

Architect hired for study of town hall

The Town Hall Preservation Committee has hired architect Patrick Coles of London to do the required feasibility study. Mr. Coles has already done several heritage buildings in England and Canada.

He expects the project will be done in eight weeks, at a cost of \$3,960. This includes the work of a consulting

structural engineer. His report, expected at the end of the summer, will include the estimated costs of renovation and suggestions on how best to utilize the town hall.

Mr. Coles has met with the committee and will be meeting with them again. He is a native of England but his business is now in London.

Ontario. George Elliott is chairman of the committee, Doug Freed vice-chairman and Yvonne Rosenquist treasurer.

Mr. Coles was in charge of the restoration of the Fryfogel Inn near Stratford for the Perth County Historical Board, the Marsh store restoration near Coldstream and the Willstead

Manor House at Windsor. In England, his work included Sir Thomas Kendrick's 1830 home in Dorset, 16th century buildings in Hampshire, an 18th century merchant's house in Southampton, and a 19th century building in Winchester.

His architectural firm was

in charge of London, Ontario city hall, court house, senior citizen housing and Metro cable TV building as well as churches. He is also a teacher.

It is expected that the Ontario Heritage Foundation will cover 50 per cent of the cost of the feasibility study.

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LONG LOAD INDEED! This truck was held up by the detours on highway seven and had a hard time negotiating the tighter corners on Willow and Bower Friday.

News from Detour City

As road improvements proceed up Main St., no definite decision has been reached yet as to how traffic will proceed when the excavation hits the bridge at the library. Various solutions to the problem are being considered. Engineer Bob Austin says the bridge itself may also need work done to it.

Sanitary sewers are now

being installed on Main and the roadway is blocked. Some storm sewers will be installed next and an additional water main laid. Then the curbs and paving will complete the job.

A new watermain is also being installed on Guelph St. Back on Mill, the new curbs are all installed and work is proceeding on the interlocking sidewalks. Paving

will complete the lengthy job. Some merchants are paying extra to have the sidewalk bricks right up to their doorways.

The town engineer feels the work is proceeding as expected and satisfactory.

And that's the news from Detour City.

Local commissions ban together to fight

Acton Hydro Commission has joined the fight against big business and other various industrial groups.

The Ontario Municipal Electric Association (OMEA) has made a plea to all municipal commissions to help out financially in the fighting of the Electricity Costing and Pricing Study which would see the individual hydro user paying more for electricity than the large quantity users.

A letter received by the local commission from the OMEA said, "As we see it, we must object to the proposals of the Electricity Costing and Pricing Study on several grounds. For example, if the marginal costing theory is accepted it can generate sizeable surpluses in the hands of Ontario Hydro at the expense of our customers. We are opposed to the recommendation which provides for

special treatment of large industrial, commercial and institutional customers, which are now customers of the municipal utilities. This infringes on local autonomy. We consider a system which allows a particular group of industrial customers to purchase electricity at a lower rate than that which the municipalities can purchase it for, to be grossly unfair and in need of correction."

The letter went on to say that if the study proposals are acted on, changes will be made in cost allocations.

If a one mill per kilowatt hour is shifted to the municipal utilities from one group of customers it will force the utilities to assume an additional cost of \$60 million annually. Alternatives must be developed and presented which will protect the municipalities' customers.

If the new costing is processed, and there is an added cost of only 1/10 mill, the Acton Hydro Commission would face an increase of approximately \$11,422.

Hearings are scheduled to make a decision on the study, but the AMEA needs more funds for legal aid to fight Ontario Hydro. In their letter, they explained that four major utilities have already contributed \$45,000, pledging more than one-third of the required money. Acton Hydro's share would be \$137.

Commission members felt the \$137 was a good investment, when it could save more than \$11,000. Chairman Will McEachern pointed out the money does not guarantee the \$11,000 will not have to be paid, but everyone agreed with vice chairman Bob MacArthur that "It is a good gamble."

No debate

Hinton to accept trustee's pay

Trustee Bert Hinton's plan to cut off all trustees' pay went down the drain Thursday without even a single verbal shot being fired.

His motion that board members serve without pay wasn't even debated since none of the other 17 trustees at the Halton Board of Education meeting would second his motion. Trustees receive \$6,600 a year.

Hinton was visibly annoyed when he couldn't even discuss his proposal for a 100 per cent pay cut with his colleagues.

Talking to the media immediately afterwards he said someone on the board should have shown the courtesy to second his motion so it could be discussed.

He charged his colleagues were so "disturbed" at the prospect of losing their pay they are afraid to debate the issue. Hinton said trustees have canvassed themselves thoroughly and "are afraid to even look at their pay."

Hinton said he has served his whole life without pay or with very little remuneration. He said he is concerned motivation for board service could be the pay. Hinton allowed trustees should get expenses since giving public service shouldn't cost a person money.

He said he was willing to even accept an amendment to his motion that trustees return to the level of pay they received prior to raising their pay "162 per cent" in February, 1975. At that time

trustees voted themselves a raise from \$3,000 a year to \$6,600.

Hinton said by everyone failing to second his motion the board has "defeated public dialogue."

