

Fete George Bowman at retirement party

Late Thursday afternoon was warm and sunny for the annual Beardmore retirement party held at the plant amidst babbling brooks and shady trees.

The 70 retired employees were on hand to relish old memories and witness the retirement of George Bowman, an employee for 36 years. Beardmore President, Peter Dunham, made the presentation to Mr. Bowman.

Plant officials and men who had made the tannery their life's work, discussed their period of employment at the plant, changes in the plant operation and joked about the men they used to work with.

Mr. Dunham retold the story of Harry Rodgers who, on the day of his retirement, performed a hand stand in the office to prove he was still fit.

A buffet-style dinner concluded the festivities as the men had roast beef, chicken, spare ribs and a round of strawberry shortcake.

Retired employees range in age from 65, legislated retirement age, to 88, the age of Sam Perry who is believed to be the oldest of the retired group.

This year's gathering included two of three retired Beardmore Presidents, Wes Beatty, and Jack Creighton. S. G. Bennett, being the oldest could not attend. G. D. Ungell, vice-president of Canada Packers was also in attendance.



ALEX CURRIE draws on his pipe and sits in the shade of Beardmore's front garden during the retired employees annual get together.



BEARDMORE PRESIDENT, Peter Dunham, visited through the crowd of retired Beardmore employees at their annual banquet Thursday evening.



FRED ANDERSON, Harold Bainbridge of Beardmore's Toronto office, Percy Evans and Claude Cook took part in the festivities at Beardmore's annual retirement party.



OLD FRIENDS had the chance to discuss retirement years and the days when they worked for Beardmore and Company. Refreshments were

plentiful and the men enjoyed a buffet dinner of chicken, roast beef, and strawberry shortcake.



LES DUBY, Halton Hills councillor and Beardmore employee greets friends at the get-together Thursday evening.

Teachers get raise . . .

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have to pay \$120 more in taxes next year because of the settlement. Goodyear added it didn't matter that 50 per cent of the money going to teachers under the new agreement came from the province since it all has to come from taxpayers' pockets.

Goodyear noted the inflation rate is between 11 and 12 per cent and wondered if the Board will get a 19 per cent increase in productivity from the teachers.

Trustee Richard Goodin tried to have the settlement tabled so the Board would have more time to look it over and also give the public time to react to the extra \$10 million it will have to fork over in increased provincial and municipal taxes.

"The public has not been kept informed on negotiations. Background and information should be provided for the taxpayer before we approve this," he said.

His suggestion to table the contract until July or August was defeated. Trustee Dr. Helen Howard-Lock said taxpayers have never been reluctant to put their money into education and added she was prepared to go along with the settlement. She warned the teachers the public will be more demanding in the future of their educators.

Trustee Doug Wood said the new contract couldn't be viewed in isolation but could only be examined in light of other settlements in Ontario and Canada.

He noted that unlike Metro Toronto teachers, Halton teachers didn't negotiate a decrease in the pupil-teacher ratio and he thought this was a plus in the settlement's favor.

Wood pointed out Halton has always been among boards with the lowest costs and he didn't think the new contract would alter that position.

He answered Goodyear's suggestion that this contract was a good place to start stemming the tide of inflation by saying, "It is difficult to tackle inflation with just this one contract."

Wood concluded the new contract was a responsible settlement.

Trustee Bill Lawson said both board and teacher negotiators had worked hard and had been put in a tough spot because of organized teacher salary negotiations across Canada.

"I suggest a negative vote on this contract is in support of our faith that the teachers won't strike. A positive vote will mean we have lost faith in our teachers and are afraid they will strike," he stated.

Trustee Bill Priestner said there have been strikes in other parts of Ontario and

there is no reason to believe there wouldn't be one in Halton. He added it would be "folly" to ignore what is happening through the province.

Trustee Noel Cooper said the people who will pay the bill, the taxpayers, will view the settlement in isolation and said few of Halton's workers got a raise of 30 per cent this year.

He concluded the public won't like the 30 per cent wage boost.

Goodin said the negotiators had up to now managed to keep the money figures secret and failed to test public reaction.

"Last year I said until next year, you haven't seen anything yet. After this just wait until next year, you haven't seen anything yet," Goodin warned.

He said education costs continue to rise out of all proportion to productivity in Canada and higher pay doesn't always lead to better work. Goodin suggested higher pay leads to arrogance and lack of communication.

