

## Abitibi's loss felt by everyone

The community "tragedy" of Abitibi's imminent closure is more than just a contemporary one: its effects will be retroactive, extending as far back as the Georgetown's history itself.

While officials at Abitibi-Price Fine Papers Ltd. are still unsure when they'll close the local plant (it could be two years down the road), the demise of yet another long-established Georgetown industry is inevitable.

Sadly, the closure would follow that of its next door rival, the Domtar plant, by fewer than ten years. Together, the removal of the two companies from our industrial scene weakens the community's economic foundation substantially and deprives us of a valued part of our heritage.

To be sure, we are dismayed - even angered - by the potential loss of Abitibi's 150 jobs during these financially troubled times. We believe Abitibi's current management is sincere in its ambition to relocate many employees, at Thunder Bay or wherever, but that, of course, is poor compensation for Georgetown's public and corporate losses.

We dearly hope those employees, many of whom are of the age when fresh starts at different jobs are nearly impossible and retirement is still some years in the future, will be accommodated somehow. But we mourn the passing deterioration of yet another cornerstone in our town's history; there is nothing that can be done about that.

Paper making and paper coating are twin industries at the heart of Georgetown's heritage, as the leather industry truly represents Acton's past. In both communities, time has brought much diversification, transforming their cor-

porate and financial natures and leaving behind the kind of work on which they were founded.

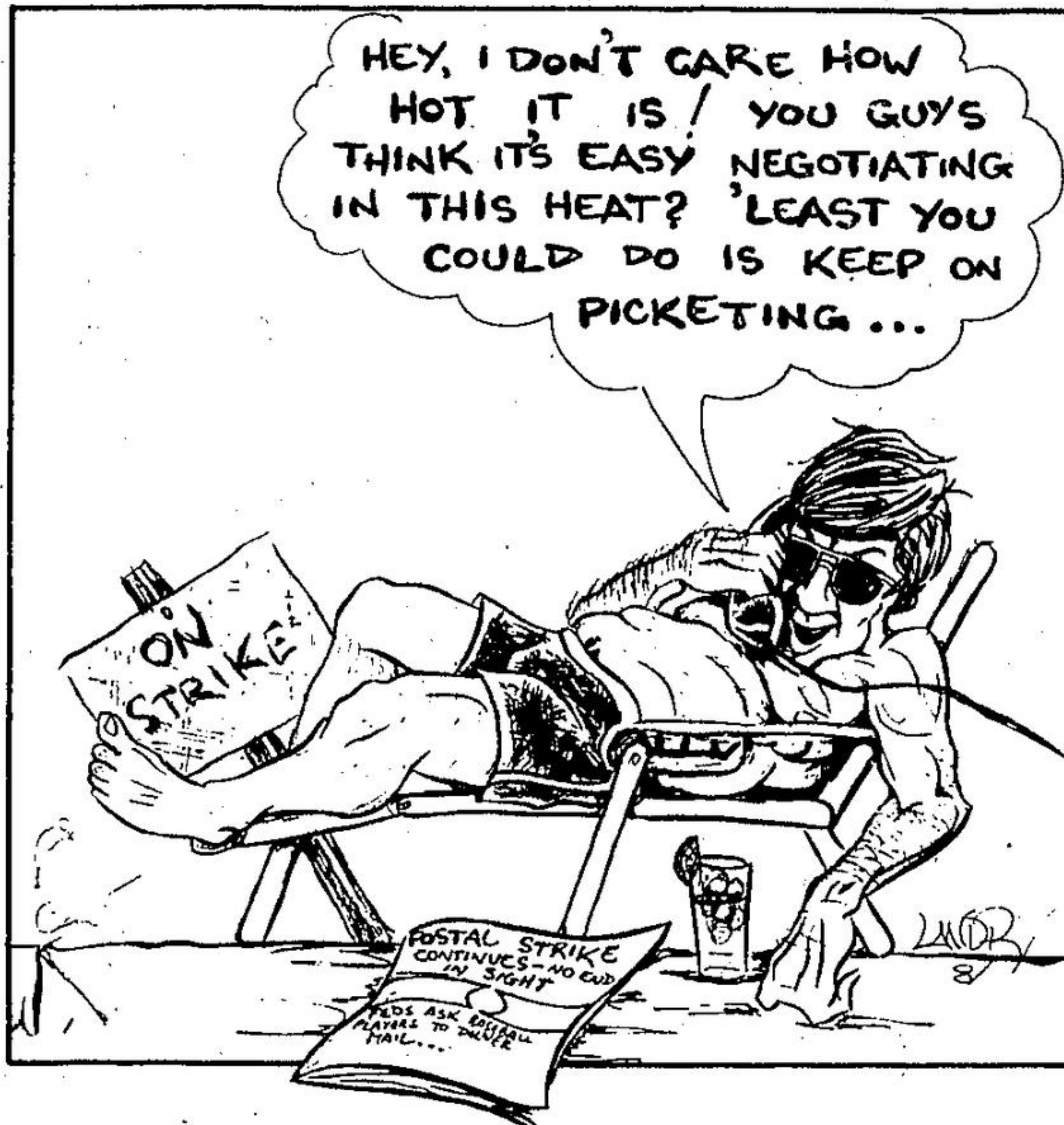
Abitibi's early history, in particular, runs parallel - even shapes - that of Georgetown and speaks volumes about the pioneering Barber family. The Barbers, established at their paper mill on the Credit just above Glen Williams, merged with Canada Coating Mills in 1912, then sold the Georgetown plant to Provincial Paper Mills Company Ltd. the following year.

