

Water supply tested stand pipe now filled

message of any problem will be telephoned to the person-in-charge, once the system is operational. According to Mr. Jones, the pump house will only need to be checked once a week.

The stand pipe, constructed of concrete by Ontario Silo, is 70 feet high and 30 feet in diameter. The red light on the roof is a warning device for low flying aircraft. The tank holds 300,000 gallons and is designed to service a population of 1,700.

There will be adequate water storage for fire fighting and for hot summer days, when all hoses are watering village lawns. Access to the stand pipe which is located just south of Harris St., is an easement through Mr. Jolliffe's lane, off Highway Seven.

The expected date of hook up for the water supply and sewage system is May 1978, according to Mr. Jones. The water system is ready to go, but the problem lies in the sewer connection to Guelph, which is yet to be completed. When in operation the system will be maintained by the Ministry of the Environment.

Tuesday, December 10, 1977, saw nine men gathered around Project 1-0070-67-50037.67 Ministry of the Environment, for this was the day that the water supply system for the village of Rockwood was first tested.

In the pump house on Station St., Rockwood were Harry Jones, project engineer from Woodstock Engineering, the company hired by the ministry to design and install the system; Roy Schermerhorn, Harry's assistant, the man who has been on the site from the beginning of the water and sewer construction; D. Bell, and J. Blair, representatives from the Ministry of the Environment; Kevin Dunbar, the electrician from Culliton Bros. Electrical Contractors, Stratford, the company which installed the control panel; Norm Cook of Ontario Silo, New Hamburg, the company which built the stand pipe; Neil Jansen, Henry Snoet and Bill Vanzwol of Maple Engineering and Construction, Brampton, the company which built the pump house and installed the pump.

It was Bill Vanzwol who threw the switch. This was to have been the responsibility of the pump's manufacturer's representative, but he could not arrive due to the snowy road conditions. The pumps hummed and brown water spouted from the open fire hydrant on Station St! There were three bugs in the system—a faulty valve on Main St., a small leak in the stand pipe and one dry well on Main St. According to Mr. Schermerhorn, these problems have been remedied and the stand pipe will be filled with water by today, December 14.

In the pump house there are two wells, the first drilled in 1967 to 194 feet, and the second, drilled in 1976 to 199 feet. The water table is a dolomite rock formation. The water is pumped by two submersible pumps, each with a 45 horse power motor, and each capable of pumping 300 gallons per minute. These are Swedish made, Flygt electrical pumps, each 120 feet into the well shaft.

The pump house roof is designed with openings



THE FIRST fire hydrant to spout water in Rockwood! The water system in the village was tested on December 6, and only two major faults were discovered.

through which the pumps may be raised for repairs should the need arise. The second well and pump were installed for stand-by purposes.

There is an electrical control panel, situated in the pump house. The whole pumping and water storage operation is automatic. On a chart a continuous, machine record is kept of the pumps' functioning and of the stand pipe's water level. Bell Telephone lines connect the pump house to the stand pipe and a

Piggery operation

Neighbors air dispute at council table

Milton council found itself in the middle of a heated dispute between two neighbors over a piggery operation at a meeting Monday night.

It was the second time since October that the two couples have aired their neighbors' feud at the council table. Mrs. M. Baum of 20 Sideroad had earlier lodged complaints against a piggery operated by Mr. and Mrs. F. Burns.

A staff report indicated that even though there are only four pigs being kept there, the Burns are contravening the Old Nassagaweya zoning by-law.

Council ruled that Mr. and Mrs. Burns apply to the com-

mittee of adjustment for a variance from the by-law, but warned that if they failed to receive permission the council would take legal action to have the operation moved or closed down.

That ruling came only after a lengthy debate, with Mrs. Baum and Mrs. Burns exchanging angry remarks at each other. The debate was largely between the two women and councillors, for all intent and purposes, became spectators.

Mrs. Burns told council that there are dozens of people in the area doing the same thing she is, but there were no complaints because other neighbors were able to get along.

She took a militant stand and suggested that she wouldn't allow her neighbor to force her to close down the piggery until after she had protested to Bill Newman, Eugene Whelan, the Ombudsman and the Attorney General.

She said the complaints only came after she contacted the dog catcher about her neighbor's dog running at large and bothering her sheep.

Mr. Baum told council that the action he and his wife had taken wasn't out of malice or revenge, but an effort to protect the value of their property. He feared the nearby

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Free Press District Pages

Eden Mills Christmas tea at Eden

by Debble Marshall
Last Wednesday, the residents of the Eden House Nursing Home started celebrating Christmas. Friends, family and visitors gathered for the annual tea.

