

OUR READERS WRITE:

60% oppose water, sewer proposals

Rockwood, Ontario.
April 26, 1971.
The Editor,
Acton Free Press.
Dear Sir:

I wonder if the article on page B-5 of the April 21 issue of the Free Press is a report or an editorial. I have been warning my neighbors that not to object in writing might be construed as being in favor of any cost. Your reporter appears to actually subscribe to that approach. Considering the type of society we live in today, where most of us never write much more than the signatures on our cheques, a legal notice, (hard to understand at the best of times) asking for objections in writing seems hardly a fair method to get an indication of public opinion.

How many people, I wonder, would actually have written to indicate their support, if asked for at the bottom of the same legal notice? I see no need to distinguish between signed form letters of objection and handwritten ones. If anyone thought that the people of Rockwood who did sign such a (plainly worded) letter were not fully aware what they were doing, it would by the same argument follow that they were certainly not able to fully understand the intent or the implications of complex legal notices published for their benefit.

The arithmetic in the last paragraph puzzles me. Even if FULLY HALF, that is 108 out of the 216 were from husbands and wives individually, they would account for 54 objections and added to the other half (108) would add up to 162. Since your article states "fewer than half" that figure would actually be higher.

I trust that you agree with me that first of all that is MORE and not "LESS than 50 per cent of 291 domestic families", and secondly that that percentage is indeed NOT "in compliance with village and township requests."

In addition to this, the 291 families quoted breaks down as follows: Approximately 260 ratepayer residents; approximately 30 tenants, if we guess there to be 10 non-resident owners of vacant lots, the total number of ratepayers would be approximately 270. Out of that total, 162 objections were received or at least 60 per cent.

In the interest of accurate reporting I am sure you will confirm and correct these simple facts and calculations.

As to the suggestion by other publications—as noted in your editorial of the same date—that we are against modernization, I appreciate your comments and would like to add the following:

We are not against modernization, on the contrary we are in favor of it. However, let us compare this costly project with a heart transplant. Considered bold, pioneering and promising at first, but no longer performed. Do we want major surgery on our village to

cure the effects of our ailments or do we wish to eliminate the cause? Perhaps the patient would eventually succumb anyway to the after effects or to complications.

A solution proposed in the sixties does perhaps not meet the requirements of the seventies and I suggest that we should take a more basic and relevant approach to this problem.

Let us consider this for a moment: Sewage systems are old fashioned. They are wasters of our good clean water. We pay dearly for clean water, increasingly hard to get, make a mess of it (very easy), try to clean it up (very difficult and expensive), discharge the once beautiful clean water, which has now become something called "effluent" into the nearest convenient river. It might have been a good idea when we first thought of it, but in 1971 it stinks.

Our thinking must change. How? Consider for example how we clean our toilets with maniacal zeal as if our lives depended on it; instead of using 3 1/2 gallons of water to flush the toilet we should use perhaps a quart (of recycled effluent?), (and perhaps a pint to clean ourselves); the Chinese for instance consider us to be barbarians in this respect.

By drastically reducing water consumption and taking advantage of the best and latest in home-septic-system technology we would hopefully begin restoring the potability of our ground water. This together with proper well maintenance and — in extreme cases — the use of chlorinators would be a great step in the right direction.

All these measures may have to be enacted as by-laws and enforced by inspection, and perhaps financially assisted by the province, but they would still be a lot easier to live with than the financial burden imposed by the proposed water and sewer systems.

Now let's not shrug it off and say: "Well, all that is impossible to change now." Only a few years ago we thought many present day concepts, techniques and indeed customs impossible.

Let's make a start at change in Rockwood.

Sincerely,
M. C. Schuller

Editor's note—The Free Press checked figures with village treasurer C. F. O'Brien and township clerk Lloyd Hindley and they agree our percentages were correct based on the figures released last week. However, a further check of letters indicated there were 199 letters of objection from Rockwood residents — 68 of them from individuals and 131 form letters—not the 216 first announced. These represent approximately 130 out of about 280 village households or a little better than 46 per cent. Apparently we accorded objectors more support, not less.



