

Esquesing library opens in hall vault

How do you make use of an empty vault?

In Esquesing's case an empty vault at the old township hall in Stewarttown has become a library. Called a "book deposit," a name which library board members shun, the vault was opened this week to display five to six hundred books the board has acquired. Another 100 are expected next week.

It is the first library in Esquesing's history, and is due to the efforts of the Esquesing Library Board, a group appointed in December, 1971.

The vault and adjoining room were available at a price the board could afford. They opened their doors Monday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and will open again on Wednesdays from 7 till 9 in the

evening, a schedule they will follow until more definite arrangements can be made.

Grants distributed
Prior to arranging the opening of the library at the old Esquesing hall, grants received by the Board were distributed amongst the Acton, Georgetown and Milton libraries, enabling township residents to join them without having to pay a non-resident tax which was as high as \$4 per year in Georgetown's case. Now some grant money will go towards the new township facility.

"We've only got modest quarters here," explained library board chairman Mrs. Ruth Wilson of R.R. 3, Milton, and board member Mrs. Joan Lister, R.R. 4, Acton, "but we feel we are

filling a need."

They are the first volunteers to man the library but they will be assisted by other members of the Board as the deposit remains open. These include Edna Mae Markham, R.R. 3, Georgetown, Anne Berry, R.R. 3, Milton, Reeve Tom Hill of Esquesing and secretary Cathy Bouaskill.

Later a librarian will be hired. "We have hardly spent any money so far," the members of the board declare, suggesting it would not reach the \$200 figure. They have plans for greater scope including a bookmobile to tour the township. Cost? Over \$60,000.

The plan has been presented to Esquesing council at a recent meeting but councillors decided to delay an answer until the

township receives proposals for other projects and is able to dole money out on a priority basis.

Members of the library board feel they are entitled to part of the reserve fund which the township has accumulated over the years and recently decided would be apportioned before regional government steps in and controls purse strings.

Library Board chairman, Mrs. Ruth Wilson, said she has answers for every phase of the bookmobile operation. She feels it is the only way to adequately service the township with reading material.

along. The board has also purchased a set.

Their first day operation from the Esquesing hall was hampered by noise from gravel trucks and other traffic racing by the open door. Few people responded the first day but both Mrs. Wilson and Mrs. Lister expect a thriving trade in books when the library (book deposit) becomes better known.

"After all," Mrs. Lister explains, "we've barely got started."

They are also hoping for cooperation from library boards in Acton, Milton and Georgetown. The Georgetown board has already sent them books for which they have a duplicate on shelves.



MRS. JOAN LISTER and Library Board chairman Mrs. Ruth Wilson prepare to open the Esquesing library at the old Stewarttown township hall Monday afternoon. They have made use of the old

vault at the hall to store the five to six hundred books they have acquired so far. Another 100 volumes are expected next week. The library is also open Wednesday evenings.

—H. Coles Photo

Steering committee formed for regional police force

When regional government comes into effect in Halton next Jan. 1 a regional police force will be established to cover the entire region and four present police forces will disappear.

At a meeting Wednesday in Oakville, a steering committee of nine people was named to guide the transition smoothly and effectively. They include six elected representatives—Halton Warden Anne MacArthur, Acton councillor Orville Chapman, Nassagaweya Deputy Reeve Jim Watson, Milton Mayor Brian Best, Burlington Mayor George Harrington and Esquesing Reeve Tom Hill; and three members of existing police commissions—Judge William K. Warrender and Percy Cowan of the Oakville Commission, and Glenn Magnuson of the Georgetown Commission.

Working committee
Beneath the steering committee, a working committee of nine police officers has been established to make recommendations and come up with the necessary facts and figures for

the steering committee. They include the four chiefs of existing Halton forces—Floyd Schwantz of Georgetown, Ray Andress of Milton, Fred Oliver of Oakville and Denneth Skerrett of Burlington, plus OPP Staff Sgt. Welch, Oakville, Inspector Harry Wilson and Sgt. Walter Southwood, Burlington Deputy Chief Jack Jeffries and Staff Sgt. McPherson.

The latter four men were earlier this year named to the working committee and they have been spending their full time studying the introduction of a regional force in Halton, with part time assistance from the OPP representatives and police chiefs.

