

ICG will oppose march of towers

Ontario Hydro's towers still march down from the Bruce nuclear power station but the parade, rained on when it reached the borders of Halton Hills, where zoning by-laws prohibit hydro corridors on rural land, is stalled.

Next Monday, July 31, the Ontario Municipal Board will start hearings to determine whether Hydro should be allowed to continue across the 12 mile strip of Halton Hills to join up with its east-west corridor which extends from Nanticoke to Pickering.

So far Halton Hills, Halton Region and land owners in this area grouped under the Interested Citizens' banner have repulsed every move by the provincial utility to move into Halton Hills territory. Actually the by-law is being retested. The OMB turned Hydro down before and the Cabinet backed the decision when Hydro appealed.

Although not much has been heard from the Interested Citizens' Group since Energy Minister Reuben Baetz turned their last appeal for an independent

hearing on the corridor down, they will be out in force for the OMB hearings Monday. There have been several new developments which they feel rule out the necessity for any corridor through Halton Hills.

A spokesman for the group notes that they have never been able to get a satisfactory answer from Ontario Hydro about the amount of power it can send out from Bruce. Demand for electrical power has reduced drastically in the last two years and the ICG doubts that the Bruce B reactor may ever be needed.

They maintain the power from Bruce A can be handled adequately by the "temporary" new link between Kitchener and Essa which switches into the new corridor at Colbeck and feel Bruce B may never be needed specially in view of evidence in front of the select committee of the Ontario Legislature showing more reduction in demand.

"Why the urgency? Why Bruce B?" asks Gordon Kidd of the ICG.

He feels Hydro may tell the OMB the towers are all ready from Bruce for power but he says the ICG has examined them from Colbeck down to the borders of Halton Hills and none of them have been strung. Three are just towers from the intersection of the 230 kV corridor, he says. He submits Ontario Hydro was taking a flyer by going ahead with the line when they still had to cross Halton Hills.

Mr. Kidd says ICG members still get upset when they hear statements from Hydro officials that Dr. Solandt studied the Bruce to Milton corridor. The only statement Solandt made was regarding a crossing at Limehouse, one of three possibilities, Kidd says. He notes that one land owner along the route of the proposed corridor has appealed his assessment, charging his land depreciates when hydro corridors go through. If he wins his case there'll be a sharp reduction in rural taxes because most land owners along the route intend to do the same thing, he said.

Monday's OMB hearing may be another

in a long series which have still not achieved an independent hearing for people from Bruce to Milton, such as was accorded people from Nanticoke to Pickering, but the ICG still feels convinced their stand is right.

Meanwhile, Ontario Hydro announced they have reached an agreement with the last holdout on the middle section of the line near Grand Valley and indications are the giant public utility will try every trick in their book to steamroller through Halton Hills.

Halton Region also opposes the route proposed by Hydro through Halton Hills because the Ontario Hydro study left several questions unanswered. The region suggests that an environmental impact study be undertaken by a qualified independent consultant to review hydro corridor alternatives through Halton Hills.

The hearings start at 10 o'clock at the old Esquimes municipal offices, R. R. 1, Georgetown.



LOOKING LIKE Paul Bunyan, Doug Robertson of Eden Mills stands resting on his adze atop a pioneer chicken coop he's building at the Ontario Agricultural Museum in Milton. See page 8.

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Scallen at convent awaits fraud appeal

Denis Scallen is back running his convent on the Fifth Line, just north of Limehouse, after serving 10 days of a six month jail term.

The man known as Father Benedict to his followers is out of custody on \$30 bail while awaiting appeal of his fraud conviction.

Scallen, 56, was convicted of defrauding three Oakville residents and a Brantford couple of \$4,080 while posing as a Roman Catholic priest following a sensational and sometimes bizarre nine day trial last month.

He was sentenced to six months in jail July 10 by Halton County Court Judge Alan B. Sprague and spent his 10 days in jail at the Metro West Detention Centre in Rexdale. It is a minimum security facility.

The appeal of his conviction and sentencing will be heard within six months in the Appeal Division of the Ontario Supreme Court his lawyer Jack Belleghem said in an interview this week.

Scallen has now returned to his Benedictines of Mary Immaculate monastery. His flock currently consists of the Sister Mary and Brother Joseph but at one time he had several teenage "nuns" and as many as 40 people attending weekly mass.

Belleghem said he has set out seven grounds of appeal in his case to the Ontario Supreme Court.

The first is that Judge Sprague erred in not allowing him to challenge prospective jurors to see what their religious background was.



Denis Scallen

would happen if they couldn't agree on a verdict and also requested the judge's definition of fraud. A little over two hours later the jurors returned stating they couldn't reach a unanimous verdict and "doubted" they could.

Judge Sprague urged them to be unanimous asking those who held the minority opinion to consider the majority's views and reasons for their opinion. About 90 minutes later the jury returned for the final time announcing the foreman had been changed and they had reached a guilty verdict.

Belleghem says Judge Sprague shouldn't have advised those in the minority to try again to join the majority and the judge should have declared a mistrial when the jury reported they "doubted" they could reach a verdict.

The fifth ground for appeal is the judge didn't relate the theory of the defence to the evidence and disassociated himself from the theory of the defence.

Belleghem's sixth reason for appealing is the crime, fraud, and what it means in law. He says it wasn't properly explained by Judge Sprague to the jury.

He is also appealing the sentence on the grounds it is too harsh since Scallen has no previous convictions and his offence wasn't grave.

Besides his date in Supreme Court for his fraud conviction appeal Scallen will also face trial on one count of rape and two of indecent assault this fall.



