Out at the Ranch

with Bill Ellis

THE GARBAGE

I recently had cause to do away with a quantity of waste paper, consequently I made my first visit to the Waste Wise depot. I couldn't believe what a beehive of activity I walked into. A volunteer gently instructed me to separate coloured paper from white paper. I unwisely made comment that this sorting was going to take a couple of hours. A nice lady, who was walking by at the time, told me that if I wanted to help save the world I should be prepared to do some

Well - shut my mouth and get sorting!

Now - I have never really been into garbage - so to speak. I slugged it to the curb and promptly forgot it. Most likely, I did not enter into the recycle programs with as much intensity as was possible. Though I made an honest effort on glass bottles, cans and newspapers.

The comment of the lady at Waste Wise had really made an impression on me. But if I had related some of my waste observances - she might have gone into shock. Why I can remember when a big laugh was to set fire to the Township dump. A good dump fire would burn for three or four days. Yes, there was a black smoke pall in the sky - and no - the fire department did not try to put out the fire. Or when most homes had a 45 gallon steel drum in the back yard, which was used as a garbage incinerator. Or when one of the accepted smells of autumn was the great aroma of burning leaves

every boulevard.

But that was the old days - out in the "Boonies."

Today, garbage is big business. And poor John Q. Public is pummeled and even hammered with continuous "expert" opinions on what to do with garbage. Obviously, no two expert opinions agree. Incinerate - without danger to the atmosphere. Incinerate with guaranteed atmospheric pollution. Bury it! - but where? - certainly not here! How about over there?

Who do you believe? What is best? Does anybody really know how much money was spent on "studies", by all interested parties, before Halton got it's dump?

As a person who is just newly into garbage - so to speak - most likely I really don't have a good understanding of the big garbage picture. Why, a guy told me a garbage story that I can hardly believe.

He says that the Provincial Government set up and pays for an agency to pick dump sites. When the site is announced, after a great amount of expensive studies, everybody in the dump site municipality opposes the agency's choice. The Provincial Government then provides the chosen site municipality with the necessary funds to hire lawyers to oppose the agency site choice.

I may be naive about garbage, but you can't expect me to believe that story, - can

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But you're not. This house everything - well almost - open concept yet cozy, takes advantage of the property and views, fireplace in the bathroom, guest quarters ~ Please call for the complete list!!



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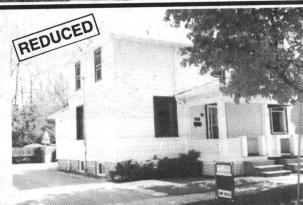
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