

The biggest rear-ender in all the world

by Ward Chesworth
Land Resource Science
University of Guelph

If your car is involved in a collision the chances are that its metal plates will be bent about a bit. On a stupendous scale a similar thing happens when continents collide. In this case the plates are not metal but rock and as they are bent and deformed, large folds are created and mountain chains are formed.

Right now a continental collision is going on along a line stretching from Western Europe to southeast Asia. The result is a very long mountain chain with the Alps at one end and the Himalayas at the other.

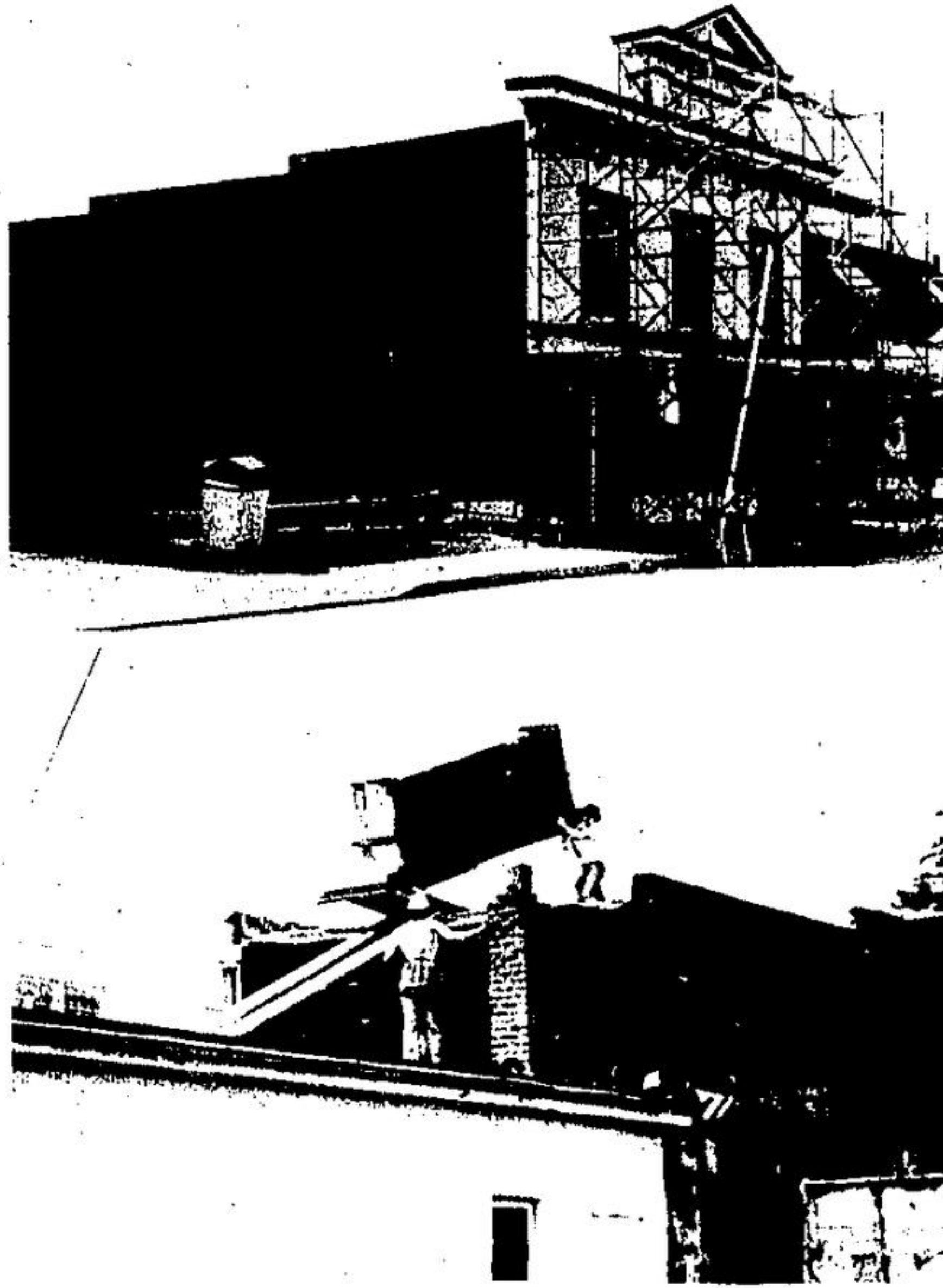
The Himalayas in fact, are the highest range of mountains on earth, with Mount Everest close to 30,000 feet in height. They were produced when a piece of continental crust which was attached to Africa 200,000,000 years ago broke free and was slowly pushed up into the underside of Asia. That one-time piece of Africa is now the sub-continent of India.

