

Guelph dam

Structural work on the Guelph dam is progressing satisfactorily, according to the Grand River Conservation Authority.

The GRCA reports earthwork will commence as soon as weather conditions permit. An agreement for the relocating of Highway 24 has been completed, as are the necessary legal surveys.

Report is released

The report of the Royal Commission Inquiry into the Grand River flood of May, 1974 has been released. Guidelines have been suggested for the various parties involved and comments for improvement have been made.

Recommendation no. 13 stated that no further building should take place in the floodplain. This is a policy long supported by the G.R.C.A. It is known that damage to property due to flooding cannot occur where there are no buildings that are subject to high water. Stricter enforcement of floodplain regulations were therefore recommended.

It was also stated that property owners building in floodplain areas should sign hold-harmless clauses that must be registered on title.



ARTHUR MALONEY Q.C. was guest speaker on Sunday afternoon at the Rockwood ecumenical service at the Rockwood Centennial school auditorium. He is seen shaking hands with Lions president Jim Milne. Reeve Bill Adsett also chats with the distinguished lawyer.

Free Press Rockwood and District

Arthur Maloney speaks at service

A smaller than usual crowd attended the annual ecumenical church service held at the Rockwood Centennial public school last Sunday. It was held as a holiday community event sponsored by the Rockwood and District Lions Club.

Guest speaker for the afternoon event was Arthur Maloney, Q.C. With his topic the Death Penalty, the speaker told his audience of approximately 135, that the ultimate purpose of all penal sanctions, including those that apply to capital crimes, is, and must be, the promotion and preservation of the common good.

"The common good is best served by the reduction of the incidence of crime," said the speaker, "and by the removal of whatever it is that causes it."

Mr. Maloney said the best method of achieving this objective has, over the centuries, been the subject of wide controversy. "There are many cultivated people who incline to the view that a program of strict, severe punishment is the only answer. Their point of view stems from the apparently logical assumption that, if offenders are punished harshly enough, are given long sentences in prison and held in antiquated and unattractive penal institutions, they will resolve to so conduct themselves in the future, that they will never see a prison again."

Fallacy proven
The speaker said experience over the years, has proven the fallacy of this, with many forms of capital punishment done away with and replaced by more humane methods. "Punishment is an inevitable incident of every criminal prosecution," said Mr. Maloney. He pointed out that the arrest, trial, conviction often attended with considerable notoriety, plus the humiliation to

the offender's family, the loss of companionship of friends and the respect of fellow man, are all punishment of the severest kind.

He said the old methods, the old institutions, have been demonstrated as unworkable failures that had the effect of breeding the crimes and criminals they were intended to deter. "They failed because they were founded on concepts that misapprehended the true nature of man."

Theologians remind believers that man is created in the image and likeness of God and is possessed of a natural dignity that is not one of the elements in the make-up of any other animate thing," said Mr. Maloney. He pointed out that theologians are talking of all mankind, even those who have been sent to prison. "Men are rational beings and are more likely to respond to civilized treatment," he said.

Fostered and caused
Mr. Maloney feels unenlightened prison treatment has been the negation of these principles. That it has not bred reformed and rehabilitated men, but, having treated men as animals, has fostered animal instincts and helped cause the very crimes it meant to avoid.

"I am not overlooking the fact that abolitionists are often regarded as persons who display undue compassion for the murderer and none for the victim and the plight of the victim's family. The officers connected with our Canadian Society for the Abolition of the Death are the first to acknowledge that some citizens possess traits of character which makes them sources of danger to our society if they are at large," said the speaker. He said society must take steps to ensure its own protection from the threat that would be occasioned in

the event of their release from prison.

"When we read of the rape and murder of a little child the abolitionist feels the same sense of revulsion as anyone else. Our feelings of sympathy in such cases are directed, not to the murderer but to the bereaved family of the tragic victim." He said the execution of the murderer in such cases has not prevented their happening again repeatedly and it will not prevent it from happening again in the future.

"The tragedy of it all is that we are not attempting to ascertain the cause of the aberration that motivated the crime." He feels that a study of the prisoner in close confines, could result in greater benefit to society than his execution, and assist in eliminating such tragedies and save innocent lives in the future.

Developments in Canada
The speaker told his audience that prior to June of 1957, an average of 12 to 13 individuals were executed in Canada annually. "Up to that time, juries' recommendations of mercy in murder cases were rejected in 27 per cent of the cases in which such recommendations were made." He pointed out that in 1931, 25 death sentences were reviewed by the Bennett government and 22 executed. "Only three were granted clemency," he said.

In 1932, 23 death sentences were reviewed by the same government and 16 carried out. "In 1933, 24 death sentences were reviewed with 16 carried out and in 1934, 19 with 12 carried out."

"The startling figures of the early 1930's should be con-

trated with the present state of affairs in our country. A marked change has taken place. This change commenced in June of 1957 with the assumption to office of Prime Minister Diefenbaker. Mr. Maloney said that between 1957 to '61 the government of prime minister Diefenbaker resorted to commutation of the death sentence in all but the worst possible cases that came before it.

"It is our hope we have seen the last execution in our country," he said. Mr. Maloney was national

president of the New Canadian Society for the Abolition of the Death Penalty which received a federal charter in 1964. Its object is to recruit public support for a law to abolish the death penalty so that it can show to parliament that a majority of thinking people of our country wish to see an end to capital punishment." After the service, refreshments were served by the Lionsettes. Collections received were divided to be sent to the Canadian National Institute for the Blind and the School for the Deaf at Millon.

