

Kilbride Hall may have to close

By Bob Burt

Facing a shortage of funds, a shortage of people using the facilities on a regular basis as well as a need for extensive repairs, Kilbride Community Hall may have to be closed up.

The hall has served the village as a meeting place and dance hall and has housed bazaars and special events for the village people since it was moved there about 75 years ago. The actual date it was moved isn't known but it is believed to be about 75 years. Prior to moving it to its present location as a public hall it was used as a store house.

Public meeting

The Hall Board will hold a public meeting at the hall tonight at 8.30 to air the problems they are confronted with and to decide on the future of the building.

Hall Board treasurer Jack Inglis said there is a shortage of funds as only two groups now use the hall and the small rent they pay doesn't cover the cost of the caretaker.

Stir up interest

"We'll have to stir up some interest in using the hall or consider closing it," he said. "The roof over the kitchen leaks, we have no washroom, and other major repairs are necessary." The board missed out on revenue they might get if they were allowed to have a bar. But the law prohibits a public bar without a washroom and the building rests on rock, eliminating the possibility of putting in a washroom.

Sad shape

Burlington Recreation Supervisor Art Turner said it would be like throwing good money after bad if the necessary funds were spent to fix the hall. "It's in pretty bad shape", he noted.

Turner recalled the town putting electric heating in the building three years ago but noted the repairs required are too great and the number of persons using the hall can't justify the expenditure.

Good times

Although economics may make closing up look like a logical move, long time residents of North Burlington, Milton and the townships will be moved by emotion and a nostalgia recalling good times had in the hall years ago.

At one time the hall was a beehive of activity but more recently some of the tenants have moved to Kilbride School and others of course are spending leisure time in downtown Burlington.

Several choices

When the public meets tonight to discuss the future they'll have several alternate routes to consider. They may choose to try to stir up interest and improve their financial position, or they may choose to close the hall.

If indeed they close the hall, they might approach the recreation commission in an effort to have the commission act on behalf of the people of Kilbride making an agreement with the Halton County Board of Education to use Kilbride School for the two groups now using the hall.

Establish fairgrounds

Another perhaps more imaginative idea has been kicked around but has not yet found its way to the drawing board. Several horse breeders, horse owners and associations with interests in showing horses have expressed interest in establishing a fair grounds at the parkland abutting the school property.

While this is still at the preliminary level and in no way connected with the hall or the hall board, it could eventually provide a meeting room or area to accommodate the groups using the hall now.

Emotional ties

Both the cubs and scouts and the Good Neighbor Euchre Club use the hall on a regular basis. Many of the members in the card club are senior citizens and have strong emotional ties to the old hall.

After being in the village for so long the hall has become as much a part of the life in Kilbride as many of the people who populate the village. The Hall Board, with the help of the people of Kilbride, will have to make the decision concerning the hall's future on the basis of the information available at tonight's meeting.



KILBRIDE HALL, a part of the community for many years may be closed unless the people of the community give the Hall Board assistance in restoring the hall to good condition. A public meeting to discuss the future is slated for 8.30 tonight (Wednesday) at the hall. —(Staff Photo)

Georgetown voters favor fluoridation

Georgetown voters favored fluoridation of their water by a good majority in elections there Monday. In favor of fluoride: 2630; opposed 1700.

William Smith was elected mayor by a small majority: Smith 2258; Ron Dodokin 2175. Reeve Hunter was ousted with

1721 votes by Ric Morrow, former councillor, with 2696. Art Speight was acclaimed deputy.

Councillors, two elected in each ward: Ward one Ern Hyde 820, Ernest Sykes 695; John Elliott 660; ward two Harry Levy 743, Mrs. Donna Dennison 624, Pearce Porter 609; Tut Harrison 428. Ward three, Phil Siddall, Mrs. Joan Smith by acclamation.

Hartley Sherk was elected to separate school board with 258 votes to Clarence Doyle's 185.

