

CURBS WERE INSTALLED recently in front of business places at the eastern entrance to town, as part of the reconstruction of Highway 7. When

completed, the highway will widen into four lanes at the entrance to Acton.—(Staff Photo)



BESIDES MAKING a wider curve, reconstruction of Highway 7 will allow for a one way entrance on to Trafalgar Road South and a two lane entrance

from Trafalgar Road North on to the highway, near Georgetown.—(Staff Photo)

DHO workers keep highways open, clean

Travelling over a familiar highway each day, one notices familiar and different surroundings. A barn fire last night, someone has painted their house or someone has a new car. Driving on Hwys. 25, 5 or 7 one also notices familiar signs and faces those of Department of Highways workers. The regular group along these highways is stationed on Blue Springs Line, between Acton and Rockwood.

Earl Brown of Rockwood is patrolman for the outfit and has been with the D.H.O. since 1948. "Yes, I've seen a lot in my time," he laughed. "Anything from solid ice blizzards to Hurricane Hazel wouldn't surprise me."

As spokesman for the crew, Mr. Brown explained the new inter-com system just recently established for communication to Burlington headquarters. This system enables the station to radio for any equipment they might need for general use as well as in an emergency. The intercom is also in contact with all trucks from the station as well as headquarters.

Basic equipment for the station is one three-ton truck, a smaller pick-up, one tractor, one mower and numerous odds and ends of rope, shovels and brooms. "We try to patrol each highway twice a week to make sure everything is in shape," he said. Number 3041 or 3034 or 3033... adding figures, computer dating? No, these numbers are coded jobs recognized by D.H.O. employees. Patrolling or inspecting the highway is number 3041, 3034 is litter pick-up and 3033 is sweeping intersections. A coded log book is checked daily by workers and jobs are pre-scheduled for the week by headquarters in Burlington and patrolman Brown.

Jobs are coded in the log book according to exact location. For example if an intersection needed sweeping, the book would be coded 3033... Hwy. 25, 22 Sideroad. "This would then give the men an idea of the exact location."

The D.H.O. man begins his day early at 7:30 a.m. and finishes at 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday. During winter the department operates on a three shift basis of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., 4 p.m. to 12 a.m. and 12 to 8 a.m. How do the workers like these shifts? "Any change is nice," said one man while Chester Meek commented "you can see better in the daytime and we have very little choice."

Five men make up the regular staff of the D.H.O. station on Blue Springs Line but during the winter an extra three men join the staff. "We need more help in the winter," said Mr. Brown. "The road has to be inspected every eight hours then."

By Janet Braida

Summer jobs of D.H.O. workers includes cutting grass along the highway, cleaning ditches of debris, patching holes in the road, painting guard rails, sweeping intersections and burying dead animals alongside the road. "We've picked up and buried as many 50 cats during one year." Every deer the men find along the road, either alive

or dead, is reported to either Ontario Provincial Police or Department of Lands and Forests. A representative is then sent out to inspect the carcass and meat from the animal is sent to African Safari at Rockton or Mountsberg Game Farm.

Asphalt or tar for patching roads is bought in Geulph. "We are allowed so many ton per week by headquarters

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Nassagaweya Council Briefs

During last week's meeting of Nassagaweya Council:

—Three council members agreed to participate in a bus tour sponsored by Halton Region Conservation Authority on Oct. 17. The tour will cover some conservation spots in the county including Hilton Falls and Scotch Block Dam. Tour ends at 5 p.m. and refreshments will be served by the authority.

—A letter from Ontario Premier John Roberts in response to its recent motion demanding the Highway 401 "Killer Strip" be made safe, promised the Premier would discuss the matter with the minister of highways as quickly as possible. Council was pleased with Mr. Roberts' quick response.

—Council is considering attending liaison meetings with Halton County Board of Education, as suggested by the board, to have more productive communication between the schools and council. "They're getting ready to ask us for more money," said Deputy Reeve Gordon Agnew, "and it's good public relations." "The request holds a great number of im-

plications," Reeve Anne MacArthur told council. "We are a municipality and the municipality should call the shots. They're not asking what suits us, of when they could come and meet with us," she said.

—Councillor Allan Ackman asked why Halton Region Conservation Authority had the special privilege of dumping garbage on off days at the local dump. "They get in with the key," said the councillor. "Doing this and allowing them special privileges only invites garbage from Toronto and other areas. The dump is only for municipal garbage," he said. "It's a matter of principle." Clerk-treasurer Campbell Thompson stated the authority had checked with him three times about dumping their garbage on the restricted days. He also added he was working on a by-law for this specific purpose. "But I will cut off the dumping I so desired," he added. Mr. Ackman declined at this remark.

—Members agreed to support a resolution from the municipality of Georgetown suggesting penalties be imposed on private or public utilities where any reconstruction of roads or streets

in the municipality is held up and delayed, by the failure of the utility to relocate the service with dispatch and within a given period of time.

—Council agreed not to withhold education tax funds, as urged by the Ontario Department of Agriculture. It did support, however, removing the cost of education from property tax. Clerk-treasurer Campbell Thompson pointed out the township could not, as a municipal body, withhold property tax funds it receives that are meant for education.

Night school

A wide and varied night school program is being offered by Halton County Board of Education. A brochure including courses available at Sheridan College and from the Halton Board of Education outlines the programs.

Several interest courses, business and shop course are available.

Stolen clothing found in field

A break-in at the home of Mrs. Maude Spear, 228 Main St. N., is still under investigation by Cons. Brown. Mrs. Spear discovered clothing, groceries, bedding and numerous small articles missing with an estimated value of about \$241.

The theft apparently occurred last Sunday and was reported to Acton O.P.P. at noon.

Some of the clothing was recovered Monday in a field.

The Acton Free Press, Wednesday, September 16, 1970 9

Car skids on gravel classified total wreck

A Georgetown man was treated for facial and chest injuries Thursday evening after a one-car accident on Highway 7, near Silvercreek, Milton OPP report.

Martin McNeil, 57, of 164 Guelph St. Georgetown was the

driver of the 1964 model car which went out of control on loose gravel. The car was a write-off.

Const. G. Corman of Milton OPP investigated.

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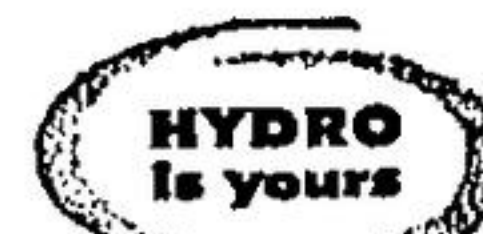
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