

## Ferguson resigns

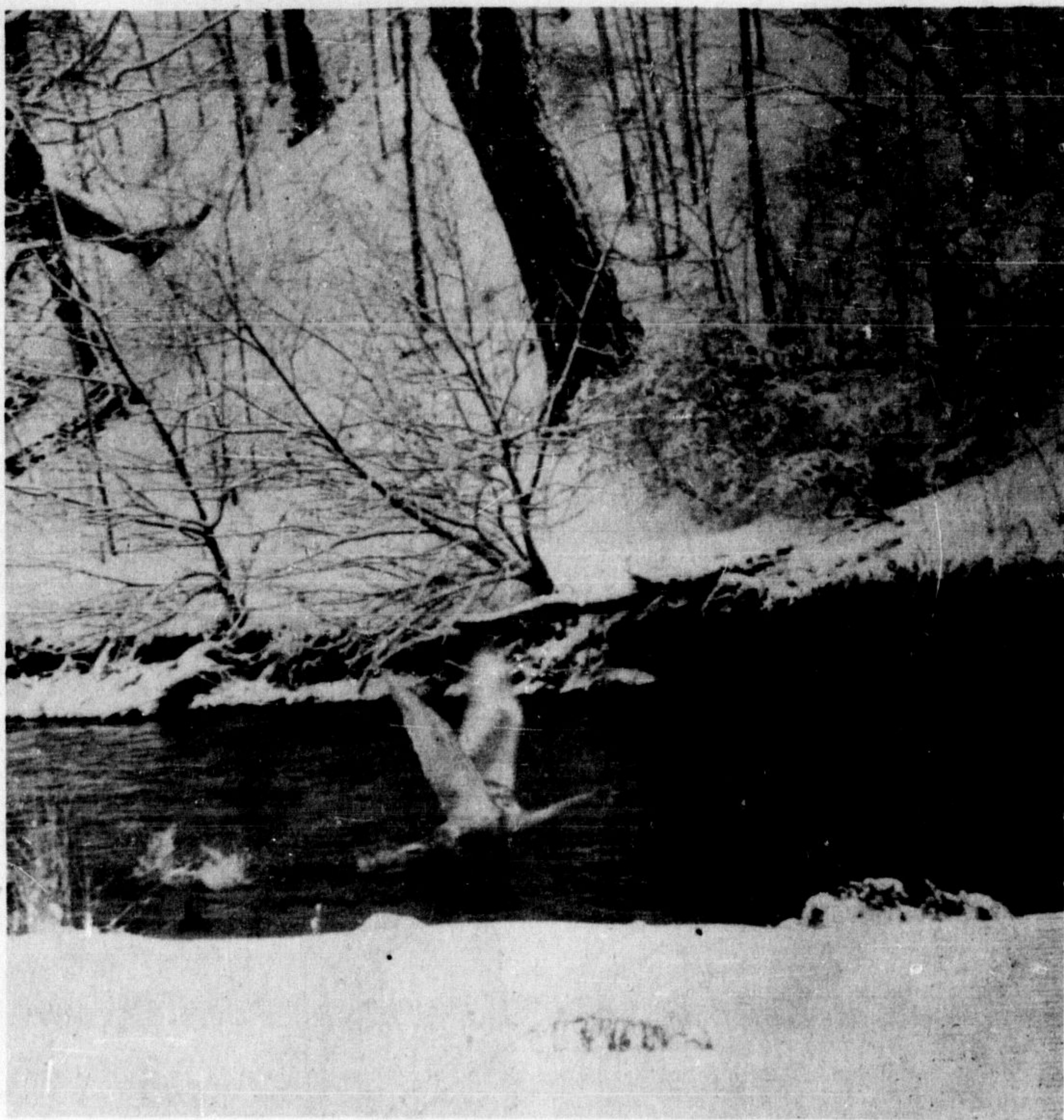
Councillor Bill Ferguson submitted his resignation to Milton Council Monday and it was accepted with "deep regret".

Councillor Ferguson had been on leave of absence since mid-November because of ill health. In his letter of resignation he noted that due to continuing ill health he felt compelled to resign.

