

Household toxins may be banned at new Milton landfill

By NORMAN NELSON

Household toxic wastes should be banned from Halton's new landfill, slated to open in Milton within two years, believes a Burlington regional councillor.

While noting that the province already has a ban in effect covering municipal dumps, councillor Walter Mulkwich indicated that "a careful reading of the conditions shows that household hazardous wastes and wastes generated in small quantities are exempt."

The provincial hearing board which approved the Milton landfill, he said, tried to get around this loophole by requiring the region to initiate a service where residents can safely dispose of hazardous wastes on at least a monthly basis.

The Region has dealt with this condition by operating a hazardous waste depot in Milton, open Thursday to Saturday each week, and one in Burlington, open the first Saturday of each month.

Councillor Mulkwich, however, wants the Region to take the next step and institute a complete ban.

Before making it mandatory, however, he suggested a two-year delay in order for the Region to accomplish

two tasks — properly inform and educate residents, and lobby the provincial government to establish tougher legislation.

The last step is important because without this "legislative framework which only the province can institute, local or citizen efforts will have minimal effect."

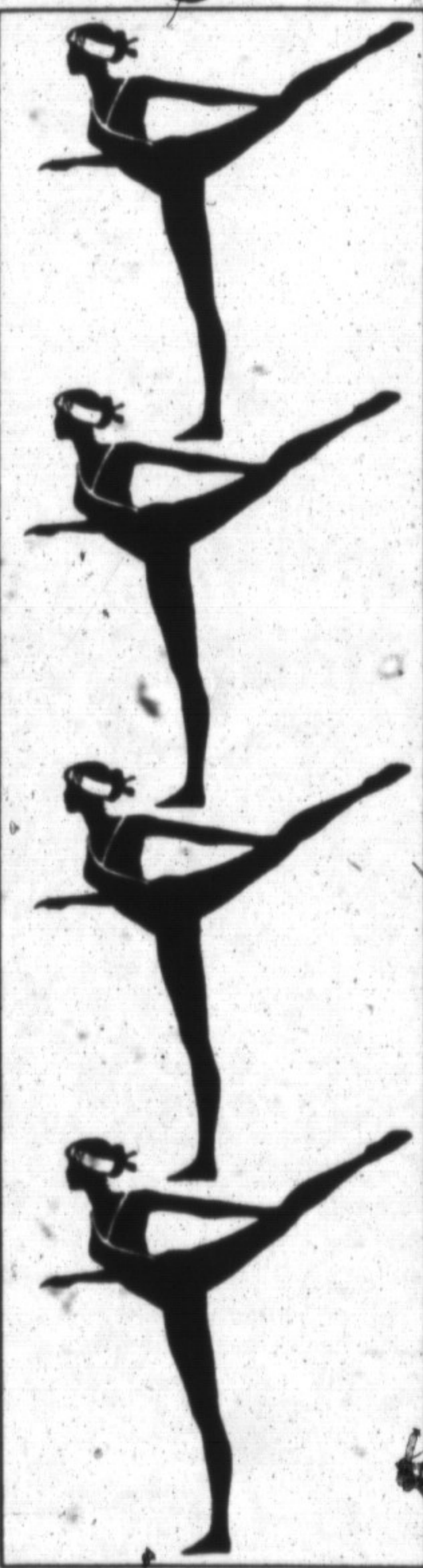
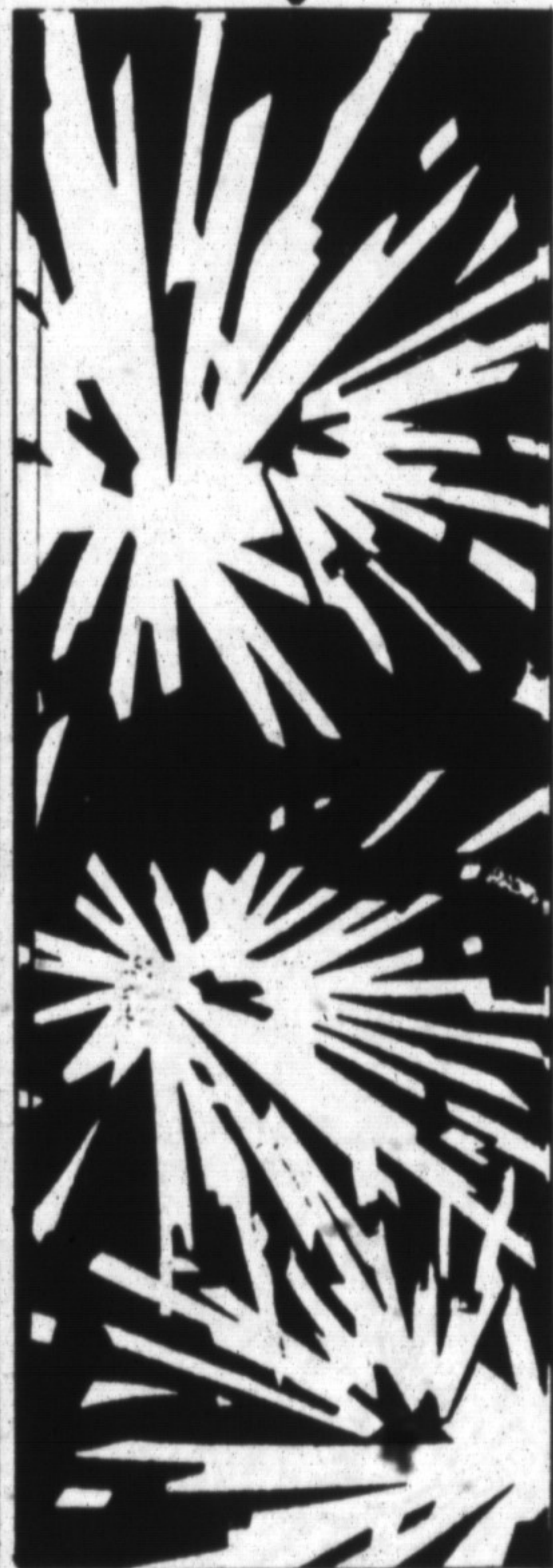
His proposal received the backing of committee, although Regional Chairman Peter Pomeroy spoke against it. It wasn't the content that led to the chairman's opposition, but the timing.

He cautioned that council should not implement a waste management program in an ad hoc manner, and suggested the matter be discussed at a special committee meeting planned for June in which the ever-growing waste management issue will be discussed at length.

Staff advised that the waste management budget will definitely be overspent this year because of the skyrocketing costs of Halton's garbage disposal, and that the program would best be considered at budget time this fall in conjunction with other financial priorities.

That turned out to be an acceptable compromise.

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Beard goes for rainforest

Larry Mackinen sacrificed his beard to save 29 acres of rainforest in a recent beard-shaving contest.

About 100 students at E.C. Drury School for the Hearing Impaired took part in a challenge to raise money for the World Wildlife Fund's rainforest project.

The class that topped the fund-raising chose the

teacher who would have his beard, removed at an assembly on May 10.

The act was carried out by Mike Boughton of Mike's Barber Shop in the school auditorium.

"A total of \$725 was raised during the one-week challenge, enough to obtain 29 acres of rainforest," said Jim Etherington, a teacher at the school.



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