OUR READERS WRITE:

Former teacher sends name for town

Dear Sir.

Please renew my Acton Free Press subscription for another year. Receiving the Acton Free Press is like getting a surprise in the mail every week. I'm first surprised if the paper arrives on Friday, or later on Monday or Tuesday. Toronto house

It is really a pleasure having "good" news to read, instead of all the rotten things happening in Toronto and elsewhere. It is nice to read that a bass was caught in Fairy Lake, one former student has just had a baby, two more are getting married, and all my "little grade 10 math" students have graduated from Grade 13. Good luck to you

And columns I enjoy—Bill Smiley, especially on education, The Painted Box—I can smell the fresh air, and Let's Talk About Horses—interesting, but my memory of one horse is painful.

Since I do not want to cut the paper (my parents read this next), here is my coupon for "Name the Town". My suggestions for the name of the new North Halton Town are: Esquesing, Slag or Lags (Acton, Georgetown, Limehouse, Speyside or Stewarttown).

Please keep publishing!

Yours truly, (Mrs.) Marcia (Novak) Papoff 29 Rondale Blvd. Toronto, Ont. M6A 1H8

Favors Esquesing as name of town

40 Walmer Rd. Apt. 402. Toronto M5R2X4. July 2, 1973.

Acton Free Press. Acton, Ontario.

Dear Sir:

I understand you are asking for name suggestions for your new town. As the eldest of a family who grew up in Acton (our father was the Rev. J. C. Wilson of Knox Presbyterian Church from 1903-1919.) I would suggest the name of Esquesing for the following reasons—

(1) One of my brothers used to say that he always felt sorry for people who weren't brought up knowing such names as Esquesing, Ballinafad, or Nassagaweya (I'm still not sure of my spelling, though Miss Bennett did try!)

(2) Both Acton and Georgetown seem rather pedestrian names, used in other parts of our and other countries.

(3) Esquesing is the largest area, I

suppose, of the three places, and has a well-

respected and historical name.

(4) The name Esquesing is a name familiar to the whole district and would be more popular perhaps than a name imposed and unfamiliar. I understand that Cambridge (Galt, Preston and Hespeler) is not very

popular among the people.

I hope that you and the powers that be may look with favour on this idea.

Sincerely, (Miss) Jean A. Wilson for Mrs. I. E. McGillivray J. C. Wilson Junior Dr. Duff Wilson

Guides must earn Canada Cord

Dear Sirs,

In the June 27 issue of the Acton Free Press, there was an article about an Eden Mills Guide receiving her Canada Cord. (pg. 11). The title read: "Eden Mills guide wins Canada Cord". I wish to express the fact that this is incorrect.

It is impossible to win the Canada Cord. This suggests that it is a competition but it is not. It would be easier to earn the card if competition were involved, but it means a lot of individual work. Badges must be earned, tests passed and services served. The only reward reward is the knowledge

that you, yourself, have earned the Canada

Cord, highest Canadian Guide award.

I know what it involves to earn the Canada Cord. I did so with the help of my Commissioner, Captain, Mother & numerous others, not to mention the girls in my company.

Again I stress the fact that the Canada Cord cannot be won. It must be earned and then only through a lot of good fun mixed with hard work. Thank-you.

Says report 10 years behind times

R.R. No. 2, Rockwood, Ont.

Dear Sir:

I have just finished studying the 'Progress Report, a Halton County Solid Waste Management Study' by James F. MacLaren Ltd., Environmental Engineers, Toronto.

If this is a progress report, then heaven help Halton County, southern, central, northern, or any other region.

northern, or any other region.

In my opinion, any high school student who has had as a project the subject of

garbage and its disposal, could have written a better report.

For instance, this progress report refers to 'Sanitary Landfill' and quotes a

For instance, this progress report refers to 'Sanitary Landfill' and quotes a definition put forward by the American Society of Civil Engineers. In fact there is no such thing as 'Sanitary Landfill'. The depositing of garbage in the ground causes soll and water pollution, encourages vermin. They also breed methane gas. Anyone who questions this statement, should go to the local dump and see for him-herself, bearing in mind that such dumps are policed by health and environment of-

High school students know that to cut down on garbage, you first hit the source, i.e. ban non-returnable cans, bottles, and other containers. Secondly, all re-cyclable material must be recycled. Halton is ideally situated for a long range recycling program as there are nearby markets for metal (Hamilton), paper (Guelph), Glass, (Brampton).

Why recycle?
Garbage collection and disposal costs
Ontario residents \$100,000,000 per year. We
bury or burn resources worth (A) glass, \$15
per ton, (B) paper, \$6 per ton, (C) metals,
\$15 per ton, all prices quoted are minimum.

In this report, under the heading 'Comparative Processing Costs' are some figures that should be challenged, i.e. hydra-pulping \$18.83 per ton, heat recovery \$11.24 per ton, etc., etc., and then sanitary

Miss Carol Grant.

landfill \$2.35 per ton. Maybe it costs \$2.35 per ton to dump garbage into valleys, ravines and quarries, but one cannot assess the damage to soil and water courses in dollars and cents. Can property devaluation in landfill areas be assessed with that \$2.35 per ton figure?

On page 16 it is suggested that theee quarries in Halton County could be utilized as garbage dumps. It is noted that if these quarries were used, they could take care of Halton's garbage for the next 10 years. If they are used in conjunction with existing landfill sites, Halton's garbage could be

It is insidious to even think of putting garbage in quarries, particularly in this area where the rainfall is over 30 inches per year. It is juvenile to consider using garbage dumps over long term periods.