He refused to say what he does with his pay but as long as trustees are paid he will accept his. Hinton vowed not to leave it with the board since the board would waste it like it wastes a lot of other tax dollars.

"I would have to question my own objectives in this issue if I was to discuss what I do with my pay. I'm not telling anyone but people would be surprised if I did tell them," Hinton announced.

When asked if he couldn't trust the board with his \$6,600 how was he going to trust it with the over \$100,000 in wages trustees receive each year, he said it would be up to the board to decide what would be done with the money

saved when budget time rolled around. He offered no suggestions as to what the money could be spent on. He did not suggest it be returned to Halton taxpayers.

"If you (the media) get into what I do with my pay I will start taking on the media," Hinton said.

He rejected suggestions that if there was no pay the board could become a rich man's club.

At the end of the meeting he announced he would bring the identical motion back to the table for the August meeting.

Hinton said he was sure either Trustee Fred Armitage or Judy Alexander, both of whom were absent Thursday night, would second it next time.

Chairman Garry Morton said he would put the motion on the next meeting's agenda only if one of the two absent trustees assured him well before the meeting that they will second Hinton's motion.

Power off

Power was off in the district for about half an hour Friday afternoon, when lightning damaged a 23,000 volt supply circuit in the Guelph area. The town of Acton and countryside from here up to Guelph lacked power. Rockwood power did not fail.

The sky turned black and sudden winds sent dust in swirls before the blackout, but in town there was actually little rain.

Other areas had torrential downfalls, including Georgetown.

The weather was just as hot and steamy after the storm as before, and remained that way.

Fingerprint expert called after 747's flags taken

Halton Regional Police identification bureau was called in last week in a bid by 747 Lounge owner Bert Bigelow to stem vandalism in town.

Thieves made off with four flags from the upper level of the 747, on Mill Street. Mr. Bigelow discovered the theft last Wednesday morning. The flags—two Canadian, one Union Jack and one American—are valued at about \$150.

The Ontario ensign was left on its pole.

The poles and some fittings

of the flags were yanked out of the wood balcony.

The flags decorated the top of the building since Back-to-Acton Days celebrations three weeks ago.

"That's pretty good eh?" Mr. Bigelow said. The flags were in place just over two weeks, before some one stole them.

Several flags from town homes and offices have been stolen this summer.

Mr. Bigelow said he

guessed there were three people involved in the theft.

"They didn't do it in a minute," he said. "They did some pulling and breaking," he added.

An identification officer dusted the remaining pole and fittings for finger prints Wednesday afternoon.

The thieves were scared off, Mr. Bigelow figures, before they could get the Ontario flag.

I'll drink to that—councillor

"I'll drink to that," was the reaction of Councillor Mike Armstrong, when asked to vote on a motion saying Halton Hills council has no objections to a beer garden at Acton Fall Fair.

The September 16 to 18 fair will feature a wine and cheese party following the Miss Acton show in addition to the beer tent, called "Spot in the Park".

The beer tent will be in operation all three days, but Saturday, September 17, there will be a dance on the arena floor as well, and Sunday, September 18, the beer tent will also feature a sit-down dinner.

