



FATHER V. J. Morgan celebrated his 30th anniversary as pastor of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Sunday May 9, Mother's Day. Father Morgan's huge St. Bernard, "Harmony" is a friend to all who visit the rectory. —(Staff Photo).

Father Morgan pastor 30 years at St. Joseph's

Thirty years as pastor of St. Joseph's Church, Acton, is the outstanding record of Father V. J. Morgan, veteran of all Acton clergymen, has chanced upon. Father Morgan celebrated his first mass in Acton, on Mother's Day, Sunday May 10, 1941, after arriving in town two days earlier from Linwood, where he previously had charge of parishes in Linwood, Macton and Elmira for 19 years. His 30 years in Acton surpass the total service of his five predecessors, Father McBride, Father McCreavy, Father Goodrow, Father Doyle and Father Traynor. Thursday, June 10 will also mark the 49th anniversary of Father Morgan's ordination to the priesthood. In addition to his duties as pastor of St. Joseph's, Father Morgan was also in charge of Holy Cross Church, Georgetown, a mission of St. Joseph's, from 1941 until 1956. Then the Capuchin Fathers took it over.

Many changes
During his pastorate, the church, rectory and cemetery at Dublin have undergone several major improvements. "When I came to Acton, the roof of the church leaked in three places," Father Morgan recalls with a smile. "I had to have the roof shingled and the attic air-conditioned and insulated." Father Morgan attributes other improvements, such as re-decorating the interior of the church three times, installation of a larger gallery and new pews and erection of a mausoleum at the cemetery to the generosity of "oldtime parishioners".

Fond memories
Although he says the size of the congregation hasn't grown

tremendously in 30 years, Father has fond memories of parishioners he has served. Many who served him as altar boys are now adult parishioners. "When they first started as altar boys, some of them were so short they couldn't reach the altar to move the missal," he remembers. Miss Bernadette Whelan, whom he describes as a "wonderful housekeeper" has looked after his material needs for 20 years. Always fond of animals, Father Morgan's constant companion around the rectory is his huge, lovable St. Bernard "Harmony", who quickly makes friends with all visitors. His many friends of all denominations join with the Free Press in extending Father Morgan congratulations.

Teachers eye settlement

An attempt will be made to settle a contract for Halton County Secondary School Teachers when the teachers' committee and the negotiating committee representing the Board meet this week. Past President of Halton Division of OSSTF Paul Martindale said the teachers were "very disappointed" in the last offer but he hoped the situation could be resolved without a confrontation. The last offer contained pay raises of seven per cent but the teachers want the raises increased, more money spent in audio-visual equipment and additional secretaries hired.

Acton man's first novel published last week

James Henderson an Acton man who doubles as an author when he isn't coordinating language arts for the Halton County Board of Education, had his first novel published last week. Reviews are calling it as "pre-emptive and patent an entertainment as you'll find along these lines". The novel is titled Copperhead and it is about biological warfare with the setting in Canada. The book is published by Alfred A. Knopf Inc. and Random House of Canada. Since 1959, Henderson has taught school in British Columbia and Ontario, written and edited text books, and produced radio and television programs for the CBC and the Ontario Department of Education. He now lives at R.R. 4, Acton, on the Fourth Line, on property formerly owned by Mr. and Mrs. Ken Holman.

Discouraging word
Henderson finished his first novel despite a discouraging report received on the synopsis he sent to the Canadian publisher. Then he approached the Knopf group in New York which snapped it up. "Copperhead" took about two years to write, mostly on evenings and weekends when the author wasn't tied up with other tasks. A major part was also written last summer when he spent six weeks on a Caribbean island just writing. His first full length novel, it is not

Henderson's first book, however since he has a number of published books in English and language arts. **Spy thriller**
Copperhead is a spy thriller which zooms in on Montreal where international intrigue explodes in a sequence of suspense, blood, action and sex. "In fact," says one reviewer, "the mixture is so lively and contemporary that one can't picture the Halton County Board of Education, which employs Henderson, allowing his book into school libraries." Briefly the tale centres around David Sohm, a Canadian intelligence agent and his efforts to crack a ring of enemy agents carrying in their bodies a deadly plague which they can release at any time as part of a co-ordinated biological attack.

Lack trust
Although the plot is discovered in Canada and the bulk of the action centres here and in the Barbados, the fact that other agents have infiltrated Europe and the U.S. brings British and American intelligence agents into the picture as well. The book builds a strong minor theme around their inability to co-operate with or trust each other because each feels, the others are less competent. Finally the ring is cracked and the double agent rendered harmless, not because of anything Sohm or the Canadians have done, but through the efforts of British counter-intelligence.

