

Ontario Hydro loses case to district farmer

An attempt to squelch a Grey County farmer who leads the crusade against Hydro's proposed Bruce to Milton high voltage transmission line failed last week.

Ontario Hydro employees charged Leonard Manion, who claims his farming operation would be largely destroyed by the big new line, with two counts of obstruction. Both charges were thrown out of court in Orangeville.

The charges arose from an incident last fall at the farm of Bill and Larry White of Colbeck. Two Hydro land negotiators, J. A. O'Gorman and Ian Gaskell, were confronted by a group of local farmers who asked why Hydro insisted on diagonal crossings of their land. They also demanded to know why there had been no independent study of alternate routes which would have less impact on good farm land.

They received no answers.

The first charge of obstruction against Mr. Manion was dismissed in Orangeville last December because of lack of evidence.

The second was thrown out of court March 22 because the Ontario Attorney-General's office, acting for O'Gorman and Gaskell, laid a charge which had no basis in law. The judge called it a "mullity."

Mr. Manion, leader of the group of

farmers who claim their operations would be severely affected by Hydro's planned route, was jubilant.

"They've learned now that they can't scare us by hauling us to court," he said. "Maybe now they will understand that this line can only be justified by an unbiased, independent study of all possible routes."

The farmers now have two charges against Ontario Hydro and the Davis Government before the courts. If successful they would force Hydro to justify its route selection.

The farmers say they are prepared to fight until they receive their democratic rights. They also say any blame for delays in the transmission of power from the Bruce Nuclear Station can be laid squarely on the Davis Government and Hydro.

Ontario Hydro and the Minister of Energy claim the corporation and province will lose millions of dollars a day if power soon to be generated at the Bruce Nuclear generating station has no lines to carry it. They say the Bruce to Milton corridor is necessary to take power to Toronto and must be started this year if power at Bruce is not to be bottled up and replaced by more expensive fossil fuels.

The farmers reply that if they were

accorded an independent study the matter could have been cleared up years ago. They put the blame on Hydro and the Government for trying to "push them around."

Meanwhile expropriation hearings begin in Acton again April 4 for the Halton Hills section of the corridor. A decision against the introduction of alternate routes by the hearing officer has been upheld by the Ontario Divisional Court but has been appealed. Consequently, the route the hearings will take is somewhat in jeopardy until the appeal is heard.

The Interested Citizens Group in Halton Hills also maintains it will not give up the fight for an independent study for the hydro corridor such as was accorded citizens along the Nanticoke to Pickering corridor.

Both Ontario Hydro and the Minister of Energy maintain Dr. Solandt settled the issue when he picked Limehouse as the crossing point for a Bruce line to join with the east-west corridor.

Citizens along the route won't accept the explanation. They say Bruce Howlett made the east-west study with a series of public meetings and the area between Bruce and Milton was never studied except by Ontario Hydro.



ALICE SANDERSON did her job well Saturday evening at the Ballinafad amateur show. She was the drummer for Al Brigdon and Alice.

Lorne Scots plan reunion

Members and ex-members of one of Canada's largest infantry regiments in World War II will be gathering in Brampton this June for their second all-ranks reunion since the war.

Plans have been laid for the Lorne Scots' three-day affair to be held, June 10, 11, 12.

Committees are now striving to up-date the mailing list to ensure that no former member will be missed as invitations are being sent out.

Names and addresses should be sent to the Lorne Scots Reunion Committee, Box 163, Brampton, Ontario.

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43 members at Sunshine Club

by Robina Peacock

The meeting of the Sunshine Club was held in the Anglican Church hall the 24th. March and Mrs. Nellis in the absence of Mrs. Black welcomed 43 members and the meeting was opened with the singing of O Canada and business discussion.

A letter was read from the Recreation Committee about Pioneer Day and it was decided that the club would take over part and Mrs. Nellis was chosen as the delegate to attend the recreation meetings.

The program convener Mrs. Irene Davidson asked Mrs. Mann to play the piano and everyone got into a cheerful mood with some community singing. With Mrs. Mann still at the piano Joe Davidson gave some lively tunes on his fiddle; then Mrs. Mann read a piece called 'The Farmer Feeds us All.'

Special welcome

The Acton Golden Age Club are having a very special program at their meeting on the 5th of April in St. Alban's Church Hall at 2 p.m. and they have extended a very warm welcome to all members of Rockwood Sunshine Club.

Euchre and crokinole came next with euchre high scores going to David Robertson, Mrs. Nora McLean and Miss Hazel Dalton, crokinole top scores to A.K. Thomas and S. Trousdale.

The lunch consisting of a variety of sandwiches was served by Mrs. Mary Milne and Mrs. Alva Milne.

Birthday greetings were sung to Mrs. Anna Wilson, Mrs. Florence Trousdale and David Robertson.

The next meeting will be held in the Rockwood town hall April 14 at 2 p.m. so don't forget that date.

Sap's running at Mountsberg, too

While the Credit Valley Conservation Authority has the sap running at Orangeville Conservation Area, their counterparts on the Halton Region Authority have a similar operation at Mountsberg Wildlife Centre, just west of Campbellville.

At Mountsberg they are serving pancakes and selling products derived from maple syrup as well as the syrup itself, and an old-fashioned cook book with maple syrup recipes.

The Sugar Bush Express, a horse drawn sleigh and wagon ride, provides transportation to and from the sugar bush demonstration site. Exhibits at the demon-

stration site include the ancient Indian method of making syrup, the iron kettle and flat pan, and evaporating methods.

The Tomahawk Trail follows the Indian tradition and tells the maple syrup story at a number of exhibits including a one horse drawn stone boat, used to gather the sap.

The program is open every Saturday and Sunday to April 17, including April 8 (Good Friday) and April 11 (Easter Monday) as well as school break week March 21 to 25. There is a \$2.50 per car charge.



EARL BURT was a favorite in Ballinafad amateur show.

Silverwood Margaret Campbell host

by Alicia Scott

Mrs. Margaret Campbell was hostess March 10 to Silverwood W. I. A. bounteous potluck luncheon at noon was enjoyed by 16 members and 2 guests.

The collect was said and roll call answered by "Wear something green or pay a dime."

A short course April 4 at Stewarttown on choosing and using fabrics was discussed.

Ten dollars was voted to North Halton Performing Arts. A short course in the fall was mentioned. Two quilt blocks were made and sent to Mrs. Zellar to be sold at the Erland Lee home during tourist season.

Six ladies from the Halton area dressed in old style will

be at the Erland Lee home to quilt June 6. FWIO presented 2 dozen rose bushes to the Erland Lee home at Stoney Creek.

Arrangements for the annual euchre party at Stewarttown March 25 were made and include a bake sale.

Mrs. Campbell, area president, was the invited guest and speaker along with Mrs. Dillon.

Her theme, "Life's ladder is full of splinters" made an interesting talk to the group. The meeting closed around 4 p.m.

Ben Case is home from hospital among his neighbors and his sister is with him to help his recovery. All good wishes to Ben.

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