The ambitious American engineer whom the Barbers "imported" to set up their Rosetta Street operation very quickly started a coating plant of his own right next door, and the rivalry began that would soon pit major North American companies Abitibi and Domtar against one another in a quiet battle of healthy competition.

In the past decade, Halton Hills and, to some extent, Halton region, have struggled to offset the loss of several major firms, each of which closed up shop here for financial reasons; it's been that kind of decade, the "lean years" as people keep saying.

The state of our economy and the current government's unsuccessful efforts notwithstanding, times cannot get much worse. We are optimistic about the likelihood of a revived economy during the next decade and believe any vacated plants that remain empty will soon be filled again with churning industry.

Until then, let's hope for the best for Abitibi's workers and for Georgetown's more solidly-established industries. We pin our hopes for economic recovery on them as much as on any government; let's replace the despair we feel with determination and resilience.



## Broadbent's leadership ills differ from Tories' Joe



### Ottawa Report

By Stewart MacLeod

Ottawa Bureau of The Herald

There is a strong temptation to draw a parallel between the New Democrats, who spanned leader Ed Broadbent over his constitutional stance, and the Tory delegates who whacked leader Joe Clark over his leadership abilities.

But it's not a fair comparison. When the 2,000-odd Conservative delegates cast their ballots at the February convention, the question was aimed directly at Clark's leadership. Did they, or did they not, favor a leadership convention? Two-thirds voted against such a convention; one-third voted in favor.

And over since, Clark's future has perceived to be under a heavy, doubtful cloud. It's very difficult for any national leader to continue after being rebuffed by one-third of the delegates to a national convention. The delegates, presumably, are fairly representative of the party at large.

And assuming that this also appli-

es to the New Democrats, it could be argued that Ed Broadbent faces new difficulties after a whopping 37 per cent of the delegates voted against his stand on patriating the constitution.

**WIDE SPLIT**  
Broadbent, along with 27 others in the 32-member NDP caucus, favor Prime Minister Trudeau's patriation package and, if the Supreme Court of Canada rules that the package is legal, then the government can count on the 23 New Democrats to vote for its passage.

And this was clearly the overriding issue at the recent NDP convention in Vancouver. It was a brilliant verbal slugfest - just a good old-fashioned political barnburner - as Broadbent and his supporters battled with the opponents, the bulk of them from western Canada headed by Saskatchewan Premier Allan Blakeney.

"This party has been committed to the principle of co-operative federalism since 1961, and no one can square that principle with a proposal that says the House of Commons can unilaterally change the constitution," said the impassioned premier.

And Broadbent shot back by saying that "with Tory premiers across this land it could be virtually impossible to get a charter of rights accepted otherwise." There were cheers and jeers, as one party heavyweight after another let fly into the microphones.

When it was over, the Broadbent position was upheld by 789 delegates,

and opposed by 433. There have been few occasions in the past when a key party policy has been rejected by such a high percentage of delegates.

**OPEN FIGHTS**  
But, unlike the Tory vote, this one is not likely to affect the long-term future of Ed Broadbent. While the party's constitutional policy was really Broadbent's handiwork, and the vote was hitting close to home, the question was not about his leadership. And, in fact, the 1,200 delegates later had an opportunity to provide Broadbent with a thunderous and unanimous vote of confidence.

