

Two injured by factory machinery

Two people received injuries in an Acton factory this past week. Jennifer Woodfine of Acton caught her arm in the sample-line machine at the Heller, Frank and Co. plant Jan. 6 at 9:30 p.m. The 16-year-old received minor injuries and was treated and released from the Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital, police said. She was more in shock than suffering from injuries. Jan. 7 at 2:22 p.m. an unidentified man got his arm caught in a different machine at the Acton factory located at 125 McDonald Blvd. By the time the fire department arrived the man had been taken to the Medical Centre in Georgetown where he was treated and released. A spokesman for the plant was unavailable at press time.



Here today, gone tomorrow

A two-storey residence was torn down by a wrecking crew Friday and Monday beside Kenner's Social Catering. The building, near the corner of Mill and Guelph Streets in Georgetown, had been vacant for a number of months while waiting permission for demolition. Kenner's owns the land adjacent to their present building and plans to construct a building on the site of the demolished one for use in its catering business. The building which was torn down this week was the site of a fire around the Christmas period. No injuries were suffered by firefighters in the fire but the catering business beside the building was almost destroyed in the blaze if not for the quick response of the volunteer firefighters.

Japan-bashing is national pastime



Your Business

By DIANNE MALEY Business Analyst

Japan-bashing has become a national pastime for the Americans lately, but blaming Japan for America's woes could have unhappy results. Japan's export practices have been blamed for the big U.S. trade deficit. The Japanese are "neo-mercantilists," the Americans charge -- they sell but they won't buy. This makes their trading practices unfair in the eyes of the U.S. Congress. Because of their remarkable success in exporting, the Japanese have a lot of money to invest. If world trade were a big Monopoly game, the Japanese would have all the money. This means the U.S. Government has to go to Tokyo, hat in hand, to finance its budget deficit. Moderates in Japan have been urging people to "help the wounded eagle" by buying American goods. Being portrayed as needy rankles the Americans. Being shoved around by the Americans rankles the Japanese.

CAT AND MOUSE

As Sadanori Yamanaka, former trade minister, observed recently, "a cornered mouse may bite at a cat." Mr. Yamanaka was responding to pressure from the Americans to lift import barriers on U.S. farm products. He was reflecting the mood of the people. Not long ago, 200 Japanese farmers gathered under a portrait of President Ronald Reagan to hurl U.S. oranges and cigars into a fire.

Far more frightening was a recent survey of junior high school students in Japan. Asked which country Japan would most likely fight in a war, they named the United States.

With luck and a little care, the trade war that has been raging for years will end before political relations break down. The United States has won the currency battle, devalu-

ling the dollar to increase its exports. The lower dollar-yen exchange rate will cost Japan exports, profits and jobs. Yet the country has complied. It has even agreed to set up factories in the United States to export goods to Japan, helping to reverse the trade imbalance. Japanese officials keep saying that their interests and those of the Americans are the same. Japan needs the big American market. What the Americans need besides money is not so clear.

WORKING TOO HARD

To the Americans, the Japanese work too hard and spend too little. Competition for jobs and markets is ferocious. The Japanese should learn to relax and enjoy the pleasures that wealth can bring. To the Japanese, American businessmen lack the patience required to win lucrative contracts. They are rude, high-handed and arrogant. American workers seem lazy, their work slipshod. Meanwhile, Japanese nationalists snort that Japan has become the handmaiden of the United States. American nationalists caution that Japan is winning the war of economic domination. Where will the two powers meet?

They may never meet at all. Their ongoing struggle obscures the fact that they are not the only economic powers in the world. The European Economic Community, strong and relatively self-contained, may be a model of what is to come. Some political economists believe the world will eventually fall into geographically determined trading blocks. Japan will turn its back on the Americas for markets in China and the Pacific Rim. North, South and Central America will increasingly open their doors to each other.

Economically, this may make sense. But the political consequences are worrisome, to say the least.

