

# Everything You Always Wanted To Know About the Sewage Plant

"We don't do the work around here, we simply create the environment that allows nature's own bacteria to do it", says Win Smith, chief operator at Georgetown Water Pollution Control Plant, as he describes the operation.

The bacteria may actually do the work, but a system of checks and counterchecks by the staff assures it is done properly. The staff themselves, have all taken the prescribed courses conducted by the Ontario Water Resources Commission.

The sewage comes in by trunk sewers to the barminator, a machine which breaks up solids which could block the pumps. It is then pumped into a grit and sand remover, which also has a ball float registering the flow.

The flow, in turn, is registered on a flowmeter, which tells exactly how many gallons are going through the plant every minute of the day. The chart is changed every morning at 10 o'clock.

On Friday afternoon, May 4, 3.3 million gallons were registered on the chart. Despite the rating of 1.5 million capacity, everything was running smoothly.

A machine known as the "flowmatcher", does exactly what it says, matches the speed of the pumps to the speed of the flow.

**EMERGENCY UNIT**  
An emergency auxiliary diesel unit goes into operation automatically if the power fails, while a large panel of lights alerts the staff immediately if any motor in the building fails to operate properly.

After processing, the contents of the digester are pumped into tank trucks for spraying on farmer's fields. This spraying is not done

from the digester without the methane gas escaping. The sample is tested in the lab for volatile acids, which tells what stage the digester has reached.

Tests are run every day to determine whether too much or too little chlorine is being used, and to give the chlorine count.

In addition, twice a month, an hourly check is made on samples of raw sewage, primary effluent, and final effluent. These samples are sent to the Ministry of the Environment laboratory.

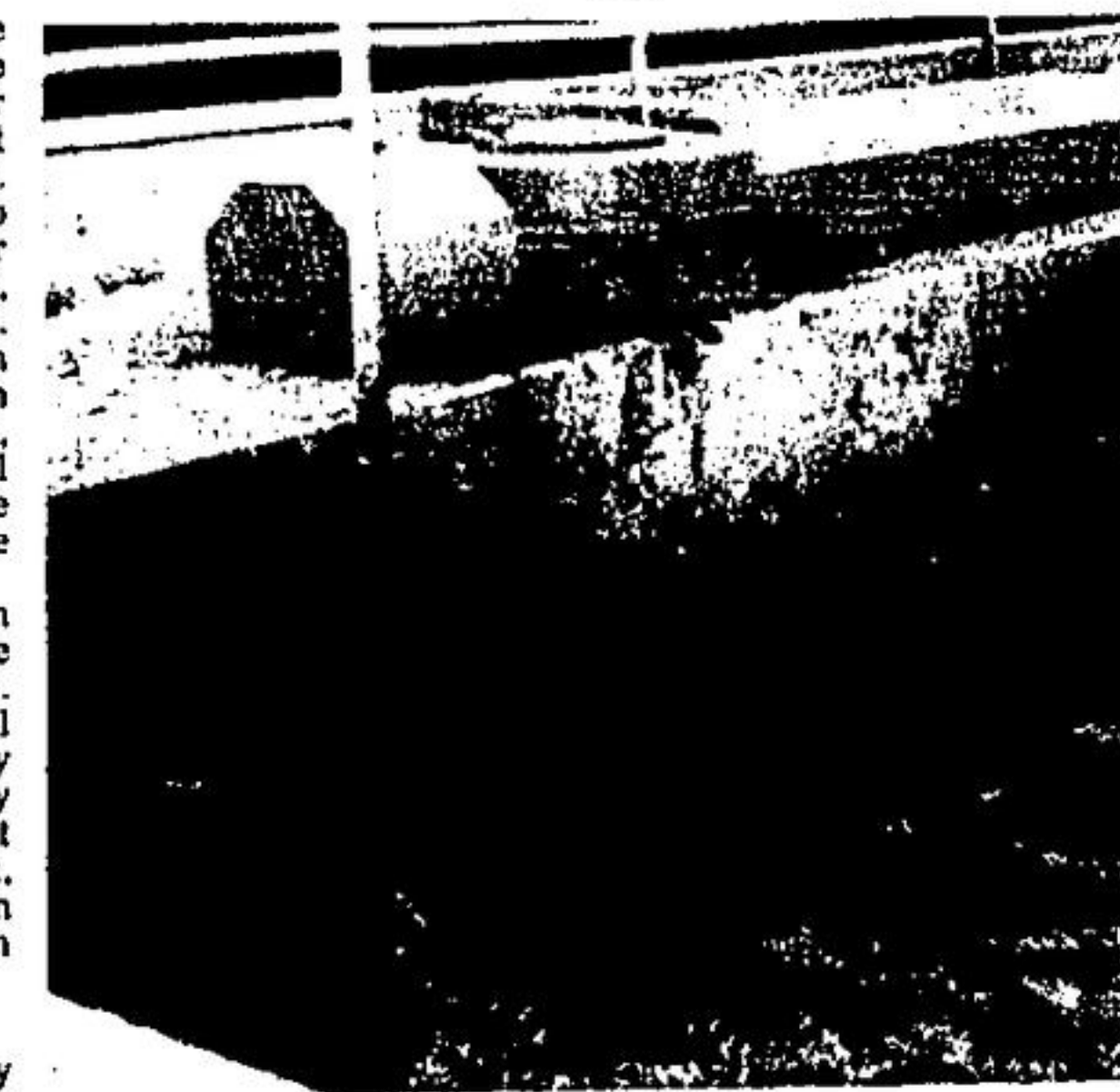
The samples must be taken very carefully, so no outside bacteria can add to the count. This way the effluent in all stages is tested thoroughly twice a month by the Ministry of Environment. The plant itself runs a check on the check, because too little chlorination can result in a high chlorine count.

