

Dominion Hotel trial

Continued from page C3

Mr. McCrystal became nervous and panicky when he heard about Mr. Eade's call and ran off to look for him. Although Mr. McCrystal didn't find him, Ms. Fredericks said she located Mr. Eade in the dining room and directed him to take his telephone call in the kitchen where the noise was less and he could hear more easily.

Ms. Fredericks said a girlfriend dropped her off at her apartment after she left work at the Station Hotel the night of the Dominion Hotel fire. As they sat chatting in the car in front of her apartment opposite the taxi stand on Main Street South, they noticed smoke coming from the centre of the Dominion Hotel.

William (Whitey) Engleby came running out of the taxi stand yelling the Dominion Hotel was on fire as they were getting out of the car, she said.

Two staff members from Jeanette's Rest Home opposite the Dominion Hotel on Main Street North agreed that Mr. McCrystal came out

of the motel to examine the air conditioner only moments before black smoke gushed from it but disagreed on almost everything else they saw the night of the fire.

Brenda Adams, a cleaner at the home saw Mr. Mercuri come out the south door of the hotel, go to the trunk of his car where it was parked in front of the hotel, return inside for a minute, then get in his car and drive away.

Ms. Adams saw Whitey Engleby in front of the hotel lobby door coming across the street heading south. While she assumed he had just come out of the hotel, she said she hadn't actually seen him leave and assumed so from his position near the door.

She saw Mr. Engleby pass the rest home 10 to 20 minutes before Mr. Mercuri left the hotel, she said.

Catherine MacIntosh, a nursing assistant and cook at the rest home, saw Mr. Engleby in front of the hotel lobby doors and like Ms. Adams assumed he had come from the building with

leave. She saw Mr. Engleby head north from the hotel around the end into the parking lot and the bushes, then return to the street and proceed further north before crossing the street. When she saw him running toward the hotel later, he came from the north, she said.

Both women saw Mr. McCrystal come out of the hotel, approach the air conditioner, then re-enter the hotel. Ms. MacIntosh said she didn't know Mr. McCrystal's name at that time, but judged him to be hotel waiter because of his dark pants and white shirt.

She said he reached up and felt along the top and sides of the air conditioner as if checking to see it was operating properly.

When smoke began gushing out of the air conditioner Ms. Adams volunteered to run across to the hotel and check how serious the smoke was before Ms. MacIntosh called the fire department.

When she arrived at the lobby and found Mr. Mc-

Crystal immediately inside the door and seemingly quite cool about it although the lobby was full of smoke. Ms. Adams said she assumed the fire wasn't bad and they didn't call in an alarm.

Halt Regional Police Constable Ian McNally said when he returned the hotel wreckage to Mr. Mercuri on Aug. 24, Mr. Mercuri said he planned to tear down the remains of the buildings.

Mr. Mercuri said although he hadn't been able to get money for renovations because of the large mortgage on the building, now that the lot was free and clear he'd be able to "get all the money he wanted" for rebuilding.

Const. McNally said he had visited Heather Moreland's residence in late August with fire marshal's investigator Ian Renn but denied either he or Mr. Renn ever said they were going to "get" Mr. Mercuri.

Halt Regional Police Sergeant Bruce Richards told the court when Mr. Mercuri was arrested Dec. 29, 1979 he threw his hands in the air and exclaimed "I'm caught!"

Sgt. Richards disagreed with a suggestion from Mr. Mercuri's lawyer Michael Muldaver that he had misunderstood Mr. Mercuri's Italian accent and misinterpreted the phrase.

Sgt. Richards also denied that Mr. Mercuri had asked the police to hold off arresting him until after the New Year, so he'd be able to help the owner of the Blue Horizon Hotel in Fergus over the holiday.

Sgt. Richards showed the court five advertisements published in the Toronto Star between February and May, 1979, advertising the Dominion Hotel for sale and advising prospective clients to contact Tony Ficucello at Brethour Real Estate.

Mr. Ficucello never showed investigating officers any listed agreement with Mr. Mercuri for selling the hotel, Sgt. Richards said.

—Courtney Guelph Mercury

Minister's reassurance leaves farmers cold

Concern lingers among Halton farmers over the loss of prime farmland to encroaching urban uses despite new pledges from Queen's Park that Ontario farmland will be preserved.

A recent announcement by newly-appointed agriculture minister Dennis Timbrell that his ministry will be reorganized to emphasize marketing and to better preserve agricultural land has not encouraged the Halton Federation of Agriculture.

In a press release issued last week, the federation noted Mr. Timbrell's ambition "to reduce Ontario's \$1 billion deficit in food products", but cited startling statistics to draw a pessimistic conclusion about the minister's statements.

"The problem here is that land use planning and development is usually implemented at the municipal level," the federation points out. "While Halton region has attempted to recognize the importance of agriculture by installing (the agricultural advisory committee)... the committee has only the power to make recommendations to planning."

"Halton's official plan stag-

es one of its goals as being 'to recognize, encourage and protect agriculture as an important industry in Halton,' yet we do not have an agricultural planner employed by the region."

According to the federation, 68 per cent of Halton is Class 1 to Class 3 land, compared to an average of 18 per cent province-wide.

At the world's largest garbage dump—five stories high on New York's Staten Island—bacteria are turning old buried garbage into methane—enough gas

to eventually supply 16,000 homes. Brooklyn gas officials claim that their product will be "just as good as what comes out of the well in west Texas."

"Halton has more Class 1 land than Quebec, P.E.I., New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland combined," the federation says. "These lands are a resource that, according to Halton ag rep Henry Stanley, 'are being lost for our industrial parks and proposed garbage dumps. The land that has been lost and which we are still losing will be difficult to replace.'"

