

# Applicants are needed

Halton Hills has advertised for applicants to fill seats on the library board, committee of adjustment, parking authority and recreation advisory committee for Georgetown.

Acton and Esquering recreation advisory committee is also looking for members, and since this had been advertised previously, it has not been included in the latest advertisement. However, there were no applicants and people are wanted for this board, too.

It's to be hoped Acton and Esquering people will apply promptly for these seats. The deadline is Nov. 25. Anyone who feels an interest in sitting on these boards should not wait to be asked, coaxed or cajoled. It likely won't happen!

Last year Acton lost one of its two seats on the library board when the incumbent Acton member did not realize that with Halton Hills had come new ways, and the manner of application had changed. He was replaced with a Georgetown applicant.

The clerk's office would give information on the boards' duties to anybody who wishes it.

Clerk administrator Doug Pritchard says anyone who wishes to take part on the Acton and Esquering recreation advisory committee should apply to him in writing or else contact one of the present members, Peter Papillon and Ed Wood for Acton, or Pam Sheldon for Esquering. There are four vacancies.

Presently George Lee is the only Acton member of the library board, Paul Nielsen is one of three members of the Parking Authority, Acton members of the Committee of Adjustment are its chairman Jim Lindsay and Vic Bristow, and Esquering members Denny Charles and Wilfred Leslie. Any of these would be glad to share their knowledge with new applicants.

With no council and fewer boards strictly related to Acton or Esquering alone, it is far more important than ever to have local people on these boards which cover all of Halton Hills.



LAST FRIDAY'S FINAL RUN for CN's commuter train between Toronto and Guelph was a rousing time for passengers and crew. This picture, taken in Brampton, shows commuters detrainning, while the Brampton Clown Band whoops it up with members of the train's

crew. Passengers brought decorations for both the train and themselves, much as they used to do for Christmas. The band intended to go only as far as Brampton, but was persuaded to stay with it until the end of the run.

# The Free Press Back Issues

## 20 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press November 24, 1955

Three young men from Acton were injured late Sunday night when the car they were riding was involved in an accident just east of Guelph. Damage to the car was estimated at about \$800.

Investigating provincial police from the Guelph detachment gave no reason for the cause of the mishap. Owner and driver of the car was Herb Dadds. His passengers were John Crenney and Bob Coon. All are from Acton.

Secondary graduation diplomas were awarded at Friday night's commencement to Peter Schulz, Russell Arbie, Betty May Lambert, Wayne Arbie and Joe Jany.

One of the youngest pilots in Canada, Martin Marks received his private pilot's license last Friday. After hours of training, soloing and studying he is now qualified to fly anywhere in the daytime and to take up passengers.

He and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Marks, went down to the Brampton Flying club on Sunday. His first passenger? His father. His second? His mother.

A meeting of the Auxiliary Police and Civil Defence organizers was held in Milton on Friday night of last week with Senior Staff Inspector Crisot of the Ontario Provincial Police as guest speaker.

Appreciation Day, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and subscribed to by most downtown businessmen, will shortly become a highlight of Acton's commercial life.

## 50 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, November 19, 1925.

In the face of considerable competition Ontario potato growers secured the leading prizes at the Royal Winter Fair. In the large Rural York group, S. E. Griffin of Acton secured both first prizes under certified and uncertified.

Mr. Hugh Walker, the oldest Freemason in Guelph, celebrated his 80th birthday last week when he received many beautiful and useful gifts. It was he who instituted Walker Lodge in 1874.

The second meeting of the Acton High School Literary Society last Friday afternoon showed the worthy talent of A.C.F. President George Mason was in the chair. After the singing of the school song, there was a piano solo by Miss Margaret (Pinedell) Althouse by Madeline Koyson and Adele Huest. Following the advantages and disadvantages of the telephone, and an address by Rev. Mr. Guntton.

Regarding the proposal of compelling all vehicles to carry lights at night, the County Council in session last week expressed itself as favoring provincial legislation. For the most part the members were in sympathy with the movement to have vehicles carry light but felt the measure should be general.

Mr. Foster Roney has opened his new shoe and shoe-repairing shop on Mill St. in the premises formerly occupied by Thomas Gibbons.

Four little Brampton girls surprised Miss Nora Kenney, the supervisor of the hospital there, with a gift of four pairs of towels for the hospital.

## 100 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Friday, November 12, 1875.

We noticed yesterday quite a large shipment of gloves at Messrs. Storey and Co.'s factory for Winnipeg, Manitoba. Acton's kid gloves are known and appreciated in all parts of the Dominion. Christie, Henderson and Co. have just received and are selling cheap splendid lines of buffalo robes.

At a meeting of the members of St. Alban's congregation it was decided to purchase that desirable property adjoining their church, at present owned and occupied by Mr. John Sharpe, as a residence for the clergyman of this mission.

The council met Thursday evening, the Reeve in the chair. The sum of \$20 was to be placed to the credit of charities, to be disbursed by the Reeve.

A petition of 82 ladies of Acton, praying for a sidewalk to the station, was received and read. The committee on street and sidewalks will wait on the Grand Trunk ways to ascertain what arrangements can be made for a sidewalk through their premises.