Acclaimed were Ernest Bodnar for board of education, John Armstrong and Gerald McCallum for hydro commission, Ballentine and Jim Young for water commission.

Kitchener man dies in crash

A Kitchener husband and father of three children was killed Friday morning in a Highway 401 accident that followed the winter's first big snowfall.

Norbert Rademacher of 92 Sixth Ave., Kitchener was the victim. His car went out of control and plummeted 25 feet onto Five Sideroad just east of Campbellville about 6.30 a.m. Const. Tom Penrice of Milton OPP investigated and said the man's car was a total wreck. He was alone in the car at the time.

Nix sign

A proposed red and yellow revolving six foot sign would confuse motorists, especially when the town erects traffic lights at that intersection, applicants from Bell Bros. Garage were informed this week by Milton Council and building inspector Ray Olan.

The gas company sign would sit six feet inside the garage property at the corner of Base Line Rd. and Martin St. Both council and the building inspector have rejected the sign request.

Intimidation charges laid

Milton OPP this week laid charges of intimidation against three young Norval area men, following a series of tire fires on the Town Line south of Norval Hallowe'en night. Two area men were charged earlier following intensive investigations.

Spokesmen said the OPP are still investigating a fire the same night which destroyed a barn at the Second Line farm near Moffat owned by Ontario Social and Family Services Minister John Yaremko. Arson is suspected but to date no charges have been laid.

Ring, ring

Interested readers got fast election results from The Champion's election telephone result service Monday night.

While a staff of reporters in Esquesing, Nassagaweya, Oakville and Burlington fed results to the office, three Champion employees answered over 200 telephone inquiries between 8.30 p.m. and 1 a.m. Most of the inquiries concerned the elections in the townships.

OUR READERS WRITE:

NO CUSTOMERS? SURE, NO SERVICE!

Dear Sir:

As a resident of Nassagaweya Township I am concerned over the threatened termination of the C.P.R. passenger service in our community.

While passenger accommodation of this nature may not be heavily patronized at the present time, the right of way extends into the very heart of a rapidly expanding area of the Province and offers the only practical alternative to an already overcrowded highway system.

The present operating schedule of existing service is inappropriate for regular commuting purposes but a revised timetable could produce substantial revenue from this class of traffic.

Through apparent indifference to passenger accommodation and convenience, a noticeable deterioration of rail services and facilities within recent years can also be blamed for lack of patronage.

