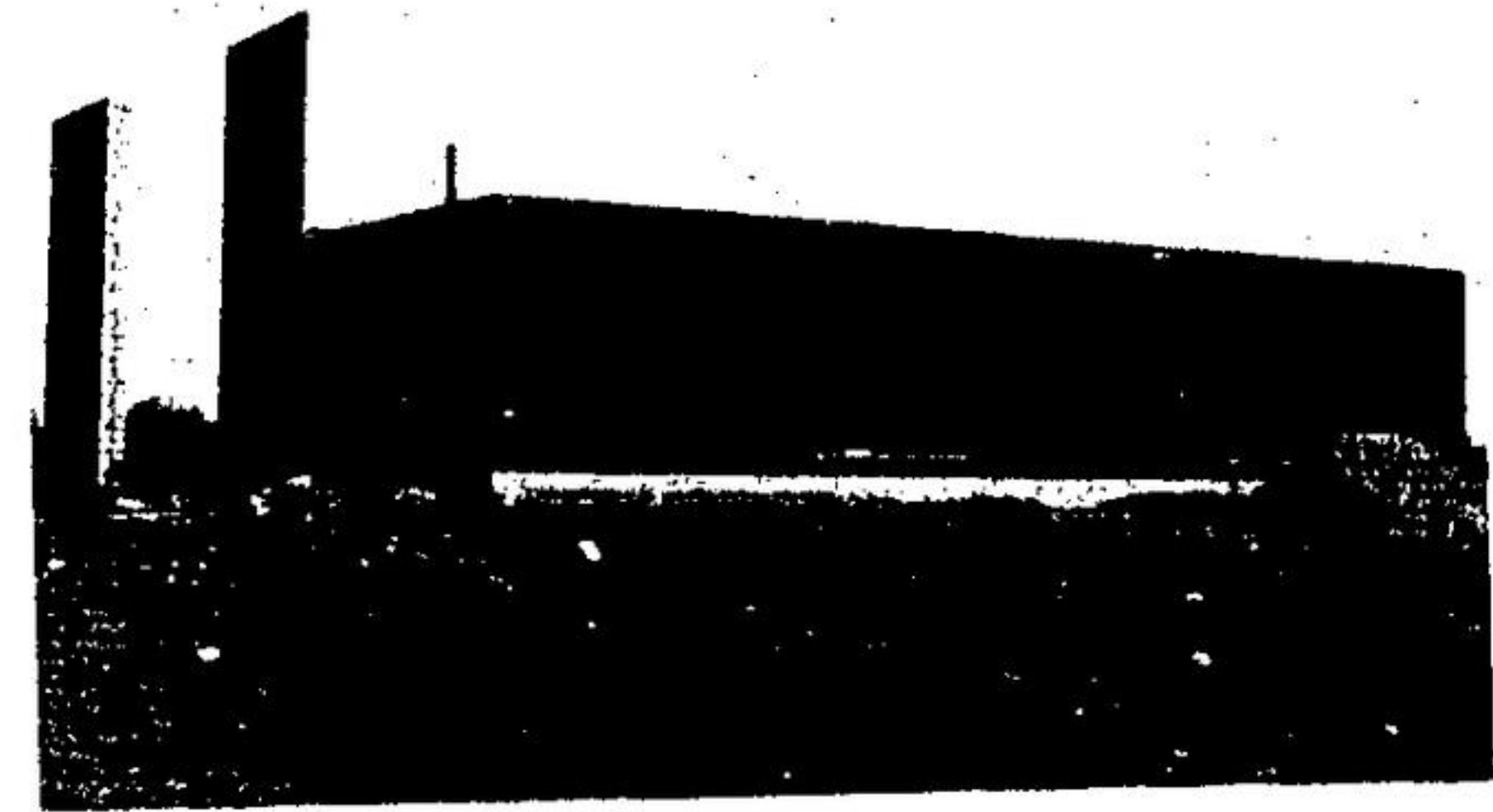


New industry expects late May start



Construction of the new Oref Industries plant is about two months behind due to difficulties with brick and block layers and bad weather conditions. The plant is expected to be in operation very soon though, probably by the end of May.

Oref president M. Rimarchuk plans to have 18 people working in the plant located in the Acton Industrial Park by the end of this year. After the plant is set up he expects development to be much faster with an estimated employment of 100 people in three years, even though the plant will be highly automated. The employees, says Mr. Rimarchuk, will be drawn from the town of Acton and the surrounding area.

