible larger area. Mr. Denby explained that if Acton requested the larger calling area it would be a minimum of three years before it could be implemented, and

The extension was offered in 1962 and 1963 and was turned down by the town,

The Chamber of Commerce will take this as a project to see Sheets were distributed listing if the people want it, Mr.

> Mr. Goodwin said he was personally in favor. Mr. Denby agreed many more calls are made when extended area is introduced.

Asked about Bell's revenue, he said it would take years to cover the costs involved in creating the

Mr. Shadbolt wondered about the possibility of an emergency number. Mr. Denby explained to try the idea had fallen the Bell provides the equipment through, merchants reviewed but the problem of manning the number remains. Mr. Shadbolt Some of the merchants should wondered if the Chamber probably take a long, hard look couldn't consider the possibility at some of these figures, the of providing an emergency

number service. Paul Nielsen commented few The survey rated Bell service:

79 per cent favored an explained his hopes that all, said they would use a GO train.

Reaction from other members

"I go along with you 100%"

The deputy-reeve thought

"I agree", councillor Ken

council should definitely

Marshall added. "We ought to be

trying to arrange something with

Milton and Georgetown, too.

We're not a farmer's township,

Councillor Russell Miller's

Deputy-reeve Hill also stressed

Mr. Marks said the board

would welcome any thoughts or comments on their program

from Esquesing residents and

mentioned the possibility of

allowing council a representative

public relations among

municipalities is important.

comment: "This is something

that is long overdue".

consider it at budget time.

### Permit application error slip of typewriter-Hill

"It looks like you've had the Brampton. wool pulled over your eyes again," drag strip opponent Peter Bowman told Esquesing Council Monday night, as he financial support. showed them a copy of the building permit application for the Golden Horseshoe Dragway's

control tower. A section of the application read, "A further condition being that the installation of septic tanks and drainage tile shall be in accordance with the empty houses specifications of the Peel County Health Unit".

application was invalid because An impaired driver was charged, it referred to the Peel County a theft was reported and there Halton Unit.

deputy-reeve Tom Hill assured store during closed hours. Mr. Bowman.

Mr. Bowman is continuing his fight to have construction on the dragway halted and is inviting

Sympathizers held a meeting Saturday and Mr. Bowman reports excellent response.

# Many report

No accidents in town were Mr. Bowman claimed the reported to police the past week. Health Unit instead of the was a liquor seizure, among occurrences investigated.

"That's a slip of the A passer-by reported the door typewriter, that's all", unlocked at the brewers' retail

Due to the recent break-ins Assistant clerk K. C. Lindsay quite a few people are informing explained that application forms the police when they will be had been sent out from the new away from home. "Keep it up", regional assessment office in say the police.

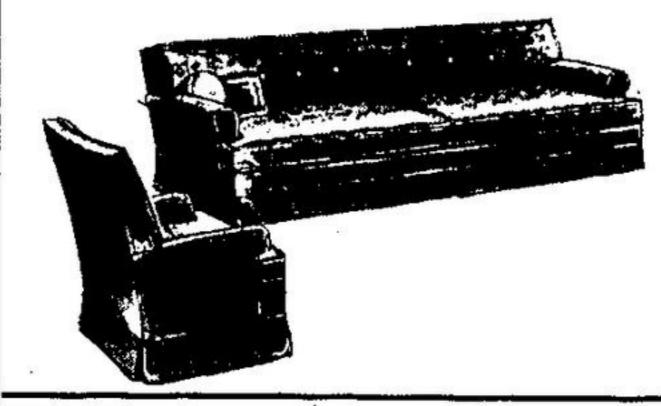
# CORRECTION PLEASE NOTE!

SIMPSONS-SEARS ADVERTISEMENT PAGE D-8 THIS ISSUE **501 NYLON BROADLOOM** SHOULD READ

NOT \$4.00 SQ. YD. AS SHOWN

## ACTON HOME FURNISHINGS

47 MILL ST. - ACTON - 853-0820



2 PIECE

### LIVING ROOM SUITE

Features "Hi-Back" Styling Diamond Tufted "High-Back" Sofa & Chair Foam Back and Cushions. Long Wearing Fabrics in 8 colors

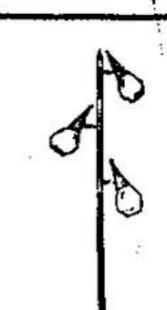
SPECIAL! \$225.00 2 pcs.

