



**WE HAVE WORKED
2 YEARS WITHOUT A
DISABLING INJURY**



THE LONG BANNER AT THE BUILDING Products plant on Highway 25 says it all. For the last two years the 121 employees have worked without a disabling injury. The occasion marks the second time the plant has gone for two years without such injury. The plant is looking forward to the coming

September when it hopes to pass the half-million man hours mark without an injury. One car in the company's parking lot carried a miniature of the white, green, black and red banner, in the form of a bumper sticker.

Acton sewer charges up town won't use lot levies

Three Acton councillors who fought to keep Acton's sewer service charges the same as Georgetown's despite the fact equalized charges have been found to be illegal went down to defeat Monday night.

Sewer charges will now cost the average Acton taxpayer \$67.91 a year, an increase of \$18.64 over last year. Under the equalized system the cost would have dropped \$8.38 to \$42.90.

Georgetown's average taxpayer will now pay \$33.37 for sewer services, \$2.70 less than last year. Under the equalized system the cost would have been \$42.90 an increase of \$6.75.

Acton councillors fought to have the additional cost absorbed by taking the money from Acton lot levies, to keep the charge in Acton the same as last year.

Councillor Pat McKenzie said Acton would be paying the highest sewer charges in Halton. He urged council to use \$35,000 from Acton lot levies. He argued that if the

former town of Acton still operated separately \$600 of the \$900 lot levy would have gone to water and sewer. He claimed the \$35,000 sewer deficit in Acton was caused by necessary repairs in the last few years. He said there should be few repair bills in future, since the existing

Councillor Ric Morrow contended lot levies should never be used to cover operating costs, but held solely for capital costs. He warned council would be setting a precedent where some council could take lot levy funds to decrease the operating costs of the town.

"I may be called Scrooge for this," he added.

McKenzie repeated his insistence the deficit was caused by the need of repairs and claimed they were repairs needed in the normal operation of the plant.

"If this is so, why did Morrow vote to take \$50,000 of lot levies to repair Georgetown arena?"

"Major repairs like the arena are a capital cost," retorted Morrow. He pointed out the regional treasurer and engineer also deemed the sewer repairs as operational costs.

Councillor Dick Howitt agreed the use of lot levies for operational costs could be dangerous. "It appears that the equalization of charges we did two weeks ago, supposedly on the basis of unifying the town, was not the reason behind the whole exercise."

Councillor Joe Hurst maintained the lot levies should be used only when the whole municipality benefits. "I can justify using lot levies for sewer charges much easier than an arena where only the people who use the arena benefit." He said the purpose of lot levies is to reduce the costs to all taxpayers.

Morrow suggested using money such as lot levies to operate the city was the way New York city began its

decline. He said they borrowed money even to pay salaries, and spent money on items that were not capital costs but merely to keep the city operating. "If we start using capital funds for operating costs, where do we end up?"

Councillor Harry Levy agreed saying it is wrong to use capital funds for operating purposes.

Councillor Les Duby contended the sewer deficit in Acton is really a regional deficit.

Councillor Ern Hyde said he is a firm believer in one town, and for that reason had been willing to go for the equal charges, but he said he had to agree lot levies should not be used for operational purposes. He asked Treasurer Ray King if there was any money in contingency funds to relieve the burden on Ward 1.

The treasurer said he had to say no.

Howitt said he was sympathetic to Ward 1, but claimed taking lot levies would be the same as his asking special consideration for Ward 2 because the township grants had been decreased 20 per cent.

McKenzie maintained the lot levies raised in Acton had been slated for water and sewers. "If we had been operating as we were we would have used lot levies for this purpose."

After the motion was passed that will see Acton paying the increase, Hurst commented, "It may not matter what you do there will be on tier government in Halton pretty soon."

Duby comments
Commented councillor Les Duby Tuesday "Trying to be responsible councillors we had to be concerned about the higher mill rate for Acton, as compared to Esquesing and Georgetown, now escalated, by regional charges for sewer and water operations."

"We asked (Halton Hills council) consideration, suggested ways and they were turned down."

"They wouldn't buy it." He explained Halton Hills has no control over the water and sewer charges. Major works were done in Acton in the way of maintenance, not capital, which compounded the situation.

He expressed concern over the Acton residential mill rate increasing from near 98 mills to 113 mills two weeks ago and now to 117.91 mills.

