

Defend quotas

Tanners anticipate better year in 1978

Peter Dunham, president of the Tanners Association of Canada and of Beardmore and Co., is harshly critical of those importers and retailers who have been objecting to the quotas on footwear imports announced by the federal government, December 1.

"They completely ignore the 15,000 jobs that were in jeopardy, to say nothing of

many new jobs that the quotas will create for unemployed Canadians," he stated. He went on to say "Their claims that quotas will mean higher prices and a narrower selection of styles is just plain nonsense."

"The quota action was not a ban. Imported footwear will still supply some 40 per cent of the Canadian market—a very generous sharing of the

market place which will assure all Canadians that highly competitive conditions will continue in both pricing and style selections."

Regarding prices, Mr. Dunham did have a word of caution. "While quotas should not affect footwear prices other factors will. The decline in value of the Canadian dollar will certainly mean higher prices for imported footwear.

Higher world prices for oil and cattle hides will inevitably result in moderately higher footwear prices worldwide. And again the lower value of the Canadian dollar exaggerates the impact of these higher world prices. Both genuine leather and man made materials are affected."

Mr. Dunham noted that, as a result of the footwear

quotas and restrictions on imports of leather gloves and handbags imposed earlier, the Canadian Tanning Industry anticipated a much better year in 1978.

Responding to a query Mr. Dunham gave definite assurance that there would be no shortage of leather in Canada. "We have been operating at a very depressing 60 per cent of capacity through-

out 1977 and have more than enough slack to supply the additional leather that will be required."

He added "Canadian tanners are actively working on a job creation program of their own—one that will see more Canadian hides tanned into leather in Canada for export markets, and one that is expected to mean at least a 25 per cent increase in the industry's work force."



ON HAND FOR NIGHT SCHOOL registration was Willard Price, director of Adult Education for the Halton Board, in checked suit. Manfred Henry of 38 Norman Ave. and Linda Reeve of 16 Storey Dr., right, sign up for the St. John Ambulance course with the help of Blair Beemer, left. Bonnie Caplan clears up the registration paper work.

The Acton Free Press

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Keep close eye on wildfowl

Although no bubblers will be installed in the lake this year to assure open water, arena manager Harold Townsley is keeping a close eye on the wildfowl there.

So far the ducks, geese and swans still here have managed to keep part of the lake open.

When this freezes over, Mr. Townsley says the swans will be caught and kept in a district barn until the lake thaws again.

He says the remaining birds can all fly, and he is confident they will locate open water somewhere.

"There is always water at Kortwright game preserve near Guelph and at Eden Mills, he says.

The arena staff feeds the birds all winter.

With so many snow-mobilers, cross country skiers, skaters and walkers

out on the lake, he is not in favor of keeping the water open. He thinks it could be too hazardous.

In past years, Beardmore has installed bubblers near the dam in winter. The birds had flocked to the open area, which was the plant's water intake. This year Beardmore is not planning to put the bubblers in.

Lake water is used regularly for tanning processes. Water quality at the site and erosion of the banks by the birds has concerned plant officials.

The lake is owned by Beardmore.

The area was declared a bird sanctuary about five years ago, and no hunting is allowed.

Concern over feeding and water for the birds increased as some birds seemed to refuse to migrate.



A FIRST for Acton - Cindy McGilloway won her Gold Dance medal Saturday in Guelph. And at the same time, brother David completed his Silver Dances. They will now compete in dance pairs competitions.

Roads bad plows quit

Bad driving conditions continue to plague the district as winter deals out one storm after another the past month.

Tuesday morning the Ministry of Transportation called its plows off the highways until conditions improved. Halton Hills plows were still on the job, despite the drifting snow, driven across the roads by unusually high winds. Roads were all still open Tuesday noon.

School buses did not run and some businesses remained closed.

Works superintendent Frank Morette says his men are doing a "fantastic job" but are getting tired as a result of regular 16 hour shifts to cope with the bad weather. They will just get roads bare and then there'll be another onslaught—snow, rain, or sleet. The winds have compounded the problem.

Conditions were poor all last weekend, when fog was added to the list of hazards. Various accidents were blamed on the weather.

