

News digest

BIA aids Port Hope

The Acton Business Improvement Area (BIA) is coming to the aid of the badly damaged downtown area of Port Hope, Ont. BIA head Larry Greaves announced this week that after receiving a letter requesting aid for Port Hope from the neighboring Cobourg BIA the local BIA will donate \$100. Port Hope's downtown core was severely damaged by ice and flood waters this spring and suffered an estimated \$10 million damage. The province has come up with a relief program which will see Port Hope receive \$3 from Queen's Park for each \$1 raised by the town. Greaves notes if every Ontario BIA gives Port Hope \$100 that will mean a total of \$35,000 for the town.

Easter Seals hit \$1,200

Acton Rotary Club's annual Easter Seal campaign raised \$1,200 to aid crippled children this year. Campaign chairman Rick Devlin announced this week that while there are still "drabs and drabs" to come in, the campaign has equalled its mark of \$1,200 in 1979 this year. The goal for this year's campaign was \$1,500 and Devlin says there is still a chance another \$300 will be sent in.

Parks plan meeting

Halton Hills will unveil its Master Plan for parks, open space and recreation facilities at a public meeting in Acton on Tuesday, April 29, at Acton High School. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. The plan deals with long range park and recreation facility development in the town and copies will be available at the meeting.

Fun tips for mothers

Margaret Currie gave mothers several suggestions on ways to keep their youngsters entertained with homemade play dough, fingerprint and glue last Wednesday at the Acton Library. Mrs. Currie distributed copies of formulas for the play things to six parents during a special meeting at the library Wednesday. They were mainly mothers who have children enrolled in the library's Story Time. A source book which Mrs. Currie recommended is entitled *The Mother's Study* by Marquerite Kelly and Ella Parsons.

Study near completion

A committee appointed by Halton Hills to look into the feasibility of transportation for the physically disabled is in the process of compiling a report for council.

Surveys completed by the disabled in Georgetown and Acton were received in February, but it wasn't until last month the committee started to analyse the results.

Those on the committee are councillors Mayiyn Serjeantson, George Malby, Ed Wood, John McDonald, deputy engineer Ted Belanger, Delmar French, deputy clerk and Barbara Stevens, head of Halton Helping Hands, an organization for the disabled.

Call to be Chamber brochure

Acton High School students have completed their survey of local business for a new brochure about Acton and are starting to compile the information. The students are producing the brochure for the Acton Chamber of Commerce and invite any local firms who weren't contacted to call Chamber secretary Janet Fleming at 853-6225 or Peter Marks at Acton High School, 853-2926, if they want to be included in the booklet. This is the last chance to have information included in the publication which should be out by June.

Skate-a-thon a success

This year's Acton Rotary Club Skate-a-thon may raise well over \$5,000. Dave Whiting reports \$3,600 was raised by Acton schools and Rotary hopes to take in another \$2,000 to \$3,000 from area rural schools. Half of the funds, after expenses, goes back to the schools and the remainder the Rotary uses for community projects.

Police week

Police Week will be observed May 11 to 17 in Halton Hills. That week Halton Regional Police will visit local schools to discuss the police role in the community. The police will also have a display in May 16 and 17 at the Industry '80 show at Gordon Alcott Arena, Georgetown. On May 13 there will be an awards night held by the regional police in Oakville.

Science fair

Three area youngsters had exhibits at the Waterloo-Wellington Schools' Science and Engineering Fair last week in Preston. Wendy Dunn, RR 2, Acton, who goes to Erin High School, produced a life science project on beer and radishes. Russ DeGrote of RR 1, Erin and a St. Johns School, Elora, student produced a rocket design exhibit. Another Erin High pupil, Lawrence Allen Benville of Ballinacraig, did a winter bird survey.

