



WORKMEN PUT THE FINISHING touches on Bower Avenue paving this week as the \$68,544.20 job on street reconstruction is in its final stages. New sidewalks and curbs, underground wiring and a wider road have all combined to make it one of the finest streets in town. Many of the fine old maples on the Bower were preserved despite the face lifting. (Photo by J. Jennings)

## Per-pupil education costs in Halton are among lowest

Figures on per-pupil costs in Halton and 17 other school areas in Ontario, analyzed and reviewed by Halton County Board of Education at their Wednesday meeting, indicate Halton taxpayers are getting

good value for their education dollar.

Halton ranked as the lowest in per-pupil education costs at the secondary school level, and third from the bottom of the heap in elementary schools. Last year it

cost Halton \$959 to educate each high school student for a year, and \$539 to educate each public school student. By comparison Metro Toronto's cost was \$1,211 at the secondary level and Ottawa's was \$778 at the elementary level and those two boards were the highest in the province.

### From province

Figures came from a Ministry of Education report on Halton and the 17 largest boards in the province. The Halton staff produced the analysis of the figures:

The board's 1972 budget indicates Halton will spend \$588 per pupil at the elementary level and \$1,033 at the secondary level.

This county has the sixth largest enrolment in elementary schools and the fifth largest high school enrolment. The board's operating system "compares pretty favorably with the rest of the province" and this report, compiled by an independent source, is concrete proof said B. T. Landley, the superintendent of business and finance.

Trustee Fred Armatage quickly added that though the costs were kept down, the quality of education also "stands very proudly in the forefront."

## Obituary

### Wilfred J. Duval long-time resident

An employee of Beardmore for an impressive 48 years, Wilfred John Duval died October 7 in St. Joseph's hospital, Guelph. Mr. Duval had recently been in failing health. He had retired from Beardmore in 1963. A long-time resident, he leaves many relatives and friends.

The funeral mass at St. Joseph's church Monday, October 9, was celebrated by Father Douglas Daly, Toronto, a cousin of Mr. Duval, assisted by Father Michael Bennett of Guelph. Father J. J. Gillen read the graveside prayers. The former pastor, Father V. J. Morgan, was among those attending the funeral mass.

Interment followed in Fairview cemetery. Pallbearers were six nephews, Archie Papillon, Theo

Papillon, Peter Papillon, Francis Papillon, and Kenneth Papillon of Acton and Jerry Olinski of Kitchener. Flower bearers were David Braida and David Papillon of Acton, Paul Clark of Brantford and Ron Papillon, Guelph.

**Born at Bracebridge**  
Mr. Duval was born at Bracebridge in 1897. He and Marguerite Costello were married at St. Joseph's church August 18, 1925. They lived for the past 40 years at 189 Main St. S.

He is survived by his wife, three daughters and a son, Shirley Braida, Wilfred Duval Jr., Patricia South and Yvonne Caswell, all of Acton, a sister Mrs. Percy Evans (Irene), and nine grandchildren.

He was predeceased by three sisters and seven brothers.

## \$1,000 donation

The Year of the Terrace at Halton county museum became more of a reality Monday afternoon when Ron Harris, representing the Friends of the Museum, presented two cheques on their behalf. The first cheque for \$450 is to complete the log cabin, and the second cheque for \$550 for construction of the terrace. Any balance remaining from completion of the log cabin is also to go toward the building of the terrace outside the main museum building.

**Year of Fountain**  
Next year the Friends of the Museum has termed The Year of the Fountain, and a fountain designed by museum director Dr. H. J. Newman will be built in the centre of the new terrace.

Cheques represent profits from the Friends of the Museum festival. The group is hoping to establish a permanent weekend date for this event at the museum.

**Commend group**  
Accepting the cheques was museum board chairman Walter Reeves.

Mr. Harris wears two hats; he is a county council representative on the museum board and the past president of the Friends of the Museum. Mr. Harris referred particularly to the work of "sparkplug" Judy Goebelle who is active on the Friends and is the

Georgetown representative on the board.

Mr. Reeves commended the energy and drive of the Friends. An invitation was extended for them to attend any board meetings.

## No ident of body yet

Milton OPP report they are still investigating the identity of a woman whose body was discovered north of Georgetown by two hunters recently.

A study of the woman's remains by the Forensic Sciences Centre in Toronto determined that she had died from a gunshot wound to the head.

## Drug seizure here Saturday

Last Saturday suspected marijuana and drug paraphernalia were seized by Acton O.P.P. from a van on Main St., and the case turned over to Kitchener detachment of the R.C.M.P.

A Toronto group was travelling in the van when the local police made the find.

