



He's waiting for an emergency

BY Paul Dorsey

The recent flooding of the Credit River in Glen Williams cast an unflattering spotlight on several aspects of regional and municipal government. Residents and taxpayers watched with raised eyebrows the procedures and efficiency of the various services and committees that took part in the crisis operations. One brief though not a minor role at the scene was taken by the Emergency Measures a regional facility that has occasionally been the target of criticism from those who either misunderstand or overestimate its capacity.

The official duty of the program, which is housed in the regional offices in Burlington, is to assist Halton municipalities in the event of an emergency with planning and advice. Though specific volunteers and some emergency equipment are available, the program's participation is largely a matter of preliminary planning.

The controversy that sometimes arises stems from the public's expectations of the

EMP which was originally geared to wartime crises.

The EMP actually had its start in 1963, when memories of the war remained vivid, and civil defence was still a top priority. Initially, the program was an organization designed to cope with national emergencies. The EMP was sponsored by the county and headed by a full-time co-ordinator.

But by 1974, war no longer posed a threat to national welfare, and the organization was revised renamed the Emergency Measures Program and taken over by the region as of January 1 of that year.

The EMP today is staffed by one man, William E. McCreary, the Emergency Planning Officer. At the time of the Glen flood, as in Oakville's high-water situations in the past, Mr. McCreary's task involved visiting the sites to discover the seriousness of the problems, and finding out from the authorities on hand what kind of assistance, if any, they required.

Mr. McCreary has headed emergency measures for almost two years, but since its re-structuring by Halton Region at the beginning of 1974 devotes only a third of his

time to the program. He also serves as Halton's assistant regional clerk, as well as being in charge of landlord and tenant inquiries.

"A lot of people don't understand that we can't take authority away from the municipalities," says Mr. McCreary.

The program is ultimately, he noted a service which can be hired and employed as the various municipalities see fit. The townships must be made aware, however, of their own responsibility to insure the program's volunteers when employed, against injury. The volunteers, though registered with the province for Workmen's Compensation, must have municipal permission to begin working.

The volunteers at the EMP's disposal are divided into work categories, such as welfare, communications, and rescue. The equipment they use, though limited, includes floodlights, generators and pumps.

No funds exist at present to buy more equipment or to train more volunteers. The need for such, says Mr. McCreary, has yet to be established.

"One man can't do the job without

volunteer assistance," notes Halton Hills Mayor Tom Hill, but the necessity of expanding the existing program, he adds, will be further debated. "There's been no talk at region about it," he says, "but it is my understanding that it is coming up."

Since the federal government cut its contribution to the program's funds by 50 percent, the provincial, regional and municipal governments joined to pay the balance. Last year's budget, says Mr. McCreary, was \$7,500.

"This year, I'm hoping for \$10,000."

Once a month, Mr. McCreary meets with various administration and public service representatives from the three government levels to discuss the formation, structure and tasks of regional emergency planning groups, and the development of a peace time emergency plan. Representatives of the police and fire departments and the engineers and clerks agree, says Mr. McCreary, that the EMP has its place in Halton's priorities.

"Everyone," he says, "is well aware of the need."

the HERALD

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Eleven Georgetown area Cub Packs gathered at George Kennedy School on Saturday for their sixth annual Inter-Pack Activities Day, organized by assistant district commissioner, Terry Colter. A total of 67 boys, all second-year cubs, circulated in groups among the nine displays and activities ranging from scuba diving and rock climbing demonstrations to stamp collecting and physics experiments. The morning was highlighted by a visit from Mr. Ulrich Watermann, who brought along two of his pets, a golden eagle and a screech owl.

The day's events were officially launched by District Commissioner, Gord Douglas. Georgetown's First,

Second, Fourth, Fifth A, Fifth B and Eighth packs were joined for the day by cubs from Norval, Acton, Ballinacra, Limehouse and the Scotch Block.

Train operator Ted Shannon (right) shows a Cub how to make the trains run on time with the model railroading display set up along with James Colter.

Jim Hammer, (left), Junior Leader of the First Georgetown Pack prepares the Kub Kar race set, built by the cubs, as Andy Beddoe looks on.

Cub Leader Harold Wittmeier (above) asks Cubs if they can identify the various types of bird eggs in a display that also included stuffed and mounted varieties.