RECREATION STAFF show the proper way to remove a victim from the water at a 'kidproofing' demonstration last Wednesday. Craig Gordon continues artificial respiration to "injured" Liz Binsfeld while Lynn Fountain brings her to safety. More pictures and story in today's Sports and Recreation section.

Find balloons from Michigan

A four-year-old Acton girl has made a new friend—via balloon.

Tara Holmes, daughter of Peter and Sharon Holmes, 52 Elgin St., was at Fairview Cemetery Sunday evening when she spotted what she first thought was a colored headstone. Further investigation by her father revealed it to be a set of balloons with a message attached to it. The note gave a name and phone number in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Mr. Holmes called the number on Monday and spoke to the parents of the young man who let the balloon loose. He apparently set them out midnight Saturday "for something to do".

Seven balloons tied together with string started the voyage, but by the time they were found by Tara, only three remained intact. Each read "Ozone House, Ann Arbor, Michigan," which, Mr. Holmes found out on the telephone, is a counselling house.

The pole was nearly snapped in half.

Pair hurt in collision

The driver and passenger from a car involved in a collision with a Park Avenue lamp post were taken to Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital Saturday night.

The driver, Shawn Lambert of 26, Guelph St., and passenger John Wagg of the same address were taken to hospital by ambulance, according to Halton Regional Police. They were slightly hurt in the crash.

The vehicle's hood, radiator, left and right front fenders were damaged to the range of \$1,000, according to police.



TARA HOLMES, four, found a set of balloons in Fairview Cemetery Sunday evening. Attached to the end of the balloons was a message for the finder to contact the sender in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Halton municipal wells not affected by drought

The serious drought of the past several weeks has not affected municipal wells in Georgetown and Milton. However, Acton wells were pumping at capacity until Saturday's short rain.

Don Morrier, Halton Region manager of operations, told this newspaper that a very close eye is being kept on all the wells in Halton.

He explained that in Acton, workers were concerned about the reservoir level. "However, it seems to have firmed up," he said, noting that Saturday's short down-pour remedied the situation.

Oakville and Burlington have set records in the amount pumped. North Halton records were not readily available.

In previous years, the manager said, there is usually only a two week dry spell.

Mr. Morrier did not rule out the possibility there could be restrictions place on water customers in North Halton. However, he said, there is always that possibility. He estimated the wells are in good enough shape to last through more than two weeks of drought before restrictions could be called.

"We are optimistic," he said.

If there are any mechanical breakdowns in the system, heavy users, bad fires, or the drought continues for a long period of time, there could possibly be a shortage and then restrictions.

Mr. Morrier believes it

could take one inch of constant rain before the situation is brought back entirely to normal. Right now, if there is any problem, it is due to watering lawns and irrigation.

In the meantime, wells, reservoirs and water towers are under surveillance by region employees. Only if the level in the wells get down low would the restrictions be imposed.

Acton has five wells, although not all in operation, and one reservoir. Georgetown has six wells and one water tower and Milton has three wells and one reservoir.

In Ontario

Halton police earn highest

Halton's men in blue have more bucks in their pockets than most policemen in the country since Thursday's signing of the uniform contract at Oakville.

The Halton police officer is the highest paid in Ontario and pretty close to the top in Canada. Halton Police Association president Al Ruelens said after the one-year contract was inked. The highest wage may be in Edmonton, he said.

Halton officers were the highest paid in the province last year.

Halton's Regional Police Commission, the policemen's

Marks, Duby won't seek regional seat

Neither councillor Peter Marks nor councillor Les Duby intend to run for regional council in the next election.

The seat will be vacant with the announced retirement of councillor G.W. "Pat" McKenzie.

Mr. Marks says he "emphatically not" will be running for regional council. And Mr. Duby will not even be making a firm decision on whether to run for Halton Hills council again, until September.

Increased responsibility at work and family responsibilities are causing him to reconsider his future carefully, he says. Mr. Marks is employed by the Addiction Research Foundation.

Councillor Les Duby says he certainly wouldn't be running for the regional seat

and hasn't yet firmly made up his mind about Halton Hills council. "I'm mulling it over in my mind," he says. He has been in municipal politics 19 years.

Acton has three council seats. Two representatives sit on Halton Hills council and one on both Halton Hills and regional council.

The first representatives after the forming of regional government here were Pat McKenzie, Les Duby and Joe Hurst. Mr. Hurst retired after his term was completed.

Police checking no driver mishap

Halton Regional Police are continuing to investigate a single car traffic accident on Wallace Street, in which none of the vehicle's five occupants admits to being the driver.

Last Friday evening a car belonging to Jo-Anne Finigan of Lot 15, Concession 8 of Guelph travelled west on Wallace Street's north ditch, then into the southern one where the car stopped.

Damage to the undercarriage of the vehicle is about \$300, according to police. There is also about \$100 worth of torn up grass which belongs to the town.

The police report states the following people were in the auto: Barry Wilson and Jacobus Brower, both of R.R. 3, Acton; Brian Wilson of R.R. 1, Limehouse; Wayne Emmerson of 126 McDonald Blvd. and Alex Wilson of Guelph.

Driver misses running deer

A rural Acton man driving on the 7th line north of Highway 7 last Friday ended up off the road after he tried to miss a deer.

According to Halton Regional Police Franco Moro, R.R. 2, Acton, swerved to avoid hitting the animal. Damage to the Moro pickup truck amounts to about \$1,000, according to police. Three guard rail posts were also damaged in the mishap.