MRS. HELEN SINCLAIR serves a second piece of her homemade cake to Mrs. Myra Pearce during a meeting of volunteer ladies at the Eden Mills Nursing home. —(Photo by Lorraine)



LADIES DISCUSS the possibility of an Eden House Auxiliary and make plans for a regular program. Seen enjoying coffee around the table in the Eden House Craft room are: Mrs. S. Drijber, Mrs. J. Pearce, Mrs. D. Sinclair of Rockwood and Mrs. Ralph Thomson, Mrs. E. G. Jennings and Mrs. Robert Wright of Eden Mills. —(Photo by Lorraine)

Consider brief

The Eramosa Township Council and Planning Board met last Monday evening at the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building to discuss a brief to present to the Guelph Wellington Area Study Committee on the concepts of regional government.

Councillor Strong had prepared a brief which was analysed by the members present and it was decided that the clerk would

submit a brief to the committee stating that the Eramosa Township Council and Planning Board have concluded that their present form of government in the municipality is the most efficient and economical to the inhabitants of Eramosa.

POLLOCK AND CAMPBELL

Manufacturers of
High Grade Memorials
Memorial Engraving
Telephone
621-7580
GALT
62 Water St. North

Women's Auxiliary for nursing home

There was a birth at the Eden Mills Nursing home last Wednesday evening when 19 ladies congregated in the craft room to make plans and selected a committee which will serve in the capacity of a women's auxiliary group in conjunction with the needs of the residents.

It was a spirited and witty meeting during which constructive and worthwhile ideas were discussed, all pertaining to the necessity of organized programming for the elderly residents.

Enthusiasm evident

Card games, outings including country drives, picnics and department store visiting, as well as afternoon visit at people's homes; small outdoor fairs which could be held on the lawn of the nursing home property, outdoor church services, and many such stimulating thoughts were bandied about with enthusiasm. Mrs. Davidson, the supervisor, was pleased with the fervor of the group and felt that it would do a great deal for the residents to know that there would be organized activities which they could look forward to.

"There is such a need for individual visiting," said one lady who already was fitting a regular visit day to Eden House into her busy schedule of activities. "Just to bring the outside in and help the ladies and gentlemen at the home feel as if they are part of the community," said Mrs. Davidson, and she mentioned that one particular lady would love to be taken to a church service and, although some of the committee queried as to what problems could present themselves if drivers were able to take residents for short trips, the capable supervisor assured

them that only those people well enough for such activities would be allowed to go.

From churches

The ladies present at the meeting were members of a group which had been spearheaded by Mrs. Helen Sinclair approximately a year ago and consisted mainly of representatives from the various churches in Rockwood and Eden Mills. Their duties to date had been mostly comprised of visiting with a few innovations included.

Helen Sinclair felt there had been enough interest shown to present the idea of an organized auxiliary which could set up a more regular and varied program for the Eden residents which was the reason, for last Wednesday night's meeting.

Representatives

Representatives from the Eden Mills United Church were there including Mrs. Ralph Thomson and Mrs. E. G. Jennings; Mrs. E. Duffield of R. B. 1, Guelph, was there from Stone United Church; Eden Mills Presbyterian Church had Mrs. Don Blacklock, Mrs. J. E. Burden, Mrs. Robert Wright and Mrs. George Weale; Rockwood and Oustic Sacred Heart representatives included Mrs. Joy Halburton and Mrs. Marjory Saunders; Mrs. John Pearce, Mrs. Drijber and Mrs. W. Guild were present from the Rockwood United; Mrs. Helen Sinclair represented the Rockwood Presbyterian Church and Mrs. Lorraine Root attended for the St. John's Anglican church ladies.

Although at the present time the members would seem to be those with local church affiliations it was the general

feeling of the assemblage that other members of the communities should be included thus providing greater possibility of achievement and success with larger scope of assistance. Mrs. Anne Godfrey, the former director of volunteers for the Wellington Centre Branch of the Canadian Mental Health Association, also attended the meeting. She congratulated the ladies present on their endeavour saying that she was delighted to see that such a large group had managed to preserve and stay interested in conducting the Eden House's program.

New director

Mrs. Godfrey had previously attended a meeting with the same ladies and was pleased to find that their enthusiasm for the project had not waned. Mrs. L. Woodstock, the newly appointed director of the C.M.H.A. volunteer visitors, was also present and she gave her rendition of what would be required and how auxiliary groups in other areas operated.

