

Move works garage to Seventh Line

Closing up the works yard on Maple Avenue, Georgetown and selling the land and engineering buildings, was one of the major recommendations in the 64 page road needs study, unveiled by Philips Planning and Engineering at Halton Hills council, Monday night.

Don Tefft, engineer with the company, pointed out the works garage on the Seventh Line was central to all areas of Halton Hills, and should be expanded. He claimed the centralization would be more efficient and prevent useless driving from one year to another.

He pointed out the Acton depot will be utilized for plo-

wing, sanding and salting in the winter months.

He said serious consideration should be given to consolidation of the activities of the works department in the expanded Seventh Line yard.

Tefft predicted the cost of expanding the seventh line garage at \$200,000, but predicted at least that from the sale of the Maple Avenue land and buildings.

Councillor Harry Levy contended it would take much more than \$200,000 to replace the existing engineering building, which he said could not be placed in the Seventh Line works garage.

Another recommendation in the lengthy study sug-

gested major reconstruction be done under contract, rather than by the town staff, with only jobs under two weeks duration done by the staff.

The report urged the reconstruction of the John Street, Georgetown, underpass within the next five years and the replacement of the "old iron bridge" on Maple Avenue, Georgetown after that.

Mr. Tefft stressed there were a great many grants for railway bridges and forecast a maximum of ten percent cost to the municipality.

Hard surfacing of heavily trafficked roads was recommended, especially since in this area, as opposed to

others, the cost of maintaining hard surface roads has proven to be less than soft surface roads.

Tefft said Halton Hills was in an enviable position on roads, since they have a strong assessment base with a moderate amount of construction work to be done in the next ten years. He predicted the backlog of work could be eliminated in that time.

He said the population growth in the town has been on average of 3 1/2 percent per year, while the assessment has been increasing at the average rate of 6 1/2 percent.

According to the study, the cost per mile to maintain a

hard top road in 1975 is \$3,144 and predicts that figure will rise to \$7,413 by 1984.

Implementing the study over the ten year period would cost \$16,766,100, according to the report, with approximately half of it subsidized by the province.

Councillor Len Cox described the needs study as a guideline for councillors to help them in the years ahead.

Councillor Joe Hurst thanked Philips Planning and Engineering for the thoroughness of the study, saying it also provided an accurate inventory of every road, building and piece of equipment owned by the town.



COOKING UP A storm at the Robert Little school pancake breakfast and bake sale on Sunday were Louis Charlebois and Phil McCristall. Does Aunt Jemima have anything to worry about?



Calorie counters beware

TERRIBLE TEMPTATION for the calorie counter came in the form of cakes, cookies, tarts, and muffins at the Robert Little pancake breakfast and bake sale. Barb and Gary Durham can't decide which of the goodies to buy.



MMMM, THAT'S good. Christy Goulding takes a bite of a pancake at the Robert Little school pancake breakfast and bake sale on Sunday.

The Acton Free Press

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Playgrounds still free

In a last ditch bid to have some fee charged for summer playgrounds for six to 13-year-olds, Councillor Harry Levy came up with a six dollar fee for the whole six week period for one child and a nine dollar fee for a family of two or more children.

The motion was defeated on a 4 to 7 vote and the playgrounds will be run with no charge.

The issue debated many times, was rebuffed last and long Monday night.

Councillor Pat McKenzie contended fees were charged for all other recreation and claimed there should be a charge for playgrounds. He said a child must pay 25 cents to swim at Acton pool, and pay to play hockey. "100 per cent free is wrong in my opinion," he stated.

Councillor Roy Booth said there was no large facility to be maintained in the playgrounds.

Councillor Ric Morrow said it would be foolish to charge for children using the parks. He claimed the leaders were there to protect and supervise the children. He defended the charges at the pool and the arena saying the town had invested a great deal of money in them. He pointed out the charges do not carry the costs, so the taxpayer is subsidizing them.

