

## See you at the fair

This weekend marks the 142nd running of the Georgetown Fall Fair, and a lot of fingers are crossed in hopes that the inclement weather of last year won't make a return appearance.

There are few festive events in any community that can compare with the longevity that local fairs have enjoyed over the last century-and-a-half.

Prior to last year's fair, there was some question as to whether or not the annual tradition would be able to continue, due to sagging interest - something many other communities have had to contend with, as well.

However, the people who took up the cause have done a remarkable job of reviving the local fall fair and renewing interest in a big way.

Even last year's rain didn't have the far-reaching catastrophic effects some may have expected. Despite the cancellation of several feature events, the fair came off as a success.

Indeed, the Georgetown Agricultural Society had done what they set out to do, and the outlook became positive.

People have their own soft spots that draw them to the fall fair each year. For some, it's the rides, others enjoy the games of chance, and still others go for the tradition of the exhibits which have been the mainstay of the fall fair for ages.

But the important thing to remember, for whatever reason you go to the fair, is that the fall fair is a community event, staged by the community for the community.

The hard work is being done by those in the community who care enough to give their time and efforts so others can have an enjoyable weekend.

For the rest of us, all that is asked is that we attend the fair and take advantage of the entertainment set up for our benefit.

And that's not asking a great deal when you stop to think about it.

## Consider the effects

It is encouraging to see an increase in the number of people taking interest in the proposed Acton quarry landfill hearings.

But there is always room for more. Now is the time to find out what the effects of having a landfill situated at the quarry site will have on the immediate area, not 10 years after it is in operation.

People in Halton Hills can be excused if they feel they are being buried by the information being circulated on landfills.

After all, there is the local picture, the regional picture, and the governmental and private sectors involved in the big business of garbage.

It can be confusing at the best of times. People can find themselves inundated with technological jargon, and facts and figures that seem insignificant when they appear on a drawing board.

But make no mistake. A landfill will not be put into use without there being significant effects to those who live near it.

Now is the time to sort out whether or not the changes and disruptions brought about by a new landfill will be acceptable.

It won't be enough in 15 or 20 years from now to say, "Well we had no idea it was going to be like this." You have the opportunity to find out what it is "going to be like," but at the same time, you have to take the initiative to study the issues now.

Sort out the difference between the solution to the regional garbage problem, and study the implications of a proposed landfill site that could go into use "in your backyard."

Take a look at the big picture while you're at it and delve into Energy From Waste proposals. This is another facet that will have a big part in the over all scheme of things.

There were about 100 people who turned out to a meeting on the proposed Acton quarry landfill last week at the Alcott Arena, and this was one of the largest crowds they have had for the series of meetings.

But that seems an insignificant number when one considers the masses who could be affected by a new landfill.

## What's in store at the polls



### Editor's notebook

by Mike Turner  
Herald Editor

Election fever is beginning to pick once again - sort of.

Everyone should at least be aware that there are two elections on the way, even if the word of "the excitement" isn't exactly on everyone's lips.

This time around matters should turn out to be nothing short of mind-boggling, given the fact that the federal elections will be Nov. 7 (or so the latest rumor mills suggest) and the municipal elections will be a mere week later.

If nothing else, this time around should provide some benchmark as to how seriously people in Ontario take their politics.

Will there be a big turnout for the federal election? Or will voters in Ontario set their priorities closer to home and make sure they get out to choose the local representation they want to see in power? Or for that matter, will people turn out in droves for both elections, suggesting they don't feel any letdown from their first trip to the polls, or will most just say to heck with it and let God's will be done.

Time will tell, of course. But there may be something else that could be considered. Supposing voters were allowed to cancel out votes. It would seem to be simple enough for the federal elections. If someone doesn't feel they wish to exercise their right to vote, even

though they may have a small lot of loyalty for a particular candidate, let him go out and find two other eligible voters, who have different ideas on who should be elected. With three different votes for the three major parties, there wouldn't be any need to go to the polls because the vote would be cast for naught anyway.

On the municipal side, it would be more difficult, given the number of council members who have to be elected. But that's not saying some sort of system couldn't be devised that would have the same implications.

Have you ever stopped to wonder how much energy is used for people to get to their polling stations and cast their vote?

It must be incredible to think about the number of litres of gasoline used to get out and vote. And that's not to mention the extra energy used at the churches and schools where the polling stations are located.

Is this something worth thinking about?

No, of course not. It is our right and privilege to cast our vote and have a hand in deciding on those who will represent us in government, and the cancellation of votes is not adhering to the proper spirit of what a free vote means.

