

POLICE BEAT

Bikes stolen

Two bicycles were stolen from schools last week. A \$424 bicycle was taken from the side of Centennial Public School Thursday. The front of Georgetown District High School was the scene of the theft of a \$230 bike which was locked.

Parking collision

The parking lot at 235 Guelph Street was the scene of an accident Friday at 9 p.m. causing \$2,500 damage. A man from Guelph driving a 1977 Volkswagen entered the parking lot from Gordon Alcott Arena and hit a Georgetown man's 1985 Ford which was crossing the entrance to the lot. Police estimate \$1,500 damage was done to the Volkswagen and \$1,000 damage was done to the Ford.

Impaired drivers

A Nova Scotia man was stopped in a routine check Saturday at 12:20 a.m. at Guelph Street and Armstrong Avenue, and was charged with impaired driving. A 34-year-old Acton man was found to be impaired after being stopped for a traffic violation on Mill Street in Acton at 12:24 a.m. Saturday. A 20-year-old Georgetown man was found impaired in his car in the west ditch of Trafalgar Road Saturday at 9:18 p.m.

Rear ended

Leslie Markham of 62 Park Avenue in Georgetown received minor injuries after an accident on Confederation Street Sunday at 12:55 p.m. A Georgetown man driving a 1978 Mazda was rear ended by a 1971 Plymouth. The Mazda received damage to the bumper totalling \$200. The Plymouth received \$2,000 damage and the driver was injured, police said.

Damages lawn

A car was seen leaving Irwin Crescent last Saturday at 3 p.m. after a maple tree and lawn had been damaged by a car which failed to remain.

Fail to remain

A driver failed to remain after rear ending a Georgetown woman's vehicle Sept. 23 at 11:25 a.m. The accident happened on College Street in Georgetown and caused an estimated \$700 damage to one car and \$900 to the other, police said.

Skids to sign

An 18-year-old Glen Williams man turned his head to look at 33 metres of his own fresh tire skids and hit the speed sign in front of him Sept. 27 at 2:20 a.m. The sign on the Eighth Line and 22 Sideroad received \$100 damage and the man's car received \$1,000 damage police said. The skid marks were caused by fast acceleration.

User pay water isn't helping

No question about it, it's a good buy. What else could you buy at 26 1/2 cents for 220 imperial gallons, but water?

Halton region is charging you exactly what it costs to supply this most useful and necessary resource. Since 1980, the "user-pay" scheme has been in effect in Halton region, with the same rates charged in Burlington per cubic meter of water as in Acton.

A recent federal water inquiry recommended Canadian homeowners and industries pay the full costs of the water they use as a way of discouraging waste.

This regional philosophy of making homeowners and industries pay for what they use initially helped conserve a precious resource, financial analyst Michael Skora said.

He said the region noticed a significant drop in water use with the change in 1980. Since then, however, water use is back up, with 37 million cubic metres billed for regionally in 1984.

"When we first changed to user-pay, people were very conscious of conserving, but...water use has subsequently gone up," Mr. Skora said. "We've noticed that after a time, there seems to be less resistance to the rates and less conservation impact."

He said the inducement to conserve water has worn off, with residents who over-reacted to the change to user pay returning to their previous water use habits.

However, Mr. Skora noted many local industries have staff to monitor expenses, just as many households have a member holding the reins on the budget. These individuals help keep water use, and their expenses, down.

There are over 60,000 connections to the Halton water system, and the rates charged are intended to bring in revenues to cover Halton's expenditures in this area. There are no subsidies for users.

Next year, water rates are expected to increase by 3.3 per cent. The increase is slight compared to the 1983 increase of 13.8 per cent for water users. Last year's increase over 1984 rates was 6.3 per cent.

Mr. Skora explains the drop to less inflation, which affects operating costs of salaries and supplies. As well, the system has less capital expenses now.

However, capital expenses will be a major concern in the next decade or two as Halton replaces rusty mains and aging systems in the older parts of Georgetown, Acton, Oakville, Burlington and Milton.

"Other regional municipalities have user pay, but there's still a lot of places where it's not the case," Mr. Skora said, naming areas in Toronto and Hamilton where people pay a flat rate instead, regardless of how much water they've used.

Depending on the household, somewhere between 200 to 500 cubic metres of water are used annually. Industrial use of water can range upwards from 100 cubic metres to millions.

Asked if he thought people take water for granted in their everyday life, Mr. Skora said yes.

In other parts of the world it's not a plentiful resource, whereas here it is, he noted, pointing out residents have excellent quality, abundant supply and reasonable rates.



THESE SPRY, youthful-looking gentlemen are actually both in their nineties. Hary Hale (left) and Gilbert Inglish are both Halton Hills residents who were singled out by the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 120 at the John Elliot Theatre Saturday. These two gentlemen both fought in the First World War and they were guests of the Legion. Branch 120 presented the musical "We'll Meet Again" in celebration of their Diamond Jubilee. (Herald photo)

Says former minister

Not easy changing, giving up levers

It's not easy to give up the levers of government, a former provincial minister said Thursday night.

Philip Andrewes, minister of health, agriculture and energy in former Premier Frank Miller's cabinet, said it's taken himself, and other Progressive Conservatives ousted from power in May, time to settle into their new roles.

"We're making the transition to reacting, reacting to someone else pulling those levers. It's not easy to move from being the activator to being the reactors," Mr. Andrewes, now opposition energy critic said. The Beamsville native was addressing Halton Burlington Progressive Conservative Association members at their annual meeting.

He and his fellow members of parliament have adjusted to being critics now and are taking the initiative in their roles, he said.

