



MOTOR BOATING ON FAIRY Lake is impossible in the Smallwood Acres area where growth of heavy weeds has tripled within the last three years according to George Bain, a retired ex-newspaper man who resides with his wife at the summer park outside Acton, for six months of every year.

Weeds problem for summer residents

Growth in Acton's population is only being out-matched by that of the weeds in Fairy Lake, according to George Bain, a retired ex-newspaper man from Toronto who lives, during summer months, on the lake front at Smallwood Acres, outside of Acton.

George and his wife Ivy, have enjoyed their trailer-camp residence for nine years on the local waterfront but sees the situation of weeds in the lake getting progressively worse.

"When we first arrived of the Acton scene," he explained, "there were weeds but they weren't as intense as during this past few years."

According to Mr. Bain, this summer has been the worst yet, and already some of the regular tenants at the Smallwood property are selling their motor boats and giving them up as a bad job.

"Even rowing up the river is impossible now," said the affable gentleman who enjoys the friendly atmosphere with Acton townspeople and looks forward to his regular program of summer living on the Smallwood grounds.

Raw boating
A trip around the dock area with George at the helm of his flat-bottomed boat, confirmed he was right. Four feet from his dock on Fairy Lake proved to be too wooded for rowing any distance with ease.

Getting from the dock via motor boat was impossible as the weeds would envelop the propeller and it couldn't budge.

Mr. Bain said he would like to see Beardmore and Co. who own the lake and the area around the shoreline, get out their weed-cutting machine and make a straight set of channels to and from the area of the lake to where motor boating is possible.

"We used to use the lake almost daily," said the summer resident, who added, "we used to do all our shopping in Acton via boat up until three years ago." He said the weekly boat trip up the lake was a fun summertime expedition which can no longer be enjoyed. He also sees danger in the rapidly spreading weed beds as boaters falling into the embedded entanglement would have difficulty swimming to safety.

"I wrote a letter to Beardmore three years ago, thanking them for allowing summer residents the use of their water facilities," he said. Mr. Bain said he mentioned in his letter the fact that, during late summer, water levels fall and ancient logs on the bottom of the lake become exposed presenting other dangers for boaters.

"I received a nice letter back from the company," he said and explained that Beardmore president thanked him for his interest and said the company would attempt to keep water level higher. He said Beardmore must have forgotten their intention and referred to numerous logs jutting from the water surface, most of them surrounded by quantities of heavy green growth.

Never swimming
The Bains explained that swimming from their dock has never been a possibility due to weeds. But they aren't concerned about that. They say swimming in a specific beach area of Smallwood Acres provides most summer residents with ample aquatic facilities. The couple from Toronto find the park one of the best anywhere and they also appreciate that the particular environment of the place is what attracts wildlife and birds, which add much to their summer enjoyment.

"Just part of the shoreline cleared away of both weeds and debris with channels back and from the cleared water area," reiterated Mr. Bain. He wonders if maybe it couldn't be considered as a centennial project by either Beardmore or the Acton Chamber of Commerce.

"Even a town project for goodwill," he suggested. Mr. and Mrs. Bain have their permanent home in Toronto. Since Mr. Bain's retirement from the Toronto Telegram, the couple divide their time spending six months of each year living in a double-mobile home in Florida, the other six from May to October, at their Smallwood Acres trailer-camp residence.

The spokesman said approximately 500 to 600 people are located as summer residents in his area of the lake, some occupying seasonal trailer facilities with others, transients during the five month season. He feels the visitors represent tremendous trade input into the Acton community which, if encouraged by clearing up lake facilities, could develop in even greater measure.

Word of mouth advertisement is good public relations according to Mr. Bain who feels that, if summer residents are happy in Acton they will go home and broadcast how they find things. He says they come in from an approximate 50 mile radius including Toronto, Oakville and Guelph. He adds that he and his neighbors are constantly clearing out the weeds along the shoreline but it is more a matter of actually getting rid of them for good.

