

GOT A PROBLEM?

SAFETY CORNER

GETS ACTION AND ANSWERS

Pity the poor pedestrian. When the snow melts and large puddles form on the ground he's at the mercy of the rushing motorist, whose car tires churn up a great spewing spray of dirty water.

This is not a safety hint—it's just common sense—take pity on pedestrians.

In last week's Champion a story told about the piece of wire, attached to a chestnut, which caused a lot of annoying TV interference in one residential area of town when it was thrown in the air and snagged on a hydro pole. The fire wire soon wore its way through the power line insulation and began shorting itself out.

Luckily it only caused TV interference. If it had been left there indefinitely, it could have caused power break, Milton Hydro officials report.

Parents should remind their children that hydro wires are strung along high poles to keep them out of the way of children. Contact with any foreign objects such as wired chestnuts or wire kite tails can cause a failure in the valuable electrical system we depend on 24 hours a day in our homes, offices and factories.

Ontario's new legislation governing the operation of motorized snow vehicles, which became effective last Nov. 1, has been amended to permit the operation of these vehicles on all Queen's Highways, except freeways.

On those Queen's Highways, where operation of motorized snow vehicles was previously prohibited and is now allowed, they may not travel on the actual roadway... that part of the highway that is ordinarily used for vehicular traffic... but may travel on the shoulder or right-of-way, provided that they are operated as far away from the roadway as is practicable under the circumstances.

Before entering or crossing one of these roadways, the vehicle must be brought to a complete stop, and, before entering the roadway, right of way must be yielded to all oncoming traffic which constitutes a hazard. The crossing must be made at an angle of approximately 90 degrees.

You may NOT operate a snowmobile on Highway 401, the Queen Elizabeth Highway or Highway 27.

"When you stop your car for a stop sign or signal on icy or snow-packed streets, be careful how you start out again," advises Ray Andress, Chief of the Milton Police Department. "You can't depend on a quick get-away on a slick pavement. So don't try to pull out in front of an approaching car if there's the slightest doubt about making it. Remember: IF you have trouble starting, the other fellow may have trouble STOPPING!"

Reaction...

(Continued from Page 1)

denial to comment when contacted by a reporter a day after the meeting.

"I would not care to make a statement right now," the veteran politician said. "It is going to take quite a while to study that document."

He did admit, however, the McKeough proposal was "along the lines of what we saw coming."

Halton East M.P.P. Jim Snow, Hornby, felt the McKeough plan was a step in the right direction, but wondered if it should be made a slightly larger region. He concurred in the minister's expressed possibility of including the village of Erin and Erin Township in the Caledon-Albion region (Area Three) and also wondered if Waterdown and East Flamborough Township should be included with the Burlington borough.

While current talks involve Burlington joining a Hamilton-Wentworth regional government, Snow felt it should stay with Halton.

Oakville Mayor MacLean Anderson and several top Oakville officials seemed to find the report acceptable. Mayor Anderson said it was imperative that Burlington remain with Halton, to help give the present county voting power on the 21-seat regional council. Without Burlington, what is now Halton would be outvoted 11-6 on the regional council, he noted.

Another Oakville councillor, Reeve Alan Day, concurred with Deputy-Reeve Harris in that Halton should be one regional unit and Peel another.

Deputy-Reeve Ron Harris of Milton feels a Halton and Peel merger would be "too unwieldy" and a regional government covering the present Halton County would be the best answer. The rapid growth of both counties would make the new region too large within a short period of time, he said.

Mr. Harris came out strongly in favor of a direct election system—both for representatives to local unit councils and to the larger regional council. He was also worried about the costs of administration, citing the Halton Board of Education as an example.

The deputy-reeve felt some different boundary lines could be drawn for the region embracing Milton—including part of North Burlington so Milton's Walker's Line water

supply would be protected, and slicing Nassagaweya closer to the centre of the township so one half could join with Milton while the other was attached to the Acton area.

He also noted the previous representations to the Department of Municipal Affairs by Milton Council, school board and planning board must have carried some weight. The boundary lines proposed for the Milton unit are close to what local officials have been urging for several years.

Milton, he felt, would gain considerably with the expanded boundaries.

Milton Mayor Brian Best has some ideas for changing the drafted boundaries of the borough area including Milton, but generally agrees with the province's desire for a strong regional unit to keep Hamilton and Toronto from growing to meet one another. And he agrees an immediate merger of Peel and Halton would be better than making two regional units now and later joining them together.

"Milton could not do much better," he said. "And I was very pleased to see Milton remain as an entity on its own, rather than grouped with Acton, Georgetown and Esquesing."

The new borough would have some control over its own destiny with the two-tier system of government, he felt.