"We still do that with a lot of regret, and with some remorse, but we know we're better than the other guys and we have the competence in our ranks to do the job that's expected of us," Mr. Andrewes said.

Although the public may be praising Liberal Premier David Peterson now, the Progressive Conservative said the crucial issues of budget and fiscal responsibility haven't been faced yet. "Six months from now, let's see whether Peterson is still looking good," Mr. Andrewes said.

Hustling for dollars

Problems with a treasurer in the past year meant problems in auditing the books for the Halton Burlington Progressive Conservative Association. Thursday night, retiring president Ken McDonald said treasurer Norm McIntyre had resigned on short notice because of work pressures.

"We don't seem to have much luck with treasurers," Mr. McDonald said. "No bookkeeping has been done for the entire year."

He said receipts were incomplete for the past year and pointed out a \$515 donation during the leadership convention that wasn't accounted for. As well,

there were difficulties in recovering the Association's financial records from Mr. McIntyre, the retiring president said.

"In summary, the books were not satisfactory and efforts must be maintained to keep reports in 1985," a letter from Georgetown accountant Graham Goebelle stated.

The Association is going into a second leadership convention next month with less than \$1,000 to its name in the kitty. "It's bad news, but there's hope, I think," Mr. McDonald said.

"As of this afternoon, we're rich by \$600. We're going to have to really hustle to get some dollars."

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Union leader is proud of strike record

By ANI FEDERIAN
Herald Staff

There's never been a strike at Standard Products (Canada) Ltd., and Gerry Klatt is proud of that record.

Mr. Klatt is a charter member and president of the 25-year-old Local 876 of the International Union United Automobile Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America. Local 876 is a member of the United Auto Workers (UAW).

Elected first president of the union in 1960, Mr. Klatt has been in office ever since.

"A lot of people don't realize the struggle we went through," the 55-year-old Delrex Boulevard resident said.

As a worker in the earlier days you were sometimes asked to work around the clock. If you said no, your job might not be there in the morning, he said. "Young people don't realize that," he said.

When Mr. Klatt started working at the Georgetown plant when it commenced operations in 1959, there were only 27 employees, and the work was seasonal. From late October to late April, there was hard work. After that, most of the staff was laid off.

Today, the company has 150 employees making weather stripping and body cushions year round for car industry giants like Ford Motor Company Ltd. and General Motors.

Business is good, although perhaps not as good as in 1973 when staff peaked at 225. Back in 1960, wages were \$1.20 an hour. Today, they're at least \$10 an hour, the union president said.

"We hardly any vacation or benefits. Now we have dental, drug, eye care and pension plans," Mr. Klatt said proudly.

He's pleased with the "vacation with pay" plan the company now has and the cost of living allowance (COLA) clause which Mr. Klatt calls "one of the best things that happened to us". Sick benefits is one area that can be improved for workers, Mr. Klatt said.

They take effect from the third sick day, for 28 weeks, unless there's hospitalization or an accident. Sick benefits mean \$170 pay a week, which can make things hard when you're used to bringing home over \$400, Mr. Klatt said. Many local unions have won two-thirds of regular wages as sick pay for their members, he said.

If an employee goes into hospital because of an accident at work, Workmen's Compensation pays about \$330 tax free, Mr. Klatt said.

About 80 per cent of the employees at Standard Products are women. "Women, they work much harder than the men," Mr. Klatt said. "We've done a survey over the past six years with the work force. Men aren't very often sick, and neither are the women."

He defends the women employees, saying they work very hard to help support their families. With the company's incentive plan, which pays according to output, most of the women earn \$25,000 annually, Mr. Klatt said.

"In our plant, they (women) do the same work and get the same money," the union president said.

It was under pressure of a strike that Mr. Klatt was recently able to negotiate the \$170 weekly sick pay for employees. Although the union wanted \$180 weekly, it settled on \$170, a \$20 boost from what the company was previously paying.

Mr. Klatt enjoys his union work and his job as quality control inspector and although on many occasions he's been asked to be a company supervisor, he's refused.

"I'm kind of old-fashioned. I couldn't be, today, the head of the union and tomorrow, go to the other side," he said. "I take pride in helping people and I think I've received a lot of respect and am well liked at the company."

UAW's Bob White

Continued from Page A1

He said people who work in the factories earn every cent they make. "It still is damn hard work and we have to make sure we get paid well and keep hard at it," Mr. White said.

Mr. White acknowledged the commitment of Local 876 president Gerry Klatt over the past 25 years by presenting him with a plaque. "Unions can't work without leadership in the plants, and it's a pretty thankless task," Mr. White said. Mr. Klatt is a charter member of Local 876 and is the Local's first and only president. There are 540 collective agree-

ments in Canada, and a number of them, like Local 876, have never had a strike. "Although the years have not been without their ups and downs, we've enjoyed a strike-free relationship," Standard Products plant manager Udo Fleback said on behalf of the company.

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Plans for Poppy Week

Nov. 1 to 11 are to be "Poppy Week" in Halton Hills. Wreaths will be placed and a parade is in the planning with members of the Acton and Georgetown Royal Canadian Legion branches.

The Acton parade is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Nov. 10. Poppies will be available in the stores and banks during the campaign, with a door-to-door canvass planned for Nov. 1.



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Dr. Connell serves as a consultant to industry and other groups, lectures at various Universities and has spoken in over 28 countries. He is Past President of the Ontario Teachers Federation, Past International President of International Y's Mens Club, recipient of the "Canada Medal" for service to youth and Canada, and the "Canadian Silver Jubilee Medal", to name a few of his accomplishments.

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