

## OUR READERS WRITE:

### Bouquets to town, works crew

P.O. box 571  
Feb. 11, '71.

Dear sir:  
I wondered when reading your paper today what kind of people you have in your midst. Who are these people who sit in the warmth and comfort of their own home, and with telephone in hand, bug part-time council officials when roadways are not cleared off after a snowstorm?

It's about time they realized the downtown area and its accesses must have top priority for they are the centre of activity for through traffic and shoppers. The town has only limited resources in both men and equipment and those who clamor for the unemployed to be used in this direction must realize, too, that the monetary resources are limited. Tax dollars are, apart from a few government grants, all that council has to work with.

What would they say if council spent money ad lib and did what they required and then demanded a huge mill rate increase to balance the books?

I would therefore suggest to these people, whom you might call hecklers of a sort, if they are so keen to get their pet projects done that they put their shoulders to the wheel voluntarily.

This disturbing of part time council officials in their own home to satisfy their own needs is ludicrous, in bad taste and inconsiderate. What would they say, if after a hard day's work and relaxing after supper, somebody rings up and harassed

them on the telephone. I somehow think they wouldn't go for it. So let them think twice before bugging town employees so thoughtlessly and selfishly.

Frankly, I would like to hand a bouquet to the work force and town officials. I think they do a very good job of work and people should remember everyone makes mistakes. Sometimes, while they would like to do a certain project they are hampered because the budget just doesn't allow it, or they haven't the equipment to do the job efficiently.

The task force that clears the snow downtown so efficiently is of the highest order and a credit to the community. Visits to any part of Ontario and towns of similar size will show Acton's streets ahead of other communities in snow clearance. So a bouquet to Acton council and its employees for a job well done, with limited resources and equipment at hand.

A special mention for John Van den Brink. I often wonder if he ever sleeps for you can go through Acton at any time of the day or night and there you'll find him working. Thanks for a wonderful job, John. Your dedication is much appreciated. However, a word of warning—it's nice to work this way and feel satisfied but take care of your health for you can't buy it with any kind of money.

Thank you,  
A.E. Welch.

P.S.—Congratulations to the editorial staff for being judged third in editorial writings. You are on a very high plane.

### People waking up to needs of people

February 10, 1971

To the Editor  
Acton Free Press

Dear Sir:

Your lead editorial of January 6, 1971 made a plea for planners to include corner stores in new subdivision plans. "A pleasant place to stop for the little things that make up everyday lives."

You have put your finger right on one of the real concerns of today that must be faced by public officials, planners, developers, and citizens alike: — How can we build towns and neighborhoods with the kind of friendliness, convenience and a feeling of community that are associated with the older corner store?

It would be easy to include the corner store in a new neighborhood plan. But, however desirable the corner store may be, most people would prefer it to be located conveniently away from their own private home because of nuisances of littering, becoming a hangout, automobile traffic, depreciation of property values, etc. Developers therefore generally try to group a number of stores together where they can be specially landscaped and designed to minimize nuisance to nearby homes and where, as a group, they can compete more successfully with large supermarkets and plaza developments.

To some extent the Becker's stores are an exception, but their strength lies in the fact that they are part of a large chain with

well-organized and aggressive marketing and financing structures.

It is probably unrealistic to think of bringing the old corner store back as a means of achieving human scale, friendliness and that neighborly spirit. But there may be an alternative. Each neighborhood could for example contain a small centre in which a number of socially desirable facilities are brought together in one or several small buildings. Related to elementary school and neighborhood park, it could contain a day-care centre, a drop-in centre for teenagers, rooms which clubs or groups can rent for meetings, a snack bar or tuck shop, etc.

It is unlikely that such a neighborhood centre could become a profit-making venture and it would probably have to be built and operated by the municipality or a service club.

We think every citizen has a responsibility to criticize plans, and proposals to see they are likely to encourage and expand human contact and not be neighborhoods of inconvenience, isolation and unfriendliness. People are waking up to the need to build towns for people rather than for efficiency and economy.

We hope that you and the citizens of Acton will continue to question new development proposals, to ask whether they will best serve the needs of the people who wish to live in the Town of Acton.

Sincerely,  
Project Planning Associates Ltd.  
D. R. Flood

### More autonomy in schools

## Director predicts free choice program

Autonomy in the schools is a current trend in Halton County schools and one that will continue to increase, Director of Education Jim Singleton predicted in a keynote address to Halton County Secondary School Teachers in Oakville Friday. The teachers had gathered for their annual professional development day.