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Will swim or will not swim that is the big question

Under the government sponsored program, Experience '75, the Grand River Conservation Authority will be hiring 77 students this summer. Eight of these have been taken on staff at the Rockwood park, some in the area of beach supervising, others as life guards and maintenance workers. With the exception of beach supervisor, Kathy Theakston, and assistant supervisor, Liz Theakston, of Guelph, the students are first-time employees at the local park.

Full time life-guards who will be taking up duties sometime around June 16, dependent on weather, will be Kathy Rowe and Tim German. Bev Wells and Shannon Scaman will be part-time life-guards. They will begin the season by working at maintenance in mornings and taking up duties on the beach during afternoons.

Maintenance employees will be John Roache, Kathy Howard, Betty Law, Pat Brown and Ron Kelly. Lois Hamilton and Shirley Moore will act as gate-house attendants. Nellie Van Pol will also be employed as maintenance staff.

Down at the concession booth, looking after refreshment requirements, will be Mrs. E. Sharp, Manager of

the Guelph Campus Co-op and the G.R.C.A. tuck shop at the Flora park.

Six have begun

Six of the students have been involved in park clean-up for the last three weeks; others have worked just for weekends on both maintenance and gate attending. Those involved in Authority operations will work in many aspects of job classifications including, all phases of conservation area improvement, forestry and wildlife, Doon Pioneer village restoration, aquatic studies, resource planning, water control and

Rockwood club takes Acton win

The peewee division of the Rockwood Soccer club moved off to a great start last Thursday, May 15 when they won their first game played against Acton in the Halton and Peel Minor soccer league.

Game was held at the Rockwood Centennial school grounds and final scores showed Rockwood taking a 2 to 1 win with Gerry Druif the

clerical positions in administration.

Report from the Rockwood gatehouse is, there have been many enquiries as to whether water is warm enough for swimming. "But the water is really too cold," say Liz Theakston. The staff put in the buoy lines last Thursday and hands and feet were blue on coming out of the water. About two or three swimmers braved the water on the weekend of May 10, she said.

Park supervisor is Joe Randall, assisted by Jim Gellatly. So far no final word has been released on whether

swimming lessons at the beach will be held this year. Residents were advised to write to G.R.C.A. to make requests they be continued. Park attendants say that, so far, nothing can be reported as to decision.

Comin's and Goin's

A visit of two weeks ago is one to be recorded by many Rockwood residents especially those members of the bowling league. Betty and Ray Death enjoyed a weekend visit with Ben and Aline Benedetti in Capreol, near Sudbury. Ben, as everyone will remember, started up the district's first bowling league and Aline started French classes at the Rockwood school. Ben was inspirational in many other happenings in

the village. Their two children are now grown, Susan 21, and Peter, 15. The friends talked "away into the night," and news is that the Benedettis will be visiting in Rockwood sometime this summer. They sent back a hearty "hi" to all their friends in the village.

Mothers anxious to ensure their pre-schoolers will be enrolled in nursery school

May 22 bus trip for Sunshiners

By Mrs. Robina Peacock

The Rockwood Sunshine Club had a great turnout for their May 8 meeting with 52 members present.

Mrs. Vera Black welcomed Mrs. Rose Oakes back after her long illness, also Mrs. Tina Johnston and John Naismith.

After all business had been taken care of, Thos. McCutcheon came forward and said, because it was so near Mother's Day he would like to sing Tell Mother I'll be There. He has such a magnificent voice everyone really enjoyed it.

From the Friendship Book A. K. Thomas did some readings; a mixture of humour and philosophy. With Mrs. Vera Black again at the

piano as accompanist Alf Couling gave a selection on his harmonica. Everyone joined in singing "You Are My Sunshine".

Games played
Euchre and crokinole were played with the euchre prizes going to Mrs. E. Craig, Mrs. Nora McLean, David Robertson and Ivan Harris. Crokinole prizes were taken by Mrs. Grace Perry and Victor Smith.

Birthday greetings were sung to several members and then a delicious lunch of mixed sandwiches, pickles and cookies was served by Mrs. Max Milne and Mrs. Ivan Harris. All those going on the bus trip on May 22, are reminded the bus leaves the Rockwood town hall at 9 a.m.

Eramosa council briefs

A letter received from the Grand River Conservation Authority was discussed by Eramosa township council at their regular meeting held at the council chambers on Monday evening, Reeve Bill Adsett was in the chair, with members, deputy reeve Betty Lou Clark, councillors John Hewitt and Allan Burnett. Clerk-treasurer Lloyd Hindley was also present along with interested township residents.

G.R.C.A.
The G.R.C.A. requested assistance in costs of their swimming instruction program to be conducted at the Rockwood park during summer months. The Authority said it had been intended to delete classes from park programs this summer but, because of requests from councils and residents of Eramosa they had decided to reconsider, providing required amounts could be subsidized.

G.R.C.A. asked council to share cost of \$1,600 required for qualified instruction. A similar letter was sent to the Rockwood trustees. The Authority requested that half the amount be covered.

After discussion council decided to investigate number of participants, weeks of course, charge to individual swimmers and other aspects of the lessons. The feasibility

Demonstration

By Scott Harris
A Halton 4-H Field Crop Club meeting was held May 8 at the John Deere Country Mart.

The meeting was opened by Doug McPhail with the 4-H pledge. Ari Lawson gave a discussion on how much it would cost to farm. After this six members were given some rare types of seeds to be grown in experimental plots. Some of the seeds are faba

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