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Water woes in plan for affordable mobile homes

By BRIAN MacLEOD Herald Staff

Efforts by developer Al Pilutti to build a 117-acre mobile home park on the Sixth Line may run into problems because of concerns about a lack of water. Mr. Pilutti told councillors Jan. 4 that he is interested in developing affordable housing in Georgetown, and that a mobile home park is just the thing the town needs.

The cheapest houses in Georgetown are selling for between \$130,000 and \$140,000, said Mr. Pilutti.

A bedroom apartment sells for about \$120,000 and that is not big enough for a family, he said.

Mr. Pilutti considers affordable housing to be in the range of \$70,000 to \$75,000.

Mr. Pilutti made the distinction between a trailer park and what he calls a mobile home park which consists of portable homes and mobile homes.

He will soon be appearing before the town's new Affordable Housing Committee to detail his plans further but Coun. Pam Sheldon said he will run into water difficulties with the site.

Mr. Pilutti was granted permission by the town to develop the lots for estate residential homes in the mid-70s but he said problems with the Official Plan has put a stop to those plans.

Town Planning Director Ian Keith said residents of the Sixth Line say there isn't enough water for the 28 houses there now.

The town included the 117-acre lot in its residential zoning in the Official Plan in 1982, said Mr. Keith. But the Region objected to that designation because Mr. Pilutti has never run tests to prove there is enough water in the area for homes.

When the Official Plan was adopted in 1985 that designation was "deferred", said Mr. Keith.

That keeps the rural designation of the land in limbo until water tests are conducted.

Mr. Pilutti said he conducted tests on the land two years ago and they showed there is indeed enough water for estate homes. But the Region wanted him to drill four more wells for more testing. Mr. Pilutti balked on more testing because of the enormous costs involved.

Mr. Pilutti said he hasn't approached the Region about extending town services to the area but he might apply for services in the future.

"The Region has to participate as well," Mr. Pilutti said of his efforts to provide affordable housing.

Mr. Pilutti said he has a proven track record of being able to provide affordable housing in Georgetown. Ten years ago he entered into an agreement with the town to construct 40 affordable houses. The town controlled the resale prices of the houses for five years, said Mr. Pilutti. "It worked," he said.

If residents on the Sixth Line strongly oppose the proposal, Mr. Pilutti said he is willing to develop just half of the land now.

However, on top of the water tests, Mr. Pilutti must also conduct an agricultural impact study on the land to satisfy the Region and the Ministry of Agriculture.

About 30 per cent of the area is a gravel pit which has already been mined, said Mr. Pilutti. He said that makes the land better for a mobile home park because mobile homes "don't fair too well on high windy grounds."

OPP squad has record year investigating drug offences

The Ontario Provincial Police drug enforcement unit has netted a record-breaking \$33 million worth of narcotics in investigations throughout the province in 1987. The 32 members of the drug enforcement section set up major undercover projects to probe drug smuggling and distribution operations across Ontario, wherever a problem arises and their expertise is needed by smaller and less equipped police forces. The OPP drug enforcement section has been involved in no less than 2,000 separate drug investigations, most initially launched by other police departments.

"Many municipal forces recognize problems in their areas and they seek our assistance. In fact, 90 per cent of our work involves joint force investigations," said Supt. Wib Craig, director of OPP General Investigations Branch, which the drug enforcement section comes under. A recent joint forces investigation involving the OPP, Canada Customs and the Surete Du Quebec ended Christmas Eve with the seizure of \$18 million worth of heroin, smuggled from the Middle East, and the arrests of ten people in Toronto and Montreal.

Drug enforcement section members travel throughout Ontario providing financial resources, equipment, assistance and training for OPP personnel at the district level and for other police forces. The section has 15 to 20 individual investigations on the go at any time.

Cocaine proved to be the most increasingly used illicit drug in Ontario in 1987. It was present in every investigation the OPP launched. Major undercover operations set up in areas such as Barrie, Kingston, Ottawa, Thunder Bay and Kenora, to name only a few, continued to reveal the wide spread use and distribution of cocaine. Marijuana and hashish are the other most common drugs found to be in circulation and quantities of both are present in nearly all investigations.

