Community-

Board of Education surplus put to good use

Halton Board of Education has a \$4.8 million surplus in their 1990 budget which will allow the board to finish some extra projects that may have had to wait for comple-

"The surplus assures that things like roofing and installing health and safety requirements will get done now instead of

later," said Jerry Jenkins, the board's superintendent of business services.

The surplus is a result of overbudgeting of \$3.2 million and an additional \$1.56 million worth of provincial grants. These grants were Ministry of Education pupil grants which arrived late to the board.

Mr. Jenkins said some of the overbudgeting resulted when the board estimated more students would be entering the school than actually did. This saved the board from hiring additional staff.

As well, "there were fewer category upgrades of teachers," said Mr. Jenkins, that would require higher salaries. Furthermore, retirement gratuities were not as high as predicted.

What the board planned to do with the surplus was dealt with by the Finance Committee, headed by Patricia Wilcox. Their report was presented to Halton trustees at their Jan. 24 meeting.

In the report, the committee recommended the surplus be used for extra projects rather than use it as a refund to taxpayers.

The idea was supported by some trustees who said if the additional monies were refunded back to taxpayers, they would only have to be collected again in the tax bill when the extra projects had to be completed.

However, "about \$1 million of the surplus will be used to reduce the amount of municipal taxes that have to be raised on our behalf," said Mr. Jenkins.

The rest of the surplus will be used as follows:

\$950,000 to maintain the roof replacement program which will be added to the \$1,152,000 which was put in reserves for roof restoration in 1990

\$1,425,000 reserve fund for 1991 expenditures dealing with environmental and safety concerns of which \$1,200,000 is budgeted for planned asbestos work; \$100,000 for health and safety requirements such as eye wash stations, flammable liquid storage and acid storage; \$100,000 for storage sites for light ballasts and work on transformer sites; and \$25,000 for the blue box program

- \$600,000 reserve for future retirement gratuities

- \$75,000 reserve for completion of the 1990 Library automation program and moving technical equipment from G.E. Perdue High School

- \$500,000 to the board's capital reserve fund of which \$150,000 may be used for portables and

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\$350,000 for general capital.

Halton trustees passed these recommendations at their last meeting.

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This past December Halton Regional Police Ser-

vices held their 12th Annual Charity Christmas

Dance. The Charity Dance in the past has donated

profits to such organizations as Down Syndrome,

Milton Hospital Children's Wing, Developmentally

Handicapped, and Halton Women's Place. Last Fri-

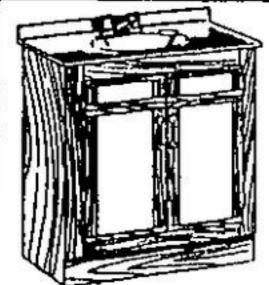
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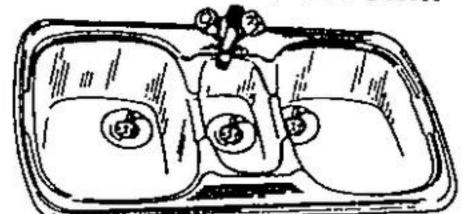
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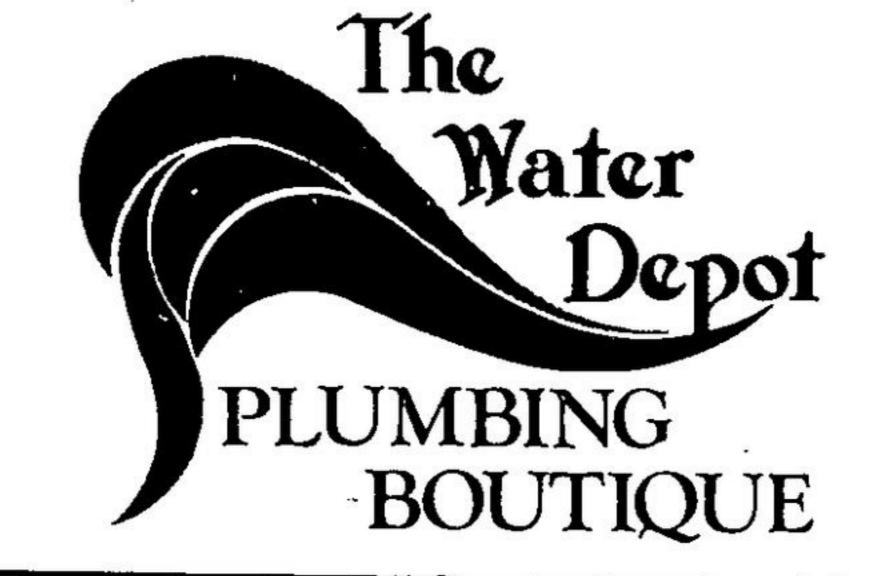
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phurst (centre) accepted a cheque for \$1,500.00

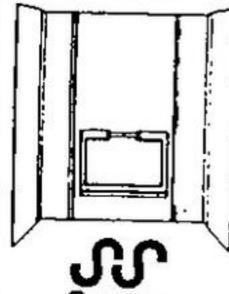
from Constable Bill Riddell (right) with the

assistance of Staff Inspector Richard Kivell. The

money from the Charity Dance will go to the Peel

Chapter of the Canadian Foundation for Ileitis and

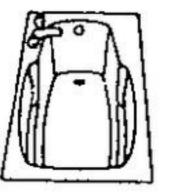
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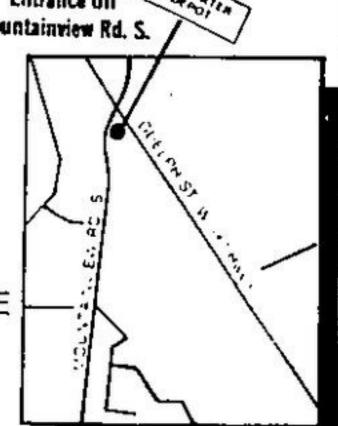
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