



ITALIAN-CANADIAN CLUB officers for 1970 took over their duties at a meeting on the weekend. Shown in front are secretary Joe Lomonto, president Alfonso Crisci, vice-president Denny Crisci and treasurer John Delnin. Others in the photo include committee

members John Gazzola, John Vascotto, Severino Scremin, Joe Dalbello, Livio Dalbello, Vince Alfredo Bonin. The club is planning its next dance at the Legion March 28 and tickets are available from president Alfonso Crisci or any director. —(Staff Photo)

**Hunters' survey shows**

# Majority of landowners favor controlled hunt

A majority of landowners in Nassagaweya Township would allow recreational hunting on their property if the hunter sought permission, carried liability insurance and held a valid licence, officers of the Halton Hunters' Association told Nassagaweya Township Council at their meeting Monday.

The association filed results of a landowner survey of 207 Nassagaweya properties and a draft proposal to amend the Petty Trespass Act as they urged the council to reconsider a suggestion to ban the discharge of firearms throughout the township.

Their brief urged stiffer penalties for trespassers, extra personnel and expanded duties for police and Lands and Forests Department officers. Present trespass laws and light penalties don't make it worth a landowner's while to file a trespass complaint, they pointed out.

This winter the sportsmen surveyed 211 landowners in Esquesing and 207 in Nassagaweya. Their survey included six questions: "Would you be in favor of allowing recreational hunting on your property if the hunters: 1—came to you seeking permission; 2—could show proof of liability insurance; 3—used rifles; 4—used shotguns; 5—used rifles only if groundhogs were in season; 6—could show proof of valid hunting licences.

The 207 landowners in Nassagaweya were mostly owners of 10 or more acres of land. Just 31 (or 15 per cent) gave a "no" answer to all the questions.

There were 81 per cent in favor of hunting with permission, 73 per cent in favor of hunters had insurance; 28 per cent in favor of use of rifles; 55 per cent favored shotguns; 58 per cent okayed limited use of rifles; and 78 per cent approved the idea of valid licences.

"The problem does not seem to be with hunters or hunting per se but with illegal trespass, lack of responsibility of the sportsmen (and here we include fishermen, snowmobilers, dune buggy enthusiasts, etc.) and the disregard of licensing regulations now in effect," the sportsmen said.

The brief notes the landowner has little choice but to post his land and hope hunters obey the signs.

In co-operation with the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, the local sportsmen are requesting amendments to invoke stiffer penalties in the petty trespass act. They call for fines of \$50 to \$500 for trespassing on any land which is enclosed, as a garden or lawn, or any area where trespass is forbidden by word of mouth, in writing, by posters or signs visible from every point of access to the land. If the trespasser has any gun, bow and arrow, fishing tackle, motorbike, snow vehicle, dune buggy or automobile in his possession, they recommend a fine of \$100 to \$1,000 and suspension of the trespasser's licence or motor vehicle registration plates for one to two years.

Changes requested include a penalty of \$200 to \$1,500 and loss of licence or plates for two to five years for a second or subsequent offence or a conviction while under suspension.

They also recommend that any fines levied be awarded to the complainant.

The brief urges public liability and property damage insurance be held by all hunters when seeking a hunting licence of any

kind. A resolution to this effect is being considered by Department of Lands and Forests and The Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters.

The brief claims it is up to the landowner to say who he will have on his land and who he will not. If insurance was compulsory the landowner could rest assured any damage could be reclaimed from the insurance company. The hunter's name and address would be readily available from the licence.

It is pointed out no legislation from any level will entirely wipe

out the bad hunter. "A no discharge of firearms by-law would not alleviate the problem. Not only would the township lose revenue from the sale of township licences but there would be the added expenses of employing a by-law control officer to enforce this no discharge by-law. Neither the Ontario Provincial Police nor the Department of Lands and Forests Conservation Officers have the jurisdiction to enforce a municipal by-law."

The authors of the brief point out a case in Saltfleet Township where a no firearm by-law was

passed and produced undesirable results. Rabbits and other pests are apparently causing an imbalance in nature in Saltfleet and eating market crops.

In conclusion the report calls for the township to join sports clubs in the county in pressing for the same legislation and to expand the personnel and duties of the OPP and the Lands and Forest Department so legislation can be effectively enforced.

According to the brief "pests" and rabid animals could be controlled, lawbreakers could be disciplined, landowners would be more secure and sportsmen would have the opportunity to pursue their hobby in this "enlightened, progressive township."

The report was submitted to the council by Paul Coulson, President of Halton Hunters' Association, secretary Jim Etherington and member Arn Coulson.

Representatives of the Hunters' Association were invited by council to attend a meeting of the by-law committee where the legislation proposed for the township would be drafted.

Councillor Art Gibson declared it was not the township's intention to disallow hunting but it was intended to control it.

Reeve A. MacArthur reported she had received an anonymous letter threatening more damage to the township would be caused by burning bush and swamps if hunting was not allowed. "It bothered me that anyone would write that kind of letter," she observed.

There have been serious break-ins at many homes around Halton County in the past few weeks. Money, food and readily saleable items have been stolen.

A Terra Cotta Preservation Committee has been formed to fight the road developers and attempt to preserve the beauty of the village.

## Esquesing may appoint first finance committee

Esquesing council may form a finance committee as a result of a suggestion by deputy-reeve Tom Hill at Monday night's regular meeting.

Council agreed earlier in the meeting to consider at budget time a request for financial aid submitted by Acton Board of Parks and Recreation Committee chairman Peter Marks.