Extra business
Businessmen in the Acton downtown core agree with Mr. Bain that a great deal of extra business comes to the town through the summer visitors. Paul Nielsen of Paul's Clothing says, "In his opinion, the owner of the camp should cut the weeds (with Beardmore permission). Why not a work bee," he says. Paul claims he cuts weeds at his cottage using clippers under water.

Chamber of Commerce president, Betty Eastwood says she is aware of the

residents' value in the town in every aspect. "It gives Acton tremendous publicity if they go back home and present their views of the town in a complimentary way," she said. Mrs. Eastwood appreciates Mr. Bain's attitude in relating concerns and giving controlling bodies the opportunity of investigating the problem. The C. of C. president said she does not think any town which provides recreation and vacation facilities should overlook the value of visitors. She sees their value both from a public relations point of view and from that of monetary input.

"Apart from a Centennial project," she said referring to Mr. Bain's suggestion, "I shall see if the Chamber of Commerce can't do something about the problem." Mrs. Eastwood says there is no way to promise anything but she will approach people responsible and see what can be done.

John Greifeneder, chief chemist at Beardmore said his company had not been approached regarding the weeds in Fairy Lake. In Mr. Greifeneder's personal view, the responsibility of clearing the weeds is that of the proprietor of the Smallwood Acres park. He says his company owns the land beneath the water but that water itself belongs to anyone.

Reservoir
Mr. Greifeneder explains that Fairy Lake originally started as a reservoir and Beardmore's has always been agreeable to its use as a recreation area. He feels that, if anyone wants to clear away weeds in the lake they are free to do so.

Asked about a weed-cutting machine which Beardmore used to own, the chemist explained that cutting weeds with a machine had proved to be a detriment as it would cut the weeds which would be left to rot, causing contamination and pollution in the water. "When they were clipped they sprouted more," he said.

He said that chemicals are available that could kill the weeds but he doubted if the Ministry of Environment would allow them to be used



IT WAS QUITE a sticky situation for most of the contestants of the bubble gum chewing contest held at the park last Thursday, however, three managed to break through the laughter and concentrate on doing the job. Brian Demone, left, placed first in the event followed by Paul Phelan. Brother Michael Phelan ran third.



RINGMASTER MONICA Musselle was in the group of organizers of last Tuesday's muscular dystrophy carnival held at 68 Kingham Hill Rd. with others in the group including Gary and Brian Mandarino, Patti, Betty and Susan Tufford, Shirley Van Ryk, Kim Gilles, and Kevin Kroll. Assistants taking care of children under five were Nancy Mandarino, Joanne and Sandra Schneider. Last Tuesday's latest report showed receipts had not been tallied.

Kingham youngsters hold home carnival

Even moms can help fight muscular dystrophy and last Tuesday afternoon's carnival on Kingham Drive was proof that, with mothers assisting, money-making schemes will be successful.

Home-made fudge, home-made cookies and kool-aid to wash them down were provided by delighted ladies who applied their abilities with the ingenuity of six ambitious youngsters, drawing approximately 30 people (mostly children), to the two hour event.

Fortune-telling with a genuine crystal ball, bowling on the green, a milk bottle drop and even grab bag sales, drew interest of youngsters who wanted to invest shuffles in the worthwhile cause.

A marble shoot, a foot booth, and other items included care for small fry under five years. Clever signs with "under-ten brushmanship" adorned tables and showed hand craftsmanship abilities along with posters supplied by the Rocket Ship Seven T.V. show. Three cents was the entry fee for those wishing to attend with at least six treasurers all anxious to see the intake tally high to raise large sums for the dreaded disease.

