

Contract settled

Police constables won't need baseball hats, bumper stickers

By SANDY CAMPBELL
Herald Staff

The next contract clash between the Halton Regional Police Commission and the Halton Regional Police Association shouldn't occur until 1988.

That's because the two groups were able to agree to a two-year wage and benefit package for the Association. By the end of 1986 a first class constable will make \$36,983 annually. That figure consists of a 4 per cent increase in January (retroactive) and a 1 per cent increase in July. In 1987 a first class constable will make \$38,847.

The Commission realized Halton police should be paid a salary equal to what Hamilton-Wentworth police receive, said Staff-Sgt. Ron Southgate. Staff-Sgt. Southgate is chairman of the Halton Police Association that represents 420 civilian and uniformed police employees.

ceptable contract. Halton police planned to wear baseball caps with Protest For Parity badges. Constables also planned to show more discretion laying charges, and cruisers would have been operated with lights on always. The Association also planned to have pamphlets made explaining their cause, to distribute to the public. Bumper stickers and buttons were also part of the campaign.

Staff-Sgt. Ron Southgate said the threat of job action played a part in reaching an agreement. "Neither side wanted to go to job action. It makes life miserable all around. I think it was a factor in both sides agreeing to the offer," he said.

Members of the police association and the commission said they were

pleased with the settlement. Staff-Sgt. Southgate called the agreement a "very good two-year contract for both sides."

The Commission thought they would not get an agreement until the end of April, Reginald Monaghan, chairman of the Halton Regional Police Commission bargaining committee, said.

The Commission had three good sessions (Jan. 15, Feb. 8 and March 8) with the Halton Regional Police Association. "We got along well," Chairman Monaghan said.

The two sides met for eight to nine hours March 9. That session was a "very productive one," Ron Southgate said. The Halton Regional Police Force is the only major force with a contract for 1987, he added.



Ron Southgate Reginald Monaghan

"Looking at the whole package, we have parity with the Hamilton-Wentworth force," he said.

Civilian members of the 420 member Halton Police Force received a 5 per cent January increase for 1986 (retroactive). In 1987 civilian staff will receive a 4 per cent increase in January and a 1 per cent increase in July.

Sergeants and staff-sergeants also received increases. In 1986 a sergeant will receive 11 per cent of a first class constable's wage. A staff-sergeant will receive 22 per cent of a first class constable's wage. In 1987, sergeants and staff-sergeants will receive a 4 per cent increase in January and a 1 per cent increase in July.

Added to the wage increases are more benefits for members of the Halton Regional Police Association. In 1986 police will get an orthodontal plan to go with their dental plan. In 1987 a vision care plan begins.

The two-year contract ends the possibility of Halton police using job action. The Halton Regional Police Association were threatening to use job action if they did not get an ac-

Y kick-off



There was a lot of giving and receiving going on at Dominion Seed House Thursday (March 13). Doug Peck, general manager for Dominion Seed House, helped the Georgetown VNCA kick-off their 1986-87 fund raising campaign with a cheque. Receiving the cheque is the Y's executive director, Claudette Smith, who is presenting Mr. Peck with a certificate of appreciation for Dominion Seed House's contribution to last year's Y campaign. (Herald photo)

Acton blood clinic

The Acton Red Cross euchre games have been cancelled for the rest of the season because of poor turnout. There's a blood donor clinic scheduled for March 25 at the Acton Legion. Everyone is asked to come out and give a pint between 5 and 8:30 p.m. Acton chiropractor Richard Telford is sponsoring the clinic.

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