

Cost is \$635,000

# Major creek improvements

A major program of improvements in the Sixteen Mile Creek through Milton is one of the major recommendations in the new flood control report Halton Region Conservation Authority is preparing for Milton Council. Diverting one small easterly branch creek into the Woodward St. branch of the Sixteen, replacing or adding culverts

through the town and installing concrete lined channels, a program estimated to cost \$635,000, was given approval by a 5-3 vote of council Monday. During the same meeting members approved plans for a \$385,000 storm sewer line to carry drainage to the Sixteen from three new subdivisions in the north-east quadrant of town. An

alternate plan to carry the drainage south through the third extension to Derry Rd., with estimates ranging as high as \$1,203,000, was rejected. The more expensive plan would have aided in serving the newly annexed lands along the rear of Halton Manor and OSD.

Report due soon  
Although the HRCRA report is

still under wraps, portions of the report dealing with the main branch, Woodward and Ontario creeks were revealed to councillors Monday by the town's consulting engineer Kenneth Hyde of R. V. Anderson and Associates. HRCRA engineer M. A. MacKrell, Burlington, wanted council's decision on the two areas before sending his final

report to the printers. It is expected to be released before the end of January.

Development bordering any watercourses in Milton has been stalled for the past year, awaiting the HRCRA report. When the Ontario Municipal Board granted temporary approval of Milton's

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## Nassagaweya inaugural

# Township defence dominant theme

The defence of Nassagaweya was the dominant theme in an address to Township Council by Reeve A. MacArthur as council met for its inaugural meeting

Monday. The re-elected reeve emphasized the importance of retaining Nassagaweya as a unit in regional government and called for defense against the Toronto Centred Region concept where it overrides the existing township official plan and zoning by-law. Mrs. MacArthur also stressed the right of the township to a seat on the executive committee of the Halton Region Conservation Authority since so much of the Authority land and county forests lie within the township. She also urged a close look before any further road widenings are undertaken in the township.

Study youth centre  
The reeve pointed out interim tax billing would be initiated this year and she urged the current road hard-topping program be continued. Interest had also been indicated in a community youth centre and this would be studied further.

Dwelling on the prospect of regional government, the reeve maintained the township boundaries must be kept intact and the type of government proposed, as well as the salaries of the top officials must be clear. "We're practically a region now", she pointed out, enumerating county services. "Nassagaweya is not parochial. We just won't buy a pig in a poke."

Urban playground  
Criticizing the acceptance as policy by groups of the Toronto-Centred region concept prior to its finalization, Reeve MacArthur stressed the council must not stand by and have township land values frozen while the area becomes a playground for urbanites "to hoot and holler and play".

"This is the year to let the boys at Queen's Park know where we stand. We won't let the township become a community playground unless the donations come very high", the reeve emphasized, alluding to provincial subsidies.

Used as policy  
In later discussion Councillor Art Gibson predicted the township would not get any subdivisions under the Toronto-Centred Region concept. He noted other areas were finding the report was being considered by government departments as

policy even though it had not been finalized.

Under the terms of the report subdivisions were suggested for the area of built up urban centres.

"Basically what we have is regional government in the back door", Councillor Jim Watson observed.

"If the province is going to take away our subdivisions they'll have to give us subsidies, and we'll also have to watch that land values aren't frozen," Reeve MacArthur maintained.

Unfair system  
Councillor Cal McIntyre urged the township to press for a different method of calculating the assessment factor. He called for representations to the Department of Municipal Affairs Assessment Branch, noting the department had agreed last year the system used was not entirely fair to townships like Nassagaweya.

The new councillor said he would like to see the road program continued, the intersection signs extended and lights considered for Milton Heights. He maintained too that more council work should be done in committees, not closed meetings, but working committees.

"If cannisters are reported missing from local business establishments and Fire Chief A. E. Clement stated he "was very disappointed" to learn thieves had lifted the small hourglasses. Each year Milton Fire Department makes it an annual project to distribute these muscular dystrophy fund cannisters to local businesses in town to collect a worthwhile amount of change to help this worthwhile cause. Mr. Clement added the small amount of change in each cannister would be of little value to most, but to children crippled with the disease, its value is mere life.

## Cannisters missing

Chief Clement said both store owners had no idea where or when the cannisters had disappeared.

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## Mayor's message

### Positive, progressive action theme for '71

A challenge to be positive, constructive and progressive was handed to members of Milton Council this week as they started 1971 with prospects of a busy year ahead.