## Bowling Alley death

# Inspection recommended by coroner's jury Tues.

After deliberating for an hour and 40 minutes, the coroner's jury inquiring into the death of Denis Maurice made several recommendations just before midnight Tuesday.

Mr. Maurice, a 34-year-old Stony Creek father of four, died of burns suffered in a fire at Acton Bowling Lanes last August. He and his brother were sanding the lanes when his machine erupted in a flash fire. He died later in Hamilton hospital.

Coroner Dr. Ivan Hunter of Milton presided for the inquest in Acton council chambers Tuesday.

### Electrical short

Jury foreman Bruce Cargill read the jury's findings, which stated that in their opinion death was caused by burns started by an electrical short in the clamp of the twist lock connector when insulation on a portable rubber cord became worn through. The supply portable cord was fused at 100 amp.; an arc was created setting the dust bag on fire.

Evidence had shown nails were found in the fuses of the sander. However the jury concluded "Although the 30 amp fuse had been tampered with on the machine by passing the safety factor of the machine we do not feel that this had any bearing on this accident."

### Inspection

"We strongly recommend that all temporary electrical connections of portable equipment of this type or size be inspected by the Ontario Hydro inspection department prior to operating."

The five-man jury also recommended that manufacturers of this type of equipment devise a safer method of dust collecting, and that personnel be fully instructed as to its safe operation.

### Forwarded

The jury's findings and recommendations will now be forwarded to the supervising coroner's office.

On the jury with foreman Mr. Cargill were Jon Hurst, Kevin Lambers, Michael McMillan and Henry Arbie.

The handle of the sander was an exhibit and opinion differed on possible reasons for its damage.

### Bag ignited

Witness Norman Blair, industrial safety officer with the Department of Labor, reviewed his findings and pointed out the damage to the plug, nails found in fuses eliminating protection, and the possibility the machine was not grounded.

He felt an arc damaged the connector, causing a hole to burn in the cloth dust bag, igniting the powdered wood into a flash fire.

An electrical engineer with his department found voltage to be lower than indicated on the panel, which was marked at 240 volts. He set service at 220 volts. He felt increased heat might have compounded the problem.

He presented technical findings to the jury using the machine handle, clamps and cord as exhibits.

**Heat build-up**  
David Exley of the fire marshal's office said heat in the bag is a frequent problem with sanders. In his opinion heat build-up and pressure could be sufficient to burst the bag and blow out a flash fire.

While there was a short-circuit, he said it is difficult to tell if the short caused the fire or the fire caused the short.

He gave detailed evidence and both inspectors answered questions from the jury.

### Brother explains

Royal Maurice, the brother of the man who died after the fire, explained what he had seen as the two worked together. He said he has been in this business for ten years; his brother had just begun two months before. They were employed by Cardinal Bowling and the company foreman Tom Miller was also a witness.

Mr. Royal explained their method of operating and connecting the machines to the main panel. He did not know where the fire extinguisher in the bowling alley was.

He had never seen a similar accident. He described how his brother was hooked to the machine by a belt to help him steady it as it operated. He

estimated the dust bag on the machine would be three-quarters full.

### 20 years

Mr. Miller said his company had only experienced one previous fire in 20 years of sanding lanes. It was believed caused by a spark when the machine hit a nail in an old floor. He said the machines were checked before going out and he couldn't explain the nails in the fuses.

Douglas Hines, electrician called by Mr. Miller to repair the machine handle, also testified.

Ken Hulford, manager of the bowling lanes, said the same firm had sanded for him before the work is usually done every three years here. In reply to a question he estimated damage to the lanes at between \$20,000 and \$25,000.

Acton O.P.P. officer Bruce McArthur reported his findings the day of the fire.

Dr. Groves, pathologist at Hamilton General Hospital, reported extensive burns to the entire body of Mr. Maurice but particularly the front, concluding burns this extensive are invariably fatal.

## Choraliers sing at new complex

Acton Legion Choraliers were the first performers to sing in the new million dollar community complex at Tillsonburg on Sunday. They took part in the interdenominational church service there in the afternoon and later sang at a beef barbecue at the Legion.

The community complex was opened during Oktoberfest weekend. It includes swimming pool, auditorium, sauna, rooms for the senior citizens, etc.

Performing with the Choraliers at the Legion were Isabel Moore and Agnes McIntyre who played guitars and sang, and George Fountain with his violin.


## UNICEF jogalong?

A Jogalong for UNICEF is being considered as an innovation this Halloween. The giant jog, similar to the Robert Little runathon two weeks ago, would be held in Acton park. Sponsors would be lined up for the participants.

There will also be the traditional Halloween boxes, which children will carry as they go door-to-door for their treats on the night of October 31.

The Y's Men's club is working on plans for the UNICEF campaign this year and more details will be available next week.

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