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Georgetown, Ontario, Thursday, April 1st, 1971

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County Will Spend Half Million More This Year

Georgetown Reeve Ric Morrow and Oakville Reeve Allan Masson voted against Halton County Council's 1971 budget totalling \$4,084,858 when it was presented Tuesday, March 23. Their's was the only opposition however as the budget — higher than last year's by \$500,000 was approved 11-2. Their objection was that

grants to charitable organizations and other groups should be paid by the municipality and not the county. Of the budget total, an estimated \$983,374 is revenue from the province and other sources.

SUPPLY THE REST
Halton's seven municipalities are responsible for supplying

the remaining \$3,101,284. Burlington and Oakville will contribute roughly 82 per cent of this amount, with Burlington paying 42.58 per cent (\$1,316,994) and Oakville 39.55 per cent (\$1,223,291). Georgetown pays 6.6 per cent (\$207,213); Esqueping Township 4.16 per cent (\$130,903); Milton 3.14

per cent (\$98,892); Acton, two per cent (\$63,627); and Nassagaweya Township (\$60,364). Each municipal apportionment is determined by the percentage of assessment.

NO MILL RATES
Since no municipality has set its final budget, it was not possible for council to arrive at mill rates for each municipality.

Halton county's budget last year was \$2,652,195. Main reasons for the increase in this year's budget are costs of the county roads system and a \$122,000 debenture issued last December to cover balance of the county's grant to Burlington's Joseph Brant Memorial Hospital.

SALARY RAISE
Other new costs are for a new bookkeeping computer system for the county (\$32,000) and \$6,000 for an additional bookkeeping staff member.

Salary raises for the warden and councillors accounted for a \$30,000 increase in the budget. Additional staff to both the social and family services department and the hiring of a construction safety inspector also increased the budget.

CONTENTIOUS
Probably the most contentious issue in this year's budget was the 1971 grant system, council adopted a grants budget proposed when it met as a budget committee of the whole last week. It totals \$58,900.

The biggest grant (\$20,000) will go to Burlington's Royal Botanical Gardens. Prime mover of the grant's acceptance was Burlington's Reeve Jim Swanborough.

Last year the Gardens received \$10,000 from the county and this year asked for \$27,000. It was pared down by the budget committee to \$20,000.

Some of the other groups to get grants are the Lorne Scots Regiment (\$1,000); Halton Plowmen's Association (\$1,350); Salvation Army (\$1,650);

and Georgetown Red Cross (\$4,000).

The Georgetown grant approved previously by by-law allows for establishment of a home-maker service here.

CHILDREN'S AID
Council could face a problem with the Children's Aid Society budget since its field workers were granted a raise in salary by their own board several weeks ago.

The county was asked to pay \$75,957. Its share of the \$388,781 CAS budget, the \$75,951 approved by council was submitted before the raise was granted.

The raises — ranging from 4 1/2 per cent to 12 per cent — could reflect a \$3,000 increase in the county's portion of the 1971 CAS budget.

SIZEABLE
There was a sizeable increase this year in the social and family services budget, increasing \$19,368 from the 1970 total of \$800,597 to \$969,965 this year.

The increase is mainly the result of the addition of three field workers and one office worker.

In 1970 the department requested \$435,000 for general assistance and welfare payments, but spent \$626,114.

Department head Jim Gray said the drastic increase at the time came about because they had no idea of how much money to budget for the fledgling welfare department.

Council Reverses Decision on Road Opening, Repayment

An action taken by last year's council to provide a road into industrial land on Armstrong Avenue, and to be repaid by owner John Elliott over a five year period was reversed by this year's council, last week.

Mr. J. Phillips, of Redi-Mix Concrete Ltd., told council his company had planned to build a \$300,000 plant, employing 8

HOSPITALITY AND ORANGES



"SOUTHERN SUNSHINE" FOR VISITING NORTHERNERS

Georgetown Bantam Hockey Tournament toilers dispensed sunshine through hospitality for visiting team members and their coaches and managers last week — and in oranges which were given diners at the Legion auditorium. Above, Mary Lou Waters hands one of the sunshine spheres to Copper Cliff's Bill McDonnell. Looking on are Cheryl Copper and Paul Stos, also of Copper Cliff. Cheryl and Mary Lou were among the many members of the kitchen and dining hall staff which kept the hockey types nourished.

initially, and another four later on. "I am asking you to delay the rescinding of this by-law to allow us to buy the property, and bring industry and employment to town," concluded Phillips.

