

GRAPE VINE

events for the coming year so that efforts to raise money for arena upgrades are co-ordinated.

The meeting is at 8 pm at the Prospect Park boat house.

Give Christmas to needy

Acton residents can experience the joy of giving this Christmas by taking part in a unique project that provides small gifts to needy children in Third World countries.

In 1995 over 812,000 children in 15 countries received shoe boxes filled with toys, school supplies and small gifts and this year Trinity United Church is organizing the event for the Christian relief organization Samaritan's Purse.

If you would like to help, find an empty shoe box, decide if your gift will be for a boy or girl and fill the box with items appropriate to the age you've chosen. Suggestions include toothbrushes, soap, combs and small toys.

A donation of \$5 is also requested to help with shipping. Shoe boxes can be dropped off at Trinity until Nov. 16 and will also be collected during the Santa Claus Parade.

Foster Family Week

The Town of Halton Hills has proclaimed Oct. 20-27 to be Canadian Foster Family Week.

In celebration, the Halton Children's Aid Society has planned a pot luck dinner, an open house and an evening of line dancing as a way to pay tribute to the dedication of foster parents in Halton.

For more details on the events of the week, call (905) 844-8211.

Pumpkin power

No word on how much money was raised by Acton Kinsmen and Kin Kids but Sunday's pumpkin wagon fundraiser was an "overwhelming success."

"We had 500 pumpkins and we sold out, so we apologize to anyone who we didn't get to," pumpkin wagon organizer Dan Fry explained in an interview on Sunday night.

"The public response was overwhelming and the money will be used to benefit Acton."

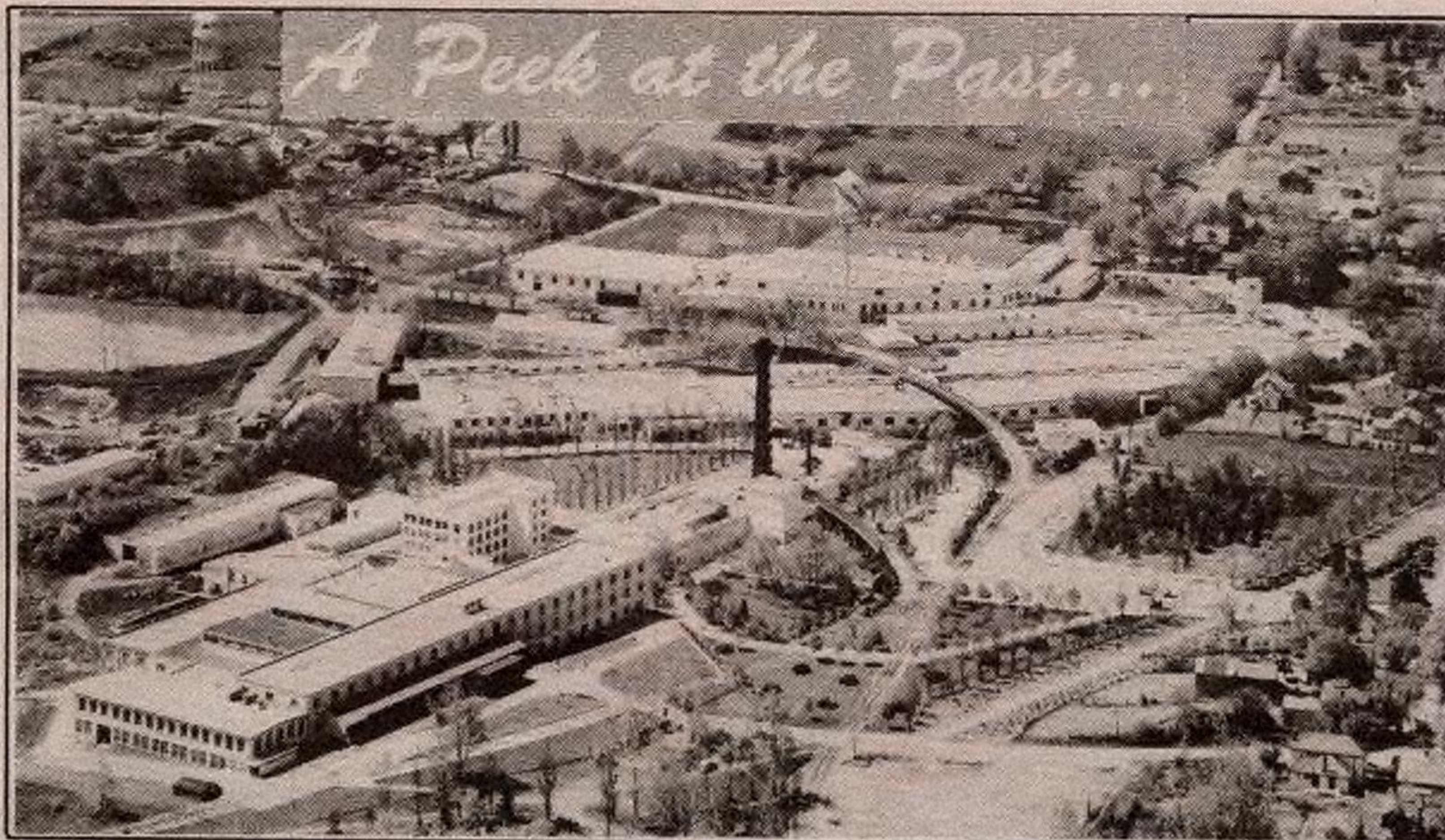
The Kinsmen Club plans to make a donation to the Acton Arena and Community Centre fundraising campaign. Fry said that the Kin Kids, who helped take the pumpkins door-to-door, deserve thanks as well as everyone who made a donation.

