

First snow causes some inconvenience

The first significant accumulation of snow this season generated several phone calls to the town for services and provided local and provincial road crews with a work-out.

Halton Hills work crews hit the road at 7:30 Monday morning with seven plows and three sanders, according to town works superintendent Frank Morette. They finished at 4 p.m. Tuesday morning six plows started working again.

Monday's accumulation amounted to between one and a half inches and two inches Mr. Morette said. Normally we would not move the plows for that small a fall, but we did because it was the first of the season, Morette said. "It was not really enough snow to get up tight about."

Monday crews concentrated on the hills and main arteries, and after them a few streets in the urban areas were also plowed. Many residents telephoned the town Monday, mainly to find out when their streets were going to be plowed. The light snowfall was a good workout for road crews, who Mr. Morette said had to get used to plowing again after months of summer weather.

The works superintendent also reported some bugs in the snow removal system. Three works department machines were in the shops briefly. A wiper blade motor failed on one of the plows and a hydraulic cylinder on a sander knocked out, said Mr. Morette.

The town's new grader and plow also went into service Monday. They replaced old machines. Local service stations report few calls from clients as a result of the first snowfall.

Toth Motors, on Guelph Street, was closed Monday, however, Tuesday some regular customers asked for the plow. A spokesman for John's Texaco Service indicated they were asked to give a couple of cars a boost, and also the plow was out Tuesday. Achilles Motors Towing owner Les Pelitis said the number of calls was unusually low. There were just three or four requests. A couple of cars needed to be pulled from a ditch. There were the usual appeals for a battery boost.



EDEN MILLS Cubs (left to right) Kenny Fuller, Robert Bell and Derrick Holmes, were polite salesmen, behind their bake table at the Eden Mills Community Christmas Bazaar. They only sampled a few of the profits, according to leader Rodney Bell.

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ALL READY FOR last Saturday's Santa Claus parade are some of the hundreds of nursery rhyme characters and the inevitable and lovable clowns who make it a delight for children. Theme of the parade was "World of Disney" and it truly came alive for the thousands who lined Acton streets to watch the procession. The sun, bands played and the Yule season was officially ushered into Acton and district. —Photo by Bill Stuckey

Santa arrives

Santa Claus rode into town Saturday, accompanied by an array of Walt Disney characters in the fourth annual Santa Claus parade.

Various service groups, schools, businesses and individuals entered floats in what some people term "the best parade ever". Hundreds of other people, including Cubs, Scouts, Brownies and Guides, walked the route waving to thousands of onlookers. The theme "World of Disney" lent itself to many original floats in the Y sponsored event.

Robert Little school took the top prize in the category for the best school float. They used the theme Babes in Toyland. The Y's Men, with When You Wish Upon a Star, got a first in the service club division and Indusmin, with Goldilocks and the Three Bears won the business group class. The Cubs won first place in the miscellaneous division, for their Disneyland characters.

Judges were local artist Laura Dittrich, councillor Les Duby, and former NHL player and local farmer Pierre Pilote.

The Acton Citizens' Band, the Georgetown Legion Pipe Band, the Georgetown Majorette and Drum Corps, and the Cambridge Salvation Army band were all on hand to provide marching music.

Marchers were able to warm up after the parade at the Scout Hall where Scout and Guide mothers served hot chocolate. Youngsters were able to meet Santa at the Y later, where they each received a candy cane.

Parade marshals, the Acton firefighters, did

a terrific job of organizing the parade that day, according to parade chairman Rick Coe. He also was pleased with the help of the Scout and Guide Mothers and the Halton Regional Police.

Participants in the parade were:

- Halton Regional Police
- Fire Chief's car
- Sound truck (Mickey Mouse music)
- Banner (Mickey welcomes Santa) with Donald Duck and Minnie Mouse
- Mickey Mouse
- Beaver Colony, Mickey Mouse
- McKenzie-Smith, Christmas in Disneyland
- Welcome Wagon, Mickey Mouse Fan Club
- St. Joseph's, Cinderella
- Acton Citizens' Band
- Cubs, Disneyland characters
- Robert Little, Babes in Toyland
- Hillbillies, Three Little Pigs
- Y's Men, When You Wish Upon a Star
- Storey Drive, Santa's workshop
- Agricultural Society, Sleeping Beauty
- Beavers, Pirates of the Caribbean
- Georgetown Legion Pipe Band
- Georgetown Majorette and Drum Corps
- Optimists, Cinderella
- Indusmin, Goldilocks
- Brownies
- Speyside, Peter Pan
- Firemen and truck
- Salvation Army Band
- Santa
- St. John Ambulance.

Sheridan students stranded if strike

by Jennifer Rowe
Sheridan College students from Acton who rely on Travelways school buses to get to school may have to make alternative arrangements.

Peter Douglas, national representative for CUPE, the Canadian Union of Public Employees, said that the Travelways drivers who work out of the Burlington yard will be in a legal position to strike as of midnight December 8.

Ross McEwen, student services co-ordinator at Sheridan, said that those students taking bus route one from Acton, Georgetown and Milton will be affected along with those students travelling from Burlington.

The drivers of Travelways have been working through their union, CUPE, with management to draw up their first contract. The management and the union have not been able to come up

with a contract which is agreeable to both parties. The major issues being disputed are those dealing with money and job and seniority postings.

The union announced on Monday that they had received a no-board report from the Ministry of Labour. The report, dated November 23, signifies that the two parties have not been able to agree on the contract terms and gives the drivers the legal right to strike 16 days after it is issued.

