

# Esquering will hire professionals to fight Indusmin proposals

Esquering Council has come out strongly opposed to Indusmin proposals to dump dried Toronto garbage bales into the Indusmin quarry, between the Third and Fourth Lines.

"We fought against the Milton proposal to put garbage in a pit at Milton Brick, so I don't think we'll change our minds now," Reeve Tom Hill told council and over 50 Esquering residents crowded into the council chambers Monday evening.

The reeve said the township's Official Plan, on the threshold of being approved, would protect against garbage being trucked in from outside the township. "We will have to give permission," he predicted, "before it can happen."

Council decided they would retain professional help to prepare a case against the Indusmin proposal, recognizing that emotional reasoning would have little effect on the Ontario Municipal Board, where the proposals might be put before the issue is solved.

Monday's meeting with little urging.

Artist Dorothy Stone suggested council get in touch with East York where landfill proposals were once considered the "be all and end all" but now the municipality was experiencing difficulties with sites where fill had been put and now were eroding due to methane gas.

Ex-Deputy Reeve Russell Miller, who is taking an active part in fighting the garbage proposals, suggested council consider passing a by-law barring outside garbage from the township. He said he talked with George Kerr who said the township was foolish not to allow the garbage industry to locate in the township. He was alarmed the proposals might have much similar support in higher circles.

Replying to Miller, the reeve said a by-law might be helpful if it agreed with the Official Plan but could create difficulties with present garbage collection where collectors tried to split the loads between Chinguacousy and Esquering dumps since they collected in both townships.

The reeve said it was his impression the quarry would have to be rezoned if Indusmin wanted to dump bales of garbage in but other members of council wondered whether the industrial designation would not serve for garbage landfill as well.

"If it requires rezoning we will have sufficient chance to argue," said Councillor Howitt, but he was unconvinced.

The reeve thought the official plan would provide adequate protection and he predicted it would be approved by the province in the near future, probably within a few days. He also predicted an increase in truck traffic if Indusmin proposals were accepted, a prediction which found ready agreement from Mr. Miller.

**Should plan**

Malcolm Freeman, who lost by one vote to George Maltby in the last election, asked what plans council had in the event the opposition was overruled. He suggested that regional government could mean the region would decide to dump their garbage in the Indusmin quarry and feel council should be making some provision for the possibility. He also wondered what the township was going to do when their landfill site on the Fourth Line was filled.

The reeve replied that thanks to advice from the Department they had another three years of use from the Esquering dump and the county retained some consultants to study waste disposal which did not necessarily have to be the sanitary landfill method.

Mr. Freeman suggested

wrapping garbage bales in sealed plastic might be one solution if they were forced to take the garbage. "Let's think ahead if we are stuck," he said.

**Must prove**

"We must prove conclusively the quarry is no place for garbage," declared the deputy reeve.

