

Upgrading due on schools

By MAGGIE HANNAH
Herald Special

A number of Halton Hills schools may have upgrading work done on them if the board of the physical facilities committee is adopted in the board's long-term plan.

The committee learned last week that Glen Williams public school needs windows replaced, an asphalt driveway and the boiler converted to hot water.

At Howard Wrigglesworth Public School, the committee suggested the replacement of windows, the bricking-in of glass block areas, the placing of thermostats in 12 classrooms, and the replacing of ceiling tiles in classrooms.

McKenzie-Smith Middle School needs ceiling tile replaced and work done on a gym floor.

Georgetown District High School needs windows removed and replaced in 11 rooms as well as parquet flooring removed and replaced in six shops.

Acton High School was among five schools needing exhaust hoods and fans added.

These changes would all be necessary as part of the board's energy conservation campaign, to meet health and safety standards, to meet facility needs for adequate programs or to improve buildings in need of repair due to age or physical condition.

The plan also recommended changes in certain schools to make facilities more convenient for special students. These would include such items as ramps for wheel chair students.

While the north area would require relatively minor changes, it was suggested that in the east and west areas some schools may have to be closed, even though they aren't on the list of small schools.

The report indicated areas where declining enrollments have left schools with plenty of empty seats in classrooms while not too far distant, development is occurring and thus creating a need for a new school.

In future, some of the larger schools may be closed and students transported to other schools to consolidate enrollment in one facility.

This could create angry parents and the decision as to which school to keep open and which one or ones to close would have to be a political one, said director E.S. Laverder.

The report contained figures for changes at all the schools needing them, regardless of

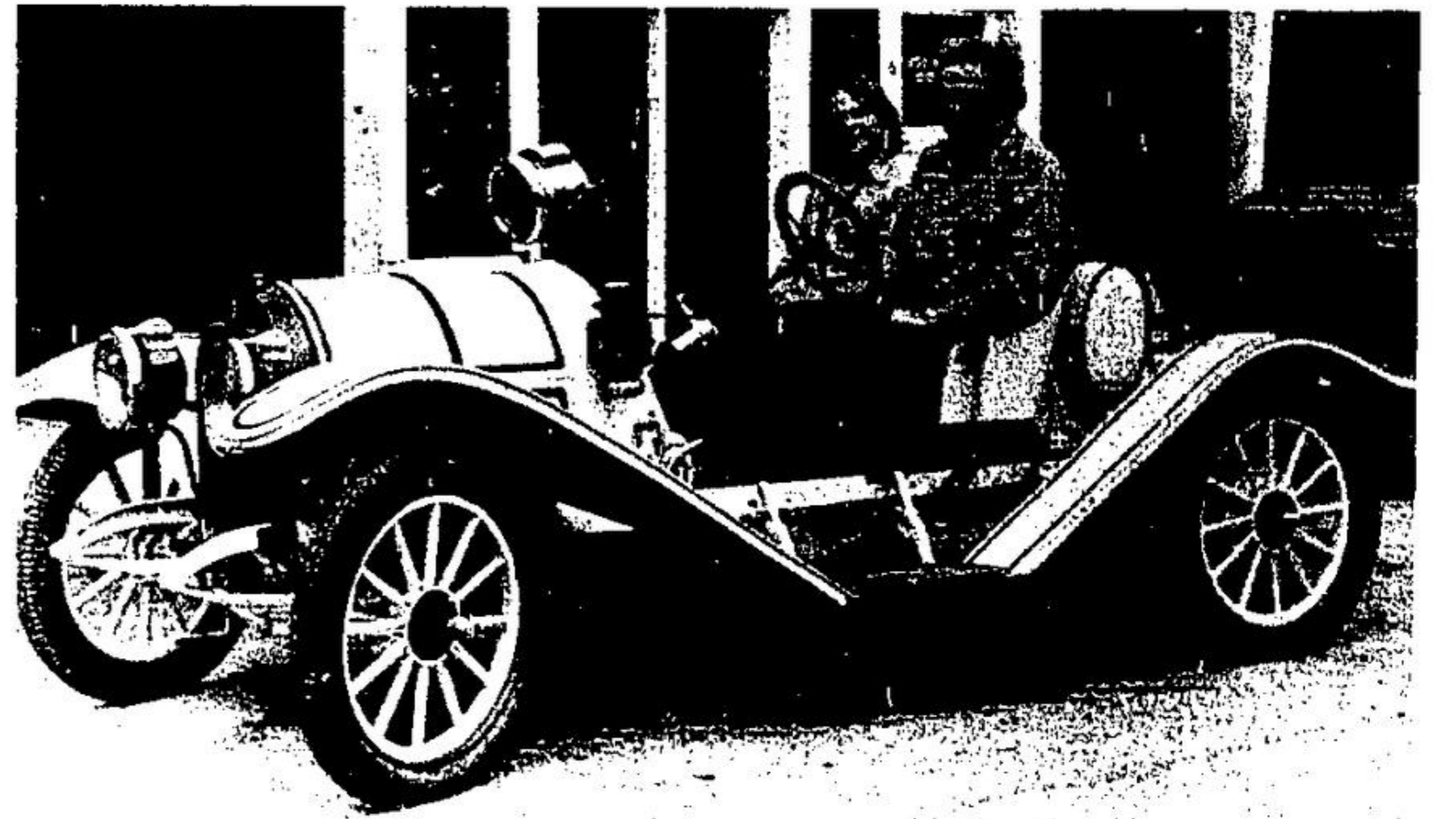
whether these schools may eventually be closed, because board members would need to know the cost of upgrading schools in order to determine which ones should be closed and which ones maintained, said committee member George Heaver.