Secretarial students Heather Near and Wendy

Peter Gillespie, Wynford Pl., is studying first year business at Sheridan. Peter says the bus strike will be a great inconvenience to him and will interfere with his school work. "I won't be able to make classes, especially if the weather is bad and we don't want to drive. If I miss classes and deadlines then I've missed everything. I hope they don't go on strike, it will certainly leave me in a mess."

Lynn Dawe said she likes to have the bus to fall back on in case of bad winter weather when she doesn't want to drive. "I have a car but I like to use the bus if the weather gets bad. If it's bad and the buses are on strike I'll just have to miss and so will those who ride in with me."

Mary-Ann Laitar, R.R. 2, Rockwood, said she depends heavily on Travelways to get to school. "If they go out I don't know what I'm going to do."

CUPE representative Douglas said that although they can legally strike December 8, the decision is up to the drivers.

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First woman president in band's long history

Acton Citizens' Band has its first woman president in its 106-year history.

At the annual meeting Wednesday evening, Marion Patterson was elected band

president. First vice-president is Bernie Freuler, second vice-president Danny Schonnop, treasurer Mike Bulloch and secretary Karin Pelka. Committee members

are Jim Coles, Tony Brain, Nancy Patterson and Hugh Patterson. Nancy and Hugh are daughter and husband of the new president.

Bandmaster George Elliott presided for the annual meeting. He pointed out that the band was first organized in 1872, and the members of the executive have a responsible position to fill, in light of over 100 years of history behind them.

The band is in reasonably good financial state. The hall through rentals made a small profit for repairs etc. The band receives a grant from the town.

Through a Wintario grant and fund-raising ventures, an oboe and bassoon were purchased.

Band members have a winter uniform now. They wear red and white toques when playing in the cold. They played in Milton Santa Claus parade, Acton Santa Claus parade, and are going to Georgetown this Saturday and Burlington the following Sunday.

The usual Christmas concert is scheduled for Sunday, December 17. Band members will also be singing as a choir. They also expect to sing carols throughout the town one evening before Christmas.

A joint concert with Georgetown Choral Society is being planned for the spring.

Ham in the House

Ham may be an Easter treat but Acton native Rob Parker, who won Eglinton riding for the Tories in the recent by-election, is earning a reputation not only in the House of Commons but as a TV commercial star advertising the benefits of smoked pork.

A free-lance broadcaster before he went into politics, Parker made the commercial last June before the by-election but it is running almost daily now.

In an interview with the Toronto Sun he admits he sometimes feels a little embarrassed when people approach him at parties and ask, "Haven't I seen you in a bacon commercial?"

He replied, he doesn't plan to "hog" the limelight while in Ottawa.

Parker needn't feel strange. Halton has another TV star in MPP Julian Reed, who also appears in a variety of commercials.

Turkey supply, price exaggerated—Gray

by Jennifer Barr
Canadians have no need to worry about the Christmas turkey supply this year, nor will they have to pay an arm and a leg for it, according to the President of the Turkey Marketing Board, George Gray of Halton Hills.

Despite recent news reports of under-production and producer stockpiling, there are plenty of turkeys as always for the 1978 festive dinner, Gray states. He's not happy about the adverse publicity given to turkey producers, saying it's not the whole story.

Recent statements from federal agencies that turkey farmers underestimated demand are just not true, explains Gray. In fact, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture refused the latest request for increased quota from the turkey producers, according to the marketing board president.

A less-than-normal demand for turkey last Christmas left the producers with a 34 million pound surplus in storage on January 1, '78, Gray says. Producers had marketed twice as much as they really needed.

With this in mind, the National Turkey Marketing Agency, made up of five provincial boards, recommended a 5 per cent quota cut from 1978 over 1977—a recommended 200 million pound production instead of '77's 210 million pounds.

The federal government cut the quota to 190 million pounds because of the carry-over from '77 production.

Actually, the processors wanted the quota set at a mere 185 million pound quota to restrict supply and firm up the price.

Gray says the marketing board warned of a light red meat supply for '78, creating higher turkey demand.

They were right.

Due to increased demand and a very successful promotion campaign, the turkey producers were back to the federal government in March, '78 requesting another 5 million pounds in quota. It was granted.

By May, after beef prices rose and the consumer continued to turn to lesser priced turkey, the producers again asked for a further 5 million pound quota. The federal government refused.

By the end of September of this year overall turkey consumption was up 15 per cent over the '77 and by November 1 only 50 million pounds of turkey were in storage as opposed to 72 million the previous year. The producers had not been allowed the extra quota they knew they needed.

However, the situation is balancing out. Seven million pounds have been im-

Betty Fisher's seat on board is confirmed

H.H. (Bert) Hinton cut the last tie to the Acton-Esqueping school trustee's seat Friday. He decided not to ask for a recount of votes.

Mr. Hinton, who sat as the local school trustee for one two-year term, indicated Monday he accepts the result of the recent municipal election. Betty Fisher, of Georgetown, slipped into the trustee's post by a 30 vote margin in the November 13 election.

"There is an elected person and I'm not going to dispute that," Mr. Hinton said Monday.

However, as late as the day before his intentions for a recount had to be known, Mr. Hinton was leaving the

question open. He wished Mrs. Fisher well when she attended the Halton Board of Education meeting Thursday, but he indicated then he had not made up his mind concerning a recount.

The final day to ask for a recount was Friday.

In Monday's interview Mr. Hinton indicated he is going to enjoy his two years away from board matters. He said he spent an enormous amount of time, right up to election day, on ensuring Acton has a good store. Stedman's Stores recently bought Mr. Hinton's five and ten cent store.

Although separate school trustee John Bradley said in the board's farewell address

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George Gray

ported from the States and chain stores have been purchasing their supply earlier than usual so there'll be enough to go around without shooting the price up.

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