"We did what we could. It didn't work."

Our arena is OK

Pat Sheehan, supervisor of recreational facilities is pretty sure that the town will not be receiving any mail from the Ontario Ministry of Labor concerning the Acton arena.

"We're ok", Mr. Sheehan said. He told this paper yesterday that the new roof, which was completed last summer, is guaranteed for a year. After then there'll be yearly inspections, Mr. Sheehan said.

Girders
In the last two years the arena has had a new roof, two new side walls, reinforced girders, all new wood 2 by 12's alongside the existing ones, and a few new steel girders.

The Acton arena was constructed in the '30s.

The recreation department recommends to council one or two engineers to inspect arenas each year, Mr. Sheehan said.

Closed
The Fred Armstrong Arena at Milton was ordered closed by the provincial Ministry of Labor.

The old arena in Georgetown, which was closed earlier this year, is slated to undergo repairs at a cost of approximately \$200,000.

Arenas at Fergus and Hillsburgh have also been ordered closed. The Elora arena has already been torn down.

Repairs to pool

Acton indoor swimming pool was closed yesterday (Tuesday) and today for repairs to the tiles in the shallow end and to the ladder.

Swimming will resume as usual on Thursday, according to recreation co-ordinator Anne Pickering.

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Hold up \$900,000 complex bylaw

A bylaw which would have authorized the building of a \$900,000 municipal complex was delayed, Monday night, when council members indicated they wanted more time to consider all the town expenditures.

Treasurer Ray King explained it could be financed by the sale of \$600,000 in debentures, and by raising \$300,000 from lot levies and the sale of disposable town property.

The treasurer warned against relying too heavily on lot levies. He predicted a "ball park figure" of \$600,000 might be raised from the sale of town properties.

Councillor Harry Levy said he was concerned about which properties were considered disposable. He said he realized it should not be public information at this point. He said he was more concerned about the financing of the arena repairs over and above the municipal complex \$900,000.

The treasurer said the arena repairs are projected at \$200,000. He said \$50,000 is planned to come from the operating budget, and \$150,000 from lot levies.

Councillor Dick Howitt said he agreed all the disposable

town properties should not be discussed, but said the treasury department on Main Street would be an obvious building not needed if the complex is built. He said there is property in Esquesing taken over for taxes in Esquesing that is useless and could be sold for building lots.

Howitt emphasized there had never been any mention or even hint of selling any town parkette at the meeting he attended, despite a report in this newspaper.

"I was very concerned about the financing, but after going through the list of disposable town properties I came away feeling good," commented Howitt. He said the town should start disposing of some of the land even if the complex is never built. He said he was impressed with the low per capita debt in Halton Hills compared to the remainder of the region.

Councillor Pat McKenzie said there are pieces of town-owned land scattered around Ward 1 that could be disposed of. He added that according to Allan Zeegen, consultant on Georgetown Memorial Arena, the \$200,000 estimate would be more than adequate, unless local workmen charged more than those he normally deals with.

Morrow said the administration committee should see the list of properties. He said "someone at a meeting made the recommendation

about the parkette". He suggested the Main Street town offices might be needed in the future and cautioned against the immediate sale. He suggested there should be a place where citizens can make enquiries about tax problems. He said he hoped Halton Hills would maintain their envied per capita debt position. "It doesn't mean we should spend money," he said he is opposed to the project.

Morrow said the arena has to be repaired, and warned about any further onus on the taxpayers.

Councillor Mike Armstrong urged council to get the whole financial picture together before making a decision on the municipal complex. He said he was opposed to a plebiscite saying, "The taxpayers pay us a hell of a lot of money to make decisions."

He said he is not necessarily opposed to any of the projects, but reminded council there is a library needed, the works garage in progress, the renovations to all the departments being switched, such as the ambulance and fire, and the arena repairs. "Let's know exactly the costs of everything."

Councillor Joe Hurst urged council to decide whether or not they want the complex. He predicted within a few years there would be a one tier government.

Morrow wants 25 year guarantee on present set-up

Before spending \$900,000 on a municipal complex, Councillor Ric Morrow wants a commitment from the province that Halton Hills will be set up the same way for the next 25 years.

Despite allegations he was speaking with his tongue in his cheek, Morrow contended he was serious. He said he was concerned about spending roughly a million dollars on a municipal complex with out knowing the municipality will exist as a unit for another 25 years.