First in a series

We look too far...

By Mike Rothenberger

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A beautiful Indian princess sat one day, in her tepee, combing and braiding her long black hair. Suddenly she heard a noise. She looked up at the entrance flap of the tepee and there stood an Indian brave. He quickly told her that her father, the Chief, wanted to see her.

Hurriedly she finished grooming her hair, put on her best of clothing and hastened to her father. As she approached the circle where the old Chief was sitting, she noticed a strange silence. The Indian princess stood before her father and anxiously waited the sound of his voice. And then the Chief looked into the dark eyes of the girl and said, "My lovely daughter, my beautiful Indian princess, today you have become a woman, you are no longer a child."

He handed her a large basket and said, "I want you to take this basket, go to my best field of corn, select a row with the tallest stalks, walk down the row and pick enough of the finest corn in the row to fill your basket. It is all for yourself my daughter, but there is one condition, once you have passed an ear of corn you cannot turn back."

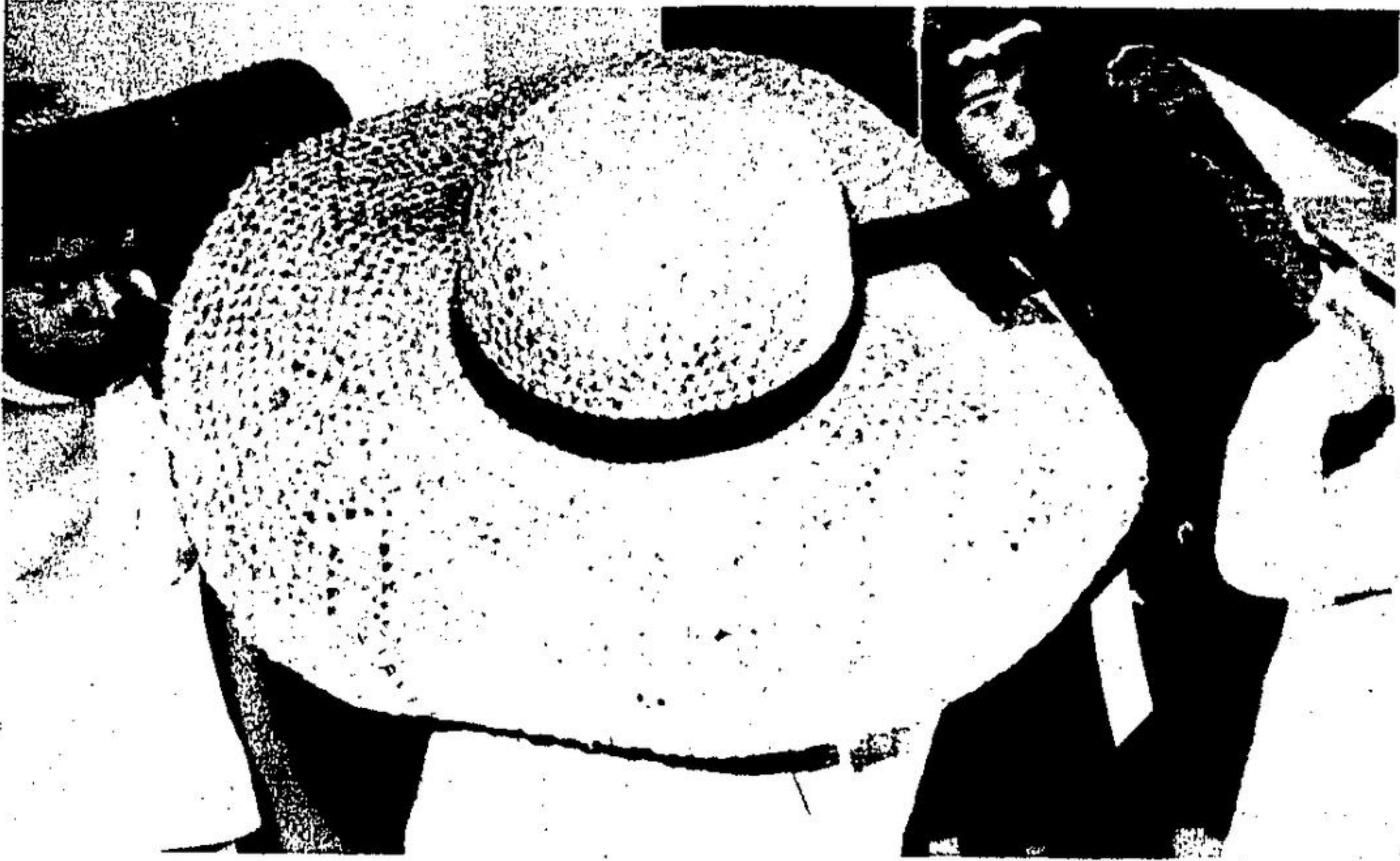
The princess took the basket. She went to her father's best field of corn. She picked the row with the tallest stalks. She started down the row. She felt an ear of corn but it was too soft. Then she examined another, but it was crooked. The next was too hard, and the next was irregular. On and on, down the row she went, floundering something wrong with each ear of corn and then, to her amazement, she reached the

