

Panelists have mixed views on drugs, smoking

Mixed and sometimes conflicting opinions about Milton's problem with drugs, drinking and smoking were voiced as a panel of professional people discussed the problem at a meeting of the J. M. Denyes Home and School Association recently.

Panel members included Milton District High School vice principal William Tom, Community Consultant for the Addiction Research Foundation of Ontario Peggy Palmer, Milton Police Chief Ray Andress, Acting Medical Officer of Health Dr. Ivan Hunter and convener Rev. R. W. Foster.

Attempts to determine the greater of the two evils in Milton resulted in conflict of opinion. Dr. Hunter and Mrs. Palmer noted alcohol was a bigger problem as it affects local people while Chief Andress took the

stand that drugs were the greater of the two evils.

The Chief offered figures showing an increasing use of drugs other than alcohol. In 1967 there were three occurrences investigated by police and the following year that figure was increased to four and to 17 in 1969. "These are alarming figures" he suggested.

During the program each speaker was allotted a period of time in which to present his facts and opinions in a preamble and later they broke into groups with each panelist answering questions from people attending. Later they returned to one room where questions that came out in small groups were enlarged upon.

Mrs. Palmer listed the three main steps her department followed combating drug abuse. Tertiary intervention she said

involved emergency cases which usually resulted in having a person admitted to a hospital, referred to a group such as Alcoholics Anonymous or admission to one of the Ontario Hospitals.

The third and most difficult step sees the consultant go into a community to survey strengths, weaknesses and priorities for unmet needs in the community. Their goal is to develop the expertise in the community rather than drawing experts from outside.

Mr. Tom told of a regular program in his school geared to educate the students about drugs and alcohol. "We have a smoking problem in the boys' and girls' washrooms and have provided an outside smoking area to keep the children off private lawns. We encourage teachers to take a firm stand against drugs," she said.

Questioned about problems in school concerning drugs or drinking the vice principal noted only a very few incidents over the years had been brought to his attention but said that on occasion youngsters were escorted from school dances after showing signs of intoxication.

"Addiction Research Foundation is doing a wonderful job of research and while we shouldn't discredit their work they haven't had an impact on the community or the way of life to my way of thinking," said Dr. Hunter expressing a personal desire for the ARF to get into treatment.

At that point Mrs. Palmer stood and explained their department did not intend to bring in experts for treatment from outside the community but rather to co-ordinate and make effective the ones they already have.

In his address Dr. Hunter noted A.A. took a practical approach to the problem and had success with about 55 per cent of those involved for a period of time at least. "In my mind a psychiatrist has never helped an alcoholic."

Noting the wide use of amphetamines among truck drivers Dr. Hunter said they were available at gas stations and noted the result would see the driver "pay like Hell for his indiscretion."

On the legalization of marijuana Dr. Hunter presented a two-sided argument. He noted those in favor argued it would cut down in secondary crime, that is stealing to support the habit because of the price drop due to greater access.

"Legalization may be the answer but the great pitfall there is a marijuana user could cause an accident and, without a device to tell if the person is high or not, they could go free."

Some believe marijuana, while it has no proven physical damage, does lead to hard line drugs.

Police Chief Ray Andress took a strong hard view of the situation and opposed any legalization of the drug. Confronted with the idea that it is not worse than liquor he suggested the fact that society had accepted one bad thing did not rectify the legalization of another.

Reading from a police report he noted a link between the use of the drug and the criminal. The report stated 70 per cent of all narcotic users started on



PANELISTS DISCUSS different points of view concerning drugs, drinking and smoking at J. M. Denyes Home and School meeting recently. Panel members include Mr. William Tom, vice principal of Milton District High School, Mrs. Peggy Palmer,

Community Consultant for The Addiction Research Foundation of Ontario, Milton Police Chief Ray Andress, Convener Rev. R. W. Foster and acting Medical Officer of Health for Halton, Dr. Ivan Hunter. (Staff Photo)

Did prayers break radar?

Introducing Police Chief Ray Andress Monday night as a member of a panel discussing drugs, alcohol and smoking the convener Rev. R. W. Foster recalled an incident while he was driving past a police cruiser with radar recently.

"Spell radar backwards," he said, "and you still have radar", commented the convener, noting the police "had you coming or going."

At that point in the meeting the chief stood and explained the radar had been broken for the past six weeks and Mr. Foster must be mistaken. "Ah, you see, my prayers have been answered," quipped the minister.

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The Canadian Champion, Wednesday, January 28, 1970 B3

Senior Citizens home planned near Speyside

A request for an amendment to Esquising township's agricultural holding by-law, 29-69, to permit the construction of a senior citizens home on lots 13 and 14 on the west side of Highway 25 near Speyside, was referred to Ontario Municipal Board, by Esquising Council Monday night.

Lawyer John Miller requested the amendment on behalf of members of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, who own 44 acres of land and proposed to build a senior citizens home to eventually accommodate 100 people.

The holding by-law, passed recently by Esquising Council, prevents the use of any land, building or structure for any other purpose than the one existing. Council is presently awaiting final approval of the by-law from the Ontario Municipal Board.

German Pentecostal Church in Kitchener revealed plans for the proposed home.

Rev. Drewitz told Council his group intended to convert the present house on the property into a senior citizens home, then in due time extend the building to accommodate 100 persons. The home would be primarily for senior citizens of the Pentecostal faith, but would be open to others, Rev. Drewitz told Council.