The effluent from the primary clarifier, then goes into various aeration tanks where the bacteria go to work. In the final clarifier the bacteria are raked out, since they now are heavier than the effluent, and go back to the beginning to start all over again. By this time they are an entirely new generation.

The effluent, now looking clean, then travels to the chlorination tank, where it is held a minimum of 20 minutes. The foam, so common at the outfall from disposal plants a few years ago, is almost gone now, since the ingredients in detergents have been changed from inorganic to organic.

**METHANE BURNED**  
The heavy sewage in the digester is kept in a half million gallon tank at 93 degrees where a mixer is in operation.

The methane gas, continually being created, is piped down into the boiler room to fire the boilers. A valve in a long pipe allows samples to be taken



A rake drags the heavy material around from the outside to the centre where it

haphazardly, but is tightly controlled by government regulations.

The soil of the fields must be tested, and the sludge tested for metallic ions, so it is not harmful to the natural bacteria in the farmers' fields.

drops through to be pumped over to the digester.

The fields themselves must be a certain distance from any house, and stream or river. The Health Department regularly checks and rechecks the use of sludge as a fertilizer.

Plant operator Brian Amphlett, maintenance operator Bob Hall, and chief operator Win Smith, find themselves regularly conducting tours of the plant. Many of the visitors are high school students.

**Fines, Probation**  
Fines and probation imposed on two Georgetown men three weeks ago when they appeared in criminal court here were for possession of narcotics and not for trafficking.

A story appearing on the front page of The Herald, May 3, was in error in stating the fines of \$400 apiece plus probation handed down by Judge Douglas V. Latimer followed trafficking convictions.



FOUR FOR THE SEE-SAW

See-Saw endurance record breakers Gregg Johnston, (left), Lee Ferguson (right), and Pat St. Laurent (centre), who is timing and waiting his shift on the teeter totter, show how they went 30 hours

on the see-saw. Keith Poulos and Gregg's older brother look at the event with anticipation. The fourth member of the team John Graham-Smith was not available for the picture. The

boys, all Centennial Senior Public School pupils, broke the previous Georgetown see-sawing record by half an hour and were sponsored to raise money for the YOU Walk Committee.

## Who's New in the Flue? That's GLT Play Question

A typical English comedy "Brush with a Body" by Maurice McLoughlin concerning a body found in the chimney, a well-read chimney sweep who has the instincts of a blackmailer and an alcoholic, a family of social climbers who are worried about their public images, and a mother who has lived with the answer to all the mysteries for so long they have become common place, is Georgetown Little Theatre Group's latest laugh-filled play, which was put on at Wrigglesworth school, Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights.

Bob Lee as Mr. Flaherty an Irish chimney sweep gives a performance which makes him the principle character. Dressed in blue overalls and

covered with black soot, Mr. Flaherty arrives at the Walling home to clean the chimney. He helps himself to breakfast, comments to the lady of the house, Cynthia Walling played by Sue Dunning, on his coffee being cold, and finds time to read his entry in a literary contest as well as give family advice on a recent problem of Sarah Walling played by Joanne Grant, who is going with Paul Martell played by Ed Arcuri, a boy the family doesn't approve of.

