

Landfill sites filling quickly

Garbage restrictions could hit homeowners

Restrictions on the amount of garbage Halton residents send to the landfill sites will have to be imposed within the next year, unless the region finds someplace to dump garbage.

That was the warning Director of Regional Works Bob Moore gave to Regional Council Wednesday. Moore said workers at the region's three landfill sites are now refusing to accept construction rubble and inert materials at the landfill sites as a result of a staff decision. The decision was first put into effect April 26.

Moore said that decision has drawn the wrath from members of the public and construction firms who have depended on landfill sites as a place to dump rubble.

Moore was responding to a question put to him by Acton

area Councillor Pat McKenzie. McKenzie said that he had received complaints about garbage being refused at the dump and some garbage at households not being picked up.

Moore said the restriction was intended to refer only to private firms not municipal packers or individual residents. But Moore said the time when restriction on householders would be necessary is just around the corner.

He said that some people collecting garbage had misinterpreted the directive and had left some refuse in front of homes. "I think we have that straightened out now," Moore said.

Moore acknowledged restrictions will have to be imposed on residential household waste as well. He

didn't speak in terms of specifics, but said that each household would be restricted to putting out only a certain amount of garbage.

"The prohibitions we have in effect are only the tip of the iceberg, I'm afraid. I just hate to think of the reaction we'll get from the public on that," Moore didn't attempt to hide his frustration as he described what he feels is a desperate situation for the region.

"Frankly, I'm disappointed. I think we are further away from having a landfill site now than we were two years ago.

"What should be a simple public works problem has turned into a legal morass. We are into lengthy legal delays, no matter which way we go."

Moore said the province

had given the region the responsibility for solid waste management but the province had not given the region the authority to deal with the problem.

He said there was a need for pressure to be brought on the province for amendments to provincial legislation that would make it easier to open landfill sites.

"It's the same old story of the pendulum swinging too far. We need laws to protect the minority groups but now the law is being interpreted so strictly that we can't do anything for the majority.

"We are into a difficult problem and few people realize how difficult it is. We're getting nowhere this way," Moore said with a definite trace of disgust and frustration in his voice.

In the case of the restrictions that are now in place, there was no advance notice. Signs were posted and the first loads were refused. Moore said there would be advertisements warning citizens of the restrictions before those restrictions on household garbage are imposed.

Georgetown Councillor Roy Booth said he was fed up with the situation. He said by refusing to accept waste the region is encouraging people to dump refuse in ravines and anywhere else they can find. He claimed this was already being done in the middle of the night.

He noted that Georgetown had embarked on a program that featured the separation of garbage at source. "It bothers me greatly that we have to accept garbage from

Acton and Milton when they haven't even implemented the same type of program."

That comment drew criticism from Acton Councillor Pat McKenzie. McKenzie said, "Councillor Booth knows bloody well that the project in Georgetown is sponsored by the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry chose Georgetown. If it had chosen Milton or Acton it would be working there as well."

Milton Councillor Jim Watson said he supported the idea of homeowners separating their garbage at source and said he had encouraged a ban on the collection of bottles, tins and papers earlier. But he claimed Public Works Chairman Jack Rafitis had sloughed the matter off.

The region had pegged all

of its hopes for a solution to the garbage problem on the success at the Site F in Milton. But now officials are saying that because of delays they probably won't have that site in time and they don't know what to do with the daily mountains of garbage in the meantime.

"People keep saying to me, Mr. Moore what is your alternative—what is your contingency plan? Frankly, Mr. Moore doesn't have a contingency plan. I don't know what we are going to do," Moore said.

Chairman Ric Morrow said outside of the chambers that the region had spent a lot of money studying potential landfill sites and made a political decision based on the studies. He said the council has followed all of the legal steps and is frustrated

because they have yet to get in front of an environmental hearing board to see if the information they have is valid.

He said the recent decision of Justice Southey added delays and caused problems for every municipality across the province.

"Because of the interpretation of the laws it is almost impossible to have a site approved."

Morrow said he expected that municipal associations would be pressuring the province to provide leadership. He said the problem is broader than what the regions have jurisdiction to deal with—and indicated it is time to have some leadership from the province.

Halton Region lost what was hoped to be a possible

alternative to Site F when the Maple site proposed by Waste Management Inc. was turned down by the Environmental Assessment Board.

That firm had intended to truck Toronto garbage from the city to Maple. Officials from that firm had said Halton could use the same site if approval was obtained.

Morrow told council he was planning a special meeting to consider the material provided by Milton consultants and to review the region's position with respect to landfill and waste management generally.

Toronto, Hamilton-Wentworth and Halton are all facing what could be a crisis situation if they can't find approved sites for dumping garbage.

The Canadian Champion

MILTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 1978

72 Pages -- 15 Cents

Volume 118, Number 1

'Scarp landowners warm up for Bill 129 scrap with Davis

Farmers and landowners from the length of the Niagara Escarpment, Niagara to Tobermory, warmed up for their battle with the Davis Government over the proposals of the escarpment planning and development act in an old-fashioned country rally, last Wednesday night.

