

# Limehouse outhouse elevated to privy council

The outhouse behind the former Gowdy home in Limehouse within a few weeks has been elevated from a derelict, doorless, unused three-seater privy to a pay facility. Next time people see this privy they'll have to pay admission—at Black Creek Pioneer village!

When the Credit Valley Conservation Authority took over the property, on the Black Creek in the village, word of the unique charm of the old outhouse spread around. Donald Webster of the Royal Ontario Museum declared it a classic piece of early Canadiana. His scholarly pronouncement set its age at 130 years (which Limehouseers doubt.).

Russell Cooper, manager of Pioneer Village, also came to admire the structure. And last week, when the Credit Valley Conservation Authority met to decide what to do with the privy, they decided if it's THAT valuable they'd better retain ownership. They'll LEND their outhouse to Pioneer Village.

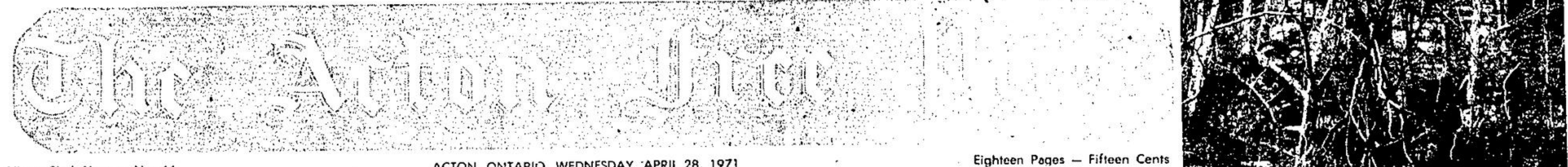
First county seat "Possibly it's the first county seat", suggested one of the authority members. Said another, "Possibly this should be handled by the Privy council." And indeed this small building is not your ordinary, everyday backhouse. It is resplendent with fancy mouldings, front and side windows.

It started life as an elaborately built overdoor, which went over the front door of the Moore and Gowdy house in winter to cut the draughts and cold. One year it went around to the back instead of the front, with a back wall and three seats added to it.

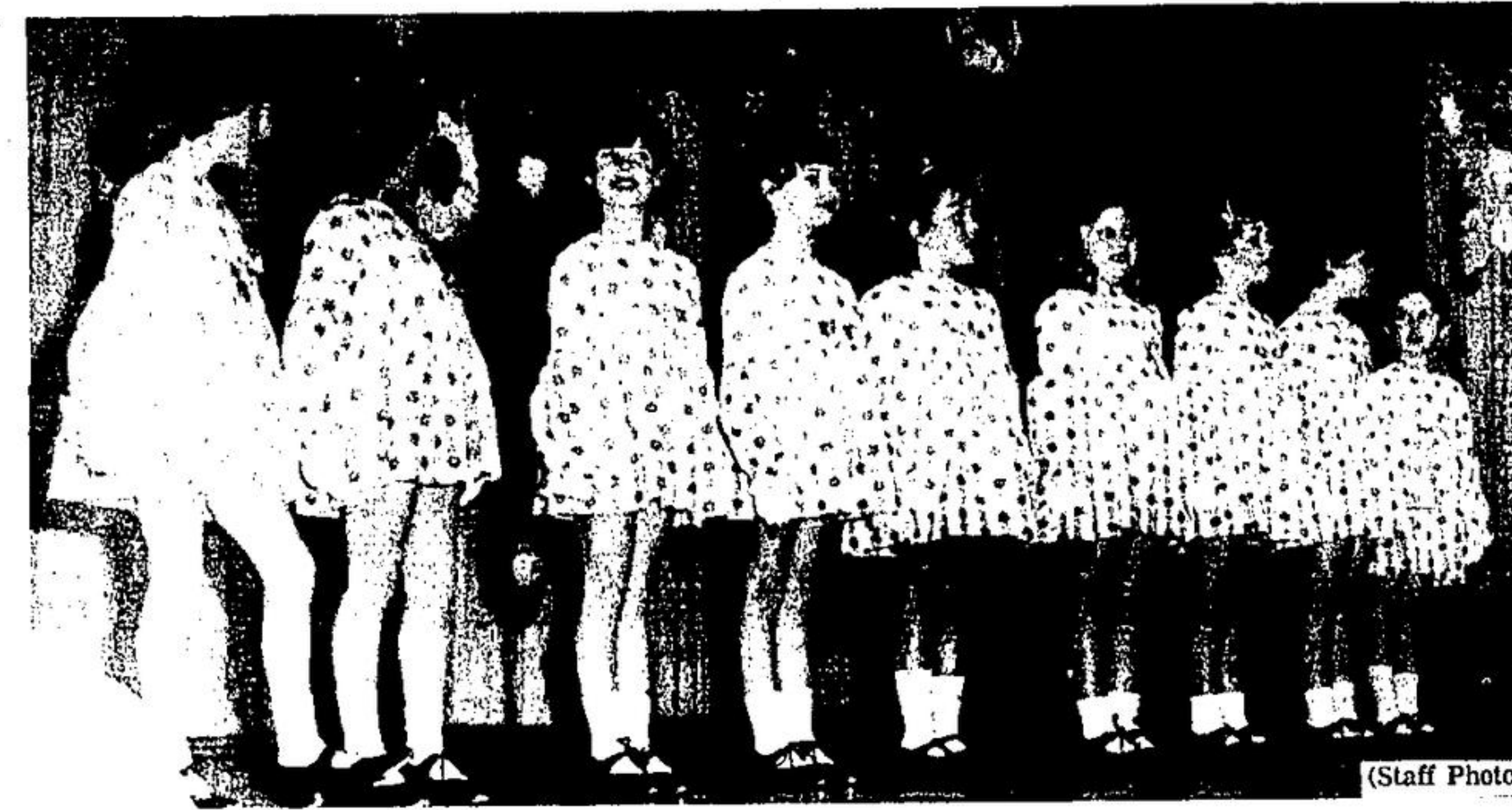
The old Gowdy home, one of the staliest around when it was built in 1871, has been completely demolished in the past few weeks by Stefan Skelin, who lives in the area. And now the outhouse has gone, too... but to better things. The windows broke and were replaced by sheets of plastic. The door is gone; some say it was burned for firewood by local lads. The outhouse hasn't been really operational for 20 years or so, according to neighbors. The house, becoming more and more run down, hadn't been occupied for the past year and a half. The fine old home was built about 1871 by Thomas Gowdy. (Continued on Page 3)