On Sunday, Halton Hills

had eight sanders out coping with the ice on the streets. They had to stop when the rain and sleet turned to snow, and then the night crews took over.

Since the driving was still bad, the morning shift started at 5 a.m. Monday. And Tuesday turned out to be even worse.

A couple of times the whole staff of 33 has been involved in emergency road work rather than their normal duties or off hours.

In Acton, snow is regularly removed by truck from the main streets. Mr. Morette points out there is less room in Acton to pile the snow away from the traffic, so it has to be taken away. This work is usually done at night.

As well as winter, the works crews had the post-Christmas garbage to deal with. The collections were huge in volume, although not particularly heavy. "It's mostly paper," says the works superintendent.

Registration excellent for Jan. night school

The first night school courses to be offered at the new high school will begin on January 16. The usual fall courses were not held in Acton due to the opening of the school and the finishing touches that still had to be completed.

Boris Shean, organizer for night school courses in Acton, said that over 150 people registered at last Thursday's registration night and by mail.

Since Thursday the school has received more calls from interested people, thus making it the best January registration ever. Mr. Shean attributes the success to a combination of three things. He feels the increased population in Acton, the better facilities at the new school and the flyer which was distributed through the Acton Free Press and the Georgetown Independent are all responsible for the success of the courses.

The only course which is completely filled is the microwave cooking course which is a new idea in Acton. Mr. Shean stressed that many of the other subjects need more people to make them successful. Other courses which are still available include Basic Sewing, Crocheting, Interior Design, Macrame, Off-loom

Mail boxes knocked off

Esquing area residents have reported to police that several of their mail boxes have been knocked off their posts recently.

weaving, Wood-working, Yoga and St. John Ambulance First Aid. Beginner typing and brush-up typing have been combined into one class.

Other courses not mentioned above will not be run this time. Most of those people who had registered for a cancelled course have been notified, however if in doubt students are advised to call the board office at 877-6993.

Mr. Shean said that interested people can still register for courses by calling the high school or the board office. (See the ad in this issue of the Free Press).

The board does not usually run courses in the spring but if the demand is great enough they will have classes. Any suggestions for courses can be phoned into the board office.

Flu common many ill here

"The flu" is receiving top news headlines all over Ontario, and there are plenty of people who will attest to the fact Acton is right there with the rest of the province.

Acton doctors are receiving many calls from patients with flu.

The drug stores are selling cold and cough remedies as well as prescriptions at a great rate and one pharmacist termed the number of illnesses this week as "horrendous."

Some have developed pneumonia.

Both Guelph General Hospital and St. Joseph's Hospital reported an increase in the number of cases of flu at the hospitals, coming into emergency and also among the staff.

Dr. Robert Aldis, Medical Officer of Health for Wellington, Dufferin and Guelph, said laboratory tests had been made on people in Aberfoyle, Puslinch and Eramosa who had the flu, and the tests confirmed they definitely had the A-Texas 177 variety. He thought the new strain could be around for a while yet.

There are no reports of people dying locally from the flu.

Dr. Aldis said rest and fluids are the best remedy and advised people not to expect their illness to be

cured by antibiotics "because that just won't happen."

Those with chronic respiratory complaints and disabling conditions are the most vulnerable, according to Dr. J.H. Chamberlain, Medical Officer of Health for Halton Region.

The A-Texas strain is a variant of A-Victoria, which struck last spring, explained Dr. Chamberlain, but added he does consider the bug as an epidemic.

At this time, 23 people have died from flu related symptoms throughout Southern Ontario, but ministry of health officials still do not consider the flu outbreak as an epidemic, said Dr. Chamberlain.

Physicians in the area are conducting throat washing tests to determine the seriousness of the bug in this area, he continued and stated many had been sent to local hospitals.

On a recent weekend, almost 200 were admitted to an area hospital, but Dr. Chamberlain would not identify the hospital.

Immunization vaccine against A-Victoria and B-Hong-Kong are likely to be fairly effective against the new flu strain, said Dr. Chamberlain since the new

Hose lines frozen chimney fire call

Firefighters were called Monday to the home of Clarence Coles twice. A chimney fire doused after the 10 p.m. call broke out again and was getting into the framing when the second alarm was sounded at 11.30 p.m.