Naturally, such a system would never work.

Then on the other hand, it could be that half the population is already employing this system, and they just haven't seen fit to tell the rest of us. That would certainly account for the low voter turnout that prevails at most elections, regardless of the level of government.

Boggles the mind, doesn't it...?

# Fair and thorough review is needed

The Energy Ministry decision to set up an "independent, thorough review" of the relative cost of nuclear power is a good idea. Assuming, of course, that it is fair and balanced.

But that's not something we'll know until its terms of reference, and perhaps even the review's report itself, is available.

The recommendation for a review of nuclear costs was made recently by a Technical Advisory Panel to Energy Minister Bob Wong.

The panel, which the government established to advise it about Ontario Hydro's projected energy demands, was skeptical of the utility's cost estimates for a new nuclear generating station.

It felt the estimates were too low, hence the call for an independent inquiry.

Hydro argues it can deliver energy from nuclear stations at about 75 per cent of the cost from new coal-fired plants.

Few take seriously the possibility of meeting future energy demands from anything other than one of those two sources.

True, Wong stressed energy conservation when he spoke to the legislative committee here where he announced the coming cost review.

He said he was "disappointed" in Hydro's estimates of only 3,500



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megawatts in conservation by the year 2000.

This is the equivalent of more than four nuclear reactors of the Darlington A type.

Even with those savings, Hydro anticipates demand will force construction of additional nuclear or coal-fired units.

And the utility's cost estimates suggest anything other than building nuclear would be a waste of money.

Wong isn't so sure.

"It is imperative that we have an accurate accounting of (nuclear) costs. This information can have a significant impact on the decisions we make about our future generation options," he told the committee.

It is true also that Wong wouldn't rule out any means of meeting energy demand: "coal, hydraulic, nuclear - they're all options."

But that isn't particularly credible.

The only major new source of

hydroelectric energy, for instance, is the rivers flowing into the James Bay lowland.

Hydroelectric dams would drown thousands of square miles in that boggy, low-lying country, disrupting Indian communities and local wildlife, as well as requiring transmission lines over a distance the equivalent of Toronto to Florida.

It is how the cost inquiry decides to quantify such aspects of each type of power generation that will make it so interesting.

There is no question that nuclear is both the safest and most environmentally sound of the technologies available for producing electricity.

However, it requires the most borrowing of money to build, and it has political problems (rather than technical) with waste storage and decommissioning.

In addition, the panel had doubts in several areas about Hydro's methods of calculating costs.

It noted, for example, that the dollar figure Hydro uses for the cost of a theoretical (future) nuclear station is falling, while the cost of the one actually being built at Darlington is rising to where it is already one-third more expensive.

The panel warned that Hydro's calculation of nuclear costs was so much lower than that of competing means of generation that alternatives would be dismissed out of

hand. But if the costs are wrong? Hence the need for the inquiry. And that's fine, as long as the inquiry's mandate isn't slanted anti-nuclear from the start. Along that line, Wong's musing to reporters about solar power (a non-starter of any consequence in Ontario) and the need to include waste disposal and dismantling in nuclear cost estimates (they are, and have been since 1982) is worrisome. We shall see.

## Halton's History

from our files

### 30 years ago

Sheaves tied by W.O. Brownridge, 26 College St., placed in the prize list at the Canadian National Exhibition grain show. Three sheaves entered in the name of the Esqueving Agricultural Society won a fifth prize; and 6th prizes were scored by a wheat sheaf entered by Jim Fisher and an oat sheaf entered by Dave Lawson. Neilson Stark supplied the wheat and oats and Spencer Early the barley for sheaves.

Hockey fans are beginning to look ahead to the 1988-89 season already. And, mindful that early organization is necessary to ice a top team, an organizing meeting is planned for next week at the W.F. Hurter real estate office.

The appointment of George McClure, 83 Maple Ave. W. as manager of Harold C. McClure Ltd., local furniture and appliance retailer, was announced this week. A member of the National Retail Furniture Association of America, Mr. McClure is following the business established 31 years ago by his father, who also conducts the McClure Funeral Home on Edith Street.

### 15 years ago

By a vote of five-to-three Tuesday night, council opted for Georgetown high school to be the site for a swimming pool. Reeve Ric Morrow and Councillors Harry Levy and Phil Siddall stuck to their original positions, and opposed the location. They have consistently maintained that the pool should be incorporated in an arena-community hall complex.

