

# Acton annex 1,000 Esqueusing acres?

Acton's size would double and the population more than double, if proposed annexation is approved and new subdivisions built east of town.

Monday evening of last week a delegation attended a rush meeting of the planning board, asking the immediate implementation of annexation proceedings for their property, involving 800 acres. After discussing the requests planning board recommended that council proceed to make an application for annexation of 1,000 acres to the east of town, including lots 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 east to the fourth line.

Apparently the deputation had heard of an impending freeze on annexations and felt an immediate application should be made.

The matter was discussed again Thursday night at the regular planning board meeting when planning consultant Dennis Flood recommended the matter should be discussed with someone at the Ontario Municipal Board first.

"Few applications go through these days," he mused, although he said he hadn't heard of any official "freeze."

There are presently 992 acres in town. With an average density of 12 to 16 persons per acre, these 800 acres slated for subdivision could bring 7,500 more residents to Acton.

Present population is 4,800. The Toronto Centred Region Design for Development limits population at 25,000 for Acton.

Attending last week's special meeting were about 30 persons including a delegation of C. F. Leatherland, M. Sernas and Mr. Hearly representing property owners concerned. Planning consultant Mr. Hearly read a petition signed by 12 property owners, all requesting annexation of their land by the town.

Land involved in this petition included properties owned by Monex Construction, Acton Holdings, A-Z Construction, Joe Kiraly, W. Acri and S. Braida, all to the north of Highway 7.

Mr. Hearly stated an early application was essential, in his opinion, for it could be presented prior to the implementation of the provincial Design for Development. This is a good time for expansion, he said.

Of the 30 people at the meeting, just six expressed objections to the annexation, mainly due to an expected increase in taxes. Ted Tyler Jr. spoke of a costly change in licensing for his trucking business, if annexed.

Representing Revenue Properties, Alec Johnson also said this company would like to have the Sprol and McCullough farms annexed into town. Representatives holding equity in the Lindsay farm expressed their willingness for annexation, too.

After discussion, planning board squared off the requested area to include 1,000 acres in its recommendation to council including all the properties whose owners wished annexation.

Chairman Saitz reviewed Thursday that Esqueusing has shown no interest in meeting with Acton to discuss the problem.

"Housing is a mixed blessing," Mr. Flood said. "It could cost you a bundle to service it. From the engineering point of view it looks good."

"The trend is to larger units... a big hunk," he observed. Planners agreed once they get council approval they'll take a very detailed look at the property involved, expected increase in taxes, services, etc.

Ninety-Fifth Year. — No. 52

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 1970

**The weather**  
**Showers**  
Variable cloudiness with showers likely Wednesday and Thursday. Mostly fair on Friday. Warm Wednesday and Thursday with high temperatures in the 80's and lows in the 50's and 60's. A little cooler Friday with highs in the 70's.

Twenty-Two Pages — Fifteen Cents



WITH COACHING from store owner Paul Nielsen and clerk Mrs. Eve Cooper blond, young Kenny Feensra makes the draw for their store's winner in the current Sidewalk Sales. Shopper Mrs. Ruth Masales (left) and Mrs. Feensra are ready to verify the name - Barbara McMullen, R. R. 2, Sidewalk Sales continue this week in town.—(Staff Photo)

## Muted growth in Halton

# Discussions on Toronto region

Acton annexation proposals will not be approved if they are inconsistent with the policy laid out in the recently released Design for Development for the Toronto-Centred region. Mayor Les Dudy was told at a discussion session of the report in Oakville Monday.

Mayor Dudy cited speculative pressures which develop in a community and create confusion for elected representatives. He referred to the recent movement of two more banks into the town of Acton where two already existed. "Someone knows something the politicians don't," he declared.

Acton has been on the threshold of annexing land for three or four years now, the mayor related to a panel of government officials at the meeting. But would it be logical to apply for annexation of land now? "We're getting no work done and doing a lot of planning—then planning again," he complained of present procedures.

Don Taylor of the Department of Municipal Affairs suggested

that if the application was inconsistent with policy in the report it would not be approved.

Mr. Taylor explained that prior to discussions on regional government, annexation applications went directly to the Ontario Municipal Board. Now they must have clearance from the Department of Municipal Affairs before they are heard by the O.M.B.