That helped clear the air for him. Another reason why the NDP and Tory votes are not suitable for comparison is that the New Democrats have always held free-for-all public battles over policies. Unlike the Grits and Tories, the NDP caucus is bound by the policy decisions reached at conventions, and all the disagreements are on public display from the moment a resolution is proposed. There is no question about the inherent democracy in these NDP conventions.

But once the vote is taken, delegates tend to put the knives away for two years. Sure, there will be grumbling about the constitution, and some of the other basic issues that divide the party, but unlike the Tories, the New Democrats won't spend the next two years preoccupied with the future of their leader. Broadbent might feel suitably chastened, but he still has that unanimous endorsement to comfort him through to the next convention.

Another appeal by Georgetown council to have signs pointing to Georgetown at the junction of Highway 401 and Streetsville Road has met with a deaf ear. The Department of Transportation and Communications had told council that there are signs already at Trafalgar Road. Only those "in the know" will realize that many Georgetown motorists use Streetsville Road through Huttonville as an access to Highway 401.

Halton county residents can already see the effects of the Niagara Escarpment Protection Act passed just one year ago. The 450-acre Crawford Lake acquisition was made possible by the act which prohibits quarrying on and within 300 feet of the escarpment face.

By a vote of 52 to 48 per cent Halton County Secondary School teachers have voted to reject a wage offer recommended for acceptance by their own executive of District 9 OSSTF. The 827 teachers voted last Thursday rejecting the second wage offer made by the Board of Education. One reason given for the rejection was that the offer gave no salary increase to 157 teachers.

### Insurance questions and answers

## How well do you think you know your policy?

By BASIL N. STEGGLES, FIC, CIB (Ont.)  
President, Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of Ontario

The first in a new series of public service columns dealing with insurance problems and sponsored by the Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers Association of Ontario.

Q: "I'm confused by all the various kinds of automobile insurance coverages. Can you explain them to me very simply?"

A: "If you injure someone or cause damage to someone else's property, liability insurance protects you against the potentially ruinous financial consequences. Liability insurance has been made compulsory by the Government of Ontario.

If you or anyone riding in your car is injured in an accident, in most cases the accident benefits coverage includes a payment to the estate of anyone who dies, a payment to anyone who is dismembered, the costs of all medical treatment not covered by OHIP, even a payment for loss of income to anyone who can't continue to work as a result of the accident. Like liability insurance this is also compulsory.

If your car is damaged in an accident, collision insurance pays to have it repaired or replaced. This is an optional coverage. Whether you should have it or not depends on the value of your car. If it's more than five years old you may not want to bother. Most often, with collision insurance, there is a "deductible." This means that you agree to pay the first \$100 or \$250 of any damage to your car. The insurance company pays the rest.

If your car is stolen, damaged by vandals or fire or other causes, your comprehensive coverage protects you. This coverage usually has a \$25 deductible. Personal belongings in the car are not covered by the automobile insurance policy.

These are the four kinds of car insurance that are available. Liability and accident benefits are compulsory. Collision and comprehensive coverages are optional.

Before you decide on a renewed or new insurance policy for your car, why not seek the help of a professional, independent insurance agent-broker? There's one in your community. He or she is a fully trained insurance professional with the answers you need to help you choose the right policy from the right company at the right price.

Q: "I realize that automobile insurance is a necessity. But as a good driver, isn't there anything I can do to get lower premiums?"

A: "Yes, most definitely. First though, let me explain some of the factors that determine your particular rate.

It's governed largely by your age, the area in which you live, the kind of car you own and the amount you drive it. There's not much you can do about these factors. But your insurance will come down in cost the longer you have a safe driving record.

Five years of no accidents can cut your insurance rates by as much as 50 per cent.

Good drivers pay less. Conversely, bad drivers pay more. Four or more minor convictions in the last three years, even if there are no demerit points involved, or one major conviction for something like careless driving or driving while impaired, can result in a surcharge and affect your premium rates.

Statistics show that teenagers and young people in their twenties have a higher percentage of accidents and more expensive accidents than people over 25. The rate for each category of driver is based on the record of these drivers. There are ways, however, you can reduce your insurance costs.

Taking an approved driver education course can earn you a lower premium. Many high schools have them. It also helps if you don't buy a car with too much muscle, or a more than usually expensive one.

As with other drivers of course, the longer the under-25 driver goes without an accident, the lower the insurance problem."

## Will Grits' 'Leftward Lurch' win them next election?



### Queen's Park

By Derek Nelson

Queen's Park Bureau of The Herald

Is it to become the latest dance craze among Liberals, or is it to go the way of the last Liberal love, the Right Tilt? Or will the party return to its perennial favorite, the Blur?