Reeve Ric Morrow extended the hand of friendship to Warden Anne MacArthur at a Halton council county meeting last week, in a gesture of truce that ended an eight-month-old running feud. Reeve Morrow has been a constant critic of the warden since he was defeated by her in a race for the warden's chair at the beginning of the year. He admitted he had directed very few complimentary remarks toward the warden's chair but then praised Mrs. MacArthur highly on the job she has done in her efforts to unite all sections of the county into a strong regional government. "Any differences in the past should be set aside in interest of co-operation in the difficult transitional time ahead," said the Reeve.

Sunday Sept. 16 is a very important date in the life of Bethel United Church in Hornby. The Bethel congregation will celebrate its 150th anniversary.

### 10 years ago

Norval native, Pete Pomeroy, announced Monday that he will seek the mayor's seat in the Nov. 1 election. Mr. Pomeroy, 39, has represented Ward 3 on Halton Hills council for the past two years. Without question, Mr. Pomeroy says, the issues will centre around taxes, development and the inherent rights of property owners, especially the farmers.

Maple Avenue Baptist Church welcomes new Minister Edwin H. Mitchell, who will begin conducting sermons Aug. 10. Rev. Mitchell brings with him extensive educational and church experience gathered in England, Texas, New York City and parts of Ontario. Born in England, Pastor Mitchell received his early education at the Durham School of Agriculture before emigrating to Canada in 1948 as Herd Foreman for Rockwood Holsteins, one of the country's leading herds.

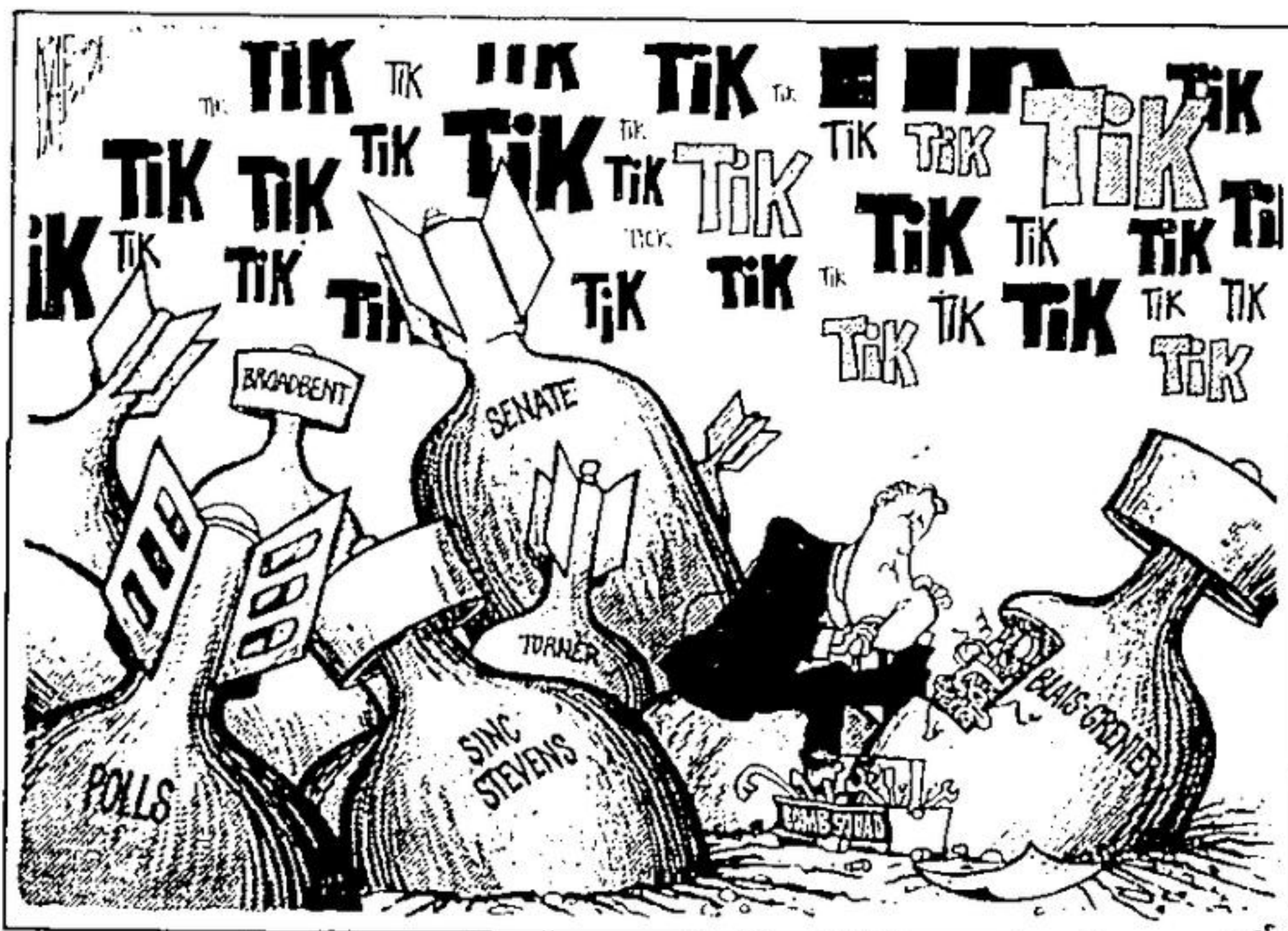
William Johnson of Nassugaweya, the outspoken environmentalist who was unsuccessful in two attempts to win the Halton-Burlington seat in the provincial legislature for the New Democratic Party, announced his intention to enter the Nov. 13 election as a Milton candidate for Halton regional council. Mr. Johnson, 56, founded the Group United Against Rural Dumping, GUARD, in the late 60s.

