

# Community Services group forms, centre planned

An Acton Community Services Unit will be organized to improve psychiatric, social and health services in Acton. At a special meeting last Wednesday morning, steering committee members agreed to proceed to make firm plans that will result in improved availability of services to residents of this area. A budget of \$14,915 is recommended for the first year's operation, hoped to begin September 1. Possible funding was considered.

**Want space**  
The committee assumes one of the reasons for inadequate agency response is the lack of interview and meeting space, so negotiations are underway for space in the Y. Staffing would be shared by the committee and Halton's social, health and volunteer agency personnel. The committee also recommends the hiring of a full-time receptionist-co-ordinator.

A board of directors will be established and incorporation proceedings will be begun immediately. On committee steering committee members are Peter Marks of the Addiction Research Foundation, Brian Skerrett of Acton high school, Jaci Winkill of Halton Regional Health Unit, Len Ewing of St. Alban's church, Nancy McPherson of the Human Service Council, Corp. Bob Arbour of the O.P.P., Don

Morgan of Addiction Research, Ruth Taber of the Halton Board of Education; Dr. Craig Hutchison, physician; Dorothy Craig, Halton Director of Nursing; Bill Coon of Halton board of education, Larry Scott of Milton O.P.P.; Dave Mitchell of the Children's Aid Society, and John Dougan of the Community Psychiatric Clinic. The steering committee will remain the board of directors until a public meeting in November.

Originally a meeting of interested people was called in January, to consider a proposal to increase availability of services in town. It was then that Acton Community Services was first visualized. A large group attended this special meeting. It was stated then that the northern section of Halton region, specifically Acton, Georgetown and Milton, have long been recognized as underserved in terms of

social, psychiatric and health care provisions. Not only residents, but people in the human services field, have agreed. A Human Services Council for Halton region has already been established and one of its objectives was to encourage more service in the north. Take time The steering committee is already negotiating with agencies and services to make available staff time

commitments. (Presently, a family counsellor visits Acton, usually on Tuesdays, and uses an office in the former town offices). A full time receptionist in the Y would also act as co-ordinator and counsellor, according to the committee. They felt the traffic in and out would require co-ordination. The steering committee also reports their belief the Centre would benefit from the contribution made by a volunteers' program.

Volunteers could provide office and maintenance services, community preventative programs such as Parent Effectiveness Training and discussion groups; organizational and funding support. Basic cost would include the salary of the co-ordinator and office expenses. They thought perhaps at first the

paid worker's job might be handled voluntarily. For the funding of the \$14,915 budget the steering committee considers regional and municipal grants, provincial grants, Ministry for Community and Social Services and Ministry of Corrections and Health grants. A canvass of the community, industry and local Continued on page 2

## The Acton Journal

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### Council backs firm's bid to town

Despite objections from councillor Harry Levy the town has decided to throw its support behind a firm which is trying to get a provincial grant to help them locate a plant in Acton. E.C.F. Metal Flashing, Montreal, has applied to Queen's Park for an Ontario Development Corporation grant under the Ontario Business Incentive program. It was announced at a council meeting on May 21 that the firm thought they might have a better chance of securing the grant if they had the town's backing. "There is nothing we can do about this. Acton isn't in the area covered by the grants. Acton is about 350 miles away from an area which does qualify for these grants. I just don't see how this firm could qualify," Levy said. The committee was informed the Montreal based company would like to put a 10,000 square foot plant in Acton's industrial park and it was suggested the facility might eventually expand to as much as 20,000 square feet.

Councillor Dick Howitt said he couldn't see how it would hurt the town to give the company its backing. "I am opposed, we are foolish to give them our support. They aren't eligible for a grant and we know nothing about the firm," Levy said. The council approved a resolution backing the firm's application bid and the resolution will be sent to the province.

### Legion president

David Capperault, a member of the Acton Legion, was elected Provincial President of the Royal Canadian Legion for Ontario last week. He was third, second and first vice-president of the Ontario Legion and served two years in each post. Mr. Capperault was president of the Georgetown Legion for three years in 1960 before moving up to the post of zone and district commander.