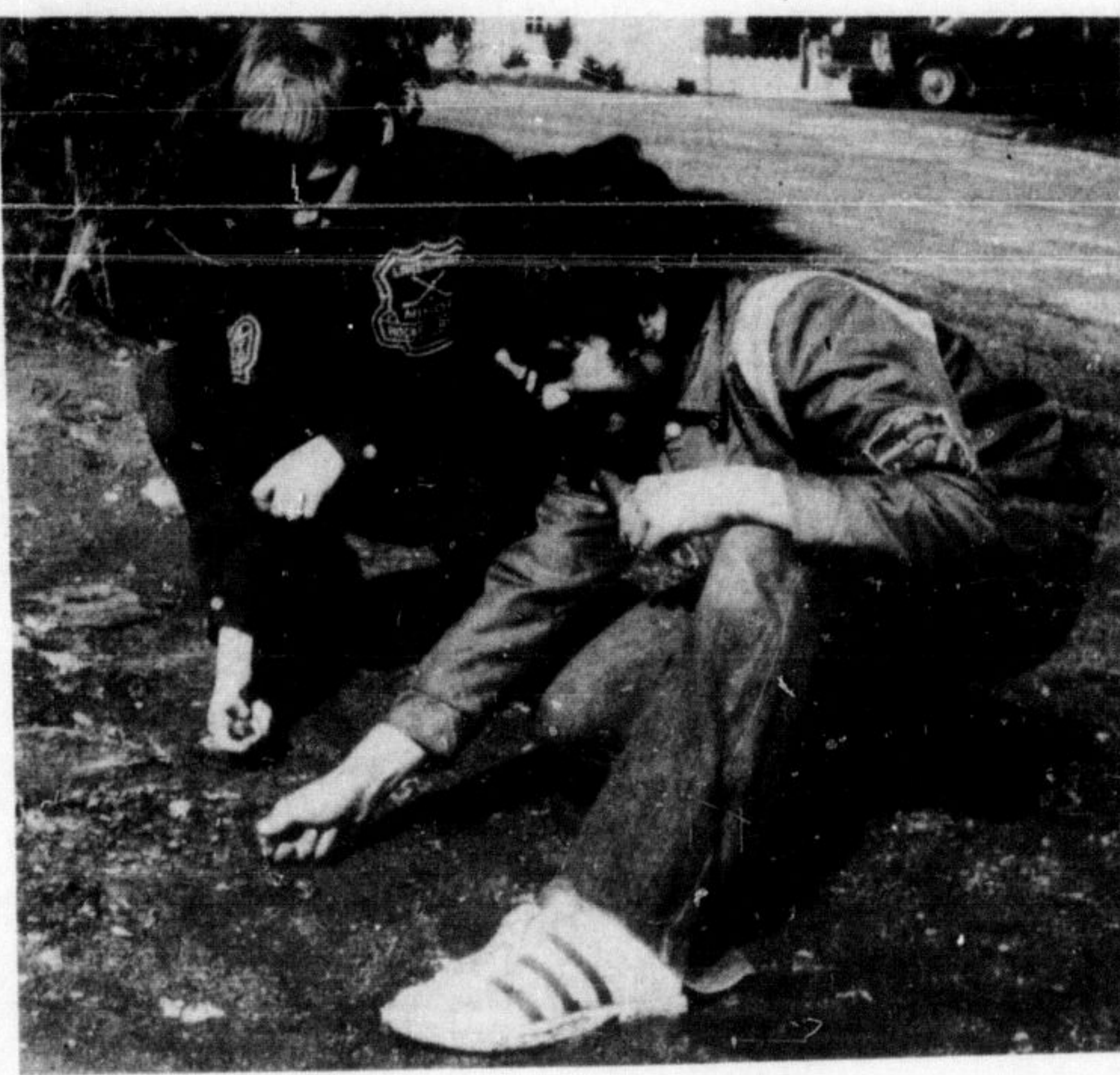
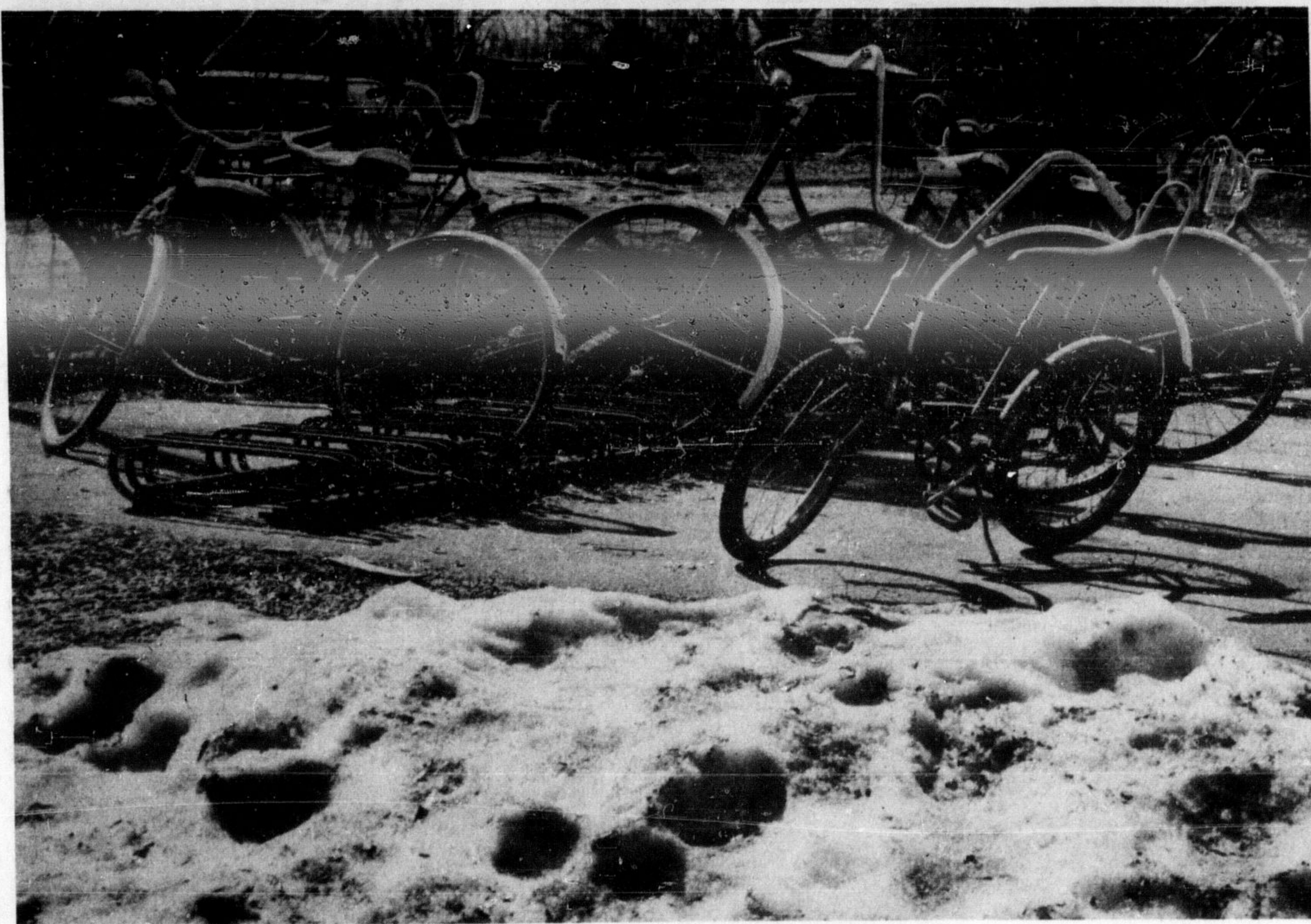
"I think the powers should make Toronto look after its own garbage," said Councillor Maltby.

