

Chargeback system on water, sewer ends

The chargeback system as a means of financing water and sewer projects in the region is all but a thing of the past, according to a report filed by regional solicitor Noel Bates.

Until now the region has assessed each area municipality for the cost of the work done in each area. With recent amendments to Bill 151, the system apparently is no longer considered legal.

Mr. Bates noted there was provision for local improve-

ment work. Under that system the property owner pays a certain cost of the work along with the region.

The Regional Corporation is specifically free to define its own urban service areas for water and sewers independent of the area as defined by the area municipality for their services," he said.

Region control
What this in fact means is that the region and not the area will control where and when growth takes place in a

municipality. There has been a strong undercurrent of opposition against any move from the chargeback system at the region. That undercurrent erupted during a meeting of the region's administration committee Wednesday.

Oakville Mayor Harry Barrett demanded to know who initiated the changes in the legislation. He wondered if a group from the region had made representation at Queen's Park.

Oakville Councillor Gord Brown asked where the request came from, who wanted the change and how the amendment got started.

"We saw this in other areas and said we didn't want any part of it here," he said.

There has been considerable informal discussion about adopting the equalized assessment principle across the region. Under that system the cost of all of the projects will be pooled and the region as a whole will share the costs.

Most northern representatives have been sceptical of the scheme.

Supply teachers

Supply teachers working for Halton Board of Education will receive pay adjustments this year. The increases will be retroactive to March 1.

Rather than being paid between \$25 and \$27.50 or \$35.50, teachers at levels one, two and three will receive 1/200th of the minimum for level one and those between levels four and seven will receive 1/200th of the rate for level four. That amounts to \$29.84 or \$40.62.

During the same meeting the board heard an appeal from pool supervisors who argued they should be on salaried positions with the board rather than hourly rates.

Three supervisors outlined their responsibilities and the importance of them to the Board.

Ottawa Report

By Dr. Frank Philbrook
HALTON MP



The interruption of the postal service affects all of us. But it is particularly difficult for senior citizens and people who rely on the mail for their monthly pension or annuity cheques. Business people are also hurt because they rely on the mail for invoices, cheques, orders and often, distribution of their goods.

One of the greatest irritations about this whole situation is the post office advertising that keeps popping up on television. I have spoken to the Minister personally and in caucus and demanded that he get that advertising off the air. The post office is scrambling to stop the advertising and cancel the contracts as quickly as possible. The quicker the better. Many constituents have phoned me to complain about the advertising.

Our own postal situation in Halton is in good hands and mail is moving within the riding. Many of our Halton postal workers are as upset and distraught about the interruption as anyone. But they are doing their best in a very difficult situation.

Air Canada came under a lot of public criticism last week when it landed Toronto passengers in Montreal because of snow and strikes and then made no provision for bus or train to get them to the rest of the way. The Minister of Transport was glad to learn that Air Canada immediately agreed to reimburse passengers.

I am delighted that Mayor Harry Barrett of Oakville and many town councillors are attempting to put a freeze on the development of prime agricultural land in Oakville. At a special meeting of council to discuss the Patterson report on the future growth of Oakville, Mayor Barrett said that the time has come for the town to let all developers know, in no uncertain terms through the town's master plan, that certain lands will be used for agricultural purposes only and that there is no use in speculating about future development.

The federal government is also concerned about farm land and, in particular, the farms of tomorrow. We are currently debating five major amendments to the Farm Credit Act. The first amendment will increase the capital of the farm credit corporation from \$66 million to \$100 million. In the last 15 years the farm credit corporation has made about 120,000 loans to farmers totalling about \$2.4 billion. This makes the farm credit corporation the biggest single source of mortgage money

for Canadian farmers. It is interesting that in its 15 years of operation the farm credit corporation has lost less than four cents on every \$100 it has lent. While this is a real credit to the thriftiness and good business sense of farmers, perhaps it means that we have been too conservative in our granting of loans. The second amendment will allow the farm credit corporation to make loans on second or subsequent mortgages instead of just first mortgages.

The third, fourth and fifth major amendments will help young people get started in farming. Young farmers under the age of 35 who show above average management skills can get loans for up to 90 percent of the productive value of their farm, land and chattels. The third amendment before the House calls for the making of loans of more than 90 percent of the productive value of these assets to young farmers who have the drive and ability to make farming pay.