Mayor Brian Best, at council's first meeting of the year Monday evening, gave the following statement: "A new year... time for reflection on past efforts and for vision and determination to put forth a better effort in the year ahead."

"When elected, we each made a commitment to act in the best interests of the town. This commitment to act does infer we have a duty to perform. We cannot sit on the fence and at the end of the term console ourselves that we have been good caretakers."

#### Cannot stand still

"Gentlemen — in the best interests of the town we must be positive, constructive and progressive in our thinking and actions. No longer can any community or country stand still and watch the rest of the world go by."

"I trust that during 1971 this council will provide the leadership and participation that is expected of us. With such plans or concepts as the Toronto-Centred Region plan, and proposed regional government, this council must always be vigilant and ensure that the best aims of the town are achieved."

## Set February 28 budget deadline

Municipal boards and committees depending on Milton Council for finances had better sharpen their pencils and start working out their budget requirements. And soon.

At Monday's meeting of council it was agreed Feb. 28 was the final deadline for submission of budgets from the town's various committees. The council wants to start budget deliberations early in March.

## Call bids low-rental housing here

Ontario Housing Corporation has been stymied in its attempt to locate lands in Milton on which it can build a 14-unit low rental family housing project, and notified Milton Council this week it was calling for proposals from builders who own land in the town.

The OHC was asked by council to go ahead with the project, but suitable land is scarce. As it did with the Senior Citizens' 36-unit apartment project, OHC has decided to call for proposals.

## Union, PLR

### Expect meeting this week

A meeting of Local 4970 of the United Steel Workers of America and the management of P. L. Robertson Manufacturing Co. Ltd. in Milton is expected to be held this week.

When the two parties last met on contract negotiations in the middle of December there was still a considerable gap between what the union was asking and the company was offering. The last offer was a 39 cents an hour package over two years and the union is holding fast at 71 cents an hour over the two year term.

#### Report soon

The conciliation officer is expected to be making his report any day now but according to Allan Dibblee, personnel officer for Procor Ltd. (P. L. Robertson's parent company) the report had not yet been handed in at press time.

The union must wait 16 days after the submission of the report before they can hold a legal strike. Workers voted 9-1 in favor of strike action.



"WE WANT IT FIXED," is the message a group of residents wanted to get across when they posted this sign on 15 Sideroad.

## They want sideroad repaired

Upset by what they refer to as horse and buggy roads a group of residents living on or near 15 Sideroad have made it clear they want improvements on the sideroad.

About 14 residents gathered Thursday afternoon to post a mock sign. The sign posted at the corner of Highway 25 and 15 Sideroad reads, "Carriage road ahead. Use at your own risk. Speed 7 MPH — It's your life."

After posting the sign those who had gathered there discussed the road and the many problems they had found with it over the years.

#### Should be fixed

Arnie Miller of R.R. 1 Georgetown travels the road three times daily during the week, driving a school bus. "A lot of the turns are bad and ought to be fixed. It is bad on the Nassagaweya side too," Miller said.

The road runs from the Guelph Line through Nassagaweya and Esquesing Townships as far as Stewarttown. The road, formerly maintained by the two townships is now a county road and has been the subject of considerable discussion at the county level.

#### Fear destruction

Residents living along the road in the two townships have mixed feelings about the road. Some feel the road has to be fixed to provide safe passage, while others fear it becoming a major route and disturbing the scenic beauty of the rural area.

The group which gathered to post the sign was in complete agreement the road must be fixed. "You can't live in the sticks forever on these horse and buggy roads. We want it fixed before someone is killed," says Ron Davis who operates a swine farm on the road. Davis said the speed of vehicles

using the route has increased since the road was hard-topped but the turns are still there and it is still dangerous.

Davis said there were several turns and bends in the road that needed attention. "We'll soon have to use snowmobiles instead of cars," he quipped. Henry Kelly, proprietor of Speyside General Store offered another alternative when he appeared on the scene with a horse and cutter.

#### Death trap

Al Brown, who lives on the Fourth Line and uses the road often said the road wasn't bad in the horse and buggy days but the way it is now, someone is going to get killed. "The road is a death trap," he said.

Other members of the group recalled some narrow escapes. One told of an occasion when he drove off the road into a snowbank to avoid hitting a milk

truck when the two met at one bend in the road.

