



A REFRESHING SWIM

Natalie Martinko, 8, flutters in the pool at Acton Indoor Swimming Pool while having a chat with friend Peggy Ancker, 10. Both girls were taking part in the family swimming time set aside on Saturdays.

Resignation shakes Milne, economy dominates meet

By LORI TAYLOR
Herald staff writer

"I'm really shaken up by the resignation of (Solicitor-General) Francis Fox," Ross Milne, Liberal MP for Peel-Dufferin-Simcoe told some of his constituents at a town hall-style meeting in Georgetown Monday.

"I don't think you can realize the effect it had on Ottawa," Mr. Milne said, in a brief reference to Mr. Fox's announcement yesterday afternoon. He added that Mr. Fox has been a close personal friend, and said he was sorry to see him resign, although he admired Mr. Fox's sense of the ethics involved in the situation.

Mr. Fox's resignation was only one of a number of subjects discussed by Mr. Milne with the member of the public who attended the meeting. Problems in the Canadian economy dominated the meeting, with the national unity also a major concern.

The northern pipeline and the issue of native land claims were also discussed.

Although Mr. Milne is presently representing the riding of Peel-Dufferin-Simcoe, once a federal election is called, he will be running for election in the new riding of Brampton-Georgetown. Mr. Milne said that with the former towns of Bramalea, Brampton and Georgetown, this riding will be one of the largest in Canada in terms of population.

dian costs were higher than American costs. That was one of the reasons for the wage and price controls being brought in. Now our labor costs and our manufacturing costs are rising at a lower rate than those in the United States, he said.

"I guess we all have a vested interest in what happens in April (when wage and price control end)," Mr. Milne said. He added that the idea of a monitoring agency to watch over wages and prices, even though the government doesn't expect an explosion in wage demands and increased prices.

The international tariff negotiations currently being carried on in Geneva are a major issue facing Canada right now, Mr. Milne pointed out. He said the first reaction of many people is to raise tariffs to protect Canadian industry. But this builds a wall around Canada, he said, and limits the market to 25 million people.

"No matter which way you go, there is difficulty," he said. "People say, 'Well, why don't you just say this is how it's going to be?'" Mr. Milne said. "One of the things that's happened is that the world has changed a little bit in how we operate as a country. Previously, with all the small European countries, Canada was pretty much an equal. Now, with the European Economic Community, Canada is one of the smaller countries."

Mr. Milne defended the government's handling of the national unity problem, saying that the government is trying to set up a situation where the referendum will be defeated.

"Canada can't really be the same again after the election of the Parti Quebecois in November of 1976," Mr. Milne said. "I think the economy and the national unity issue are equally involved with each other. The government's basic position is to show English Canada and French Canada that federalism is the best way."

The question of the referendum is the most important factor in the issue of national unity, Mr. Milne said. He said he believes that if the referendum is defeated, the situation leading to the referendum will have been very healthy for Canada.

struction of Canada's northern pipeline should be introduced to parliament in the next week or so, Mr. Milne said, bringing with it the issue of native land claims.

"The land claims should be settled before the pipeline is built, but the government can't guarantee it because the people here in Georgetown like to hear their gas furnaces come on at night," Mr. Milne said.

Ben Hoogendam, one of the people attending the meeting, brought up the issue of the RCMP opening private mail, and the problem of "not being able to trust the man in charge of the portfolio." Mr. Milne responded that according to the minister of Justice, the press report stating that Mr. Fox knew about the break-in at Parti Quebecois headquarters some time before he informed the public was in error.

"In a number of these issues with the RCMP, it's fine to say, 'Well, I understand why they're doing it,'" Mr. Milne said. "But maybe we should change the law to allow police to do their job without breaking the law."

In response to Mr. Milne's statement that opening mail appeared to be necessary in the light of increased drug trafficking by mail, Mr. Hoogendam suggested that a warrant should be required before the police can open mail, such as is the case with wire-tapping.

On the problem of decreasing personal freedoms and increased government intervention in people's private lives, Mr. Milne said, "Most of the things governments do are in response to a problem not being solved by the people themselves. Demands on the government are increasing, and the demands have to be cut back before the intervention by the government can stop."

Rud Whiting, another member of the audience, called on the federal government and the provincial government to provide direction for those people who are interested in setting up their own business, "so they can put into reality what they have the ability to do. The small business people are the ones who make the community vibrant and strong, and the effect spreads. When you have a strong, vibrant community, you have a strong, vibrant country."