In the motion he also sought a \$600,000 provincial grant for the complex. He pointed out that Halton Hills is the only municipality, which through amalgamation, joined two urban areas, making a centralized complex more urgent. He said it did not apply to any other town in the region who still maintain one urban centre. He claimed there should be a grant since without the

imposition of regional government the complex would not even be considered.

"This isn't procrastination, it's a screw-up", commented Councillor Ern Hyde. "First the government would have to be in 25 years before they could guarantee the present system." He pointed out the region is building a complex but have no guarantee there will be a regional system for 25 years. He suggested if anything should be done away with, it should be the region, "since it is redundant, costly and excess baggage."

Morrow said the region is building a \$2 million building for the whole region while Halton Hills plans to build a \$1 million building for 35,000 people. He claimed the region has well over \$1 million in a fund for this express purpose.

Councillor Mike Armstrong pointed out the municipal building is to house staff. He

Bicycle, car in collision

Tony Sheppard, 12, of 10 Kingham Dr., received cuts and bruises after the bicycle he was riding was in collision with a car driven by Nancy Duff, Cheltenham.

The bicycle sustained \$30 in damages in the Main St. occurrence on June 15 at 11:50 a.m.

McKenzie says

Office will remain open

Arrangements will be made so Acton people can pay their water bills in Acton, councillor G. W. McKenzie said this week. Although the water billing has been transferred to Georgetown he said an Acton office will have to remain open. Water bills can be paid at the Acton office, at banks or, of course, by mail.

The matter of changes in the Acton town office will be

discussed by the general administration committee. One clerk is leaving the office leaving Mrs. Lorna Clark the only office employee here.

Changes are being considered in staff and location, but councillor McKenzie is insistent that an Acton office will remain.

May extend plexiglass round arena

Councillor Pat McKenzie showed he was not satisfied with a recommendation to install plexiglass only down the sides of Acton arena, Monday night, and contended it should be done all round.

The original recommendation was to give Crystaplex Plastics the job of installing plexiglass on both sides at a cost of \$3,812.

McKenzie contended there had been \$7,200 in the budget to do the whole thing. He said he had been assured it would be done, from other money, when that money was taken out of the budget. "This isn't cricket, there was a gentleman's agreement it would be done, not half done."

Councillor George Maltby said according to the recreat-

ion director's report there had been \$2,500 in the budget for plexiglass, and \$1,100 for studded tires and rims, which will not be used, so the latter amount could go toward the plexiglass. An additional \$1,200 is available because that money scheduled for the purchase of roller skates is not needed, since Acton is us-

ing the skates from Georgetown arena.

Maltby said there are no spectators at either end of the arena so it is not dangerous. McKenzie said "Maltby should go to a hockey game." He said spectators must go in through one end and down to the washrooms the same way. "If you do one end only,

I'll back off", said McKenzie. Councillor Dick Howitt said he would be in favor of sending it back to committee. He claimed from a cost point of view it would be cheaper to do the whole thing at one time than piece by piece.

Council agreed and sent it back to committee for further consideration.

Fairview chapel approval given

A chapel for Fairview cemetery has received all necessary approvals now, councillor Joe Hurst told Halton Hills council Monday night. An agreement will be drawn up with the donor, Dr. Allan J. Buchanan.

New drawings must be submitted as no plots may be closer than 30 feet to the chapel. There will be no loss of plots; there may in fact be more after the drawings are made. All plots in the area of the new chapel are vacant.

The chapel would be located inside the main gate to the left.

Truck wedged under bridge

He didn't know the bridge was so low until he collided with it, explained truck driver Gary Primo of Toronto. His truck had wedged itself under the railway bridge at Crewsons Corners, tipped to the left and came to rest against the wall of the underpass with the wheels off the ground.

Primo was driving a yellow stake truck owned by Building Supplies Limited, Downsview, Monday afternoon. Damage to the frame and hoist of the truck was estimated at about \$3,000 by the Acton police. The impact

shifted the railroad tracks to the tune of \$300 damage.

Primo was coming south when he drove under the bridge. The truck left only with the assistance of Frank Toth's tow truck.

