

Visiting Father Otger dies after church celebration

By ANI PEDERIAN
Staff Writer

It was to be former Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church parish priest Otger Devent's last visit to Georgetown and the community he knew and loved so well. The elderly priest died Sunday morning in Leamington near Windsor, Ontario. Father Otger and his sister Bernadine were visiting some of her former students there. "It was quite a shock to everybody," Father Con O'Mahony said. "He hasn't been well for the last number of years

but he was in super form for the mortgage burning celebration."

Father Devent had made a special trip from Holland to be present at the Holy Cross mortgage burning February 18.

Pastor in Georgetown for 20 years, the new Holy Cross Church and rectory, built in 1964, were completed during his time. He was the last of the Capuchin friars appointed to the parish.

A wake service was held for Father Otger at 7 p.m. Monday night at Holy Cross and over 300 parishioners turned up.

Last night (Tuesday) a requiem mass was



REV. OTGER OFMCP.

held with members of the Capuchin Order assisting Father Con.

The body is being flown to Holland either today or Thursday where it will be buried.

"I think, in his own sense of humor way, he's really pleased he died here," Father Con said. "He loved Georgetown. It was a nice way for him to go, among all his own friends."

Father Otger had left Georgetown Feb. 21 and was spending some time visiting friends in the province before heading back in early March.

Region pushes for United Way

Unless social services agencies in Halton work towards forming a regional United Way, they may find the region's purse strings extremely tight when the agencies apply for grants next year.

That's the message behind a health and social services committee recommendation to regional council and it will be underlined when a number of groups present their grant requests to the committee March 3.

Last Wednesday, council agreed to withhold its support until after committee members have heard what the groups have to say about it.

The number of groups seeking financial help from the region is increasing, Oakville Coun. Peter Arch commented, adding that a Halton United Way would encourage more participation in helping social services from private donors.

The region has allotted \$520,047 for social services grants in 1984.

Who gets what will be left up to the council, but the grants will generally be held to increases of

no more than six per cent - a reflection of government restraint policies.

Two youths thrown from motorcycle

A Glen Williams man is in St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto suffering from multiple fractures.

Curtis Marcel, 23, of Wildwood Road was thrown from a Honda motorcycle that went out of control on Armstrong Avenue Thursday at 9:20 a.m.

Driver David Boothe, 21, of Park Avenue was also thrown from the bike and taken to

Georgetown Memorial Hospital. He was discharged Saturday.

Halton regional police reported the bike was eastbound at an unknown speed when the driver failed to negotiate a curve in the road and struck a ditch on the east side.

The bike then went out of control and collided with a snow bank. Damage was \$1,500. Charges are pending.

Residents battle storm with minor adjustments

By CHRIS AAGAARD
and ANI PEDERIAN
Staff Writers

Despite warnings that a snowstorm which struck Monday night

would be the worst of the season, Halton Hills residents took it quietly in stride.

Halton regional police reported no accidents

by the time The Herald went to press Tuesday morning, adding that things had been generally quiet throughout the night.

One spokesman said: "Why would anyone be out in that weather - they'd be foolish."

The Halton Hills Volunteer Fire Department wasn't called out to any storm-related emergencies overnight Monday. There were no outages of power as a result of high wind, the Halton Hills Hydro Commission reported Tuesday.

A horror for motorists, the storm was a boon for youngsters deprived of winter recreation by the recent spell of mild weather.