Elected in December 1967, Mr. Ferguson was serving his first term on council and was chairman of the sewer and sanitation committee.

Mayor B. Best noted the council must fill the vacancy on council and it can be done by appointment. He suggested members give some thought to the appointment before discussions.

There is no specified procedure for filling the vacancy but sometimes the next candidate in the last election is chosen. In 1967's election S. Childs was defeated as mayor, C. Menefy as reeve and C. A. Martin as deputy-reeve. The next councillor in line would be M. Kernighan, who was just two votes below those polled by Councillor G. Krantz.



WILD CANADA GOOSE bursts into flight at the approach of a Champion photographer. The big bird, which either missed the fall migration south or decided to return to Canada a little early this year, has been staying in the Sixteen Mile Creek valley below Milton for the past week.—(Staff Photo)

## Cost jumps to \$10,000

# May just install lights

The latest intersection alterations required for installation of traffic signals at the Main-Ontario corner would cost the town \$10,000 rather than the original \$2,200, Council learned Monday.

It was pointed out the Department of Transport and Highways were now requiring widening of Main St. east from Ontario St. to Nipissing Rd. which would include tiling the ditch on the south side and purchasing more property.

Councillor C. Fay opposed the expanded program. "The Department has too many brainy people trying to out-think each other in putting things into this intersection". He proposed the town buy the traffic lights and install them themselves. Estimated cost of the lights alone was \$5,000.

"The costs have gone up five times with the latest recommendation", Councillor C. Smillie protested. "The Department has been playing games with us since we questioned their original decision on denying the lights", he maintained.

"Why did they approve the intersection in the first place if it wasn't satisfactory" Councillor Smillie wondered, as he noted it was

constructed only two or three years ago. "They're out to embarrass the town of Milton", he suggested.

The clerk was instructed to obtain costs on the installation of traffic signals alone, without provincial subsidy.

Council has been seeking traffic signals at this intersection for nearly two years. The campaign for lights heightened last fall when an Oakville man was killed at the corner.

## Backlog since 1963

### Pay \$3,659 for overtime

Payment of \$3,659.60 for 1,010 hours of overtime was approved to Milton Police during Monday's Milton Council meeting.

Councillor G. Krantz explained the overtime had been built up since 1963 with much of it being met by taking time off, but the signing of a new agreement with the Police Association requires it to be paid monthly.

He also promised that under the new agreement there would be tighter controls on overtime. "The administration committee didn't think much of the idea of paying it all at once but it was

the only way it could be cleaned up," he suggested.

Councillor Krantz also observed much of the overtime is incurred in court appearances. One day, he noted, the local department had 28 remands in cases before the court.

Mayor B. Best also suggested the committee exercise care they were not requiring constables to spend all their time filling out reports and serving as clerks rather than policemen. He also suggested the committee consider a resolution to the province suggesting a limit of three remands on any one case. He said he was aware of one case that had already had seven remands.

## Great Canada Goose back early from south

One large Canada Goose either didn't make the traditional trip south this winter, or he's back earlier than the rest.

The big bird has spent the past week in the Sixteen Mile Creek a mile or so below Milton and seems quite content to stay there. Dave Sargent, who lives near the stream, spotted the bird in the creek late last week and called it a "thrilling sight".

The goose seems fairly tame but flew off, circled slowly in the air and landed a quarter mile downstream when a Champion photographer got within 30 feet of him Monday afternoon. It does not seem to be injured or sick, Mr. Sargent said.

Champion photographer Roy

Downs got some pictures of the creek, but ran out of film just as it flapped its wings and made a picturesque take-off right before his eyes. "What a thrill to see one that close," he said.

The bird has about a five or six foot wingspan and easily flew into a strong headwind as it circled above the photographer.

Mr. Sargent said several years ago a flock of about 15 Canada Geese landed near his home, and he has never forgotten the sight. "But I haven't seen any geese since then, until this one came along," he added. The valley of the Sixteen is frequently visited by migrating ducks.

# Nassagaweya balks at plans for region

The apparent consideration of the Township of Nassagaweya as a mere "negotiating tool", as Councillor Art Bigson phrased it, in any discussion of a Halton-Peel regional government merger; as well as several other unsavory aspects of the Township's future, resulted in a number of proposals from the council at Monday evening's meeting... all unanimously opposed to any dissolution of Nassagaweya.