SET KILN proved faster-working when Limehouse was a thriving village. The ruined stonework will be an attraction when the park is opened.—(Staff Photo)



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(Staff Photo)

AND WOULD YOU LIKE TO SWING on a star with these dancers, featured in a second half number at Saturday evening's Springtime show of the Joyce Carpenter Acton School of Dance. Left to right, Tyra McKinnon, Jill Morris, Anita and Susanne Civiero, Martha Grein, Shelley Winters, Tracy Allen, Marina Herrington and Christine Herrington. —

## South power opposed here

Council on Tuesday night followed the action of contemporaries in North Halton communities in opposing the private bill submitted to the Ontario Legislature by the towns of Burlington and Oakville. Under the proposed bill submitted by Burlington and Oakville the representation by these towns on county council would be increased to five members from four and four from Burlington with a total of 18 votes on county council. The northern municipalities would have their number of members remain the same although their voting would total 17 votes.

More power Councillor Marks said it was obvious Burlington and Oakville wanted more power but wondered if there was any other reason for the move by the two towns.

Reeve Oakes said that the two towns had not made a presentation yet to county council. He felt that he must attempt to remain neutral on the subject. He said that the great majority of the population and the assessment were in the south of the county and said it was another replay of the "old record" where the south claims to pay 82 per cent of the costs and should therefore have 82 per cent of the say.

saying we do not want regional government?" Mayor Doby expressed his opinion that if the communities had more representation at county council there would be more lobbying and by the greater numbers more influencing of the committee decisions.

Carry mail Reeve Oakes said "They're getting everything they want and need now. If two members can't carry the mail back and forth to Oakville and Burlington then they need two representatives who can."

Oppose change Council passed a resolution opposing any change in the members and voting structure of county council.

## Water tower doomed

Relocation of the municipal works department from Main St. S. at the water tower to a new site in the industrial park was approved in principle by council at their meeting Tuesday.

The works committee had met with Mr. Berry and Mr. Schmit of Altheo Construction Ltd. and Altheo had agreed to build on land supplied by the town in the industrial park a works building in exchange for ownership of three lots on MAIN ST. S.

Involved in the deal would be the removal of the town works buildings from the present site to the new location with the exception of the brick building. A long-time municipal landmark, the water tower will be torn down.

## Thefts reported

Thefts at both hotels in town were reported to Acton police this week. A resident of the Station Hotel reported items missing from his room, and an employee of the Dominion Hotel reported her purse taken. The purse had no money in it.

## Seek more money for outdoor education

It will cost \$100,000 for outdoor education in Halton County schools if students are to have a good program, a council of teachers told Halton County Board of Education Thursday at the board's regular meeting in Oakville.