Agendas now at libraries

Copies of the minutes of Halton Hills council and committees will be available to the public at the libraries in Georgetown and Acton. Finance administration committee decided

Library decision in 6 to 8 weeks

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Micklethwaite said she knew that branch libraries were not recommended for populations less than 50,000 but that the Georgetown library serviced three distinct areas.

Susan Breckenridge of Main Street South said she was opposed to the Cedarvale site because of the high traffic both pedestrian and vehicular which would be generated at the "dangerous" corner of Maple Avenue and Main Street South. She added that the library in Cedarvale would be subject to vandalism because of teenage drinking parties in the park.

Margaret Harding, president of Dominion

Seedhouse on Guelph Street, told the OMB that she had never been approached with an application to use any of the land there for a library site.

Mr. Steeles called upon town planner Mario Venditti to testify that a pedestrian walkway off Terry Court is planned to tunnel traffic into the park from the Delrex Subdivision. Mr. Venditti also said the town is considering more facilities and an addition to Cedarvale park.

Chief librarian Betsy Cornwell testified that the figures used earlier by Mr. Bellamy, especially the circulation figures, must be looked at carefully in context.

As for staffing figures, she

said that in 1974 there were seven staff of which only two were full-time.

In 1976 there were eight staff including three full-time and that in 1978 staff as projected at 8.5 of which 4.5 are full-time. She said the total staff in Halton Hills is the equivalent of 10 full-time persons and that the Acton staff has decreased by one-half.

She said that studies across North America indicated that pedestrian traffic to libraries rarely exceeds a three block radius from the library.

In his summation to the OMB, Mr. Steeles reviewed the pros and cons of the present site to the proposed site and said the town can afford the

\$750,000 for Cedarvale, which would include 16,184 square feet, 34 parking spaces, essential furnishings, shelving for 40,000 volumes and architectural and engineering fees and landscaping. Any evidence that the Cedarvale site would cost \$1 million is "unreliable," he said.

The Cedarvale site is capable of expansion to 30,000 square feet with 60 parking spaces, Mr. Steeles said.

By contrast, the money spent to bring the present site up to standard is "in the neighbourhood of \$640,000."

"We are getting more the extra money," Mr. Steeles said. "Council did not make a financially irresponsible

decision."

On the point that the Cedarvale site is presently zoned open space and not institutional, Mr. Steeles said that the town planner, the director of parks and recreation, architect Phillip Brooks and Betsy Cornwell have all pointed to other areas where parks are used in part as libraries.

Mr. Wheeler is concerned that the Cedarvale site might become a "white elephant", and that there was some danger to pedestrians at the intersection.

Lawyer Bert Arnold said that provision in the official plan to rezoning is that the land be used in established

character of the zone and the park is presently open space. "It does not conform to the official plan."

The loss of parkland "can't be costed," Mr. Arnold said. "\$750,000 doesn't include the value placed on parkland and social cost to the community. It can't be punched up on a computer."

Board chairman Colin Charron said, "We have to be convinced that the proposed project is not viable and that the money is better used for other projects."

The consensus of those in attendance is that no clear decision seemed obvious. One person said, "It's a toss of a coin."

Opponents outnumber supporters of new site

The opponents of the proposed new library building in Cedarvale outnumbered the supporters of the project when the public was allowed its chance to speak at the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) hearing Thursday afternoon.

In spite of the poor weather conditions Thursday, a number of people attended the hearing at Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena in hopes of speaking to the OMB. Among those who addressed the board were former library board chairman Joan Lister, Coun. Roy Booth and Coun. Walter Biehn.

Mrs. Lister, who spoke in support of the project, said the library board had not rejected the idea of renovating and adding to the existing building until the tenders for the job came in, and Halton Hills council said they were too high.

Council ordered the board

not to proceed, and asked the board to examine the needs of Halton Hills. She also said that the library in Georgetown will be acting as the senior library in Halton Hills, and will thus have reference materials which Actonians will use, even though they have their own library.

"Taxes are going up, but I can't see taxes going up to pay for renovating the old building when we can have a new one," William Kinrade of Georgetown said. "In my opinion, there's far too much emphasis on memories of the past, and not enough looking forward."

Morley Mills, also of Georgetown, is opposed to Cedarvale as the site of the new library because of traffic problems.

"I'm very much concerned about the traffic situation," Mr. Mills said. "I've had some experience as a spare crossing guard. If lights were installed at Main and Maple, it would

cause difficulty for trucks and buses on the incline in the winter or in adverse road conditions." People having to cross at that intersection would also have difficulties," Mr. Mills added.