Reeve William Hoey noted the Department of Municipal Affairs' tentative plan indicated Nassagaweya will be divided along County Road No. 10... a road which does not even exist in the township.

Communication with M.P.P. George Kerr, the reeve reported, indicated this meant the dividing line was undecided.

Mr. Kerr suggested the Township offer the Department several alternatives.

Deputy-Reeve Mrs. A. MacArthur disagreed.

"Offering alternatives will only weaken the Township's position," she stated. "Nassagaweya must be kept as a unit, with representation as a unit to any regional government."

The Deputy-reeve noted Nassagaweya is perhaps the only municipality within Halton which has no large urban centres, and under the representation by population method suggested by Minister Darcy McKeough, would be at the mercy of the urban areas... perhaps even be

transformed into a growthless, undeveloping "playground" for town-bound weekenders.

"Mr. McKeough emphasized the rep-by-pop system was in keeping with our democratic history," she recalled. "But there is one element in his democratic intentions missing... provision for the minority."

She also called for the retention of Halton County as a regional unit... without merger with Peel.

The County will, by 1980, have a population large enough to warrant its recognition as a single unit, she said.

Councillor Gordon Agnew also objected to the representation-by-population aspect of McKeough's plan.

"It's less rep-by-pop and rape-by-pop", he stated in his

presentation. "By the department's criterion for representation, a farmer and his wife living on their own 200-300 acre farm would have only one-seventh the voice of a couple living in a rundown shack with 12 children."

He noted Nassagaweya has no per-capita debt except for school debentures, and the McKeough plan could place many township residents under the jurisdiction of local governments requiring appreciable tax payments to meet already established indebtedness.

Based on voluminous research of statistics, Mr. Agnew devised a "regional index" by which a municipality's representation would be selected after taking into consideration both population and acreage.

By his figures, the

Nassagaweyan index of 49 would be the basic unit... allowing one representative.

Other municipalities' indices, under this proposal, would include: Esquesing with RI 97... having two representatives including one for Georgetown and one for Acton-and-rural; Oakville with an index of 134 having a representative for Milton and two or three for the rural and urban-Oakville area; and Burlington... regional index of 125 giving in three representatives.