Co-chairman of the committee bringing forth the report, Grant Hutchings said in some schools last year the amount granted by the board accounted for only a third of the expenditures. Some schools never spent their budget.

The council asked that the 85c to \$1.25 per pupil limit should be increased to \$1.50 per pupil in kindergarten to grade six, to \$2.50 per pupil in grades seven to 10 and \$3.50 per pupil in grades 11-13.

Hutchings pointed out the \$1.50 limit would allow two in-county experiences while \$2.50 would allow for one additional trip out of the county and with the \$3.50 limit three in-county and one out-county experience could be enjoyed.

The Board was split on a recommendation asking parents to pay part of the expenses on field trips and excursions. Some felt those going on extra trips should be prepared to pay the extra costs.

The council recommended greater use be made of community volunteers and parent drivers. The council noted community volunteers could be helpful in the capacity of supervision and instruction in many cases.

# Mill rate takes plunge in Esquesing township

Esquesing township ratepayers in the Acton and Milton high school areas will pay fewer taxes this year, while those in the Georgetown high school area will pay approximately the same as last year, as a result of the township budget, presented and approved at Monday night's council meeting.

Overall mill rate for Acton area residents (including township, county, public and secondary schools and fire protection levies) is down 2.89 mills, from 63.10 last year to 60.21 this year. Commercial and industrial rate for the Acton area is down 1.48 mills, from 68.93 last year to 67.45 this year.

Milton area ratepayers, assessed for farm and residential properties will welcome an overall decrease of 2.15 mills. Commercial and industrial rate for the same area has decreased .34 mills.

Georgetown same Although the combined township, county, public and secondary school figures up 1.36 mills on farm and residential properties in the Georgetown high school area, fire protection levy for Georgetown fire area No. 1 is down 1.36 mills which produces exactly the same overall rate of 61.14 as last year. Overall commercial and industrial rate for the Georgetown area is up 1.41 mills.

In addition to township, county, school and fire protection levies, residents of the hamlets of Glen Williams, Norval, Stewarttown and Ballinafad are assessed for street lights. Glen Williams and Stewarttown residents face .28 and .17 mill rate increases respectively for lights, while the Norval figure is down .69 mills. In Ballinafad, where street lights were installed only this year, residents will have an additional

4.29 mills tacked on to their overall rate.

Hold line In spite of slight increases in township and county rates, council was able to hold the line mainly because the township's Halton County Board of Education levy took a 4.27 mill plunge this year.

Township residents will also have the provincial government's basic shelter exemption grant deducted from their taxes. Clerk-treasurer Delmar French reports the grant will represent a deduction of anywhere from \$62.48 to \$65.10 for ratepayers, depending on what area they live in.

Taxes in the township are due in four instalments this year. Due dates are May 31, July 15, September 15, and November 15. Penalty for failure to pay taxes by the required dates is 1 per cent on the first day of default and 1 per cent per month for each succeeding month.

## Car, coat missing

Two local people ended the Citizen of the Year dinner-dance by discovering something missing. Tom Manes found his '66 Ford missing, and Bernie Freuder, who plays with the Shaynes, found his trench coat missing from his car.

The car was discovered soon after it was reported taken. North Halton police had located it — damaged — on the ninth line of Esquesing township about 3.45 a.m. with the trench coat inside. Damage to the front end of the car was reported as "heavy". Cons. Paul Brown investigated.

## Recap Esquesing mill rate

	1970 Mill Rate	1971 Mill Rate	Change
<b>TOWNSHIP</b>			
Farm and Residential	10.85	11.56	+ .71
Commercial and Industrial	12.05	14.34	+ 2.29
<b>COUNTY</b>			
Farm and Residential	6.13	6.77	+ .64
Commercial and Industrial	6.13	6.77	+ .64
<b>PUBLIC SCHOOL</b>			
Farm and Residential	25.86	23.88	-1.98
Commercial and Industrial	28.73	26.53	-2.20
<b>SEPARATE SCHOOL</b>			
Farm and Residential	26.84	23.88	-2.96
Commercial and Industrial	29.82	26.53	-3.29
<b>SECONDARY SCHOOL</b>			
ACTON: Farm & Res.	18.73	16.29	-2.44
ACTON: Commercial & Ind.	20.49	18.10	-2.39
MILTON: Farm & Res.	17.48	16.29	-1.19
MILTON: Comm. & Ind.	19.24	18.10	-1.14
<b>GEORGETOWN: Farm &amp; Res.</b>	14.30	16.29	+ 1.99
<b>GEORGETOWN: Comm. &amp; Ind.</b>	16.06	18.10	+ 2.04
<b>FIRE PROTECTION</b>			
Acton	1.53	1.71	+ .18
Georgetown	4.0	2.64	-1.36
Milton	1.40	1.47	+ .07
<b>STREET LIGHTS</b>			
Glen Williams	1.50	1.78	+ .28
Norval	2.50	1.81	-.69
Stewarttown	1.10	1.27	+ .17
Ballinafad	—	4.29	—
<b>OVERALL RATES (County, Township &amp; School)</b>			
Acton High School Area			
Farm & Residential	61.57	58.50	-3.07
Comm. & Indus.	67.40	65.74	-1.66
Milton High School Area			
Farm & Res.	60.32	58.50	-1.82
Comm. & Indus.	66.15	65.74	-.41
Georgetown High School Area			
Farm & Res.	57.14	58.50	+ 1.36
Comm. & Indus.	62.97	65.74	+ 2.77