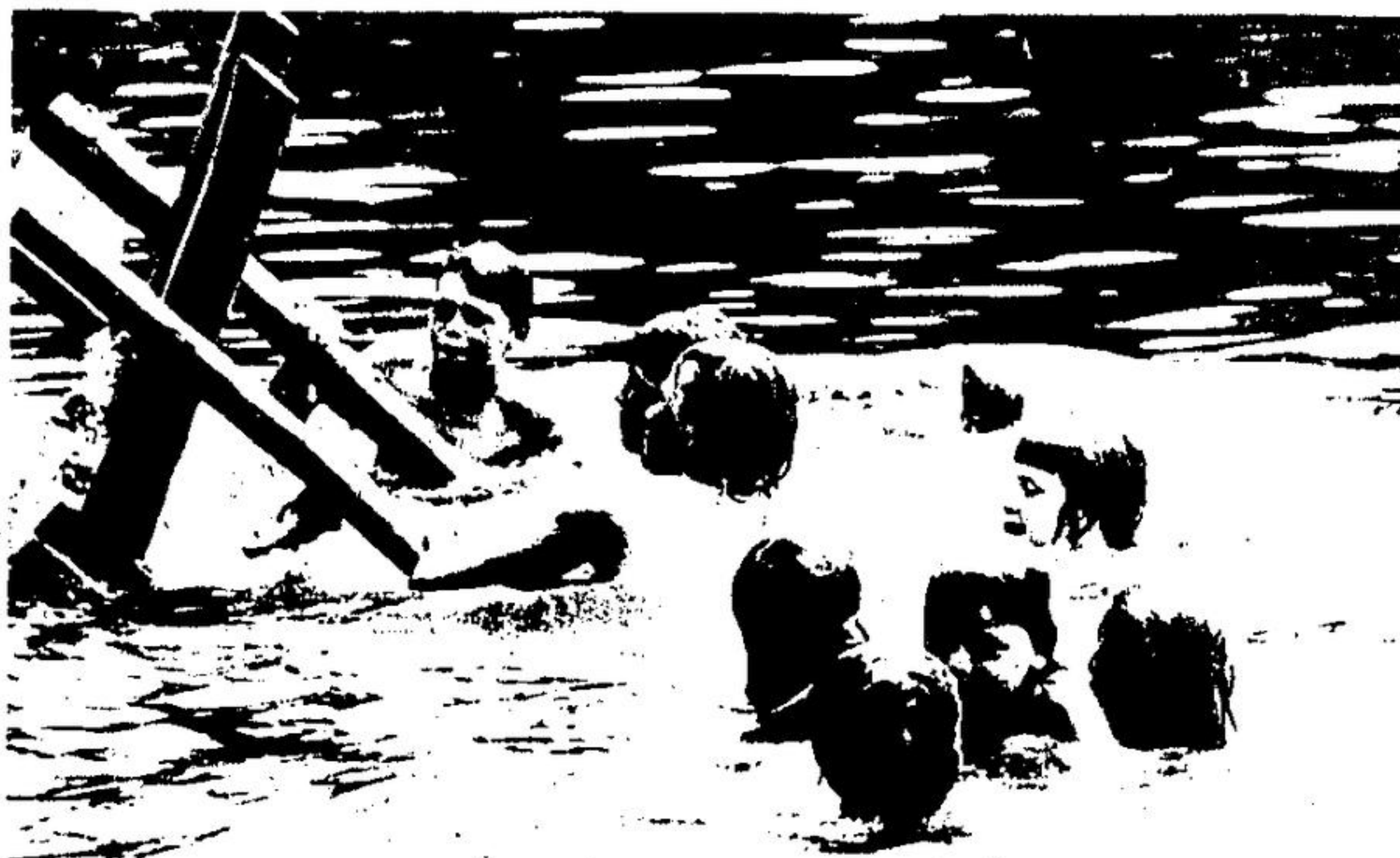
### Passenger is injured

Three cars were involved in a collision May 21 on Queen and Churchill. A passenger in one of the cars, Susan Pataky, 54 Roseford, was slightly injured. Drivers involved were Ronald Moore, R.R.2, Acton with \$1000 damage to his car; Robert Ballentine, R.R.2, Acton, with \$300 damage to his car, and Wayne Allen 35 Churchill Rd.

