



BIRD'S EYE view of Burlington choir entertaining in the parish hall was taken from the upstairs window. The 38-voice choir presented a delightful program for the members of Acton Golden Age Club and their guests at their last meeting.

Late night guest parking is overlooked by police

Halton Regional Police are bending the town's Parking bylaw when they co-operate with requests from townsfolk to turn a blind eye to illegally parked cars belonging to visitors, a works committee meeting disclosed.

If you get in touch with police concerning guest Parking, they'll co-operate, Mike Armstrong, works committee chairman, said last night.

"If you co-operate with them (police) they'll co-operate with you," police commission member Mayor Tom Hill said.

Discussion on the bylaw was prompted by a request by councillor Peter Morris. He said that his understanding of the bylaw, passed last year, was that it was to be enforced during the winter months to free the streets during snow plowing.

All year

Councillor Morris said that he didn't think the Parking bylaw would be enforced throughout the year. He told the meeting that the police are ticketing 12 months of the year.

The bylaw, which permits three hours of parking, was only discussed in terms from midnight to 7 a.m.

Works committee voted to raise no recommendation about changing the bylaw.

Referring to the practice of notifying police that a citizen has guests who are parked on the street with a request that the car not be ticketed, councillor Morris said he had a phone call from a lady whom police asked to repeat her request after the next shift reported for duty.

Perhaps it's an isolated case, councillor Morris said.

Night work

We are being forced to do some night work, especially with spring clean up, town engineer Bob Austin said. He added that the region is

preparing to pass the same bylaw so that it covers regional roads, and also that the province is taking steps for enforcement on connecting links.

Oakville's parking bylaw and the one in Peel Region is enforced year round, Mayor Hill said.

When the bylaw was first discussed, councillor Les Dudy said, people had the same feelings about what it would do to guest parking. "Now people are saying they like the bylaw," he said.

Four residents were in the audience to hear the debate on the parking bylaw.

Works committee chairman Armstrong suggested that if any amendments to the

bylaw are to be made they be channelled through the town engineer.

Safety factor

Citing vehicle safety as a reason councillor George Maltby said he doubted if the bylaw was stringent enough, especially in the rural areas.

A bid by councillor Dudy to let the people know officially that they may ask police for co-operation with respect to guests parking on the street after midnight failed. "We should let the public know in writing that police will co-operate," he told committee.

"You're at the mercy of the man on the beat," councillor Pat McKenzie said.

All we can do is let the bylaw rest, councillor Dudy said, and ask the police for consideration for guests.

Region funding Services Centre

A permanent base for all social services in Acton and Esqueping, funded by the region, could become a reality. On the basis of the success of the locally-run Community Services Centre, the region Community and Social Service Committee is recommending to council an additional \$6,000 designated for the centre.

The centre has already been given a grant of \$5,687 from the region for this year, as well as a grant of \$3,000 from Halton Hills council. Local donations have also kept it operating.

Representatives of Health, Social and Family Services, the Children's Aid and others met in March together to discuss regional services in Acton, and it was agreed the service being offered by the Community Services Centre was being utilized by personnel of these departments. There had been 225 people using the services there in the

past 10 months. Other groups use the service as well.

It was felt that with adequate funding, the service could be continued through the present volunteer agency. The board of directors would continue to serve.

Many community groups use the facility as well.

Councillor McKenzie, who initiated the discussion through chief administrative officer Ernie Reid, says he is very happy with the outcome.

Seniors units all "go" now

Tenders for the removal of two houses on the site of the senior citizen housing in Acton should be called in two weeks. Conservative candidate George Gray announced this week after a meeting with Gordon Hickory of Ontario Housing Corporation. Mr. Gray learned there are 45 new applications received in Acton and 90 in Georgetown, assuring the construction of the 53 units here.

The site is on Elizabeth Drive just off Main. One existing house is to be demolished and one to be removed.

Mr. Hickory is proceeding with his application for rezoning of the site as soon as possible.

OHC and the Ministry are all "go", Mr. Gray reported. There should be conceptual drawings of the units within two weeks.

Monday saw four grass fires, the first one being at two p.m. at the home of Lesley Mason, R. R. 3, Milton. At 5:45 the firefighters rushed to the home of L. Hillis, R. R. 3, Limehouse. At 6:05 p.m., a call was put in from the home of Howard Bradley, R. R. 4, Rockwood for the firefighters to ex-

Eight grass fires—carelessness blamed

Fire chief Mick Holmes blames the eight grass fires since Saturday on carelessness and thoughtlessness.

Mr. Holmes said some fires were started by people burning off grass, from their fields, and then the fires got out of hand. He stressed this is illegal, as well as dangerous.

Other causes for the recent rash of fires have been sparks from incinerators and barbecues. "People should not start fires," he said, but admitted he could not stop incinerator fires or barbecues. People are very "careless on windy days," the chief said, "and until the grass gets greener, we are going to have more fires."

