

Commission - Union sign new contract

Journeymen linemen, meter readers and casual labor employees of the Hydro-Electric Commission won wage increases and another sick leave plan in a new two year collective bargaining agreement with the Acton Commission. The agreement was signed Thursday night with representatives of Local 548 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical

Workers and a representative of the AMEU (Association of Municipal Electrical Utilities) present. The new contract awards wage increases amounting to seven percent retroactive to April 1, 1972, another three percent in October 1, 1972 and a final six percent beginning April 1, 1973. Rates for linemen are presently \$4.45 per hour with meter readers

\$3.09 and casual labor \$2.50 per hour. Staff salaries still must be settled by the Commission. Conciliation day Negotiations for the present two year contract have been going on for the past several months requiring three meetings and one full day of conciliation with a representative of the Department of Labor before

terms were ironed out. Al Chatland, a labor relations officer with the AMEU represented the Commission along with Chairman Wilf McEachern and Commissioner Bob MacArthur. Ken Wood assisted by Bert Rickett, both of the IBEW, represented the union, as well as Dorson Frizzell and Ken Hodgson. The new sick leave plan builds

up a system of credits. During absence from work due to illness, an employee will receive full pay until 100 percent credits are exhausted, after which pay will be reduced to 75 percent for a maximum of 200 days. The credit system is based on half-day pay at 100 percent and 1 1/2 days at 75 percent for each calendar month completed up to

a maximum of five days at 100 percent and 15 days at 75 percent per year. Credit builds up through the years. The union represents three employees of the Commission. Dorson Frizzell and Ken Hodgson signed the new agreement for the union along with IBEW president Bert Ricketts. The new agreement expires March 31, 1974.

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Still strike

No further meetings between company and management had taken place at press time in connection with the nine day old strike of members of Local 23650 of the Saw Workers Union against Diston (Canada) Ltd.

Union president Reuben Skeete told the Free Press he may have something to report as early as tomorrow (Thursday). He said there have been no incidents at the picket lines outside the plant.

The union is seeking improvements in retirement benefits, a dental care coverage plan and a cost of living bonus in the new contract which has been under negotiation since last December.

The strike affects approximately 100 plant employees.

Centennial dance on Saturday

First big fund raising venture of the Acton Centennial Commission will kick off this Saturday night at the community centre with three bands playing for a dance.

The Commission has dubbed the dance and 35 lucky draws a "Micky Mice Deal." Tickets selling for one dollar admit you to the dance and give a chance on the prizes as well.

Musical groups, The Mellotones, Sidewalk and Tymes, have all donated their services free of charge to aid the venture. Tickets can be purchased at Nielsen's Clothing, Tyler Transport, Toronto Dominion Bank, Bank of Montreal, Acton Free Press, the community centre or from members of the centennial commission.

Couple graduate

Barrie Bruce and his wife Carol both graduated on June 2 with the degree of Doctor of Medicine, at the University of Western Ontario, London.

Barrie is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ward Bruce of Ospringe, and a graduate of Ospringe Public School and Erin District



DELVING INTO MODERN history, Gary Murr, left, and Chamber of Commerce vice-president Allan Eastwood leaf through one of the 26 volumes of the Warren report. One of the few Canadians to have a complete set of

Kennedy's slayer not Oswald Gary Murr theorizes to C.of.C.

Six years of research into the assassination of U.S. President John F. Kennedy have led Actonian Gary Murr to believe there was a network of intrigue involved never revealed to the public. He is associated with three U.S. citizens in publishing a book tentatively called Palace Guard

which will attempt to unravel the mystery. Wednesday, Murr shared his theories with members of the Chamber of Commerce and their guests at a Dominion Hotel dinner meeting. He showed films and slides of the Dallas, Texas, motorcade in which Kennedy and members of his entourage were picked off by bullets, which the Warren Commission insists came from a rifle fired by Lee Harvey Oswald, stationed in the upper floor of a Texas book depository.

Not Oswald After a study of the Warren report Murr is convinced that Oswald had little to do with the slaying and fired no shots. He feels there was a conspiracy at work, not just a "kook" firing a gun from a tall building. He showed slides taken by newsmen and private citizens supporting his theory including a controversial segment which shows Kennedy's head recoiling backwards, presumably from a frontal shot.

