# Rennie's retirement years will be busy

BY DOUG HARRISON The Acton Tanner

Gerald Rennie's regrets are few as he looks forward to years of community work, travel and extra time with Joyce, his wife of 39 years. Rennie recently retired from teaching at North Park Secondary School in Brampton.

"The decision to retire was not made in haste. I've been thinking about it for a couple of years," Rennie stated last week.

"I'm 65, in good health and fairly active in a number of things.

I don't dread retirement. I don't know what it is, really."

The nine-year Acton town councillor paused briefly and then added, "I see it as an opportunity rather than a shelving. I don't have the same restrictions now."

Rennie is involved with the Acton Business Improvement Area (BIA), Acton FoodShare, and he is a member of the local Community Consultation Committee, which advises Halton Police on local law enforcement issues.

"I expect to spend a fair amount

of time here," he said while taking a break from paperwork at the Seniors' Centre. "We have 120 members so far and I would like to build up the organization and make it self-sufficient."

Rennie was an English teacher at North Park for 17 years; he began his career at Central Peel Secondary School, also in Brampton, where he spent nine years.

The Churchill Road resident admitted that he will miss the North Park staff, who gave him a purse of money and two tickets to Scotland at his retirement party.

"It's been a touching, warm and parties, good wishes and letters from the students as well as the teachers," noted Rennie.

A former full-time pastor in Winnipeg, Rennie was ordained in 1959 and helped build St. Vital Presbyterian Church in 1967. Prior to this, he worked in a dozen presbyteries as a clerk of financial, moral and theological prob-

Rennie later received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Western Ontario and later a Type-A Teacher's Certificate in theology from the University of Toronto.

In his years at North Park, Rennie was the unofficial padre of the English Department and was often referred to as Marrying Sam. He actually married five couples from among the school's staff.

Rennie will also be remembered for introducing a writer's craft course to students, along with being the teacher supervisor of the school yearbook, working with the public speaking and debating clubs and dealing with Teachers' Federation business.

But he won't miss marking papers. He had a penchant for evalupleasant retirement so far — the ating them upon arrival just to get them out of his hair.

> "Working 8 am to 4 pm, I now have that span of hours I've never had before. It will give me time to do things with the Seniors' Centre or the BIA," the father of three explained, adding he'll also cherish the fall months that he only had a glimpse of while in school.

"But I'll still be getting up at 6:30 am and making my 'Jobs to be Done' list.

"And no matter how bad weather-wise September and October are, they're going to be beau-

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## Landry wishes rep would 'sit'

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK The Acton Tanner

Councillor Rick Bonnette's open mind about incinerating garbage worries local environmentalist Rita Landry, who appeared before a Regional committee recently, extolling the horrors of energy-from-waste (EFW) technology.

Recently Halton Council endorsed the committee's recommendations asking staff to do a research report on EFW and suggested approaches for Halton's waste management plan.

Halton's Medical Officer of Health will also be asked to report on health issues concerning incineration.

Landry, armed with reports showing incineration to be the largest source of cancercausing dioxins, is concerned that Halton's willingness to look at EFW signals it is also willing to accept a facility.

"I just wish Bonnette would sit down when they talk about this stuff," Landry said following the meeting.

"It was the same thing when they talked about waste from the Greater Toronto Area coming to Halton. I don't want to debate the merits of EFW with Counc. Bonnette, but every time he supports something like it, he'd better be prepared to accept it in his backyard."

At a meeting last month, Oakville Councillor Barry Quinn said that Halton should put up a sign welcoming EFW and Bonnette said that he was willing to look into it.

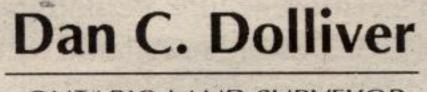
"I support the concept of EFW," Bonnette said in a recent interview, "but I need all the details about EFW technology, which, by the way, is being used successfully all over the world."

As part of its approval for the landfill site on Hwy. 25, south of Milton, the Region had to accept a provincial condition that it make all reasonable efforts to have an EFW facility open within eight years of the landfill opening, which was in 1992.

That condition has been on hold since former environment minister Ruth Grier put a moratorium on incineration.







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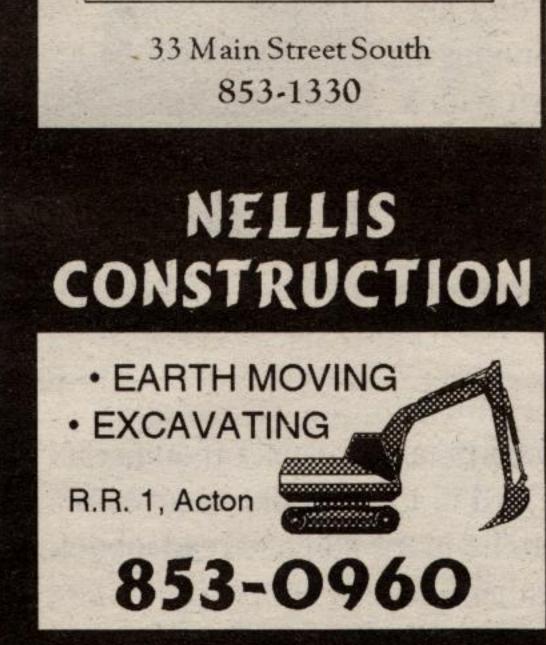
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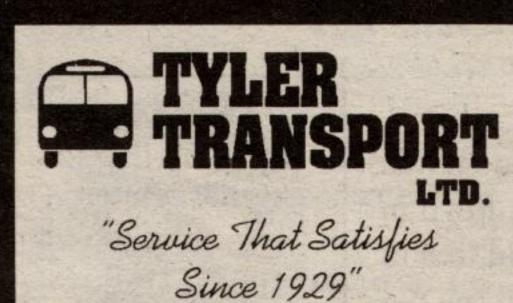
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