Trailer stolen

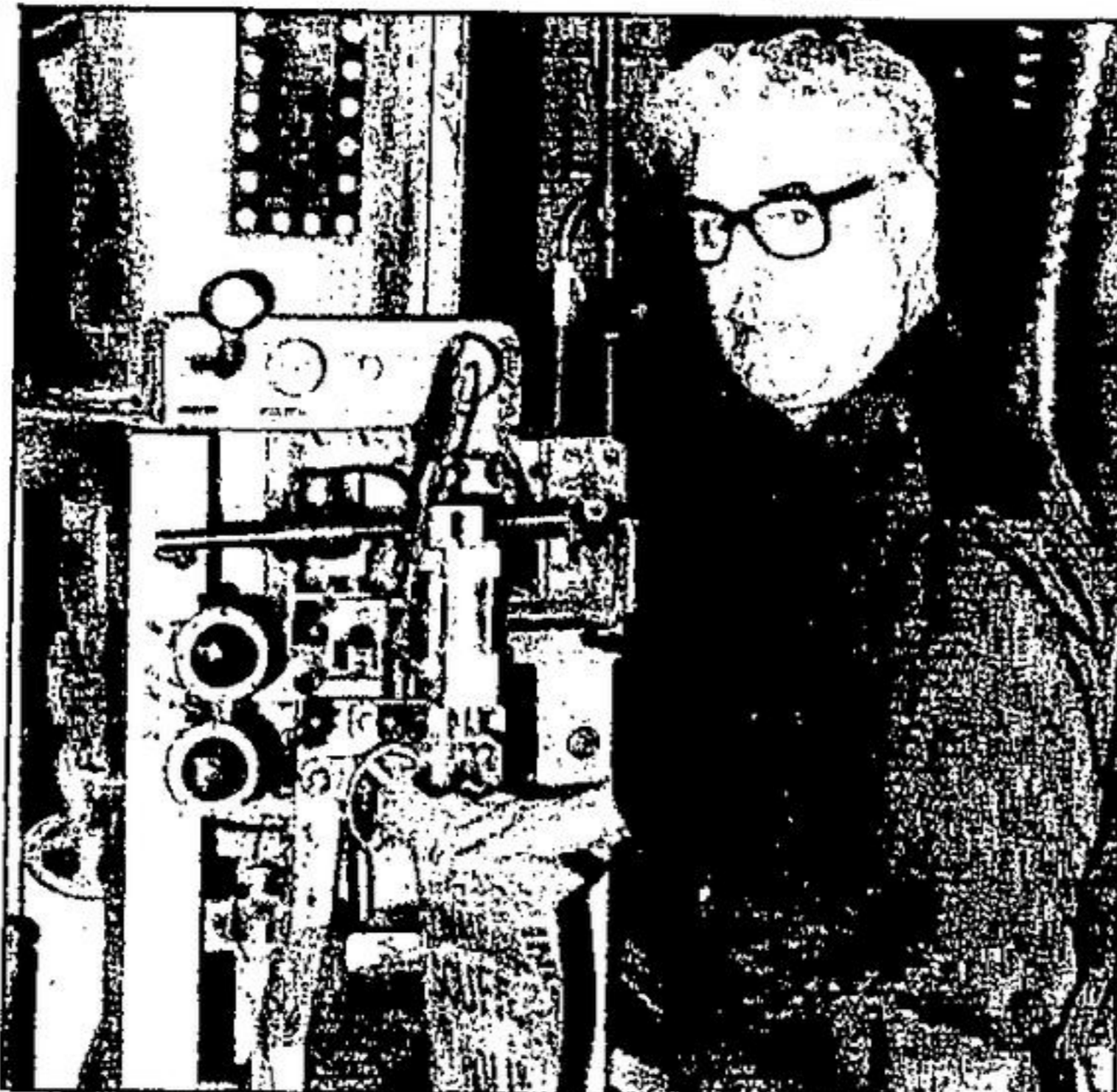
The theft of a flatbed snowmobile trailer from the Acton curling club is under investigation by Halton Regional Police. The 1970 trailer worth an estimated \$275 was stolen from the site Tuesday, April 15.

NEC approves garage

James Bessy of Limehouse was recently granted permission to build a new garage beside his home by the Niagara Escarpment Commission. The present garage must be torn down and the new one not used for commercial purposes.

Sulphur plant

New industry promises no smell



Packaging sulphur

Mike Wallace, the plant manager at Acton's newest industry promises there won't be any smell from the sulphur plant on Eastern Avenue.

Acton's newest industry began operations this week and the plant manager promises neighbors won't be bothered by smells.

There have been some fears the new sulphur plant on Eastern Avenue will produce smells but manager for the Holly Industries plant, Mike Wallace, says the yellow substance from western Canada only produces an odor when it is burned and that won't happen in Acton.

This is Holly Industries first factory and construction on the 7,000 square foot facility began last May.

The firm will grind sulphur at the plant where three or four local people will be employed. Ground sulphur is used to vulcanize rubber for the manufacture of tires, in the steel industry, in agriculture and in various chemicals. Somewhere between 4,000 and 5,000 tons of sulphur will be ground annually.

There were 150 tons of raw sulphur from Alberta in the plant last

week without a whiff of odor.

The grinding takes place in air tight machinery and there are dust collectors which take in even small particles. The grinding operation is under supervision of the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Wallace noted the province ensures there is no smell or escape of sulphur. All of the machinery in the grinding process is run electronically and the entire system shuts down automatically if there is a malfunction anywhere in the system.

Wallace said sulphur is stripped from silt gas, it is removed from Alberta natural gas, pounded into huge blocks and left to solidify and crystallize. Holly Industries bought out FMC which operated for many years in Burlington and moved their grinding equipment to Acton. Wallace worked for FMC for 14 years and the Rockton resident hopes to relocate in Acton.



Share, a handicrafts group from Acton's Christian Reformed Church held a bake and craft sale Friday at Family Cleaners on Mill Street. The proceeds went to MS research. Mary Van Dam, Janet Kuiken and Beatrice Cooper show some of the handicrafts which were for sale.