F. Martin, I. Lowrie, B. Bard, B. Chatter, L. Peterson, M. Bould, B. Lakeman, J. Turowski and Mrs. Gooyers helped tremendously to make the tea a success. Mrs. Betty Marshall and the residents wish to extend their warmest thanks to all the volunteers for their greatly appreciated work and many best wishes for the new year. Winners of the rugs were S. Lawrence and Mr. Porter. J. Chamberlain won the frog, B. Blunn the candy house, and S. Gilbertson the Christmas tree.

On Monday night the annual meeting of the Eden Mills and district community club was cancelled. Instead, the regular community club meeting of the month was held. The annual meeting is to be held Monday, December 19 at 8 p.m.

Tickets are now on sale for the New Year's Eve dance. The price is ten dollars per couple and may be obtained through Judy Campbell at 856-4855 or Debble Marshall at 856-4635.



VOLUNTEERS AT Eden House admire handicrafts at the Christmas tea and craft sale. Left to right, Isabel Lowrie, Marion Bould and Florence Martin.

Preview of Christmas at Eden House



ELIZABETH PETERSON, volunteer at Eden House, admired the gingerbread house made by Patricia Thompson of Mississauga on Wednesday's tea and craft sale.



SELLING TICKETS for a Christmas tree draw is Mrs. Myrtle Palmer. The tree was donated by Mrs. Jackie Zimmewich, of the area, for the Eden House Christmas tea and craft sale Wednesday.

Milk marketing in Halton not adversely affected by cut back in milk quotas

by Jennifer Barr
Farm problems are always news. Farmers are usually angry and complaining about government restrictions, marketing boards or the weather.

Radio, television, and newspapers are currently giving space to milk producers in trouble because they say they haven't sufficient quota from the milk marketing board to cover their production this year.

Fortunately, Halton farmers seem to be managing quite comfortably according to producers this reporter interviewed. Henry Stanley, Halton Ag. Rep. for the Department of Agriculture explained Halton had mostly fluid milk producers and it's the industrial milk shippers who are "hollering".

"There has to be some way to limit the amount of milk on the market," he said, "those who could foresee trouble went ahead and lined up market share quota. Those are the people on the ball - the good managers. They got busy and found quota or cut down production."

The quota program, administered by the Canadian dairy Commission allots a set amount to every province. This is divided among producers who qualify for certain amounts according to record of production.

Quota cutbacks, 15 per cent in April of 1976 and two per cent retroactive cuts made in September, have affected producers, particularly industrial producers who sell milk to factories for powdered milk, butter and cheese.

Fluid milk producers, usually larger more established producers, those early on the quota rolls when marketing boards were born, produce the milk you and I drink.

According to Stanley, abundant rainfall in early fall increased pasture grass, increasing milk production. Some producers found themselves in the position of outproducing their quotas and are not faced with quota shortages.

In some areas these shortages are affecting the processing plants. Gay Lea Foods have reported layoffs at the Guelph plant and have closed their plant in Tara.

Some farmers see cheese and butter imports from Australia as a problem area, but Ken Murray of Acton comments, "We forget we sold Australia more powdered milk than we are importing in cheese now. It's the balance of trade."

Murray, a well-known area dairy producer, is active in many dairy organizations including United Breeders and the Holstein Association. He was also chair-

man of the Brampton Milk Producers Association, a forerunner of the Milk Marketing Board.

Murray is predominantly a fluid milk producer who has balanced his quota satisfactorily. He doesn't feel there's much wrong with the price of milk, \$11 a hundred for industrial milk, including government subsidy. But when a producer goes over his quota he only received a portion of that—\$7.40 of that \$11 is penalty and goes into a fund to sell surplus milk.

When the cost of producing that 100 pounds of milk is estimated at between eight and nine dollars, it's easy to see why the farmer squeals when he's over quota.

Murray says the farmer is caught in a cost-price squeeze.

"They milked to beat the band all summer and now their quota is used up." With production costs constantly rising, he states, the farmer needs a year round income.

"We're afraid to raise the price of milk because of consumer reaction. The whole agricultural industry is in difficulty."

Murray is being shipping short to keep within his quota. He feeds a lot of milk to calves and says any farmer running short of quota "better have a lot of calves to feed."

Another agri-businessman who feels the agricultural industry isn't healthy is John Bradshaw, CFRB Radio reporter. On the program "Dialogue" with Bill McVean recently Bradshaw said "If the farmer doesn't make a profit he's going to go out of business and the price of food will cost ten times more."

He comments the weather is the single problematic factor farmers face that doesn't affect other businessmen.

"There should be a weather factor in food price," he says.

One farmer who isn't happy with the Milk Marketing Board and is selling cows is Keith Leslie of Georgetown.

He thinks the sales end of production is the problem.

"There's no need of the producer dumping milk and kids doing without." He feels the gap between the selling price of milk and the price to the farmer—27 cents a quart—is too large.