## No Halton Hills budget for three or four weeks

It will be three or four weeks before Halton Hills council can set a budget, finance chairman Harry Levy told this newspaper Monday of this week. Although the figures for education purposes are set the town still does not know what the region is going to require in the way of financing from the municipality. Until that's known there's no way the budget can be set, Levy said. Each committee is still working on their own budgets within Halton Hills. They must go to the finance committee for consideration and quite likely back to the other committees before a full council deals with it.

Taxpayers already know education costs have gone up across the region by an average of 4.4 mills which is broken down to a 3.9 raise for Georgetown, 5.0 for Esquering and 6.1 for Acton. Councillors are also expecting the regional mill rate to be up but the speculation runs from high to low. In any event chairman Levy indicated there would not likely be any good news about tax reductions this year but suggested taxpayers may be hit with a considerable increase. Levy said a special budget meeting will strike the mill rate, probably sometime in late June.



A DANGEROUS practice with picnic tables by youths in Fairy Lake Saturday afternoon. Life guards are not yet on duty and tables are an easy mark.

### Wife, Baron found guilty

Manfred Baron of Acton and Ryna Regina (Reggie) Wertman of Toronto were found guilty Friday of conspiracy to murder her husband Isaac. The two were convicted by an Ontario Supreme Court jury after a 13-day trial and eight hours of deliberation. Mr. Justice Edson Haines ordered a pre-sentence report on both the convicted people and will pass sentence June 30. The maximum sentence is 14 years in the penitentiary. Manfred Baron and Mrs. Wertman were ordered held in custody. Mr. Justice Haines agreed with the verdict and said his sentence would have to "protect society and the needs of the accused." He said the two "must be sent to penitentiary, but while there they must be rehabilitated so they can return to society and, that way, society is best protected."

The jury heard testimony that the pair plotted together and with others to kill Wertman between August 1973 and May 1974. They were told the body was burned and buried at the Baron farm, R. R. 2, Acton. Manfred Baron attended Acton high school, and had a contracting business at his home. The defense lawyer for Mrs. Wertman said he will file an immediate appeal. Counsel for Mr. Baron said he also would advise his client that there are grounds for appeal, and await his decision. Stolen Tuesday morning police learned three lighting fixtures were missing from the new houses on Churchill Rd. N.

## Rec. co-ordinator raked over coals

What started out as an ordinary bi-monthly meeting of the Acton Recreation Advisory Committee, turned out to be an open feud between that committee and the Recreation Department. A tour of Prospect Park Thursday evening sparked the fire which turned into a barrage of questions and accusations from committee members. Different discussions among the walking groups led to several topics, which eventually were brought up to the other members.

While commenting on the "unkempt mess" of the park, Mr. Cooper told the group Works Department is in charge of the parks maintenance and upkeep, and received the lowest priority of all areas. Brendan Aherne, a long time committee member, challenged that statement, saying it is Recreation's job to keep it up. The two men would not change their minds and came up against a brick wall while discussing the matter.

Inter-departmental hassles The co-ordinator told the group, recommendations are given to works but they do nothing requested. "There seems to be a great hassle between recreation and works," Diane Spielvogel commented. "You ask them ten times to do something, and they still do not do it." She went on to say "there are a lot of internal problems. It is like a chain with the problems stopping at the head of recreation." A few of the members felt their recommendations were not making it past Doug Collison, Halton Hills recreation director. When they asked

