

MARKET PLACE Name of game: problems



THINGS ARE RUNNING a lot smoother now than in the earlier days of regional government according to Murray Orr. Mr. Orr is Superintendent of the North District and works from the North Halton Public Works garage on Steeles Ave. in Milton.

Murray Orr leaned back in his chair and took a pensive glance at the ceiling above him. "Problems is the name of the game. The system never runs smoothly. That's why we're here. We're a maintenance group and we are here to cope with problems."

The comment really wasn't unusual, coming from a man whose department is responsible for the management of sewage disposal, provision of water, maintenance of roads and wide range of other tasks in North Halton.

As District Superintendent in the north, Mr. Orr has 51 people working with him. The expansion of services to meet the pressures of future development fall right into his department's lap. Mr. Orr reports to his superiors in regional headquarters in Burlington.

Three zones
The public works department is divided into three areas—one serving the north and central areas of the region, one in Burlington and another in Oakville.

The north district takes in Milton, Georgetown and Acton as well as a huge rural area.

The public works department was probably one of the toughest to build as a regional unit. The early days of regional government saw the department short staffed, under-equipped and beset with a host of organizational problems.

"We had to start from the ground and set policies. We hired some new people and have acquired a considerable amount of equipment," he said.

Prevention
Mr. Orr noted that four mechanics and a welder are on staff at the Milton operations centre. A program of preventive maintenance is

now being established. That program will be designed to provide maintenance for all of the trucks, plows and backhoes as well as the stationary motors at pumping stations and sewage plants.

"Last year we had some trucks taken off the road by the police because they were considered unsafe. That's embarrassing to say the least and now it won't be tolerated. Our equipment has to be in good shape," Mr. Orr noted.

Eventually all regional equipment will be maintained and serviced at the Milton Centre.

Currently some machinery is being serviced by regional staff and other equipment is contracted out for servicing.

Bill each other
Duplication of manpower has been one of the most frequent criticisms of public works under the regional government system.

"Yes, that has been a real point of contention and we've tried to reduce this as much as we can. Area forces perform tasks for us and bill us. For instance snow clearing and sanding of some regional roads is done by the area forces, even though the roads are our responsibility," Mr. Orr explained.

He noted that by doing it this way, the situation is avoided where one truck or plow follows another down a road to get into its own jurisdiction.

Even after close to three years of regional government, the average citizen is still confused about the split jurisdiction.

"We get many calls that pertain to local problems and they get many pertaining to ours," he said.

They're upset
Generally the complaints are accepted by the agency called and referred to the proper authority. "When people call they are upset. Their car is in the ditch and nothing will upset them more than saying that's not our problem, call somebody else," Mr. Orr noted.

"We appreciate it when calls are relayed to us. When the people have to make a second or third call, by the time they get to the proper person the phone is ringing off the wall."

The region has a standby service with public works employees available around the clock. "There's hardly a night that goes by that we're not called out for something."

The call could be for leaky hydrants, severe potholes, vandalism or stop signs and a host of other problems. Many of the complaints are investigated immediately and action is either taken to correct the problem on the spot or arrangements are made to correct the problem at a later date.

During winter months there is a constant patrol of roads

detecting drifting snow, icy conditions or sign problems.

Communications
The men on the patrol alert the foreman to poor weather conditions at his home and he decides if and when to call the plows and sanders into action.

According to Mr. Orr the region has tried to plug every loophole in the communication system and provide a system that ensures immediate action.

Employees on standby carry pagers with them if they leave their home. "We haven't had any foulups yet," he grinned.

The region has nine plows and seven sanders of its own working in the north, as well as contractors that are called upon. The region has 170 miles of road under its care.

The road crew formed the nucleus of the county works department but under regional government that department's scope has been broadened to encompass a wide range of responsibilities.

Hub of region
"Public works is one of the largest aspects of regional government. Future development depends on the services provided by the department. I see it as the hub of the region," Orr noted.

Currently the region is involved in building a new water reservoir in Milton and finalizing plans to activate another new one in Acton.

Works crew are continually working with industrial firms to control the chemical wastes that are dumped into sewers and play havoc with the waste disposal plants.

The culprits can be tracked down by a series of tests to check the BOD level at a number of manholes. Toxic chemicals will not kill off the bacteria that is needed for the successful operation of the plants.

According to Mr. Orr, officials from the firms involved are usually very cooperative. The solution is usually a matter of educating the firms, he says.

Train staff
Because of the ever-increasing demands placed on the region to strive for higher and higher environmental standards, employees are involved in an ongoing education system.

"The regulations are so stringent we need continuous education. That's one advantage of regional government. You have the flexibility to shuffle staff."

Mr. Orr supports the high standards set down by the Ministry of the Environment for the operation of pollution control plants and water filtration plants.