It was curious, he maintains, that Oswald's interviews with police were never recorded or that members of the press were not allowed to speak to him. The only press encounter with Oswald, Murr claims, lasted 45 seconds, during which Oswald shouted he was being framed. The soft spoken Murr also contends Oswald was a poor marksman who could never have been accurate from the distance he was supposed to have fired.

Reads report Murr became interested in the assassination after reading Rusty Judgment and then the Warren Commission report. "Untruths kept arising," he declares, especially on the official verdict of the slaying of the Dallas police officer Tippin. He said Jack Ruby was hired to slay Oswald. Chamber president Roy Goodwin and vice-president Allan Eastwood introduced the speaker. He was thanked by secretary Betty Eastwood.



BARRIE AND CAROL BRUCE

Esquering told to brace for expansion

"With GO trains coming to Georgetown we've got to do some real thinking, or have some pretty big headaches," Esquering reeve Tom Hill cautioned the township council Monday.

Hill said the assurance by the Ontario Government that the newly opened rapid transit GO system will start in 1973, would be the spur that attracted thousands—not hundreds—thousands of people to consider Esquering for a home.

Council, noting the mushrooming growth on building permits issued in May, wondered how the area was ever included as a slow growth area in the Toronto Centred Region plan.

"One planner at the TECO meeting told me the Government made a mistake sending the GO service to a slow growth area," said one councillor. Another felt the service had to go through Brampton because of the political implications.

In any event council felt the township would have to brace for expansion in the township villages.

The building inspector's report for May, which showed \$649,982 in building permits issued, precipitated the discussion. Councillors noted most of the permits were for homes; several of them substantial.

Refer TECO report to councils

Halton County's TECO (Technical Co-ordinating) Committee report, which might be considered a blueprint for regional government in Halton was torn apart, criticized and praised Saturday afternoon as 48 municipal councillors gathered to discuss the recommendations and ramifications of the report. After almost six and a half hours of discussion, comment and debate when each of the 48 councillors had had an opportunity to speak on the report it was referred to the seven municipal councils. Each council has until Aug. 31, to submit briefs on the report. It is likely a second all-councillor meeting will be held on or about that date to further discuss the report that has been drafted by the clerks and treasurers in Halton.

Criticisms were many and varied and several took the opportunity to clarify points or express reservations. Internal and external boundaries took much of the time while division of responsibilities and structure of the regional government were also debated at great length.

Too powerful Many expressed a concern that the region would be too powerful. In fact some suggested the report came very close to recommending a one tier system of government by leaving the local or second tier council with very limited powers.

One of the most vocal opponents of the report was north Oakville Councillor Rick Day. He said the one thing in common with all of the recommendations in the report was that they served to take legislative power away from the people.

He predicted regional councillors would not be accessible to the public and feared rural areas would not get fair representation. He saw the local councils becoming the "lackies of the regional civil servants." He claimed a regional government would decide issues by a majority vote of the regional council that should rightfully be decided by the local council.

Two time loser

Eramosa building inspector Art Benham was a two time loser at Monday night's township council meeting.

After listening to the usual complaints from prospective builders at the meeting, the building inspector walked outside to find his car missing from the parking lot.

Following investigation by Guelph OPP, the car was found yesterday (Tuesday) near Fergus. It is believed the motor was damaged.

Freak accident for two riders

A freak riding accident means weeks of convalescence for Mrs. Margaret Wilson, R.R. 1 Acton, and Mrs. Lynn Jack, Guelph. The two women were riding their horses near Crewsons Corners when the animals reared, bumped each other, and threw their riders.

Mrs. Wilson suffered a compound fracture of the skull. After treatment in hospital she is now home, ordered to "take it easy" for two months while the fracture heals.

Mrs. Jack suffered a broken back, and gets a cast on this week for 10 weeks. Mrs. Wilson can't remember the accident at all.

Too many councillors Lloyd Dennis of Burlington saw the region as a one tier system. He felt more of the responsibilities should be dealt with locally and 12 rather than 24 councillors should sit on the regional council.

Acton councillor Norm Elliott felt hydro was one of the duties that should be local. It is recommended to become a regional responsibility. He feared the power would be taken away from the people. "There is a tendency to lose sight of things 30 miles away."

One of the greatest concerns of politicians was the removal of planning from the local level. TECO suggests official plans should be a regional responsibility along with supply of basic services such as water, sewer and hydro. TECO recommended subdivision agreements should be signed at the regional level.