The head of the household, Henry Walling a prominent psychiatrist, is played by Des Nicholls. Cynthia and Mr. Walling want nothing to do with the chimney sweep, until he finds a body in their chimney. They then start feeding him

whisky and bribing him to keep it a secret until they can decide on what to do and more important find out the body's identification.

**SHOWN SHOE**  
The answer lies with mother. Sybil Walling played by Pat Joynes. She spends half the year in Scotland and arrives home for her annual six months stay. Henry, after all his psychological probes fail, confronts Sybil with a shoe off the body and asks about it to which she replies, "so that's where he put him."

It turns out that her husband, the Wallings' father, killed a gangster named Joe Corona in self-defense just before he disappeared in an air raid many years before.

Sybil then bribes Mr. Flaherty to dispose of the body by making a payment on his house. Henry has already bought him an encyclopedia set.

Scotland Yard arrives on the scene looking for one of Henry's missing patients. Rosta Hernandez played by Dianne Brunnette, who has a father complex on Henry.

The officers, Detective Inspector Hardy and Sergeant Bray played by John Horning and Tom Van Alphen respectively add to the confusion. Sergeant Bray adds another comic touch when he tries to pull the housekeeper's pointed nose off after buttering her up. Mrs. D'arcy the housekeeper is played by Vivianne Macdonald.

**LEFT STRANDED**  
During the height of the confusion Henry's fiancée arrives, the Honourable Pamela Colefax played by Carol Joynes. She is angry with Henry for leaving her stranded for three hours without phoning. Mr. Flaherty fills her in to what is happening and she decides she likes Henry better

**"WITH HIS HAIR DOWN"**  
The play ends with the police removing Mr. Flaherty's soot sack with the body in it and throw it in his truck never knowing the difference. Paul Martell runs off with Rosta Hernandez and Sybil, learning from the police that the gangster ring leader has died in Italy, phones Scotland to tell her husband he can come home, much to the surprise of the family.

The auditorium, filled nearly to capacity on Saturday night, was an indication of credit for the group and the play's director Harry Haylock.

## Norval Man on Farm Classification Body

Peter Hughes of Norval, fruit grower and florist, has been appointed to represent Halton County on an advisory committee, that will study and make recommendations on farm classification in Ontario. The announcement of appointments to the committee came from the Honourable William A. Stewart, Ontario's Minister of Agriculture and Food.

Other representatives appointed to the six man committee are Edward J. Kowal, barrister, Bolton (Peel County); Dorothy Lichty, Wellesley, farmer's wife, (Waterloo County); Brigid Pyke, Wolfe Island, farmer, (Frontenac County); Arnold Burnside, Grand Valley, farmer, (Dufferin County); and Ronald White, Denfield, farmer, (Middlesex County).

In announcing the appointment of this Committee the Minister said, "There are many Legislative Acts, programs, and policies administered by a wide number of Ministries which affect or apply to farms and farmers in Ontario. The nature of farming itself has changed considerably over the years and the industry has become so diversified that it becomes difficult to determine what is meant by such commonly used terms as "Farm", "Farmer", or "Farmland".

## Four Suffer Injuries in Saturday Accidents

Vehicles driven by Cyril Clarke, age 22, of Georgetown, and Harold Bouen, age 17, of Kitchener, were involved in a two car collision on the Esqueping Nassagaweya Town Line, south of No. 25 Sideroad, Saturday.

John Vandonk, a passenger in the Bouen vehicle, and Juliane Eckert, a passenger in the Clarke vehicle, sustained minor injuries.

Total property damage was put at \$2,400.

No. 17 Sideroad, west of the 9th Line Esqueping, was the scene of a single vehicle collision, Saturday, in which \$1,000 damage was done to a vehicle being driven by John Robertson, age 25, Georgetown. Mr. Robertson received minor injuries.