#### 3 PIECE - WALNUT

#### BEDROOM SUITE

This Suite highlights a 7-drawer Double Dresser, 4-Drawer Chest and 4'6" Panel Bed

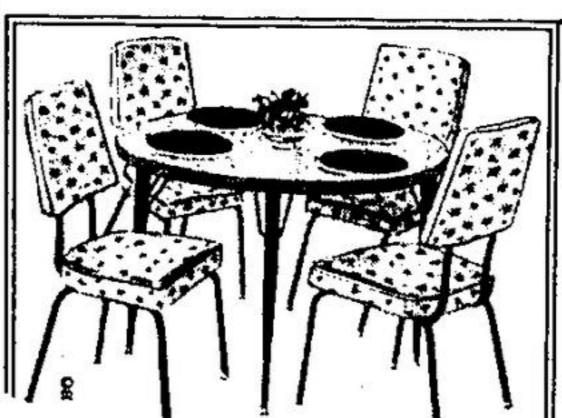
SPECIAL! \$175.00



FULL ADJUSTABLE POLE LAMPS

> Choose the style that suits your decor

from \$15.95 AND UP



**BUDGET-PRICED** 

5 PC. DINETTE

Table features a smart inlay design

on Walnut Aborite. 4 Chairs have

white and brown upholstered

**TABLE** 

**LAMPS** 

Terrific Choice

to suit any decor

from

\$10.50

AND UP

seats and backs. Phenol frames.

SPECIAL! \$46.95

COFFEE **STEP** 

**TABLES** Your choice. Both have No-Mar Tops

SPECIAL

5 PC. DINETTE The 36" x 48" Walnut, arborite topped table extends to 50"

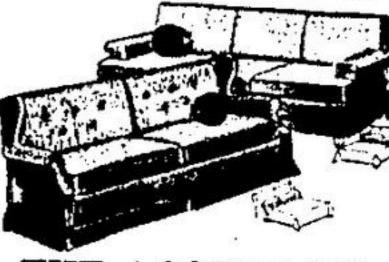
> Phenol Finish **SPECIAL \$99.95**

Hi-Back Chairs

2 PC. CHESTERFIELD SUITE

This suite features a high back, Foam Cushions and Walnut trim on Arms.

\$8.95 SPECIAL! \$198.982 pcs.



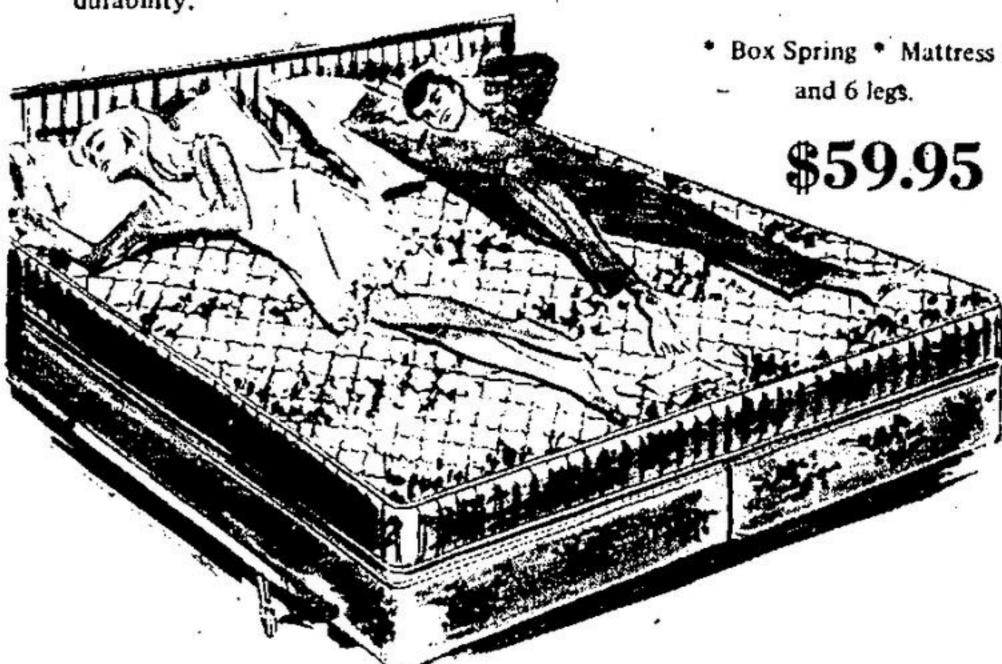
#### THE ACCENT ON THE MODERN LOOK

Down-to-earth value in a davenport that converts to a bed and matching chair foam-filled and expanded vinyl cover.

\$169.95 2 pcs.

## 39" CONTINENTAL BED

Tailored in quilted floral damask over layers of sisal and felt for comfort and durability.





MELTED CHOCOLATE is poured into mould by Blanche Glendenning. See feature story on candy factory in todays big Free Press. (Staff photo)

#### Council agreed to take a further look at the request, at budget time. Licence plates being sold for

historic vehicles

Last spring, Ontario began issuing licence plates for historic motor vehicles other than commercial motor vehicles. Now the older commercial motor vehicles (trucks, truck tractors, fire apparatus, buses, ambulances, etc.) will qualify for registration as historic vehicles

Historic vehicles must be at least 30 years old and must be substantially unchanged or unmodified from the original manufacturer's product. They can only be operated on a highway for the purposes of exhibition, touts of similar functions organized by properly constituted automobile clubs, or for the purpose of parades, repair, testing or demonstration

for sale. Licence fee is \$10 a year for historic motor vehicles. The licence plates are marked to identify this class of vehicle and to indicate limited highway use.

HAND MADE - NYLON

FLOOR **MATS** 

100% Nylon Wears like iron Machine Washable

\$2.98 EA.