



### ACTON ROTARY SKATE-A-THON

Acton Rotary Club held its Skate-a-thon Sunday with hundreds of children from area schools taking part. A special celebrity skate of 15 laps was held during the afternoon affair followed by a figure skating demonstration by Kevin Parker, who recently finished fifth in Canadian national competition. Other celebrities taking part were: Halton Hills Coun. Les Duby, District

Scouting Commissioner Murray Harrison, John Arnold president of the Acton Rotary Club, Gary Dawkins, a Rotarian and principal of McKenzie-Smith middle school, Harold Townsley, representing Acton area firefighters, Julian Reed, MPP Halton-Burlington, Ross Dixon, of the Rotary Club and Sonny Townsley.

## Computer study urges dam removal

A computer study of ice-jamming in the Credit River near Glen Williams has resulted in a recommendation that the papermill dam be removed, part of the river be dredged and channelization of the river be done.

In a presentation to Halton Hills works committee March 28, Keith Latham of Chrysler Latham Engineering showed members his analysis of the problems in the Credit River with ice-jamming. Mr. Latham ran a number of programs through a computer, with a number of variables, such as removing the dam or dredging in a particular spot. The computer was able to predict what the result would be of a particular combination of variables.

Mr. Latham prefaced his presentation by explaining that there are three different kinds of ice. Sheet ice forms on lakes and rivers. Snow ice is formed over a layer of sheet ice when a second layer of water mixed with snow freezes on the first layer. Slush ice is the result of fast-moving water at a low temperature. Slush ice moves under sheet ice in slack water and freezes underneath, creating a natural dam.

Topography than by the river," he said. "The only time the dam has any effect on the water level is at the times of high flow."

One of the side effects of the proposal of the report, would be the necessity of relocating the Delia craft company to a new building. The estimate for the work to be done on the river includes the cost of purchase and re-location.

"All this work will do is move the problem downstream," Mr. Latham said. "You'll still have the problem but it will affect less people, and maybe that's the trade off

There are no houses further down the valley where the new problem area would be if the dam were removed.

"We will get ice accumulation, we will get increased water levels, but we won't get anything like the problems we're getting now upstream," Mr. Latham said.

The amount of water in the areas serviced by municipal water won't be changed by removal of the dam. Mr. Latham said.

"The well water levels in the area are influenced more by

you have to make channelization on its own was studied in the process of searching out a solution, Mr. Latham said, but it was rejected as too expensive and relatively ineffective.

A number of committee members, including Mayor Tom Iltis, expressed their concern that the water supply of the Glen residents would be affected by the removal of the dam. Both Mr. Latham and CVCA chairman Grant Clarkson assured the committee that any effects would be suffered only in areas already served by town water.

"There's no way the conservation authority can give you a guarantee that this won't affect the wells," Mr. Clarkson said.

"We've investigated, and we're nearly 100 per cent sure it won't," Mr. Latham added.

"We started into this because you people in Halton Hills are having problems," Mr. Clarkson said. "We get requests every year or almost from you people to have the ice blasted. I think this is a very serious problem and one we should get rid of. It's one of the most serious problem spots on the whole Credit River."

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## Board rejects immersion class

Although there are 18 French-speaking non-Catholics of elementary school age in Sacre Coeur school in Georgetown and St. Philippe school in Burlington, who would attend classes in French in the public school system, there are not enough (25) to require Halton board of education to provide a class under ministry guidelines and funding.

education director Emerson Lavender told the board. The grant from the ministry of education would be "about \$568," per pupil, leaving a cost to the board of "about \$632."

Mr. Lavender said the executive committee supported the paying of fees tuition Under the Education Act, the board does not have to

provide French-language instruction until there are 25 written applications.

"But there are going to be 25 pupils in due course," Mr. Lavender said. "We could say 'lets not do it until there are 25 but then how do we react to the French speaking public school?'"

Trustee Noel Cooper said,

"The problem then is if you paid these fees and they (the separate school teachers) go on strike, do we have to take these students back?"

Trustee Fred Armitage, chairman of the finance committee, said there is no money in the budget for such tuition fees and the board defeated the proposal 9 - 5.

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## 200 teachers rally outside board offices

About 200 separate school teachers demonstrated at Halton Roman Catholic separate school board offices in Burlington, Thursday.

The placard-waving teachers, including teachers from Holy Cross, Sacre Coeur and St. Francis of Assisi schools in Georgetown, were protesting a breakdown of bargaining talks upon which a press blackout has been declared.

The demonstration was peaceful and at its height the teachers circled the building.

A strike vote was being called for (Friday) April 7, teacher spokesman Peter Murphy told reporters after the demonstration.

Mr. Murphy, provincial negotiator for Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association (OECTA) said 74 per cent of the teachers voted in March 14 favor of a strike.

"But the people here don't want to go on strike," Mr. Murphy said. "They want to

settle." There are 360 full-time and about 40 part-time teachers. But if the strike vote was held April 7, "I feel we'd do better than the 74 per cent."

He said the separate boards offer was less than a six per cent hike over the previous contract and has risen only one per cent in six months of negotiating. The contract talks were going on for 12 months. The teachers are asking for an eight per cent hike but require "in excess of nine per cent to catch up with the public school teachers."

Mr. Murphy blamed the breakdown of talks on the board which, he said, walked out at about 3:45 a.m. Wednesday after three days of bargaining. "We're back at square one."

A strike mandate April 7 would bring an Educational Relations Commission mediator back in to get the talks going again, Mr. Murphy said. "But there may be talks before that."

He said the demonstration was organized on short notice. Teachers were called at noon and later to come out to the demonstration. On the signs, which he told teachers not to throw away because "we may need them again," was written: Give us the cost of living; Negotiate, Don't dictate; Parity with Halton public teachers; Let's settle soon; and Give us AIB guidelines.

## Police agree on lease

Halton Police Commission and the town of Halton Hills have reached agreement on the terms of the lease to allow the Acton precinct to move into its new headquarters in the Murray Memorial Y building in Acton.

The building is being part leased by the town, which is subletting it to the police. As a result, the police will have 60 per cent of the total space available, and will pay 60 per cent of the total rent, utilities, and taxes, should equalized assessment result in taxes being levied on the building.

"I personally don't find it acceptable for a headquarters or a precinct, but if that's all that's available, I'll accept it," Commissioner David Coons said. Oakville Mayor Harry Barrett said the commission had "scouted" the area looking for a suitable building, but this was all that was available.

The commission accepted tender bids from two companies for renovations of the new office and moving the equipment from the old location in the former Acton town hall to the new office, with work on renovations possibly beginning next week.

The commission decided in the in camera-portion of the March 16 meeting to negotiate renewal of the lease for the Georgetown office, provided that necessary maintenance reported by the staff was undertaken.

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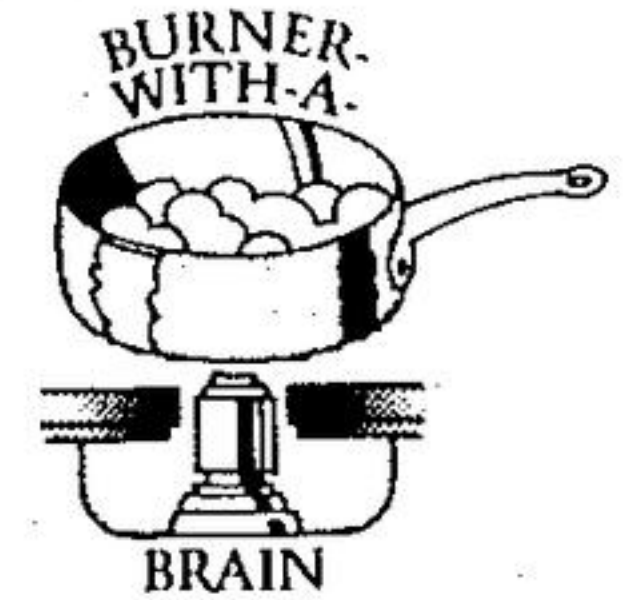
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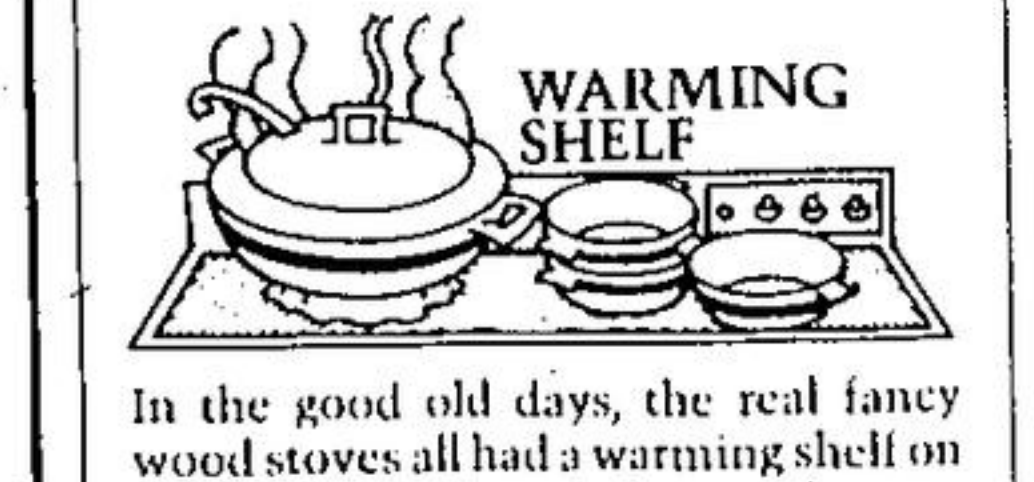
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