The steering committee is expected to hold its first meeting on Aug. 5. By mid-October it is expected a regional police commission will be named and it will likely be formed and at work by Nov. 1.

Two regional representatives are to be named to the five-member Halton Police Commission. The other three members will be provincial ap-

pointments, one of whom will be a judge.

Better facilities

Commenting on Wednesday's meeting and the work that has been done to date on implementing a regional police force, Milton Police Chief Ray Andress said he was looking forward to the regional force as it would mean better facilities will be available to some of the smaller police departments. Examples would be identification departments, safety officers, more personnel and training facilities, he said.

Right now forces like Milton and Georgetown are too small to have their own identification staff and cannot spare even one man on a full time basis for safety and accident prevention work, he said.

Georgetown Chief Schwantz said the initial costs of a regional police force might be higher than present costs, but eventually the costs will taper off. Centralization of records and business offices, the sharing of facilities and the bulk purchasing power of the larger force would help reduce costs in the future, he indicated.

Board image

Halton County Board of Education considered a number of recommendations made by the Priorities and Expenditures Committee on communications at their meeting Thursday.

The board agreed that while the newsletter Halton Education News had its shortcomings and some circulation problems, the exercise was worth continuing.

The board discussed holding meetings earlier in the week so that weekly newspapers would have an opportunity to publish news while it was still fresh. That matter will receive further consideration from the communications and public relations committee.

Good PR
The board agreed to meet annually with the press and radio station reporters to maintain good relations with the media.

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IN FULL BLOOM last week was the Yucca tree belonging to Richard Johnston, 17 Scene St. Just turned 89, Mr. Johnston keeps many plants in his garden in addition to this blooming white flower tree which is very rare.

—D. Pink Photo



ABOUT 600 PEOPLE attended the official opening July 10 of the new Elora Beef Cattle Research Centre. Present among the officials for the ceremony were (left) Hon. James W. Snow, Minister of Government Services, Dr. W.C. Winegard, president of the University of Guelph, and the Hon. Wm. A. Stewart, Minister of Agriculture and Food (right). The research centre, planned and built to serve the needs of Ontario's expanding beef industry, has been designed to provide producers with accurate information in areas of feeding, housing and breeding. The centre will be operated by the university of Guelph, under contract to the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

Jim's facts don't agree with Tom's

Recent statements by former teachers' federation president Tom Ramautarsingh, to the effect that over 1,000 classrooms in Halton have over 36 students and that morale is low among the county's teachers and they are "all going to leave" were rebuked by Jim Singleton, Director of Education for Halton County Board of Education.

"This is just...well, if we spread it on the northern part of this county, your corn would be 40 feet high," Singleton grinningly

told members of the Board at their meeting Thursday.

"You haven't got the right to take 'facts' and quote them from that kind of a source," he charged the press representatives at the meeting. Ramautarsingh had held a press conference when he ended his two-year term as Halton OSSTF president.

Average 26.9
The truth is, Singleton pointed out, there were 34 secondary school classes with 36 or more students in the 1972-73 school year. He felt it significant there were 367 classes with between one and 15 students, too. The median is 26.9 students to a class.

As for low morale and Ramautarsingh's charge that the staff is leaving at a high rate, Singleton noted 7.8 per cent of the secondary school teachers quit in Halton for all reasons in June of this year—a drop from 9.3 per cent last year, 12 per cent the previous year and 15.6 per cent in June of 1970. Elementary school resignations and retirements totalled 11.6 per cent of the staff—an increase from 9.4 last year and 11.1 per cent the year before

High test

Plumbroke Suanne Rockman, a purebred Holstein cow in the herd of H. C. Reid, Milton, has recently completed a high Record of Performance production test.

As a five-year-old in 305 days on twice-daily milking, she produces 21,861 lbs. milk containing 960 lbs. fat, average test 4.39 per cent butterfat, which is a Breed Class Average of 186 per cent for milk and 222 per cent for fat.

Toyota
Community Calendar
What's doing in Central Halton Area!

Friday, July 27

Milton Youth Council invites you to a

DANCE

at the MYC "Quonst-Hutt" Coffee House on Nipissing Rd. (rear of Milton Plaza) Friday at 9 p.m., featuring "MANCHILD".


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for members, \$1.75 \$2 for non-members.

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