Groups supporting Decoration Day

Acton Legion is now getting lots of support for this year's Decoration Day Program.

A meeting was held last week to revive interest in Decoration Day, held the first Sunday in June, and the Legion,

which has run the program on its own the last three years, found there's still plenty of interest in Decoration Day.

Helene Fowler, of the Decoration Day Committee, reports the Legion and Legion Ladies' Auxiliary will be joined for this year's program by Acton's Cubs, Scout, Brownies and Guides, the IOOE, Acton Chamber of Commerce, Dublin W.I., Acton Volunteer Firefighters, Acton Rotary Club and Acton Optimist Club.

Fire damage up

Property damage from fires in Halton Hills is up almost \$34,000 for the first quarter of 1980 compared to the same time period last year.

Fire chief Mick Holmes' March fire report shows estimated fire damage in the town has jumped from \$142,553 for the first three months of 1979 to \$176,093 for the first quarter of 1980.

Need economic measures — Jelinek

The complete lack of any substantial dealing with Canada's worsening economic woes in last week's Liberal Speech from the Throne has left Halton MP Otto Jelinek very disappointed.

Jelinek said in an interview this week that there was nothing specific re-

garding economic measures in the Throne Speech nor has there been any indication there will be an early budget. He said his biggest concern is the harm being done to farmers, small businessmen and homeowners by high interest rates and while interest rates can't be brought

down artificially something must be done to ease the burden. There has been nothing specific said about what will be done to help homeowners whose mortgages are up for renewal this year at substantially higher interest rates except that aid will be for a very limited number of families.

Halton's MP observed there were a number of proposals made by the previous Tory government contained in the Liberal legislation plan, including freedom of information bill, so he naturally supported some aspects of the Throne Speech. Jelinek eagerly awaits the chance to see the legislation. He wonders if it will go as far as the Conservative's proposals.

Jelinek also thinks the \$35 a month increase in old age pension payments is a worthy measure.

He cautions on both these items that he'll "believe them when he sees them" before the House of Commons since many past Liberal Throne Speech pledges have never materialized.

The Liberal plan to raise the ceiling on small business loans from \$75,000 to \$100,000 is "ridiculous" considering the high interest rates. "The ceiling might just as well be raised to \$10 million."

Another complaint is that there was nothing dealing with training for the unemployed, such as apprenticeship programs or trade schools, something the Conservatives

were going to bring in.

As for decriminalization of marijuana, well that's another leaf taken from the Tory book, Jelinek declared.

On energy matters, Jelinek believes the Petroleum Price Auditing Agency promised by the government is just more costly government and branded the undefined Liberal blended oil price scheme "a cop-out that's misleading Canadians."

The Liberals promise to increase PetroCanada funding so it can negotiate with oil producing countries. Jelinek says that's duplication since the National Energy

Board already negotiates with the nations for energy. PetroCanada, he states, still hasn't found a drop of oil on its own and just goes out and buys existing companies when it has been repeatedly demonstrated private enterprise works more economically and efficiently.

Lastly the Grits talk about 50 per cent Canadian oil industry ownership by the end of the decade without giving any specifics on how to achieve the goal, Jelinek observes, and compound the problem by not saying anything about achieving self-sufficiency, the best solution to energy problems.

Inflation hits road work

Inflation is hitting town road projects hard.

Tenders for pavement markings and road building materials have come in substantially over budget, but Halton Hills engineer Robert Austin thinks he can do most of the work and still stay within his 1980 budget.

The town budgeted \$11,275 for painting of pavement markings this year but the low tender from Provincial Pavement Markings of Niagara Falls is \$17,725.

Austin told Halton Hills council Monday night the budget allocated less money for pavement markings this year than substantially over budget. The budget projected costs at \$170,000 and the low tender from J.C. Duff Ltd. of Limehouse came in at \$185,955. Austin blamed this item being over budget on soaring crude oil prices. He recalled he budgeted this item at November, 1979 prices and added 10 per cent and it still came in over budget. Austin told council he doesn't want to make many cuts in the surface treatment pro-

jects for this year. Gravel tenders for road building projects is also substantially over budget too. The budget projected costs at \$170,000 and the low tender from J.C. Duff Ltd. of Limehouse came in at \$185,955. Austin blamed this item being over budget on rising energy and trucking costs. He said this item will be kept within budget guidelines by cutting 4,400 tons from the town's order for this year.

Prime and surface treatment work was budgeted at \$88,000 and the low tender from MSO Construction of Rexdale was \$97,965. Austin blamed this item being over budget on soaring crude oil prices. He recalled he budgeted this item at November, 1979 prices and added 10 per cent and it still came in over budget. Austin told council he doesn't want to make many cuts in the surface treatment pro-

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Austin predicted hot mix asphalt costs, calcium and new equipment tenders will also be over budget so more works cuts will have to be made if his department is to remain within its subsidizable budget for this year.

Councillor Harry Levy observed while tenders are coming in over budget the town's revenue from bank deposits will also be higher.

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