Collisions of this kind have also happened in Eastern Canada. The most recent was about 400,000,000 years ago. It hap-

pened when an ancestor of the Atlantic ocean closed up bringing the continents on either side into contact. It produced the Appalachian mountains on this side of the ocean and the Caledonian mountains of Ireland, Wales and Scotland on the other side. Up until 200,000,000 years ago these were all one mountain chain, that finally became separated when the modern Atlantic Ocean formed.

An even earlier Atlantic Ocean closed up about one billion years ago and produced a Himalayan type range that stretched from what is now Labrador, through Quebec, central and southern Ontario, and down into the eastern United States. During the last billion years it has been worn down to its roots by the slow processes of weathering and erosion. These roots are still encountered in bore holes through the limestones of southern Ontario, and they can actually be examined at the surface in places like the Haliburton Highlands, Parry Sound or North Bay.

If the present Atlantic Ocean stops expanding and starts to close up again, another collision would be the result and yet another mountain chain would be added to the eastern edge of this continent.



ORNAMENTED peak of the old Free Press building was cautiously removed last week. It will be restored and mounted again on completely new walls. The design of the new building reflects the original architecture and decoration.

Our readers write

Thanks to volunteers

Dear Canadian Cancer Society Volunteer:

The Acton Branch would like to thank our many volunteers for your generous donation of time given throughout the year. It is only through your work that the progress being made in the Cancer field is being accomplished.

You the Canvasser play an important role in acquiring the funds to be used for Research, Services and Education.

You the Driver perform another needed service, of the Cancer Society in providing transportation as well as companionship for one in need.

You the Activity Group worker provide the extra comforts to those in hospital in the form of bed jackets, socks, baby outfits, stuffed and wooden toys and quilts.

You the Industrial volunteer supply the

literature and posters to the many companies and offices in the area.

You the student have given graciously your time to campaign to make toys, and to assist in many educational programs provided throughout the year.

You the teacher in our many schools have used our specially prepared teaching aids, films and literature in your lessons on health awareness.

In order to show our appreciation the Acton Branch will again host a Pot Luck Supper for all volunteers at the Knox Presbyterian Church, Thursday, May 25 at 6:15 p.m. Please plan to attend.

To all Volunteers we say "Thank You".

Yours sincerely,
Acton Branch of the
Canadian Cancer Society

Word gets around

Dear Editor:

After living in Acton for nearly two years, we find the town and its people warm and friendly.

Actonians are urged to shop Acton and thus support the town. We do this as much as possible even though my husband works elsewhere. I've also canvassed the town for a charitable organization and have been impressed by the generosity and receptive attitude of the merchants.

This Mother's Day weekend I ordered flowers from a downtown shop and after only five hours in my home, the cut mums had already started to wilt. I purchased the flowers for the Sunday School children to present to their mothers in a special service on Sunday afternoon. By Sunday afternoon,

over half of the best flowers were wilted and unuseable. I had to cut narcissus from my garden to have enough.

I phoned the florist on Monday afternoon and instead of getting even an apology, the clerk accused me of not putting the flowers in water OR putting them in salty water. When I explained that this had occurred she insisted that it was not the store's fault the flowers had died. PERIOD.

We certainly won't allow this isolated incident to influence us against buying in town but perhaps this exercise in extreme rudeness is a clue as to why certain of the businesses are not regularly patronized by our own town people. Word does get around.

Sincerely,
H. Gillis
Acton

Arts Council endorsement

Mayor Thomas Hill,
Members of the Council
Town of Halton Hills
Mr. Gary Morton,
Chairman,
Halton County Board of Education
Dear Sirs,

This is to advise that the Halton Hills Arts Council endorses the exploratory efforts of the Georgetown Little Theatre to invoke a joint Town-Board action in the development of theatre-auditorium facilities.

The Little Theatre will be affected directly by Board plans to convert the multi-purpose room at the Howard Wrigglesworth School into a library resource centre. The theatre group, which is presently using this room for its productions, is therefore in the process of formulating a proposal to the Town and the Board concerning a new building at this school site.

