

Rain brings relief for Halton crops

Heavy rains last week provided much needed relief for both rural dwellers and farmers in this area. Corn crops and pastures had been threatened by the prolonged drought and dry weather conditions.

Halton Agricultural Representative Henry Stanley said the rains left corn crops in good shape and saved pastures in the area. "It's been excellent for the corn and we should have a good crop now. Pastures were in bad shape for a while, but they are okay now," he said.

Mr. Stanley noted that 2.1 inches of rain fell recently in Burlington and 1.1 in Nassagaweya. "Eastern and Northern Ontario got it bad," he said.

According to Professor Stevenson, lack of rainfall to the present time is having serious effects on grain yields, pastures and second and third cut hay. "If dry weather continues in these areas of Ontario, the farmers affected can expect reduced yields and lower quality in their grain crops this year."

"It's not enough that the prolonged dry weather was threatening crops in the region, but country folk and farmers had to worry about their domestic water supplies as well."

Murray Orr, Operations Manager of Halton Region's northern works centre, said many wells had run dry and contractors engaged in the hauling of water were working 24 hours a day for a

while, trying to meet water demands in Halton Hills and Milton.

Rains relief Tankers had been busy drawing water from the three urban centres in Halton's north. Mr. Orr said he felt that the recent rains would offer some relief.

He noted the problem had been aggravated with consistent dry weather since the spring. "It's been a dry spring and summer and it has played havoc with the wells."

He noted that even with the dry spell the three urban centres in the northern part of the region had experienced no problem with water supplies.

"We haven't had any emergency situations and we haven't had to apply any restrictions," he said.



FIREFIGHTERS HAD to extinguish a three to four field grass fire shortly after noon Thursday. Firefighters could not reach the blaze with the truck after two attempts and made use of their brooms. They were recalled to the scene later in the evening.

Three youths dead in single car crash

Three youths are dead following a single car crash in Hillsburgh at 1:20 a.m. Saturday morning.

Evon McMillan, 18, Belfountain, Robert Elliott, 18, Belfountain and James Swackhammer, 21, R. R. 2, Hillsburgh, were pronounced dead at the scene of the accident by coroner Dr. D. K. Wilson, Hillsburgh.

The accident occurred when the Honda Civic in which the youths were riding went off the road at a railroad crossing in the village. Swerving to the left, the car hit a parked truck. This impact caused the Civic to spin around clockwise, ending up smashing into a house. The passengers were thrown from the car.

Guelph Ontario Provincial Police estimate total damages to be \$4,000.

Wayne Fairburn of Hillsburgh witnessed the early morning accident.

Hwy. 25 was also the scene of the fatal accident on August 3 when Neil Scott Nuttall, 18, also of R. R. 2, Hillsburgh was struck down by a car and instantly killed.

Philbrook tells town apply for LIP grants

The federal government wants municipalities to get involved in Local Incentives Program (LIP) projects. Halton MP Dr. Frank Philbrook told Halton Hills council on August 5 that Ottawa wants towns to come up with projects and apply for LIP grants.

It will give the program more credibility and less of an artsy, craftsy appearance. We think we have an important role for the municipalities in this program and we think municipalities have some worthwhile projects which this program can help finance," Dr. Philbrook said. He noted the main purpose

of the program is to provide employment during winter months and asked the council "to think LIP grants."

Dr. Philbrook pointed out a committee has been set in Halton to help the government decide which programs should be funded and noted Mayor Tom Hill and treasurer Harry Henderson are Halton Hills' representatives.

Resource recovery study about to begin

Halton's Region's Public Works Committee will be asked to appoint a consultant to conduct a study on a Resource Recovery Plant for Halton at its meeting today.

The study will indicate where the plant should be located, where landfill sites or a site should be situated and a number of other related factors, acting engineer Jack Corbett said.

The study is being conducted for the region by the province. Halton was one of a handful of areas designated as areas eligible for provincial assistance in setting up resource recovery plants.

The consultant's report is expected to come back to the committee in October or November with a series of recommendations.

More studies If at that point the region decides to go ahead, other studies will be commissioned to provide detailed design and following that the facility will be commissioned.

Even though the preliminary stages of the project are progressing, there are some serious doubts about the actual project ever getting a go-ahead from the regional council.

The estimated cost of the plant runs in the neigh-

borhood of \$4,000,000. The plant would cause a considerable jump in the per-ton handling cost of waste and recover 15 per cent of the waste initially.