### 5 years ago

The town's planning department has little "new information" on why the province's agricultural ministry topped off 300-acres from the Georgetown urban area. Georgetown's enlarged urban areas passed through the approval process relatively unscathed and councillors were surprised when housing and municipal affairs minister Claude Bennett made the modification.

Owners of the Croatian Centre aren't ready to commit themselves to problem-solving with their neighbors, a representative for the Centre told Norval-area residents and agricultural people last week. Lawyer Ron Webb said last Wednesday that he was asked to find out what some of the problems are and ways in which to overcome some of the residents' grievances about the Centre's weekend recreational activities.

Jim McPhail's black and red old English bantam chickens won their class championship in the CNE poultry show last Friday. Mr. McPhail has won the best game bantam championship for the last three years.



## Citizens' forum

### Policy change is not the case

Dear Sir,

The decisions of the recent General Council of the United Church of Canada are of interest not only to United Church members, but to everyone in our community. We, the United Church clergy of Halton Hills, are concerned that everyone understand these decisions accurately. Initial media reports were often sensationalized, misleading the public to believe that there has been a major policy change in our church regarding membership and ordination. This is not the case.

The United Church of Canada makes policy through the consensus of elected church delegates from across Canada. Two local delegates from Halton Hills were Mrs. Kathryn Latimer and Rev. Walter Ridley, who confirm the fact that the actual decisions of General Council were very moderate indeed. The complete text of the decisions is available from any of our United Churches.

In the words of former Moderator Bruce MacLeod, "the church's quiet centre has prevailed." While recognizing the human rights of homosexually oriented persons in our society, no real change in our long-standing policy regarding membership and ordination has been made.

Here is a brief summary of the

decisions of our General Council:

**Regarding church membership:** The church repeated its policy that "all people professing faith in Jesus Christ and obedience to Him" may be full members of the church. There is not now, nor has there ever been, any discrimination about church membership based on sexual orientation.

**Regarding ordination:** The church repeated its policy that "all members... are eligible to be considered for Ordered Ministry." However, every candidate will continue to be exhaustively examined regarding their fitness for ministry. Most importantly, no "blanket" criterion about sexual orientation is arbitrarily imposed from above, but it will continue to be the responsibility of congregations and regional church courts to assess whether any candidate's lifestyle, heterosexual or homosexual, might be a barrier to ordination.