Kathleen Papenhuyzen prepared a report of the reasons for her opposition to the project. Among the considerations she listed were the fact that the site was bought as a Centennial project, and was intended to be used for parkland. She also said the intersection is a dangerous thoroughfare, and is a poor spot for pedestrians to cross.

"As far as danger on that toboggan hill is concerned, that's poppycock," Mrs. Papenhuyzen said. "Nothing's happened there in years."

She said also the financial considerations involved in such a project made it a poor choice, and questioned the need for a new building. In

addition, Mrs. Papenhuyzen expressed her concern over the fate of the old building, should the library move.

John Sommers, who was a member of the Georgetown library board before the creation of Halton Hills library board in 1974, is also concerned about the fate of the old building.

"This little church is one of the most beautiful in Georgetown, artistically speaking," Mr. Sommers said. "I would like to see this building with the wing built on, and preserved forever."

Mr. Sommers said that prior to regional government changing the structure of the library board, the librarian was "a wonderful lady who operated the library like a drawing room, and treated the people who came in as her guests."

Coun. Walter Biehn, who sits as the mayor's designate on the Halton Hills library board,

said he was speaking as a private citizen when he said he favored the plan to renovate and expand the present building. If the choice was made for a new library, he said he is opposed to the Cedarvale site.

Coun. Biehn said the renovations will save money over building a new building and mentioned that it seemed poor planning to spend money on a new building, when the money could be used for an addition to the municipal offices.

Coun. Roy Booth who said he, too, was speaking as a private citizen and not as a member of council. "In my opinion, council has never been made aware of all the ramifications of the program for the new building. I feel we would be doing the public a taxpayers favor by renovating the old building and using the money elsewhere."

Coun. Booth also said that the relationship between coun-

cil and the library board over the past few years "I would hesitate to use the word deteriorated, but we haven't been as close as before."

He added that if, in time, new library facilities are needed in the area, "they can be put where they can best serve the majority of the people."

Marjorie Nazer, who was the librarian for the town of Georgetown prior to 1974, said there is a need to keep the library in the area.

"If I had stayed on as the librarian, the expansion would have been built by now," she said.

One of the members of the public seemed to sum up the feeling of the opponents of the Cedarvale library project when he said, "I would rather have a library run with a little more heart and a few less ratios and statistics."

LIBRARY OMB HEARING REPORT

Six-storey building needed to expand library

A six-storey building would be required to expand the present Church Street library site to the 30,000 square feet which Toronto architect Philip Brook feels Georgetown will need by 1992, the Ontario Municipal Board was told Wednesday.

Mr. Brook said that 16,000 square feet is the minimum standard size for a library to serve the population involved in the Georgetown library. However, once a new facility is built its use "just multiplies" so minimum standards "really are minimum standards," he said.

There is nothing wrong with the present library site as far as its location is concerned, he said, but its size precludes sufficient expansion to meet the needs of the community for more than five years unless the library board acquires more land or erects a six-storey building. The Church Street site is roughly one-third of an acre in size but Mr. Brooks feels it will require about two acres to allow sufficient room to adequately house a proper facility.

Regulations governing public buildings require ramps to allow handicapped persons to use the facility, Mr. Brook noted. It will take a ramp 90 to 100 feet long to achieve the proper grade to raise from ground level to the present main floor, he said. Although in theory the present library can be expanded, Mr. Brook said he would advise against it because it would only provide a short term solution to the space problem.

The Cedarvale site is ideal from a topographical viewpoint, he said, because entrances can be made directly from the outdoors without steps. It also eliminates the need for fire exits with staircases from the upper storey and thus helps to trim costs.

The \$750,000 estimated cost for the Cedarvale building includes a 16,000 square foot structure, most of its furnishings, shelving for 40,000 books, landscaping, a paved parking lot for 34 cars as well as the architectural and engineering fees.

Mr. Brooks' design for the Cedarvale site puts the adult circulating collection, a reference area and some seating, on one level, the recording area, staff work and storage areas, a staff lounge, a quiet study area, a meeting of board room, plus the chief librarian's office on a second level, and a meeting room entrance, the children's area, the adult audio-visual area, film circulating area and washrooms on a third level.

One important feature of the design, he said, is the fact that the entire building can be controlled with as few staff as possible.

