



Councillor McKenzie reports

ONE BAG OF GARBAGE PER HOME
Considerable concern has been expressed over a matter covered in your paper where the Regional Public Works Committee discussed waste disposal problems, and one individual suggested the above idea.

An Oakville councillor, who was criticized by the chairman of Public Works for not offering positive suggestions to our waste disposal problem, responded by writing the committee with several ideas, one of which was to limit people to one bag of garbage per home per week.

Naturally the letter was placed on the agenda but I know that no recommendation came to council on the idea. I'm not sure how it was reported in the newspaper but surely one can read about a suggestion made by an individual without assuming that it will become council policy.

However we do have a very, very serious waste disposal problem in Halton. Our three remaining sites have sufficient space for another 18 months. At the present time we have not agreed on a location for a future site to recommend to the ministry. After this is done it will take many months to hold public hearing, re-zone the area and prepare it to the ministry standards.

It might be interesting to note that the councillor who made the suggestion has stated publicly that he will not be a candidate in the December elections, and that the chairman of public works recommended that the committee receive and file the letter.

My Council Responsibilities:

The councillors in Ward One of Halton Hills did not need an Attendance Report to let us know that we had best record of attendance. Your report was correct in explaining that a councillor could be absent while attending other council business or through illness. (For example in 1975 I missed three regional committee meetings while we negotiated a Union Agreement in Halton Hills.) Every councillor could be absent for another very valid reason. In Halton Hills for the past three years we have met regularly and councillors were expected to arrange their own holidays. If a councillor took two or three weeks each year he would be absent for several meetings. We had a large volume of business and council made this decision so that important matters would not be neglected while council "closed down" for holidays.

You mentioned in your report that it did not include attendance at special committees of council. As a Regional Councillor I am presently active on seven other committees. For the month of October I have attended 29 meetings. When you consider preparation time, regular and special meetings, telephone calls and what one tries to do to resolve local concerns one can be very busy. As I stated earlier, I find my responsibilities challenging, at times demanding, but always very interesting.

G. W. McKenzie

Contract OK PLR back

What appeared to have the makings of a long strike at the P. L. Robertson plant in Milton ended abruptly as members of the Local 4970 of the United Steel Workers of America returned to work for the 11:30 p.m. shift on Sunday at the plant.

Workers had been on strike since Oct. 21. The decision to return to work was made after 154 of 172 union members (90 per cent) voted in favor of management's newest proposal to them at a negotiating meeting with P.L. Robertson management on Friday morning.

The two major additions in the new contract offer which swayed the union according to the local president, Pete Edge were the inclusion of an AIB guideline clause and an improvement in the company pension.

Raise Increase
Mr. Edge said the company also raised its wage increase from 37 cents to 40 cents on the base rate in the second year of the contract. The present base rate is \$4.75 an hour.

Mr. Edge said this went over the guidelines set down by the AIB, but he doubted if the increase would be rolled back by the AIB.

If this should happen, Mr. Edge said whatever amount is rolled back would be reinstated if and when the AIB is dissolved due to the inclusion of the guideline clause in the contract.

Jack Horn, personnel relations manager at P.L. Robertson pointed out the money would not be retroactively reinstated, though.

Pension Increase
In pension benefits the company offered an increase to \$7 for the first year and \$8

Smoking banned at meets

Trustee Bill Herd thinks the sight of trustees, reporters and the public smoking at Halton Board of Education meetings is setting a bad example for students.

The board's vice-chairman announced Thursday he will be bringing a motion to the board calling for a smoking ban this month.



FOR ONE OF THE FEW times in his working career, Bev Baker, of Cobblehill Road, is able to go home for lunch. Mr. Baker, a machine operator, is working for King Paving and Materials on the reconstruction of Mill Street East. Mr. Baker said that he enjoys the home cooked lunches his wife Frances prepares for him. His work in town contrasts with most of his job locations. For example, for eight months, while working at Pickering, he drove to and from work every day.

Councillor claims diplomas worthless

A high school certificate today is hardly worth more than a Quaker oats box top Milton Councillor Jim Watson told Halton Region's Administration Committee Wednesday.

The committee was considering the report from the Board of Education to the Region's Planning Committee concerning input for the official plan.

Watson told the committee he felt regional council should control the budget for the Halton Board of Education. "It's time someone took the bull by the horns" he said.