McKenzie said he was not talking about parks. He said most of the playgrounds were in schoolyards or inside the schools, if the weather was

unsuitable. He wondered how buses for the weekly trip could be arranged if there was no registration and no one knew how many children to expect.

McKenzie claimed Georgetown Recreation Advisory Committee, the Glen hall board, and Ballinafad hall board favor a fee.

"The Acton Recreation Advisory Committee were against a fee," retorted Councillor Dick Howitt.

McKenzie said they would not be charging kids simply to go to a playground. He insisted it was a special organized program to be run by 20 leaders.

Councillor Ernie Sykes wondered if council was being misled. He said, "We are told the parks are open for kids, to

do their own thing, then why do we have 20 leaders?"

Sykes said kids use the parks all year round, and asked why there should be leaders if they are not getting some extra benefit.

Councillor Russell Miller said there should be some nominal charge for registration and program. He said there was a registration fee for everything else. "I can't see a program where there could be five one day and 50 the next," he commented.

Councillor Ernie Hyde claimed the budget amount of \$20,000 or \$23,000 was high, if it was only to provide protection for kids or from vandalism.

Levy emphasized it was an organized playground, with paid leaders at a net cost of

\$20,573. He said it was a jump of 33 per cent in cost over last year. "Either we must reduce the budget or make a charge". He then introduced the motion to charge six dollars per child or nine dollars per family for the whole period.

Booth said the town was hiring people to organize the playgrounds so the children can have ball teams, soccer teams or anything else. "If we keep this up we'll have toll gates on our parks and if you want to go for a walk you'll have to put your quarter in a slot."

Howitt said in playgrounds in Windsor there was no problem and no registration. "It is not a regimented program, we want a loose program where children can go one day and perhaps not the next. It may be the only recreation some children have, if their parents don't have cottages or can't afford summer hockey schools."

Morrow pointed out the program had been in operation for years and was not new except in the three rural areas. "Under Levy's idea, would he want the kids to carry I.D. cards, so they can't get in without it, even if their friends are going."

He contended there had been claims of over-organization of children, but now some members wanted the playgrounds more organized.

Councillor Len Cox said he could not see why the children should be any more regimented whether or not they paid a fee.

Councillor Dick Howitt urged any reduction in the recreation budget not be made on the playgrounds, but in some other area.

Councillor Les Doby, Acton Mayor for the meeting, contended the town would be exceeding their authority in regimenting the children. He said there has to be a certain amount of leeway. He said his main concern was the availability of all children to the programs.

Ice late

"Old timers" from around the shores of Fairy Lake say ice is the latest going out this year that they can ever remember. It was Friday's rain that triggered the break-up. (Despite the knowledge of the treacherous, punky ice, one of the people who has lived for years along the shores fell in Saturday!)

Usually the ice is out by April 1.

Charge wounding

On Wednesday Bernard Tillson, R.R. 1, Acton, was charged with wounding Gayle Wembling, R.R. 1, Acton, as a result of an argument.

She was shot in the left arm and is reported in good condition. She was taken to St. Joseph's hospital, Guelph.

The Milton detachment of the O.P.P. investigated.

Acton to Guelph

Rebuild 7 Highway



A CURLER'S DREAM provided a fitting climax to the season at the Acton Curling Club Saturday night, when Earl Hushagen and Paul Savage, two of the province's best skips met in the championship game of the second annual Sun and Fun Bonspiel. Savage's rink won the grand prize of a trip to Florida for four. For story and more pictures see the Free Press sports pages.

Construction for the rebuilding of Highway No. 7 between Acton and Guelph is to begin soon, according to M.P.P. George Kerr.

While speaking at a Progressive-Conservative Association annual meeting last night (Tuesday), Mr. Kerr told the group the road would be completely rebuilt. Widening, new engineering and paving will lead the way to a

Students receive grant for music

For an unprecedented third year in a row, four students from Acton high school have received an Opportunity for Youth grant for music.