Sheila O'Rourke, another member of the deputation, suggested damages to the company might result if the water table was polluted such as had happened along 25 Highway where she lived. It cost Beardmore \$50,000 to construct a pipe line to residences along the highway, he noted, and Indusmin could get stuck with plenty more.

"It could even affect the water supply in Georgetown and Milton," the reeve suggested.

Mrs. O'Rourke also noted there was a difference in the way people in the cities looked after the refuse from dogs and cats. In the country they allow them to run out on the fields but in the cities they bag it, and it could conceivably be part of the refuse," she said to laughter.

"They've got the Battle of Wounded Knee in the United States but it might be the Battle of the Dolly here," she predicted.



Signs of Spring



SPRING IS HERE???? Well, maybe. Spring-like weather last week bore out the groundhog's prediction of an earlier spring this year and Miltonians took advantage. There were still piles of snow on the ground but students at Martin St. school got their bikes out of hibernation. Girls with shorts and bikes (but still wearing winter boots) were seen on Main St., also a

convertible with the top down. Marble-players like Wayne Backiney and Glen Swance did their thing and one young fellow was "goin' down the road" with his coat slung over his shoulder and sporting a big grin when photographer Jim Jennings went looking for "signs of Spring" in March in Milton.

## Spare farms says brief

Family farms that will remain in agriculture should be spared any interference that may result from the construction of hydro corridors through Halton County, the Halton Federation of Agriculture said in a letter to the Solandt Commission on hydro transmission lines.

Bruce McClure, Federation president, noted that in 1966 land classed as agricultural was going out of agricultural production at the rate of three acres per hour

and in 1971 the census showed a startling increase in this rate to 43 acres per hour across Ontario.

The letter noted that in view of the loss in food production potential, the Federation recommended every effort be made by the provincial government to avoid planning hydro line corridors from crossing land used for agricultural uses.

Halton County's Administration Committee recommended county council endorse the Federation's suggestion.

—Spring weather compounded the mud problems this week.

### Onus on township

Deputy Reeve Len Cox said he took a negative view of the proposal, no matter what the hydrologists might say, complaining the onus was always on the township to prove the proposals were detrimental instead of on those who make them. He said it was the same case with blasting.

"Why waste money—just tell them we don't want it," said Councillor Wilfrid Leslie.

The deputy reeve said he felt the township had two strong points to fight the Indusmin proposals with—the water table and emission of gases from the bales of refuse. "Indusmin says no methane gas would be produced because there was little oxygen but I would like to get other opinions on this," said Councillor Howitt.

Councillor George Maltby reminded those present that they could be overruled at a higher level and he was glad they had such strong popular support for their stand.

### Much support

Popular support for council's opinions was forthcoming at

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