The sale and distribution of cocaine, like all other drugs, involves a complete cross section of our society. Dealers include outlaw motorcycle gang members, businessmen, students, professional people and the unemployed.

The following cases are three typical drug investigations undertaken by the OPP drug enforcement section this year.

"Project Snow", a seven-month undercover investigation into the sale of cocaine, hashish, hash oil, marijuana, LSD, magic mushroom and controlled drugs in Sudbury, ended when OPP and Sudbury Regional Police officers charged a total of 66 people on 135 drug-related offences August 19.

The investigation, which originally centred on the sale of drugs in local strip clubs, netted \$150,000 worth of drugs in what began as a street-level probe involving one OPP undercover operative with the North Bay drug unit. Following a series of small cocaine and hash buys, the undercover operative worked his way into the larger field of cocaine and hash distribution from Montreal via the Ottawa area.

"Project Pony", a six-month joint forces probe involving the OPP drug enforcement section and Metropolitan Toronto Police, centred on cocaine distribution in Toronto and surrounding areas. Using electronic and physical surveillance, investigators probed organized crime figures and found a major distribution network importing cocaine from South America

into Montreal. The drug would then be distributed throughout Ontario via Toronto.

Last April 1, more than 100 police officers, including members of the Peel and York Regional Police departments, staged early morning raids arresting 23 people. During the course of the investigation \$150,000 worth of drugs were seized. Special investigative assistance and surveillance was provided by police in Montreal and the Surete Du Quebec, who made additional arrests and drug seizures in that province.

Cocaine distribution in the Woodstock area came under OPP scrutiny in "Project Whiteout", which culminated in the arrests of 13 people on 28 Narcotic Control Act and Criminal Code of Canada charges Jan. 15.

Information provided by an infor-

mant revealed cocaine could easily be bought at a Woodstock hotel and that truckers from across Canada and the U.S. regularly stopped by to purchase the drug.

Surveillance showed cocaine and other drugs were brought from Toronto and distributed in the London area through the Woodstock location.

Three months after the initial investigation was launched 55 officers, combined members of Woodstock Police, OPP, Waterloo and Peel Regional Police forces and Metro Toronto Police, raided homes and businesses in their respective areas. OPP officers from the London drug unit drew assistance from members of the Kingston, North Bay and Toronto drug units. Police seized \$65,000 worth of drugs, as well as a fully operational hash oil laboratory.

Ambulance - firefighters team up for area rescues

The fire department checked out numerous false alarms and assisted ambulance crews in a number of resuscitation calls this past week.

At 7:05 a.m. Jan. 6 firefighters investigated an alarm activation at 34 Armstrong Ave. in Georgetown. One of the pipes in the Georgetown Terminal had frozen.

A rubbish fire at Lot 24 Concession 4 in Nassagaweya brought the Acton fire department out for duty Jan. 6 at 9:05 p.m. Someone was burning their Christmas tree in their backyard.

The fire department sped to 125 McDonald Blvd. in Acton to assist the ambulance when a woman got her arm caught in a machine at the Heller Factory. Jan. 6 at 9:43 p.m., the woman was taken to hospital.

Jan. 7 at 2:22 p.m. firefighters returned to 125 McDonald Blvd. in Acton. A male had caught his arm in a different machine at the Heller factory. He had been taken to the

Medical Centre by the time the fire department arrived.

The fire department responded to a resuscitation call Jan. 7 at 4:58 a.m. A five-month old baby at 63 Kingham Rd. in Acton was having trouble breathing. Firefighters waited until the ambulance arrived.

The fire department assisted the ambulance at a motor vehicle accident Jan. 8 at 9:44 p.m. on the 22 Sideroad between the Fifth and Sixth lines.

Jan. 9 at 3 a.m. firefighters sped to a private residence located on Lot 5 Concession 4 in Erin Township. An alarm had been set off by something that had burnt. There was no damage.

Firefighters responded to a false alarm Jan. 9 at 12:18 a.m. at 8 Durham Street in Georgetown.

Jan. 9 at 12:40 p.m. firefighters answered a false alarm at the Standard Products Plant at 346 Guelph St. in Georgetown.

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