#### Patching fences

One told of the futile efforts of a farmer on the road who became furious when he was awakened in the middle of the night by police who had investigated an accident. Apparently the farmer is in a precarious spot and frequently cars slide off the road and through the fence. He inevitably would be called upon to patch his fence before his cattle escaped.

Both Nassagaweya and Esquesing Township councils have pushed for a public meeting with county road officials to have the problem aired. A meeting is expected in the near future.

## Barr is dark horse

# Four seek Warden's seat

The contest for the Halton Warden's chair for 1971 took on a new contender this week when a dark horse candidate announced he would challenge the two front-runners for the seat.

Deputy Reeve Percy Barr of Milton said he hopes to be the first deputy reeve elected Warden in the county's 117-year history. Just starting into his second year as a county councillor, Deputy Reeve Barr has been a member of Milton Council seven years.

#### Open vote Tuesday

Milton Reeve Ron Harris and Acton Reeve Dr. F. G. Oakes had earlier announced their intentions to seek the county's top

post. The warden is elected by an open vote of members at the inaugural meeting, scheduled for next Tuesday, Jan. 12 in the county council chambers.

Another candidate expected to be nominated is Nassagaweya Reeve Mrs. Anne MacArthur, but her nomination is not as serious a bid as the three men's. Mrs. MacArthur is running in protest of the system. (See separate story).

## Opposes system, reeve may run for Warden

Expressing opposition to the campaigning for the position of

Current Halton Warden is Reeve Alan Day of Oakville. He will turn over the gavel and chain of office at Tuesday's inaugural. Reeve Day was defeated in his bid for the mayoralty in Oakville early in December and Tuesday's meeting will mark the start of his enforced retirement.

County Council used to rotate the post of Warden on a "turn" basis but the system is gradually being eased out.

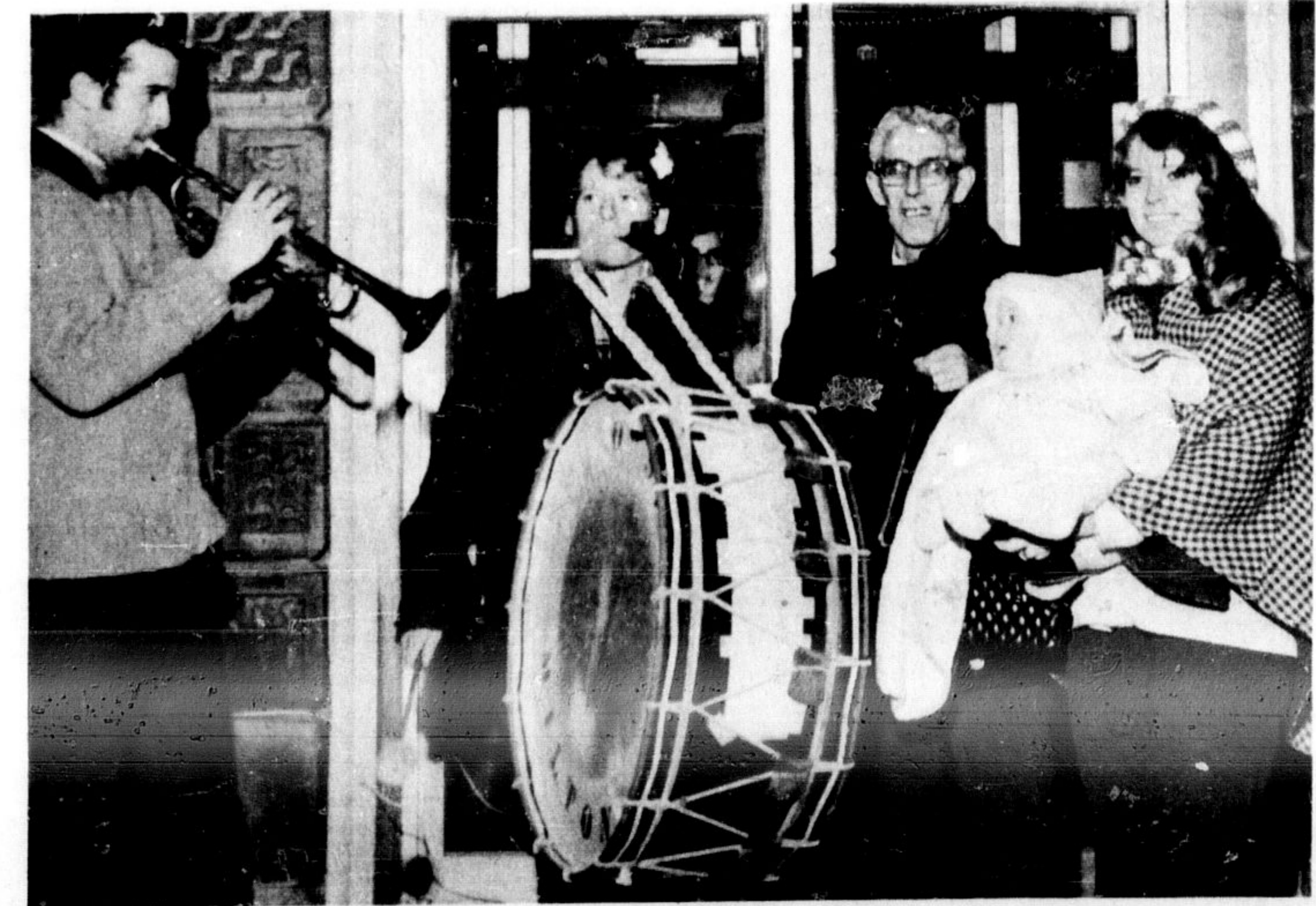
Warden of Halton County, Nassagaweya Reeve A. MacArthur told this paper she may let her name be placed in nomination to express that opposition.