NEW HYDRO RATES

Effective April 1st, 1982, the following rates will apply on Electricity used by customers supplied by the Halton Hills Hydro Commission:

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First 250 KWH per month — 6.40¢ ea.
Balance of KWH per month — 3.65¢ ea.

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Demand Charge
First 50 KW — No Charge
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ENERGY CHARGE
First 250 KWH per month — 8.4¢ ea.
Next 9750 KWH per month — 4.15¢ ea.
Balance KWH per month — 2.8¢ ea.

The Utility average rate adjustment of 9.2% will add an additional \$3.50 to the residential customer using 1000K.W. Hours per month.

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TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

NOTICE OF SALE BY TENDER

TOWN OWNED PROPERTY

Sealed tenders clearly marked "Tender for Part of Lot J, Block 3, R.P. 31 (former Acton Town Hall), 19 Willow Street, Ward 1" will be received by the undersigned until 12:00 noon local time, the 1st day of April, 1982 for the purchase of this property zoned C-1, General Commercial.

Any sale will be subject to the following conditions:
- Heritage Easement or Deed Restriction to protect the building outer facade and common wall maintenance rights.
- Reference Plans, if required, at the expense of the purchaser.
- Necessary steps to be taken within six months of closing date to remove the designation of the Industrial Health and Safety Branch of the Ontario Ministry of Labour.
- Tender to include a certified cheque in the amount of \$2,000.00 as tender deposit.
- Completion of formal "Offer to Purchase" form within 48 hours of being advised of award, with closing date of 30th day of April, 1982. Failure to comply with these terms is subject to forfeiture of deposit.

The successful tender shall be confirmed by Council at their meeting to be held the 5th day of April, 1982, or as close thereto as possible.

All other tender deposits shall be returned after signed Offer to Purchaser is accepted.

Tenders will be publicly opened on the 1st day of April, 1982 at 12:00 noon in the Committee Room, Municipal Administration Building, located on Trafalgar Street.

The highest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.



TODAY'S ANSWER

TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

NOTICE

ALL REFUSE NORMALLY PICKED UP ON FRIDAY, APRIL 9th, 1982 WILL BE PICKED UP ON THURSDAY, APRIL 8th 1982.

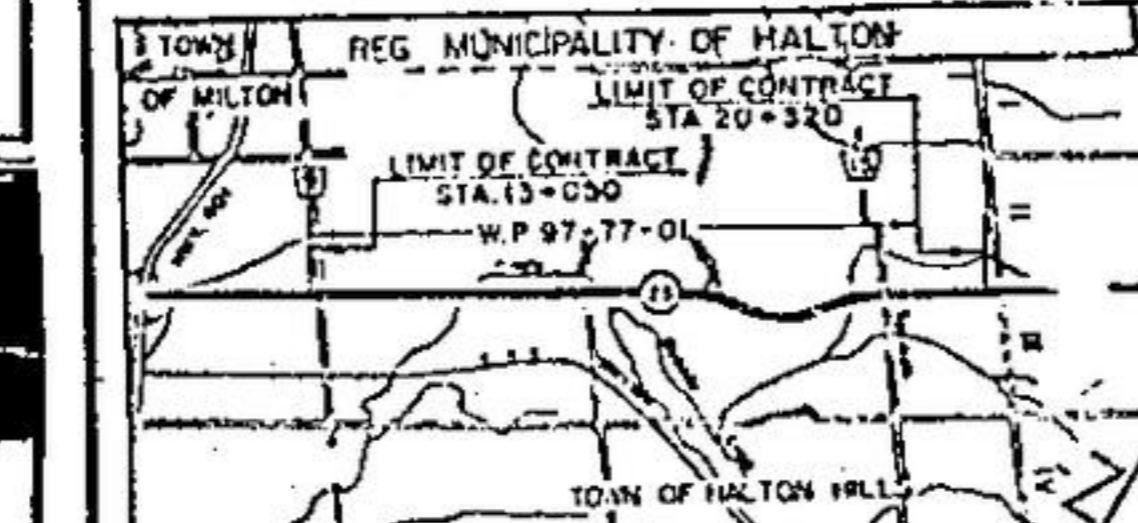
COMMERCIAL REFUSE WILL BE PICKED UP THURSDAY, APRIL 8th, 1982.

WORKS DEPARTMENT
TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT NOTICE

COMPLETION OF A HIGHWAY STUDY

The Ministry of Transportation and Communications (M.T.C.) has completed a study which will result in the reconstruction of Highway 25 from Regional Road 9 northward to Regional Road 15, W.P. 97-77-01, District 4, Hamilton.



The study has followed a planning process approved under The Environmental Assessment Act, 1975. As required by this approval, an Environmental Study Report has been filed with the Environmental Approvals Branch of the Ministry of the Environment (M.O.E.) and is available for public review at the following locations:

- Ministry of the Environment, Environmental Approvals Branch, 135 St. Clair Avenue West, 10th Floor, Toronto, Ontario.
- Ministry of the Environment, Hamilton Regional Office, Ontario Government Building, 12th Floor, Hamilton, Ontario.
- Regional Municipality of Halton, 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville, Ontario.
- Town of Milton, 251 Main Street East, Milton, Ontario.
- Town of Halton Hills, 38 Main Street South, Georgetown, Ontario.

Please send comments to Mr. Allan Sulavella, Senior Project Manager, Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Planning & Design Section, Central Region, 5000 Yonge Street, Willowdale, Ontario, M2N 6E9

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