The fourth amendment will call for a maximum loan to farmers under 35 years of age to be increased to \$150,000.

The fifth amendment is to give loans to young farmers on condition that they become full time farmers within five years. This will encourage farmers who cannot work full time immediately to get the farm started so that they can become full time farmers in five years. Young farmers will be able to borrow as much as \$150,000 under this legislation plus an additional \$50,000 under the Farm Improvement Loans Act for land, equipment and so on.

We can only guarantee the consumer a constant supply of high quality food at reasonable prices by passing legislation which will ensure a strong agricultural base in this country. The agricultural industry is extremely important because one-third of our population in one way or another depends on it for jobs. Our future food producers are the young farmers of today. They need this legislation and I hope that we can get it through as soon as possible.

I will be attending a national prayer breakfast in Ottawa on March 19 in the Confederation Room of the West block. Guest speaker will be Senator Mark Hatfield of the United States. Attending from my riding representing the various faiths will be Rev. Harry Schmuck, Saint Dominic's Roman Catholic parish, Rabbi Natham Liberman of the Beth-El congregation and Rev. Clint Rohr of the Grace Lutheran Church.

Friday collisions

Milton detachment of the O.P.P. investigated several accidents involving local people last Friday.

On March 14 on Highway 25 north of Halton road 15 a car driven by Norman Smith, Esqueping, went out of control striking a mail box. There was over \$300 damage.

On the same day on Highway 25 north of the Milton-Halton Hills line a car driven by John Sharples, R. R. 1, Acton, lost control and struck some guide posts in the east ditch causing over \$500 damage.

Again on the same day on Highway 25 south of Halton Rd. 15 a car driven by Kenneth Hart, 13 Church E., Acton, went out of control striking some guide posts in the east ditch causing over \$500 damage.

Weather was snowy Friday.

Robins

Several reports of robins have been made lately.

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Carrier of the week



JANICE THORNHILL, a grade seven student at Robert Little school, is this week's featured carrier. Janice delivers papers to the townhouses in the Kingham Hill subdivision. This avid sports enthusiast is also interested in crafts.

Committee needs homes

A temporary accommodation program for youths 16 and over, set up by the North Halton Contact Centre, has a real need for more participants. The program depends entirely on the availability of homes to ensure its success.

Three types of homes are needed:

1. Emergency—two to three nights (minimal).
2. Semi-permanent—up to three weeks.
3. Permanent—no limit (up to participants).

Some financial assistance is available and youth will be placed in the homes for a specific length of time. Any extension will be considered by all involved.

"We do not want to place a youth on alcohol or drugs," a spokesman for the Centre

stresses. "If a problem arises the placement may have to be reassessed. The program stresses confidentiality for all."

Lack of suitable housing for a number of people in North Halton has concerned the North Halton Contact Centre since it was opened in November 1973. A Youth Homes Committee was formed to provide temporary supervised accommodation in a family setting for youth of 16 years and older, who for valid reasons, cannot live in their own homes.

The Contact Centre stresses the program is not intended to be an easy way out for disgruntled teenagers or their parents.

In a statement this week the centre says, "Further we must feel convinced that any

teen participating would benefit from the routine and responsibilities of a family home situation, while efforts are being made to effect a workable reconciliation between the youth and his or her family. In the event a successful re-entry into the natural family is unlikely, efforts will be made in conjunction with social service agencies to secure satisfactory permanent housing for the youth elsewhere."

Further information for those interested in opening their homes can be obtained by calling the Contact Centre at 877-1211.

The Centre is always looking for new telephone volunteers and planning a new training course in the spring.

Slept?

Joggers' dream, skiers' here. We must have slept nightmare, spring is almost through winter.

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			PURE VEGETABLE CRISCO Shortening 69¢
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Assessment?

Someone in Toronto has unofficially appointed Councillor Les Duby as "Assessment Department."

One day last week, Mr. Duby received a letter in the mail addressed to the above mentioned department, with his correct street address, and town. The letter should have been sent to an entirely different address in Mississauga.

After being re-addressed by the councillor, the letter was sent on its way to its proper receiver.

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