A committee was then formed including Mrs. George Weale and Mrs. J. E. Burden, both of Eden Mills, Mrs. Joy Halburton, of R. B. 1, Rockwood, and Mrs. Burton Hill, of Rockwood. The newly formed auxiliary executive will meet soon to set up a regularly scheduled program and to elect their chairman.

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

Flood worry now over on Grand

The "worry-season" is about over for Grand River Conservation Authority officials.

This year's weather has been favorable for residents living close to the Grand River and they—and authority staff—can stop worrying about floods.

Flood potential was there—the water content in the snow, both in controlled and uncontrolled areas, was the highest in 11 years—but alternating periods of thawing and cooling allowed for run-off from melting snow while keeping peaks below flood levels.

Mr. Kao and his staff began their annual flood worrying in February this year. The total snowfall measured at the Shand Dam up to the end of February was 89.3 inches—second highest since 1943. The record high for the same period was 92 inches in 1947.

Everything depended on the weather. During a flood warning issued in March Mr. Kao said if heavy rainfall should occur during the "breakup" period, medium to heavy flooding could be expected along the main rivers.

During the flood alert about a dozen Authority staff members went on 24-hour call and carried out special "flood inspections" of dams and waterways.

During the summer months, Mr. Kao and his staff will be watching something else—water levels in the reservoirs.

Dams are used in flood control in the spring but in summer the water they hold back is used to augment the flow in the Grand and Conestogo Rivers. Without this additional flow, the river levels would be too low in dry months to dilute effluent from watershed municipalities. Reservoirs are full now and some of the water will be released at the end of the month.