Council flexes muscle but deputy doesn't scare

The words "instruct" and "request" alone do not stir up much comment but they were part of a lively debate over a resolution at Acton council last Tuesday. Emanating from the administration committee, the resolution suggested that Acton representatives to county council be "instructed" to vote in favor of Acton's position against the private bill before the provincial Legislature to change representation at county council. The bill, sponsored by Oakville and Burlington, has designs on more power for the south of the county. The resolution passed after the word "request" was substituted for "instruct" but not before some strong words were bandied around. Deputy-reeve Garnet McKenzie viewed the motion with jaundiced eye, warning council they had "better get themselves another boy" if they persisted in dictating to the town's representatives at county council. "What prompted the suspicion we wouldn't vote with the council, anyway?" he asked. "We thought you might break

ranks and we were reluctant to send you down without flexing a bit of muscle," declared Councillor Peter Marks. If this was your intention, replied the deputy-reeve, then it would only be fair to tell you "I don't scare easily". As far as Councillor Earl Masales is concerned there was no way council could dictate to county council representatives. They were there as independents, he felt and "we can't compel them to vote." But Mayor Les Doby felt the motion was being misconstrued. He took the position that this was more than a normal internal matter and council should take a strong position, which in turn should be protected. "We'd be a sick council if we relinquished our position," he declared. **Logic—not dictation**
McKenzie said he was asking for logic, not muscle or dictation, when he asked to have Acton's position clarified at a recent committee meeting. Undecided about the Acton position, he wanted information so the town's case could be buttressed by sound thinking, not sentiment which he

could easily supply. Councillor Norm Elliott, who helped write the resolution along with Councillor Bill Coats, said the committee realized the motion detracts from the right to vote independently but they considered the matter serious and felt some direction was needed. "We could make all the decisions we want but if there are no directions to our representatives, it would all be to no avail," he said. "It is conceivable the deputy-reeve could even vote with Burlington and Oakville but support the Acton position," Elliott suggested. **Tied down**
"I never saw anyone tied down like this before," answered the deputy-reeve, asserting he must vote as he saw fit. "He's a man of good judgment," declared Reeve Frank Oakes, suggesting the deputy-reeve needed no instructions on the way to vote. The reeve, who has declared strong opposition to the Burlington-Oakville bill, felt the resolution should be accepted on

its face value and not misconstrued as policy for future incidents, but Councillor Peter Marks lined up on the other side of the fence. Marks said the resolution would set a precedent. The reeve declared it was a "one shot deal". After considerable more discussion less-aligned councillors suggested the wording of the resolution should be changed with the word "request" inserted where it said "instruct" hoping this would make the motion more palatable to those against. Marks, an advocate of representation by population, declared he would vote against the resolution in spite of the change. Elliott, who conceded Burlington and Oakville bear the lion's share of the county's tax burden, could see no reason for a change in the present system. "There's been no breakdown in the system—why the change?" he asked. The reworded resolution passed by a narrow 5-4 margin when it came to the vote. McKenzie, Marks, Greer, Chapman voted against it.



AUCTIONEER Jack Holmes tests his tonsils as Acton Y's Men staged a successful auction behind the Y.M.C.A. Saturday afternoon. Perfect weather attracted a large crowd. —(Staff Photo)

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Ask separation fee increase

Esqueuing Committee of Adjustment is asking the township council to raise fees required for obtaining land separations. A motion, passed at a recent committee meeting recommended separation fee increases of \$700 for family transactions if the land is sold within a five year period from the date of separation, and \$200 for all other separations. If approved by council, the increases would boost fees to \$1,000 and \$500 respectively. Present separation fee is \$300.

Committee of Adjustment members Denny Charles and Tom Van Sickle told council Monday night the \$700 increase was recommended as a possible deterrent to persons using family transactions to circumvent separations. Mr. Van Sickle told council some persons are abusing the present system. "It might make them think twice," he said. Council promised to give the matter serious consideration and try to have an answer by June 10.

Strict riders toughen up Esqueuing racing by-law

Esqueuing Council has repealed its previous by-law, regulating the licensing and racing of motor vehicles in the township and replaced it with a new one. Under the new by-law, racing shall be limited to no more than three race meets per calendar week and confined to the following hours.

- (1) In the month of May, Fridays after Victoria Day, 3 p.m. - 11.30 p.m., Saturdays after Victoria Day, 1.30 p.m. - 7.30 p.m.
- (2) In the months of June, July and August, Monday to Thursday inclusive, 2.30 p.m. - 10.30 p.m. Friday to Saturday inclusive, 3 p.m. - 11.30 p.m.
- (3) In the months of September and October, Friday to Saturday inclusive, 3 p.m. - 11.30 p.m.
- (4) Racing will be permitted from 1.30 p.m. - 7.30 p.m. on the five major holidays, Victoria Day, Dominion Day, Civic Holiday, Labour Day and Thanksgiving Day.