Stewarttown Senior School was the only Halton Hills school slated for change, because the facility lacks requirements for adequate program. The report suggested construction of a new gym, change rooms, music room and an extension to the resource centre and administration area, as well as renovations to the existing library and administration area. A new septic field system is also needed. The estimated cost for the project, \$909,000, was based on figures given to the committee more than a year ago, Mr. Lishman said and included no changes for inflation or grants.

Halton Hills trustee Betty Fisher expressed concern as to

why the board is trying to upgrade all its schools to "middle school standards" unless the commitment is to middle schools. Evidence in the middle school report showed no big advantages to middle schools over K-8 schools, she pointed out.

Education director E.S. Laverder said the decision on which the board operates with regard to middle schools was taken in 1974. The report showed that the size and age of school facilities seemed more influential on students than the structure (middle school or K-8). However, in the opinions of the board's professional staff, the preference was for middle schools although they recognize that the evidence is not clear cut on which system is preferable. He reminded the board that the reports are just suggestions and it will be up to the board members to accept, reject or revise the suggestions made in these reports when they come back to the board for action next month.



I REMEMBER MILDRED

This beautifully restored antique car belongs to Keith Hunter, a Manulife agent in Orangeville. The car, a 1914 Maxwell Speedster, spent some time in Georgetown recently at Al Jarvis' Collision for some touch-up work. Al Jarvis and Eldon Eckroth, two of the people who worked on the car, are shown here trying it out after the work was completed. Mr. Hunter still uses the car, which is known as "Mildred, the Manulife Maxwell". (Herald photo by Lori Taylor)

Three-year post for consultant

Acton primary, junior and special education consultant for the north area, Karen Erskine was given a three-year appointment to the position effective September 1 at the Halton Board of Education's meeting Thursday.

She is also taking courses at McMaster University. Mrs. Erskine, her husband and two children live in Georgetown.

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Mrs. Erskine graduated from Stratford Teacher's College and began teaching with the Scarborough Board of Education. In 1962, she joined the staff at W.I. Dick school in Milton.

In 1977, she became a member of the north area remedial resource team and spent two years working on a kindergarten to grade 8 basis. She has been active in presenting workshops on topics including language, basic thinking skills and special education and received her specialist's degree in special education this year from York Univer-

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The Subsidiary Planning Board of the Town of Halton Hills will hold a Public Meeting to discuss a proposed Amendment to the Esqueing Official Plan.

This Amendment deals with the redesignation of Part of the West half Lot 27, Concession 6 in the former Township of Esqueing now in the Town of Halton Hills, from Special Policy Area II (Niagara Escarpment) to Estate Residential to permit an Estate Residential Development.

ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS ARE WELCOME

TIME: 7:30 p.m.
DATE: Tuesday, June 24th, 1980.
PLACE: Municipal Administration Building (formerly the Esqueing Municipal Offices)
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Georgetown, Ontario.

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