Mayor Best felt if this regional unit came into being, the boards of education in the two counties should also be merged, to effect further cost sharing and savings. He has been critical of the administrative salaries being paid by the Halton Board of Education, and warned the Minister at the Toronto meeting on Wednesday that the same costs would be incurred in a regionalization of governments.

He felt north Burlington should have been added to the Milton-based borough, and suggests if Nassagaweya is to be cut up it should be cut about the centre with one half joining Milton and the other grouping with Acton and Georgetown.

The Mayor feels the next two years will be important years for planning the regional area, and expressed the hope a strong committee would represent Halton's interests, with each municipality having a voice in the discussions.

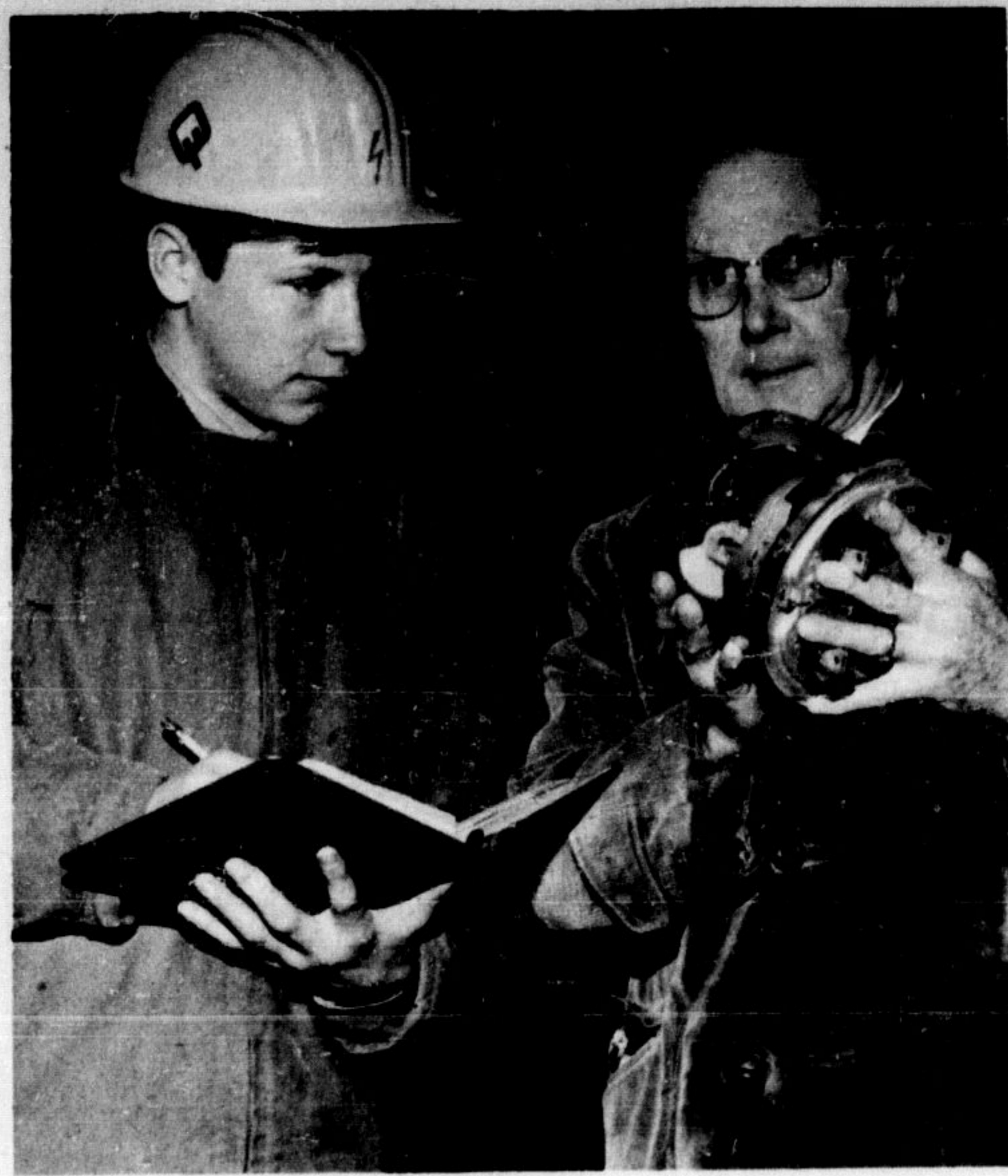
All reeves...

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on why it authorized payment of county fees to reeves to attend the Toronto meeting. Deputy-Reeve Gillies suggested he had sponsored the move to insure the county had a representation in case there were subsequent discussions with the Minister at that time.

Council authorized the signing of a one year contract with the nurses at the Halton County Health Unit following recent negotiations. Reeve Alan Day reported the agreement was in line with that in Peel County and there had been no changes in fringe benefits from the previous agreement. Salary increases had been approved that put the public health nurses in the range from \$6,260 to \$7,450. The previous minimum had been \$5,700. About 21 nurses are affected by the agreement.