Each time the fire department is called to a fire, it costs the taxpayers \$200 just in wages for the men alone. Other expenses to add on are gas, wear and tear on the truck, etc., the chief said.

The first grass fire in a long line of many was on Saturday

on the south side of Elizabeth Dr. Firefighters arrived on the scene at 5:15 p.m.

Firefighters were called to the home of Olga Heast, Crews Corners at 3:45 Easter Sunday to extinguish another grass fire.

On the same day, at 6:30, the volunteers were requested at the home of M. Matheson, R. R. 4, Acton.

(Continued on page Two)

Main paving early summer

Paper work preparatory to Main St. reconstruction is still underway, but the work should be done early in the summer, according to Bob Austin, Halton Hills engineer. There are still some engineering details to be ironed out and meetings are continuing.

Also due is the federal approval for work on the railroad tracks. Tenders could be called in about a month.

"Basically we're ready," says Mr. Austin.

The highway between Acton and Guelph is also due to be rebuilt this year.

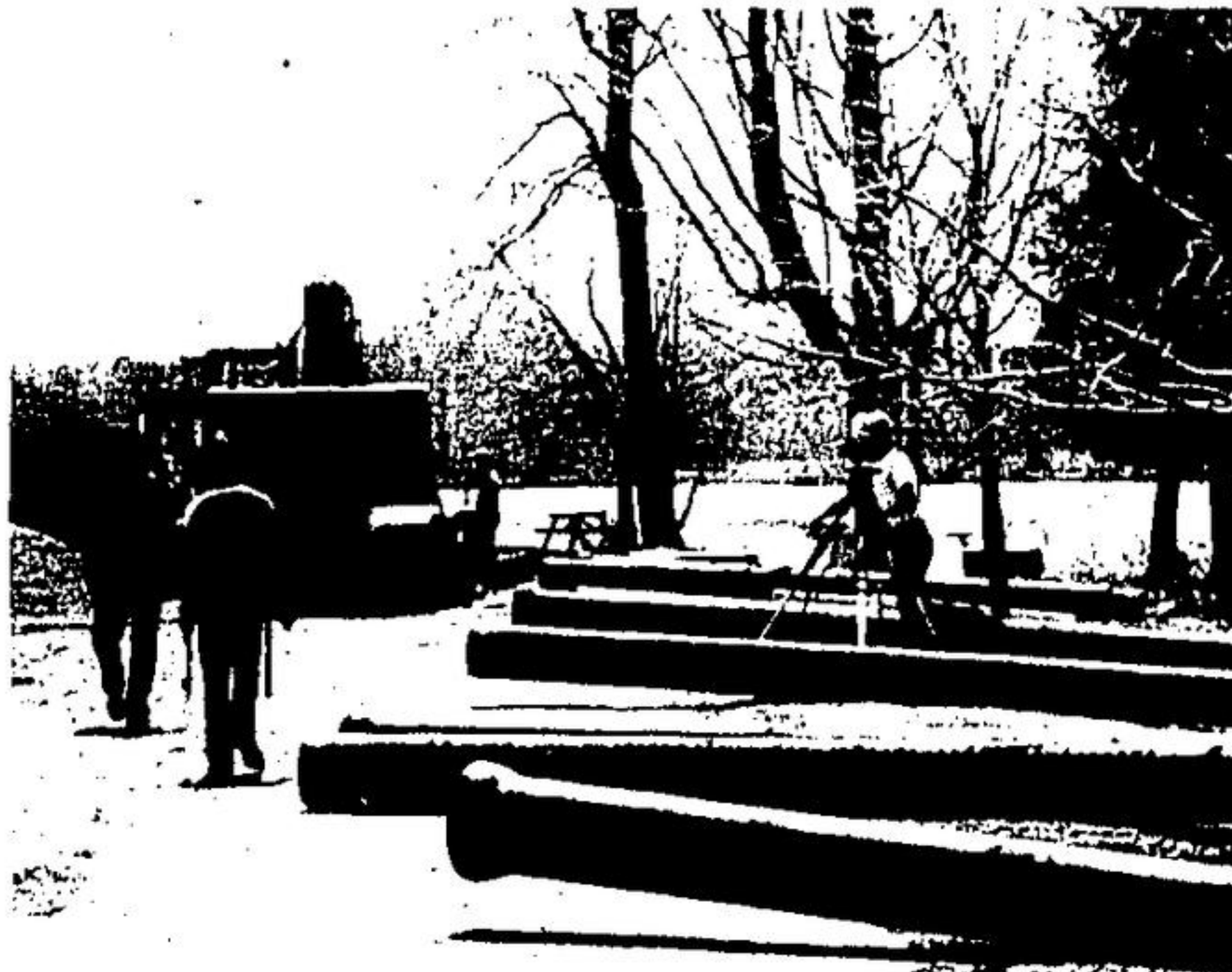
Laying mains

Pipe is being laid through the park this week, the beginning of the project which will bring water to the town from the new well there. The water line will come through the park, along Knox Ave. and north on Main, to connect with an existing main.