Mr. Cooper if he would bypass Mr. Collison, and go straight to council, he replied, "You people would get farther ahead than me doing something like that. If I talk about something, I automatically become a long-haired radical." Council was not forgotten in the heated discussion, as Mrs. Spielvogel thought they are "copping out" in cleaning up

the shoreline of Fairy Lake. It was mentioned the shore is not beautified because it belongs to Beardmore. Mrs. Spielvogel, along with Mr. Aherne, felt Beardmore would welcome the work, and council was just using this as an excuse. Mr. Aherne, who is particularly interested in the beautification of parks, threatened to leave the committee because he feels his position is useless if nothing is going to be done. Ed Wood feels the parks will always remain at the bottom of the totem pole because, "none of the men sitting on council are interested in them." He agreed with Mr. Aherne who said council looked at them as fields, instead of parks. Mr. Aherne pointed out

that there is not one cent in the budget for park improvements. "That's because of the super-deuper arenas," Mrs. Sheldon supposed. Mrs. Sheldon, who is a relative newcomer to the area was surprised at the potential of the park, but was disappointed at the thought that no one will do anything to beautify it. She felt the Acton park has been ignored.

Personality conflicts arose as the meeting continued in the home of Pete Papillon. Mrs. Sheldon questioned Mr. Cooper's minutes of the meetings. "To be honest, John, I don't feel you are writing down all our recommendations." She wondered if the ideas Mr. Cooper agreed with were the ones which got anywhere. Further hints of mutiny were presented as Mr. Aherne made a motion to dissolve the committee totally, as most of the members felt they were wasting their time at the meetings, when nothing ever came of them. "We are fighting these problems the old way, before regional government, it is too hard for us to adjust to the new ways," he said. Mrs. Sheldon was not in favor of the dissolving and convinced the group to find another answer to the communication gap problem.

Meeting On June 11, the group is going to attend the administration meeting and speak directly to the councillors without having to go through the recreation department. They feel in this way they may be heard.

## Believe groom responsible for murder-suicide at farm

Police investigating last week's alleged murder-suicide on a Nassagaweya farm believe the killing was done by William Stewart Dunsmore, a 24-year-old Toronto native employed at the farm as a groom.

Horse breeder Robert James Snelgrove, 27, died instantly as he slept early Sunday when hit just behind his left ear with a .22 calibre bullet. He had been renting the Second Line farm for one year. Corporal Murray Graham of Milton OPP said Dunsmore was found dead in another bedroom with a single bullet wound in the head from the same rifle. The rifle was found beside his body. Investigating Milton OPP officers are continuing the investigation in order to dispel any chance that the tragedy was a double murder. Dunsmore's body was cremated in Toronto on Wednesday and his ashes shipped to the Maritimes where his father is a sailor.

Snelgrove, considered a promising young horse breeder, was buried Wednesday in his home town of Peterborough. Snelgrove Stables had 27 American Saddlebred horses valued at between \$100,000 and \$200,000 when the shootings occurred. All but five of the horses belonged to the breeder. Ralph Knapman of Stoney Creek, owner of the 40-acre farm north of 15 Sideroad, said Snelgrove was "frightened" of Dunsmore and was "afraid to put him out."

Mr. Knapman said the two men had "many arguments," and that Dunsmore would often threaten to "cut up a horse or burn the barn" unless he got his way. On the Friday night preceding the shootings, Snelgrove had ordered Dunsmore off the farm but the next day invited him back for the weekend, Knapman said. Police believe Dunsmore returned about 1 a.m. Sunday, shortly after a small party.

Mr. Knapman, vice-president of the Canadian Palomino Horse Breeders Association, said Snelgrove was "a terrific fellow" and "very well liked." "He could pick you up when you're beaten in a show by saying 'you'll be better next year' and things like that," he said. Snelgrove was active in the palomino association as well as the Canadian-American

Saddle Horse Breeders Association. Police have denied rumors circulating in Nassagaweya that the slain men were involved in illegal drugs. RCMP Const. Ron Scott, head of that force's Halton drug squad, said he had "heard Dunsmore's name before" but neither of the men were known to police as users or distributors of illegal drugs.



MEMBERS of a touring party of Shoe Superintendents and Allied tradesmen are shown a cattle hide by tour guide Frank Simioni who is the plant 4-12 supervisor. Mr. Simioni has been working at Beardmore Tannery for over 30 years.