Throwing lighted smoking material from moving automobiles is especially dangerous because the fuel along roads often consists of dried grass or other "flash fuels" which will ignite readily from small heat sources.



NEW METER READER at Milton Hydro is Neil DeGraaf of Milton who started his duties Monday of this week. Norman Cantelon, right, who is retiring this week after almost 14 years on the job, is shown explaining the function of the meter and the correct way of recording its readings in the meter reader's book.—(Staff Photo)

Meter reader retires after 14 years on job

There will be a new man around to read your Hydro meter this month. Norman Cantelon is retiring from his part time position as meter reader this week, and is being replaced by Neil DeGraaf of Bronte St., Milton.

Milton Hydro manager O. L. Hadley explained Neil's job will be a full time position. Right now he will read the meters and assist the Hydro linemen with their work. On July 1, Milton's new water meters should be in operation in every home and business place in town and Neil will then have the added duty of reading the water meters.

Mr. Cantelon, a retired man, first began making his regular rounds to read hydro meters on May 1, 1955, so he is retiring with almost 14 years of service to the local commission. While he said he enjoyed the work ("It is wonderful exercise") he feels a young man would be better suited for the chore.

Each hydro meter must be read six times a year for the bi-monthly billings from the Hydro office. He does half one month, the other half the next month.

While about half the town's meters are outside and fastened to a wall at eye level for easier reading, the other half are a little more difficult. They are encased away in basements and attics, some hidden inside cupboards, and you have to climb on furniture or crane your neck into odd angles to get close enough to read a few of them, Mr. Cantelon said.

An added problem in this job is winter weather. You have to wear boots to trudge through the snow, but housewives don't appreciate you tramping across their kitchen floors with wet boots. So half the calls (those with inside meters) require the added effort of stopping to remove and replace your overshoes.

While Mr. Cantelon enjoyed every minute of his part time job, he felt it was time to retire before the water meter system came into effect. He said he would not have the time to read both, and the town is setting up its billing system to be co-ordinated with the hydro meter readings, so it is the ideal job for a man working almost full time.

Barn, equipment lost in N. Oakville fire

A large barn and several pieces of market gardening equipment were lost by fire Saturday afternoon, at the Sixth Line Oakville farm of John Micallef.

Milton Fire Brigade battled the flames for four hours in freezing temperatures, before it was under control. They managed to save a smaller neighboring barn—thanks to a good supply of water in a nearby creek—but the blaze in the large barn was out of control when they arrived.

Mrs. Micallef spotted the flames from the window of her home. Cause of the fire has not

yet been ascertained. The building was partly insured and no estimate of the loss has been filed.

Firefighters said it was the coldest fire of the winter. Their hoses and equipment kept freezing up on them and it took an hour to thaw everything out when they returned to the fire hall.

OBITUARY

Mrs. M. McArthur

A former resident of Kilbride in her 91st year, Minerva Louisa McArthur, died at Halton Centennial Manor Saturday, Jan. 18 after an illness of close to two years.

Born in Nelson Township Oct. 18, 1878, she was one of a family of two of the late Charles and Melissa Van Norman Rasberry.

She was married to Harmon McArthur in Kilbride Jan. 15, 1900, and their family includes Mrs. Fred Abbott (Irene) of Kilbride, Eric of Kilbride, and Mrs. Ernest Smith (Lena) of Toronto. Mr. McArthur predeceased her in 1932.

Survivors include a brother Wesley Rasberry of Harpers' Corners, and her family.

Funeral service was held Jan. 21 from MacNab Funeral Home with United Church minister Rev. C. R. Wragg officiating.

Interment was in Carlisle.

Pallbearers included grandsons Donald Abbott and Murray Smith and nephews Morley and Orville Rasberry, Lloyd Daniels and Ross Harbottle.

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Big Metro...

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major sewer projects and future recreational and residential development.

"We must move more closely to the democratic concept of representation by population," the minister stated, a statement which representatives from Nassagaweya and the other rural townships promptly challenged after his speech. Mr. McKeough said a difficult scheme of multiple voting now puts the preponderance of power in urban-oriented hands at the county level. He cited Peel and the town of Mississauga as an example.

He proposed urban centres combined with a large rural area to balance separate concerns, which rural representatives at the meeting charged would leave them with no voice at all in government.

Mr. McKeough said the government viewed with alarm the prospect of Toronto or Hamilton ever joining in the vicinity of the Credit River or Oakville Creek. Consequently the government would like to see a strong buffer between the two large cities.

The minister further proposed each of the two participating counties select three members for a committee that will proceed with negotiations with himself and members of his staff. At a future stage he suggested a technical working committee of appointed municipal officials to speed the framing of details. Mr. McKeough hoped this could be done within 12 months.