Liberal Leader Stuart Smith clearly announced at the party's Kingston June 21 meeting that he, at least, was going to twirl on to the political dance floor to the strains of the Leftward Lurch.

"Our job is to protect those without assets," he said, and for that "we must move, if you like, to the Left of centre." One difficulty he faces, however, is that some of the caucus band behind him not only don't know the tune, but have no intention of learning how to play it anyway.

Rank-and-file Liberal delegates are another matter. Some have long acted as though they were born with a Leftward Lurch. Other, possibly more numerous, are wedded to the Right Tilt.

**BIG WIN**  
The majority, however, who've learned to live with The Blur, probably want to know more details of an intricate dance like the Leftward Lurch before they pass final judgement.

Uppermost in their minds is likely the question of whether dancing to a new beat is going to win the Liberals an election, or whether in truth they need

to hear a new drummer set the tempo. Smith's thesis, which he describes as Left, goes something like this:

Inflation has become semi-permanent, and in consequence is splitting the middle class down the middle.

The wealthier segment of the middle class have "extra" money, which they use to purchase "things" that increase in value faster than the rate of inflation - items such as houses, condominiums, antiques, stamps, whatever.

**SOME POOR**  
The remainder of the middle class must use all their pay packet to purchase the necessities of life, from lodging to bread and recreation. They have no assets that allow them to keep ahead of inflation.

The line separating those with surplus cash and those without is becoming a gulf that must be bridged to avoid a polarized society, Smith believes.

The solution is to tax speculative wealth in some way or other so as to finance broader access to pension

schemes and to home ownership for those below the line, he said.

It is this philosophy, which implies a stiffer tax on capital gains, a sub-dance in the Leftward Lurch called the Robin Hood heist, which has created all the static.

**HOW COME?**  
Smith has mused about this middle class rift before, but because he was more specific this time about paying for the solution he's produced a greater uproar.

Still, he did defuse potential massive public hostility by saying any such wealth tax wouldn't apply to a person's principal residence, the family home.

The key as to whether the Leftward Lurch plays the big time four years from now in the next election, or is relegated to the status of a dance-that-might-have-been is tied up with Smith's leadership.

He said plainly that the party must move Left, and if the rank and file backbone disagree, "well, then, there's a message there for me."

The choice is clear: a new drum, or a new drummer.

## Halton's History

From our files

**THIRTY YEARS AGO**—Fred Leeder, whose Glen Taxi and Deluxe Taxi are being combined under the latter name, has made a major improvement with the installation of two-way radios in his fleet of cars. Mr. Leeder purchased Deluxe Taxi a short while ago. Installation of the radio control will mean speedier service in answering calls.

Donkey ball, a hilarious burlesque of baseball, will be reintroduced to Georgetown later this month. The Georgetown Lions Club has rented trained donkeys and has issued a challenge to Glen Williams to a game. It is fifteen years since the last game of donkey ball attracted a large crowd to the park.

The wheat fields in Halton are a sorry sight due to the outbreak of the Hessian fly. Some wheat fields have been damaged extensively by wind, rain, and hail but the most serious damage has been attributed to the pesky insect.

An initial enrollment of 213 Monday was increased to 262 yesterday in the second session of the Stay-at-Home Camp. This popular feature, which is in its third year, was originally planned by the Georgetown Recreation Commission in cooperation with the Lions Club. Many attractions were offered this year including a hike, movies, a puppeteer and a magician.

As the baseball league fast approaches the playoffs, the Georgetown Legion entry, coached by John "Scotty" Patterson, is in by four points. Last night, the Legion trounced Limehouse 11-4 and will be playing Smith and Stone at Georgetown Park Thursday.

**TWENTY YEARS AGO**—A \$445 increase in salary for a first class constable resulted from arbitration which has successfully concluded between council and the police association. The pay scale now ranges from \$4,500 for a first class constable to \$3,600 for a probationer.

Acton council agreed to accept the recommendations of the Department of Highways to raise the speed limits on the highway as it approaches Acton. Highway 7 east of Acton will have a speed limit of 40 mph for 1,000 feet inside the town limits while west of Acton it will be 40 mph from Main Street to the town limits.

Regional planning will be discussed next Tuesday when officials of towns and townships in the northern portion of the Credit Valley Conservation Authority district will be meeting at Stewart Town. The Reeves and mayors from Georgetown, Acton and Milton will be addressed by John Pearson of the division of municipal planning on the subjects.

