



PG Bell steel workers in Georgetown went on strike Sunday night after failing to reach a contract agreement. The 57 workers in the plant are represented by the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM). (Herald photo)

P.G. Bell union walks out

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retire in the next few years.

"This is one group who has never had a pension plan," said Mr. Short, who added that the issue is a "bone of contention" for IAM workers at the plant.

P G Bell offered a retirement plan in their contract proposal.

"The best indication that we got from the union is that they want a pension plan," said Mr. Gri.

He said the company's present offer would not help workers about to retire.

"Building up a nest egg is quite dependent on the amount of time."

He said someone who is now 60 years old would not benefit much from the pension plan put on the table last week by P G Bell.

Striking IAM workers also want a vision care program and expanded dental care.

But Mr. Gri said that benefits

were "upgraded" in the company's last offer.

He said the company will not table another offer until the union responded to the current one.

The IAM sent P G Bell a letter rejecting the company's offer, said Mr. Short Tuesday. He said the union is willing to re-enter talks with an "amended" position.

Until talks resume, IAM workers outside P G Bell will strike 24-hours-a-day in six-hour shifts. They keep the traditional union fire burning and have a trailer for supplies out on the site.

P G Bell has been in Georgetown for 30 years without a strike. The company is known for its construction of steel panelling at the Eaton's Centre in Toronto 12 years ago and for its help in constructing a covered skating rink for last year's Olympic Games in Calgary.

Waste site closed

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The major concern of Halton Regional councillors was the short notice they received from the MOE regarding violation of the ministry statute. They also said the MOE was vague in its description of the depot's problems.

Halton Chairman Peter Pomeroy said he "couldn't make heads nor tails" of the ministry report. The decision to suggest the Region close the Milton depot "all centres around the lack of courtesy of at least one officer in the Ministry of the Environment," said Mr. Pomeroy.

Regional councillors discussed Halton's role in waste disposal and said they weren't being appreciated by the ministry. Some who had heard of the closure for the first time at Wednesday's general committee meeting of Regional councillors expressed anger toward the Ministry of the Environment.

"Perhaps we could find Mr. Par-

sons' address and deliver the stuff (hazardous waste) to his house," said Burlington Coun. Rob Forbes.

Burlington Coun. Pat McLaughlin said it would be a "shame" if the Milton depot remained closed. The ministry order "came out of the blue," he said.

"We're the pioneers in this thing as far as recycling goes and we're getting penalized." He added that disposing of hazardous waste is not mandated by the ministry.

Halton Region will discuss the necessary changes to the Milton depot at a future meeting. For now the Milton hazardous waste depot will remain closed.

Get rid of those cars

If a proposed bylaw is passed, Halton Hills farmers and landowners will have to dispose of old trucks, cars and tractors sitting on their property.

Town bylaw enforcement officer Bob Ustrzycki presented a proposed bylaw to the town's general committee Monday night that would prohibit "derelict" vehicles from sitting on private property for extended periods.

Acton Councillor Al Cook said the bylaw would "prohibit the desertion of a vehicle just left to sit there and rot for 15 years."

But not all councillors say the bylaw proposal is a positive step. Coun. Alf Spence said the bylaw

would be "a double-edged sword." It would disallow farmers from using scrap tractors for parts for their operable equipment.

"Coming from a farming community, I have trouble with your bylaw," he said to Mr. Ustrzycki. "It's almost impossible to point out a bylaw for (both) a rural and an urban area."

"Waste could be interpreted as me disposing of my farm residue... I could construe (the bylaw) in this fashion," he said.

But Mr. Ustrzycki assured him that was not the case. He said the proposed bylaw would be more "expeditious" than the bylaw created in 1983, which he called dif-

ficult to enforce.

The new bylaw, said Mr. Ustrzycki in his report to councillors, would allow for fines and out-of-court settlements for offenders.

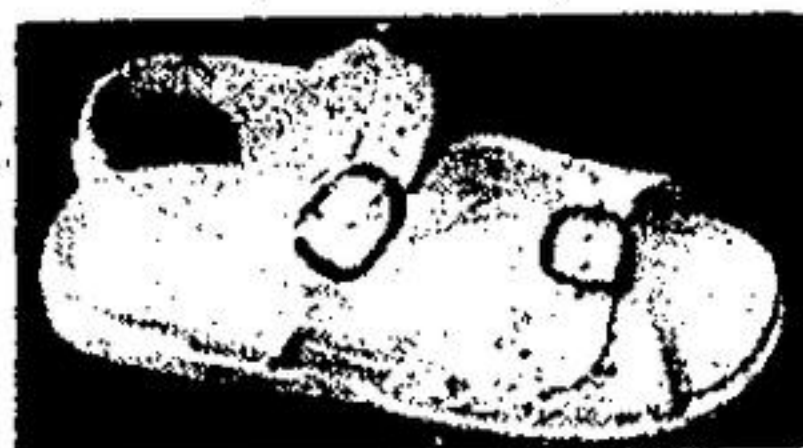
Coun. Marilyn Serjeantson said the bylaw would mean people will take "more pride in their property."

But Coun. Joe Hewitt said there should be exemptions for greenhouses and exemptions for farms if there is a "bona fide" farmer.

The bylaw proposal will go forward to town council which will have the option of approving, rejecting or amending the proposal.

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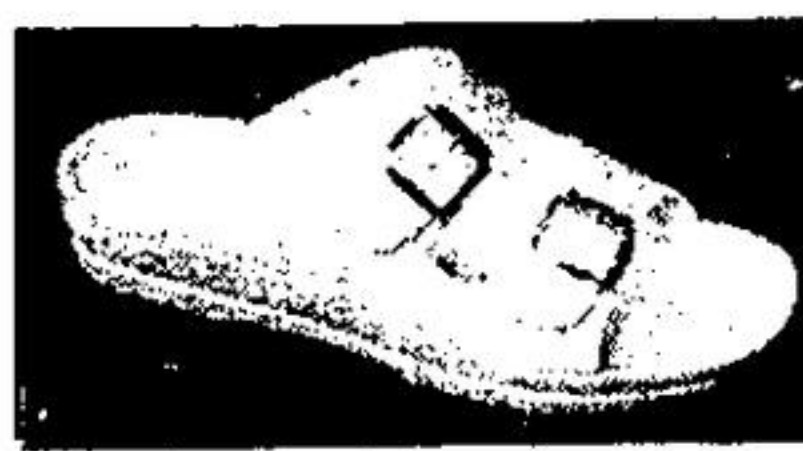
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