At this time the big hold up is the half load limit restricting the use of heavy equipment and delivery of heavy equipment to the building site.

The building is progressing slowly with the roof and part of one side still open but ready for assembly when equipment to be used in the plant is installed.

Oil producing

Oref is an oil producing industry. According to Mr. Rimarchuk they will provide a full range of lubricants. They will eventually be refining crude as well as recycled oil.

The company's aim is to "give the public the right price on high quality lubricants." The company plans to stand fully behind the extensive guarantee on their products. Mr. Rimarchuk says they would like to make expenses and a small profit on their investment but they do not intend to be a heavy profit-making company. In this way they hope to lower the prices of lubricants on today's market.

The Acton Free Press

Ninety-Ninth Year No. 45 ACTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 1974

Fifteen Cents

Two Acton youth grants approved

Opportunity for Youth (O.P.Y.) grants have been awarded once again this year to two groups of students in Acton. Their projects include a senior citizens' program and a revival of last year's band.

In last year's summer program the band succeeded in training their students in instrumental music and also drafting some of them into the regular Acton Citizens' Band.

This year's purpose of instructing grades five to eight in instrumental music is basically the same as last year. Also they plan to take their students to Rockwood for a week of day camp. What

will be new this year is the formation of a junior band from last year's students.

The participants of the band program include Carolyn Merrin, Mary Watson, Dave Marcoux, Dave Morris, Barbara Pratt, Janet Allan and Janis Skyles. They were notified of their project acceptance last Monday. Their actual grant is \$5,835.

Senior citizens

The other O.P.Y. group calls itself SCAP and is involved in a senior citizen aid program. The people in the group want to set up a phone system whereby any senior citizen can call the group. They plan to do odd jobs for these people, such as cutting

grass, reading to them, or just keeping them company.

Members of this grant include Valerie McGinn, Sandy Ross, Melody Hat, Emily Hodgson, Mary McGiloway, Pearl Harris and Mary Ann DeHaan. As one member of the group said, "there isn't really anything for them in Acton... not very many people take an interest in the elderly."

The group received news of their grant of \$6,600 Monday night.

The program will run from June 24 to September 2 with a possible continuation after the summer months. The idea is to see what happens this summer and how well they succeed, though, before even considering this future aspect of the project.

Y renovations for centennial

An emergency meeting of the Y board was held Monday, May 6, to discuss recent breakins and damage at the Y.M.C.A. More security measures are being taken with police cooperation.

The Y is in bad condition, board members agreed, and is also being badly abused.

Programs have been cancelled and the board is trying to "lock up" and "clean up" the building in preparation for good programs starting in the fall, with good instructors and adequate supervision.

The Y's Men and Y's Menettes clubs have undertaken a centennial project renovations to the Y and will be carrying out several fund-raising projects throughout the year.

The board wants to see the building serve the community of Acton — all ages — for many purposes. "But at present it is of no good to anyone as people are using it for sheer destruction," the board told the Free Press. "We want it to be a place of fun and fellowship and we are earnestly requesting the public's support in helping us when we ask for it."

They would like to hear from anyone who has time, ideas or concern to share.

The board will try to keep the public informed on the Y.M.C.A. as much as possible.

Music festival at MZB today

It's that time of year again, when all the public school students in the county compete for top honors in the annual music festival. Wednesday (Today) 10 schools will be in the running, including Martin Street, Brookville, Robert Little, Percy Merry, Fairview, Howard Wrigglesworth, Limehouse, Glen Williams, Stewarttown, and M. Z. Bennett, who is host for the occasion.

yearly event, which began in 1928, was to encourage vocal music in the Halton county schools. The originators of the project were a group of women from the Palermo branch of the Women's Institute. Today's program has greatly expanded in comparison to the first competition in which only 18 rooms took part. Due to the tremendous growth in school population there are now four separate festivals and one county final.

Town — workers in conciliation

Haltom has 13 successful Opportunities for Youth grants approved, worth \$20,447, M.P. Terry O'Connor revealed this week.

Three of the successful applications were from Georgetown, two from Acton, one from Erin and seven were from Oakville. There were no successful grants from Milton.

Successful applications were culled from 30 applicants for grants and represent 93 jobs and 917 man weeks.

Town — workers in conciliation

Representatives of Local 73, Canadian Union of Public Service Employees, and Halton Hills representatives met with a provincial conciliation officer Wednesday, in an attempt to iron out a wage dispute, which sees the two parties seven cents apart.