Brenda Kingsmill, Janet Allan, Mary Watson and David Marcoux applied for the grant several months ago, but it was not until Thursday when Mary got a phone call from Halton M.P. Dr. Frank Philbrook that they knew.

The four high school students will receive \$3,550 for their project, which will be the teaching of music to students in the junior band, and those not quite able to be

Continued on page 3

Questionnaire on separate school

The possible building of a separate school in Acton will depend on the results of a questionnaire which went out to Roman Catholic families this week. The letter was sent by Dr. Leno Braida, chairman of the Halton separate school board.

He asks parents if they would send their children to a separate school and how many children would be of the right age. It also asks if the families would like a public meeting on the subject.

The board has chosen this time to discuss the possibility, since both public schools here are on the verge of expanding and the time for a third school is opportune.

Father Smye also read the letter at St. Joseph's church Sunday.

SCAP grant revealed

Halton M.P., Dr. Frank Philbrook's Ottawa office called the Free Press at press time today (Wednesday) to inform us that SCAP (Senior Citizen's Assistance Program) has been granted a \$425 Opportunity for Youth Grant.

None of the group have been informed as of yet, but Dr. Philbrook has been trying to get in touch with Melody Hatt, Emily Hodgson, and Pearl Harris, the main people involved.

The project, which will last from June 22 to September 1, will be the same as last year, with the senior citizen's needs and wishes in the way of help and companionship fulfilled.

There are eight students involved.

Honor OPP on Saturday

There'll be plenty of policemen around here Saturday, ranging all the way from young constables to the deputy commissioner. They are all expected for the annual Citizen of the Year dinner dance, which is at Acton Meadows golf course. Honored guests are the O.P.P., who are leaving Acton after 26 years.

Tickets are going well and a full house of 150 is expected.

The deputy commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police J. J. Erskine is coming from Toronto, as well as the Superintendent of Burlington No. 3 district headquarters Eric Code. Other detachment commanders and former members of the Acton detachment are expected.

One of the original members of the first detachment here in 1949, Inspector Art Forester of Jundas, is coming.

M.P. Dr. Philbrook and M.P.P. George Kerr have tickets.

Chamber of Commerce organizers are looking forward to a very impressive evening.

After dinner and the program, the Marx will play for dancing.

No Silvercreek dam - Hill explodes

The Land Use and Wildlife Advisory Board have recommended to the Credit Valley Conservation Authority that no dam be built at Silvercreek, at this time.

Hearing the news at the Authority meeting last Thursday, Mayor Tom Hill exploded.

"Three years ago we decided the next dam to be built was at Silvercreek. Why have we been buying all this land on hills?" he demanded.

Chairman Grant Clarkson explained Silvercreek conservation land was a highly desirable area and was to be kept as natural as possible.

"We don't construct dams and ponds as we used to. We've found it's better, from an ecological point of view, to maintain stream flow by

proper management," he said.

"If there's not going to be a dam, why have we spent so much money buying the houses on the hill?" the mayor wanted to know.

Clarkson assured him the Authority needed to acquire land in order to meet up with the Terra Cotta Conservation Area.

"We're thinking of it as a conservation area, but we may need a low level dam for recreation in the future," he said.

General Manager Harry Watson stated the recommendation of the Government was to acquire as much Niagara Escarpment land as possible, regardless of a dam or not.