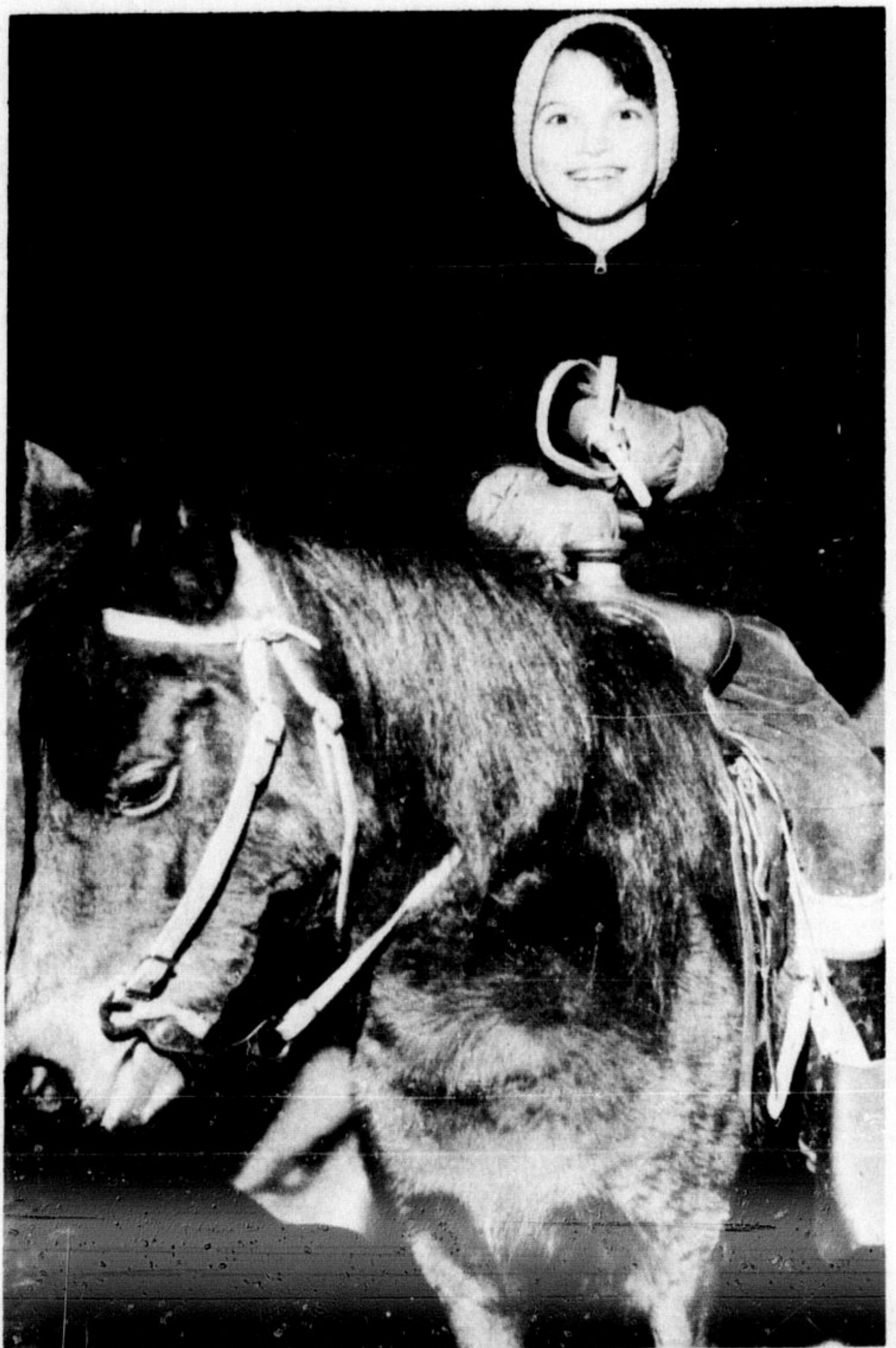
There would still be nine representatives from Halton County, in keeping with the Minister's wishes.

Councillor Agnew took into consideration seven points, and computed the 1980 population of Halton County by at least 400,000; possibly 600,000 if the increase in immigration continues. Three years after, there would be three-quarter million people living in the county.

The points taken into consideration included reduction of death rate, increase in family formations due to offspring of the post-war Baby Boom, in-migration of 29.5 per cent per five-year period, greater opportunities developing and higher income prospects, accessibility to major cities for commuters, and a good variety of mixed housing available.

Presentations from Councillors A. Gibson and J. Watson agreed in principle with those of the other members of council; but Mr. Gibson did note some apathy in his northern section of the township... and a feeling that perhaps life as Guelphites or Wellingtonians would not be entirely unbearable.

"There is going to come the time, shortly, when people in Nassagaweya are going to have to make up their minds whether or not they wish to keep the township whole," Mrs. MacArthur stated. "And if they want it to remain unified, they are going to have to be prepared to fight for their belief. We are dealing here with a power that is quite capable of intimidating small groups of citizens and even local government. I feel if what is apparently the unanimous wish of ALL communities in Halton is not listened to, we may have to send out hundreds, but thousands of persons to Queen's Park to demonstrate our disapproval."



"POSITIVE THINKING" may never have proven to be effective until Sunday when it won a pony, bridle and saddle for nine-year-old Keith Timbers of 79 Fulton St. Milton Jr. Merchants hockey club had a draw for the pony at Sunday's game and as soon as Keith saw the pony, he made up his mind it was going to be his. "He's been hanging around that pony all afternoon, talking to it," said Merchant executive member Don South. When referee Bill Divorski made the draw, Keith's ticket came out and there wasn't a happier boy in Milton Arena. A quick call to his father Gerry Timbers got him permission to keep his new steed.—(Staff Photo)



MARTY SEEDS SKATES IN close to the Oakville Blades 13-3 in Sunday's game. Moments after this picture was taken, Don Hearn grabbed the puck and tipped it in.—(Staff Photo)

## Seeks two inspectors

# Fire calls, losses increase

Property loss due to fire quadrupled from 1967 to 1968, the annual report of Fire Chief A. E. Clement to the Milton Fire Area Committee notes.

