

Price, wage controls find favor here

Representatives of many sectors of the Halton community have come out in support of Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau's proposed war on inflation.

This newspaper has surveyed representatives of many professional, labor and business groups in an effort to determine whether or not the measures would meet with public support in the region. Halton Regional Council was probably the first group to take any official action on the proposal to institute price and wage controls in Canada. At the suggestion of Burlington Mayor George Harrington, the council Wednesday passed a resolution pre-empting that salary negotiations for regional staffers would be restricted to the guidelines as set out in the proposed federal legislation.



Peter Dunham

It's "business as usual" at Beardmore and Company, according to president Peter Dunham.

Maximum 10 percent
That legislation restricts increases in wages and salaries to eight percent with a further two percent allowed for extra productivity—a maximum of 10 percent.

While some spokesmen couldn't offer wholehearted support for the measures, the only groups to offer actual opposition to the scheme were labor councils which see the measure as an all-out attack on organized labor.

Halton Hills Mayor Tom Hill says the town will follow the new federal wage and price guidelines.

"I think this should have been done sooner and Ottawa may have waited too long to do this," he said.

Mayor Hill stated the municipality will have to curb its spending and admitted "it will hurt us all."

As for contracts with town employees he said the municipality will still have to negotiate with its workers but noted "there is no doubt we will have to follow the wage guideline as closely as possible."

Carole Yuzwa, president, Halton Elementary Teachers' Federation: "We haven't really discussed it at any great length. We did not know until recently that we were included but Mr. Davis has made that very clear. If the guidelines are there, we won't be able to see the same types of salary increases as we did last year."

"I imagine we'll concentrate on non-monetary issues when we negotiate. We have a salary conference planned for Nov. 15 and we'll probably thrash it out then."

Milton Mayor Anne MacArthur: "We owe it to the federal and the provincial governments. If governments don't support the federal government, we can hardly expect others to. We have to show the way."

tioned in the province. Halton settled for something in the order of 30 percent last spring.

Gayfer went on to say that Halton teachers and others with contracts should be restricted to the raise allowed under the guidelines.

The provincial OSSTF executive has asked Premier Davis to recall the legislature in order to debate provincial support for the program in the legislature. Davis has said he would support the federal program.

Dr. Bill Love of Burlington, Director of Ontario Medical Association District 12: "I'm certain that doctors will go along with this. I don't think there will be any argument from doctors, providing all segments of society go along with it. If the postmen and teachers or groups like that try to get outside of it, I think doctors will be very disappointed."

"We're all in the same boat and I think that as long as everyone co-operates, doctors will go along with it. No question about that. But if others get exempted, doctors will have to take another look. That's my personal opinion. The OMA hasn't had a meeting since that has been announced."

Must apply for Boards

In an effort to avoid the ruffled feelings and cries of dismay which followed appointments to various town boards last year, Halton Hills council approved a policy designed to alert sitting members they have to reapply.

Advertisement will be placed in mid-November this year requesting applications. In addition a letter of appreciation will be sent to all present members, whose term expires at the end of 1975, explaining they must reapply if they wish to be considered for another term.



Fred Dawkins

Fred Dawkins, general manager of Frank Heller and Co. Ltd., looks at the new wage and price guide lines from two different aspects. First: how their small business, employing between 40 and 50, will be affected.

And secondly: as a graduate in economics with an M.A. degree. As an economist, he perceives the nation facing an unusual "double problem", having inflation and a recession at the same time. This is due to so much social legislation.

Trudeau dealt only with the inflationary trend, Mr. Dawkins perceives. There is definitely a recessionary tendency, too, and the government is ignoring that side of the problem.

He can see a slowdown in business, and points to the general unemployment rate of eight per cent.

Production is down in their leather finishing business as well as in many other Canadian businesses. This is because orders are smaller, making production more expensive, in Heller's case.

It will take a long time for the controls to work their way through to be of any major benefit "unless people's attitudes change."

The eight to ten per cent limit on salary increases gives this economist no cause for concern, "but you're building in a rate of inflation."