Key staffers and members of the public works committee visited a transfer station in Toronto this spring to view the operation. That plant is not as elaborate as what is being proposed in Halton.

Raffis doubtful Public Works Chairman

Jack Raffis has expressed serious doubts about authorizing such a project. He has in the past indicated some concern about the cost and the fact that only 15 per cent of the waste can be recovered with today's technology.

Officials from the Ministry of the Environment claim that a greater percentage of waste can be recovered as technology progresses.

Resource recovery is still a

(Continued on Page 15)

Town hires 16 crossing guards

Halton Hills has hired a total of 16 crossing guards and five alternate guards to work at various corners in the town this fall when school returns.

Learnman Allen, James Boyle, Phoebe Collins, Pauline Keel, Eleanor Burke, Harold McLaren, Joy Cox and Shirley Gray have been hired for full time work in Georgetown. Mrs. H. Biltorf, Miss E.

Taylor and William Carnahan are being posted at corners in Acton.

In addition five people have been hired for standby duty at school crossings. Ernest Churchill, Leone Graham, William Clements and C. W. Clarke are on duty for temporary duty in Georgetown and Sandra Bickers is slated for standby duty in Acton.

Hot air stays at council

Halton Hills works committee decided Monday not to spend between \$1,000 and \$3,500 on an air conditioning unit for council chambers. The committee did decide to go ahead and have a small air conditioner installed in the planning department offices.

The town will take another look at air conditioning for council chambers when it comes time to bring down the 1976 budget.

\$33,592.55 contracted awarded

Halton Hills has awarded a contract worth \$33,592.55 to Iverleigh Construction, Milton for culvert and road reconstruction to be done in the town this year.

\$90 for 2 sheep

A Halton Hills farmer will receive \$90 from the town as compensation for two sheep killed on June 20 by a wolf. The farmer whose sheep were killed is H. Perry, Lot 24, Concession 3.

Allow food stores ...

(Continued from Page 1) scinded by provincial legislation. Chairman Levy facetiously suggested that anytime the committee started working on something the province got into the act with a decision such as senior citizen identity cards, moped legislation, etc.

The committee was of one mind that they did not intend to close down convenience stores but the difficulty was in defining the term so supermarkets could be kept closed. It was pointed out that several country stores depended on Sunday trade and yet did not come under the term "convenience" and a restriction by-law would close them down.

"The more I read that 70 percent line, the more I'm convinced we're stirring up a hornet's nest," said Levy. It looks like the only way we can solve the dilemma is with a definition of the stores and include "neighborhood stores." He felt this might exclude stores in smaller places if the term neighborhood stores

was substituted for convenience stores.

"I'd like to know what the merchants themselves are thinking about this," said Councillor McKenzie, noting the committee had little feedback from merchants in their attempts to solve the dilemma.

It was at this juncture that Councillor Ernie Sykes suggested including food stores in the exemption in spite of his personal reluctance to see them open Sundays.

"If we had the food stores in there then we wouldn't need a definition," agreed Chairman Levy.

"Wouldn't that also include the chain stores?" asked Councillor McKenzie. "Yes," answered Sykes who reminded the committee he was just suggesting, not advocating, as it might solve the problem so far as Halton Hills was concerned and it would be still open for discussion by the entire council.

There is a problem here and we have to accept it, acknowledged the chairman.

Fire spreads second alarm

Acton firefighters had to make two calls to the Doug Frank property at R.R. 4, Acton, Thursday, to extinguish a field fire which spread over four or five fenced fields.

There was no damage other than dried weeds burning, according to an official of the Acton firefighters. The Acton crew were called out shortly after lunch and again at 6:30 Thursday evening.

Firefighters had difficulty reaching the fire with the truck and all the work was done by hand with brooms. At one point the truck was moved up a line-way over near the first line to enable firefighters to get closer to the blaze. The new position was still not close enough. The first call had firefighters on the scene for one and a half hours.

Engine on fire

Acton firefighters responded quickly to a call Thursday afternoon to the McNair Mushroom Farm off Highway 25 just south of town, to extinguish their second grass fire of the day.

A Swatter engine caught on fire behind driver S. McFadden of R.R. 1, Milton. He called for an extinguisher and had the machine towed from the field. He was custom cutting at the time.

The extinguisher halted the blaze on the machine and firefighters wasted no time in arresting the field flames. The call was officially recorded at 4:15 p.m.

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