Acton has grown more during the past three years than at any time in its history. The season now closing has been productive of a number of new dwellings with an outlay of over \$30,000.

Fruit should not be eaten between meals, or when the body is exhausted from labour.

Pulverized alum and salt, in equal quantities, will cure the severest toothache.

Wet boots should be filled with dry oats.

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# Free Press Editorial Page

## Not really too worried

Plenty of people worry about pollution. About smoking. Sure they do!

But not enough to come to the clinic in the parish hall last week to find out if they have any lung problems. Less than a dozen people turned up to have their lung capacity tested.

The women in charge explained they set up the clinic specifically as

a result of requests from husbands whom they tested during their regular industrial program.

How can my wife be tested? the workmen asked. She stays home all day and smokes a lot.

Here was how. But next to nobody came.

The concern about smoking and pollution must be somewhere else.

## The last passenger train

No passenger train stops at Acton or Rockwood anymore. Instead, the few local commuters left to travel via train are invited to get on the GO bus and transfer at Georgetown.

Surely the people of this area shouldn't let another appropriate moment pass without plumping for the GO service to extend all the way from Georgetown to Guelph.

Admittedly, the GO people have no thoughts on this right now, officials say. Maybe they haven't... but we have.

Good, clean, regular, through-the-day service from Guelph to Toronto seems a fine solution to the horrible problem of traffic con-

gestion.

But for a casual trip to Toronto to the Winter Fair, say, or to a specialist, who would rise before dawn to catch the early morning GO bus and train, and arrive home after 6.30 p.m.? Not many.

The GO officials say there is indeed thought given in the future to more frequent service throughout the day, but only from Georgetown to Toronto. At that, changes must be made in tracks first, to accommodate freights.

One thing leads to another!

One of these years, passenger trains will surely give a welcome toot and stop here again.

## Blunt facts from Beardmore

Consideration should certainly be given to the construction of a sewage plant addition that will at last accommodate the sewage of the town's largest industry, Beardmore. Apparently it is the only industry in all the county which is denied use of the local sewage treatment plant. Other industries accepted include a huge refinery and paper mills.

In his address to regional council, Lorne Youngblut of Beardmore said bluntly "Never has a company done so much for a community and received so little in return."

The community has indeed accepted Beardmore without much thought over all its years here — and that's 111 years.

Here is exactly what Mr. Youngblut said to the councillors:

"In order to acquaint everyone with our problem we will give you an outline of our company. It was formed in 1864 and has been located in Acton.

"Beardmore's business consists of taking raw hides and tanning them into leather which is used in the manufacture of shoes, bags, garments, luggage, etc. Our product is not only sold in Canada but the United States, Europe, Asia and Africa.

"In our community it gives employment to approximately 400 people and our payroll for 1974 totalled \$3,400,000. Most of our employees live in Acton and pay taxes here.

"Our tax bill with the community of Halton Hills amounted to \$150,000.00 in 1975 and we are the largest taxpayer in the town.

"We, being located on the south-east side of the town, require very little road care.

"The second item is water and, since we are large users of water, we have had to locate and provide our own water supply due to the town being unable to supply it.

"Thirdly, we have fire protection. The Acton Fire Brigade is composed of volunteers and six of our employees are members of it. These employees are permitted to answer calls during working hours without loss in pay. Our Company does not receive any reimbursement for this service. We have our own fire truck and brigade to handle fires on our premises and they are available to the town in the case of need — once again at no cost to the community. In case of a very bad fire, the facilities of our stand-by tower are such that they can be used by the town.

"Fourthly, policing. We have employed the services of Pinkertons for this purpose who look after our plant on a 24 hour a day program. The town police antenna is mounted on our water tower so that the police force can have proper radio communications.

"Fifthly, parks. We have granted the town the use of land owned by us directly north of the arena for recreational purposes.

"Sixthly, garbage. Land being used by the corporation for garbage disposal has been leased from us on the basis of \$1.00 per year. However, since leasing this land to the community, we have not been permitted to use this site to dispose of our garbage but have had to provide our own disposal site.

"Seventhly, schools. We are pleased to donate three scholarships a year to the high school.

"Eighthly, sewage. Now we come to the final service, namely sewage, and to us it is the most important. The community sewage plant is constructed on approximately six acres of land which was donated to the town for this purpose, by Beardmore. Trunk sewers pass through our property to get to the plant. Once again, sewage was provided to all industries and

# Report from Queen's Park

By Julian Reed, M.P.P. (Halton-Burlington)

The Provincial Government has introduced legislation placing an 8 per cent ceiling on rent increases for at least a year from last July 29, and there will be automatic refunds for increases beyond 8 per cent since that date. There is no provision for appeal by landlords or tenants until January 1, after which appeals may be made to rent review officers throughout the province, or ultimately a single rent review board.

The 8 per cent limit will hold — subject to appeal for leases signed up to August 1, 1976. Subsequently signed leases will be subject to some control figure to be set by cabinet in accordance with landlords' current costs and based partly on figures allowed by rent officers and the appeal board. These controls will not apply to rooming houses, buildings in which four or fewer units are rented, luxury accommodation (rented at more than \$500 per month), non-profit housing, and new buildings not occupied before January 1st.

