



1970 FORD PICKUP was the centre of attention for the Acton Volunteer Firefighters Sunday evening at 7:50. The truck belongs to Ronald Fatt of Eramosa Township who was visiting friends on the Sixth Line of Milton when the fire occurred.

Guests will address Block Parent meeting

A member of the Milton Block Parents program and a Halton Regional Police officer will address interested parents at Block Parents' organizing meeting early next month.

Gayle Rae of Milton and Constable Keith Woods of the Safety Bureau will attend the meeting which is slated for July 7 in the auditorium of M. Z. Bennett school starting at 8 p.m.

The signs, which are standardized, are issued by the Canada Safety Council.

The signs are placed in street level windows by Block Parents. Mrs. Harkins stresses that Block Parent members need only display the signs when they wish to be available. When it is not convenient for a member to be disturbed, he or she has only to take the sign from the window.

Interested parents can find out about the Block Parents from Community Services' Co-ordinator Judy McLin, in the Y building or by phoning 853-3310 in the day time. In evenings, Mrs. Harkins' number is 853-1453.

Officers promoted

Promotions for four Acton officers were announced Thursday by Halton Police Commission.

Constables Robert Davidson, Bruce Lindsay, Mike Michalski and Alex Pearce were all promoted from fourth class to second class constables this month and receive a \$3,452.64 a year wage boost.

NORMAN PRICE of the Acton Volunteer Firefighters sprays a truck belonging to Ronald Fatt of Eramosa township Sunday evening, after an apparent short in the wires engulfed the car in flames, while he visited friends on the Sixth Line of Milton.

\$4.75 million raise . . .

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years Halton teachers have received wage boosts totalling 50 per cent and he charged there hasn't been a 50 per cent increase in productivity.

Goodyear said governments just aren't staying within the wage guidelines for its own employees and noted the public will only accept an eight per cent hike but the teachers are getting over 10 per cent.

"The public keeps telling us to cut costs and we had better start listening or else the whole system is going to come apart at the seams", Goodyear predicted.

Trustee Bill Lawson said both the board and teachers were using A.I.B. guidelines as a crutch and "not truly negotiating in the interests of the ratepayers."

He said the wage hike shouldn't be so high and suggested the pupil-teacher ratio may need to be changed.

Trustee Richard Goodin said the board wasn't spending its money wisely when over \$50 million is spent on salaries. Once again he called for all teachers to accept a 25 per cent wage cut from this year's pay levels.

"Salaries are just too high and I know there are teachers who just don't expect to make the kind of money they are making now. The best teachers we have just aren't the ones who want more and more money for less and less work. \$50 million is just too much to pay people to work 185 days a year", Goodin declared.

Goodin and Trustee Jim Clelland both said the teachers raise should be limited to eight per cent including their increment and expressed the hope the A.I.B. would reject the settlement, since it exceeds eight per cent when the increments are included.

Superintendent of Business and Finance Bruce Lindley said the agreement will go to the A.I.B. but noted the A.I.B. won't make a ruling on increments. He noted the A.I.B. has said it is up to the employer to decide if the increment will be included as part of the final settlement figure. Goodin said Halton's

Township appeal wins \$78,700

Nassagaweya's appeal against the 1976 education levy has once again been successful. This year the award amounts to \$78,700 for that portion of Milton.

For five years now, municipalities in Halton have dipped into their coffers to pay off the "levelling-out" award to Nassagaweya. The award is considered essential because of a flaw in the provincial equalization factor applied to the Nassagaweya area.

Oakville and Burlington will be responsible for \$63,000 of the \$78,000 this year. The balance comes from Halton Hills and urban Milton.

The award was decided at a meeting of the board of arbitrators June 14. Municipalities have 30 days to appeal the decision. In the event there is no appeal, the decision becomes final.

The annual award is expected to be dispensed with, once market value assessment is introduced in 1978.

"excessive settlement" this year would have far reaching effects on contract settlements in other parts of the province.

Trustee Fred Armitage said the Halton agreement would have a positive effect across Ontario since it was a model collective agreement, which all boards could use as an example. He noted since it was Halton's first collective agreement with its teachers it was very important.

Trustee Bill Priestner said increments aren't exclusive to the teaching profession and are common in industry. He added May's cost of living figures indicate there could be a cost of living boost of nearly 10 per cent this year so the teacher's settlement wasn't exorbitant.

Trustee Doug Wood noted while Halton teachers received over 30 per cent in raises last year only 26 per cent was a direct raise. The rest was taken up by increments. He pointed out boards which suffered through strikes eventually settled for 21 per cent raises after arbitration and are being allowed 10 per cent raises this year by the A.I.B. Halton is allowed eight per cent. Wood concluded Halton has ended up paying its teachers the same as everyone else and avoided a strike at the same time.

"Last year's settlement cost ratepayers \$45 and this year's will cost them \$20", Goodyear complained.

Trustee Noel Cooper said when Bill 100 was first born

he thought teachers would become unionized and no longer act professionally "But my fear of unionization has been dispelled because our teachers are still professional. I am pleased with this collective agreement and this has provided a good base for years to come. The taxpayers should be proud of the job we have done."

Trustee Len Crozier said he didn't like the way a 10 per cent raise was being pawned off as a 7.3 per cent raise.

"I was definitely against this agreement at first. Now that I have read it I know we have a good collective agreement, one of the best around", Trustee Tom Watson stated.

Trustee Ernie Bodnar said increments have to be given because a teacher with 12 years experience is more valuable than one with only one year. He said no one would go into teaching if they thought it was a flat career so the increments must be allowed. Bodnar added not all teachers get increments. When a teacher reaches the top he or she gets only a cost of living adjustment.

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Firefighters put out truck fire

Extensive damage was caused to the motor and cab of a truck early Sunday evening after the pickup caught fire.

Acton fire chief Mick Holmes said the fire was on the sixth line of Milton, (formerly Nassagaweya). Ronald Fatt of Eramosa township was visiting friends when the horn of his 1970 Ford pickup truck starting blaring.

When Mr. Fatt and his friends looked out the window, the vehicles was in flames. Mr. Holmes believes the fire started from a short in the wires. Firefighters were at the scene 15 to 20 minutes, the chief said.

Minor injury

An Acton man was treated in Guelph General Hospital, for minor injuries early Monday after a single-car accident on Highway 25 north of town.

Milton OPP said Shawn Merkestein of 114 Mill St. E. was southbound in a 1970 Chevrolet when he swerved to avoid an unknown eastbound car which failed to stop on the Halton-Wellington boundary road.

Police said Van Merkestein's car struck an earth embankment and ended up on the west side of the highway. Damage to his car was estimated at \$700.

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