

**SPEAKING** at the first meeting of Halton Regional Council in its new headquarters is Judge James Fuller. He asked the Health and Social Services Committee not to recommend cutting back its counselling services. Council decided to refer the matter back to the committee where Judge Fuller and other interested parties may speak their case.

**Who's in running?**

**Speculation for chairman**

With the closing out of the old council of Halton and the inaugural meeting of the new one scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 13, speculation has begun on who will succeed Ric Morrow as chairman.

Morrow is stepping down after his one two-year term, saying he would like to spend more time with his family. A pilot with Air Canada, Morrow told this newspaper he only spent three weekends at home with his family in Georgetown during his term. He is the second regional chairman of Halton. The first one was Al Masson.

Among the people rumored for the position is Jack Raftis,

veteran Burlington councillor. Currently chairman of the region's public works committee, Raftis is a man who is known to get things done.

Also in the running according to the grapevine is Mac Anderson, a councillor from Oakville. Anderson is chairman of the administration committee.

Hearsay also lists Walter Mulkevic of Burlington, chairman of the Health and Social Services Committee, and Pat McLaughlin, chairman of the planning committee as possible candidates.

Yet at this point no one

person is really fingered. Considering 12 new faces will be taking their seats on the council, the odds are increased on picking a favorite.

Politics of the man will likely be considered a factor. Consequently, it is unlikely new Milton councillor Bill Johnson, who has twice run on the NDP ticket in provincial elections, will be considered as chairman.

But regardless of a councillor's background, it will be how well he convinces his colleagues he will be able to guide them through the next two years of the future.

Morrow was one of six who stood for election two years ago and his manner and example convinced the majority to choose him.

He told this newspaper he would not designate a successor nor give any advice unless the newcomer to the position seeks it.

**Rev. McKenzie . . .**

(Continued from Page 1) although it is smaller than Acton, the two towns are very similar.

Mr. McKenzie had intended to finish his ministry in Acton within the next four or five years, but now will move instead.

Right now, the change in the hands of the Lennox-Renfrew presbytery, and from there it will go to the Brampton presbytery. Once passed at these two levels, Mr. McKenzie is free to go—likely by January 21.

**Two resign. . .**

(Continued from page 1) their best," but the lack of results has "shamed"

She indicated that the board has two avenues open to it in the future.

"If they feel bent on a path of continuing a ridiculous exercise of finding out our purpose in an abstract way, they should continue on that but they should also make a solid decision and continue with goals and objectives in the meantime."

She said the library board chairman should show strong leadership in getting the board to improve service in Georgetown, "and do it quite quickly."

"I think they should just make up their minds and stop beating around the bush," she said. "They're just dithering and not using the best of their abilities to get through this."

A spokesman for Halton Board of Education said yesterday that the board has recently advertised for appointments to the library board and has received sufficient applications to make the appointment. A committee of four trustees reviews the

**Despite problems**

**Region opens new building**

By Rod Lamb  
Opening of Halton Region's new office building was officially celebrated Wednesday, Nov. 15 when regional chairman Ric Morrow and Oakville Councillor Carl Eriksen unveiled a plaque commemorating the event.

The bright green building on Bronte Rd. north of the Queen Elizabeth Way in Oakville cost \$2.6 million.

The building is paid for from \$2.1 the region received from the sale of the old county building in Milton to the province and the balance from this year's budget.

It has been renting two floors in the Abbey Life building in Burlington, five miles to the west, for the past five years.

The building has had a number of critics. One of the complaints is the bright green exterior.

However, when this newspaper asked Morrow what he thought of the color, he replied, "What color would you have it . . . pink?"

He said he was greatly pleased with the building, citing it as outstanding.

Location of the building was a complaint from staffers.

This newspaper learned

some of the staff were unhappy because it is "the middle of nowhere."

Situated in a green belt, the structure is far from shopping and dining amenities.

Unlike the Abbey Life building which was near Burlington Mall and Jody to a variety of services and attractions, the new headquarters doesn't even have bus service.

The result has been all staffers have either had to drive a car to get to work or organize a car pool.

