

# Acid rain concerns Liberals

By JULIAN REED, M.P.P.  
Halton-Burlington

**ACID RAIN**  
The Provincial Government has been overly lax in its restriction of the pollution of the atmosphere by Inco Ltd., according to Liberal Leader Stuart Smith.

He stressed the fact that sulphur dioxide emissions from the company's Sudbury operation are a major cause of the acid rain problem in the Muskoka-Haliburton region, and claimed that Inco could cut its emissions from the present 2,600 tons per day to 1,000 tons per day through the purchase of new smelting equipment.

"Inco will be playing a large role in killing tourism in Haliburton and Muskoka if its emissions are not further reduced," he said, and called upon the Government to draft a "proper" plan.

Current Government draft legislation would only limit Inco to 1,950 tons per day by 1983.

Acid rain has already rendered 140 Ontario lakes unable to support aquatic life, and some 48,500 are in danger of being affected.

**ALUMINUM WIRE FIRE HAZARD**

The Opposition has called for an all-out effort to inform the public of the dangers of faulty home push-in electrical outlets with aluminum wiring, because there is some evidence that loose connections could be fire hazards.

Connections within the outlets become loose, requiring periodic maintenance, and an Ontario Housing Corp. spokesman has stated that the company has been inspecting housing units for the past 18 months.

The manager of the Ministry of Housing's research and development section says Government officials have moved slowly despite the immediate dangers from the faulty wiring, because the whole aluminum wiring system is open to question, although virtually nothing has been done to date.

**ONTARIO EXODUS**  
Thousands of people, many of them skilled workers, are leaving Ontario for the western provinces.

Some 17,000 people who have recently moved to Ontario from Quebec do not make up for the 27,000 who have moved west, mostly to Alberta and British Columbia.

However, Premier William Davis denied in the Legislature that the situation was serious, or that it could be interpreted as a sign of dissatisfaction with his Government. He stated that such popular mobility was "in the national interest."

**PROVINCIAL DEFICIT**  
It has been charged that the provincial treasury has manipulated budget figures in order to reduce the provincial deficit.

Liberal financial critic David Peterson claims the estimated \$950 million deficit should actually be shown as standing at \$1.15 billion. The apparent deficit cutback occurred when an early payment of \$216 million was made to municipalities and school boards on their 1980-81 grants.

**THE TIN DRUM**  
Opposition leader Stuart Smith has brought the actions

of the chairman of the Ontario Board of Censors regarding the "Tin Drum" censorship issue to the attention of the attorney general.

Chairman Donald Sims is said to have withheld information regarding a compromise offer by the film distributor's lawyer from the rest of the board. There is some debate as to the legality of the chairman's failure to tell members of the board the latest offer on behalf of the distributors.

The film, an award-winning German production, was first

submitted for board approval on April 17.

**CIVIL SERVANT PAY INCREASE**

There was some discussion of the twelve per cent salary increase recently handed out to certain civil servants which Liberal House Leader Robert Nixon considered unreasonably high, since other workers received only an eight to nine per cent raise.

The Management Board chairman stated that the increase was afforded mainly to female secretaries to bring

their salaries to the level of similar male employees.

**WORKMAN'S COMPENSATION BOARD**

The question of whether dealing with the Workman's Compensation Board can actually drive an injured worker to marital disharmony, alcoholism or suicide was discussed by a legislative committee.

Case studies of the effects of board action on the lives of 20 families revealed severe stress and financial problems. Board Chairman Michael

Starr said documented evidence of worker dissatisfaction may produce future operational changes.

**OTHER MATTERS**  
Energy Minister Robert Welch refuted a statement by his parliamentary assistant that Ontario may construct nuclear plants solely to export power, which was merely the assistant's personal opinion.

Legislation introduced makes public school boards legally responsible for the education of all students, including handicapped.

## Board seeking injury stats

Herald Special

The Halton Board of Education is gathering statistics on injuries suffered by students during physical education classes in the hope of curtailing serious injuries that may prompt lawsuits.

In requesting a statistical report from the board Thursday, Dr. Helen Howard-Locke said she is more concerned about student welfare than the possibility of a large legal settlement against the board.

While expressing her support of physical education and extracurricular sports in the schools, Dr. Howard-Locke suggested the board would be wise to examine related accidents with a view to providing additional supervision if needed, as well as more safety equipment and even a shift in emphasis on activities generating varying degrees of injury.

Trustee Bill Priestner suggested that the report should look at the more serious types of injuries, such as broken bones or concussions, as opposed to sprains and strained muscles. Such records have to be kept and it should be no difficult task, he said, to compile statistics from them.

Education director Eric Lavender said the report is almost ready as a result of another request for information made earlier in the year. The report looks at elementary and secondary schools as well as accidents occurring during school time, as opposed to those happening outside class hours, he said. Since it would require considerable work to look at figures for the entire 11 years of the board's existence, only last year's accident reports are being used as a basic sample year from which judgements can be made, he said.

## Arson possible in dragway blaze

Halton Regional Police are investigating a fire which destroyed an abandoned announcing tower at the former international dragstrip on the Fifth Line of Halton Hills north of Highway 7.

Fire Prevention Officer Lorry Brassard said the old tower was pretty well involved by the time men from the area one detachment arrived on the scene around 11:10 p.m. Thursday.