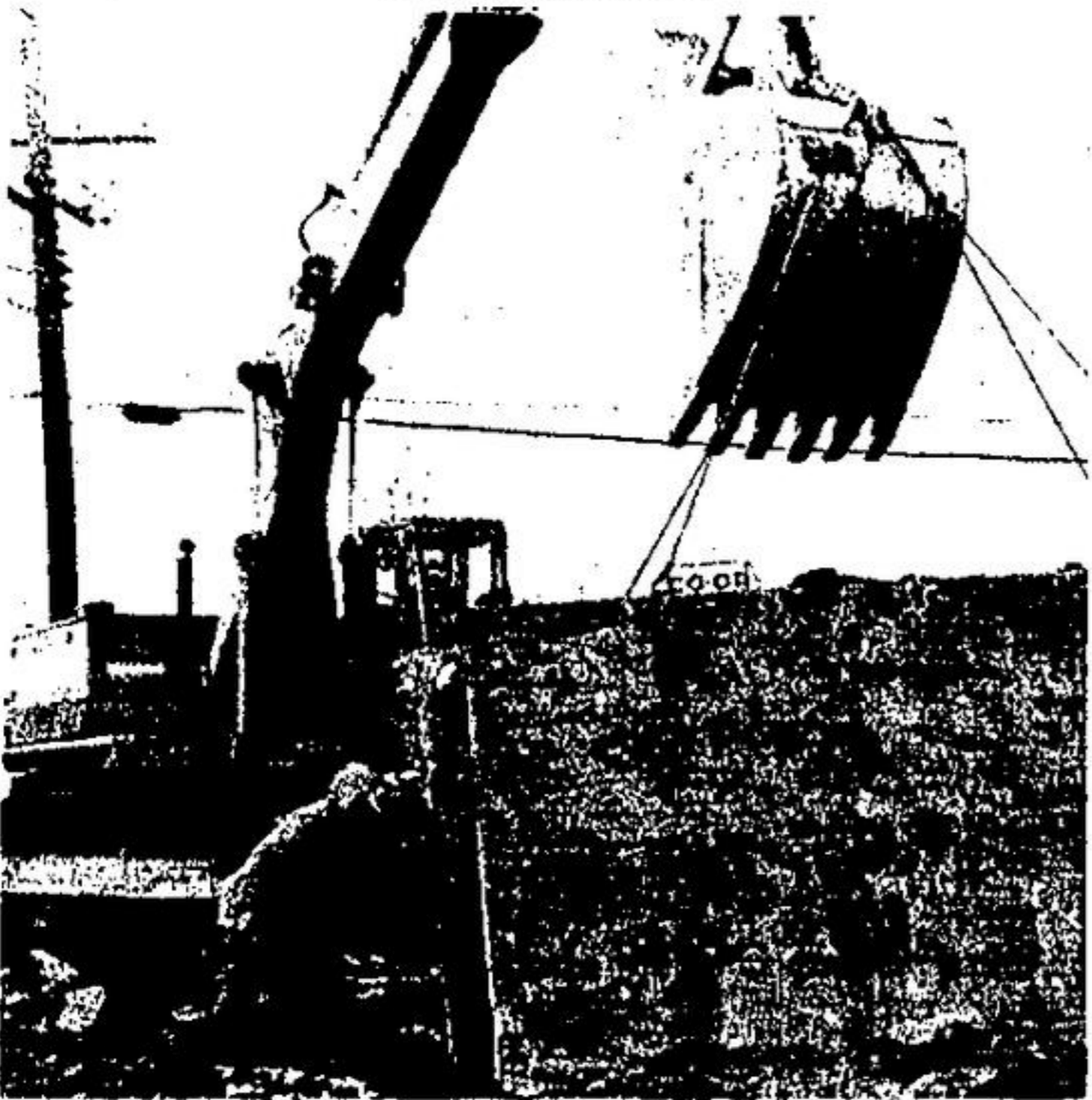
Many students in the rural areas stayed home from school after school bus service on rural routes north of Highway 5 was cancelled by the Halton Board of Education.

The Georgetown Christian School on Trafalgar Road was closed. Bus service continued in the urban areas of Acton and Georgetown.

At the town's public works yard, crews arrived about four hours earlier to take over from the night shift and help get motorists on their way to work.

Works superintendent Frank Morette noted that open stretches of north-south road would be particularly difficult to keep clear because of drifting snow.

FACELIFT



A storm sewer is being installed in the Guelph Street-Armstrong Avenue area, and that's why traffic has been moving slowly through the area. The work is being done by Gerry Mucera Contracting of Mississauga and will improve drainage flowing from Highway 7 and Armstrong Avenue. The project is expected to be completed in early March and was designed by the Georgetown firm of R.E. Clipham, Consulting Engineers.

Chocolate urge causes \$1,500 damage to home

Three year old Luke Yanchak wanted some hot chocolate Saturday at 10:30 a.m. and ended up with a kitchen fire causing \$1,500 damage to his parents' Main Street South, Georgetown, home.

The little boy turned on a burner on which a kettle was sitting. The kettle melted and started to burn from the heat.

Luke's mom was sleeping through all this and luckily the little boy roused her. Neither of them were hurt.

The fire department said the family had a fire detector in the home, but it had no batteries in it.

Zamboni explodes

There was \$4,000 damage to the machine storage room at the Gordon Alcott Arena on Georgetown's Guelph Street Feb. 22.

As staff were filling up the ice machine with hot water, some of the water overflowed onto the Zamboni's propane tank. The heat from the water over-pressurized the tank which subsequently was ignited by the natural gas hot water tank also in the room.

The fire department said nobody was hurt in the blast which occurred at 10:37 p.m.



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