Local 73, with 50 members, includes the outside workers of the three former communities of Acton, Georgetown and Esquesing. A strike would affect garbage collection, roads and parks maintenance and grave digging.

The town offer of a 38 cents an hour hike, bringing the laborer's rate to \$3.99 was rejected by the union, who are asking a 45 cent an hour increase. This would bring the laborer's rate to \$4.06 an hour.

Three weeks ago the membership voted to strike if their demands were not met.

Local president Kent Robinson said the minimum rate in the neighboring towns of Brampton, Burlington and Guelph is \$4.07 an hour.

The union is also asking five cents an hour premium for shift work, and a slight increase for mechanics and heavy equipment operators.

Quarry owner sees local gravel shortage

"The area around Halton Hills will be out of gravel within 10 to 15 years, J. C. (Mac) Duff, Limehouse quarry operator told general administration committee, last week.

He asked the committee to approve the extension of his gravel pit operation, at Lot 23, Con. 5 into Lot 24 owned by Macassa Mines and Fred Brooks.

Mr. Duff said he realized an amendment to the official plan was needed but said he wanted a vote of confidence from the council.

He explained part of the property had been designated extractive four years ago, but the operation had been halted. "Only pits which were in operation during the

previous twelve month period received licences under the Pits and Quarries Act," said Mr. Duff.

Chairman Roy Booth asked what percentage of gravel would be used in Halton Region.

Mr. Duff answered that 66.4 percent of his sand and gravel went to Halton and 32 percent to Peel. He said over half of his business is pick-up and the rest is trucked a maximum of 11 or 12 miles.

Chairman Booth raised the question of rehabilitation and pointed to "the moonish landscape of some abandoned quarries on Highway 10."

Mr. Duff said he had presented plans for rehabilitation some time ago, which included planting and

sodding for recreation purposes or for housing of some kind. He said he was willing to work with the planning advisory committee to work out an agreement. He warned it could never be put back to farmland, because it never was farmland.

He emphasized the planting and sodding must be done or he would not remain in business. He foresaw a 30 acre lake as a possibility.

Councillor Dick Howitt said the ideal solution for both Mr. Duff and the neighborhood would be the extraction of the gravel before the hydro towers come through, then the towers could be lowered. The present land is high and rolling.

Dragstrip may be house dotted

Residents of the Fifth and Sixth Line who have made known their annoyance with the nearby dragstrip, may have good news soon.

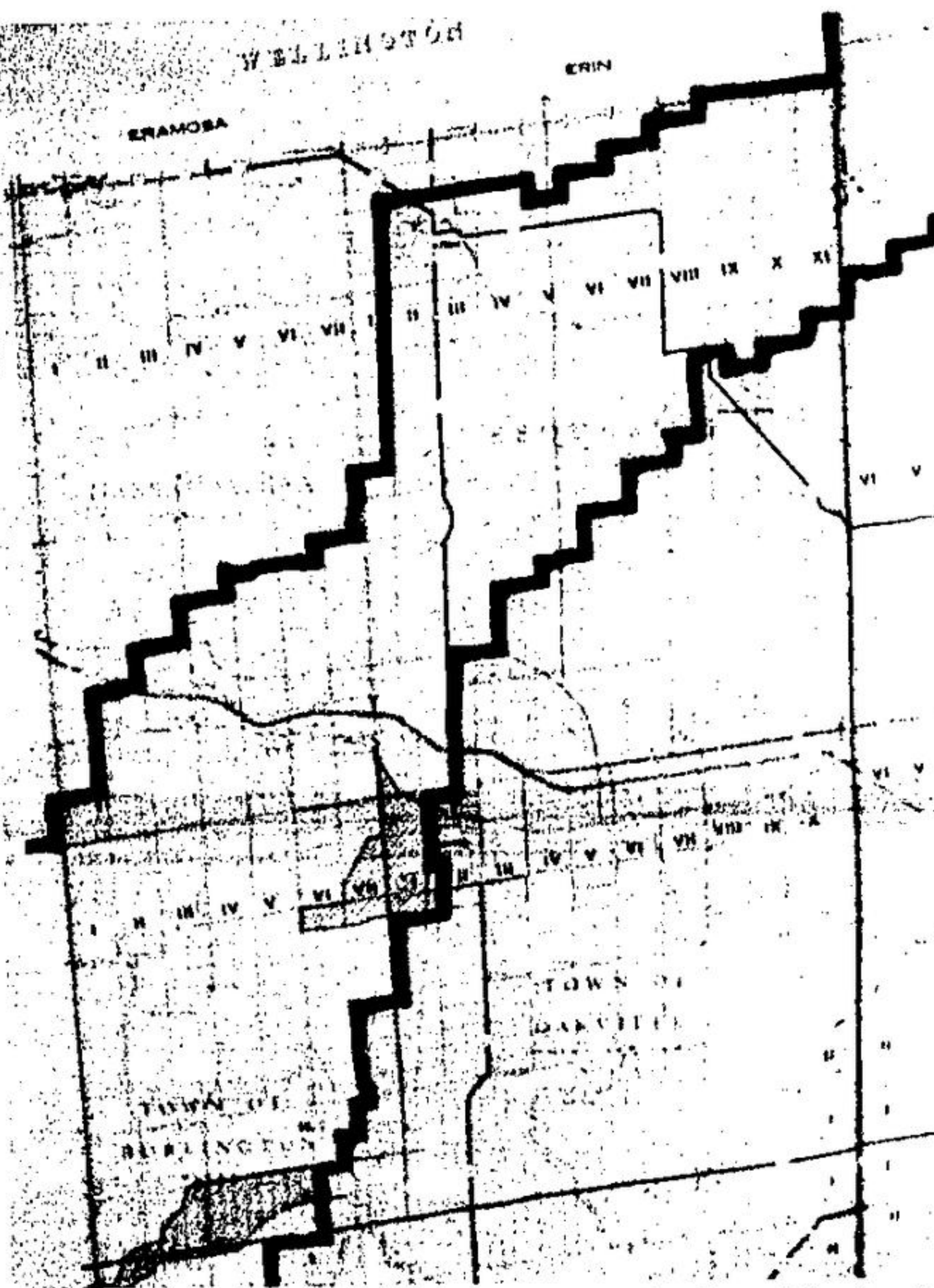
The owners of Toronto International Dragway are hoping to convert the dragstrip to a planned estate development.

