

Bill 151 amendments give region power over sewers, water

According to Halton Regional Solicitor Noel Bates an amendment to Bill 151, a bill implementing regional government in Halton is expected to receive third reading and become effective Jan. 1, 1975.

The main thrust of the amendment would give regional council more power in the area of sewers and water.

At the current time all sewer projects are carried out by the region but it is the area municipal council that decides how to pay for the work.

Under the pending legislation the area council will no longer have that decision to make, it will be a regional one.

Two methods the regional council will have to decide whether or not the project should go ahead and how it should be paid. The work could be rated over the region as a whole or carried out under local improvement. Under that scheme property owners benefitting from the new service share costs with the region.

There is provision in the legislation for chargebacks but that is cumbersome and adds about three months in the approval seeking process, Bates says.

Regional Treasurer Don Farmer said that as he understood the amendment, it would mean that someone in Halton Hills or Milton would be paying the same for sewer service based on equalized assessment as someone in Burlington or Oakville. As of 1977 the region is expected to be on market value assessment and at that time the weighted equalized assessment factor can be forgotten. It is anticipated that the region eventually will move towards a common water rate across the region.

He noted.

The basic difference in the legislation as proposed to that which exists is the region will determine if the project is a worthy one, the region will determine how it should be

paid for and the region will do the work.

While regional councillors have only the benefit of sketchy proposals to date, those questioned were cool to the proposal.

Milton Mayor Anne MacArthur favors staying with the chargeback system. She suggests that under that system each municipality gets what it pays for.

She claims the step would be bad for the whole of Milton and wondered what sort of compensation would be provided for those in rural areas who have to dig their own wells and septic systems.

Two ratings Treasurer Don Farmer says the region would have to develop an urban service area so that there are different ratings for those living in rural areas and those enjoying urban services.

Oakville Councillor Gordon Brown said he felt the chargeback system was a logical step to follow. He opposed any move to tamper with that system for at least another year.

"It's the only way to keep the region on an even keel. We can't have one paying for the other." He questioned the need for the existing system to take an additional three months and said he felt there was an existing procedure for the application to be handled readily.

Esqueing area councillor Len Cox said he hadn't learned enough of the proposed amendment to comment but he felt there were many other aspects of the bill that needed amending before the chargeback system.

Some northern councillors feel that without a chargeback system, small municipalities will have a difficult time having projects approved.

Some feel that under the proposed system the region will determine which areas will be developed. Local councils will have very little say about which areas should be developed.



EVERYONE'S HAPPY when Santa Claus pays a visit and the children at the Sunshine School for his gifts of toys and candies by presenting him with a program of music and Christmas plays.

May phase out Sunshine School

Sunshine School may be phased out of existence and students now attending that school could be accommodated through an addition to the proposed new high school for Milton.

In a report from Director-designate Em Lavender to Halton Board of Education Thursday, he indicated that all three schools for the trainable retarded in the region are inadequate.

Lavender told the board that Burlington's Mayfield and North Halton's Sunshine students should be ac-

commodated in current quarters for another year. Those attending Bruce Lyn school in Oakville could be relieved by splitting the enrolment between the existing facility and Woodside school, where space is available.

He said there were several factors that would influence accommodation for mentally retarded students. The ministry decision to provide for students up to age 21 and to repatriate pupils from Orillia to new facilities in Oakville affected the accommodation problem.

Longer library hours in Jan.

Extended library hours come into effect after Jan. 2. The library will be open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturdays the library will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

And it will be closed Mondays.

Presently the library has been open every afternoon and Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings.

No extra staff has been engaged due to the longer hours.

More time The present staffers will be glad to have more time for

cataloguing, checking shelves, repairs, etc. Now they are busy just dealing with customers.

Many new readers have joined the library from the subdivisions, they say.

Our Christmas wish: that your heart shares the blessed joy of the shepherds.

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9 WILLOW ST. ACTON
853-2007

A warning

OPP doesn't ask for funds

During recent weeks operators of several small businesses have reported that

they have formed the definite impression that the Ontario Provincial Police endorsed a publication in which they had been asked to purchase advertising space.