Not planners' idea Robbie Robertson, Burlington planner explained after the meeting he had headed a sub-committee on planning and that the views of TECO didn't necessarily represent the planners' ideas. His sub-committee had recommended the official plan and strategic or board planning be done at the regional level and detailed planning and subdivision agreements be done at the local level. Several councillors expressed a desire to see subdivision and detailed planning at the local level.

Speakers appeared to be split on where such functions as hydro, museums and fire protection should be placed.

Should be regional

The report recommends fire protection being dealt with locally while police would be at the regional level. Mayor Brian Best of Milton felt both fire and police should be regional. Burlington Mayor George Harrington suggested police should be left local. He forecast an increase in salaries and felt policing differs for each community. He referred to the Niagara region where the salaries of police were all raised to the level of highest paid in the region.

Milton Deputy Reeve Bob McCuaig suggested regional police is a good idea. He said it was difficult now for police in Burlington to get to the northern part of the town.

TECO recommends museums be local responsibilities and Halton County Museum would become a responsibility of the Milton-Nassagaweya community. Mayor Best suggested there should be at least one museum reflecting the region as a whole and asked that it be left at the county or regional level. Others suggested it might be turned over to the provincial government.

Delay work

Oakville Deputy Reeve Harry Barrett suggested no work be done on the county garage until the future of the county works department is settled. The TECO report recommends the region only be responsible for construction of new roads. Maintenance would be done by local councils. The report calls for the abolition of the county road works crew.

While several speakers agreed with the recommendation that would see Halton Region Conservation Authority taken over eventually by the regional government, Mrs. Ella Foote of Burlington opposed the take-over.

Special breed While Esquering councillor (Continued on Page Three)



TWINBEE Construction workers began laying the new water line which will connect the town reservoir with a new well on the Fourth Line of Erin township last week.

(Photo by D. Gibbons)

Lay water line

Pumping capacity of Acton's water supply will be doubled following completion of the laying of a water line from the present reservoir on the Third Line north at Churchill to a new well near the Fourth Line of Erin Township and the erection of a pumping station at that site.

Twinbee Construction of Oakville began laying the 12" PVC plastic pipe last week. The line will run a distance of about 4,800

feet. Engineers hope to have it completed by the end of the month.

Total estimated cost of the water line and pump house is \$92,000, but approximately \$16,000 in labor costs may be forgivable under the terms of a government works program.

The new well is located on town-owned land in Lot 1 of the township. Tenders will be called this month for construction of the pump house.

Queen's degrees for Acton pair

Graduation ceremonies were a week apart at Queen's University for Trudy and Alan McNabb, and proud members of their family were present for each convocation.

Trudy McNabb, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Morris, Elmore Dr., received a Bachelor of Science (honours) degree in biochemistry. The ceremonies were on June 3 for the Faculty of Arts and Science and School of Physical and Health Education. During the convocation she accepted a Medal for Biochemistry, the Golden Key of Merit given by the Canadian Section of the Society of Chemical Industry and received an Honourable Mention to the student with the highest standing in the B. Sc. Honours list. (She was one mark behind the winner.)

Trudy McNabb has begun graduate work under Dr. P. H. Jellinek of Queen's University.

With firm

On May 27, Alan McNabb graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) at the convocation for the Faculty of applied Science and School of Business. He is now a junior member with the firm of Thorne, Gunn, Hellwell and Christenson, Chartered Ac-

countants, in Kingston, and is studying for the Chartered Accountant degree.

Attending Alan's graduation were his parents Mr. and Mrs. Jim McNabb, Cobblehill Rd., brother and sister Jimmie and Brenda McNabb.

Attend both Mr. and Mrs. John McNabb of Main St. attended both graduations—he's a brother of Alan and Sherry is a sister of Trudy. The two couples were married in a double ceremony.

A week later another group travelled to Queen's for Trudy's graduation. They were her parents Mr. and Mrs. Morris, his parents Mr. and Mrs. Jim McNabb, sister and brother Barbara and Marvin McNabb, sister Nancy Morris (who has just finished her second year at the University of Guelph) and Bill Dukelow; brother Gord Morris (who is just finishing grade 13 here), and Margaret Slaven, and friends Mr. and Mrs. Jim Graham.

The Acton group stayed at the Pineledge Inn on the shore of the St. Lawrence, and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Morris entertained there at a dinner and dance after both graduation ceremonies for the couple were all over.



TRUDY AND ALAN McNABB