Driver condition 'fair' truck-car collision

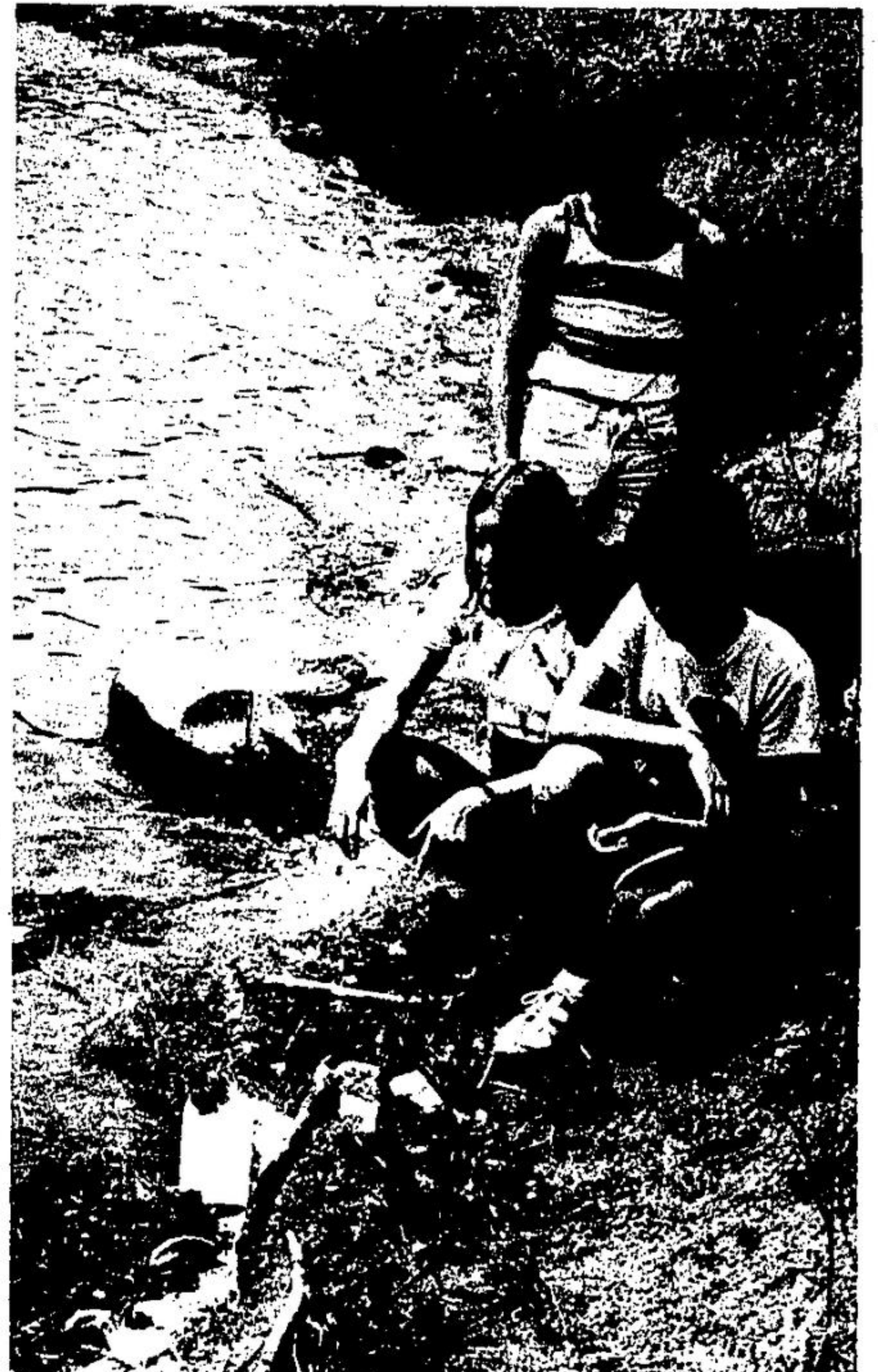
A Poplar Avenue man is listed in fair condition at Toronto Western Hospital, a hospital spokesman said Tuesday, following a spectacular fire and head on collision between a pickup truck and a car on Main Street South near Cobblehill Road Sunday evening.

George M. van der Eyken, 180 Poplar Ave., was in a coma when taken to Toronto from Georgetown Hospital,

according to Halton Regional Police. Mr. van der Eyken, who drove the truck, suffered head injuries, police say.

Also hurt in the accident was car driver Christopher Monaghan, R. R. 5, Milton. Acton Fire Department was called out to the scene after the truck burst into flames. The mishap occurred at 10 p.m.

According to police the car-truck collision took place



C.U.T.E. kids Brad Jenkinson, Lindsay Shaw and Diane Wilson look forlornly at the garbage along the shore of Fairy Lake. The trio as well as several other students will be cleaning up Prospect Park and the lake shore, receiving no monetary award personally. C.U.T.E. stands for Clean Up The Environment.

C.U.T.E. to park's rescue kids planning clean-up

C.U.T.E. kids have devoted their summer to cleaning up Prospect Park and Fairy Lake all for just the cost of garbage bags.

C.U.T.E. does not refer to the group's looks, but rather stands for Clean Up The Environment, a catchy name, devised by parents of one of the members.

The idea was first formed a few weeks ago, when Diane Wilson and Lindsay Shaw were walking through the park, by the tennis courts. They were sickened by the garbage strewn about, and enlisted the aid of some friends to help them clean it up.

The two girls went back to Diane's house, where they discussed the matter with their parents. The next step was to call councillor Peter Marks and make an appointment with him. The group made up posters and prepared a speech, and on Mr. Marks' urging attended a General Administration Committee meeting, just last week.

At GAC, the group was welcomed with open arms. The councillors commended the young teens on wanting to give up their time freely to clean up the park. One member of council said he thought the idea was "refreshing".

The youngsters plan to canvass door to door requesting donations for various charities throughout town. At the present time, they have not yet decided which group would get the money—whether it would go towards developing a Meals on Wheels, or the youth centre.

Can still sign brief for Acton

People have still been enquiring how they may sign their name on the Actonians for Acton presentation on regional government. Some were away when most of the sheets were out.

As a result, sheets are still available for signing at Jocke's variety store, Mrs. C. K. Browne's store and Sweetman's shoe store.

The petition sheets will accompany a brief which will

be presented to the provincial government. The committee will also be attending a meeting of the regional committee which is reviewing regional government.

The brief, which appeared in the Free Press in full several weeks ago, outlines Acton's concerns over regional government and strongly suggests Acton and Georgetown might better be separated.



BOTH DRIVERS WERE HURT in a Main Street South head-on smash-up Sunday night. The truck burst into flames, and a third motorist stopped to pull the driver, George van der Eyken of Poplar

Avenue, to safety. Mr. van der Eyken was transferred to Toronto Western Hospital from Georgetown. Police estimate the cost of repairing each vehicle at \$3,000.



ADRIAN LACOVELLI BOUGHT Snoopy Wednesday at the Muscular Dystrophy Carnival organized by Peggy and Susy Mooten and Scott Nolan.