



Theo and Norah Papillon recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. The couple were both originally from Bracebridge, but met in Acton during the 1920s. They are planning a party in May.

## Papillons celebrate 50 married years

Theo and Norah Papillon celebrated 50 years of marriage on Monday at their Cameron St. home with all their married life spend in Acton. Both came to Acton from Bracebridge in the '20s.

Mrs. Papillon, formerly Norah Gibbons, was born in Fesserton but grew up in Bracebridge. Her family moved to Acton when she was ten years old.

On December 5, 1925, Theo Papillon moved to Acton from Bracebridge. He knew of Norah Gibbons when her family lived in Bracebridge, but it was in Acton they first met at a parish hall dance at St. Joseph's Catholic Church.

On February 12, 1929, they married at St. Joseph's with Father McGreavy officiating at the morning mass. Between 60 and 100 friends and relatives celebrated the wedding with the couple. The newlyweds spent their honeymoon in Goderich.

For seven years the Papillons lived in a rented home on Elgin street, they later moved to their own house on Cameron Street where they have lived for the past 43 years.

The Papillons have three children, Dennis who lives in Kitchener, Donna (Mrs. M. Rafferty) in Fort Erie and Joyce, (Mrs. John Dennis) of Cameron Street. One daughter is

deceased. They are also proud grandparents of 14 and great-grandparents for five children.

Mr. Papillon worked at Beardmore for more than 40 years and is now retired. During the depression, he was cut back to two day work weeks and sometimes didn't work at all.

"We had the children and things were hard but I think that having things hard brings you closer together," Mrs. Papillon said.

Mrs. Papillon has been actively involved with the Catholic Women's League. Congratulations were extended to the couple by Father Leo Speagle during the weekend masses at St. Joseph's.

The Papillons went out for dinner with their children on Sunday evening. A party with family and friends will be held in May. Mr. Papillon's brother, Peter, who was the best man 50 years ago, will be attending the party in the spring.

After 50 years of marriage what advice do the Papillons have for young couples? "A lot of young couples are too quick to throw things away. One little upset and they are ready to separate. You have to work together and try to do things together to keep the marriage strong."

The Free Press joins in extending congratulations to the anniversary couple.

## Parents want policy set for local busing

by Jennifer Rowe

Halton Board of Education needs to set their own policy regarding busing, according to Victoria Nibbs, representative for the Lakeview, Kingham and Cobblehill Estates Residents committee.

The group, which formed in November, is concerned about present guidelines which the Halton board follows in regard to busing. The guidelines are those set down by the provincial government.

"Policies have to be set. Each school board or area needs review. Acton in comparison to Oakville or Milton has a separate set of circumstances which are unique to the area," Mrs. Nibbs says.

Mrs. Nibbs stressed that the residents' committee was concerned about the problem, but were trying to go through the proper channels. They have notified the Acton and Esqueping school trustee, Betty Fisher, and have sent a letter to the board of education.

Mrs. Nibbs cited one of the major problems, that must be discontinued is the practice of charging an extra fee for busing children over grade one in Halton Hills. Robert Little school students, over grade one, are charged 20 cents one way, and 25 cents for those travelling to McKenzie-Smith and the Acton High School. Mrs. Nibbs feels this cost puts quite a financial burden on the residents.

In a letter to the board Mrs. Nibbs referred to the arbitrary distinction that is made between rural and suburban children as being unfair. They are also concerned over the hazardous conditions the children have to endure if they did not pay for the provided bus service. "...distances well over a mile to elementary schools, long stretches where there are no sidewalks narrow streets, poor visibility in winter, railway tracks to be crossed at grade to reach the Middle and High schools," were the conditions Mrs. Nibbs referred to in the letter.

Mrs. Nibbs said that in order for the board to set policies it would be necessary for them to conduct a study into the area and the conditions which prevail. "There is the need for a study, but studies take time. We don't want to continue to pay and so arrangements must be made now while work continues on a study," she said.

