

OUR READERS WRITE:

Let ducks be independent

277 Main St. N.
Acton, Ont.

Dear Sir,
I read with great wonderment at J. Dodson's letter to you dated 11th August, 1976, which appeared in the August 18th issue of the Acton Press.

How could J. Dodson conceivably criticize and call miserable, people who wish to see nature left to itself. I admit the ducks on Acton lake do enhance it, but how much nicer it would be to have the ducks in their

wild state, or at least semi-wild, instead of the town pets we have now, that come running whenever someone approaches. Human beings have interfered with nature enough, often with disastrous results.

It may be nice for some misguided people to keep pets out of the ducks, but let us, for goodness and nature's sake leave the ducks alone to regain their independence to fend for themselves.

Yours faithfully,
J. B. Cousins.

The eulogy

I'm standing now beside the corpse.
Of my dear departed wheels,
She has given up on everything,
Including bumps and squeals.

Her thirsty choke kept me always broke,
Tho' she stood up with the rest,
She was the prize in Government eyes,
While insurance took the rest.

With her inert motor broken,
Her belly red with rust,
She came to halt, half full of salt,
Before she hit the dust.

Her beauty now corroded,
Like everybody does,
With her little dubs and salty ribs,
She now is leaving us

There will be no fancy funeral,
For "Old Faithful" now she's gone,
It's safe to bet, I'm still in debt,
And left to carry on.

Tho' her soul has now departed,
I'm left with bills to pay,
To brother Dan, the funeral-man,
For towing her away.

But my money-man will help me,
To start out life anew,
He'll collect if any, every penny,
On everything I do.

Now my head I bow in reverence,
To my pretty gal, now gone,
Tho' "Old Faithful" has departed,
And we're left to carry on
Victor Smith
R.R. 2, Rockwood.

Who pays cost of extending pipeline?

Finance and Personnel committee members Monday evening wondered where \$75,000 would come from to extend the Maple St. water-main out to the municipal building on the Seventh Line of Esquesing.

Clerk Administrator Doug Pritchard had been forced to post signs in the building warning people not to drink the water as it was contaminated. This in turn sparked a recommendation to council to extend the watermain to provide useable water in the building.

Several suggestions for payment were brought up Monday, but the committee was forced to hold the subject over to a special meeting next Tuesday. Town treasurer Ray King was instructed to look into the matter more intensively before a decision could be made.

All pay Councillor Harry Levy said that when the main water line is for the municipal building, the entire town should help pay for it. He did, however, point out that people living along the route would be tapping into it, and they should pay for it.

Mr. King queried the possibility of charging the costs to the water rates for the Georgetown area. Mr. Levy wondered if there was any way the water users could be charged and then the money reallocated back to the town.

Mr. King reminded the committee that there was \$100,000 left in the regional capital levy specified for Halton Hills. Councillor Pat McKenzie contested that this had been spent, while Mr. Levy said he did not think so. This is one of the areas the treasurer has been assigned to look into.

Councillor Russ Miller asked about drilling a deeper well, but received no response.

Fair share Councillor Pat McKenzie said that Wards One and Two would not want to see Wards Three and Four saddled with the total costs. "The people in Wards One would like to pay their fair share," he stated.

Mr. Pritchard reported after the meeting that the building is not strictly used for municipal purposes. He explained that several groups meet there, such as the Niagara Escarpment Commission, the library board, and for some Ontario Municipal Board hearings etc. The clerk said the benefits would be going to everyone, not just to a few councillors.

Mr. Levy commented "The question is, if it is to be done, it is to be done and we can figure out how to pay for it later." He remarked that he hated to use that phrase but he felt it summed up the situation.

Bike gone

An Acton woman reported to police that her locked bicycle was taken from the band hall parking lot last week.



New face at board table

There was a new face at the board table at Thursday's Halton Board of Education meeting.

Chairman Judy Alexander officially welcomed Bruce Mather, the new Superintendent of Program. Mather has replaced John Boich who has taken over Orie Gilmore's position as

Superintendent of Instruction. Gilmore retired this summer.

The board received a thank-you letter from Gilmore who once again expressed his appreciation to the board and its employees for making his nearly 20 years of work in Halton so enjoyable.

Items stolen from trailer

Entry was gained into a trailer by forcing a large window on Wednesday of last week. Stolen were two new tires, two used car radiators and a used car radio. The incident happened at a district auto wreckers.