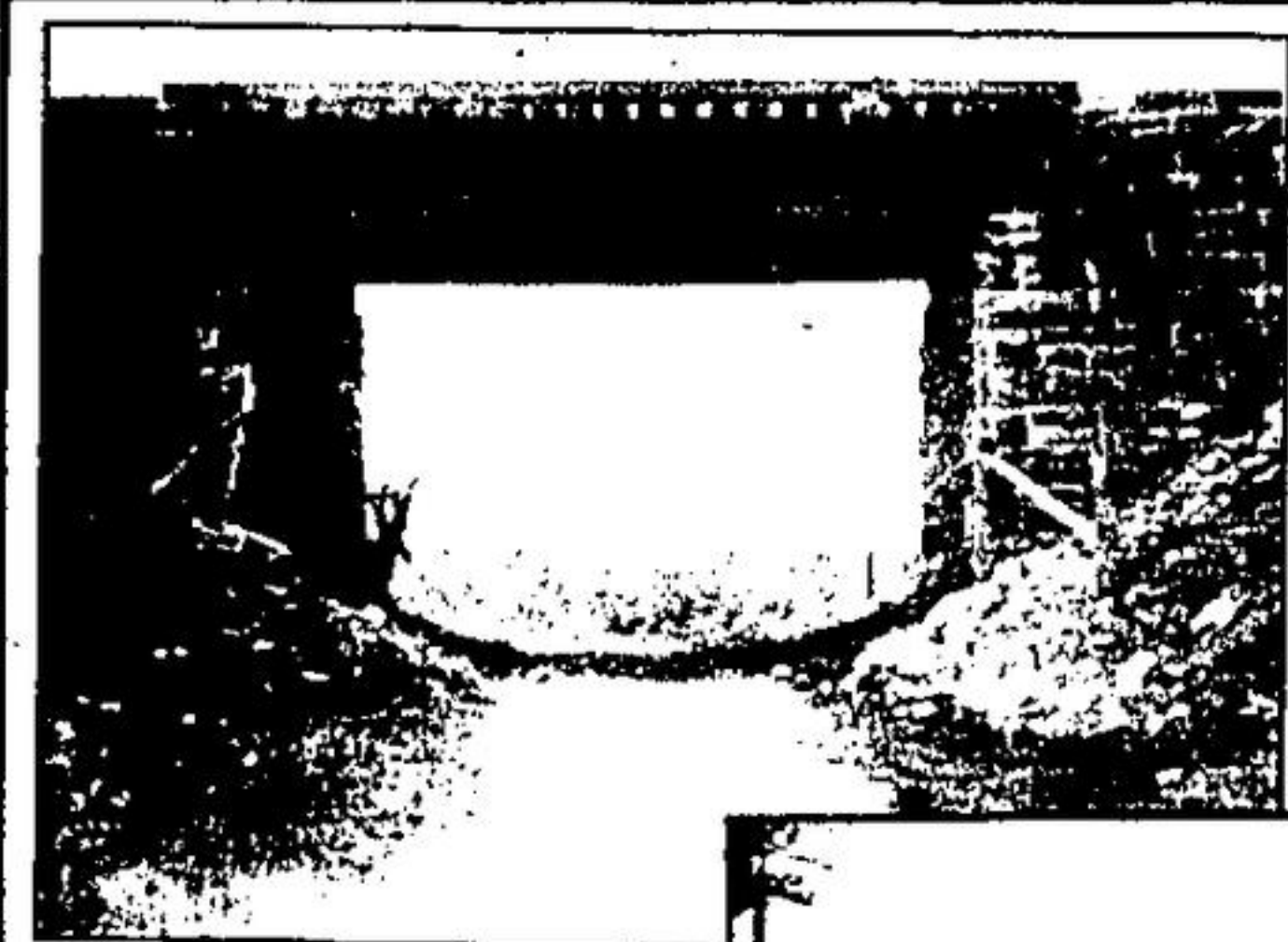
**Regarding marriage and personal relationships:** The church reaffirmed that marriage is a gift from God with the intention of life-long commitment based on faithfulness. There are indeed varieties of faithful relationships, but the church upholds the essential values of marriage and family, and challenges any relationship or attitude that

degrades personal worth.

**Regarding the rights of homosexually oriented persons in society:** The church recognizes that such persons have been and still are treated with prejudice and injustice, both in society and church, and calls for greater acceptance and understanding. The church urges provincial and federal human rights codes to follow the example of Ontario in protecting the human rights of such persons by law.

Extreme elements of both church and society from the conservative right and liberal left, have been disappointed. A moderate position in keeping with our past ordination and membership policies, and sensitive to our justice concerns, has been adopted. This has been supported by the great majority of delegates who represent that broad spectrum of opinion which occupies the "quiet centre" of the United Church of Canada.

We would be happy to respond to any inquiry concerning the policy of the United Church of Canada.  
- Rev. Thomas Bandy, St. Andrew's-Ballinacraig United Church; Rev. Nancy Knox, St. John's United Church; Rev. Walter Ridley, Norval-Huttonville United Church; Rev. Ken Jackson, Trinity United Church.



Jean Ruddlell, a member of the Esqueving Historical Society, submitted these photos showing the railway bridge on the Sixth Line, just north of Sideroad 20. The photo above shows the bridge and dirt road of the early 1900s, while the other photo was taken in the spring. While time has marched on, the bridges remain remarkably similar in their structure. The Esqueving Historical Society meets the second Wednesday of each month, and welcomes the public. Their next meeting is Wednesday, Sept. 14, at St. Alban's Church in Acton. A feature of the meeting will be a walking tour of Acton, which will begin promptly at 7 p.m.

## Bridging the years



Yesterdays...