Mrs. Nibbs said that under the Ministry of Education Act, children living within the busing regulations, seven and under, are legally excused from school, if the board does not supply transportation. In Acton free transportation is provided to those in kindergarten and grade one, not up to seven years of age.

Members of the residents' committee feel the busing is a service that should be provided by the school board. "We are concerned that, even though the Halton Board of Education receives 52 per cent of our property taxes, general support grants and special transportation grants (which come from our pockets, too) from the Ministry of Education, we are expected to pay an extra fee for the busing of our children to school," Mrs. Nibbs said in a letter to the Board.

Trustee Fisher, said the provincial guidelines used by the Halton Board in regard to busing are used in place of a local policy. Mrs. Fisher said children outside the one mile limit to the age of seven are bused free. In Halton this is interpreted as kindergarten and grade one. Grades two through to eight are bused free if they live outside the two-mile limit. For high school students this limit extends to three miles.

"The problem is we have people who live under that mileage in the rural areas. There is no policy on them, but traditionally people who live in the rural area got free busing and rightfully so," said Mrs. Fisher.

Mrs. Fisher said the board is not passing the responsibility to Queen's Park. "What we are following is the Ministry of Education's vague guidelines," she said.

Mrs. Fisher said busing would no doubt be part of

the long term plan, although there is nothing right now to include it.

She said busing problems are not unique to Acton, they are large within Halton region. "But we must have a busing policy to work with. Once a board has a busing policy it can always explain it. The way we

have done busing may have been good, but we have to realize the realities of today," Fisher said.

Mrs. Nibbs said the residents' committee is not looking for an overnight solution, but for interest by the board into a problem they consider demands attention.

## Women's status

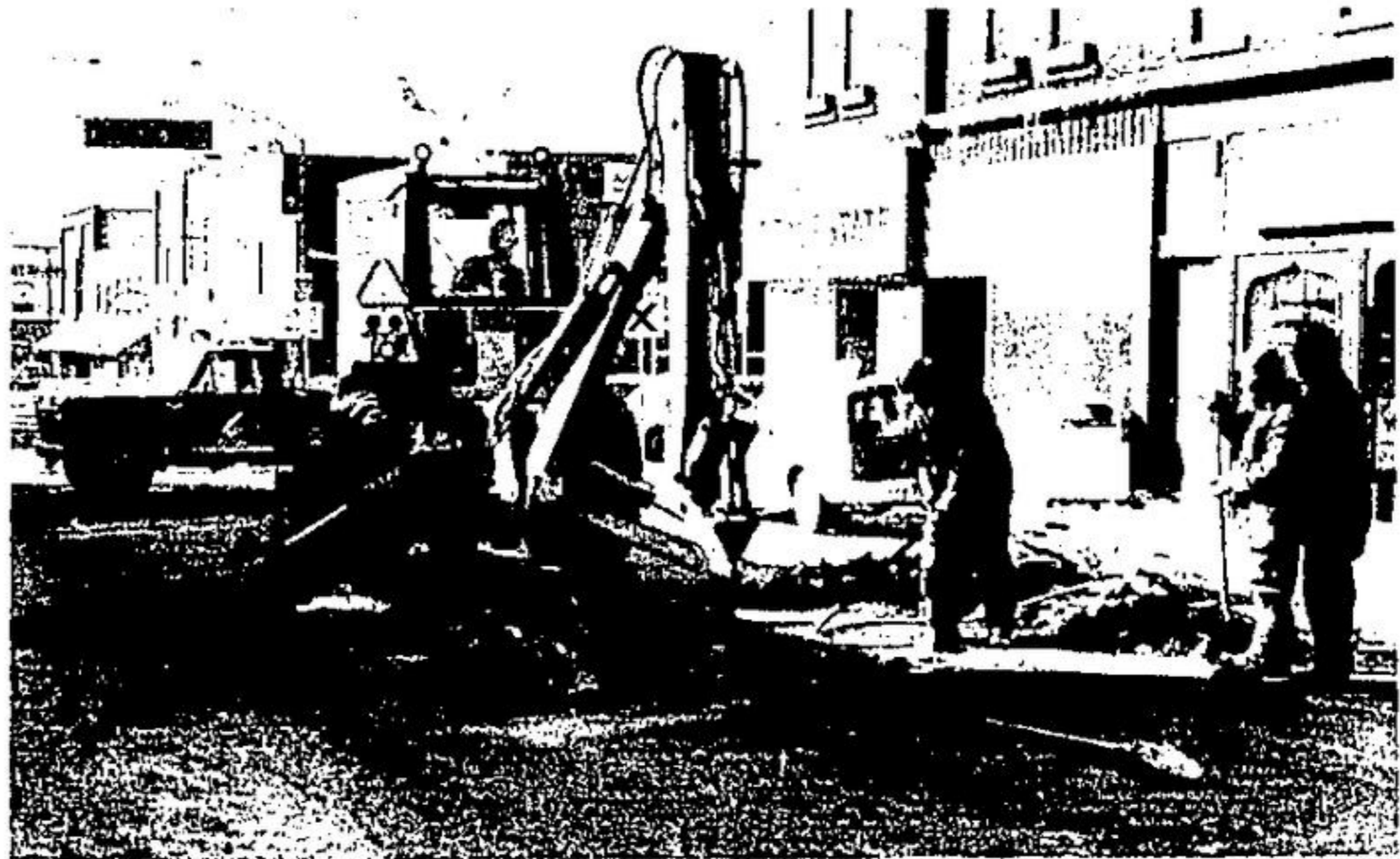
Women and their changing roles through the past century was the topic of "Maple Sugar and Spice" presented to members of the Halton Elementary Teachers' Association Thursday evening.