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Battle against inflation

Oakville, Ont.
August 17, 1976.

The Editor,

Dear Sir:

In the battle against inflation, with the Consumer Price Index showing definite signs of moving steadily downward (only a 6.8 per cent increase July 1975 to July 1976) and from negotiations proceeding between business and government on profit margins, the other area of concern expressed to me by many constituents is of course the extent of wage increases.

Data released to me recently by the Government of Canada indicates that there are encouraging signs in this area also, even considering the early nature of this first transitional year of the Anti-Inflation program.

Collectively bargained settlements in the second quarter of 1976 displayed a lower rate of wage increase than those of the first quarter 1976, the lowest recorded increase since the end of 1973 according to a report issued by Labor Canada.

The 143 settlements during the second quarter produced average annual increases in base rates of 11.5 per cent in compound terms. The comparable figure for the first quarter of 1976 was 14.5 per cent.

The figures are based on an analysis of collective agreements covering 500 or more workers in industries (other than construction) within both the federal and provincial jurisdictions.

There were 89 settlements in the second quarter which were classified as one-year agreements, 35 were classified as two-year agreements, and 19 as three-year agreements.

While the 143 agreements settled in the second quarter provided for average annual increases in base rates equal to 11.5 per cent, in one-year agreements it was 12.4 per cent. In two-year agreements the annual average increase was 12.7 per cent for the first year and 8.4 per cent for the second year. In three-year agreements it was 20.9 per cent for the first year, 7.3 per cent for the second year and 5.2 per cent for the third year.

Of the 143 settlements during the second

quarter of 1976, 36 provided for a cost of living allowance (COLA); and the average annual increase in base rates for these settlements was 10.1 per cent (excluding the effect of the COLA clause). The remaining 107 settlements without a COLA clause provided for an average annual increase in the base rates of 12.6 per cent.

During the 12-month period ending with the 2nd quarter, 1976, (starting in August 1975, 3 months before the Anti-Inflation Program) there were 470 major collective agreements settled. These settlements provided for an average increase in base rates of 13.8 per cent.

Of the 470 settlements, 235 were classified as one-year agreements, 154 as two-year agreements and 81 as three-year agreements.

The 235 one-year agreements provided for an average annual increase in base rates of 15.7 per cent. The two-year agreements provided for increases of 16.8 per cent for the first year and 9.7 per cent for the second. The three-year agreements provided for increases of 17.9 per cent in the first year, 8.3 per cent in the second year and 4.9 per cent in the third year.

There were 133 settlements negotiated in the 12-month period ending with the 2nd quarter, 1976 which provided for a COLA clause. These 133 settlements provided for average annual increases of 14.9 per cent.

It should be noted that, where confirmed data was available, the settlement statistics shown above take into account the effect of rulings of the Anti-Inflation Board, and their subsequent ratification by the bargaining parties.

It is obvious from these figures that they represent a significant improvement over the 1975 average wage increase of 18 per cent plus, and that in spite of some of the rhetoric presented through the popular media, both labor and business have been co-operating with the Canadian Government in its determined attempt to defeat inflation through the Anti-Inflation program to the benefit of all Canadians.

Yours sincerely,
Dr. Frank A. Philbrook,
Member of Parliament,
Halton.

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1975 Winner Jill Parry

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Friday, September 17th

AT FALL FAIR VARIETY PROGRAM
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Deadline for Entries

Wednesday, September 15th, at 7 p.m.

There will be an informal rehearsal on Thursday, Sept. 16 at the Presbyterian Church at 7:00 p.m.

REQUIREMENTS

- Single Girls 16 Years of Age and Over
- Wear Street Length Dress & Formal Evening Dress For Judging - Contestants to be at Presbyterian Church for judging at 6:00 p.m. Friday, Sept. 17, in daytime street length dresses and to bring a long formal evening dress for formal dress judging.
- Must live in the area serviced by Acton and Rockwood Post Offices and/or attend Acton District High School.

—Entries accepted by members of the Miss Acton Fair Committee—
MISS ACTON FALL FAIR COMMITTEE 1976

Maggie Hall, Chairman, Brenda Bruce, John Chapman, Lucille Cooksley, Karen Hillman, Brenda Hillier, Ann-Marie Luty, Brent Marshall, John McAdam, Valerie Mitchell, Russell Murray, Bill Nellis, Jill Parry, Bob Smith, Janet Swackhamer.

FOR INFORMATION CALL:

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