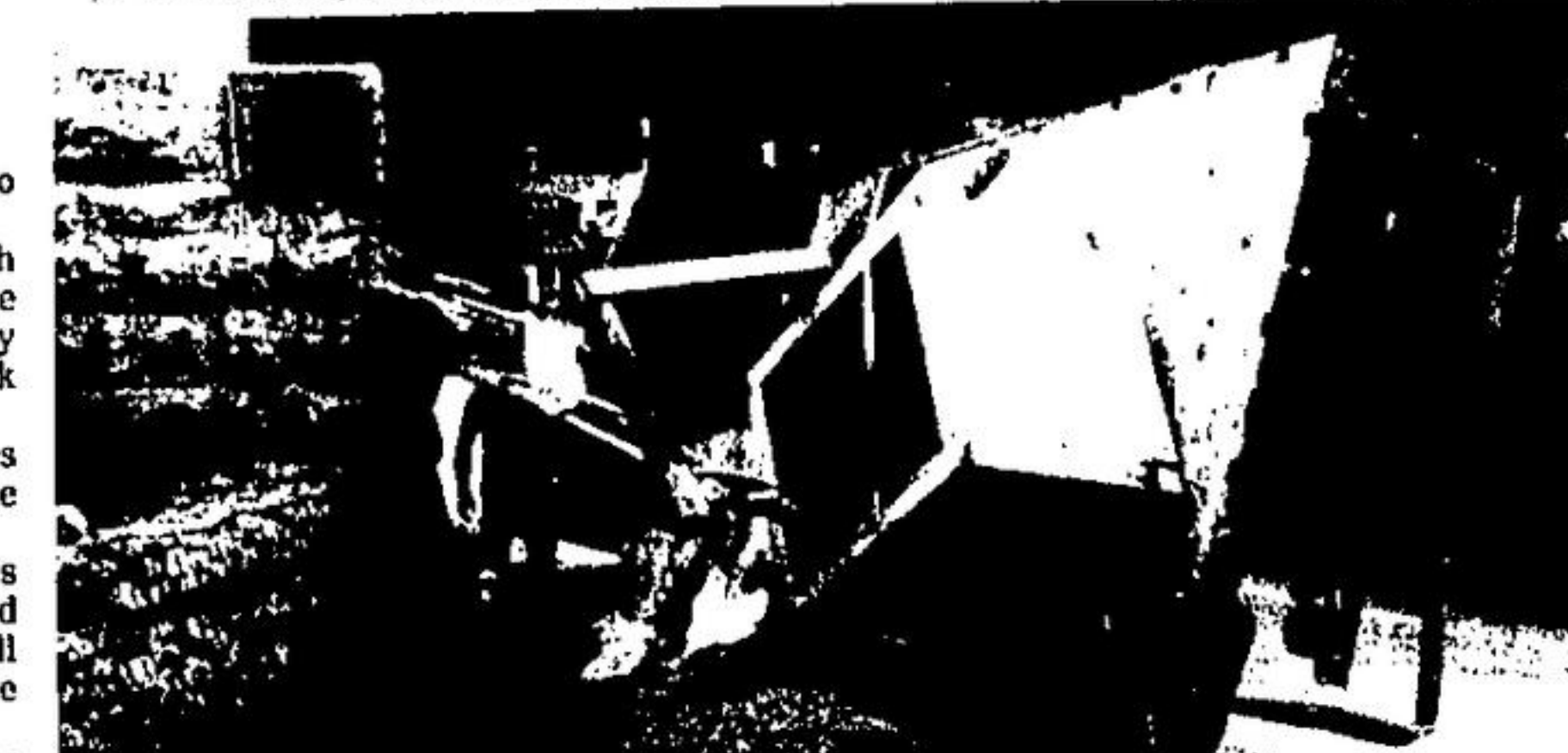
Fire chief Mick Holmes went out to investigate the scene in case of fire.

Mr. Holmes said there was no real danger with spilled hydraulic oil and did not call the fire trucks out to the scene.

Constable Tom Roduck, of the Acton precinct of the Halton Regional Police was the investigating officer.



TRUCK IS WEDGED against wall of railway underpass at Crewsons Corners, its wheels off the ground. Damage is estimated at about \$3,000 to the truck, \$300 to the track.



LOW BRIDGE caught truck driver Gary Primo, Toronto, unaware Monday afternoon. He was wedged in, but not injured.



SERGEANT DICK Hilton has replaced Staff Sergeant Bernie Ward as head of the Acton precinct of the Halton Regional Police. Staff Sergeant Ward has been transferred to Burlington.