end of the row and her basket was empty. What a parallel with the multitudes of people today. We are so often prone to look away off out into the distant future and hope, and dream, and wait for something good and wonderful to happen. But herein is a great fallacy because tomorrow can never come. We will never see anything but today. This is life; this very moment. Why then, should we not resolve to take advantage of the present. To live each day to the fullest and stop futtily waiting for the tomorrow that cannot come?

We can acquire a greater appreciation for the beauty of life. We can learn how to bring our dreams into present reality if we will spend a portion of our time each day cultivating and developing the latent talents that nature has given us. We know that we have far more potential ability than we shall ever be able to use in one lifetime. Therefore, there is virtually no limit to what we can accomplish if we prepare ourselves, by developing our potential ability.

What we do in our lives today, what we do to discover and develop our latent talents and abilities, now when we do not have to, this will determine what and where we will be when the day shall come that we can no longer help it.

Herein lies the secret of the accomplishment of a rich and rewarding life. When but a very young man, the great Lincoln said, and he meant it: "I will prepare myself and some day my time will come."



LITTLE TRACY WEEKS seems to be pleased with her choice of Easter bonnets. Tracy had to travel all the way from Hillsburgh to find just the right hat to match her new Easter outfit.

"In your Easter bonnet"

By Doris Lindauer

Considering the latest fashion reports announcing a tremendous comeback for hats and with Easter just around the corner, one would tend to think that Easter bonnets are in great demand. However, Georgetown seems to be defying today's fashion trends.

Zellers is the only store in Georgetown carrying spring bonnets. Presently there is a limited selection to pick and choose from at Zellers, however, an expected arrival of new stock will increase the variety available.

Four other clothing stores in town—Image Fashions, Robert John Fashion Ltd., Silver's and 'by Bettanne'—do not plan to

order any spring or summer hats.

Sales at Image Fashions and Robert Fashion both agreed that there is no market for hats in Georgetown. Image Fashion do carry bridal headgear but there are no dressy hats in stock.

An employee at Silver's explained why they stock no hats. "We haven't carried them for about four or five years now. We do have some wool hats for the winter but dress hats just wouldn't sell. When the coiffure hairstyle became popular hats were set aside and simply not worn."

Bettanne Smith, owner of 'by Bettanne' claims that hats are not the 'in' thing to wear in Georgetown.

"What's popular in New York or Toronto isn't necessarily popular here. Just because they are supposedly coming back into style doesn't mean that women will rush out and spend \$15 for a hat. They just aren't worn now. We only carry sports hats. It used to be a big thing to buy a hat to go with your Easter outfit but not anymore."

Contradicting the popular belief in Georgetown that headgear is not essential to any wardrobe, Mrs. Kelly an employee of Zeller's, commented on her observations of hat sales.

"People will pass the hat display, stop and try one on. Fad fun hats are the big thing. Wide brims are especially liked. I find that a lot of people

come in to buy a hat before they head on down south."

Mrs. Frank Black of Georgetown, who used to be very actively involved in the making and designing of hats, supported the belief that hats are facing a revival.

"I think people are getting a little more hat minded again. Brimmed hats and bams are popular. However, I think it will be quite some time before they come back solid. They are more of a luxury because you have to have so many of them to go with different costumes. What really shocks me is that hats aren't worn to church anymore."

Perhaps fashion trends have a habit of by-passing Georgetown, for it seems that we will face another hatless Easter.