The flames were put out by fire extinguishers and the chimney was cleaned out with chains.

The hose lines froze up on both the trucks, due to the temperatures which were well below zero Celsius. Firefighters stayed at the house until 2 a.m.

But Mr. Morette says his

Can't plow sidewalks

The town plows have strict orders not to plow the new interlocking paving stones on the main streets, says works superintendent Frank Morette. "They simply can't be plowed," he says. Merchants look after their own sidewalks.

Regular cement sidewalks can be plowed without damage resulting.

department has also discovered during the erecting of the new parking signs just how tough the paving stones are. "They should stand up for years," he says.

A downtown merchant reports some stones damaged by plows this week.

One of the new parking signs on Mill was also knocked over by a town plow, but it has been repaired.

Two-way traffic flow stays on Bower Ave.

Halton Hills works committee followed the engineering department's recommendation Monday to keep Bower Avenue from Mill Street to Wilbur Street open to two-way traffic.

We recommend denial, deputy town engineer Ted Ballinger told the committee, yet we recognize the Station Hotel has problems with deliveries off Mill Street.

In an earlier meeting the hotel owner asked the town to permit a rear access from the hotel's parking lot onto Bower

Avenue. The committee suggested directed the staff to look for a solution which may involve making a section of Bower Avenue, which runs behind the hotel, into a one way street.

In a written report Ballinger stated that the one-way street would not accommodate the requested access at the hotel's rear. Also a one-way street would lead to less desirable left turn conditions at Wilbur and Mill Streets than presently prevail at Bower Avenue and Mill

Street.

Area residents who gave views on the subject were generally not in favor of the one-way street idea, the report ends.

In committee discussion it was revealed that the craft store next to the hotel has also requested a rear access onto Bower Avenue.

We're recommending denial of both, Ballinger told the committee. The real reason for the craft store's request has to do with deliveries, he said.

Police want space in Acton "Y" bldg.

Halton Regional Police are still hoping to share the space used by the town in the "Y" building in Acton, Mayor Tom Hill told Halton Hills administration committee, Monday night.

He said the police will pay for all renovations that are done for their benefit and pay a share of the rent, heat and cleaning.

He claimed the whole thing hinges on relocating the recreation co-ordinator.

Committee chairman Russ Miller said the recreation co-ordinator could be moved to Acton arena. He said the skate sharpening area should be downstairs by the dressing rooms. "We must look at the amount of money that building is costing for the number of people being housed.

The mayor said the recreation director is opposed to the co-ordinator going to the arena because of noise, and the difficulty of having someone to answer the telephone, when the co-ordinator is out.

Miller said the rent is going up from \$160 to \$360 for three people, only one of whom is there all the time.

Councillor Peter Marks contended it would lower the level of service to move the recreation co-ordinator. "The public will have to walk to the park. He claimed the renovations to accommodate the recreation co-ordinator at the arena would be costly.

"Perhaps the police would pick up the tab for that too," he added.

"I wouldn't have the nerve

to ask them," replied Mayor Tom Hill, "after all we have to be fair."

Councillor Roy Booth suggested the Acton co-ordinator could move to recreation headquarters at Alcott arena in Georgetown.

Marks retorted that would be moving the service farther than ever from Acton. "I don't think Acton people should have to drive to Georgetown."