The Community Services Branch of the OPP reminds people in this district that the force does not solicit funds or advertisements for any purpose. Nor does the Force support solicitation of funds or advertisements for any publication or campaign.

The OPP reminds all businesses, and people in residences to ensure the validity of all requests for charitable donations or solicitations for advertisements in public services publications.

Profit At this time of year, many Christmas related undertakings are promoted which, in order to stay within the law, provide a nominal service for a few individuals while producing an exorbitant profit for the promoter.

No one wants to restrict donations to legitimate and worthy charities or causes. However, neither does one want to donate freely to the pockets of those who take advantage of this goodwill and

use the funds to their own advantage. Be sure you know whom you are giving to and where your money is going. Honest charities need your support, say the local police.

New Year Breaks The Winter 'Blahs'

The beginning of the New Year is when everything hits bottom and, hopefully, starts up again: the weather, the calendar, the end of the holidays, life itself. Beyond the turning of the year stretch the short days and long weeks of January and February. Winter, with its housebound months and long nights, invites reappraisal of life and prospects — an annual challenge.

A means of coping with winter, is the use of outlets and escapes. If you can't afford a winter in Florida, Hawaii or the Caribbean — get away for as much time as you can, even to take a long week end at a state park. Visit museums — go to the symphony or the theatre.

If you aren't in a position to travel and visit places of interest get interested in a hobby. Make things — home crafts use leisure time creatively.

Police warn of salesmen

Police are warning elderly people about contracting to have work done on their homes by people they do not know.

Things just could go wrong. An elderly Acton man reported to them this week that he had had two high-pressure salesmen at his door. One came during the day, the other in the evening. They tried to talk him into new eavestroughing for his house, but also inquired about coin collections etc.

The men gave the name of a company which proved to be non-existent.

The police ask anyone who is suspicious of a door-to-door salesman to phone them.

Also under investigation in Acton and Milton are people apparently canvassing for the O.P.P. for ads for a safety book. People have been contacted to include ads in this publication.

Pine smells

The smell of pine and Christmas cookies permeates many houses during this wonderful holiday season.