Mr. Dudy said he came to the meeting hoping to get some indication of whether the annexation application would be reasonable. Time is costly, he stressed, and delays could increase the price of land for housing until it is prohibitive in Acton as well as other areas.

A sparse crowd of 75 municipal representatives, largely from Halton, attended.

The multi-paged report divides a large section around Toronto into three zones. This section of north Halton is scheduled for muted growth with agricultural, recreational and conservation overtones. Heavy urbanization is

predicted along the Lakeshore corridor.

Questions to a panel consisting of Don Taylor of the Department of Municipal Affairs; G. Stamm of Treasury and Economics and I. Oliver of the Department of Highways were moderated by President of the Central Ontario Regional Development Council, Brian Bailey, sponsors of the meeting.

Some of the points raised in discussion included:

—A suggestion the farmer who wants to retire is being robbed of the speculative value on his farm by the report.

—The zone boundary which jogs around Milton to include it in zone 2 doesn't mean the town can't grow but it is too far north for heavy urbanization.

—Highway 401 won't last too much longer as an access route to Toronto because of the congestion on the receiving end.

—More meetings with representatives of individual municipalities can be expected this summer to discuss in detail the impact of the Toronto-Centred Region report.

## Fireworks display here July 1 holiday

Acton firefighters will really be staging an explosive affair at Acton park on the July 1 holiday.

First item is a fireworks display at 8 p.m. This will be followed by a firefighting demonstration, showing the latest techniques in combating fires.

The fireworks will be the first

public display of pyrotechnics here in several years. The Acton brigade has purchased several hundred dollars' worth of fireworks and it promises to be a bang-up holiday event.

In the event of rain or unsuitable weather, the display will be postponed until Saturday, July 4.

—A task force is studying the proposed parkway belt-service corridor to determine its specific location and required width.

—Expansion will be mainly around existing urban centres in zone 2. Urban type subdivisions are "generally resisted" in rural municipalities such as Nassagaweya.

Nassagaweya Deputy Reeve Gordon Agnew wondered about the possibility of subdivisions in Nassagaweya.

Mr. Taylor explained one of the objectives in zone two is for a relatively low population base with expansion mainly of existing urban centres. "Generally speaking we are resisting urban-type subdivisions in rural municipalities."

Mr. Agnew agreed, suggesting that he could foresee problems in 15 years from septic tanks which are now required in the township since no treatment facilities are available. He suggested the township should have more backing from the province in resisting subdivision pressures.

Councillor William Woods from Milton wanted to know why Milton had been left off one of the maps. Mr. Stenn defended that it was really a reference map and

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## Council rejects objections to apartment buildings

Three letters of objection to the proposed rezoning of property owned by Hazel Orr off Bower Avenue from residential to RM for the erection of two apartment buildings were rejected by Acton Council at Tuesday's meeting. However there will be an

Ontario Municipal Board hearing to consider the objections.

Letters were read from Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lamb, Dills Printing and Publishing and another signed by most of the residents in the area bordering on Bower Ave. and Frederick St. Each was dealt with in turn.

Mr. and Mrs. Lamb said the buildings would increase traffic, devalue property, interfere with privacy and sleep of shift workers, and put a drain on services.

Council rejected the objection by resolution declaring services were adequate and privacy and value would not be unduly affected.

Dills Printing said the project would have a detrimental effect on the value of property owned by the Company, which abuts. The rejection resolution denied the project would have a detrimental effect on the company property.

The final letter of objection cited increased traffic loss of privacy, population density, loss of enjoyment, property devaluation, and drainage problems and inadequate services as reasons for opposing the 56 suites apartments. The objections were rejected maintaining services were adequate and the buildings would not detract from privacy or the value of surrounding property.

Thrush Construction proposes to erect two three-storey apartment buildings on the site behind Bower, removing the house occupied by Mrs. Hazel Orr to provide a driveway access.

The by-law (1480) will ensure builders do not contravene the original plans as shown on the site plan and drawings clerk Joe Hurst told council.

Mayor Dudy said he could understand the objection of Don Ryder and others in the im-

mediate vicinity of the thoroughfare created when the house is torn down. Owners bought the property in good faith and had nice, quiet homes. Now all this would change.