Watson scoffed at the suggestion that the board is in need of more funds. He pointed to the \$1,000,000 addition to headquarters, the \$21,000 per month the board plays surplus teachers, the thousands of dollars stolen

Equipment now adjusted

The switching over to new equipment in the Free Press caused quite a few typing errors at first. Adjustments have been made, hopefully without any great inconvenience to anyone.

Reprieve for ducks?

(continued from Page 1)

not just greedy as some bird-fanciers claim.

"I confess unblushingly that I am feeding our mallard population although the quota of bread and corn they are getting from me is not adequate. It is just enough to keep them from starving.

"I did not altogether ignore the no-feeding requests posted on two signs around the lake. I co-operated up to a point, toting hand-outs once a day in the evening instead of twice daily as in previous summers. Subsequently, I cut the feeding to every other day hoping our birds would get the message. Instead I got the message—finding that after missing a day, our ducks were twice as hungry.

"I reasoned that my feathered friends had all day to quest for natural food. If they were still hungry by the end of day, they were not finding enough natural food in the pond.

In pre-sanctuary years, Fairy Lake was NOT a duck lake, which tends to support my theory that it does not provide enough natural food to sustain a large flock of wild fowl.

"The decision to ban feeding was understandable, but under the circumstances—something less than humane. If you have domesticated fowl, you don't decide suddenly to stop feeding them in the hope they will fend for themselves. Our Fairy Lake ducks are as tame as barnyard birds. I make this point without fear of rebuttal.

"I don't pretend to be a zoologist or wildfowl expert, but I do know our mallards perhaps better than anyone in Acton. And so I should, having spent considerable time and money on them. At least one trip a day regardless of weather over the past four or five years. If this makes me a nutter, so be it. We all have our hang-ups.

"If the ducks stay, and I fear they will, some provision must be made for wintering and feeding them. Far better to consider this now, than to wait until the pond is frozen solid.

"Mallards—and I have this from a conservation authority—can survive winter if they have food and open water. The ideal plan is to aerate a part of the lake, and fence the area for safety purposes. Last winter, the main part of the flock, was housed in the old poultry barn, a makeshift arrangement, but far better than leaving the birds to freeze to death when all open water closed in.

"The town workmen did a fine job of winter-feeding the penned ducks, who told me come spring, that one of the staffers was teaching them to quack in Spanish or Italian.

"If they follow their custom of past winters, about one third of the flock will winter at the dam, provided Beardmore and Co. bubbles the water there as usual. That leaves the remainder to seek shelter and food on the arena side of the pond.

"Several winters ago, all the birds were moved to the dam, which meant too great a concentration of fowl around Beardmore's run-off. As a result, water conditions were rated as under par.

"Perhaps a bubbler could be rented or borrowed this winter. Or we could apply for a Wintario grant to buy a new aerator. I make this suggestion seriously. After all, Wintario grants have been awarded for less practical purposes.

"The winter feed bill for one hundred odd ducks? That should impose very little hardship on the taxpayer. At present from one source—yours truly, our mallards are getting twenty pounds of corn and three loaves of bread a day. Even if this ration were increased it would not break the public purse to pay for it.

"I am the first to admit we have a problem which might have been avoided if conservation and wild life spokesmen had warned at the outset of the consequences of attracting and keeping wildfowl on the lake. Instead they waited for four years or so, before waxing hysterical at the presence of hybrids in the flock. The resulting fiasco turned me off experts for the rest of my natural. If you re-

call we were warned to get rid our hybrids or the feeding licence would be revoked. Imagine conservation people making this threat in the dead of winter! A classic example of blatant bureaucratic blackmail!! And we went for it.

"One of the joys of togetherness. Georgetown and Esqueness have inherited a problem which is Acton-based. However, Georgetown and Esqueness trippers and other out-of-towners join with Actonites in voicing pleasure at the sight of summer flotillas of ducks on Fairy Lake.

"Care of the ducks is a municipal responsibility, since the original plan was approved by Acton's Recreation Committee, which was swallowed by regional government.

"In her Free Press column last week, writer Jennifer Barr makes a good case for citizen action to solve our duck problem. Organization of volunteer groups takes time and effort, however worthwhile the cause.

