

# Simple answer to garbage problem - Johnson



Is there an answer to the garbage problem? "I believe there is, and what is more, I believe there is a simple answer," says Bill Johnson, head of G.U.A.R.D. (Group United Against Rural Dumping) and recently elected head of the Nassagaweya Ratepayers' Association.

Mr. Johnson works at Don'tar Fine Papers in Georgetown but he's an acknowledged expert on garbage problems. His answers to the garbage dilemma are now being used by executives of large corporations.

"Every village, every town, every city, every region, has or will have a garbage problem—it is inevitable," Johnson says. Today, garbage disposal costs the taxpayers of this Province \$100 million per year. Our throwaway society is using our non-renewable resources at an astonishing rate.

"There is one blessing, and that is that the public, from school children to old age pensioners know more about garbage, pollution, and energy than ever before. Seldom a day passes that garbage, garbage dumps, or pollution is not shown on the T.V., heard on the radio, or mentioned in the local or national press. Garbage is becoming respectable, so respectable that it is often the after dinner topic at many functions.

"Many counties and regions have commissioned Solid Waste studies within their boundaries. Most of these studies are heatedly contested. There seems little consideration for soil contamination or even farm land when these studies are analyzed. Sometimes gravel pits or other excavations are recommended as garbage dumps, even though overwhelming evidence shows the practice of filling such excavations results in ground-water pollution and other complications.

"With regionalism still suffering growing pains, the problem of finding garbage sites is even more serious. Rural people find themselves the recipients of the garbage from the populated areas. However much rural politicians protest, they are, or can be, out-voted at the Regional level. Making the rural areas into garbage dumps inevitably causes an irreversible rural-urban split.

"Recent Provincial plans for Reclamation Plants offer little or no solution. The Province objective of 100 to 1,000 plants per day Reclamation Plants is long term and means landfilling for 20 years and longer. Had the Province's plans been more ambitious, the problem would have been less complicated.

"Politicians might have 'sold' a garbage dump to a community for a five year period (enough time to build plants processing 2,000 to 3,000 tons of garbage per day with added benefits of burning that which could not be reclaimed and producing energy).

"The immediate problem is three-fold: a) Pick a garbage site that will handle the county or Regional garbage for the next five years. b) Recognize the seriousness of the energy and resource aspects of the problem. c) Endeavour to cut down on the volume of Solid Waste.

"The County or Region should make the choice of the garbage disposal site the people's choice. To accomplish this, a Solid Waste Task Force should be implemented. This Task Force, unlike the Provincial Solid Waste Task Force (which lost its credibility and was dubbed the 'Solid Waste Task Force' when it was overloaded with people with vested interests) should be selected from Environmental Groups, the Federation of Agriculture, Ratepayer Groups, and the business community (Chamber of Commerce, etc.).

"This Task Force should consist of a chairman (a member of the Works Committee), a Secretary (from the Public Works Dept.) and at each meeting an executive member of the Works Dept. should sit in.

"The remainder of the Solid Waste Task Force should be selected from the forementioned groups, with careful consideration given to equal representation. Latter members should serve on a voluntary basis without remuneration.

"A similar number of points should be deducted if the site is located on good farm land, too close to a populated area, the condition of the water in the area should also be taken into consideration. For instance, a certain site may meet a criterion, but haulage costs from 'When pros and cons have been evaluated, the site with the most points left is recommended to the Works Committee, and a presentation made stating how the recommended site was selected. The Works Committee should in turn study the recommendation and make its views known to the County or Regional council. If the recommended site is accepted, public meetings, Environmental Board Hearings should follow.

"Having found a garbage site, the Solid Waste Task Force should tackle the problem of finding the best locations for Energy Producing Reclamation Plants. For instance it would be ludicrous to build an Energy/Reclamation Plant in an already industrialized area. Such Industries would already have Power Plants to meet their needs.

"The solution is to build an Energy/Reclamation plant in an area zoned for industry, and then induce industry to locate in that area by selling them low cost energy generated from burning non-reclaimable garbage. Such an Energy/Reclamation Plant could be located near a school, hospital, prison, or other public building and supply low cost energy.

"The Solid Waste Task Force should avail itself of all the modern systems and technology, evaluate costs and other relevant factors and it should make recommendations to the Works Committee.