Two local owners told this newspaper they are hoping to build houses on 77 two acre lots on the land north of Highway Seven, between the Fifth and Sixth Line.

Madellion-Aire Estates is the name of the company who will lay the plan before the general administration committee of Halton Hills council, next week.

A spokesman said they have three choices—they can continue to run the dragway themselves; they can sell it to some people from United States who want to lease it as a dragway for five years; or they can turn it into an estate subdivision.

Include all Acton in control area



Treasurer John White has issued an order designating the Niagara Escarpment Planning Area under the terms of The Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act. The order was made Feb. 25 and printed in the Ontario Gazette March 16.

Mr. White will present the order defining the planning area to the Legislature for confirmation as required in the act.

Property owners in the area will be able now to determine which part, if any, of their land is within the boundaries of the Niagara Escarpment Planning Area.

Commission Information Officer Walter Goring said people could call the office at 877-5191 or drop into the Georgetown office at 232 Guelph St.

Now that the planning area has been defined, subject to confirmation by the Legislature, the Ministry of Housing will circulate all applications for subdivision approvals and approvals to the Niagara Escarpment Commission for comment.

The legislation providing for the Niagara Escarpment Planning Area and the commission was introduced in June 1973. The commission, under the chairmanship of George McCague, was appointed in November.

Inside boundaries

The plan, to be drawn up by the Niagara Escarpment Commission will be for that area encompassed by the boundaries of the planning area.

There are now no development controls in effect in any part of the escarpment. The Minister, on the recommendation of the Niagara Escarpment Commission, will place development controls on selected parts of the escarpment in the near future.

THE NIAGARA ESCARPMENT Planning Area has been defined and now needs only confirmation by the Ontario Legislature. The planning area takes in all of Acton, part of the old town of Milton and skirts Georgetown. The bold lines on the map trace the planning area.

Three leave meeting in protest

Representatives of the Ministry of Housing met with Halton Regional Council in a three hour private meeting Thursday to unveil plans for a Housing Action Program in Halton.

Three members, all from Halton Hills, left the meeting before the delegation arrived. Pat McKenzie, Ric Morrow and Ernie Sykes were among those leaving and protesting

the minister's decision not to appear after calling the meeting.

Some members of council were upset when they learned the Minister of Housing Sydney Handelman wasn't going to be in attendance. The meeting was called to order but adjourned before Parliamentary Assistant Margaret Scrivener and staff representatives arrived at

regional headquarters in Burlington.

Press conference

Mrs. Scrivener and Deputy Minister Michael Warren held a short press conference following the session with regional councillors.