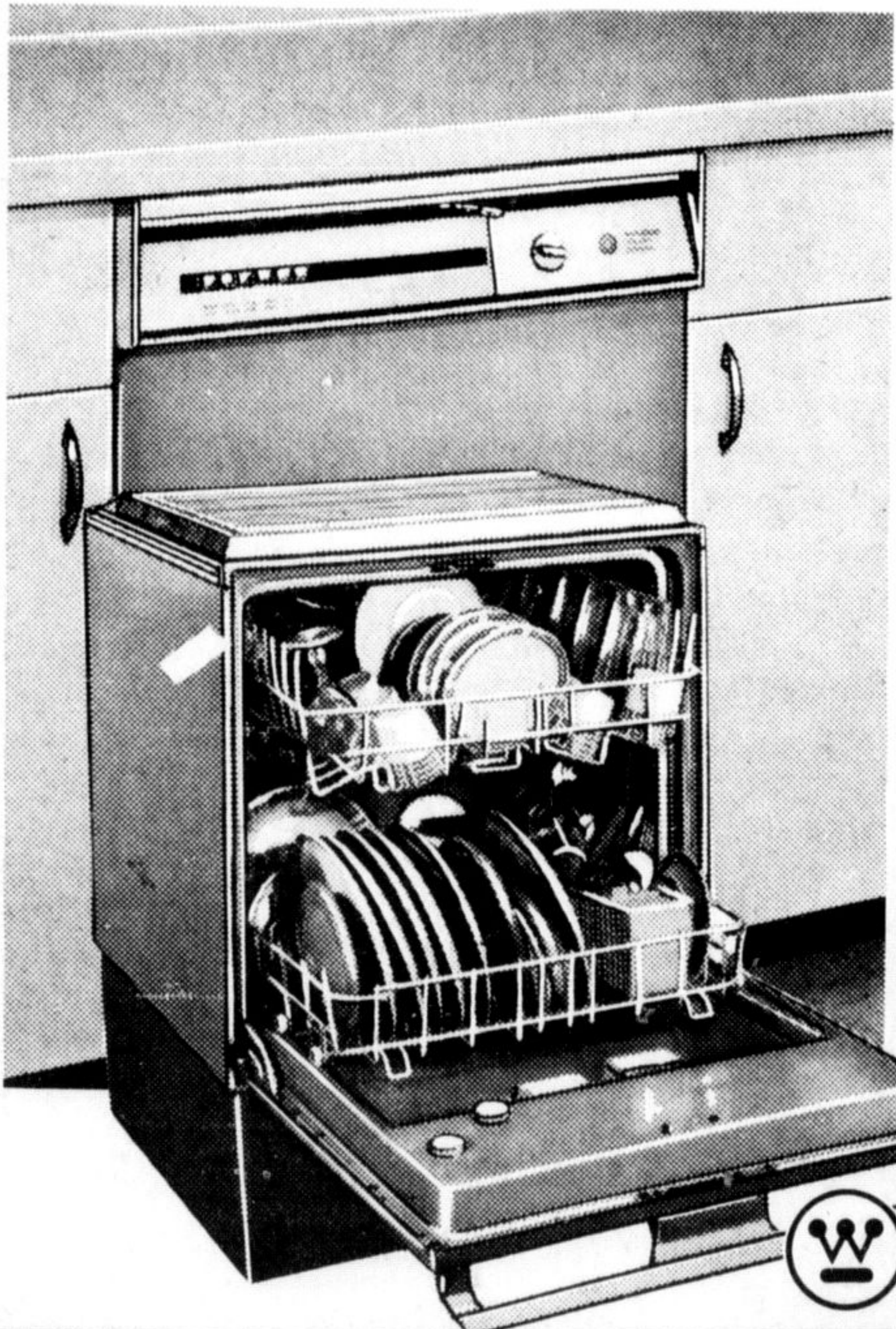
While the reflected result of this business attitude may be shown as supporting evidence for the termination of service, it affords no justification for the deprivation of transportation facilities which are the inherent public privilege.

Should abandonment of passenger rail accommodation on this strategic right of way ever be allowed by the Canadian Transport Commission, a service that is vital to the interest of this developing community may be lost for all time.

Yours sincerely,
Mary McPhail

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Free bus service starts here Friday

Something different in a Christmas promotion is being offered to shoppers this year by Milton Chamber of Commerce. Chamber organizers have supplemented the usual free Christmas draw with a free shoppers' bus service designed to get shoppers to the stores and home again during the daytime.

The bus service starts this Friday, Dec. 11 and runs daily except Sundays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. until Thursday Dec. 24. All rides are free, courtesy the Chamber and over 80 participating stores and services.

Bus routes

There are three sections to the hourly routes the bus will take. It leaves Milton Post Office every hour on the hour and travels up Mill St. and through the west and south-west area of the town. It will leave the Post Office again at 30 minutes past each hour and head up Martin St. to serve the north corner of town and stop at Milton Plaza. Then it leaves the Charles and Main St. corner at 15 minutes to the hour and serves the south-east section of the town, returning once again to the plaza and downtown areas.

Although the bus will not travel up and down each and every residential street, organizers report no-one will have to walk more than a block to catch a free bus ride.

Chamber director Ron Harris has been the driving force behind the bus service proposal. He made arrangements with Tyler Transport of Acton for the bus, helped work out the schedule, and supervised a canvass of merchants. The 80-plus sponsors have contributed enough to pay for the bus service and \$500 for the free shopper draw which began this week.

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