## Same grants

Grants to Acton and Georgetown Figure Skating Clubs will remain the same as last year, if council accepts the recommendation of Halton Hills administration committee. Last year Acton club received \$900 and Georgetown received \$260. The grant to Georgetown is based on a one dollar per capita grant, which applies to all minor sports groups. Councillor Les Duby said the transition period of amalgamating the two towns has posed problems. He said a town of 5,000 as Acton was cannot draw as many people as a town of 18,000. He said it is difficult to take away anything the town has become accustomed to having. "If the club hit too hard they would have to fold." The Recreation Director said there was a disparity

between the two clubs. He said the Acton club had operated on a lower budget, but would now be faced with increased ice time and increased rates. He said Acton club had 150 registered last year. Recreation Director Doug Collison has suggested a \$1,500 grant to the Acton club for this year. "How could we justify an escalation in grants like this?" asked Duby. Councillor Ric Morrow suggested Recreation Director Doug Collison prepare a graduated scale that would bring two clubs into line within two or three years. "It may turn out the program has to be subsidized to such an extent that it becomes impossible," commented chairman Dick Howitt.

## Diane Spielvogel quits committee

The resignation of Diane Spielvogel from the Acton Recreation Advisory Committee, was received with regret from that committee on Thursday evening during their regular bi-monthly meeting. Mrs. Spielvogel, who has been on that committee for six years, told the group, "I am too much of what it was before," meaning referring to regional government. "I am constantly looking back, and that is not good."

way it was before better," she confessed. Her main reason for leaving, Mrs. Spielvogel told the group, is, "I don't feel I am of any benefit to the committee and the committee has done nothing for me." She stated, "I am going to miss it, and it will be hard for me to keep my big mouth shut," she commented referring to her outspokenness at several meetings during the past few years. "It is better for everyone involved, me, the committee, and the town," Mrs. Spielvogel explained. Ed Wood, who is on the committee for the first year, told the group he looked to Mrs. Spielvogel for everything, including information and advice. "You have more knowledge in your thumb nail than I have altogether," he said. Mrs. Spielvogel answered his compliment by telling him, as well as the other members of the committee, "I am not going into hibernation, and you can borrow my thumb nail anytime!"

Needs new blood She told the committee she had been considering leaving for four months, and when she saw Pam Sheldon with her energy and determination, she knew new blood was needed for the committee. Mrs. Spielvogel also told the group she thought the committee should have been brand new with the new government. She explained it would have been easier for the newcomers and they would not be comparing systems, as she constantly does. "I have to admit, I like the

## Decoration Day this Sunday

This Sunday, June 1 marks another Decoration Day ceremony designed to honor those who gave their lives for Queen and country. Wreaths will be placed, along with flowers, at Fairview cemetery. All citizens are invited to participate in the ceremony and, afterward, decorate graves of loved ones. The Acton Citizens' Band will provide band selections, starting off from the cenotaph

at 2:30 p.m. Parade forms up at 2:15 p.m. and leaves from Fellows St. to arrive at Fairview cemetery at 3 p.m. Arch replaced One interesting feature about this year's march will be the replacement of the cemetery archway which was knocked down two years ago. Donated to Acton by the Women's Institute, the vintage sign reading Fairview Cemetery has served somewhat as a community landmark. It will be under the arch that the Sunday procession will march. Chairman of the Decoration Day committee is Miss Jessie Coles. David Hunter is secretary-treasurer. Others officiating at the service will include the Rev. Leonard Ewing reading scripture and the Rev. Andrew H. McKenzie saying prayers. The Acton Legion Chorallers will sing One World; the Rev. Das Sydney will give the address.

## \$3500 for Acton Park change rooms

The change rooms at Prospect Park, Acton will have a \$3,500 plumbing job, started soon, if Halton Hills council agrees to an administration committee recommendation. Recreation director Doug Collison said the change houses had deteriorated and needed repairs. He said \$3,500 had been included in the budget for the work. Councillor Ric Morrow recommended the work go ahead. He said it was the only way to find out if council would agree, and get the work done before the summer season is too far underway.