

NEWS of the district

End of an era

GUELPH—It might well have been a regular parade for Guelph's 11th Field Regiment.

But when the regiment's 35-man brass and reed band marched out of the parade hall, it marked the end of an era. The march - past was the last in which an official regimental band will take part.

The band and the regiment's status were victims of the defence departments cutbacks in militia strength. Now Guelph militiamen officially become members of the 8th - 11th Field Regiment, a composite regiment covering two Guelph field batteries and the one battery in Hamilton left by a cut in strength of that city's 8th Field Regiment.

So ends one phase in the history of the 11th, Canada's oldest artillery regiment.

Commanding officer Col French indicated that the newly-formed regiment would be cut from its present strength of 300 (which includes both Hamilton and Guelph militiamen) to about 231 members. The present Guelph strength is about 170. Some of the bandsmen would be transferring to become gunners in the new regiment.

New safety device

GEORGETOWN—Eagle Signal Division of E. W. Bliss, on Guelph Street, Georgetown, are the sole distributors in Canada of a brand new safety device which Loren Puck, local Engineering and Sales manager, claims will successfully stop out-of-control cars with a minimum of damage and little injury to the occupants.

At the moment Eagle Signal does not manufacture this economical device, known as the Fitch Inertial Barrier, but plans to when the demand warrants it. The first Canadian installation was made at the Gardiner Expressway, and Leslie Street.

Originated by race driver, John Fitch, the system is designed to substantially reduce the heavy toll on the highways caused by cars striking fixed objects such as bridge abutments, exit-ramp walls and overpass piers.

The barrel-shaped device is made of frangible plastic containing sand - when hit the plastic shatters and the sand flies forward absorbing the impact. Since the barrel just sits there, with its own weight holding it in position there is little installation cost, and the sand can be re-used after an accident.

Tests conducted with a live driver, in which a car travelling 50 miles an hour hit some of the breakable barriers, caused little damage to the car and no injury to the driver. The car backed away under its own power with the damage limited to a sprung hood, radiator, a broken headlamp and dented bumper.

The Department of Highways have more Fitch Inertial Barriers on order, with Highway 401 next on the list for the installations.

For winter sports

GEORGETOWN - North Halton Golf and Country Club will add a third section this year, it was disclosed at the club's annual shareholders' meeting. The new section will embrace a number of outdoor winter sports and will include the North Halton snowmobile club.

Skiing members of the winter sports section may also have use of a ski tow by next season.

Good winter for skiing

MILTON—Glen Eden Ski Area at Kelso was officially closed for the season on Sunday, March 22 but resources manager Dave Murray of Halton Region Conservation Authority thinks it was "a shame" to shut the area down when there was still a good layer of snow on the slopes.

It was purely a financial reason, Mr. Murray said. There were only 52 skiers on the slopes and most of them were ski patrollers or people with season's memberships - so there was little revenue coming in to offset the costs of staffing the ski club and running the tows.

"People just don't believe we have so much good snow here," added the resources manager. There were 10 inches of snow on all the slopes and up to five feet of hard packed snow in some areas, thanks to the club's snowmaking machinery. "There wasn't a bare spot anywhere," he added, "and it sure seems a shame to waste all that good snow."

The winter was an exceptionally good one for Glen Eden, with a record attendance and record revenues. Ski lessons were again popular and thousands of children were taught to ski.



A VARIETY OF FASHIONS came alive for diners at Mohawk Raceway's Terrace Dining Room.

ESQUEUSING COUNCIL BRIEFS

At their regular meeting last week Esqueusing council:

- Read a third time and passed a by-law giving United Gas the franchise rights to transmit and sell gas in the township, in the presence of representatives of the company.

- Authorized the C. E. Hickey Co. to display Esqueusing's new fire truck at the Ontario Fire Chiefs' convention. Deputy Reeve Hill opposed the motion contending council would look like a silly bunch if a serious fire occurred while the truck was sitting at Stratford.

- Authorized clerk Del French to attend the municipal clerks and treasurers' convention in May at Honey Harbour.

- Authorized payment of Esqueusing's share of the Hornby Community Park for 1969 of \$886.08. The park is operated jointly by the township and the town of Oakville.

- Authorized payment of \$7 apiece to Warren Hull and Murray Tasker for foxes destroyed.

- Took no action on a letter from the Department of Commercial Affairs regarding comments on a request for incorporation by the Golden Horseshoe Dragway.

- Gave tentative permission to Ed Hayes of R.R. 3, Georgetown to erect a combination garage and fruit stand on his property on 15 Sideroad but first requested he secure a letter of permission from Mr. Corbett.