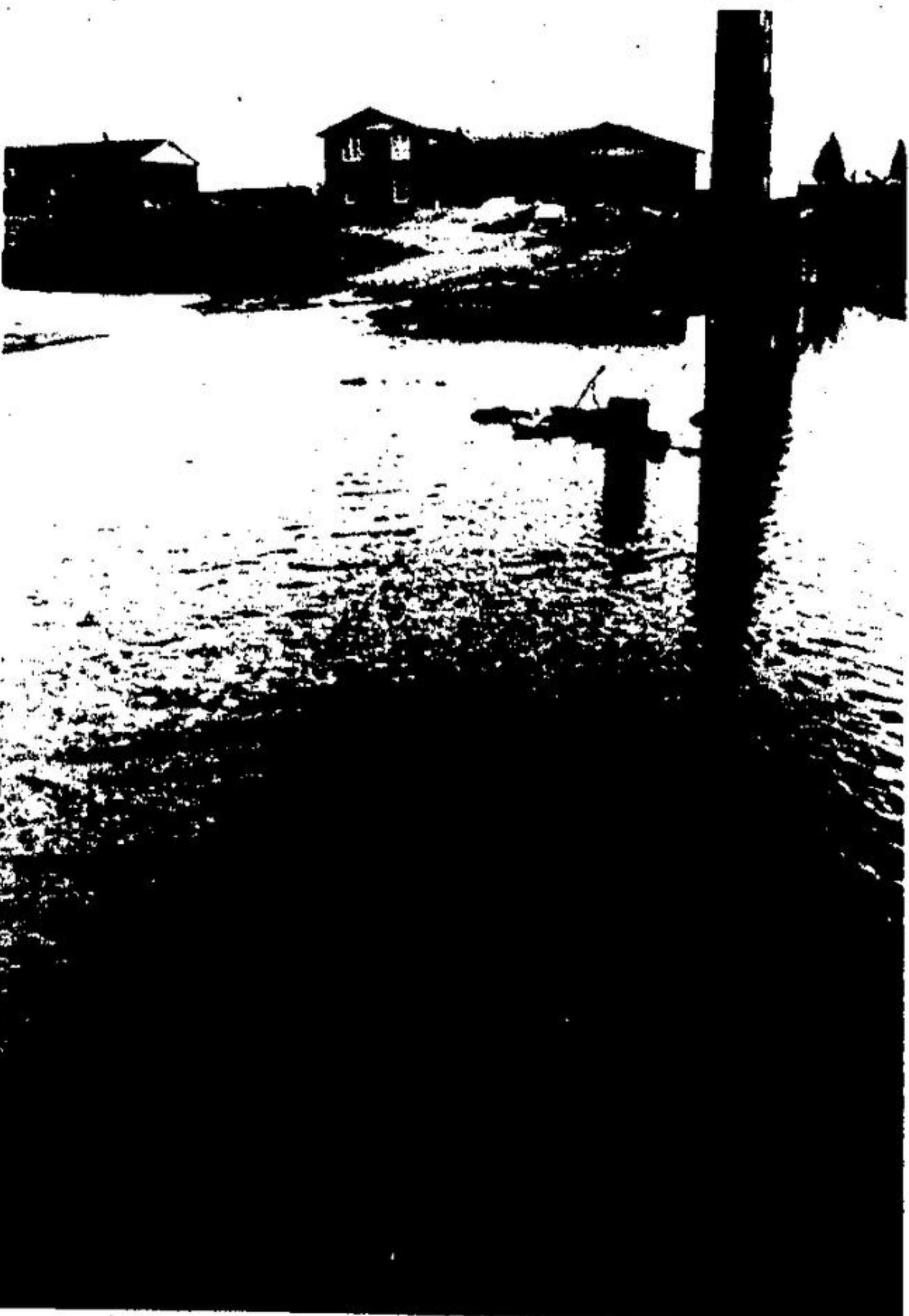
Clarkson explained it was necessary to use

dams originally when the river was used for sewage disposal and a water source. However, he agreed it was the Authority's current policy to maintain a constant stream flow by improving channelization and only using dams for flood control or recreation areas.

A split vote on whether or not to defer discussion till a later date forced the chairman to declare the subject closed.

Mayor Hill retorted, "The north is now against the south—a new Mason-Dixon line has been formed tonight."

With that, he jammed his cigarette lighter in his mouth and tried to light it with a cigarette.



DRIVEWAYS at Rogers and Nadhazi homes on the fourth line were completely under water Saturday, but were showing again by Monday. The flooding extended out onto the roadway, but traffic was able to get past. The photograph is taken from the road.