We are on the brink of an energy crisis, yet I see no special consideration given to this crisis in this report. I have on file statistics of a plant that burns tires smokelessly and creates energy. The calorific value of scrap tires can be calculated as 12,000 B.Th.U.lb. This particular plant generates 10,000 lbs. of steam per hour, and it is my information that in Canada discarded tires are a main problem in garbage disposal

In my opinion this report is anything but a progress report. It is about 10 years behind the times. With today's technology, with the assured markets for reclaimables, and the guaranteed supply of garbage, there should be no long term policies for landfill sites. Due to the hindsight of our political

Due to the hindsight of our political representatives at the provincial level, and the bad advice given to politicians at the municipal level, we are facing a crisis. Five years is time enough for landfill sites. This will give ample time to allow modern technology to be applied, and to ensure that Halton is assured of a 'green belt' in the future and not a 'garbage belt'.

Sincerely, Wm. A. Johnson

Committee endorses

study

A plan to study the possible use of unused railway tracks in Ontario for recreational purposes was endorsed at a recent meeting of Halton County Council's Administration Committee.

A resolution from the Ontario Municipal Recreation Association proposed the investigation of unused railway lines for hiking, trail riding, bicycling and snowmobiling. The committee received and endorsed the resolution but took no action on another resolution concerning snowmobiling.

The second resolution requested the provincial government to make funds available through local municipal councils for the provision of snowmobile facilities. The administration committee decided to take no further action until the provincial government establishes a policy on the matter

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Office of the Court of Canadian Citizenship will be opened in the Town Hall, 2nd Floor, Milton for the month of July and August on the following dates only. Friday, July 20 and Friday, August 17, 1973.

A Citizenship Officer will be in attendance to take applications for Canadian Citizenship from 8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.



Bill Smiley

Did you know that yours truly was once a shy little boy? Do you know how a lady can sell all-Canadian crossword puzzles to newspapers? Do you know anyone who worked at the Milton brick works in 1914, before going off to war? Do you feel like writing a book? Do you feel like reviewing a book someone else has written?

These are some of the things that came up as I opened my mail in the last few weeks.

If a columnist does not have any readers, he very quickly ceases to be a columnist. That's why I'm so grateful to readers who drop a line and have a chat, tell me their troubles, or merely wish me good health.

Just before my birthday in June, I had a long letter from my Grade I teacher reminding me that we share the same natal day, June 2nd. She was the kind of pretty, young, sweet and kind teacher who can make that first vital year in public school a

joy rather than the horror that it can be.

Going through some old clippings, she came across one which she sent along to me. The heading on the news story was FO Wm. Smiley Victim Brutal Hun Treatment. The rest was an extremely garbled account that makes me wince with embarrassment even today.

Apparently after being beaten half to death after an escape attempt, I was so weak I couldn't move for twenty days. This is pure exaggeration. It was only five days. And when the Russians overran our camp, I walked 156 miles across Germany and stumbled onto an advanced air base.

Poppycock! It was only 90-some miles, I rode a good part of the way in wagons, Russian staff cars, German wood-burning trucks, and a two-horse carriage. And I didn't stumble onto anything. I arrived at the advance air base in a jeep. But that's a long story.

Anyway, my teacher, whom I still think of as Laura Walker, says of the clipping: "I admit I shed some tears over it, for all I could see was a shy little boy in gray trousers and a navy blue blazer coming to my desk and announcing his name and birthday, to which I replied, 'Why, Billie, we are twins.' There were so many of you in the same class who were in the War and my heart went out to you all for you were still

my 'little' boys and had no business with aeroplanes."

Layna Bateman of Stavely, Alta., who reads me in the Brooks Bulletin, wants advice on how to sell a syndicated Canadian crossword puzzle. She sent me samples and they're excellent. Anybody any ideas? Her letter ends, "How soon do you become a grampa? Congratulations!" Every letter has a nice personal touch like that.

Bill Shaker of Shifnal, Salops, England, reads me in the Canadian Champion, Milton. He likes my "cheery notes" and writes a very cheery one himself, at the age of 84. He worked at the Milton Brick Co. in 1914, joined the army, went to France in the R.E.S. Guards Div. and was at Ypres, the Somme, Arras and Cambrai, names that ring a bell with old-timers. Lucky guy. But he wishes me best of luck and good health.

A Montreal publisher wants me to write a book. He doesn't even seem to realize, or care, that I haven't got the clothesline fixed and my wife is raising hell, day after day. Write a book indeed!

Mary Johnson of Winnipeg wonders if I'm the same Bill Smiley who wrote a series of articles on education for the Salt Lake City Tribune. Sorry, Mary. 'Twas another Bill. But Mrs. Johnson has written a book called "Programmed Illiteracy in our Schools" and wonders if I'd like to review it. Sure would. Send it along, Mary.

On House of Commons stationery comes a letter from old friend, Ross Whicher, M.P., urging me to make that trip to England, and telling me that you can stay at the Strand Palace in London for less than \$30.00 a day. He ends, "Have a good time, old man." I will, Ross.

Last time I was at the Strand Palace, they nearly threw me out because I was sharing my room with the bearded lady from the circus. The maid had entered our room before my old buddy Singh Thandi, a Sikh from India, had got his hair up and his turban on. His hair hung to his tailbone and he had a beautiful, curly beard. The maid gave one scream and ran. Singh was killed in Burma.

Then there are the poets who write. G. H. Drabble of Speers, Sask., sent me a dandy about the beverage room and the poverty and misery it leads to. His poem is both funny and true but it's a bit long to print, and it can't be condensed. Mr. Drabble gets me in North Battleford News.

Same goes for a long, lively poem by Vic Smith of Rockwood, who insists:

When you are driving out this way, Stop in and pass the time of day. You'll find me in my "bed of Weeds", My wife and I are just "hayseeds".

Thanks, Vic, I will if I do. And thanks, all you other chaps and chickens. Your letters make me realize I am not writing in a void, a heartwarming feeling.