"The results show up in our streams and rivers."

Samples of effluent from the pollution control plants and water samples are analysed by the MOE on a weekly basis.

Royal Trust
CAMPBELLVILLE
Just south of Steeles Ave. Four bedrooms, main floor family room, sunken living room with fireplace, separate dining room, large kitchen, games room with fireplace, plus many extras inside home. 4 Stall barn and tack room plus 3 1/2 acres make this a desirable property.

GEORGETOWN MID-CENTURY
5 Bedroom home, walking distance to high school and GO trains. This ivy covered home is surrounded by mature trees on 1 1/3 acre, nicely landscaped lot, also vegetable garden in bloom. A few of the features - fireplace in living room, main floor laundry room, 2 large verandas.

BRAMALEA SIDE SPLIT
Just three years old, 3 bedrooms and den. This home reflects the tender loving care given by owners who are moving out of town.

FOR DETAILS CALL
MARG CLARKE
457-8900 or 877-4637

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1109 Adelaide St. E. 821-3600

\$139,000
This outstanding brick bungalow with 2300 sq. ft. living space, main level family room, features wood beams, fireplace, and sliding door to natural stone patio, living room with fireplace, and picturesque view, separate dining room, fully equipped kitchen, main level laundry with access to garage, future 1250 sq. ft. rec room with fireplace and rough-in wet bar. Located on 2.3 acres in area of estate homes close to Aberfoyle ski resort.

\$93,500
Is the asking price for 10 acres with stream, 3/4 bush, located in Speyside area, contains 2,000 sq. ft. living space including two fireplaces, appliances and separate apartment plus double garage.

\$40,900
Five acres with well, suitable for estate home, owner anxious.

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2 yr. old spacious sidesplit. Stone front attached garage. Family room with stone fireplace. Matching stove, fridge and dishwasher included. Large treed lot. Immediate possession. 9 1/4 per cent mortgage.

\$13,900 serviced residential lot 66' x 132'. Large trees in an area of newer homes.

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PRIVATE SALE!
Bronte Street, Milton. 3 bedroom townhouse, separate dining, 1 1/2 baths, with finished rec room and garage. Asking \$44,900. Large mortgage of \$40,000.

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With 11 room 2 storey brick house completely rebuilt, large barn and log cabin. 65 miles north of Toronto off No. 10 Highway.

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4 BEDROOMS
2 storey brick and aluminum, 2 washrooms, broadroom throughout, vendor returning to England, \$56,900.00. Try an offer.

3 BEDROOMS
New home, featuring 2 fireplaces, recreation room, family room. Ideal for family living.

BEAUTIFUL HOME
7 rooms with large 2 car garage, family room with fireplace and walk-out patio. This one won't last. Call for showing today.

NEAR FAIRY LAKE
Bungalow, 3 bedrooms. This is a super bright well-decorated home situated on large lot.

HANDYMAN SPECIAL
Downtown Acton, excellent location, front and side veranda. Vendor must sell.

\$1500.00 DOWN
Mortgage arranged, try this condominium. Vendor leaving town.

HWY. NO. 25
29 acres, building permit available. This land has excellent potential.

23 ACRES
Building permit available. Approximately 2 miles west of Acton.

Call (519) 853-3790
for further information.

853-2059
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INVESTING OR REINVESTING
Most of your life's savings in another home? You need a broker who charges the vendor most reasonable fees (about 3 per cent) and gives this purchaser total reliable information. Many ads are aimed at getting response by suggesting bargains, urgency based on open ended truths like:

VENDOR BOUGHT, ANXIOUS:
Vendor may have only a conditional offer on another home or tries to pay for a better home with the proceeds of his present home. It doesn't guarantee market value.

REDUCED TO SELL
Some properties have been reduced by \$5,000 next \$10,000 next \$10,000 and are still way above market value.

OWNER LEAVING COUNTRY
When? Maybe some time next year!

FOR RENT
8'x40' Mobile home in your location.
ROCKWOOD VILLAGE
Large Village home on treed lot. Brick fireplace—40's.

Starter home 2-3 bedrooms, nice lot. Attractive home—30's.

GEORGETOWN ACTON AREA 35 ACRES
Elegant brick bungalow, sun decks, heated in-ground pool, new block barn, second shop building, 10 acres plus pasture, mature trees.

LARGE 2 STOREY—1 ACRE
Large well finished rooms, 50's. Above ground pool plus parking for mobile home.

NORVAL ORIGINAL VILLAGE HOME
Large rooms, re-wired, new roof etc. large lot suitable for truck parking, mid 40's.

