

'Clean up your act' resident tells CVCA

By LORI TAYLOR
Herald Staff Writer

Glen Williams resident Grace House says the flooding in the Glen could have been prevented by blasting the river channel, but Credit Valley Conservation Authority general manager Glenn Schnarr says the only modifications to the paper mill dam and dredging of the river channel will make any difference.

Mrs. House, whose family is still cleaning up after the flooding two weeks ago, said Monday the authority could have prevented the flooding "by blasting on Tuesday instead of on Saturday morning."

"As a matter of fact, I spoke with the men who did the blasting, and they submitted a proposal two years ago to all the conservation authorities in Ontario to do all their blasting on a preventive basis, but the conservation authorities wouldn't go for it," Mrs. House said. "No sir, we have to have rivers overflowing and a million dollars damage and people out of their homes."

Mr. Schnarr said that the only way of preventing a recurrence of this year's flooding is to dredge the channel, and either remove or modify the Paper Mill Dam.

"We know what happened

this year, we knew what was happening at the time," he said. "The river froze solid from the Main Street Bridge to the Paper Mill Dam."

"It wasn't possible, practical or economical to blast the ice," Mr. Schnarr said. "We drilled the ice before the flood, and it ranged from 18 inches to three feet deep."

"It's not a matter of passing water through the channel, it's necessary to get the ice through," he continued. "It wouldn't be enough to have a 25-foot channel down the river - it would have to be clear, and that would take about two weeks of blasting."

WARNED EARLY
Mr. Schnarr said the municipalities along the river were warned early in the spring that the unusual weather conditions might cause problems, and Halton Hills had been warned particularly.

"We had a river watch for a week up and down the full length of the river," he said. "We knew where the ice jams were, and when they were coming down, and we were able to tell the Glen residents when they were coming, and warn them that they had better start sandbagging in some places."

Mr. Schnarr said the authority intends to have the dredging and the modifications to

the dam completed by the end of this year. The dam modifications, which are still in the design stage, have been slowed somewhat by the addition of a second sluiceway to permit fish to migrate. There are also a number of approvals which still have to be given for financial arrangements and for the design of the second sluiceway before the work can be done.

Once the approvals are given and the design is complete, the work can go to tender, Mr. Schnarr said.

Mrs. House said she is still feeling bitter about the flooding and the damage to her home.

"I'm still very bitter naturally, but as long as they fix it up so it doesn't happen again - it's just that I have the feeling it won't get done," she said.

Mrs. House said she and her family have been working hard to get their home cleaned up since the flood.

FIRST LAYER
"We've got the first layer off," she said. "We certainly have had no assistance from our friendly local conservation authority."

"Mrs. House said the town had prisoners from Maplehurst Correctional Centre come in to help with the clean-up, but "they only came

to chop up the ice and they didn't finish that." She said the town paid for the renting of a heater for her house until they were able to get the furnace started again.

Mrs. House said they lost about nine trees in the flooding when ice jams uprooted them or damaged the trunks.

"Outside, we lost about four trees with a 20-year growth and another five with ten to 15 years' growth, from the force of the ice," she said. "If those trees hadn't been there to take the impact of the ice, the house would have had a lot more damage. I think if the conservation authority would like to conserve a little bit, they could replace those trees, and with saplings at least, not with seedlings."

A staff member of the authority said last fall the dredging and dam modifications would be done in time to prevent the flooding this spring. Mrs. House said, "but he doesn't work for the authority anymore."

"As long as they don't let it happen again, that's all we can ask for," she continued. "I really think that if we're going to pay these conservation authorities, they'd better clean up their act - they'd better start to conserve."

"They have to stand around like a bunch of little boys to see what the river is going to do this year," she added. "They complain about someone who builds a garage in their precious floodplain, but when it comes to a crisis, they just stand around and watch. The thing to do is to fix it next time so you don't have the problem again."



A smiling Legion crew formed by Harold Badhams, left, Lloyd Hounsel, Norm Ward and Frank King, far right, present a \$1,000 cheque to Mike Evans of the North Halton Association of the Mentally Retarded. The cheque provided 20 per cent of the cost for a heat sealing machine needed by ARC Industries. The provincial government will pay the rest. (Herald photo)

Legion presents \$1,000 cheque for ARC Industries' machine

A \$1,000 cheque was donated to the North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded by Norm Ward of the Royal Canadian Legion's Branch 120 for a heat sealing machine worth \$5,000.

The remaining \$4,000 will be provided by the provincial government in the form of a special capital grant. The grants are made available to organizations, provided they can raise 20 per cent of the project's cost.

"We saw an opportunity to

provide the Association with \$5,000 by simply giving them \$1,000," Mr. Ward told The Herald.

The heat sealing machine is used for packaging by ARC Industries and will go in newly expanded facilities in Hornby. The new expansion is nearly completed and cost \$150,000.