Although the minister said he hoped they could give the widest possible opinion of details for the scheme, he stressed that they were not extending the right of veto over a program to which the province is committed.

The committee will do much of the work to put together a final plan for the boundaries of the lower-tier municipalities.

Mr. McKeough proposed a regional council of 17 members, which would be extended to 21 if Burlington was included. Representation would be based on an approximate figure of one representative for every 20,000 residents.

The minister said he would not attempt to come up with names for the lower tier municipalities as this was a task they could carry out themselves. Instead he numbered the areas and gave a short description of each:

AREA ONE—Area One is composed of that part of the existing Town of Mississauga south of the Derry Road, including the Towns of Port Credit and Streetsville. A small section of the Town of Oakville is added to Mississauga but MAP 2 is not suggested as a definite boundary. The 1968 population of this area is estimated at 135,000. Area One would be represented by seven members on the Regional Council.

AREA TWO—Area Two is made up of the existing municipalities of Chinguacousy, Brampton and Toronto Gore. In addition, that part of Mississauga north of the Derry Road has been added. The present population of this area is estimated at 69,000. Area Two would have four seats on the Regional Council.

AREA THREE—Area Three includes the entire Townships of Albion and Caledon and the Village of Caledon East. In addition, the Town of Orangeville, and roughly those parts of the three bordering townships that are in the Credit River drainage area, are

included. That part of the Township of Erin, including the Village of Erin, appears to fit very logically into this lower-tier municipality. This area is sketched on MAP 2 by a broken line. As this area forms part of the Credit River drainage area, your committee will give consideration to including it in the region. As I have not yet discussed any aspect of these proposals with municipalities in the County of Wellington, I must emphasize that no final decision will be made on aspects of regional government without the opportunity for full consultation with each municipality involved. The population of Area Three, excluding those parts of the Township of Erin mentioned, is over 18,000. One regional representative would come from this area.

AREA FOUR—The fourth area includes the Towns of Georgetown and Acton and part of the Township of Esquesing. The present population of this area is over 24,000, and would get one representative on the regional council.

AREA FIVE—Area five is made up of the Town of Milton, that part of the Town of Oakville north of Base Line Road, part of the Township of Esquesing, and that part of the Township of Nassagaweya south of County Road 10. Although Base Line Road is suggested as a division between Areas 5 and 6, the ultimate location of Highway 403 may provide a more logical boundary. Similarly, a boundary between Areas Four and Five should be determined. In 1968, Area Five had approximately 12,500 residents and would be entitled to a single regional representative.

AREA SIX—The remaining portion of the Town of Oakville, not included in either of Areas One or Five, would provide a logical lower-tier unit. There is presently about 54,000 residents in this area who would be represented by three members on the regional council.

AREA SEVEN—If it is decided to include the Town of Burlington in a Peel-Halton regional government, the present municipal corporation could be established as the seventh lower-tier municipality. This area would be accorded four representatives at the regional tier. The population of Burlington is presently over 79,000.

Mr. McKeough said he was convinced administration including property assessment, tax billing and capital borrowing are more efficiently performed at the regional level. Health and welfare services are more logically administered at the regional tier. The regional council would also supervise planning for the areas involved.

Planning, design and construction of water purification plants, sewage treatment plants and the major trunk systems would be the responsibility of the regional council. Parks, too, would be their responsibility.

The minister viewed garbage collection and disposal as a local responsibility and local streets, sidewalks and street lighting as

well, but the main arteries would be the responsibility of the regional council. Police and fire protection responsibilities would be decided later.

McKeough stressed that his proposal was entirely preliminary and tentative but asked the two counties to select their representatives on the steering committee within one month. The town of Orangeville will also send a representative.

The full text of the Minister of Municipal Affairs' presentation is inside this newspaper with comment and objections from representatives of different municipalities involved.

Bolstering Mr. McKeough's presentation with his presence on the platform were the Hon. William Davis, Minister of Education, M.P.P.'s Jim Snow, George Kerr, Doug Kennedy and W. A. Downer.

Adult conference for Presbyterians

The Adult Christian Education Conference was held in the Bible Conference Centre in Guelph on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, January 17 to 19. This successful conference was arranged by Presbyterian of Brampton under the leadership of Rev. T. M. McKeenell, Minister of Hopedale Presbyterian Church, Bronte.

Delegates representing various Presbyterian Churches in the County of Halton and Peel attended. Those attending the sessions from Milton were Rev. J. K. McGown, minister, and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Mackay, as laymen representing Knox Presbyterian Church.

Monday night's snow just made the driving even more slippery. It was a light snowfall that covered up the ice below.

"Let not him who is houseless pull down the house of another; but let him labor diligently and build one for himself, thus by example assuring that his own shall be safe from violence when built." — Abraham Lincoln

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