Speaking more specifically of Heller's, the general manager said they deal with a few large suppliers so they can now count on stability in the price of their raw materials. On the other hand, manufacturers have no control over the costs of petro-

chemicals. The majority of chemicals used in their plant are derived from oil by-products.

"The real problem is in attitudes," he said, citing high pay increase demands. He found it disappointing the government immediately after its announcement of controls made exceptions for the postal workers.

Thomas Brady, business administrator for the Halton Separate School Board, said the board isn't sure where it stands yet as far as the new economic policy is concerned.

He noted members of the staff and trustee were in Ottawa last week and tried to find out if the negotiations being conducted by the board with the teachers is exempt from the wage controls, since

negotiations began before the new anti-inflation policy was announced.

Brady noted the contract negotiations are in the hands of a fact finder and the results won't be known until October 27.

"It will be several weeks before we know where we stand with this new program," he said.

Judy Alexander, chairman, Halton Board of Education said she thinks the new anti-inflation program is a good thing and added she was glad to see some leadership coming out of Ottawa.

"As good Canadians the board will support the spirit of the program. We realize it will hurt some people but something like this had to start somewhere," she said. Noting the board has more

than 500 employees, she said "we will obey the law and the wage increases allowed by law will be used in negotiations with staff and teachers."

Mrs. Alexander said that for some time the board has been "troubled by the salary demands by teachers, our increasing costs and the fact the mill rate is going up."

She said eventually the board's costs will come down because of the price controls and noted when costs are reduced the mill rate will follow. Mrs. Alexander added work by Ottawa will affect Halton's teachers.

Georgetown resident Bill Rannachan, president of the Brampton and District Labor Council says the new economic proposals won't receive the labor council's support.

"They're unfair and unworkable and won't receive our support," he says. He says the proposals will only affect workers and won't strain prices. He doesn't believe prices will come down if costs are reduced.

Rannachan concluded the labor council will let Ottawa know they don't like the plan but added once it becomes law the workers will have to follow it.

In a release the Ontario Federation of Agriculture announced this week they will be going to Ottawa with the Canadian Federation of Agriculture to discuss the new anti-inflation program

with board chairman Jean Luc Pepin. Farmers object to Pepin's suggestion that he has "a hunch something is wrong with marketing boards."

The agricultural federation hope to discuss the workings of farm produce marketing boards with Pepin.

PLAYS OCT. 24 & 25

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- 1 Deliverance
- 2 The Devils
- 3 The Exorcist

SUN. NIGHT ONLY

3 S-e-x-o-l-i-n-g Hits

- 1 Resort Girls
- 2 Country Hooker
- 3 Run Virgin Run

ADMITTANCE \$2.00 (Suggested) Starts at 7:00

Mustang Drive-In Theatre

Veto public reception for new coat of arms

A move by Oakville Councillor Terry Mannell to have a public reception held following the presentation of the Regional Coat of Arms was defeated during Wednesday's Halton Regional Council meeting.

The administration committee had recommended the presentation and brief ceremony take place at the end of a council meeting, to be followed by a reception for councillors and special guests.

For the Public Mannell wanted to scrap that reception in favor of one during the evening at which coffee and sandwiches could be served.

He argued that ratepayers would be allowed to mingle with councillors and get to know their elected officials just a little bit better.

Council favored the committee recommendation and vetoed any plan for the public reception or evening meeting.

Stairs for hall

Stairs will be built in the new scout hall addition this Saturday, as the work bees continue. The new steps will lead from the kitchen to the basement. Backfitting is scheduled for this week as well.

The siding is on hand ready for installation. Stone for drainage purposes was donated by Indusman, through Don Murdoch and Don Green, R.R. 2, trucked the stone as his contribution toward the project.

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Extra Lean Boneless	Point Brisket	lb.	\$1.39
Lean	Ground Chuck	lb.	\$1.19
Maple Leaf	Side Bacon	1 Lb. Pkg.	\$1.99
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