He noted that both board chairman Judy Alexander and Director of Education Jim Singleton has predicted a tough year of negotiations with the teachers and this had set the tone of negotiations. Goodin declared that too many people had gone into negotiations with a negative attitude and it had led to disaster.

The trustees voted 14-6 in favor of accepting the new secondary school teachers contract and 10-2 in favor of ratifying the new contract for elementary school instructors.

Trustee Bill Lawson, Milton, and Tom Watson, Halton Hills, voted against the contract while Ernie Bodnar, Halton Hills, and Doug Woods, Milton, voted in favor of the settlement.

Armitage said that in light of the substantial settlement he hoped the board would look at its staff expectations in a different light.

"I hope teachers will look at their own performance in a different light now. The only way to offset increased costs is with increased productivity," he said.

Armitage predicted the teachers will have a tough time with the public and hoped the teachers would show the public an improved performance in the classroom.

Last year's settlement with Halton teachers cost taxpayers \$3,500,000. The teachers then received an average 13.5 per cent increase.

Rezoning Main North from industrial to residential?

Halton Hills Planning Board will consider rezoning a strip of land on Main Street North, in the industrial area, from industrial to residential. Houses have been on all the land but one lot for years.

The decision was made after Solicitor W. Kerr asked for a rezoning on the front of a lot that runs from Main Street North back to Wallace Street.

The back lot would remain industrial. The land is owned by Environmental Technical Services, who want to sell the front lot to Douglas G. Lamont, but intend to retain the back lot with access on Wallace Street, for light warehousing.

Mr. Kerr said a petition had been brought to Acton council

in 1973 by the residents asking for a residential zoning. He said in his opinion the change was desirable since the houses are already there. He said this was the only piece of property left jutting out among houses.

Councillor Joe Hurst suggested it would be better to rezone everything in that

area abutting Highway 25, (Main Street North).

Planner Mario Venditti agreed, saying if there was a spot rezoning, someone could buy up the houses, tear them down and put up a factory right next to a house. He said the planning department was trying to have the whole strip rezoned residential.

"The houses have been there for years," commented Hurst.

Councillor Les Duby said an appeal by the residents in 1973 to have the area rezoned residential was turned down. He said using a petition from 1973 was illogical since some of the people may have changed their minds.

Mr. Kerr said he only used that to show the intention at the time.

"If they (the residents) couldn't make the grade as a group in 1973, there would be a lot of questions if it is rezoned now for one applicant," said Duby.

Planning board decided to have the rezoning of the Highway 25 studied by the planner, who said he would report back within a month.

GUARD opposes baled refuse

GUARD is being reactivated. The Group United Against Rural Dumping, under the direction of chairman Bill Johnson, will form again to oppose any effort by Halton Regional Council to purchase a garbage baling and dumping system.

Members of the region's public works committee last week heard a presentation by Morris J. Waxman of Waxman and Sons Limited regarding the purchase of the system.

Waxman called his system "a true sanitary landfill site" in a brief before the committee Wednesday afternoon, noting there would be no blowing paper and refuse to pollute the site, no water allowed to drain onto adjacent lands and no breeding places for rats.

Waxman also told the committee there is no odor involved with this operation and it is without fire and explosion danger.

Like bricks. Garbage bales weigh about 4,000 pounds each and are laid at the landfill site like bricks and covered with a layer of clean dirt daily. Waxman claims his garbage baling

operation can increase the life of a landfill site by 30 per cent.

Waxman would operate the system charging the Region at a price per ton of refuse handled by the system. Waxman showed the committee a film taken at a landfill site in Massachusetts.

Johnson is opposed to the Waxman system, noting he had seen a film of a baled landfill site in California at a public meeting in Georgetown. Johnson noted the yearly rainfall in California averages 11.6 inches compared to 32.5 inches in Halton.

Johnson added baled garbage is not inert and can still pollute, according to James Auld, former Minister of the Environment.

In a letter to Public Works committee chairman Jack Ruffitt, Johnson points out a previous petition issued by GUARD to prevent baled garbage dumping was signed by former Nassagaweya Reeve Anne MacArthur, now mayor of Milton and former Esqueusing Reeve Tom Hill, now mayor of Halton Hills as well as other rural councillors.

Future of blockhouse discussed at meeting

The future use of the blockhouse in Prospect Park was under discussion at the Acton Recreation Advisory Committee Thursday evening.

Ed Wood has been trying for two-and-a-half years to obtain part of the building for storage for the minor baseball association. He explained that the former Parks and Recreation board of Acton had passed a resolution that both sides would be for baseball.