Fry also said that they will repeat the event next year.

Fundraiser meeting

And speaking of Arena fundraising - community organizations and arena user groups have been invited to a meeting tonight (Wednesday) to discuss fundraising for the new Acton Arena.

Fundraising chair, Acton resident Kathrin Andersen said that they want to set up a calendar of fundraising



The huge Beardmore & Co. tannery complex in Acton occupied over 200 hectares (about 500 acres) when it was at the height of its production when this photo was taken about 1940. More than 500 men and women worked in the sole leather and light leather departments turning out some of the best quality leather in the world. The tannery closed in 1986 and several of the buildings have been torn down, but in this century it was the largest tannery in the British commonwealth. The first tannery in Acton was built by Abraham Nelles around 1837 and after a series of owners was purchased by G.L. Beardmore in 1865. Acton was chosen for the tannery because of the supply of hemlock bark, used in the tanning process, in the area.

A snow day for a snow job

Big labour, and associated coalitions of hangers-on and spear carriers, are all set to shut down Toronto this Friday and Saturday. The big issue seems to be whether or not Metro politicians will take the unions to court over shutting down the T.T.C. Since I have latitude to schedule my days in Toronto, I won't suffer any inconvenience. Unfortunately, the same can't be said for the tens of thousands who jam the 401 and GO trains every morning. For them, the labour temper-tantrum will be more than a little inconvenience.

I get the feeling that the union organizers are a little surprised at the vociferous opposition to their plans. Perhaps the most ludicrous justification for labour's plans to oppress the rights of a couple of million people, was made by one person, who suggested we all look at Friday as a Snow Day. After all, he reasoned, a heavy snowfall can bring the city to a standstill. Snow Day my foot - snow job is more like it.

I agree that in a democracy, citizens have the right to protest. When that protest is calculated to trample on the rights of others to live their lives however, it's going too far. When that protest ignores the rule of law and demands the overthrow of a democratically elected government, that's anarchy - not democracy.

Legitimate protest in a democracy happens when we get a result like the last election. The people threw out the NDP and elected the Tories. Big unions and the Left may not like it, but the people of Ontario have spoken. The NDP had their chance to govern and they blew it.

The leaders of this circus showed their true colours last week. Sid Ryan (C.U.P.E.) defiantly said that a proposed injunction would not stop them from

The Way I See It

With Mike O'Leary



picketing the T.T.C. No "piece of paper" will change their plans, he said. Excuse me, but isn't that what unions deal in? Pieces of paper, that is. Contracts are also just "pieces of paper." If Ryan can ignore a legitimate court order then are we to assume he is agreeable to employers ignoring portions of contract they disagree with? You can't have it both ways.

The biggest hoot I get is to hear these self-proclaimed Messiahs trumpet that this protest will tell Mike Harris "what we think." I've got news for the unions and those who support them. Mike Harris knows what you think. Thanks for the input. It carries about as much weight as business opinion did during the Rae years.

Meanwhile, down at Toronto City Hall, the mayor and her coven of commies have come down firmly on both sides of this issue. I wish I could tell you exactly where Mayor Barbara Hall stands on the city being shut down, but she changes her position every few hours. At first she was all for the snow job, but then the negative reaction came in. Babs has to go to the polls next year, so she quickly changed her mind. Now, it seems, she's all for the protest as long as it doesn't interfere with anyone else. That's a good trick. I think she's really shot herself in the foot on this one. We'll see - come municipal election time.

One person who has been strangely quiet during the whole debate has been Mississauga's Mayor Hazel. She's one smart cookie and I suspect that Her Hon-

our is sitting cooly on the sidelines. Once she sees how her city is affected by this schmozzle, then look for her acerbic tongue to be unleashed. If Ryan and his accomplices take on Hazel, I predict they'll be sorry.

The Daily Bread Food Bank in Toronto is conducting a curious event. You may have read that their Thanksgiving food drive was down by 25 per cent from last year. There is enough food however, for new director Sue Cox to host a free breakfast on Sat. Oct. 26. Ms. Cox is quick to point out that another agency will supply the food and that they are "definitely not a participant" in the Days of Action rally. I guess Ms. Cox can't see that most people expect the food bank to gather as much food from all sources to feed the hungry. Most people don't expect food banks to be hosting freebie breakfasts as part of a political protest. The scoff is billed as an "anti-hunger breakfast." These people must think an oxymoron is a stupid cow.

I must hasten to add that neither local food banks are part of this boondoggle. I personally encourage you to support the Georgetown and Acton food banks.

In spite of this massive opposition to their plans, the protest will go on. Probably many people from Halton will join the march. Have a nice time. The world will get back to normal on Monday, but if that's how you want to spend your time, so be it. I'd say "have a nice day" but I'd be lying. Personally, I hope Friday and Saturday are wet and cold. A little slush would be nice.

I'm going to declare next weekend the first annual "Harris Days" at my house. I'll spend some time with the kids and try to avoid the papers and TV. I've heard enough from the protest committee to last a lifetime. So have most Ontarians.

HEY! What are you going to be for Halloween this year?



Ashley Diamond, 13 years old: "A witch."
Shaun Diamond, 9 years old: "Dr. Seuss."



Jennifer Everson, 10 years old: "Freddy Krueger (from Nightmare on Elm Street movies)"



Darcy Gordon, 8 years old: "An executioner!"



Trent Toletzka, 10 years old: "A vampire!"
Brittany Toletzka, 6 years old: "Belle, from Beauty and the Beast."
Kyle Toletzka, 9 years old: "I don't know yet."