

Santa's helpers popular at Beardmore party



COTTON CANDY was the specially served up at John's Wig Shop, one of several carnival-like booths at the Beardmore Christmas party, held Saturday afternoon. Proprietor John Griefeneder looks after a happy youngster Marty Daley here. —D. Gibbons Photo

by Denis Gibbons
Where does a company draw the line on gifts for children of its employees? Beardmore president Peter Dunham relates this amusing tale from Saturday's successful Christmas party.

"Normally we have an age cutoff at 14," he said, "but when an eight-year-old boy starts paying more attention to Santa Claus' elves than to Santa, we figure he's already too old."

You see, when Santa visits the Beardmore party each year, he brings two of his prettiest elves with him. Valerie Mitchell, who left the North Pole long enough to be crowned Miss Acton Fair in September and Heather Cormack, one of her princesses, were Santa's attractive assistants at the successful

encore performance of the party Saturday.

Santa arrives
The arrival of Santa and his huge bag of goodies was the highlight of the carnival-like event, attended by over 700 company employees, their wives and children. The party was held in the Acton Industrial Centre adjacent to the plant.

Children enjoyed amusements ranging from Disneyland cartoons at the "Freuler's Frolics" theatre to a miniature shooting gallery, where they could win prizes by knocking ping pong balls off the tops of bottles.

There were booths galore for the hungry and thirsty. If you really wanted to live it up, you could start making your way down a line of goodies, which included Kentucky Fried Chicken, fresh oven-baked pizza, hamburgers with fried onion,

corned beef on rye (bread that is), french fries, wash it down with coke or chocolate milk and top it off with a luscious cream sundae or a fluffy candy floss.

Zany antics
The booths had their usual zany restrictions and advertisements. At Hank's Drop-out centre, where the ice cream was served, each adult had to be accompanied by a child. The Long Branch Saloon, with Mayor Len Duby tending bar, begged customers to return beer bottles (full) for a deposit.

Bozo the Clown, a wide-tipped tower of frivolity, circulated widely among the guests creating flurries of laughter and performances with balloons which had youngsters marvelling.

Recorded music courtesy of Acton's raving disc jockey Harry Arbie added to the merriment of the event.



"HAVE YOU been a good little boy?" asks Santa. Santa's helper Val Mitchell thinks so. (D. Gibbons photo)

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"BOZO" THE CLOWN scored a big hit with children at the Beardmore Christmas party with his funny balloon animal formations. —D. Gibbons Photo

No exchange says reeve

An exchange of roads between the County of Halton and Esqueping township in connection with the proposed new-truck routes on the Fourth and Fifth Lines in the Limehouse area will not take place until after 1973, Reeve Tom Hill said Friday.

Deputy-reeve Russell Miller raised the question, saying he had hoped there would be an exchange in 1973.

Miller said that on a recent visit to Limehouse he saw a child nearly get killed near the road through the village. He admitted though that some Limehouse

residents are more concerned about the nuisance factor of trucks than they are about the safety factor.

Reeve Hill reported Duff Quarries proprietor Mac Duff had offered to supply material and equipment to build a sidewalk in Limehouse.

"But he could only get one volunteer to do the work," the reeve said.

Miller said Limehouse residents feel that as long as the road is dangerous they won't get the trucks. If a sidewalk is put in, he said, they think they will get the trucks.

Must protect crossings if whistle to stop

In a letter to Esqueping Council, the Canadian Transport Commission has urged a by-law restricting the blowing of train whistles in the township be delayed until inspections of the Seventh Line and 17 Sideroad crossings have been carried out.

At a council meeting last month, Councillor Len Cox explained a complaint from ratepayers in the Stewarttown area about prolonged whistling from trains using the C.N.R. line.

In order to have whistle blowing restricted, the C.T.C. also pointed out both crossings would have to be equipped with automatic protection. Inspections would also have to be made to make sure no safety hazards exist.

Councillor Cox explained he wants to make sure both crossings are safe and that he is only concerned about trains blowing whistles from "Milton

clean across to Brampton." Councillor Wilfrid Leslie had a different view of the situation. "I don't think the whistle blowing is a hardship on any-

body," the veteran councillor said. "If there ever was an accident there, people would be asking why the whistle didn't blow."



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WISH EACH AND EVERYONE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR