



Westbound drivers on Highway 7 faced a long line-up from the top of the hill at Silver Creek to almost as far as 20 Sideroad at some points as police officers from the Snelgrove detachment of the OPP manned a roadblock. They were looking for the men who

held up a bank branch in Alton Thursday afternoon. By Saturday, three suspects had been arrested and charged with armed robbery.

(Herald photo by Lori Taylor)

Town council to allow stores to choose hours

Herald Special
Attempts to formulate a uniform bylaw on store closing hours throughout the town resulted in a recommendation to rescind all existing bylaws rather than try to patch up existing ones to suit store owners.

The town's general committee last Tuesday vetoed two recommendations before reaching a conclusion. The first recommendation asked council to give the clerk's department direction to help in drawing up a closing bylaw while the second recommended the new bylaw be an updated version of the Georgetown bylaw.

Clerk-administrator Ken Richardson said the town had two different bylaws in effect, one for Ward 1, originally designed for the town of Acton, regulates stores to be closed Monday to Thursday inclusive and Saturdays at 6 p.m. and Fridays and Thursdays preceding Good Friday at 9 p.m. It also allows stores to be open until 9 p.m. on all weekdays from Dec. 15 to Dec. 24 inclusive.

The Georgetown bylaw in effect for Wards 3 and 4 regulates certain shops to be closed Mondays and Fridays inclusive at 9 p.m. and on Saturday at 6 p.m. except for the three Saturdays preceding Christmas day, then they may remain open until 9 p.m.

Exemptions to the bylaw include garage and service stations, restaurants, coal and lumber dealers, drug stores, confectionary shops, delicatessens, implement dealers, automotive retail and service centres, barber shops, beauty parlors and milk stores.

NO PROBLEMS
Ward 2, the old township of Esquesing, had no bylaws at all and had no problems with its merchants.

While chambers of commerce and business improvement areas for both urban centres favor a uniform bylaw there seemed to be no total agreement on exactly how that bylaw should read.

A letter from Al Fraser of Shopper's Drug Mart suggested that market conditions rather than government should determine the hours of business a merchant follows.

Ward 3 Councillor Roy Booth said that since the province has passed legislation regulating store closing on Sunday there really wasn't much need for a bylaw on store closing hours. He agreed with Mr. Fraser

Ward 4 Councillor Marilyn Sorjantsen feels that a bylaw is necessary but is concerned that business improvement area committees might not represent all the merchants.

Ward 1 Councillor Walter Biehn reminded committee that Zellers stipulated it must be able to remain open until 9 p.m. each night or it wasn't worth the while to open the store in Georgetown.

When committee voted to rescind all bylaws, Councillor Booth said he expected that would draw reaction from the merchants including reasons for their reaction.

Alton armed robbery results in roadblock on Highway 7

Westbound traffic on Highway 7 at Silver Creek was held up for about three hours Thursday as Snelgrove OPP operated a roadblock after an armed bank robbery in Alton that afternoon.

Two armed, masked men help up a branch of the Canadian-Imperial Bank of

Commerce in Alton, a village near Orangeville. The men tied up the lone female teller and escaped with between \$7,000 and \$9,000 in cash.

The teller was not injured and was able to free herself and contact police, an OPP spokesman said. The OPP

set up roadblocks with assistance from the Guelph detachment and Peel Regional Police to close off surrounding areas.

Police checked westbound traffic on Highway 7 and cars southbound on the Seventh Line at Silver Creek from between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Police talked with Alton residents, and as a result of the information they gathered, were able to make one arrest Thursday evening, and two more on Saturday.

The three men, all from Cambridge, appeared in court in Brampton yesterday morning for a bail hearing.

Acton commercial sidewalk at centre of committee debate

Herald Special
Money included in Halton Hills budget for sidewalks has been earmarked for replacement walks, not for construction of new walks, town engineer Bob Austin told

general committee last Tuesday.

When Ward 1 Councillor Ed Wood questioned how he would get money for a new sidewalk for the west side of Willow Street south of Mill Street, he was

jokingly told by fellow councillors he'd have to go "bat in hand" to the budget committee to see if it could be included in the 1980 budget.

The fact that renovations to the former Pro Hardware

building on the corner of Willow and Mill streets will see five new stores open along Willow Street when the work is completed made him feel that there would be a need for sidewalks along that side of the street. There are no walks there now.

Mr. Austin said he understood when the plan was first proposed that the owner of the building would bear the cost of installing the walk in front of the stores. Any sidewalk constructed there would be almost entirely on the owners' property and the town doesn't want to get involved with buildings on private land, he said.

"This is the first I've heard that he isn't going to build the walk," Mr. Austin said.

The Acton BIA is willing to pay the difference in cost to install a sidewalk of interlocking bricks which would match existing adjacent walks instead of the conventional cement walk.

Bairstow and Langstone get drainage improvements

Responding to requests from area residents, the town is having shoulders gravelled and spray-patched on Bairstow and Langstone Crescents in Georgetown this year to improve on-street drainage problems.

Council Monday night passed two recommendations that the work be done and that the residents of Langstone Crescent, who petitioned the

town about the problem last October, receive the staff report on the work being done.

According to a background report on Langstone Crescent, the drainage problems "appear to be isolated and may be the result of sheds and other obstructions being placed in the path of run-off from the rear of the properties to the front and down the

street".

The report added that shoulder rutting, which has occurred on Langstone Crescent, is common to streets with gravel shoulders and is caused by rainwater, snow melt and vehicular parking.

The background report on Bairstow Crescent indicated that drainage problems there are similar to those on Langstone Crescent.

Cop's 'fashion show' sees uniform changes

By LORI TAYLOR
Herald Staff Writer

The Halton Regional Police Commission held its own fashion show Thursday, although there was none of the music and staging which usually accompanies such events.

The commission has been trying for over a year to resolve the dilemma of selecting a new uniform design for its officers, and the fashion show was organized by Inspector M.A. MacPherson to compare uniforms being used by Halton officers, and by their counterparts in Hamilton, Wentworth and Peel regions.

The Halton officers currently wear an Eisenhower tunic with a Sam Brown-type holster and a pea jacket during the winter. The commission has received complaints from the officers about the restrictiveness of this type of uniform,

and about the lack of accessibility to personal emergency equipment with the pea jacket.

The commission decided last spring to purchase a limited number of a new style patrol jackets and to see how they wore through the different seasons before deciding whether or not to switch over.

Because of problems with delivery, few of the officers have had the opportunity to wear the jacket through both the hot and cold seasons. Those who have, made suggestions for certain alterations in the jacket which the commission approved earlier this year.

However, when the request for alterations was made for a second shipment of jackets, the company said it was too late to have them altered.

At the meeting Thursday, members of the commission viewed several different types

members of the Halton force modelled the present pea jacket, one with the tunic underneath, and one wearing only a long-sleeved shirt. One Halton officer wore the new patrol jacket without the alterations. An officer from Hamilton-Wentworth showed the style of jacket worn by members of that force, which is essentially the patrol jacket with the alterations requested by the Halton officers.

Of all the jackets, the commission preferred the one worn by the Hamilton-Wentworth officer, and

requested alterations to the jackets being worn by Halton officers. The commission also requested the administration to seek tenders for sufficient jackets to outfit the entire force, and to purchase the drop holsters and other necessary equipment to conform with the new style of jackets.

The modifications to the jacket will include alterations to permit the officers to wear their guns on the right side and to carry the radio on the left side, a reversal of the way most officers carry their equipment now.



LEAP YEAR TRIO (Herald photo)

Every fourth year the Pickells triplets get to celebrate their Feb. 28 birthday on Feb. 29, the day of their mother's birthday. This year, the three daughters joined mother Gladys for her 18th birthday at the family home on the Fifth Line near Norval. Surrounded by Barb Pennycook on the left, Mary Lou Hanson behind and Linda Hillhouse on the right, all four blow out the candles on the cake. The three girls were the first triplets born in Peel, 32 years ago. Mrs. William Pickells was born 72 years ago.

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ACCUSATIONS MADE RE WAY-JAY PROGRESS

Jim Robertson, president and general manager of Norval's Way-Jay social and recreational club, has informed town council about financial and legal constraints preventing the club's further expansion, while at the same time making serious charges concerning a member of a Georgetown law firm.

After preliminary investigation, The Herald has found the matter to be complex enough to warrant further study which might clarify details unavailable at press time Tuesday. A full report concerning Mr. Robertson's allegations Monday night and background to those charges is expected to be published in next week's Herald.

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