SEES FLOOD OF APPEALS

No Video-Tape, Summer Court Sittings, Opinion of Lawyers

A proposal to streamline court procedures by the use of video-taping of evidence, as opposed to the present system of transcribing it in shorthand, was criticized by the president of the Halton County Law Association, last week.

Murray J. Haesler, said implementation of such an idea would require a complete change in the concept of the courts of appeal. It could also result in a flood of appeals on the part of persons who hoped for a change of interpretation of their evidence.

"Under the present system" Haesler explained, "an appeal is entered only to determine if a judge erred in law. It is not up to an appeal judge to decide on the manner in which evidence is presented."

ADVANCE JUSTICE

A proposal presented to the Ontario Law Reform Commission by the York County Law Association representing 2,700 lawyers in the Toronto area, suggested justice could be advanced 10 years by introduction of video-taping of evidence.

It cited waiting for transcripts as scandalous. And it suggested the judge . . . on appeal should have the opportunity to observe the witness . . .

"It would change the entire principle of appeal," Haesler said. "And many people would be inclined to file appeals hoping the appeal judge would believe something the trial judge didn't.

"There should definitely be summer sittings of court," Haesler said. "The two-month summer recess is a throwback to the old days when most of the men listed for jury duty were farmers and were not available for jury duty in the summer."

However, proposals which would eliminate backlogs of cases in criminal courts are not as essential in Halton County as they are in the Metropolitan Toronto area.

"There are few cases of persons being delayed in getting cases before the courts in Halton County," he said. "In 99 per cent of the cases where delays occur, they are the result of an accused person asking for remands for a variety of reasons."

CONSIDERABLE EXPENSE

The Halton County Law Association as such will not be presenting a brief to the Ontario Law Reform Commission. Instead, individual members have been forwarding personal views to the Law Society of Upper Canada, a governing board of Ontario lawyers, which itself will be presenting a comprehensive brief.

Doug Latimer, of Georgetown Halton County Crown Attorney, said his first reaction to the proposal of video-tape was that such a system would probably help.

"Whether or not it would be of real value would take some study," he said, adding such an innovation would involve considerable expense.

Council Briefs

● Council will request the Department of Highways to consider a 35 mile an hour speed limit between Main St. North and the westerly limits of town.

● Council authorized the payment of $500 to the Georgetown Girls Pipe Band, an amount which was committed by plebiscite, some years ago.

● Council decided unanimously to increase the price of town-owned industrial land, from $1,000 an acre to $5,000 an acre. This change will not affect lands currently being discussed by the Industrial Commission.

● Approved a survey for the Ontario Housing Coporation to show the need for senior citizens housing units in town.

● Allowed two groups, the North Middlesex Arena Committee and the Association for the Performing Arts to conduct lotteries in town.

● Decided to advertise for a clerk-administrator.

● Gave permission to the Kinsmen Girls' Softball League to hold tag days, Thursday and Friday night, June 24 and 25 and all day Saturday, June 26.

● Declared the week of May 10 to 16 Conservation week in answer to a request from the Credit Valley Conservation Authority.

WINS FUR COAT

Mrs. Ace Bailey, 32 Duncan Drive will soon be sporting a new 'fun fur' coat.

She had a pleasant surprise when her entry in a Reddi-Whip contest was drawn, and last week was notified she was winner of a white rabbit coat.

It's possible, too, that she may appear later in a TV commercial.

Was First Year Student at Waterloo University

A first year mathematics student at Waterloo University, Murray Arthur Stamp died in Kitchener Waterloo hospital on March 28 after a brief illness.

Murray, who was 19, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Art Stamp, 4 Churchill Crescent and graduated from Georgetown District high school last year. He attended public school at Chapel St. and Park schools.

He attended St. John's United Church Sunday School as a child was a member of the Youth Bowling senior league, and a golfer.

Besides his parents, he leaves two sisters, Mrs. Mark Kowall (Shirley) of Mississauga and Susan, at home.

Rev. Kelvin Johnston conducted the funeral service at the Harold C. McClure Funeral Home, with interment following in Glen Williams Cemetery. Pallbearers were Clinton, Donald and Austin Peacock of Georgetown, David and Jerry Dewar, Hillsburgh, and his cousin, Garry Stamp, Bramalea.

NORVAL

Mrs. Graydon Chester Heads Norval Institute Executive

The annual meeting of Norval Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. Amy Burk, Georgetown, on Thursday evening, April 1st with Mrs. Graydon Chester presiding.

The roll call was answered with the payment of fees followed by the conveners and treasurer's reports. Mrs. Howard Chester gave the slate of oficers for the nominating committee with very little change from last year. President, Mrs. Graydon Chester; 1st vice Mrs. Ed McLean; 2nd vice Mrs. Ina Terry; secretary treasurer, Mrs. Howard Chester assisted by Mrs. Bill Graham; district director Mrs. J. Murray; alternate director, Mrs. D. Murray; curator, Mrs. L. May.

Mrs. D. Murray and Mrs. H. Chester will conduct a class on how to make a burlap cushion embroidered with wool. Anyone interested should contact either of the leaders. It is not necessary to be a W. I. member.

Following a discussion on how to raise some money it was decided to have a market basket sale at the next meeting.

Convener programs for this year are to be handed in at the next meeting as the programs have to be printed before the June meeting.

Mrs. G. Chester and Mrs. Lorne Cleave assisted the hostess in serving lunch and a social time was enjoyed.

— Mrs. Ed McLean

LIMEHOUSE

Have Bus Trip to Conservation Area

Grade six pupils and their teacher Mr. Noble enjoyed a bus trip and tour of the Black Creek Conservation area on Monday.

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Communion services were observed at Limehouse Presbyterian Church last Sunday.

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A special meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Jas. Noble on Wednesday evening to draft plans for the fiftieth anniversary of the Limehouse Women's Institute on June 9.

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Margaret Homan left with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Homan of Uxbridge, on Sunday evening to fly to Holland, where she will help her great-grandparents celebrate their diamond wedding anniversary.

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Miss Dale Hayes was home from Ottawa a week ago.

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Rhonda Clow reports for 4-H: Our seventh meeting was held at Mrs. Lindsay's house. We started with the 4-H pledge and then the minutes of our last meeting. We discussed our books and then went to the kitchen. We made cream puffs, truffles and chocolate milk. We then discussed other dishes we could make. Back in the kitchen we tasted the dishes we had made. Roll call was 'A favourite recipe.' Answer 'Lemon Chiffon.'

— Mrs. A. W. Benton

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