4 ACRES
Large ranch bungalow with separate apartment, excellent garden soil, treed corner, pond.

3 ACRES
Large 5 bedroom home, good setting, inground heated pool and cabana, greenhouse, several washrooms and fireplaces, 4 car garage. 10 percent financing on \$58,000, 4 1/2 years to go.

FOR RENT
20,000 sq. ft. light industrial in units of 2,000 ft.

BOVIS HOME REDUCED
3 bedroom home with recreation playroom, 2 bathrooms, large double garage, has been reduced by over \$2,000.00. Large first mortgage, mid 60's.

KINGHAM ROAD
3 bedroom home with family room at level, fireplace, paved drive. This home has a wide view as it is located at the highest spot of the subdivision. Mid 50's.

W. F. HUNTER REAL ESTATE & INSURANCE LIMITED
122 Guelph st., Georgetown

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION
Well located for retirement home, priced right for starter home. Very pleasant sun room, large living room, separate dining room, large kitchen, den or 3rd bedroom and utility room all on 1st floor. Two bedrooms and bath on second floor. Carpeted throughout. Space for nice garden on 64x132 ft. lot. Priced at \$46,500.

CHELTONHAM
Beautiful well treed acre of land, 200 ft. frontage on the Credit River. 1 bedroom cottage, large living room, porch, good kitchen, inside utility room could be made in to modern bathroom. Selling with all appliances and contents for \$47,000.

PICTURESQUE TERRA COTTA
Stucco side-split on 98x198 lot. Features 2 bedrooms, family room, 4 pc. bath and ultra-sized living room with sliding glass doors to cedar deck and rear yard. Possible 3rd bedroom in basement. Well landscaped and backing onto acres of open land. Priced at \$57,500.00.

LOTS OF OAK TRIM
This older 4 bedroom home has a kitchen, formal dining room with wall-encased sliding doors to living room, den, rear wood shed and a single car garage on 66' x 132' lot. Large amount of oak trim throughout. Old-fashioned high ceilings, open decorative stairway and tile-faced fireplace along with random width flooring. Needs renovation. Asking \$52,500.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY FOR RENT—3200 sq. ft. in Downtown Georgetown. 5 yr. lease available.

SCENIC HALTON HILLS
40 acre parcel for Country Estate, rising to the peak of the Niagara Escarpment with a 30 mile view. Two natural springs for future pond sites. Close to the Bruce Trail, surrounded by conservation areas. Asking \$175,000.00.

OFFICE 877-4441 OR 877-5165
IRENE CURRY 877-6616 LLOYD CRICHTON 877-6546
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REALTY SERVICES LIMITED REALTOR

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THIS WEEK'S FEATURE HOME

RIDGE DRIVE
\$68,900. Quality built brick, three bedroom sidesplit with an oversize 2 car attached garage. This home includes 2 baths and a beautifully finished family room with a cut stone fireplace.

CAMPBELLVILLE
Quality built elevated ranch bungalow with 3000 sq. ft. of living comfort with an oversize 2 car attached garage. This home is brimming with family appeal such as a 23' sunken living room with a fireplace, elegant dining area, main floor family room with 13' fireplace, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, cedar closet plus a ground level rec room with a 15' fireplace and walkout. Located on 5 acres. Realistically priced at \$139,000.

EARLY CANADIAN STONE
9 Acres with a beautiful old stone home built around 1846 and tastefully added to 3 years ago to give you a good balance of the old and the new. Offering 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 fireplaces plus a ground level family room. Also includes a 90 x 66 bank barn, plus an all stone barn built in 1859 and both in mint condition. Listed at \$139,000.

STONE SCHOOL HOUSE
First time offered for sale. Everything is still the way it was including the blackboards. Located on beautiful 115 x 191 fire lined lot. Built in 1863 and offering 1000 sq. ft. of exciting potential.

CAMPBELLVILLE FARMS
100 Acres, 65 per cent workable, the balance in bush with a pond site. The house and barn both need help. Asking \$125,000 with excellent 7 per cent financing available.

108 ACRES
West of Campbellville with 2 homes and a bank barn. Some bush plus a stream. Located on No. 5 side road. Asking \$1,500.00 per acre.

233 ACRES
In one parcel with a 1 1/2 storey home and barn. Excellent property for a group that wants privacy. Approximately 65 per cent workable, the balance in mixed bush. Asking \$725.00 per acre.

DORSET PARK
\$61,900.00 Brick and alum. 3 bedroom back split with a finished rec room and attached garage. Nicely landscaped plus asphalt drive. Excellent financing available.

ACTON
\$41,900 Brick 3 bedroom townhouse plus 2 baths. Backing on parkland, large 10 per cent 1st mortgage available.

BRETHOUR REALTY SERVICES LTD. REALTOR
107 Martin Street, Milton

MILTON 878-4121
KINGHAM ROAD 270-9991