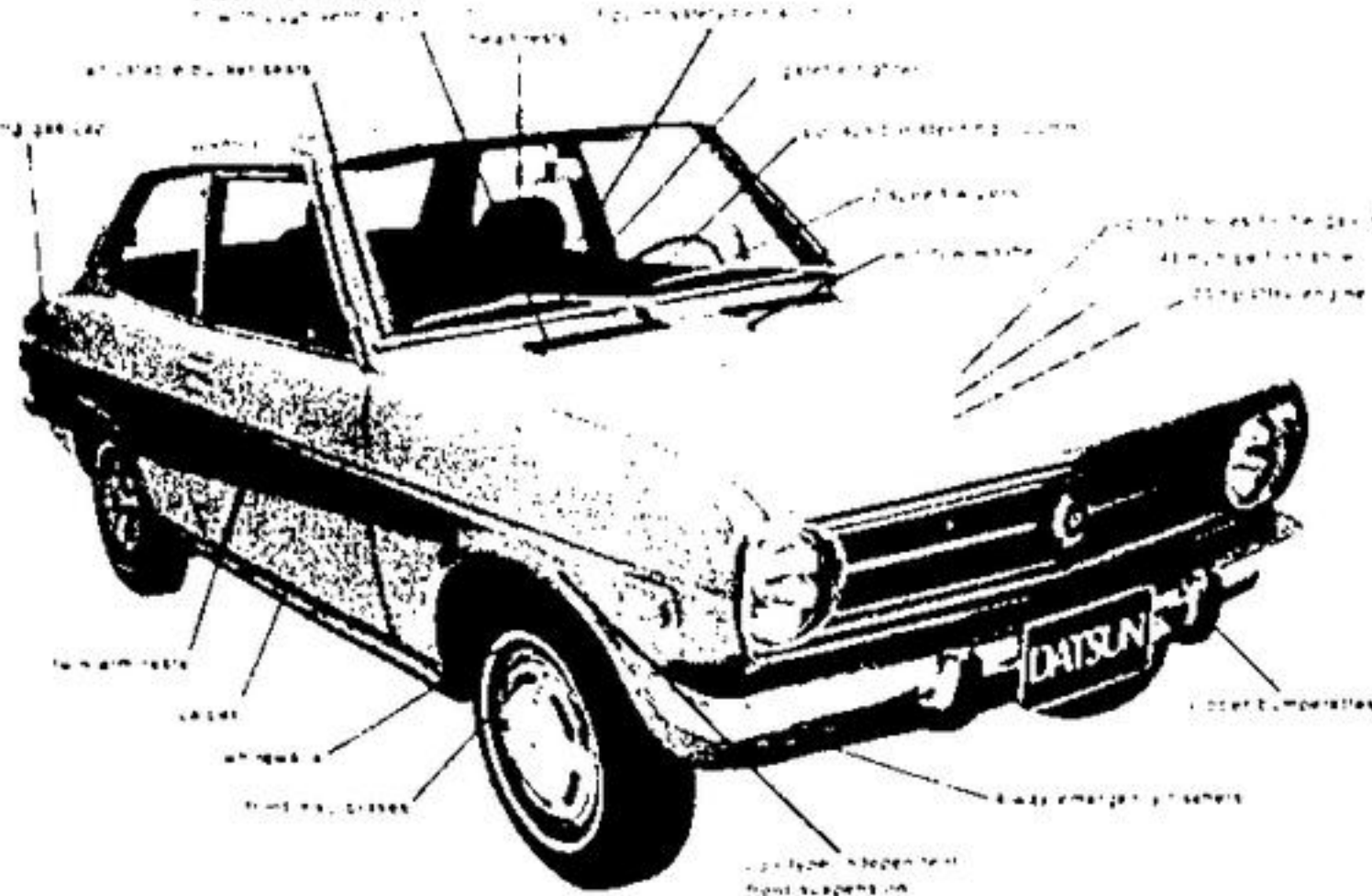
Ready for the road

THE ALL NEW

DATSUN 1200

at NORTH END B. P. MILTON

it's loaded with no-extra-cost extras



and it only costs **\$1975.00**

This is Datsun's newest economy car. A sharp-looking 2-door that's big on the inside but small on the outside. It carries four adults easily and you can park it anywhere. Zippy 93 MPH

COMPLETE performance... up to 35 miles from a gallon... and all the extras are standard equipment. New Datsun 1200 - it just gives you more for your money than any other small car. It's a fact.

Test drive Datsun at
NORTH END B. P.
DATSUN SALES & SERVICE



235 BASE LINE ROAD

MILTON

878-2471

OPEN DAILY 7-9 SUNDAYS 9-7

A-B SUPERMARKET

9 MILL ST. ACTON 853-0650

MEAT DEPARTMENT SPECIALS

CANADA NO. 1
LOIN PORK CHOPS 59¢ LB.
BROWN 'N SERVE CHOPS 79¢ LB.

Schneider's — 6 oz. Pkg.
HAM SLICES 45¢

Schneider's — Jumbo
BOLOGNA RINGS 65¢ LB.

Schneider's 2 Pie Pkg.
Beef
Chicken
Pork
MEAT PIES 2 FOR 79¢

Towne Club Sliced — 1 lb. Pkg.
SIDE BACON 59¢ LB.

Monarch — 7 lb. Bag (Save 24c)
PASTRY FLOUR 69¢

FRESH PRODUCE DAILY

Aylmer — 19 oz. Tins (Save 29c)
Apple Pie Filler 3 FOR \$1

U. S. No. 1
LETTUCE 29¢

Allens—48 OZ. Tins (Save 29c)
APPLE JUICE 3 FOR \$1

U.S. NO. 1—Florida
Juice Oranges 59¢ Doz.

Maxwell House—10 Oz. Jar (Save 54c)
INSTANT COFFEE \$1.65

Ont. No. 1 — 5 lb. Bag
Spy Apples 69¢

Crisco—38 Oz. Bottle (Save 32c)
COOKING OIL 99¢

Cabana
BANANAS 25¢

Nestles 1-lb. Tin (Save 26c)
Strawberry Quik 39¢

PRICES EFFECTIVE APRIL 28-29-30-May 1
Scotia' Gold—14 Oz. Tins (Save 33c)
Apple Sauce 7 FOR \$1

Head & Shoulders (Save 36c)
SHAMPOO Reg. Size 99¢

Chenoy—15 Oz. Jars—(Save 23c)
DILL PICKLES 3 FOR \$1

Procter & Gamble—12 Oz. Bottles (Save 50c)
SCOPE Mouth Wash 99¢

Aylmer—10 Oz. Tins—(Save 37c)
CUT
GREEN
BEANS 7 FOR \$1

Jello—Straw—Vanilla 5 1/2 Oz. (Save 47c)
Instant Pudding 6 FOR \$1

Heinz—11 Oz. Bottles
Save 32c
KETCHUP 4 FOR \$1

SPECIAL Christies — 12 oz. Loaf Raisin Bread 3 For \$1