Staff used to be allowed to have coffee and refreshments at their desk. In the new building, they are asked to contain them in the cafeteria.

This newspaper has learned some of the staff members are not pleased with the cafeteria, saying it doesn't have a sufficient variety of foodstuffs available for purchase.

However, the disenchantment with the new facility hasn't resulted in mass quittings.

Halton Personnel and Labor Relations director Dennis Camy said the staff have adjusted.

Some who used to get to work by bus have organized car pools. However, the majority of people used to get to the old place by car.

He said the move to the new building isn't as traumatic as the move from Milton to Burlington five years ago.

Parking, which had been a problem shortly after the staff had moved in, has been solved with the addition of extra parking space at the rear.

The building is unobtrusive. Motorists southbound on Highway 25 (Bronte Road) don't see it on their left until they pass an old barn. They may not see it at all if they are busy negotiating traffic.

Also the building's entrance has only a three-lane entrance with a small sign saying regional headquarters.

There are no signs either south or north of the entrance warning motorists that the building is coming up.

Modern in construction, the building makes extensive use of the open concept of space with offices of one department opening onto another with no distinct boundary lines.

The result is a fluid equilibrium. Offices and barriers are created by partitions.

The feeling of openness is heightened and increased by the white walls and open ceiling which allows visitors to look at the roof and its supports.

Extensive use of windows floods all floor areas with light.

This is very true in the council chambers where three windows, in the shape of ships' bows, allow light to pour.

The walls and ceiling are white and to accentuate the lightness, and a yellow hand runs around the walls where the side lights are located.

The chambers are shaped like a small amphitheatre with the press galleries and spectator area facing down to the councillors' half moon shaped table. Halfway along the crest of the moon is the raised dais where the chairman, chief administrative officer and clerk sit.

The major complaint of the chamber is the seating for spectators.

Covered in the same sea of rust which perpetuates

everywhere in the building, the carpeting is the only source of comfort to a person sitting in the public benches.

These are rock hard concrete. They are not heated. They are not particularly comfortable.

While councillors recline in plush, commander-style chairs and even the press sits on cushioned seats, the public is made to sit on cement-hard bleachers with only a layer of carpeting between them and discomfort.

No better incentive could be found for discouraging public turnout at meetings.

And while councillors can make reply to questions sitting behind their desks, the public is asked to come forward and stand behind one solitary microphone without the assistance of a speaker's podium.

Sloppy carpeting, incomplete electrical work and insufficient seating capacity for the press who have to spill over into the public gallery section are minor criticisms of the chamber.

Whether it was because of static electricity inherent in

the carpeting, a number of the councillors complained of headaches during the opening meeting.

Burlington Mayor Mary Munro, who said she normally didn't get headaches, complained of one.

A complaint of heat was also levelled by another person.

Morrow said earlier there

are bound to be starting problems and some time would be needed before they are ironed out.

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**CORRECTION**

**RE: HOME HARDWARE'S CHRISTMAS GIFTS CATALOGUE**

Page 3 Item 2 - Philips Delux Triplehead Rechargeable Razor

SHOULD READ \$65.95 NOT \$54.95

Page 3 Item 3 - Philips Delux Triplehead Razor

SHOULD READ \$54.95 NOT \$65.95

A Sincere Thank You to the electors of Acton, Ward I for your vote on November 13

Your continuous support over many years has been much appreciated and not taken lightly and I pledge myself over the next two years to continue to represent your concerns in the best way possible.



Sincerely,

*L. A. Duby*  
L. A. Duby

**Emotions high in farewell to mayor**

In emotional farewells to Mayor Tom Hill, at the last meeting of Halton Hills council, Mike Armstrong said it has been an honor to serve with Hill.

He said Tom Hill had the hard job of melding three separate municipalities into one and had done a "fantastic job."

Councillor Roy Booth, a frequent sparring partner with the outgoing mayor, stated, "You're gruff, and you're snarly, you're miserable and mean, and we argue and fight, but I have dis-

covered there's a heart of gold under that exterior." He sat down abruptly saying he didn't expect to become emotional.

