

## Try to improve realtors' image

Directors of the Oakville Real Estate Board are concerned about their image and the image of realtors in general and is striving to remove what it feels is a black cloud hovering over the profession's image.

During a press conference Monday in Oakville the board explained the emphasis put on continuing education for its members and the stringent regulations required of people in the business to qualify for membership. The board in a prepared statement outlined courses the board insists its members have and points out many have taken the initiative to take courses over and above what is required.

The board statement indicates the board's requirements are more stringent than the provincial regulations and some persons have been refused mem-

bership because they lack board requirements.

**Cut rates**  
Directors were critical of Halton newsmen for not properly recognizing what the board felt was their contribution in a fight against inflation. In April the board cut its commission rates from six to five per cent.

"This move did nothing to improve our image—the only thing it really did was to cut our earnings by approximately 17 per cent," said the statement.

Directors claimed very little attention was paid to the move and very little credit was given to the board or its members.

Vice-President Al Vasily claims the board is continually fighting what he referred to as the umbrella of the commissioned salesman image.

## Buy now realtors urging

The prospect for buying houses won't get any better than what it is right now, according to the Oakville Real Estate Board.

During a press conference Monday the board representatives suggested potential buyers waiting for prices to fall lower than they are now or for interest rates to drop are wasting their time.

The board claims the market favors the buyer now. According to board spokesmen there is no advantage in waiting for interest rates to drop because if and when they do, the price of the house will jump.

According to Director Ted Rose, high interest rates shouldn't be a deterrent. He claims the interest rate is fixed for a five year period but buyers taking advantage of reduced prices enjoy the fixed principal payment for the term of the mortgage.



**FIRE EXTINGUISHERS** are demonstrated for employees at Halton Manor by Lt. Jim Coulson of Milton Fire Department. The local brigade helps institutional and industrial employees learn more about firefighting and fire prevention in an on-going training program.

## Want meet with garage objectors

Milton Council will request a meeting with those persons objecting to a by-law that would allow Gallinger Motors to operate a car dealership, public garage and automobile body shop on the north west corner of Main St. and Wilson Dr. intersection.

Three objectors wrote to council advising council of their objections and indicating they will object before the Ontario Municipal Board.

Councillor Don Gordon suggested the meeting be held with a view to alleviating the concern of the objectors. Each of the objectors protested the operation of a body shop in the area, among other specific areas of protest.

Objectors claimed unsightly vehicles would be parked outside and argued that those vehicles wouldn't be compatible with the residential area.

## Firefighters seeking funds for MD victims

Milton Fire Department launched its 1974 campaign for funds for the Muscular Dystrophy Association of Canada Saturday, when several firefighters accepted donations at the closing day of Milton Farmers' Market.

The brigade, chief sponsor of MD fund-raising in Milton, collected \$75.60. Balloons

bearing a fire prevention message were handed out to the children. This weekend the campaign continues at Milton Plaza, weather permitting. Last year's "toll gate" at the plaza brought in a record total for the MD fund and firefighters hope Miltonians will be as generous this year.

## Santa Claus . . . .

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with school floats the Milton Parks and Recreation Department will provide two trucks.

to support the parade financially. Donations may be sent to treasurer Nick Gauthier at the Bank of Nova Scotia, Milton. Cheques should be made out to the Santa Claus Parade Committee.

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## Norval waits after meeting with Davis

Residents of Norval must now play the waiting game after what was called a splendid meeting with Premier William Davis last Friday.

The ratepayers, who are fighting to get their school reopened, took their plea right to the top on Friday and Davis said he would take the matter under consideration over the weekend and inform them of his decision early this week. They are to receive word from Davis through Halton East M.P.P. and Minister of Governmental Services Jim Snow early this week. As of press time no word had been received.

"The Premier gave us ample time and showed strong interest," said Norval committee chairman Hugh McFarlane.

He said they asked Davis for his help in getting the school re-opened. They reviewed their entire fight against the school board and their discussions of earlier this year with Education Minister Tom Wells.

"We didn't suggest ways he could help us but asked him if he knew of any way he could help us," McFarlane reported.

He said Davis pointed out to them the great difficulty in interfering with the decisions of an elected body like the school board.

McFarlane noted Snow made a very strong plea to the Premier on behalf of the Norval residents.

"Davis, Snow and Wells all expressed concern and sympathy with our problem. It was real, something considering we are only 200 of seven million people they are concerned with," McFarlane said.


He said they had indicated strongly to the Premier that they were simply unwilling to accept the board's decision.

McFarlane did suggest the government set up an appeal board for school board rulings but Davis didn't think it would work well. "He pointed out to us that if there was an appeal body they would be facing every decision school boards made in the province that a few people didn't like. It would be a catch all proposition and would not work out too well. He added that Snow didn't think a judicial type body would work.

"Now we can only wait to hear more specifically what Davis thinks can be done. We certainly realize that their hands are tied in lots of ways," McFarlane said.

—It was 20 years ago this month that Hurricane Hazel struck, leaving a trail of damage and destruction.

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