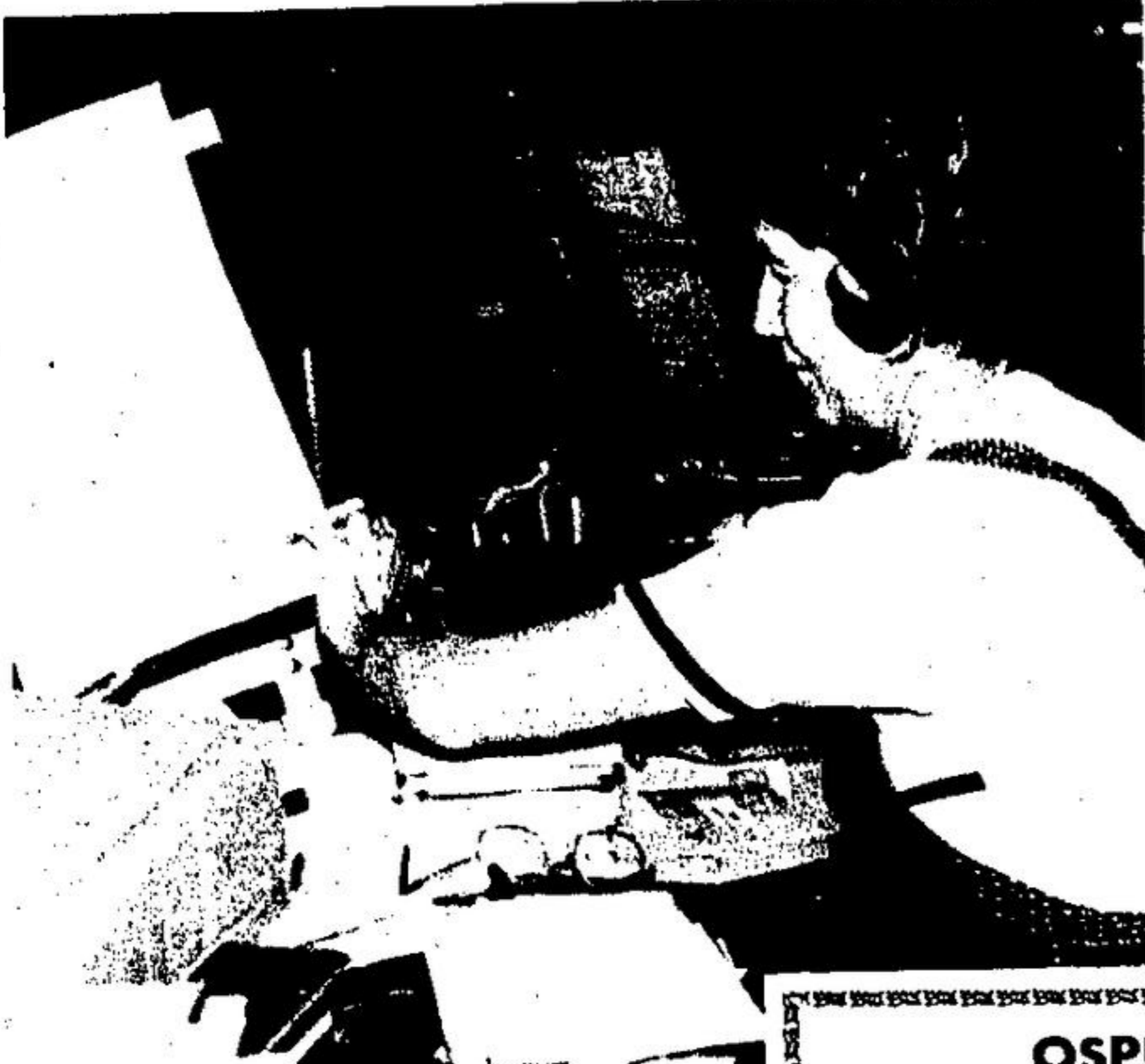


Greetings at Christmas

To our friends, a hearty holiday wish that you may enjoy all the best the season offers.

Jack Holmes, Kris Larsen and Ernie Marks

JACK HOLMES REAL ESTATE



MRS. GRACE PERRY is busy this time of year at the post office. Mrs. Perry works with the directory and changes improperly addressed letters. Acton cards now need street numbers.

Snowmobilers

Snowmobilers are having just isn't producing snow fast trouble getting around these enough this year. days. Seems father weather

OSPRINGE MOTORS and GROCETERIA
WISHES EVERYONE
MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR
WE ARE OPEN EVERY DAY INCLUDING
CHRISTMAS BOXING DAY NEW YEAR'S

1/2 PRICE SALE
Check Hinton's special counter for our 1/2 price sale on Christmas merchandise and open stock Dinnerware
SAVE!! SAVE!! SAVE!!
HINTON'S
5¢ to \$1 Store

It's Christmastime
Let joy enter your hearth and home.
Thanks for your support.
DON, ROY, CHARLIE AND VERN
LAKEVIEW CENTRE

To Wish You the Joys of Christmas

CHRISTMAS Cheer
Songs of good cheer ring out as we fondly greet you and yours.
from everyone at the **ROYAL CAFE**

Peace and serenity... love and brotherhood... be yours... and remain with you all through the holidays.
From All of Us At **GEORGETOWN HOBBIES & CRAFTS**
48 Main St. S. — GEORGETOWN
PEACE
May all the peace, happiness and blessings of this holy season be bestowed upon you and yours. A very Merry Christmas to one and all.
Jessie & Staff
Simpsons - Sears Agency

Merry Christmas
Best wishes for old fashioned Christmas joys... and thank you for the pleasure and privilege of serving you, our valued friends.
MANAGEMENT AND STAFF
Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce

Management and Staff wish everyone a **Very Merry Christmas**