The well was drilled and tested a couple of years ago, but its use was delayed when

Beardmore and Co. questioned if it would lower the water level in the lake. The company uses the lake water and owns the property. The water level will be watched closely to prevent this happening.

The well when in use will provide another million gallons a day into the Acton system. It is capable of twice that amount.



NEW WELL at the far end of the park is being connected to the town system. Work began this week as mains are laid through the park and down Knox Ave.

10 men charged in hotel fight

Following a disturbance at the Dominion Hotel Saturday night, 10 men were charged with 11 charges of obstructing police and assault, six liquor charges and two petty trespass. The 10 men were taken to jail that night and later released. By the time the fight was quelled there were 12 police officers in town, several cruisers and the paddy wagon.

One regional police officer was injured, but didn't miss any work over it.

Two of the men are from Hamilton, one from Grand Valley, one from Guelph and the other six from Acton.

The hotel was closed while the matter was settled. It started about 11:30 p.m. when two officers responded to a call from the hotel to put out two "unwanted guests". The two men were escorted out and warned not to return. However at 11:45 there was another call from the hotel; one man was back inside and the other at the door. As the police charged them with being intoxicated, their friends gathered and the disturbance developed.

These things break out every now and then in any town, Sgt. Dick Hilton of the Acton detachment commented.

\$20,000 budget limit for BIA projects

The 30 people attending the organizational meeting of the Acton Business Association heard an update on the Business Improvement Area program from its chairman Henry Stachyra Wednesday.

He reported the BIA board of management has asked council to approve an annual budget limit of \$20,000 for the group's use. The maximum will be requested for this year.

The money is raised through assessments on the business taxes of merchants in the downtown area.

The board has agreed the Business Improvement area participants should provide the Christmas bus service and give a share to the Santa-Claus parade. In the past, donations have been sought store-to-store. "Nobody will have to go hat in hand for donations," Mr. Stachyra promised.

New sidewalks

He reported their request for interlocking stones for sidewalks had been granted. The total cost of \$1800 to participating merchants is "a bargain," he explained, since the group is being charged only the cost over the price of normal paving. The sidewalk is being done anyway as part of Mill reconstruction.

They also requested interlocking paving stones along Main St. from Church north to St. Alban's when road work is done there.

Henry Stachyra is BIA chairman; Dave Swetman vice chairman; Terence Gwyer secretary; Bill Yundt treasurer; Ed Wood and Mike Kinal for public relations and planning; and Pat McKenzie the council representative.

Ongoing project

Mr. Stachyra explained the BIA is an ongoing project. "What we do should be

useful." What is undertaken one year should be complemented by the next year's project. Future projects will include more attractive street lights and flowers.

Need plans

Since many are upgrading their stores, the BIA directors feel it would be a good idea to have guidelines or a theme. "Money would be well spent on an overall plan." We wondered about students and a planning firm for this.

On Tuesday, April 12, he said, the board would be taking a day to tour the successful Business Improvement Areas in Streetsville and Clarkson.

The board is anxious to keep the lines of communication open. There will be a meeting in the fall of downtown merchants to elect a new board of management.

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TAKING ADVANTAGE OF a sunny Good Friday, Jim McDonough takes to his wheels outside Robert Little School. Skateboards have become popular again and spring is bringing them out of closets.

Marilyn Ottaway head Business Association

Over 30 people voted unanimously to form the Acton Business Association Wednesday evening in the fire hall. Marilyn Ottaway was elected chairman, Art Cooper secretary, John Bumstead treasurer. On the board of directors are Don Lindsay, Wayne Roos, Grace Robertson, Ed Wood and John Coniglio.

Ed Wood chaired the meeting, and at first declined

nomination since he is a member of the board of directors of the new Business Improvement Area. When it was suggested liaison would be important, he agreed to sit on the board of directors.

Preliminary aims and objectives of the new groups had been prepared by Alma Swetman, Wayne Roos, Art Cooper and John Bumstead. These had been circulated to prospective members and

were handed out at the meeting. Discussion on them was limited and they will be considered further at later meetings.

Those present agreed to meet once a month, on the first Wednesday.

New president Ms. Ottaway expressed her appreciation; Ms. Swetman expressed the new group's encouragement and support of the BIA.



CHARTER PRESIDENT Marilyn Ottaway confers with the other members of the executive of the newly-formed Acton Business Association; front row left to right treasurer John Bumstead,

Ms. Ottaway, vice-chairman Alma Swetman; back row directors John Coniglio, Don Lindsay, Grace Robertson, Wayne Roos and Ed Wood.