Organizers for the street carnival were Garry Mandarino, Susan Tufford and her sisters Betty and Patti, Kevin Kroll, Shirley Van Ryk, Kim Gilles, Monica Musselle, Joanne Schneider and sister, Sandra. Brian Mandarino was the milk bottle drop operator. Mrs. Mandarino, Mrs. Tufford and Mrs. Musselle were the mother brigade which assisted in the carnival success with Tuesday's late count showing receipts had not, as yet been added. Three assistants taking care of children under five were Nancy Mandarino, Joanne and Sandra Schneider.

because of the final potential results. He referred to the analogy of D.D.T. spraying which had to be stopped as, consumed by animals, it would accumulate in their bodies. If slaughtered, as with cattle, it would then be transferred to humans when consumed as food.

Mr. Greifeneder's contention is that harvesting the weeds is the best way to get rid of them. Raking out, letting them dry and gradually dispose of them is his suggestion. He said Beardmore would not object to having weeds removed if they were cleaned out and not left in the water. He also explained that there is an age-old red water line on the dam, the area from where his company procures its water. The line indicates maximum water level which must be adhered to as a way of controlling flooding to residents living in that area of Acton.

He said Beardmore only use the water without putting any chemicals into Fairy Lake. He explained the weeds were a result of nutrients being fed into the water from natural pollutants such as topsoil being washed in, etc. settling on water bottom and supporting source of growth.

Police probe local injury
An Acton man is out of the intensive care unit of Guelph General Hospital, but remains in hospital with possible internal injuries following an incident Saturday morning.

Police were called to the Canadian Tire Store at 10:25 a.m. and the man was taken to hospital with a cut lip and abdominal pains. They are continuing their investigation into the injuries, but have laid no charges.

It is believed the man suffered the injuries on a set of wooden stairs which lead down an embankment near the Crescent to the old railway siding. The man was in intensive care for two days.

Playground raises \$50 for M.D. fund

Playground children, over 100 of them, converged for competition at Prospect Park last Wednesday in a joint field day — penny carnival. Races filled the morning schedule, ranging from leap frog to the back to back relay.

At noon a hot dog and pop could be purchased for 25 cents and activities built appetites enough to raise \$50 for the Muscular Dystrophy fund.

Highlight of the afternoon carnival was the sponge throw, where playground children gained a definite advantage in combatting with leaders. The carnival activities raised \$31.67 for the playground operations.

Six Halton Hills Department of Recreation staff ran activities and were assisted by two leaders in training. Other events in the carnival were auctions, shuffleboard, roulette and knock-em-over games. Articles for auction were either manufactured or donated by the children.

English translated

English speaking visitors to Schefferville in Labrador were amused to find this verse in a French speaking community gift shop. "Jolie a regarder, Jolie a tenir, Moins s'il te tombent, ils ont vendus."

It is the same one which haunts every similar shop in every other part of Canada and pertains to gift handling.



RIGHT HERE! Playground leader Winnie Kroes gives sponge throwers a target at last week's carnival. Each of the leaders took a turn at getting soaked in the attempt at raising playground operational funds.

Mill St., school creek scene of accidents

Saturday a 1968 Oldsmobile, owned by Sandra Crumbach of Brantford, went into the ditch beside the school creek, near the Free Press office. There was an estimated \$400 damage.

Another accident occurred Friday, August 2, on Mill St. E. A 1967 Plymouth driven by Benjamin Saulnier of Rockwood and a 1969 Pontiac driven by Janis Swackhamer of

R.R. 2, Acton were both travelling westbound when they collided.

Damage to the Plymouth is estimated at \$250 while the front end of the Pontiac received \$50 damage.

GO GLEN TAXI
877-7722
OR
877-1878

Second drug charge laid

Acton OPP made their second drug seizure this week early this morning (Wednesday) about 2 a.m. when they stopped an out of town man walking on Guelph St. He was found to be in possession of an as yet undetermined narcotic. He will appear in court September 11.

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THICK WEEDS ENVELOP the oars when boaters attempt to row on Fairy Lake near the Smallwood Acres trailer-park. Many of the summer residents have reportedly sold their motors as weeds such as seen on the oar pictured here mat around the propeller, making it impossible to budge.