Strict riders
Strict riders have also been added to the by-law by this year's council. Gates to any track may not be opened more than two hours before the start of racing and engines may not be operated more than 30 minutes prior to the start of racing. Lights, used for the purpose of lighting any race track, shall not be illuminated for more than a period of 15 minutes following the last race of the night or the end of racing hours, whichever comes first. In addition, no camping or use of house trailers shall be allowed on the grounds of any track. Penalty for breach of the by-law is a fine not exceeding the sum of \$300, however, each day the breach continues shall be deemed to be a separate offence. Racetracks shall be divided into three categories, unlimited track, drag strip or straightaway track and motorcycle track. License fee for unlimited tracks will be \$1,500, for drag strips \$1,000 and for motorcycle tracks \$2,500. Licenses shall be issued for one calendar year only. Application for a new license must be made at least one month

prior to the start of racing in any year. **Same says Bowman**
Asked by the Free Press following Monday night's council meeting what he thought about the new by-law Peter Bowman a constant critic of the Golden Horseshoe Dragway, now known as Toronto International Dragway, replied "It's basically the same as last year." Reeve Tom Hill disagreed. "We spent a lot of time on that by-law and I thought it was a lot different than last year," he remarked. Mr. Bowman also told the Free Press charges he laid against operators of the dragway for

all ged violation of the old racing by-law last year were all dismissed in provincial court, Monday May 10. Earlier in the meeting, council decided to have building inspector Tom McLean investigate a report an addition to one of buildings at the dragway is being made without a building permit.

Police week said success

The officers of the Acton Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police worked a total of 232 hours and patrolled 907 miles during the reporting week of May 9 to May 16. A total of five general occurrences were investigated. The officers laid two charges under the Liquor Control Act and issued six warnings for violations of the Highway Traffic Act. There was only one motor vehicle accident investigated during the week. The investigating officer estimated the damage \$1,250. One of the drivers involved was charged with careless driving. In Provincial Court on May 10 and May 13, a total of ten

convictions were registered. Fines totalling \$298, were levied. **Big success**
The officers of the Acton Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police, would like to take this opportunity to thank all those boys, girls and adults who attended the police office, during "Police Week". "Police Week" proved to be a big success here in Acton. Visiting officers from other detachments commented on how well the function was received. It has been said that the Acton Detachment had the largest turnout within the district. Once again a word of thanks to those citizens who attended.

Prov. Const. Paul Brown.

OPP promise to curb speeders

In a letter to Esqueuing Council, Milton OPP have promised to make every effort to curb vehicles speeding along the township's designated truck route, Fourth Line and 17 Sideroad. Radar equipment will be set up in the area when available, the letter said. The letter was in reply to a request council made to the Milton detachment, on behalf of ratepayers who live along the route. Ratepayers have continually charged trucks travelling the route exceed the speed limit and endanger the welfare of their children. Council decided to send a copy of the OPP letter to Mrs. A. J. Markham, who represents the 17 Sideroad group. Commenting on his crew's work on 17 Sideroad recently, roads superintendent C. E. "Bud" Snow remarked "They're not as worried about the police now as they are the dust."

County representation

(Continued from Page 1)
running education system. "When you consider regional planning or regional government I hope you consider the past. We are subsidizing someone in Halton for education taxes now to the extent that we pay twice what we did before and in welfare 10 times what we did before," McMillan said. Milton Reeve Ron Harris said county council would have to look at change or be changed. If Halton becomes a regional unit we'll have to accept something along the lines of regional government, he added. "The school has done this and are doing a great job. I hope that we can give up the parochial approach as they did," he noted.

20,000 turkeys perish

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the farm, owned by Sam Liebowicz of Toronto. Wreny firefighters saw dawn break and by the time hoses were hunk and other necessary chores performed it was 6.30 a.m. before they returned home. Many had to work Saturday and others planned trips which were postponed until they caught some rest. They were summoned again early Monday morning when fire broke out in a barrel of leather chips behind the plant of Frank Heller and Co. on Willow St. A neighbor Allan Holmes, reported the blaze when his Husky dogs became alarmed. He threw water on flames until firefighters arrived. They quickly extinguished flames.

Taken home

On May 15, an area man, found lying drunk in a ditch in Acton was returned home. He will be summonsed. Treat every gun as if it were loaded.

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J. T. Hurst-Clerk Administrator

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