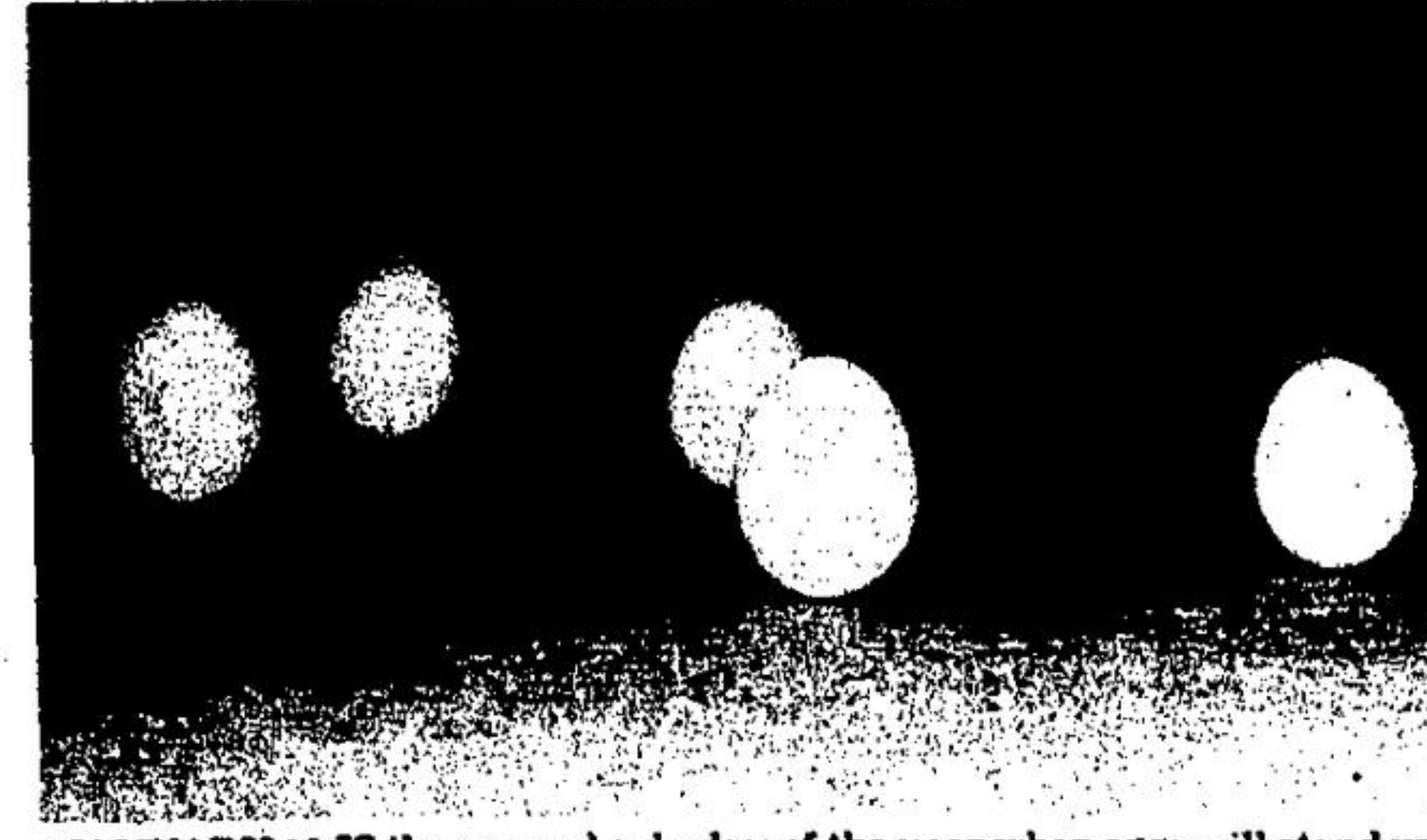
Booth then suggested the recreation department move to the Acton town hall, where the police are now.

The mayor said the Acton downtown merchants wanted the police on a main street.

There is a meeting scheduled with members of the police commission, the recreation director, the fire chief, and committee



CAPTAIN JEAN VAUGHAN pins Lisa Kuuter, one of seven newly enrolled Guides. The seven are now members of the second Acton Guides. Other new Guides are Lisa Gilliss, Lisa Mitchell, Laura Craig, Kim Hachey and Barbara Lamont. Missing from photo are Sherry Evans, Lori Turtcher, Suzanne Pendergast and Glynis Normington. Mrs. Normington became a Lieutenant the same day the Guides enrolled.



JANUARY 10 IS the one and only day of the year when eggs will stand up on end, as this picture proves. Free Press staff member Oral Norton was home with the flu Tuesday when she proved the theory. After this picture was taken, she was also able to make the eggs stand up on their small end. Attempts on Monday had all failed. It's rumored that the Egg Day was introduced into Acton by a certain Knox Ave. egghead who hails from England — rural Egg-Upon-End, maybe? — where the story all apparently began. The belief is spreading through Canada as fast as the flu.