The director indicated free choice of schools would be one such example of this autonomy. He said within two or three years Halton County students would be able to transfer on request after their first year in a school.

He said students would be responsible for their own transportation and would only be allowed to move after they tried

the school to which they were sent. The number of moves would have to be restricted but from his personal point of view it was perfectly practical.

Want challenge  
He discounted the theory that youngsters would go to the easy school or easy teacher noting that the students would go to the teacher who provided a challenge.

Mr. Singleton explained schools were made autonomous when principals were given power over the operation in the areas of hiring, firing, class size, school organization, innovations, programs and staff organization.

Students benefit  
The director explained the

principal controls the staff and budget for the school. "I don't have to believe in everything that is brought in. If the school and the staff are committed to a program the kids stand to benefit and that's what schools are all about," he told teachers. "In the next three years autonomy will bring different character to different schools," he predicted.

Outlining what must be done to overcome criticism he said people, buildings, materials and finances have to be used more effectively. "We have to apply finances more selectively because we can't be everything for everyone," he noted.

He said the community expects more of the schools than is possible to provide. He said things from sex education to proper tooth care are areas of education carried on in the schools. It would be nice to restrict schools to regular classes

but things have to be done and he saw no other agency to do it, the director commented.

System works well  
Commenting on the county board, the director explained it has operated and is functioning better than anyone had reason to expect. He heaped praise on the board members, administration and teaching staff.

He said rumors about cutting back on teachers is pure nonsense and explained the board had bent that problem when they took their lumps and held the line a year ago.

"Our programs will continue and our staff will remain," he said.

Commenting further on the autonomy of schools the director said "power was best used at the lowest level at which it could be effective." He said everyone was in favor of handling power down to their level and no lower.

We Specialize In  
Floor Covering

• CELENESE CARPETS

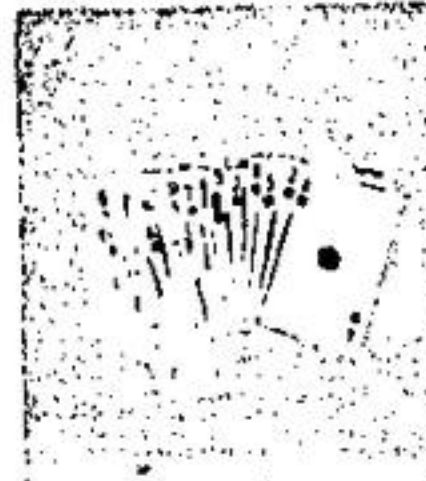
New Samples for '71  
Just arrived

12 Patterns to Choose  
— Celanese Double Play  
— Trilan Bedroom Carpet  
— High Density Flamm Back

• ARMSTRONG  
"VINYL" CORLONS

Free Estimates on  
Flooring Installations

LAKEVIEW  
CENTRE  
853-1190



### Let's Play Bridge

by Bill Coats

The hold up play at no-trump is a well known technique of declarer to cut communication between the opponents. Sometimes it comes in unusual forms and might easily get overlooked. Too many players cannot refuse a free finesse but in the following hand it could cost declarer the contract.

This hand was played at the Acton Bridge Club. East dealt with neither side vulnerable.

NORTH  
S-7 8  
H-K Q 6 3  
D-A 2  
C-K J 6 6 4

WEST  
S-3 10 8 5 4  
H-8 5 4 2  
D-4  
C-10 7 3

EAST  
S-K 9 3  
H-A 10 9  
D-K Q 8 6 5  
C-Q 5

SOUTH  
S-A Q 2  
H-7  
D-10 8 7 3  
C-A 9 2

The bidding:  
1 D Pass WEST NORTH  
Pass 3 N.T. All Pass

Opening lead — Jack of spades.

Only possibility  
East's opening bid is quite normal and it puts South on the spot. In spite of his twelve high card points there is only one call that South can make and that is pass. West lacks sufficient points for a response and passes also. North holds the equivalent of an opening bid, so he makes a take out double. Normally the spade suit should contain at least three cards. However, in the balancing position (after two passes) the requirements for a takeout, double are relaxed. South jumps straight to three no trump since he too holds an opening bid and he has the diamond suit well guarded.