Councillor Pete Pomeroy, who will take over the mayor's chair at the beginning of December, said it has been a privilege to work with Mayor Hill and said he had always taken time to help him with any request for information. He promised to work for Halton Hills and told the outgoing mayor he would not forget Esquering.

**Guelphite hurt in solo crash**

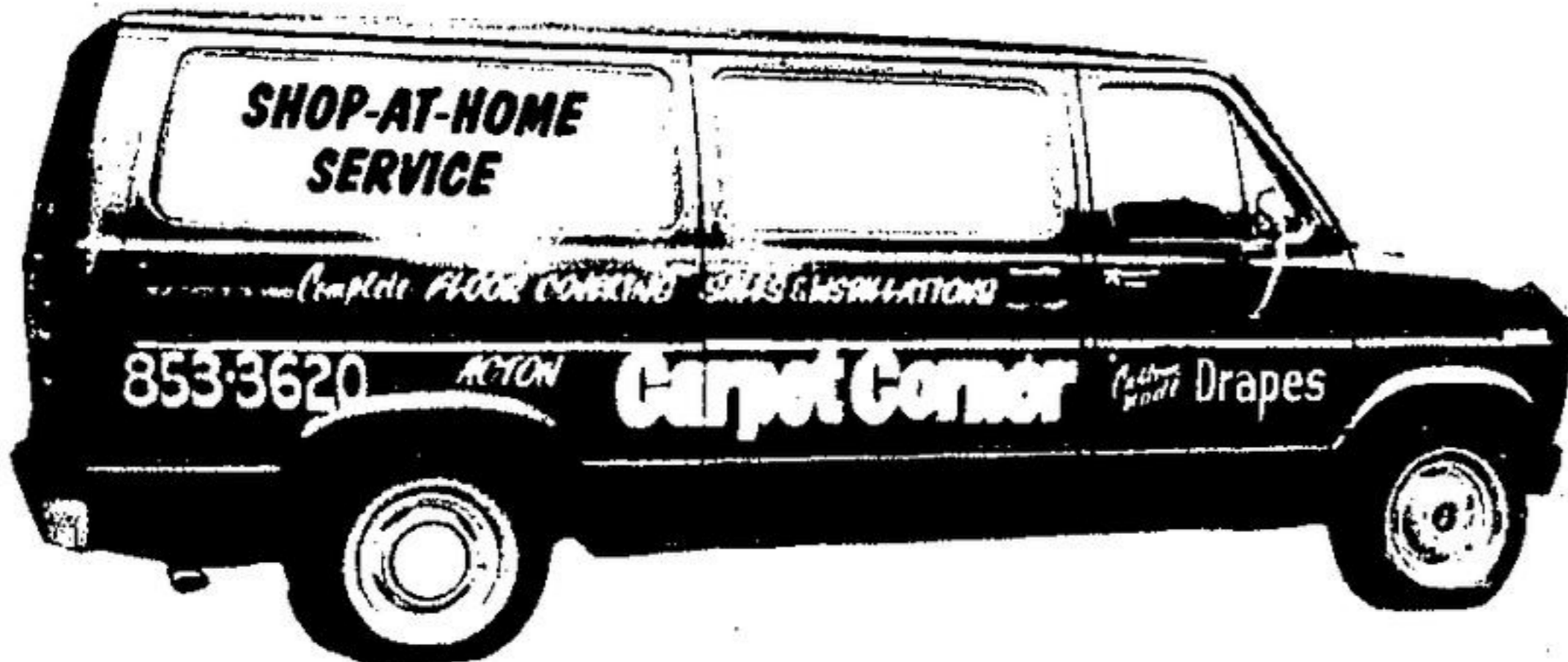
A Guelph woman suffered minor injuries when the vehicle she was driving rolled over near the Esquering-Nassagaweya township line early Saturday morning.

by Penny McMaster of Guelph is about \$2,500, according to Halton Regional Police.

The auto was northbound on the line when it smashed through a fence and rolled over.

Damage to the auto driven

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