Legislation has also been introduced requiring landlords to justify termination of leases, which will provide some degree of security of tenure for tenants.

In spite of considerable pressure from Opposition Members the Minister of Education has refused to intervene, and some 99 per cent of Metro's 8,600 high school teachers are on strike.



Julian Reed

Picket signs indicate that the teachers are calling for smaller classes and more teachers for immigrant students, but the main demand is for increased salaries, in accordance with the recommendations of the Provincial Fact Finder Stanley Hartt, who recommended salaries ranging from \$13,356, to \$25,224 a year. Metro Board has offered a range of \$11,575 to \$24,820. Current salaries range from \$7,800 to \$18,400.

Provincial Treasurer Darcy McKeough, appearing as a witness before the 12 member Three-Party Select Committee investigating Hydro's proposed 25 per cent increase in bulk power rates, has defended Hydro's requested increase. He maintains Hydro's credit rating could suffer if a smaller increase is recommended by the committee. The Province has limited Hydro's borrowing for next year to \$1.7 billion, \$200 million lower

than requested the utility borrows all money through the Province, which guarantees the loans.

Jim Bullbrook (Liberal M.P.P. for Sarnia) has expressed the view the Committee is likely to recommend an interim increase of 12.5 per cent as an alternative to Hydro's present plan of instituting a full 25 per cent increase as of January 1, making rebates if the committee and government decide a smaller increase is required.

A committee will soon be appointed to be responsible for solving problems in connection with the Workmen's Compensation Board. The Minister of Labor announced the committee will be similar to the Advisory Council on Occupational and Environmental Health recently announced by the Health Minister, but will deal with occupational health and safety "after the fact" of injury. Seven members will be appointed initially, and they will appoint five others, from big and small business unions and other interested groups. The committee will arrange an exchange of information between groups representing disabled workers and the Board.

Treasurer Darcy McKeough called a special meeting in Toronto of the provincial-municipal liaison committee to announce the government has imposed a 5-6 per cent limit on transfer payments to local governments and school boards next year. These payments, which will amount to about \$2.8 billion this year, represent

more than half the total revenues of the province's local governments and school boards, as well as conservation authorities, children's aid societies, homes for the aged and library boards. Municipal leaders have accused the government of lack of leadership in refusing to create a provincial anti-inflation board.

A week ago last Wednesday at the Halton Regional Meeting, Darcy McKeough presented a financial overview of the Region, explaining certain increases in provincial financial participation in the regional budget and at the time he admitted to councilors there was duplication between the regional and municipal levels of government. He also made the statement that some government operations were better performed at the municipal level than at the regional level.

I have subsequently asked a question of Mr. McKeough in the House if these admissions indicated he was now ready to redistribute at least some of the power back to the municipalities. His answer was as follows: "Mr. Speaker, I am sure that these matters are being considered by the Halton Regional Council and by the area municipalities and in due course they may make recommendations to me and to the government for change which we will consider at that time."

This week in the lead-off speech on Energy Estimates, Mr. Timbrell the Minister, announced the energy situation in Ontario was, as he termed it, grave in the sense that the age of cheap energy is over. He had introduced an amendment to the Energy Act earlier in the week to allow for the allocation of gas supplies should that become necessary, predicting that it may happen by 1977. He went on to demonstrate in his report that the demand for non-renewable energy would outstrip supply roughly 10 years from now. And those energy forms included coal, gas, oil, uranium, and so on.

When you stop to think of it, we are very vulnerable in Ontario considering that we import 80 per cent of our energy from outside our borders. At the same time, steps toward conservation have been negligible. The feeling in the Ministry is that concerted moves by the government towards the conservation of energy will not significantly alter the rate of depletion of these resources. The answer is obvious. That is the thrust must be in this next ten years towards a comprehensive development program in the renewable resource field.

Some of the technology we already have. Some still needs further development. The government's total expenditure in this area, this year, was \$100,000. It is interesting to see the government's priorities when one considers that \$100 million has been committed to the Syncrude project in the tar sands.

I would like to go on public record saying that unless we make a firm commitment to the development of renewable resources in the province of Ontario, and unless we set out with a vision toward the achievement of that within a decade, our standard of living will fall to levels we have not known for generations.

- The purpose of paying taxes is to pay for services rendered by the town, such as:
- 1. Roads
  - 2. Water
  - 3. Fire Protection
  - 4. Police
  - 5. Parks
  - 6. Garbage
  - 7. Schools
  - 8. Sewage

## Briefly

Some newspaper "bloopers" we stole from Bell News:

To make a delicious rabbit stew, use four diced carrots, one large onion, six medium potatoes and one large hair.

Miss Josie Diviny and Fred Browne were married at Hoxie, Kansas, some weeks ago. They are both highly respected and we did not suspect it until yesterday.

Several small brides were reported washed away and roads flooded.

Owing to the lack of space and the rush of editing this issue, several births and deaths will be postponed until next week.