She explained the objective of the program was to accelerate the rate at which homes were being built in areas where pressure is the

heaviest. Ottawa, Thunder Bay, Sault Ste. Marie and the Toronto Centre Region were listed as those areas under the most pressure to provide housing at a reasonable price. The Toronto Centre Region includes everything from Oshawa to Hamilton, Mrs. Scrivener said.

Mrs. Scrivener claimed she hoped to involve developers.

(Continued on page 10)

Study link in five murders

Discovery of 18-year-old Neda Novak's body near the Credit River in Mississauga last week brought the number of unsolved murders of young women in the Halton-Peel area to five. It has also caused regional police forces to reopen some of the previous cases which they had reluctantly closed, unsolved. Both Halton and Peel police are now considering the possibility that the same person, assumed to be male, may have been responsible for all five deaths.

The first victim was Janice Montgomery, 22, originally from Saskatoon. Nobody really knew where she was coming from or where she was going, but one day in September of 1972 two hunters found the remains of her badly decomposed body in an Esquesing bush near Acton. She had been shot in the head.

The second girl to die was Adele Komorowski, a summer student living in residence at McMaster University while working on her M.A. In May of 1973, shortly before she was to be married, she was dragged from a path outside Brandon Hall and strangled in the woods with a meticulously fashioned noose. Summer students and convention delegates heard her dying screams just before a small car sped away.

Found near Milton

Near the end of last August a farmer cutting hay in a field at Highway 25 and the Lower-Base Line south of Milton found the body of 17-year-old Pauline Dudley. She had last been seen alive in Bronte one week earlier, when she began to hitch-hike to her home near Milton after visiting her mother in Oakville. The body decayed quickly in the summer humidity and police were unable to determine the exact cause of death. They found a hairline fracture in her jaw, the only evidence of foul play.

Constance Dickey, 19, of Prescott had just moved into a women's residence at Erindale College three days previously when she was last identified at a Mississauga bank last September. Later in the month searchers found her nude body gagged and bound in chicken wire in a wooded corner of the Erindale campus. She had been sexually assaulted, and police again were unable to determine the cause of death.

In October Neda Novak disappeared on the way home from Erindale Secondary School. She was believed to be hitch-hiking at the time. Last week fishermen digging for worms found her body not far from the place where Constance Dickey's had been discovered. Small tears in the back of her coat have led police to conjecture that she

may have been killed with a knife.

Police have few clues but some similarities have emerged in all five murders. The killer, if it is only one person, evidently has a penchant for attractive, slightly built young girls. School and college campuses appear to be a favorite preying ground, especially since many girls hitch-hike to and from them. In Neda Novak's case, the girl was compulsive about hitch-hiking and would wait an hour for a ride rather than walk.

Police suppose the murderer is someone of a reasonably trustworthy appearance.

Violence is an obvious common denominator in all five deaths, and Constance Dickey's, at least, indicates some kind of sexual perversion. Similar deviant behavior could easily fit into the other four tragedies. And the murderer, or murderers, must be clearly familiar with the region since all bodies have been discovered in wooded or obscure areas.

The type of murder weapon used has not been constant, as often is the case in multiple murders committed by the same individual, but this might merely indicate the killer is extremely clever and thoughtful. In none of the five cases have there been any traceable clues involving a weapon. The fact that all the deaths took

place in relatively warm weather may also testify to killer's resourcefulness—freezing weather would have preserved the bodies in their condition at the time of death, while decomposition due to humidity has eliminated many possible clues.

Another incident which may or may not be connected to the murders of Janice, Adele, Pauline, Constance and Neda is the attempted robbery and strangling of an Acton girl while she was babysitting in a home on Guelph Line near 20 Sideroad last May. A young man between the ages of 18 and 20 entered the house, saying he needed money for drugs and tried to strangle the girl with the cord of a hot iron, burning her in the process. He fled when the telephone rang.

In this case, the police have a fair description and a composite picture of the suspect, but no identifications have been made.

And the dead girls can't talk.

Police are considering, more and more, the idea that one person could be responsible for at least several if not all of the deaths. A single clue to any of them might solve another, or all of the others. Police hope that somewhere, someone knows something, and hope that if such a person exists, they will soon speak up.



GARAGE WAS GUTTED at the home of Bill Marshall and family Sunday noon. Two trucks answered the call to the property a mile south of town on No. 25 highway owned by Jack Ridley. In the brick garage when the fire broke out were a barbecue, lawn mower, tires, a case of oil and a freezer full of meat. Smoke belched out from under the partly-opened door as firefighters dragged out blazing cartons and pieces of material.