

OUR READERS WRITE:

Riled by regional news

Dear Editor:
Gosh, it makes a person feel riled when you read Regional News in the papers—thank the Good Lord above for reporters who are not afraid to tell "It Like It Is." Pardon the language but I was glad to see that "DUBY DENIES SYSTEM CHEAP." It seems to me that since Regional

Government was crammed down our throats, Acton has been on the short end of the stick at all times. Maybe we will come out on top of the heap some day but it might not be in my time.

Just who and what is the Halton Region Public Works Committee to say that Acton is in such poor shape? Acton, as it has been quoted, is to be kept to a population of fifteen to eighteen thousand in the future

years—how come this committee has to spend thousands of dollars on a new well and pump in our park. We are not without water here and I presume we never will be—there has never been a serious water shortage in Acton as long as I can remember—and, I am not exactly a spring chicken. This committee seems to be going out of its way to spend the taxpayers' money needlessly. If and when they go ahead with this well and pump, what does the committee propose to do with the surplus water, are they going to pipe it to Georgetown, is there a water shortage down there? It is just one more thing that the Region could take away from Acton.

As for our system being cheap, it makes a person wonder if the old tried and true methods and products are considered no good by the new powers that be. What might be considered CHEAP to-day was quite costly a few years ago, that is where the word INFLATION comes in. The products and workmanship being turned out today leave much to be desired and cannot claim good durability. Everyone

knows that things cannot last forever and Mr. Farmer, I ask you in all sincerity to give CREDIT where Credit is due and not the age-old Brickbats. If things are as drastic in Acton as you claim, how come we never had many serious problems to cope with, such as those you speak of?

Who said our water rates have never been raised—maybe not in the last few years—but good heavens we paid off our sewage debentures in Acton by paying an extra \$ for every dollar worth of water we used. Our council saw fit to raise money by everyone paying it and not just the taxpayers, and the debt was wiped out long ago. I might add that we are still paying the extra dollars and the Region is getting it. You don't make any squawk about that, do you? We did not object too much to that but to step a 60 per cent hike at this year and again next year is unpardonable especially when we do not need it. Regional Gov. can't work miracles and we got along without it before and we can again, it is too bad it was ever created.

Mr. Duby is right when he states that we

did not ask for Reg. Govt.—none of the voters ever the privilege of using their franchise either for or against it—BUT—we certainly are getting it crammed down our throats right, left and centre, whether we want it or not. I understand that the BIG BLUE MACHINE and Dear D'ARCY plainly told Halton, "TAKE IT OR DO WITHOUT YOUR GRANTS".

Mr. Farmer, do you suppose if some Actonites were to go to Oakville and take a good look around that we could come up with any honest criticism on prior council projects there? Constructional criticism has never hurt anyone but please take all things into consideration before making remarks about our town. Is there any community, big or small, in this region or any other, that has never had mistakes made by their town fathers? At least give them "A" for effort—we don't all have money to throw around like the Region does.

At one time Acton was a HAPPY town but we are certainly FAR from it now. Not one of you call your work cheap when you grab

another raise and expect the poor taxpayer to take up the tab for you. Hire a few more people, complain about how much you have to do in such cramped quarters, you've never had it so good.

I'd like to suggest that you look around thoroughly first—these high cost projects do not have to be done all at once. Spread them out (important ones first) and on down the line instead of socking it to us—remember ROME was not built in a day. It is too bad that the A.I.B. only hits certain types of people and industry, maybe regional spending should be looked into—thousands of dollars going down the drain needlessly, spending that can be done without.

Oh well, one man's loss is another man's gain and poor old Acton gets it in the neck.

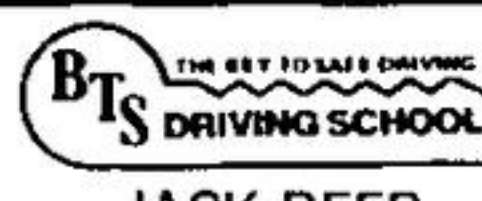
Thanks to you Dear Editor if you print this lengthy letter, but I do feel, that if more people would object and voice their honest opinions and feelings, we would stand a better chance in Acton and maybe, just maybe, we could get our identity back.
An Irate Actonite

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