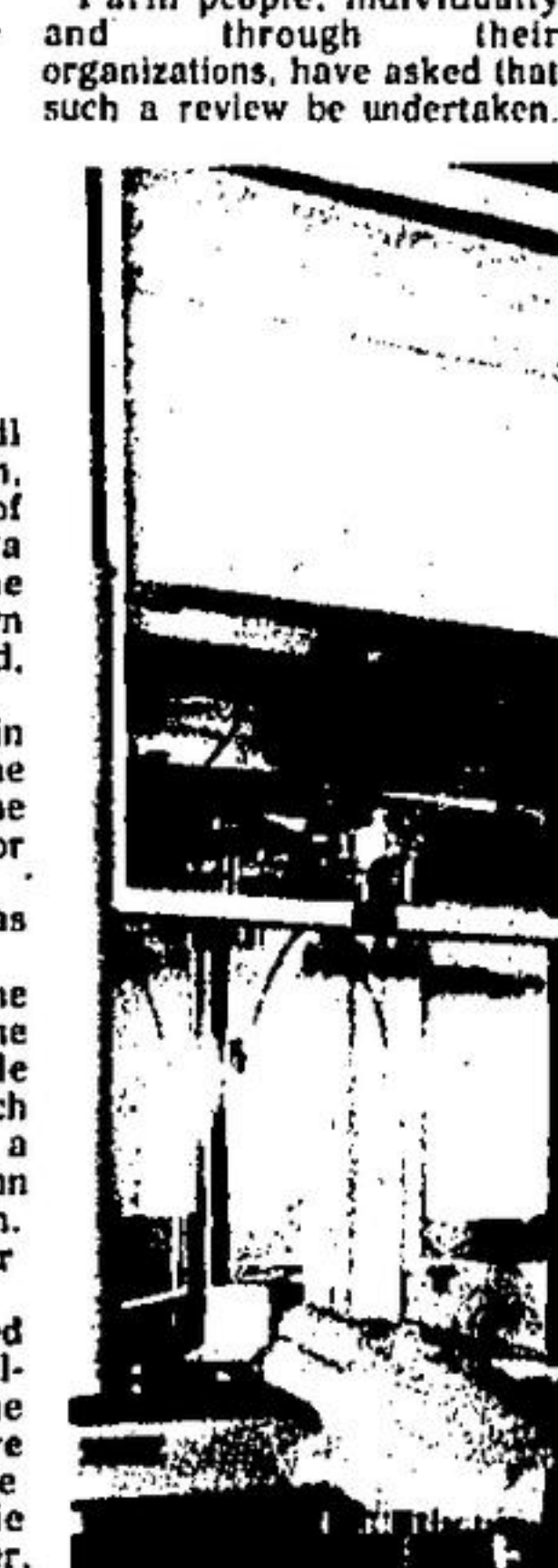
A two car collision occurred on Highway 7, west of Peel-Halton Town Line, the same day. Vehicles involved were driven by Walter Collins, age 29, Georgetown and Leslie Chalmers age 17, Jim Prufer, Georgetown, a passenger in the Chalmers vehicle, received minor injuries. Total property damage was estimated at \$275.



PETER HUGHES

"Part-time farming, the acquisition of rural land for recreation and nonfarm uses, and the holding of land in development areas by nonfarm owners has added to the complexities that exist. We believe all references to farmers, farms, and farmlands in our Ontario Statutes, programs, and policies should be uniform and applied with consistency."

Farm people, individually and through their organizations, have asked that such a review be undertaken.



Win Smith weighs a sample from the digester on the laboratory scales. The



sample is then burned in a small muffle furnace.

The chart on the flowmeter shows exactly the flow of sewage going through the Water Pollution Control