"In what way?" asked Councillor McKenzie.

"It was brought out at Planning Board" said Councillor Masales. "There's a 20 foot green belt on each side of the driveway. What more do they want?"

"That's a good point" admitted the mayor but he later voted against the rejection of the one objection submitted by the neighbors, the sole vote.

"I sympathize but I don't go along with the objection," said Mr. Masales.

Council reiterated that Senior Citizen housing was considered for the area but was turned down by Central and Housing Corporation because of a prohibitive price.

## Teachers to settle

The salary negotiating committees of Halton Division of OSSTF and Halton County Board of Education reached a tentative salary settlement Monday night.

This settlement is subject to ratification by the membership of Halton OSSTF and the Board of Education. Ratification will be sought this week. No further details were available at press time.

## Council to investigate annexation

Acton council cleared the decks for more investigation into an annexation of adjoining land at Tuesday's meeting.

Spurred by the mayor who advocated a fast move on the town's part to acquire better control, council passed a resolution to investigate further action on annexation.

Mr. Dudy referred to a meeting with government officials Monday. They advocated the town proceed if there was a requirement and it didn't contravene Toronto-Centred Design for Development plans.

Councillor Marks advocated caution saying that regional government comes in two years

the \$5,000 expense for annexation would be wasted.

The mayor disagreed. He told council the amount involved could be recovered in the taxes from 20 houses and benefits far outweighed the expense.

## Extinguish tractor fire

Acton Firefighters were called to extinguish a tractor fire on the farm of William Linton, R. R. 1 Acton, Sunday afternoon.

Damage to the tractor was estimated at \$400.

## Accident on Highway 7

A one-car accident on Highway 7 half a mile east of Acton's town limits on Thursday caused \$500 damage to a local man's car. Milton OPP report the driver was Hugh Lowe, 92 Churchill Rd., Acton. He was unhurt.

Design for development says Acton is designated for growth and the land asked for here is only a small percentage, the mayor declared. He reminded council of the troubles with the Seynuck farm and the constant rise in prices of land which reflected in higher prices on houses.

He said the town had an opportunity to check prices now by not deferring and procrastinating on annexation.

## Two leases signed for new building

The five new stores and offices at the corner of Main and Church are taking shape quickly this week as walls go up.

Two leases have been signed for occupancy, with two more due to be signed soon, according to Alec Johnson.

Dr. Robert Steen, the town's

## Report break-in

A break-in at Little Motors last Wednesday night, was reported to the North Halton detachment of the OPP.

The break and enter artists are believed to have gained entry through a back window.

## Fluoride clinics for Acton teeth

The Dental Division of Halton County Health Unit will be conducting self-applied fluoride clinics in the M. Z. Bennett school, 100 Acton Boulevard, in Acton during the summer months.

The service is free and for children from the ages of four to 12 years. Each child, under the supervision of the Dental Hygienist, Mrs. M. Ludzik, will brush their teeth with a special formulated toothpaste. This method has been proven to be approximately 50 per cent effective in reducing dental decay if applied once or twice a year.

The toothpaste used is only available to dentists and physicians. Acton does not have water fluoridation and this self-applied service is the second best method of preventing tooth decay of children, according to dental director Dr. S. M. Green.

It is expected response will be good for this preventive service. For appointments, parents are urged to phone the Georgetown Health Unit, at 877-2233.



PRIME MINISTER Pierre Trudeau paused to chat with Ontario Dairy Princess Lorene Archdekin of Brampton (left) and Miss Anguette Cheryl Manary of Dundas (right) at the official opening of the United Breeders artificial insemination building north of Guelph, Saturday morning.—(Staff Photo)

## Publish Tuesday

With Dominion Day falling on Wednesday of next week and stores and post office closed, the Free Press will be published on Tuesday. While some offices and plants are arranging to take the holiday on the Monday or Friday, most stores will be closed in town on July 1 and there will be no mail service.

Display and classified ad deadlines all move forward, so please contact the office as soon as possible. Display ads must be here by Saturday at noon and classified ads on Monday. We also ask the co-operation of district correspondents and other with news items, in bringing them in later this week or Monday.