Betsy Cornwell, chief librarian for Halton Hills, told the board that the Church Street site has been inadequate since

Georgetown's population passed the 5,000 mark. Compared to recognized standards used to determine library sizes, the

overall size of the structure is only one-third to one-quarter of what it should be, the seating capacity in the reading area is

at least 30 below standard; the book stock is less than half its required size, Georgetown carries only one-quarter to one-

third of the periodicals and magazines considered necessary; its children's section is only half the required size; its film storage area is just one-tenth of the necessary size and the reference section consists of a few feet of shelf space rather than the whole section usually considered a necessity, she said.

The present library is approximately 4,000 square feet in size and all but the 100 feet containing the furnace room is in use.

"There is no further room for expansion or rearrangement," she said.

Halton Hills recreation director Glen Gray told the board that putting a library in the park would be compatible with present recreational uses. The only use presently being made of the hill on which the library is to be constructed is tobogganing in winter and sunbathing or walking in the summer.

Mr. Gray noted that the site is dangerous as a toboggan hill because it is too close to the roadway through the park. The recreation department is actively pursuing reconstruction of the tobogganing hill south of the present site, he said.

Mr. Gray pointed out that the recreation department is not recommending the use of the Cedarvale hill but the North Halton Golf and Country Club is actively encouraging spontaneous use of their grounds for tobogganing and cross country skiing during the winter.

Halton Hills engineer Bob Austin told the board that plans are afoot to upgrade Main Street South but even supposing nothing was done with the road he foresees no problems with the entrance to the park and the library.

Mr. Austin said he was not aware of any accidents happening at the Main and Maple corner during 1977.

Town planner Mario Venditti told the board that six sites had been examined prior to the choosing of the Cedarvale site. They were Cedarvale, Halton Board of education property on Maple Avenue between Guelph and Main Streets, two sites on Dominion Seed House property (one on Guelph Street and one on Maple near the apartment building), the old Chapel Street school property, and at Mountainview and Guelph in the Delrex Plaza.

Some sites were not for sale, others had unsuitable soil, he said. In the end the Cedarvale site was chosen as being "a fairly central location in terms of major roads, highly accessible to vehicular and pedestrian traffic, and highly visible."



The present Georgetown library on Church Street

Expansion plans shown to OMB

members of the public received their first chance to view the original plans for expanding and renovating the existing library in Georgetown at the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) hearing into the proposed new library building at Cedarvale.

The original plans may still be used if the OMB decides that the library board may not use a debenture of \$400,000 issued for the renovations and addition to the existing building for the construction of the proposed new building.

The plans were presented to the OMB hearing by architect Paul Martel, who was hired by the Georgetown library board in 1972 and later by the Halton Hills library board when regional government was formed.

The expanded library calls for an addition of 7,268 gross square feet to the present space of 4,586 gross square feet in the existing building. The new addition will have 3,634

square feet in the basement and on the first floor and 2,794 square feet on the second floor. The measurements in areas are from exterior face to exterior face and include the walls, which are approximately two feet thick. Mr. Martel said he had made the design to provide an additional 10,000 square feet of space.

If the board decided in the future that additional expansion is required, Mr. Martel said it would be possible to build another addition on the ground floor. He also said it would be possible to add another storey, "but I wouldn't recommend it." He said if another floor were added, an elevator would definitely be needed.

In the basement, the rear part of the existing building would become a workroom in association with the children's library, and also a display area for audio-visual displays. The existing children's library

would become a stack room. The children's library would spread into the addition, as well as occupying part of the existing basement. The design has also incorporated a terrace outside for such activities as Story Hour and other library presentations.

The entrance to the library will be in the new section, with three fire exits also installed. As required by law, there would be a ramp for access for the handicapped and the elderly. The first floor would contain a multi-purpose room for 80 to 90 people which could be used when the rest of the library is closed. In addition, the librarians' office, the administrative office and the janitor's room would be on the first floor in the new section. The first floor in the existing building would become a reading room and a circulation area.

Mr. Martel said the remedial work requires specialists in

restoration, and he said he made recommendations to the library board about those who should be invited to submit bids on the repair work. He said he was never consulted about the matter again, but he heard subsequently that the board has spent \$14,000 to install a waterproof membrane on the exterior walls.

Mr. Martel said when he heard this, he commissioned his own estimates of the repairs and discovered that the work could have been done for \$7,500. He added that this figure represented only the work which he had recommended.

Mr. Martel said his design would provide space for eight cars to park, but that there were approximately 300 parking spaces within five minutes walk.

Mr. Martel was asked if the plans were still workable. "In my opinion, they are still feasible," he answered.