Loss during the previous year was evaluated at \$18,300 while this year it is estimated at \$72,342.

The Department responded to 119 alarms in 1968, 54 more than the 65 turned in in the previous year.

Of these, there were 23 dwellings, 21 vehicles, 28 grass, four industrial, nine barns and 34 miscellaneous (including false alarms, first aid, rubbish and the like).

Although a sharp increase in grass fires accounted for some of the increase in actual alarms, no property loss can be attributed to the grass fires.

Apart from the obvious heavy work-load created by the additional alarms; there was also an appreciable volume of meetings and other duties. The Chief, for instance was forced to log 235 hours of overtime to complete his duties.

These additional duties included inspection of six dwellings, 11 stores, 9 public buildings, 11 schools and three offices; fire hall open house and demonstrations for over 1,000 citizens who visited Oct. 10 and 11; fire prevention awards presented to four Milton schools; the Spring clean-up, Hallow'en and Christmas fire prevention programs; prevention poster contests in the schools; drills and inspections at schools, institutions and Milton District Hospital; visits to the fire hall by groups, and a number of safety programs.

In addition to this, the chief attended nine Halton County fire prevention meetings, six Halton County mutual aid meetings, six Emergency Measures meetings, 24 fire department practices, 10 department meetings, 63 office meetings, the Fire Chief's training course, fire chief's conference and the Ontario Firefighters' Convention in Welland.

Chief Clement thanked the

board for their purchase of a new fire pumper during the year, but stressed the need for two full-time inspectors to assist with the inspection program.

Firefighter George Vaughan is retiring from the department after 40 years, he noted.

Four firefighters were replaced following their retirement, and another has been granted a one-year extension in service to the brigade after a doctor's approval.

There is no backlog of application for membership in the brigade... the first instance of such a situation in memory, he said.

Members of the department have also been active outside the local brigade.

Fireman James Coulson was elected 1968 president of the Halton County Fire Prevention Bureau, Capt. Harold Coulson was elected president of the Ontario Volunteer Firefighters' Association, and Fireman Glenn Stringer was elected president of Welland.

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## Customs port, terminal suggested for Milton

A special three-man sub-committee was formed by Milton Industrial Committee and local industrial representatives Wednesday, to investigate difficulties in cartage and freight shipping in Milton.

Four representatives of industries attended a special meeting of the committee, called after Joseph Shea of Canadian Meter complained two weeks ago about shipping difficulties and rising rates. Deputy-Reeve Ron Harris, Mr. Shea and F. J. Gillfillan of Mia Corporation were named to the sub-committee, and given terms of reference.

Discussion at the meeting suggested Milton should have a customs port of entry and a terminal warehouse.

## Special study on rural area in Burlington

A special five-man committee will be named to study the problems of Burlington's vast rural areas, councillors agreed on the weekend.

North ward councillor W. A. Reeve said "hundreds of problems" need attention in the rural area and Councillor Wessell Galt said the problems of the rural areas have been "ignored." They said the rural area was neglected by both council and the town's department staffs.

## Protest \$15 garbage fee

A charge of \$15 for each garbage pickup from industries in the town's unserved area and from all institutions drew protests from Milton's reeve and deputy before Council approved the charge Monday.

Deputy-Reeve R. Harris, eyeing the number of county buildings affected, wondered if it was a wise move. "We've been picking up from county buildings at no charge and now we're going to ask for \$15 a pick-up", he noted. He suggested it was not wise in the light of regional government proposals.

Councillor C. Fay noted the town's agreement with the proposed regional detention centre was for \$15 a pick-up. "It's just that we are re-assessing our garbage collection costs. We've been providing it to the county at no cost for a number of years".

Protests that there were a number of organizations such as the Health Unit, the Children's Aid, the Family Court building and others all in one block, drew the suggestion they could all place their garbage at one point for one pick-up.

Reeve A. Ledwith's final proposal for some kind of a package deal for the county gained no support and council approved the new rate.