At the present time, uniforms and equipment for several teams are hanging in his own basement and garage. If a storage area were to be made available to the association, it would be more convenient for all concerned. Mr. Wood told his

fellow committee members that if a spare room, or rooms, were to be given to his cause, the cupboards would be built at the ball association's expense. It would be arranged in such a way that the room would be locked at all times, except for the use of the ball or soccer teams.

Building renovations. Work being done at the present time is the renovation of the changerooms. New toilets have been put in and partitions put up. The whole building will soon be painted to match the area.

It is hoped by the committee members that a concession booth can also be installed in building for refreshments for park patrons.

John Cooper, recreation coordinator, pointed out that the building is too warm, causing chocolate bars and other foods to melt in their wrappings. He explained the cost of an air conditioner to overcome this and other problems would be from \$500 to \$1,000.

Mr. Wood felt the revenue from such a booth would soon pay for the air conditioner, the wages to man it and also help to fix up the general building.

Pop, ice cream, and other things could be sold so park users wouldn't have to go all the way to the arena to quench their thirst. Mr. Wood pointed out that most parks in the area have such a booth, including Glen Williams and Brookville.

\$11,200 cash for parkland for Ransom St. subdivision

Greystone Manor Estates will pay \$11,200 cash in lieu of parkland for the proposed 16 lot subdivision known as "Adams Court" on Ransom Street, Acton, if Halton Hills council adopts a planning board recommendation.

Councillor Ric Morrow said the \$700 a lot figure had been used in lieu of the deducing of five per cent parkland which produced the \$11,200 amount.

Councillor Joe Hurst pointed out that the agreement covers construction of storm sewers, but only to the lot line. He claimed the water would come to Main Street and run across private property.

Planner Mario Venditti said the developer would have to come to an agreement with the property owner. He said the storm sewers would be constructed to the town engineer's specifications.

While Morrow suggested the \$11,200 for parkland, he suggested it was time the town revised its lot levies upward. He claimed Oakville and Burlington had lot levies three or four times higher than Halton Hills. He said Burlington's levy was \$1,450.

Councillor Les Duby maintained the lot levy should not be totally based on other municipalities.

The planner said the lot levy on a single family home in Acton was \$950 and in Georgetown \$800. An additional \$600 lot levy is paid to Halton Region.

Morrow said the big difference in levies between the north and south of the Region was in multiple family housing.

Police busy with loitering, assault

The Acton detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police were busy this week rounding up loiterers and Liquor Control Act violators.

On Sunday they charged two local youths with loitering on Mill St. One of the youths was charged at 2.40 a.m. while the other was charged at 8.45 a.m.

An out-of-town man was charged with possession of marijuana at 3.10 a.m. Saturday. The man found in possession of a small quantity of the illegal drug, will appear in Milton provincial court on July 30.

A local man was charged with assault causing bodily

harm at 12.45 a.m. Friday after another man was struck with a chair at a Church St. residence. The injured man received cuts and bruises to his left hand.

A warrant has been issued for the arrest of an out-of-town man following a shoplifting incident at Beckers' Milk Store last Tuesday.

There were five liquor seizures during the week.

There were no fires in Acton and area this week according to fire chief Mick Holmes.

Street signs future uncertain

Halton Hills works committee has delayed a decision on the fate of illuminated street signs until the end of the year.

Last year it cost over \$3,700 for replacement of damaged street signs in Georgetown. Thirty-seven illuminated signs fell victim to vandalism in 1974 and already this year 17 have been damaged.

The committee decided at their Monday night meeting that they will review the situation at the end of the year but plans to install

Acton will be delayed.

"It cost us over \$3,700 just to replace the signs last year. I would hate to see us not putting up these kinds of signs because they look very nice but we may have to decide to change back to the flat metal name plates because the illuminated ones cost so much," Councillor Ern Hyde explained.

Deputy engineer Bob Austin suggested the town might consider putting the street signs up on hydro poles like they do in Milton. He said

higher up and harder for people to destroy.

Committee chairman Joe Hurst said the illuminated signs may prove to be a luxury the town can't afford.

"We may have to abandon the illuminated signs. As they are smashed we might have to replace them with the metal name plates. It's a shame if we have to. The illuminated ones look so nice," Hyde said.

It was decided the problem will be reviewed at the end of



DRUMMER TERRY LEGATE for Rockin' Ronnie and the Rainbows put on an excellent showing of rock n' roll in front of the community centre yesterday afternoon