## Rabid fox attacks dog

Residents of the Town Line between Esquesing and Erin townships are warned to be on the lookout for wild animals acting particularly bold or in an unusual manner.

Mrs. Sally Bowman and her brother, Art Thomson, of R.R. 2, Acton, encountered a rabid fox outside their home Friday morning. They fear there may be other animals affected by the disease in the neighborhood.

The fox, drooping and foaming at the mouth, attacked a neighbor's dog, but escaped when Art took a shot at him with a gun. The dog had to be destroyed. Another neighbor, Roy Brooks, also witnessed the incident.



DAN MCKENNA OF Hillsburgh looks over damage to his 1964 Chevrolet after it and the Toronto-bound passenger train collided at the Mill St. crossing Monday morning. He escaped unhurt, the car was swept aside by the diesel locomotive and ended up at the Mill-

Wallace St. Corner. It was the second car-train smash this week. Wally Gordon struck a CN diesel Saturday at the town dump crossing. He also escaped with shock and minor cuts and bruises.—(Staff Photo)

## No decision on dragway

Esquesing council made no decision Monday night on issue of a license to the Golden Horseshoe Dragway for the 1971 season.

Reeve Tom Hill told Peter Bowman council has not yet come to a final decision, when asked about a possible opening date for the strip. Mr. Bowman told council the public address system at the dragway was operating Saturday.

Charges Mr. Bowman laid against operators of the dragway for alleged violation of the township racing-by-law last year will

be heard in provincial court in Milton, Monday, May 8. Charges of violating the Lord's Day Act are also to be heard the same day.

Council also agreed to answer a letter from Eighth Line resident Charles Hildebrandt asking they withhold issue of a license to new operators of the strip until the Ontario Municipal Board gives its decision on the township's controversial agricultural holding-by-law.

## Start program

The clerk reported to council Tuesday that approval has been received for participation in the provincial-municipal employment-incentive program. Six men will be starting to work on Monday morning on the two jobs proposed by the municipality — grubbing brush from roadsides and ditches for 158 man days and painting town equipment and buildings for 53 man days. Total expenditure is \$4,463.

## Call tenders Highway 25

Tenders are to be called for grading, drainage and granular base on Highway 25, from Acton to Ospringle.

The 5.9 miles of road will also require a special design culvert to bridge the Eramosa River where it crosses the highway, one mile south of Ospringle, M.P.P. John Root advises the Free Press. Clearing of the road has just been completed.

## Two motorists challenge trains—lose!

Two car-train collisions in one week sets an unenviable record for Acton. Fortunately, neither driver was injured, although the damage to two cars and two locomotives reaches up into the thousands of dollars.

The first car-train collision occurred Saturday morning when Wallace Gordon, 162 Churchill Rd. N., was driving alone out of Acton dump. He was severely shaken up and was taken to Guelph General hospital by Milton ambulance, but no serious injuries resulted.

His 1970 Chev had estimated \$3,000 damages—verging on a total wreck. And the damage to the train was set at \$1,000 by investigating officer Cons. Terry Devine.

Spectators soon gathered at the scene of the nine o'clock crash fearing a tragedy as Mr. Gordon was taken, pale and shocked, from his smashed car. He is returning home from hospital today (Wednesday).

The crossing by the dump has no signals. No charge was laid. Again on Monday morning nearby motorists and pedestrians were shocked to see a collision between a car and the morning eastbound passenger train at the Mill east crossing. The driver of the car, Daniel McKenna of Hillsburgh, left his crumpled 1964 Chev with no injuries.

Acton Cons. Paul Brown set damage at his car at \$1,000 with \$200 to the diesel engine. The engine with its three passenger cars, stopped after the accident.

Mr. McKenna told the Free Press he was unaware of the train until he was hit in the front end and knocked to the Wallace St. corner.