More than 2000 of them representing three groups, the Niagara Escarpment Central Ratepayers' Association, (NECRA), the Niagara Escarpment Northern Ratepayers' Association (NENRA) and PORA, a Niagara Peninsula ratepayers' group, filled the grandstand and spilled over to a lower level at Orangeville Raceway.

Speakers rapped the Niagara Escarpment Commission for placing too many restrictions on farmers and described the planning and development act, Bill 129, as undemocratic and too arbitrary.

Ratepayers carrying an assortment of signs reading "Break the NEC" and "Scrap the Scarp Commission" were urged to travel to Queen's Park, tomorrow (Thursday), as a sign of support for a private member's bill introduced by Bob McKessock, MPP for Grey.

In his bill, McKessock has called for cutting down of the planning area to include only the 'Scarp' and the 'Scarp Protection area, permission for all existing lots as of February 14, 1978, to be granted development permits within one year of application or purchased by the government within one year of application and appeals on development control decisions to be heard by the OMB rather than the Ministry.

Entertainer Vince Mountford, star of many a Fall Fair and Garden Party and a long-

time ally of Ontario farmers, rallied the troops, who responded to his call to rise and sing old time favorites like "Hail, hail the gang's all here," "Home On The Range" and "When It's Springtime In The Rockies".

NECRA President George Shepherd of Shelburne urged landowners to tell their MPPs to abolish the Act and never pass another one like it.

"Bill 129 is the culprit," said Shepherd. "The men and women living on this escarpment for the last 150 years have been preserving it and there hasn't been unrestricted development."

"We accept our local by-laws and trust our councillors, but we don't trust the bureaucrats. The fight is just beginning," said Shepherd. Shepherd said the people in the Parry Sound, Muskoka and Haliburton regions could wake up some day and find out the Government has done the same thing, if it's not stopped.

"The NEC has been imposed upon us. It is not an elected body and we will not accept it," said Shepherd. "Shouldn't land use control be done by elected officials at the municipal level?"

Fred Davenport, president of NENRA, reported his group now has 1,028 members and its membership will settle for nothing less than abolition of Bill 129.

Jim Vidal, president of PORA, said he's sure ratepayers along the escarpment are going to abolish the NEC itself. "We're getting assistance from NEC in their over-powerful staff and members. They're certainly contributing to their own demise," he said.

Vidal warned that violence may result because it's going to become harder for Bruce Trail hikers to get on to private property.

"The relationship between

farmers and hikers five years ago was reasonable. Now they have to walk down dusty roads because there are so many detours," said Vidal. "For the NEC to state that they expect the trail to exist by good will is 'pie in the sky' because good will is out the window now."

Jim White, a self-employed consultant who also farms near Primrose, said that the way the NEC is governing we now have a system where landowners involuntarily go into debt without having borrowed any money.

"If they don't get you for

Vidal pointed out property ownership is one of the fundamental rights in Canada. He said the Canadian Bill of Rights clearly states that where property rights and civil rights come into conflict, it is the other civil rights which must give way.

Jim White, a self-employed

consultant who also farms near Primrose, said that the way the NEC is governing we now have a system where landowners involuntarily go into debt without having borrowed any money.

"If they don't get you for

Cut from budget

Community day is cancelled

Milton's Community Day celebrations, held annually on July 1, have been cancelled.

Town officials indicate that the discontinuation of the popular event was made necessary because of budget restrictions. The event was expected to cost \$2,500.

The annual event featured band concerts, amateur shows, swimming, competitions for the youngsters and the evening fireworks display. The fireworks display always attracted huge crowds.

Crowds ringed the banks of the mill pond and the fireworks were set off from the Kernighan property. Most of the day's activities took place in Rotary Park.

The cut was part of \$100,000 Parks and Recreation Director Larry Arbic cut from the departmental budget at the direction of council.

"It is the one time of the year when people come from all over town to get together," said Milton Councillor Rose Harrison in a telephone interview with The Champion. "I was very upset when they cut it."

Mrs. Harrison stated she could not understand why the event should cost \$2,500 and suggested volunteer help could reduce the cost to make the day possible.

Mayor Don Gordon said he thought it was "a shame" the special day could not be celebrated as in past years.

The town last year received a \$2,000 provincial grant to help with costs as part of the province's celebration of the Queen's Jubilee, said Mr. Arbic. There was no grant this year though, and the event was chosen along with many other items to be cut from the budget.

Mayor Gordon suggested a community organization might come forward to help make the day possible.

The town has done nothing at this time, he said, but added he expected to work with the Parks and Recreation office to see what could be done.

"I think the town has to attempt to do something for the day," said Art Melanson, Milton councillor, adding that if nothing was done in the week before the July 1 celebration, something should be done on July 1.

"I would like to see some sort of activity," he continued, admitting he was surprised to learn the event had been completely chopped from the budget.

Mr. Melanson suggested community service clubs and the business improvement committee might be interested in helping out with the day's activities.

"I wonder if another look at the cost could not find some way of making it possible," said Mrs. Harrison.