TRYING THREE YEARS
Cr. Hyde said the property could be presented in another manner with frontage on Armstrong Avenue.

As he left, Phillips commented to the press: "I've been trying for three years. I thought we had something to contribute to the town."

SAFETY TIP
Most drivers know that batteries lose power in cold weather, but the scale of the loss is not generally realized. A battery which has 100% of its

efficiency at 80 degrees, delivers only 60% power at the freezing point. At zero it has shrunk to 46% power, and 20 below it is down to only 30% power. The Ontario Safety League points out that in addition to the loss of efficiency, the battery has a heavier load to handle when oil is thickened by the cold.

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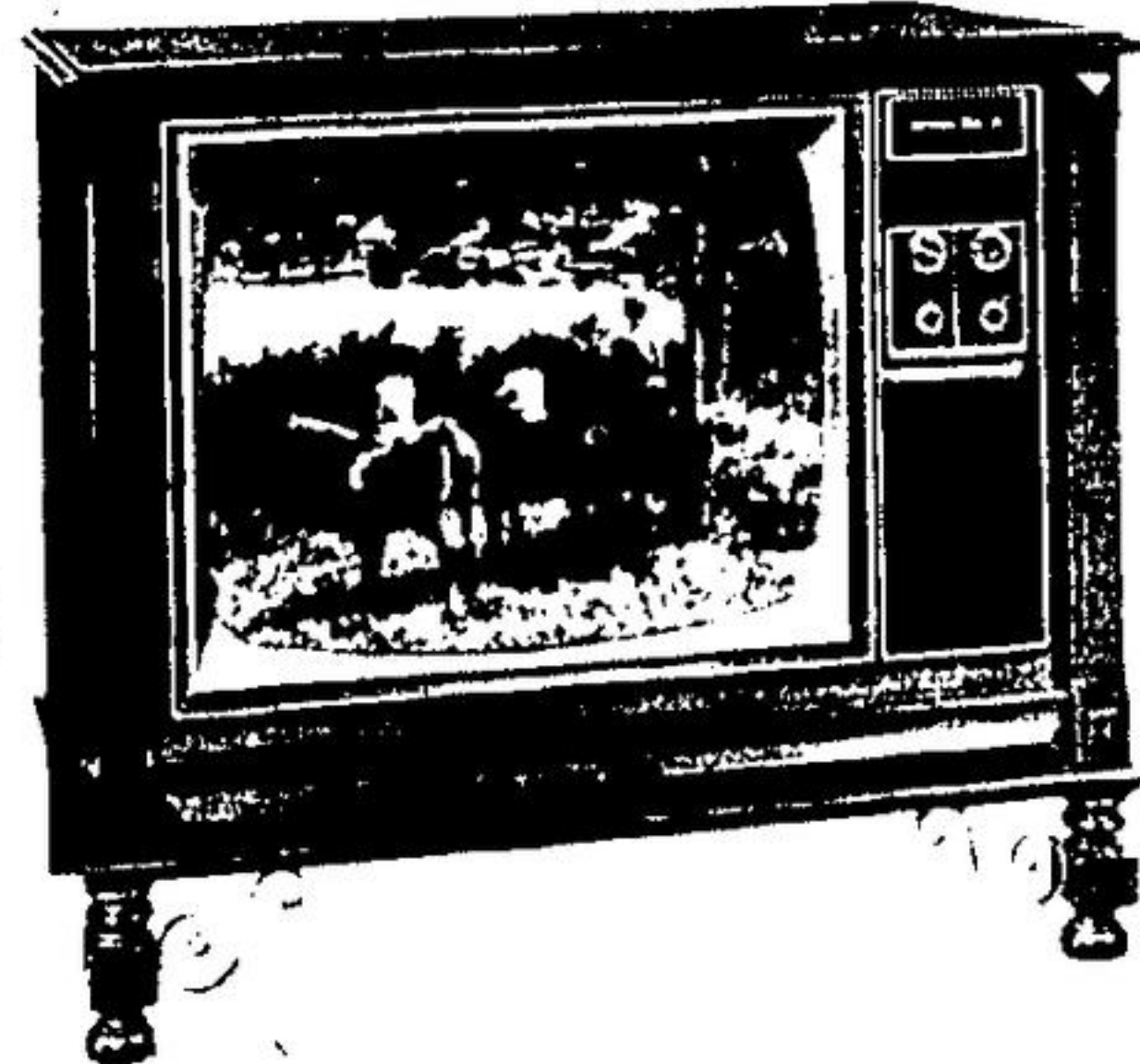
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