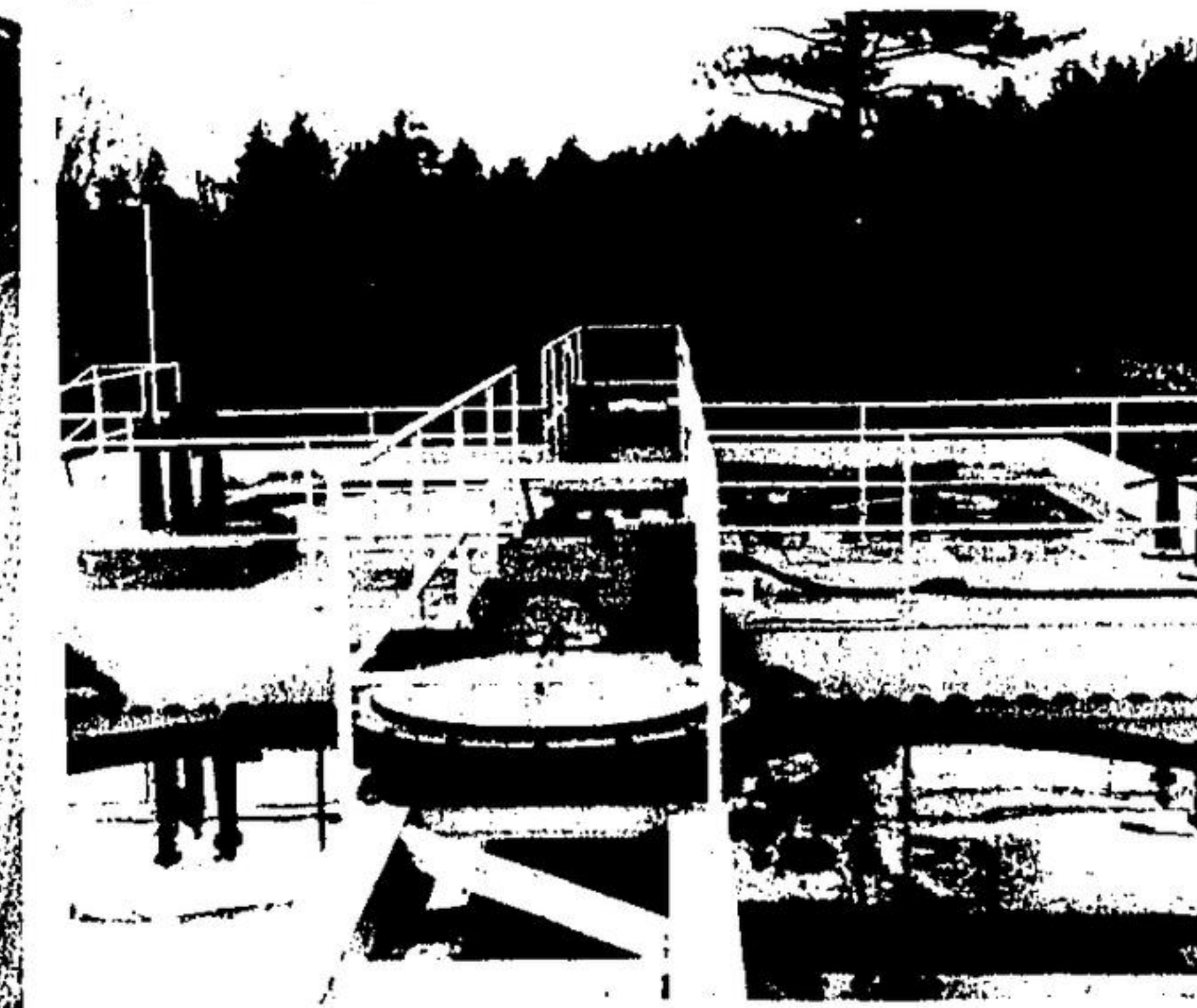
Plant every minute of the day. Chief operator Win Smith reads the chart.



The chief operator stands by the sand and grit

remover. Carrying recycling further the sand and grit is

used for fill on low land around the plant.



The aeration tanks, where oxygen is being dissolved into the water, and the

bacteria are utilizing the carbon, hydrogen, oxygen

and nitrogen to split every 20 minutes.

## Council of Women Buys Surgical Table

The hospital committee of the Local of Women reported the purchase of a surgical table complete with plaque as the council's gift to the Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital. This was disclosed at their regular meeting held in the committee rooms of the Canada Trust Building recently.

The council received letters asking for blood donors and canvassers for the Canadian National Institute for the Blind. This canvassing blitz will take place May 28.

Mrs. C. B. Dick reported to the meeting several items on prescription labeling, use of antibiotics, consumer prices, monopolies control 70 percent of prices, the need for competition, inflation prices, oil and gas monopolies.

Mrs. Connie Nieuwhof outlined her program for the Child Safety Forum to be held in St. John's United church, May 25. The subjects for discussion are road safety, addition research, water safety, fire and suffocation, public health including home safety, and volunteer ambulance services. Mrs. Fran Jamieson, Halton Public Health Superintendent will be the moderator at the forum. President Mrs. Clarence

Hayes presided over the meeting, and following the adjournment, lunch was provided by Mrs. Florida Nodwell.

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