The structure was made of cement blocks with wooden floors but had no power lines or heat sources connected with it from which a fire could start, Mr. Brassard said. At the same time the area is abandoned and trespassers could have dropped cigarette butts which

smoldered and eventually started the blaze.

"We aren't ruling out the possibility of arson," said a spokesman for the Halton Regional Police. "If a responsible person is found he'll probably be charged with arson or mischief or both."

No cause for the fire has been determined nor is there any estimate of damage since the structure was apparently slated for demolition to make way for a proposed estate housing development on the site two miles east of Acton.

Fire fighters were called back to the scene later Friday morning and again in the afternoon when the fire broke out twice more in the same structure.

## About the Hills

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Sunshine for sale

Tennis surface

Halton Hills has been offered the Sunshine School property near Hornby by the Halton Board of Education. The property was declared redundant by the board at its meeting May 8. It is board policy to offer any redundant properties to area municipalities first. Town council has directed its staff to prepare a report on the usefulness of the school property, if any, to the town. If the town does not wish to acquire the property, it will go to public tender August 29.

Town council has awarded a contract for resurfacing the Acton tennis courts to Country Club Tennis Court Company of Mississauga. The company's \$8,630 bid was the lowest one received. Recreation director Tom Shepard said the contract involves surface treatment applied a year after the courts are completed or re-surfaced, and is thus not a matter of defective work requiring correction. The Acton Tennis Club will pay half the tender price.

## ANDY IS MOVING JULY 1st

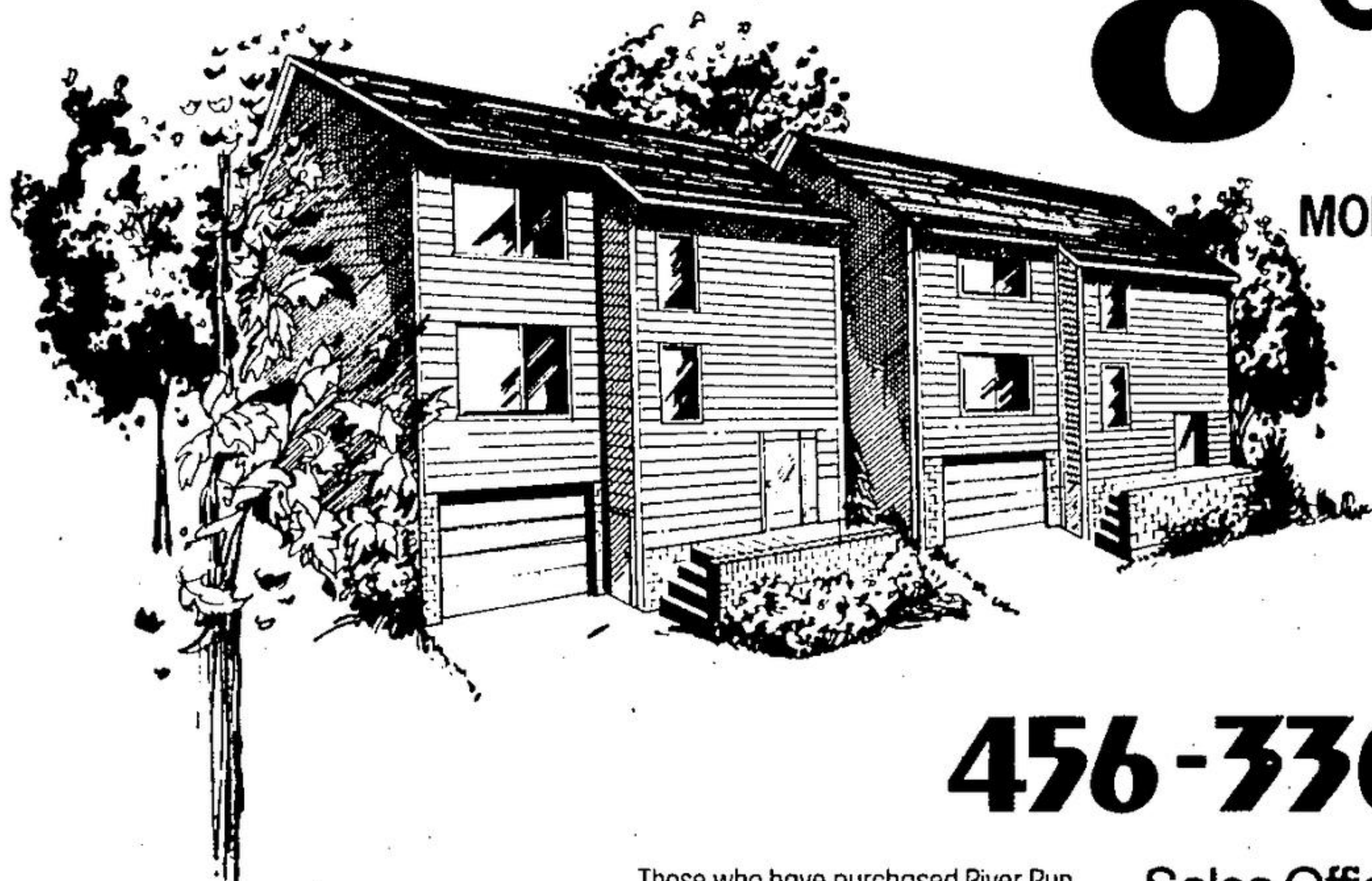
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