Real estate agent Michael Mutzak also appeared on behalf of the group. He suggested it would be an asset to the township to have such an institution in the particular area, because of the privacy of the location. He went on to say he had contacted the Department of Municipal Affairs and the Department of Lands and Forests and both had suggested Council had the power to make an amendment to the by-law.

Reeve George Currie was concerned about the prospects of the building being exempt from taxation, if religious meetings were held there.

"Even if one room were used for purposes of worship, the building would be non-taxable", deputy-reeve Tom Hill added.

Mr. Miller admitted he had not taken this factor into consideration but assured Council the group had obtained a Charitable Foundation Charter from the provincial government.

"The provincial government doesn't always give a hang how many taxes we collect", councillor Ken Marshall warned. After some discussion, council decided to have clerk-treasurer Delmar French write the Halton-Peel Assessment Office to see if the building would be taxable and also the Ontario Municipal Board to see if they would suggest that council make an amendment to the by-law.

"I'm afraid you gentlemen will have to come back", reeve Currie concluded.

Before the group left, Wil Fortowsky, a township resident who has complained to council about blasting at quarries on several occasions, advised them that a quarry site lies directly behind their property. "It might be opened up", he warned.

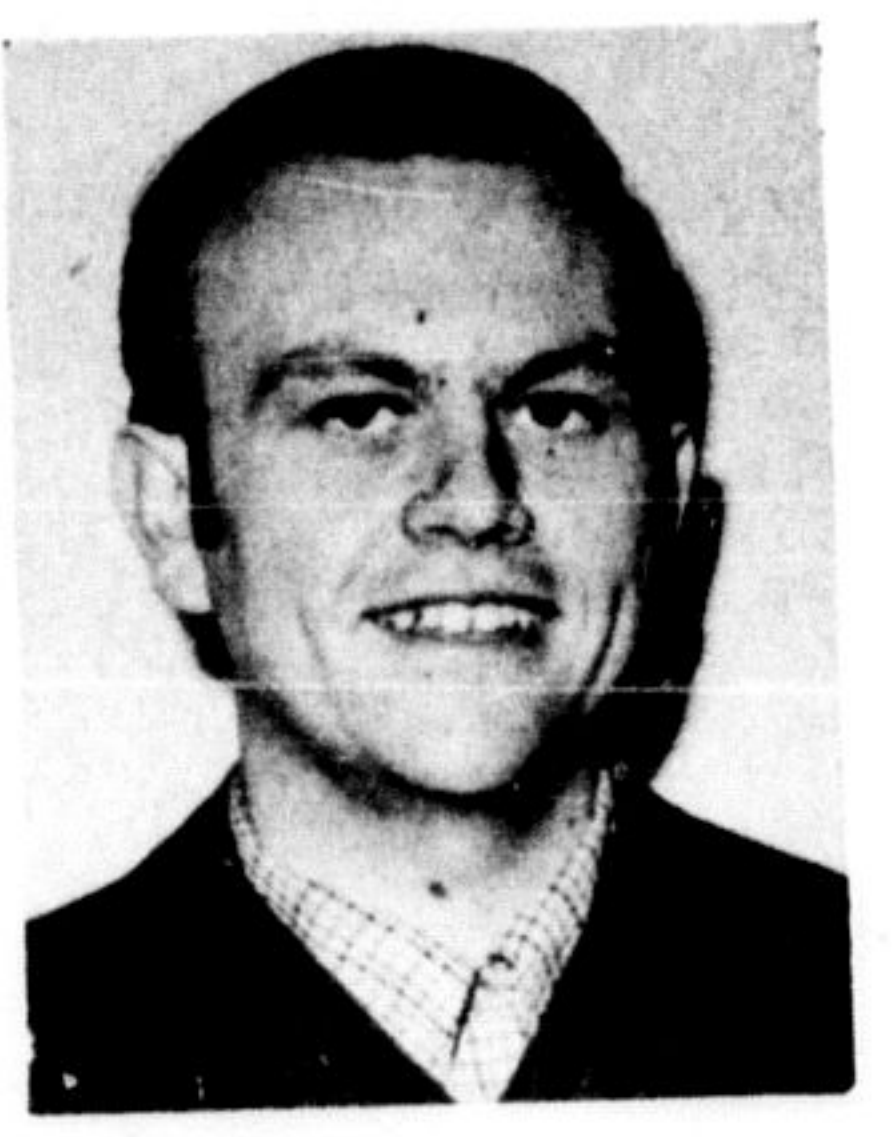
Robin Hood Multifoods is new name for firm

One of the food industry's oldest company names disappears today as Robin Hood Flour Mills Limited changes its name to Robin Hood Multifoods Limited.

The company has been known as Robin Hood Mills or Robin Hood Flour Mills since its incorporation in 1912.

In announcing the name change John Tatam, Chairman of the Board, said that the old name no longer accurately describes a company which produces and markets more than 200 food products other than flour.

"Although the flour market will continue to be important to us, our diversification program has reached the point where non-flour products represent 40 per cent of our sales volume, up from 19 per cent six years ago," consumer, bakery and animal feeding markets with a product line which includes pickles, poultry, dessert mixes, jams, bakery consumer, bakery and animal feeding markets with a product line which includes pickles, poultry, dessert mixes, jams, bakery mixes and formula feeds.



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