As you may be aware, the Arts Council's intent is to address the needs of all arts-related organizations in the community. It represents a diversity of groups. These include, as well as the Little Theatre (one of its founding members) the following: Credit Valley Artists, Palette and Pencil Club, Georgetown Choral Society, Esqueping Historical Society, University Women's Club, Georgetown YMCA, Royal Canadian Legion (Branch 120), Georgetown Figure Skating Club, Sigma Phi Co-ordinating Council, Arts and Crafts of Georgetown.

Provision of adequate facilities is viewed as a high priority. We also regard the development of the above-mentioned facility to be of benefit to the community at large, not just the Little Theatre. As the proposal will indicate, the intent is to provide a centre that may be used for a wide range of activities (not merely for theatrical productions) e.g. concerts, revues, recitals, film showing, meetings, etc.

We understand that those Town Councilors thus far contacted in this regard have been receptive generally, encouraging us to believe that the work of the Arts Council over the last two years is beginning to have an impact.

The GLT proposal will present an opportunity to the two administrative bodies (and the public) to discuss and investigate the provision of a badly needed cultural resource. As far as we know, there is no proper theatre-auditorium in all of Halton County north of Highway 5. We believe that there would be considerable support from the community for such a feasibility study, possibly spearheaded by groups such as the local service clubs.

We now have a jointly sponsored indoor swimming pool. Why not a theatre-auditorium-cultural centre?

Thank you for your continued support of the arts in Halton Hills.

Yours very truly,
Ralph J. Urse
Chairman

Cops confirm delay at fire

Halton Regional Police verified that it took nearly a half hour for someone to notify them of the recent disastrous chemical fire at Oakville.

Oakville district Inspector Al Stansbury delivered an eight-page report detailing police activities—such as crowd control—during the blaze.

The report confirmed a lapse of 26 minutes occurred between the time Oakville Fire Department was alerted to the fire, and the time the police were notified.

Criticism of police by Oakville radioman Chris Wilson prompted the indepth report.

Inspector Stansbury added that under the same circumstances again he would like to have more men and faster notice.

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Open letter to cooks

This is an open letter to ALL GOOD COOKS in Acton who are interested in helping to restore the Acton Town Hall, or are so proud of their cooking skills, they would like to send a sample or two of baked goods to the SALE OF HOME BAKING sponsored by Acton Town Hall Restoration Committee. May 27 from 10 a.m.-Saturday.

We know Acton has more than a few excellent cooks.

We have seen some very fine samples of cooking, not only from the old timers in Acton, but from the ovens of some of the new arrivals.

Have you tasted the "scrumptious" sausage rolls made by a newly arrived mother from England? There are no uncomfortable after effects from these tasty morsels.

How about the "coffee roll" Barbara D. makes—so good it tastes great uncooked—just ask the Bank of Montreal girls. How

about it, Barb. Time to make us one? We know the light tea biscuits many of the girls make will disappear from the tables in a hurry. Mary M. makes delightful light fruit pies, and we are not forgetting all the fine cooks who take prizes at the local fairs. Butter tarts, bran muffins, date and fruit loaves are all favourites at bake sales.

If you would like to contribute, but have no way of sending your baking, please call 853-1854, 853-0915, 853-0365, 853-0498 or bring your contribution to Willow St. next to Town Hall on the morning of Saturday, May 27 by 10.00 a.m. if possible. The sale will be held outside if the weather is fine. If not, Mr. Gordon Dawe has agreed to let us use his real estate office on the corner of Mill and Willow Streets.

See you there.
Bake Sale Committee—re Acton Town Hall Restoration.

Ruffed grouse time

Dear Sir:

I would like to enlist your co-operation again this year in assisting to carry out a research program on Ruffed Grouse supported by the Ministry of Natural Resources. If you could bring the following information to the attention of your readers, I would be most appreciative.

As part of a continuing research program on Ruffed Grouse at the University of Guelph, we are again attempting to collect a sample of eggs from the wild. The eggs are required to provide grouse for use in the research project.

Because of the great difficulty in locating nests, it is necessary to have the co-operation of as many people as possible. Anyone locating a nest within 200 km (125

miles) of Guelph is asked to mark the location, but not to disturb the nest. He should contact us by phoning collect to: Betty Campbell (519) 824-4120 ext. 2703, during office hours.

At other times, call collect to: A.L.A. Middleton (519) 836-3033, Allan Garbutt (519) 836-5346.

We will come and pick up the eggs as soon as possible, and will pay the locator one dollar per egg for his trouble.

Your co-operation last year was most appreciated. The birds raised from eggs we collected have allowed us to make a number of significant findings.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours sincerely,
Alex L. A. Middleton
Associate Professor

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