The play was produced by Tomorrow's Eve Theatre Company of Toronto and was part of a special wine and cheese social sponsored by the Association's Status of Women Committee, at the UAW Hall in Milton.

The theatre company represents the efforts of several women to express their point of view on the status of women in the past and present.

The production, along with similar plays is intended as a resource for the teaching of history and women's studies in grades seven to 13, explained actresses Mary Giffin and Marion Gilsenan.

"Maple Sugar and Spice" featured a satirical view of Canadian women



Halton Region workmen started digging in front of the Bank of Commerce on Mill Street Friday. They replaced about 35 feet of sewer which had caused

problems for bank employees and apartment dwellers. Traffic along the street was detoured. The work finished Tuesday morning.

## Region fixes sewer problem

A Halton Region work crew completed replacing a damaged sewer link on downtown Mill Street Tuesday morning.

A five-man crew worked since Friday, except Sunday, to correct the sewer problem which affected the Bank of Commerce and the apartments above the bank.

The old lateral from the building and part of the original sewer were the problem, according to a spokesman for the regional works department.

Since last Wednesday until Tuesday the bank employees and apartment dwellers have not been able to use the toilets, he said.

About 35-feet of sewer had to be replaced. A back-hoe and

pneumatic drill were used to cut through the road and the red interlocking brick sidewalk. The worst part of the job was the frost which sunk four and a half to five feet into the ground. Workers tried to lift out the sidewalk bricks, but the frost made the task impossible. The bricks cracked and broke as workmen tried to ease bricks out of place. Mill Street traffic was detoured while the sewer work was done.

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## Priority list for snow removal

Acton Blvd., from Highway 7 to M.Z. Bennett school has been placed on a priority list for sidewalk snow plowing by the town of Halton Hills.

At Monday evening's general committee meeting, councillors made a list of the various sidewalks in town they felt should be plowed regularly by the town. Town engineer Bob Austin told the group sidewalks are cleared after the roads and snow have been cleared, sometimes up to two weeks after a snow fall.

Mr. Austin pointed out that in Sudbury, where he

use to live, the walks were cleared with a Bombardier, and all streets were done.

Councillor Ed Wood recommended placing Acton Blvd. on the list as there are two schools on the street, and children have to walk on the road. Mr. Austin pointed out that the named street was unique from most of

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