Georgetown's Greenwood Cemetery is being modernized by a landscaping program which will completely reshape the east end of the property. The ground has been levelled in some areas and a road is being constructed through the new area. Ornamental trees will be planted when the landscaping is completed and seeding is scheduled for fall.

Fifteen minor modifications were made to the plans for Georgetown high school's new technical wing. Most obvious of these will be a circular driveway which will enable buses to load and unload at the main entrance. More storage space was created in the commercial department and the sites of some washrooms was altered slightly.

**TEN YEARS AGO**—The first store in Georgetown devoted entirely to crafts and hobbies opened last weekend at 5 Wesleyan St. Supplies for all types of crafts will be offered including rug hooking, model railroading, oil painting, candle-making and macramé. The store, operated by Jim Langedyk and his wife Lida, is a family affair with the children helping out also.

An appeal by Georgetown council to have signs pointing to Georgetown at the junction of Highway 401 and Streetsville Road has met with a deaf ear. The Department of Transportation and Communications had told council that there are signs already at Trafalgar Road. Only those "in the know" will realize that many Georgetown motorists use Streetsville Road through Huttonville as an access to Highway 401.

Halton county residents can already see the effects of the Niagara Escarpment Protection Act passed just one year ago. The 450-acre Crawford Lake acquisition was made possible by the act which prohibits quarrying on and within 300 feet of the escarpment face.

By a vote of 52 to 48 per cent Halton County Secondary School teachers have voted to reject a wage offer recommended for acceptance by their own executive of District 9 OSSTF. The 827 teachers voted last Thursday rejecting the second wage offer made by the Board of Education. One reason given for the rejection was that the offer gave no salary increase to 157 teachers.

**ONE YEAR AGO**—The federal court of appeal denied Maple Lodge Farms near Norval permission to import 20 million pounds of chicken, an order the firm had hoped would boost its sales that have been sagging since the provincial government imposed import controls last fall. Staff lay-offs and declining sales have resulted from the firm's inability to provide enough chicken to customers.

Halton Board of Education trustees Elaine Riehm and Barry Shepherd will be presenting a motion to the board Thursday requesting the provincial government to provide drug education programs on the use and abuse of drugs by Ontario school children. The motion was brought about in part by the recent study on drug abuse in Halton conducted by the Addiction Research Foundation.

The program launched by Halton regional police to get officers out of their cruisers and onto their feet is paying off. Chief James Harding told the police commission Thursday. Chief Harding said that in spite of manpower problems with three serious strikes in May, the force was still able to log 1,000 hours of foot patrols during that period.

Plans to open the Silver Creek Education Centre on the former Vaughn Farm near Ballinacred have been delayed due to tendering problems. Tenders for renovating the old horse barn were well in excess of the \$80,000 budgeted for the centre and the Credit Valley Conservation Authority has asked for retendered bids.

### POET'S CORNER

## Deep in a valley

Deep down in a valley  
Opposite the sea,  
Lived a band of people  
That believe in Liberty.

Universal love  
Was engraved in each man's heart,  
And from this cherished land  
They would never, ever part.

Each man worked together  
Everynight and day,  
And by forming this great team

The work turned into play.

Nobody went undermanned  
Or sick without a cent,  
For they would all chip in their money  
To help a neighbor pay his rent.

In this land of peace and friendship  
Is Christmas all year round,  
For deep down in this valley  
Everyone's safe and sound.

By Christine Gorla,  
Halton Hills

## That telephone invention

**WHY YOU SHOULD NEVER COMPLETELY TRUST A CONSULTANT DEPT.:** Tempo '81, a newsletter "for graphic arts people" published by Buntin Reid Paper, recounts the following anecdote in its June issue, describing Alexander Graham Bell's initial attempt to sell Western Union his idea for making the telephone a household device of convenience. The following excerpt apparently comes from the minutes of a Western Union committee assigned to investigate Bell's proposal:

"(Bell) believes that one day the telephone will be installed in every residence and place of business. Bell's profession is that of a voice teacher, yet he claims to have discovered an instrument of great practical value

and communication which has been overlooked by thousands of workers who have spent years in the field.

"Bell's proposal to place his instrument in almost every home and business place is fantastic. The central exchange alone would represent a huge outlay in real estate and buildings, to say nothing of the electrical equipment.

"In conclusion, the committee feels it must advise against any investment in Bell's scheme. We do not doubt that it will find users in special circumstances, but any development of the kind and scale which Bell so fondly imagined is utterly out of the question."