"I dislike being asked two months in advance for my support for a candidate", the Nassagaweya Reeve declared. She also opposed the current method of electing a warden by an open vote as undemocratic. The reeve maintained it was extremely difficult for a newly elected member, who might not even realize he would be required to cast his vote openly for the various candidates.

The reeve noted that her name might come forward next year but she would warn county councillors this year there was no way they could expect her to campaign for the position.

## Bellringing tradition continues

# Crowd of 200 welcomes new year



MUSICAL LEADERSHIP for Auld Lang Syne in the "town square" at Milton Town Hall on New Year's Eve came from Jim Humphrey on the bass drum, Tom Nye on the vocal and Peter Hopwood on the trumpet. Mrs. Robert Cope with eight-month-old Ryan was on hand to watch the "orchestra" tune up for their

annual sing along. About 200 were on hand this year for the bell ringing as the crowd continues to increase each year. Celebrants joined hands for a big circle to welcome 1971 to Milton as the bell in the town hall tower tolled.

#### Crowd appears

The 14-degree temperature didn't dissuade the crowd that seems to magically appear just before the midnight hour and just as mysteriously disappear a few moments later.

Coffee and donuts were provided this year by The Champion but many of those in attendance for the singing didn't stay around for those refreshments. The town hall lobby, however, was crowded with the singers who were on hand for the event. Song leader Tom Nye arranged recorded music to precede the

midnight circle but dancers weren't encouraged by the weather, to turn the street into a dance floor.

#### Midnight orchestra

Orchestra members included Peter Hopwood on the trumpet, Jim Humphrey on the bass drum, John Comber on the snare drum and Tom Nye as song leader.

The bell was "well and truly rung" by the retiring sheriff and the new year was duly saluted as the bell-ringing tradition chalked up another success.

## Starts on March billing

# Hydro rates increase

Milton Hydro-Electric Commission will make an adjustment in electric power retail rates in connection with all bills issued on and after March 1, 1971, Chairman W. C. "Bill" Rowney announced this week.

There will be a small increase in residential, commercial and industrial rates. This has become necessary, Chairman Rowney explained, because of rising local costs and an increase in wholesale rates charged by Ontario Hydro. Mr. Rowney added that Hydro, like all other organizations, has

been affected by a variety of higher costs for materials and supplies, also because of increased wages. These higher costs have had to be passed on in some measure to the customer. However he pointed out the increase per month for the average residential customer would be less than the cost of two packages of cigarettes.

#### Detail rates

For example, the chairman said, Milton Hydro will introduce the following residential Hydro rate changes:

First 50 Kilowatthours for residential service would be increased from 3.4c to 3.8c; the next 200 kilowatthours would increase from 1.5c to 1.7c net; the next 500 kilowatthours from 0.75c to 0.85c net; and the balance from 1.0c to 1.1c net.

Chairman Rowney said Milton Hydro-Electric Commission has endeavored to hold the line in costs but has been affected by inflationary pressures beyond their control. However, electric power is still the best bargain available on the market."