"Meanwhile winter is approaching in no uncertain terms, and there are more than one hundred hungry

Stop signs

A petition signed by 22 residents of Churchill Road south asked Halton Hills council to install three way stop signs, at Westcott Road, Orville Road and Longfield Road intersections with Churchill Road south.

Peter Homer said cars frequently speed up to 60 to 65 miles an hour on the street and trucks from the quarry attain speeds of 35 to 40 miles an hour.

"Hallowe'en night a car came down who must have been doing 60 and there were about 150 kids out on the street," he stated.

Mr. Homer contended the stop signs would break up the street, and lessen the speed.

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"LEST WE FORGET"

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Sunday, November 7th

ORDER OF SERVICE

- 10.00 a.m. — Formation of Parade for Legion and all other organizations — Fellow Street
- 10.45 a.m. — Service at Cenotaph
- 11.25 a.m. — Knox Presbyterian Church, Acton
- HALTONVILLE SERVICE Sunday, Nov. 7th at: 3.30 p.m.
- ROCKWOOD SERVICE Nov. 7th, 11 a.m. at Cenotaph
- 11.15 a.m. — Rockwood Centennial Public School Auditorium

REMEMBER TO WEAR A POPPY ON POPPY DAY
FRIDAY and SATURDAY NOV. 5th & 6th

"REMEMBER OUR FALLEN HEROES"

ACTON OUTERS CLUB

GLASS DRIVE

Saturday, November 6

ANY GLASS BOTTLES, JARS ETC. WITHOUT LIDS

Pick-up Starting at 10 a.m.

PLEASE LEAVE AT END OF DRIVEWAY

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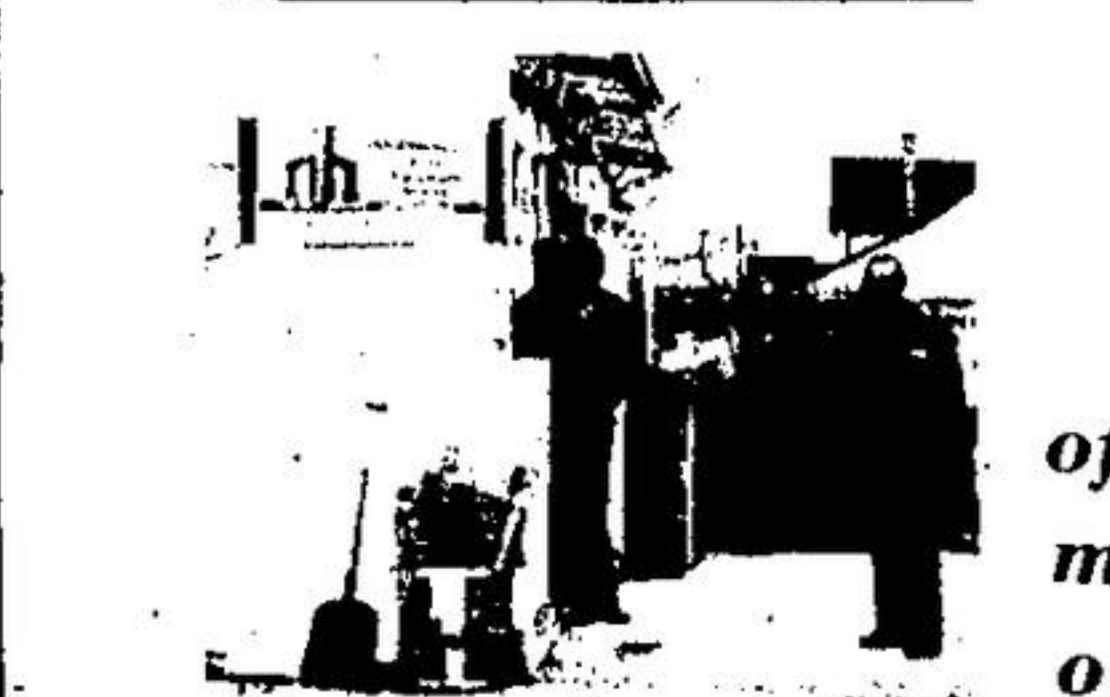
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- Boneless RUMP ROAST \$1.49 lb.
- SIRLOIN TIP ROAST
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- U.S. No. 1 California RED GRAPES 49¢

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