Grand Jury urges new county jail

Halton's antiquated county jail . must be replaced as soon as possible, members of the Grand Jury reported to the justice in charge of Supreme Court sittings after an inspection tour last

Grand Jury pleas for a new jail are a regular event in Halton the century-old jail is slated to be replaced by the new Maplehurst regional detention centre to be built in Milton. Jurists found the jail staff "doing an excellent job under extremely difficult conditions."

More guards

They urged that five staff members be added at the jail, to give prisoners more recreation than the one hour per day allowed, and to correct a situation where one guard is alone inside the cell area. They also found library facilities "inadequate" and called for a wider range of reading materials

The jury found no fault with the county administration building, which they also toured.

To Pakistan

Unitarian Service committee has been asked to send aid to Pakistan. Mrs. Jensen, Poplar St., collects locally for this agency.

Come meet your friends at . . .

ACTON FALL FAIR Sept. 17-18

ADMISSION PRICES

FRIDAY EVENING

Admission to Grounds and Arena Adults \$1.00 Students 75c Children under 12 50c

Adults \$1.00 Students 75c P.S. Pupils Free Friday, Sept. 17th

PARADE & VARIETY CONCERT PARADE BEGINS AT 7 P.M. VARIETY CONCERT AT 8 P.M.

FEATURING OUTSTANDING Professional Talent Zena Cheevers, M.C. & Versatile Entertainer; Maurice Beaulieu, Banjo Player: Marie Andre, Song Stylist; Bill Davis, Comedy Ventriloguist; Nancy McCalg, Accordionist & Entertainer; Tramp Champs, Trampoline Act; Art Snider and Drums.

CROWNING OF MISS ACTON FAIR Saturday, Sept. 18th

-Gigantic Parade -Old Tyme Fiddlers' Contest -Baby Show -Horse & Cattle Show -Midway -Golden Helmets Precision 'Ride -Commercial

> FAIR NIGHT DANCE IN THE ARENA AT 8.30 P.M.





VISITORS TO THE MOUNTSBERG Game Preserve can't bashful Buffalo, fabled bison of the Halton Region other animals and fowl at the preserve. —(Staff Photos)

help but be impressed with the antlered elk and Bobby the Conservation Authority. They are on display with several The Acton Free Press

Ninety-Seventh Year. - No. 12

ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1971

Second Section

Annual bird migration

Mountsberg Preserve place to view exodus

Wondering where to go on your day off or on a weekend?

Try the Mountsberg Wildlife

Preserve, about four miles west of Campbellville. It has a zoo, a nature trail, a

500-acre lake where flocks of ducks and geese are already preparing for the long flight south for the winter. Eat a picnic lunch lunch while you view the there already hundreds of ducks

waterfowl coming and going. resting along the lakeshore. The Maintained by the Halton Region Conservation Authority as a major wildlife and waterfowl habitat, the Mountsberg Wildlife Preserve provides excellent observation of flocks as they feed and rest overnight.

evening along the edges of the To aid bird watchers a roofed observation tower is almost completed about 500 yards from

Fowl numbers

is not fully underway until the

middle or end of September,

and 60 to 80 Great Blue Herons

birds are best observed in the

Although the annual migration

the game farm buildings. working in an Environmental Enhancement Program) have been building nesting islands, platforms covered with hay and planted with vegetation. These islands provide suitable habitat and encourage nesting along the reservoir.

Last year there were two pairs of geese nesting at the lake but this year the number is up to four. with 24 young birds. Twenty young birds released in 1967 have subsequently mated with wild geese and flocks of Canada Geese have been reported in the private ponds surrounding Mountsberg.

However, it isn't only the lake and its inhabitants which attracts visitors to the Mountsberg farm.

Clothes rack

In pens alongside a solid looking stone home and large barn, there are two elk, a male with a rack of horns that would almost hold a ladies' wardrobe and a gentle looking female. There's also a Holstein cow in the enclosure with the star of the preserve-Bashful Bobby, the bull Buffalo who has proved his worth by siring many baby

buffalos. When this reporter visited the farm last week, Bashful Bobby was in a benevolent mood as he fed in a hay rack alongside the wire fence which separates the people from the animals. He let the newsman reach in and stroke his wooly forchead, tossing his head fretfully only when the rubbing stopped.

The 1,120 acres of the Mountsberg preserve also has sheep, deer, goats, partridge, peafowl, ducks, turtles, rabbits and about 250 pheasants of every variety to interest children and

Wildlife manager Frank Timmerman, a gentle man with the birds and animals under his care, hopes to hatch about 2,000 pheasant eggs next year. The chicks will be given to people in the area of the conservation authority interested in feeding and raising birds until they mate. Nature trail

No visit to the Mountsberg preserve is complete without walking along the nature trail. There's an explanatory felder for visitors intended as a guide along the trail which winds through

groves of maples, cedar bush, Students from SWEEP (Students meadows where waist-high grass affords protection for many varieties of songbirds and other feathered creatures such as crows, owls and noisy woodpeckers.

> You can see where pioneer farmers laboriously constructed a network of drainage ditches to drain the swampy area and reclaim it for agriculture. There's an old logging road, reminiscent of the trails through Muskoka bush, where farmers

> hauled timber to build their homes and barns. And many more things to observe for students of nature or neophytes from urban centres with an interest in the environment. There are other trails, too,

along the lake which is bisected by Canadian Pacific Railway embankment. The steel ribbon of rails takes mainline freight and passengers from Toronto to Windsor.

Six feet deep

The take reservoir was created by flooding several small farm holdings. Its average depth is only about six feet which makes It unsuitable for recreation but an ideal place for wildfowl.

Although the Mountsberg Wildlife Preserve seems to be remote from the civilized world. the hum of nearby traffic along busy Highway 401 reminds the visitor he is only a few miles from the hub of Ontario's commerce. At the same time he is reassured by the abundance of wildlife and evidence of the care which the area provides that he has also found a sanctuary in the heart of the Golden Horseshoe where he can commune with nature in almost the same soothing manner pioneer forebears

enjoyed. The Mountsberg Wildlife Preserve is easily reached.

Take 25 Highway south to 5 Sideroad, north of Milton. Follow 5 Sideroad to Campbellville, through the village and across the railway tracks on the other side. Keep on the sideroad until you reach the signs on the Town Line indicating the direction of the preserve. Turn right on the gravel road and a mile or two down the road you'll find your

Yes, by all means, bring your binoculars and camera.



NATURE TRAIL at the Mountsberg game preserve follows an old logging trail at times, at others traverses thick cedar in maple bush with special points numbered for observation. -(Staff Photo)

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RED-TAILED HAWK is a haughty tenant of pens at the Mountsberg wildlife preserve. —(Staff Photo) CONTINUING

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> PLEASE NOTE!! our store will be closed Friday, Sept. 17th at 6 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 18th at 12 Noon to allow our statt to attend the Acton Fall Fair

126 Main St. N.

Acton

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