Third duty of the Solid Waste Task Force would be to study the garbage generated within the area, and to make recommendations to reduce the volume. This can be done in many ways, such as banning the non-returnable cans and bottles, standardization of containers, jars, bottles, etc. could be implemented with the Metric system. It could be made an offense to put out bottles, metals, etc. with household garbage, the alternatives being depots set up at local supermarket plazas where the shopper can return last week's bottles, cans, boxes, etc., when he or she shops for next week's groceries.

"A certain day each month could be designated for picking up large items, such as refrigerators, freezers, washing machines, etc. 'The Solid Waste Task Force could implement seminars for industrial executives. Detailed lists of what their particular industry shipped out as garbage, could be useful, the object being to allow one industry to utilize another's waste material.

"If possible, inert waste could be used for filling worked out quarries, sandpits and other excavations. Recently I learned that with the high cost of straw, this commodity might be replaced by shredded newsprint. The Solid Waste Task Force could study the economics of buying balers, shredders and crushers.

"This could benefit the County or Region in several ways! 1) Be an answer to the abundance of used newsprint. 2) Bale, and so cut down substantially on the volume of pop cans etc. 3) Groups coming to council for grants might be asked to collect paper, tins, bottles, etc., shred, bale and crush the material they collect and thereby earn their own keep."

Johnson says the 60 group Ontario Garbage Coalition, of which GUARD is a member will give assistance to a task force. The coalition has extensive files on reclamation/energy producing plants, composting plants on recycling and on all aspects of solid waste.

Over 500 members of the United Church Women (U.C.W.) attended the annual meeting of the Waterloo Presbyterian held Feb. 24 at the First United Church, Waterloo. President Mrs. Charles Coban opened the meeting which started at 9:30 a.m. and concluded at 3 p.m. Morning speaker was Mrs. Hilda Toll, Toronto, president-elect of Toronto Conference of the United Church of Canada. Basing her talk on the theme Touch, Reflect and Grow, she explained how every experience in life adds to our growth and maturity as a Christian.

Key speaker of the day was Dr. Robert McClure, a past moderator of the United church who has served for many years as a medical missionary. Dr. McClure spoke about his personal missionary work in many countries of the world. In giving his message, The Love of God, he explained how the package has changed. He said that Canadian church women must be informed. He told those attending, that independent foreign churches now send job descriptions as to the type of missionary they desire. "We must go along with this," he said.

The informed doctor said that evangelism is out. "Native Christians are far more effective than we foreigners," he pointed out. The speaker talked on education and its expansion in the countries the United Church supports. Agriculture and medical care were touched on. Medical care is given in health centres operated by the government rather than by private practitioners. Family planning is very successful.

Members attending from many areas, including Fergus, Bridgeport, Rosemount, Cambridge, Eden Mills, Rockwood, Guelph and Drayton.

Responsibilities Money sent by one Canadian U.C.W. paid for a tetanus program for new-born babies. Dr. McClure said, "Our Christian responsibility is to grow more to feed the hungry man. He who has money, gives money. He who has strength, gives strength."

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A LARGE NUMBER of Eramosa students are assisting in the Guelph Centennial high school production of Taming of The Shrew. Many are stage hands, press people, actors and actresses. Seen on stage are Tricia Mitchell of Eden Mills, Carol Finley, Rockwood; Ian Mitchell, Eden Mills; Margie Glendenning, Rockwood and Micheline Howitt of Guelph.

## Former United church moderator key speaker

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## Halton to have waste station

Halton will have its own solid waste reclamation station, instead of sharing one with Peel, as was originally proposed Councillor Ernie Sykes stated.

He said a technical committee was being set up to investigate it, as well as a political committee. Councillor Len Cox was appointed to the Political Committee composed of the Ministry of Environment and Region of Halton representatives.

The waste reclamation station, to be built jointly by the region and the province, will immediately be able to recycle 20 per cent of the region's solid waste. Eventually it is hoped 80 per cent of the solid waste can be recycled. In the meantime waste not recycled, will be baled and shredded.