Was listening  
West was listening to the bidding and decided, wisely, not to lead diamonds. The Jack of spades is a good lead and East put up the king. Declarer must guard against reflex action and should duck this trick. East can do little but return a spade.

was well within his rights carrying on the business. In December, council decided to uphold the by-law with legal action if it could be proved there was contravention.

FRED A. HOFFMAN  
Optometrist  
58 St. George's Sq.  
Guelph, Ont.  
Telephone 824-2071

### Withhold further action against TV shop owner

Esqueping Council had decided to have solicitor Terry Baines withhold further action against Paul Rutledge for alleged violation of the township's agricultural holding by-law until the Ontario Municipal Board hands down a decision on the land holding by-law. Mr. Rutledge has been operating a TV repair shop on Highway 25 north of Milton. In a letter to Mr. Baines, Mr. Rutledge's solicitor said his client proposes to sell his place

this summer as a residence. The letter expressed the opinion it would be quite unreasonable for council to take any action now.

First complaint  
William Serafini, a neighbor of Mr. Rutledge, first appeared before council to protest opening of the shop last November. Council passed a resolution to inform the proprietor he must cease operation if he was doing so illegally.

According to councillors establishment of the TV repair business contravenes the township's holding by-law which prevents the use of land for any other use than the one existing.

Reply  
A reply from Mr. Rutledge's solicitor stated the TV business was being carried on before the by-law was in force and since the official plan and zoning by-law were not yet in force the owner

### New DATSUN 1200 Fastback



It's not much money, but it's a whole lot of car!

• 93 MPH performance • up to 40 miles per gallon • disc brakes • flow through ventilation • whitewalls • 2-speed heater/demister • reclining bucket seats • low maintenance costs.  
The more-for-your-money car

\$2170

NORTH END BP  
235 Base Line Rd. Milton  
878-2471

## A-B SUPERMARKET

9 MILL ST. ACTON 853-0650

### FRESH PORK SALE

SHOULDER ROAST	45¢ lb.
BUTT ROAST	49¢ lb.
BUTT CHOPS	59¢ lb.

Swift's Premium SIDE BACON	1 lb. Pkg. 65¢	Schneider's 1 lb. Pkg. RED HOTS	55¢
----------------------------	----------------	---------------------------------	-----

Schneider's — 6 oz. Pkg. — Broken HAM SLICES	45¢	FRESH PRODUCE DAILY	
--	-----	---------------------	--

Black Diamond — 16 oz. Pkg. (Save 20c) Cheese Slices	59¢	Ont. Fancy — 5 lb. Bag MacINTOSH APPLES	59¢
--	-----	---	-----

Chase & Sanborn 6 oz. jar (Save 50c) Instant Coffee	99¢	Ont. No. 1 — 3 lb. Bag COOKING ONIONS	19¢
---	-----	---------------------------------------	-----

Ocean King — Fancy Red (Save 10c) 7 1/2 oz. Tin Sockeye Salmon	59¢	Ont. No. 1 1/2 lb. Bag CARROTS	25¢
--	-----	--------------------------------	-----

Green Giant — 14 oz. Tins (Save 45c) BROWN BEANS	5 FOR \$1	U.S. No. 1 LETTUCE	2 HEADS 47¢
--	-----------	--------------------	-------------

FROZEN FOOD		PRICES EFFECTIVE FEB. 17 - 18 - 19 - 20	
-------------	--	---	--

Old South — 12 oz. Tins Orange Juice	3 FOR \$1	Purina 4 lb. Bag (Save 30c) Liver Dog Chow	69¢
--------------------------------------	-----------	--	-----

Sunshine — 2 lb. Bag French Fries	39¢	Dole — 19 oz. Tins (Save 23c) Fruit Cocktail	3 FOR \$1
-----------------------------------	-----	--	-----------

Blue Water — 8-oz. Pkg. God Fish Krisps	3 FOR \$1	Henley — 32 oz. Jars (Save 47c) Dill Pickles	3 FOR \$1
---	-----------	--	-----------

MORTON — 8 oz. Pkg. POT PIES	4 FOR \$1	Allen's — 48 oz. Tins (Save 22c) Fruit Drinks	3 FOR 89¢
------------------------------	-----------	---	-----------

Silverwood's Deluxe (Req. \$1.50) ICE CREAM	1/2 Gal. 99¢	Delsey — 4 roll Pkg. (Save 22c) Toilet Tissue	57¢
---	--------------	---	-----

Grade "A" LARGE EGGS 2 doz. 75¢