Mr. Marks told council he felt a request for aid was in order since a high percentage of township people use parks and recreational facilities in Acton, at no extra charge.

"I'm pretty sure Georgetown is going to be here now and I'm sure Milton isn't going to let it slide by without some comment," deputy-reeve Hill predicted.

"I think it's time we had a

finance committee on this council," he added.

The deputy-reeve said he thought Esquesing was the only municipality in Ontario without a finance committee.

Reeve George Currie agreed and indicated he may appointed the whole five man council to the finance committee.

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## Charges, sentence of constable upheld at special council meet

If Const. Gordon Crooks of the Milton Police Department is going to receive any sympathy it will have to be from the Ontario Police Commission. After a lengthy hearing before a committee of Milton Council Wednesday, Mayor Brian Best announced the committee would uphold the recent charges laid against the constable and the resulting sentence issued by Chief Ray Andress.

Agent for Const. Crooks, Const. James Cooke of Hamilton announced he would seek an early hearing from the Ontario Police Commission to appeal council's decision immediately after Mayor Best made the announcement.

Mr. Cooke had presented his case noting a total of 19 items he felt were wrong with the manner in which the charges were laid and carried out. His case was almost entirely geared to procedural flaws committed, he said, by Chief Andress in convicting Const. Crooks.

After hearing the 19-point summation the committee had several choices. They could have quashed the charges and paid the accused constable the equivalent of two weeks pay he lost as a sentence; they could have ordered a new trial, or they could uphold the charges and sentence. By doing the latter the constable in essence moved the case to the Ontario Police Commission.

Const. Crooks was convicted Nov. 28 by Chief Andress on two of the 22 original charges placed against the Constable. He

was found guilty by the Chief of wilfully giving false evidence in connection with an automobile accident and showing the wrong position of a car in the accident.

Among the points listed in the appeal was the suggestion the constable was not charged with an actual offense. In filling out the charge sheet the Chief did not fill in the blank for the charge but listed particulars of the incident, said Cooke.

Other points in the agent's case noted the Chief laid the charges, investigated the case and conducted the hearing and he refused to give evidence, for the defence under cross-examination.

Mr. Cooke objected to the fact that at least two of the witnesses called had not been sworn in and a witness unknown until the time of the hearing gave evidence. Mr. Cooke said he was unable to properly conduct his cross-examination and he claimed his client had not been given a fair trial.

After listing 19 flaws in procedure he told the committee any one of the points was enough to have the case thrown out. In his summation he urged the committee to have the two charges and the penalty dismissed.

Since the original charges the Constable faces three new charges which will be heard by a judge, not the Chief or the police committee of council. Const. Crooks this week submitted his resignation from the police force, to be effective on April 11.

## Esquesing agrees verbally to Hornby Park pavilion

Esquesing council has verbally agreed to provide \$10,000 for the construction of a pavilion in Hornby Park, but put off passing a resolution authorizing the expenditure until a written agreement is received for the spending of a similar amount from the town of Oakville. Hornby park is owned jointly by Esquesing and Oakville.

Esquesing's share in the cost of the building is to be taken out of the township's capital reserve fund.

The remaining \$6,000 for the \$26,000 building is expected to be provided through a government grant.

However, Reeve George Currie reminded councillors at Monday night's regular meeting, that the purchase of the land for the park was government subsidized in the first place.

"Can you get a second subsidy?" he wondered.

The 2,600 square foot pavilion will house washrooms and dressing rooms. One side of the

building, will be open and contain picnic tables.

## Water service cost to town

A water leak on Pearl St. in front of the Rober Mackay home, originally blamed on the Mackay house service, has turned out to be a town problem.

Milton Council Monday agreed to reimburse Mr. Mackay the \$67.15 he had to pay for a new service. The leak was in the town's line, not his. Two town workmen who investigated the leak report the sound of running water stopped when the Mackay line was shut off so Mr. Mackay was told to get a new line installed.

Doug Magwood will take over this fall as vice-principal of Stewarttown Public School.

# NOTICE

## Residents of The Township of Esquesing DOG TAGS

Due to the Provincial Take-over of Assessment, Dog Tags will no longer be available from the Assessor. Dog Licenses and Tags are available at the Township Office, R. R. No. 1, Georgetown or by mail on receipt of the required information and license fee. Information Required — Sex and Breed of Dog

LICENCE FEES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- MALE — \$2.00 SECOND MALE — \$4.00
- FEMALE — \$4.00 SECOND FEMALE — \$6.00
- UNSEXED — \$2.00 SECOND UNSEXED — \$4.00

DELMAR FRENCH, Treasurer

## Councillor speaks at Citizens Forum annual

Attendance was sparse but enthusiasm was evident when the Upper Burlington Citizens Forum held its annual meeting at St. George's Church, Lowville on Tuesday evening of last week.

Mrs. Ella Foote, ward three council representative, spoke briefly about the proposals for regional government as they affect Burlington. She also dealt with the town's zoning by-law and official plan and notified members the planning board is currently re-drafting the zoning on northern Burlington lands.

Directors named for 1970 include Ron Nixon, Mrs. S. Portch, Merle Gunby, Mrs. Lois

Morris, Brock Harris, G. B. Clements, Tom Ballm, Harold Middlebrook and Mrs. B. McGregor. They will select a president, secretary and treasurer at their first directors' meeting.

Allan Wright of Burlington, vice-chairman of Halton Region Conservation Authority was scheduled to speak and show a film at the meeting but was ill and unable to attend. Halton's film "The Man and the Boy" was shown, also one on the conservation of water supplied by the Ontario Department of Energy and Resources Management.

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