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**The Town of Halton Hills LANDOWNERS AND FARMERS**  
The South Esquesing Land Owners Association would like to hear the views of Land-Owners and Farmers on the issue of freeing of land into agriculture.  
Stewarttown Community Hall  
Thur., Mar. 27, 1975 at 8 p.m.  
Further Information call Jim Reid 877-8429

**ACTON POOL SCHEDULE DURING MARCH BREAK**

Friday, March 21st	Public 2 p.m.-5 p.m. Teen 7 p.m.-9 p.m.
Saturday, March 22nd	as usual
Sunday, March 23rd	as usual
Monday, March 24th	Public 2 p.m.-5 p.m. Adult 8 p.m.-9 p.m.
Tuesday, March 25th	Public 2 p.m.-5 p.m. Adult & Family 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
Wednesday, March 26th	Public 3:30 p.m.-5 p.m. Adult 8:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
Thursday, March 27th	Public 2 p.m.-5 p.m. Family 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Adult 9:30 p.m.-10:30 p.m.
Friday, March 28th	Public 2 p.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday, March 29th	as usual
Sunday, March 30th	Closed
Monday, March 31st	Public 2 p.m.-5 p.m. Public 8 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Adult 9:30 p.m.-10:30 p.m.

Registration for next session of swimming lessons will take place at the pool Monday, March 31st to Friday, April 4th, 6-10 p.m. and Saturday, April 5th 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

## Free Press Legion notes by Gary Dawkins

Ross Hillier and his group provided the music for the weekly dance in the Legion Auditorium. Everyone in attendance found the evening to be very enjoyable. Next week will see the return of Eric Page.

In the Games Room, Ted LeBlanc looked after the regular mixed euchre night. E. Wedge, M. Nicolak and D. Howsell were the lucky winners for the ladies. The winners for the men were: B. Howsell first, W. Lamb second and A. Gordon with the hidden score.

Daily Draw: A Gordon was the only winner during the past week in the Daily Draw membership.

Remember you must sign in daily if you hope to win. Other names drawn were E. Lambert, J. Zajac, F. Toth and P. Henderson.

**Sports**

Branch Sports: In the only game played last week in the Ping Pong Challenge League, A. Nolan and P. Dick defeated D. Arbie and J. Mason. G. McCutcheon and R. Heller are still holding on to the league's top spot.

The Hi Tones are coming on strong in the Industrial Cribbage League. They are now only two points out of first place. Present standings are: 230 Club 168, Hi Tones 166, Firemen B 153, Campbell Construction 151, Firemen A 143, Lo Tones 138, Legion A 136, Boat Club 133, Duxton Saw 129, Legion C 126, Ink Spots 119, Can Dos 133.

Play in the Industrial Dart League was extremely close.

The only team to pick up more than four points was the D. Gees. Current standings are: Bull Winners 96, The Ducks 86, D. Gees 85, Feathers 76, The Lions 75, Moon Beams 74, Conroy's Kids 72, The Strips 72, Knick Nocks 69, The Heads 66, Odd Balls 56, Yogi Bears 55.

Legion Anniversary: The anniversary for the Canadian Legion is coming up in '76 and gold tulips are being used to commemorate this event.

**DRESS DESIGN CLASSES**  
(for the beginner)  
Sponsored by Halton Hills Parks and Recreation Department

Design your own wardrobe!  
Easy to follow classes will commence April 7, 1975 and run through to June 23 (12 weeks).

The classes will be instructed by Mrs. Emma Adema (878-4381) at Georgetown District High School on Monday evenings from 7:30-9:30 p.m. The cost for the total program is \$30.00 (payable in instalments). Registration will be held at Cedarvale Community Centre in Georgetown, on Thursday, April 3rd, 1975 from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

For further information contact Mrs. Adema or the Halton Hills Recreation Department at 877-5185 ext. 60, 61.

DR. KEITH Cassidy and Mrs. Cassidy of Guelph were speakers at the Right to Life Association meeting held Monday night at the Rockwood town hall. Attendance was small.

**Campaign boss quits**  
Halton resident Robert Blake quit the post of campaign manager for the Ontario Liberal Party last week. He was to have organized the Liberal campaign in the next provincial election.

He had held the post of campaign manager for about six months and has been replaced by Soudon Cox, a Toronto management consultant.

**NOMINATION FORM**

# CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

I nominate \_\_\_\_\_ as citizen of the year for the year 1975.  
The following are my reasons for the nomination:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The event is sponsored by Acton Chamber of Commerce with a view to honoring a citizen each year for outstanding service to the community. The winner will be a guest at the Chamber's annual meeting and dinner dance and will receive an appropriate award. Deadline for nominations is March 21st.  
Mail your entries to The Acton Chamber of Commerce, Box 415, Acton

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_