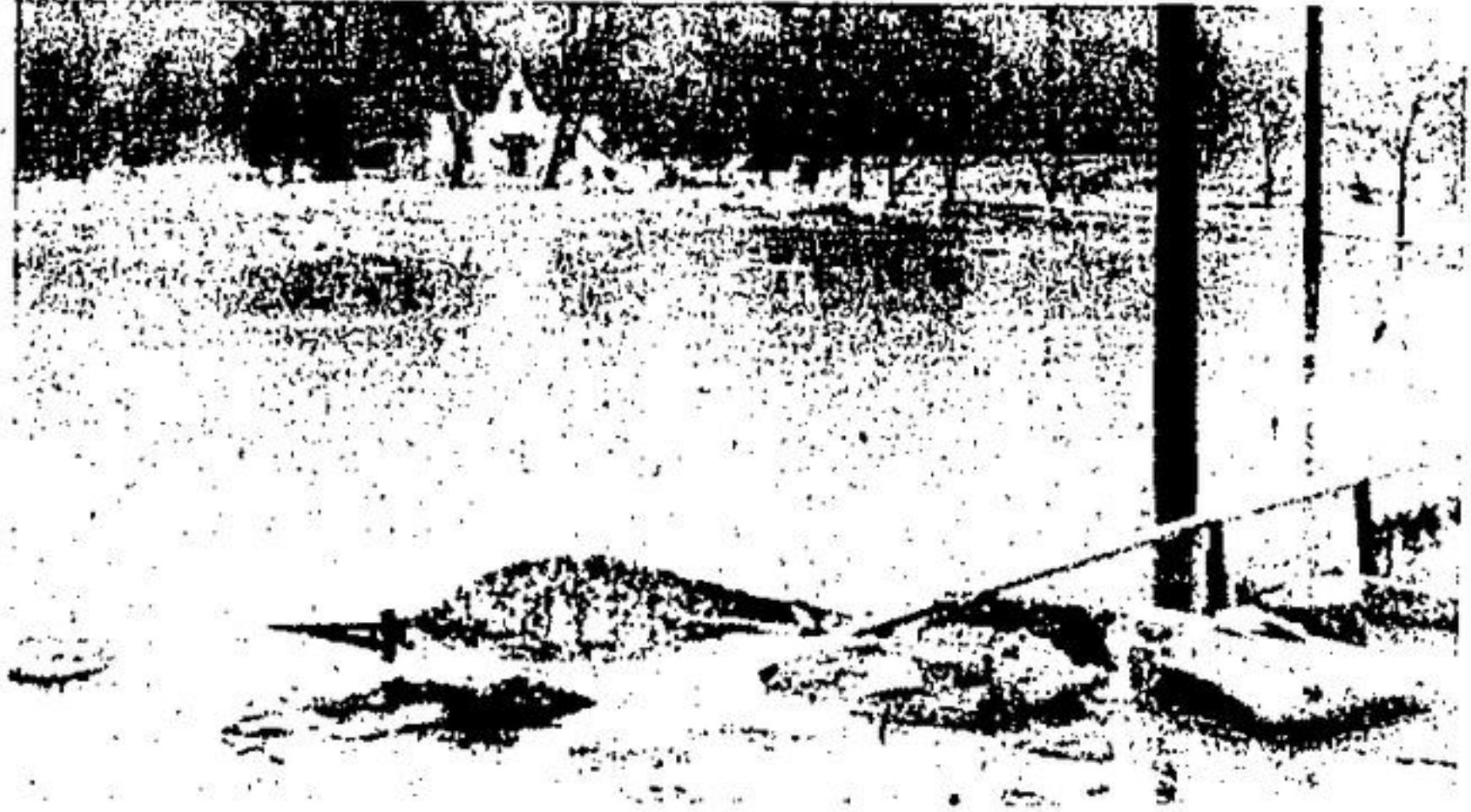
"The Legion has worked closely with ARC for more than 10 years and donated many very useful items," Association Representative Mike Evans said. "The fund raising is done by the Legion's

mental retardation fund-raising committee headed by Norm Ward."

This June, there will be an NHL oldtimers golf tournament at the North Halton Golf and Country Club. The tournament is played in different localities with the proceeds being donated to charities of

the sponsoring group. This year, the tournament is being sponsored by the Legion, thanks to the efforts of Legion President Harold Badham.

The Association will receive proceeds from the tournament which will be raised by selling the tees and holes to service groups and organizations.



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Arbitration accepted

Continued from page one

to Mr. Teplitsky and the board will submit its reply. Mr. Teplitsky articulated the merits of a two year agreement," he said, and it was through his work that a second year to the contract was arrived at.

Mr. Ness said 1,147 teachers, 94.4 per cent of those eligible voted. Of those 895 favored acceptance of the offer and 245 rejected it.

Mr. Ness refused to explain what had brought about the change of heart on behalf of OSSTF negotiators so that they recommended binding mediation-arbitration, something

they had adamantly refused in the past.

"We're prepared to take a chance on the process this time to see if it will meet the teachers' needs," he commented. "I guess only time will tell if it will be effective."

Mr. Ness became disturbed when a reporter suggested that the teachers had received some type of assurance from the mediator.

"We have had absolutely no guarantees of anything from Teplitsky," he said. Among the outstanding is-

suces to go to the mediator-arbitrator will be the question of a pay increase, pupil-teacher ratio and retirement gratuity.

The teachers voted 83.5 per cent in favor of strike action March 13.

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