Mrs. Harrison said the town had also lost its winter carnival. That had once been run by volunteers, taken over by the town and then cancelled. In its place there is a regional winter carnival held at Kelso, Oakville, Halton Hills, Milton and Halton Region Conservation Authority jointly sponsor that.

The biggest cost of Community Day is the fireworks, which at a cost of \$600 could be cut from the day's program if necessary, she said. Prices of refreshments could also be increased to defray costs.

The popular soap box derby, sponsored by the Milton Kinsmen Club, will still be held on July 1 on Main St.



VOICES RAISED in song the Milton Chansonettes entertained a near-capacity audience at a spring musicale in St. Paul's United Church. The 50-voice women's choir, directed by Judy Hunter and accompanied by Win Newell, marks its 10th anniversary this year. In honor of the anniversary Becky Windhager, Mrs. Hunter's

sister, wrote a special composition, A Dream, which was performed Sunday. Milton High School students Ruth Brown and Karen Whaley provided flute accompaniment while student Dan Warren, winner of the 1977 Chansonettes Bursary, gave a trumpet solo.

Some opposition

Board will debate fate of new Milton high school

Halton Board of Education is expected to debate and decide whether or not to go ahead with a proposed new high school in Milton, when it meets tomorrow night.

The Ministry of Education recently approved an expenditure of \$5.4 million for a new secondary school in Milton, but the board has never officially decided whether it would go ahead with construction of a new school.

The board has three choices. It could opt for a new school, renovate Ernest C. Drury School or do nothing and try to cope with crowding at Milton District High School.

The high school has six portable classrooms now and the soonest a new school could be built and opened is September of 1980. It would take less time to renovate ECD, if that option proves feasible.

During the last board meeting Trustees Bert Hinton of Acton and Bill Priestner of Burlington said they felt the board couldn't justify a \$5.4

million expenditure at this time.

Additional portables will have to be added at MDHS to cope with a growing enrolment in September of this year and again next year.

But Priestner suggested it would be irresponsible to build a new school when there would be space in schools elsewhere in the system.

Trustee Hinton suggested that if anything is provided it should be making use of space at ECD, not constructing a new school. Hinton suggested that the projections showing increased enrolment might not be accurate by 1980 when the school is supposed to open.

Negotiations had gone to conciliation without any settlement reached. Regional Director of Personnel said there had been strong differences of opinion but the negotiations were settled amicably.

Had the strike materialized, the region would have staffed key jobs with supervisory personnel. The workers involved maintain regional roads and work on sewers, water and sewage treatment plants.

The Regional Council endorsed rigid stands taken by the management bargaining sessions at a council meeting in March.

The membership has ratified the agreement but it has not yet gone before regional council for final acceptance. That vote is expected to be a formality.

The contract includes provision for a cost of living allowance in the second year if inflation rises more than five per cent.

Public works

Region avoids strike

A strike by 107 outside workers in the Halton Regional Public Works Department was avoided when union and management negotiators agreed upon a settlement. The settlement sees workers with an increase of 11 per cent over two years.

The workers were without a contract since Dec. 31 when the old contract expired and the membership of IREW local 636 had voted 99 per cent in favor of strike action in February.

NDP still without candidate

Halton New Democrats are still without a candidate to run in the next federal riding. Executive member Bill Johnson told this paper that a person has expressed interest but he hasn't declared himself.

Johnson said the announcement was being delayed because the man is an employee of the federal government. As soon as he declares his intention to run for office, he has to take a leave of absence.

Johnson said the party was having a meeting this week to discuss the election and at that time news of any new candidates would be reported.

Sitting member Frank Philbrick will represent the Liberals in his bid for re-election and the Tories will be represented by Otto Jelinek.

Inside today

- Milton Council reports, Pg. 3.
- Editorials, Newsbeat, Smiley, Pg. 4.
- Our Readers Write, People Column, Pg. 5.
- Superslide, like the one at Collingwood, is proposed for Kelso Conservation Area, Pg. 6.
- Old jail rapped by visiting panel, 7.
- A new manager at Canadian Meter, 8.
- Medical science steps in and saves a man's thumb after an industrial accident in a local factory, 9.
- Credit Valley Association for the Handicapped has a new children's treatment centre underway, and a new woman in charge of it, 10.
- Mother's Day is this weekend and parenting roles are discussed in a feature on Pg. 12.
- Protecting Escarpment regulations, 13.
- Manpower opens student job office, 15.
- Sports section, B1 to B5.
- Classifieds, real estate, B6 to B15.
- General Wolfe's open house, B15.
- Police Week panel at high school, B16.
- Getting up in the world, through the eyes of a child, C1.
- Spring planting tips looks at tomatoes, C2.
- Youth news, school activities, C3.
- High school band cuts album, C4.
- Family news, Chansonettes musicale, C6.
- Columns: Between the Willows, Around the Campfire, Apple-Bee Lines, Milton Then and Now, and Across the Editor's Desk, C8, C9.
- Fashion show; Fire Chief honored at Rotary, C10.
- Farm news, C11.



IT'S HERE: Gardening season, that is, and this week's Champion contains a special tabloid supplement to help you with your home and garden chores. Don't miss the Home and Garden '78 supplement