

Food inquiry strikes solo note in library

The People's Food Commission (PFC) invited Actonians to tell their story last week. One person showed up.

That person, Lorna Clarke, said she was interested in the possible mutual interest between the commission and a program she is working with: Ten Days for World Development.

However, Grant Pattullo, R. R. 1 Limehouse, was there from the commission as well as Mike Carr of Toronto.



GRANT PATTULLO

The PFC, regardless of the turnout at the library Wednesday, is generating interest across Canada, according to Mr. Carr. He is connected with the PFC's Ontario regional staff.

No simple information gathering unit is the PFC. One of the expectations of the commission is the development of "mutual support and interaction between groups involved in the food system," according to a PFC brochure.

Although a series of meetings is underway, bookings so far into February in Saskatchewan, the final goal of the PFC is not defined. For example the brochure states: "The outcome of the PFC depends on organizations like yours using the information and the final report in creative ways, as well as in your own representations to government or in your educational work."

Why do food prices keep rising? Why are jobs disappearing in the food industry? What are working conditions in the food industry? Are marketing

Councillors

continued from page 4

one community, then it has the responsibility of providing uniform services and water is one of them, Morrow said.

The new building was another achievement. Morrow had been against the decision to move out of Milton. When he became chairman, he was determined the region should move out of the rented quarters at the Abbey Life building in Burlington and into a home of its own.

The site on Bronte Rd. north of the Queen Elizabeth Way was purchased from the provincial government. The \$2.6 million construction price tag was paid from the \$2.1 million the region received from the sale of the old building in Milton and the balance taken from this year's budget.

He said it was only right the council which had spent so much time on the matter, should have the opportunity of holding its last meeting in the new premises.

The new headquarters was only one capital works project which the region completed in the last two years. Several water and sewer works were completed and tenders called for others.

He said he was proud to have served as chairman on a council that made so many momentous decisions.

Donaghy spoke on behalf of council in thanking Morrow.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Morrow and Erikson unveiled the plaque commemorating the opening of the building.

Councillors, if they hadn't already, toured the new building before meeting for the last time over dinner at the House in Palermo.

The new council chambers which had been opened, emptied of people and eventually became still.

The history of its opening had become a memory.

boards an improvement? and similar questions are the grist for the PFC's mill.

The PFC seems ready to accommodate submissions to its meetings for it offers times and equipment.

The PFC, states its brochure, is an independent inquiry, and does not represent any one organization or interest group. With equal strength the commission divorces itself from government. It is not a government inquiry, nor is its main aim a recommendation to government.

Through the hearings it is hoped there will be a sharing of experiences. "In the sharing of our experiences we might find ways some of us have coped with our problems that could lead to new solutions", states the brochure.

The PFC formed in the spring of 1977 at Winnipeg when many groups decided to pool their interests. Such groups—Mrs. Clarke's Ten Days for World Development, Food Co-ops, the National Farm Union, Ontario Public Interest Research Group, some members from the Development Education movement and others—knew they were working in isolation, said Mr. Carr.

Since then the idea of a food commission, with the stress on a People's Food Commission, was accepted by the groups. Meetings have been held and a loose three tiered organization erected.

There is a regional and a national level but the decision-making powers rest with commissioners which are chosen from local groups. Like the one which met at Brampton Monday, said Mr. Carr.

Locally there is Mr. Pattullo (877-6239), and not too far distant are Walter Tidly of Norval (877-4184) and Joanna Dobbin of Georgetown (877-3532).



MIKE CARR

On the subject of government commissions Mr. Carr said what most often happens is the strongest reports come from big business which can afford researchers and so therefore the bias is narrow.

"We've (PFC) taken a public bias, against that type of (government) commission and the unreasonable lobbying power of business," said Mr. Carr.

Co-ed shortcut LDC defers bid a 50-mile trip from Acton man

A University of Guelph co-ed's shortcut turned into a 50-mile road and rail trip last Wednesday evening.

Halt Regional Police state the girl found a CNR passenger train standing in her way through a Guelph rail yard. Rather than pass between the coaches she boarded one with the intent of getting off the other side. However, before she could descend the steps and continue her journey on foot, the train started on a trip of its own.

And apparently the girl was afraid of jumping from a moving train, police said.

The incident came to light when the train made a scheduled stop at Georgetown, about 25 miles east of the Royal City.

A passenger alerted police after he saw a "suspicious"

person detain. The student confessed as soon as an officer arrived.

She then phoned for a friend to come and pick her up.

The identity of the well travelled Miss was withheld by police who say they believe she has suffered enough embarrassment.

Halt Land Division Committee (LDC) deferred the application from an Acton man last night in order to give him time to improve it.

The LDC gave Edward McMullen, 97 Bower Ave., a month to redraw the design of his bid and present it again for consideration.

Mr. McMullen's bid concerned lands on the Churchhill Road north, on the east side, about a half mile north of the high school. He wanted to sever off a parcel, with a house, from a larger parcel with a duplex.

However, the LDC found the configuration of the design of the lots presented the committee with two lots which have frontages less than the 125 feet required.

LDC member Tom Marshall, of Oakville, suggested making the smaller parcel slightly larger with a 125 foot frontage, and also making sure its area also increase to the required half acre. Then, if the laneway to the duplex at the rear is moved to one side, only the larger parcel would not conform to planning requirements. The committee of adjustment would have to puzzle out the problem from there.

The adjustment committee would also look at the issue of non-conforming use of the McMullen property.

Region debates storage cost

Halt Region accepted a tender from I.R.A. McDonald and storage building in Burlington.

Although money was not in the budget, council approved taking it from the reserve account which contains \$450,000.

The reason the region has to build a new building for its public works vehicles in Burlington is the owner of the former building where the

equipment was kept, has asked it vacate.

Council debated the bill because the cost was higher than anticipated.

Public Works Committee Chairman Jack Itafis said he was disappointed with the high cost, but the region had no alternative.

The decision to accept the tender was approved in a recorded vote, 14-8. Two members were absent.

Parade

One late band, several stalled parade cars and minor confusion at the fair grounds resulted in Santa Claus hitting Main St. 45 minutes late for Milton's annual Christmas parade Saturday.

But the crowds were not disappointed when the show of nearly 60 floats, bands and majorette groups marched down Main St. to Ernest C. Drury School.

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