He milks 38 to 40 cows but is geared to milk up to ten more.

He says he has the investment, space and feed to milk more but has to sell cows to keep within quota.

"I'm planning ahead," Leslie says.

Which is exactly what Ag. Rep. Stanley recommends, "I tell them to cut down

costs and sell if producing more than their quota - to do a more thorough job on culling."

He agrees this is just good agriculture, to keep and feed only the cows producing well.

Another farmer who is managing well is Claude Pickett who milks 25 head.

"We were in trouble but have managed to borrow quota from other shippers," he said.

He explains he lent quota to young farmers new in the business but now can't get it back because of some legal changes in the way the Milk Marketing Board is handling the lending and borrowing of quota.

He doubts people are as "bad off as they say" and feels Halton County is generally not in trouble.

"It's the young fellow coming up who has a hard job," he says, "With a little encouragement farmers in Canada (only five per cent of the population) could feel the world."

But he says he'd rather starve to death on a farm than be out in business.

Fred Brown Junior of Limehouse, a fluid milk producer, says his quota is just about used up but "we have enough to carry us."

"We planned it, it works that well," he says.

Fred Nurse of Ashgrove director of the Halton Milk Producers, milks 34 to 35 cows and says he and his son Jeff are getting along very well.

"We're geared to it," he explains. "Some of them (farmers) are complaining bitterly but it's their own fault. They had a chance to buy in years ago but they didn't do it. Now when they need extra quota, you can't buy it."

"We kept culling cows and selling heifers and got just enough quota when we could get it," he goes on. "The people who complain don't know what it was like before the marketing board - it was dog eat dog."

Ag. Rep. Henry Stanley, concluded there are only a few industrial milk producers in Halton and only a small amount of those are in trouble. There's a co-operative effort in the county to keep quota flowing where needed, he says, and feels the system is working.

As Ken Murray comments, "In the overall picture, they (the marketing boards and government) are doing all they can to straighten it out. It's going to be pretty tough till then."



The dairy business has changed since farmers milked cows by hand as seen in this photo... but is it for the better? Most Halton farmers say yes!

Sideroad 5
with JENNIFER BARR

Wasn't that a lovely snowfall? Today is Tuesday, December 6, and we've just had the first really big snowfall of the season.

Blizzards are so exciting in the country. In the city they merely snarl traffic and annoy everyone. But out in the rural areas the snow creates a "man against the elements" survival feeling that's exhilarating.

Walking snowdrifts
We brought the animals in early when the snow started. They were huddled in the lee of the bush where they're usually protected on three sides. However, yesterday's east wind bulldozed up the works and dumped great quantities of snow on the brown backs. We had trouble finding them till Pat realized the snowdrifts with legs were actually donkeys, horses and cows.

The sheep trotted in looking like cotton ball muppets with big black eyes. Erica was horrified that her darlings were cold until I explained the phenomenon of animal hair. Don't ever be worried if your stock gambols around with three inches of snow on their backs. It means the insulation properties of their coats are up to snuff. The body warmth can't get through to melt the snow. Most fine-haired Thoroughbred horses suffer wet backs and resulting chills because their lost body warmth radiates through the hair, destroying the nice snug snow blanket.

Banking the fire
Cattle, horses and donks shuffled in like country Christmas trees, glad to get at the eats. Even the old mare, who has seen 21 winters (18 of them with us) was unusually subdued, she seemed to know winter was upon us.

We rushed through chores, shut up the barn and came in to light all the fires and bake Christmas cakes. What else would you do on such a night.

This morning was a tonic. I think my hibiscus is going to bloom out of sheer joy at all that brightness.

Mind you, the travelling wasn't easy, up to my armpits in white stuff before I hit the barn. I haven't got snow tires on my barn boots and I found the way rough going.

Take-off
The barn yard was very deep and I had trouble opening the door. The horses had chuffed at being in an extra couple of hours so had carefully undone themselves and were wandering around the barn making as much mess as possible. As I shoved the door, they both piled out and pranced around like colts, despite the fact, they're both old enough to be grandmothers. But you wouldn't know it to see them race around the field throwing their heels in all directions.

The young calf hadn't seen snow and went rigid with surprise until he saw his mother and aunt acting like giddy-garden goats and decided to join the fun.

The sheep piled out and went flinch into a snowbank, disappearing completely for a while.

When I finally made it to the aviary to feed the golden pheasants, I couldn't find their house. But there they were, snug and warm in their little insulated igloo. As soon as their door was cleared, they shot out to fly chirruping round the pen wondering who the heck had stolen their world.

I threw snowballs for the pup and wished we had a good hill to slide down. The driveway made a good footslide after it was cleaned and I hoped the neighbours weren't watching me make a fool of myself.

By February, I'll be fed up with the stuff, but right now, I love it.