- Took no action on a request for damages for prize poultry killed by dogs. The township protection by-law states poultry destroyed must exceed 50 lbs. to be eligible and in this case 11 prize hens only weighed 30 lbs. Reeve Currie presided for the three hour session with all members of council present.

Active participation in Algonquin

Visitors to Algonquin Provincial Park are increasing each year and 489,503 took part in some phase of the park's interpretive program during the past season. This figure, compared to the total of 422,122 in 1968, indicates a 16 per cent increase.

Here is a summary of activities and numbers attending:

- Visitor centre - 202,331
- pioneer logging exhibit - 105,883
- conducted hikes - 4,793
- evening programs - 26,594
- walking trails - 72,743
- special groups - 1,694
- children's groups - 1,497
- slide-tape programs - 73,968

It has been long recognized by department of lands and forests personnel that park visitors require more than just a place to camp and relax. Activities are designed to assist them in appreciation of the environment through various aspects of human and natural history, soils, waters, forests and wildlife. Through these activities the park user gains an insight of conservation and management necessary for the preservation and utilization of the area.

The Algonquin program has completed its 26th year of operation and has developed from simple bird walks and nature hikes to the complex variety of programs recently presented.

The World of Outdoors with Art Hawes

Last week at Maple Rock Shooting Range top score went to Jim Cordes 19 and Bryon Cargill both got 19. John also scored 18 and Bryon 11. Other scores were Jim Boose 18, Bill Given 17, Chris Denny 16, Bob Adams 15, Tom Deering and Jim Coulson 14, Gerry Vander Eyken 13 and Robert Hilson 10.

Two weeks ago scores were Tom Deering 22, Gord Clow 22, Jim Boose 21, 14, Chris Denny 21, 17, Bryon Cargill 20, 20, John Nurse 20, 16, Bob Adams 19, Jim Coulson 16, Henry Vander Eyken 16, Doug Garrett 15, 15, Bill Given 14.

There is a bill before Provincial Parliament, which has been read once (three readings & it becomes law), introduced by Mr. De Monte of Toronto which if it becomes law would mean all shotguns, rifles and hand guns would have to be registered. A permit would be required to possess a rifle or shotgun which MAY be issued if it is deemed necessary. A permit WILL NOT be issued to possess a hand gun. The age limit on possession permits for a rifle or shot gun would be 18 years.

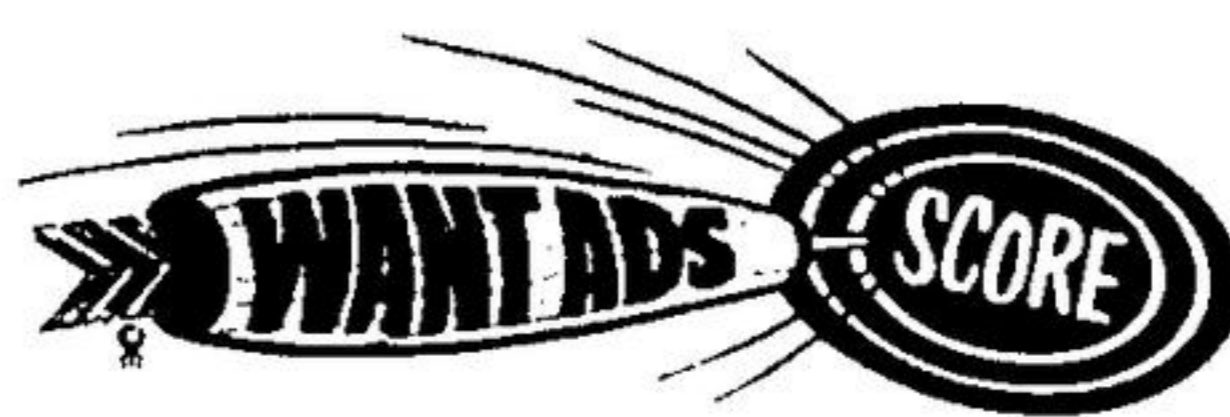
Anyone who wishes to retain the present status of firearm ownerships would be advised to write a letter of disapproval, with reasonable language, to their local member of Parliament Attorney General Arthur Wishart and Premier John Roberts.



H. H. HINTON, a member of the board of directors of Sheridan College and a former warden of Halton county was among the dignitaries on hand, as education minister William Davis officially opened the Oakville campus of Sheridan College of Applied Arts and Technology. - (Staff Photo)

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