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Comics

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20 cents

Inquest ordered into death of nine year old girl

A coroner's inquest has been ordered into the apparent drowning death Sunday of nine-year-old Tracy McCrimmon of Midland.

The girl was discovered unconscious at the bottom of the YMCA pool at about 2:30 p.m. Saturday, and despite round the clock efforts to save her at Huronia District Hospital, was pronounced dead by coroner Dr. Robert Besley early Sunday evening.

An autopsy was performed on the body Monday by pathologist Dr. L. J. Tremblay in an effort to determine the exact cause of death, and at press time no details of the post-mortem examination were available. The inquest was ordered because the incident leading to the death occurred in a public place. The date for the inquest will be set when the autopsy report is completed.

The McCrimmon girl was one of about 25 children participating in a public swimming session at the Y pool Saturday. According to

aquatic director Anka Vermeulen, the session had been under way for about 20 minutes when the two lifeguards on duty called the children from the pool because of "rowdy" behavior. At that point, the McCrimmon girl was discovered unconscious in about four feet of water.

YMCA officials have no idea how long the girl had been submerged.

Upon discovery, she was removed from the pool and given mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. A lifeguard on the scene was heard to say that rescuers could not find any sign of a pulse.

An ambulance was called immediately and the child was transported to hospital, where breathing apparently was revived through the use of a respirator.

The child remained in the intensive care unit of HDH until her death.

On Monday, Midland police began in-

terviewing children present at the Y pool during the public swimming session Saturday afternoon, in an attempt to



Tracy McCrimmon

reconstruct the events leading to the tragedy. Police say their efforts in this regard were somewhat hampered by the fact that a number of possible witnesses were out of town for the holiday weekend.

Aquatic director Mrs. Vermeulen was not present at the pool at the time of the incident. She told reporters on the scene that she received a phone call from one of the lifeguards informing her that there had been a possible drowning, and had immediately gone to the pool.

"I'm very proud of my staff," she said at the time. "They were very calm and did all the right things."

The death is the first such incident at the Y pool since it opened 10 years ago.

Tracy McCrimmon was a grade 3 student at Huron Park Public School.

Her funeral was scheduled for this afternoon at Nicholl's Funeral Home. Interment will be at Lakeview Cemetery.



Only 10 cents a glass

These youngsters made the most out of the warm weather on Friday, by selling cold

drinks to people passing by. They set up shop on the step of Wally's Men's Wear store on

Main Street and sold Kool-Aid to thirsty shoppers for a mere 10 cents a glass. The

salesmen are Kenny Brooks, 7, and David Brunelle, 9.

Staff Photo

Ratepayers appeal decision regarding local sewage system

by Dave Wilson

At a special meeting Wednesday the Robin's Point Ratepayers' Association voted overwhelmingly in favour of appealing the Ontario Municipal Board's decision not to permit environmentally related testimony at further hearings into the proposed sewage treatment system in Victoria Harbour.

Although the ratepayers have yet to receive official notification of the OMB's decision, they say Harbour solicitor Gordon Teskey has told them verbally that it will not be in their favour. According to association president Paul Bolton, once written confirmation of the decision is received, the group will file notice of appeal.

The ratepayers continue to maintain that the positioning of the effluent outfall as specified in the Ministry of the Environment plans for the sewage system is still the crux of their objection. In a telephone interview Monday, president Bolton said the group is still willing to negotiate with the ministry, and would withdraw its intention to appeal if the ministry indicated it would move the outfall into deeper water past Sturgeon Bay. He said the ratepayers would not be prepared to meet the additional costs of redesigning and locating the outfall.

"I think the important thing to remember is that we are open to negotiations with the various governmental bodies involved in the project," he said.

At the Sunday meeting, the ratepayers were told by lawyer John Gorman that the prospects of winning an appeal were "minimal". Gorman also told the association that the legal costs of appealing the decision would run in the vicinity of \$5,000, and should

the ratepayers wish to embark on "an all-out fight", they could expect to spend another \$5,000 on advertising expenses, biologist's fees, and Ontario Cottager's Association costs.

After discussing the options open to them for about one and a half hours, the approximately 60 property owners in attendance voted to appeal the expected OMB decision. Only three cottagers voted against the proposal.

Mr. Gorman said the ratepayers also decided that in their appeal they will ask to be included in the sewage scheme. Although they are opposed to the positioning of the outfall pipe, he said, the ratepayers feel it is bad planning to exclude their area from the serviced area, and fear that in a few years they will be required to have sewage service at a cost they couldn't afford to bear. In their appeal, the ratepayers will call for a return to the original sewage system plan of two years ago, which included the Robin's Point area, Mr. Gorman said.

While the Robin's Point Ratepayers were planning their next move, cottagers at Caswell's Beach, just outside Victoria Harbour, and at Waubaushene were also meeting to discuss the impact the proposed sewage plant will have on their waterfronts. Reporters were unable to contact the weekend residents for comment, but according to Mr. Bolton, their concerns are apparently much the same as the Robin's Point group. Mr. Bolton said he did not know whether cottagers there would join his organization in the objection to the sewage system.

TTPPB announces date

Peninsula plan presented June 1

According to a recent announcement by Peter Kramp, chairman of the Tiny Tay Peninsula Planning Board, the Peninsula Plan will be ready for presentation on June 1. A meeting of the TTPPB will be held at Midland Council Chambers and the plan will be presented.

The plan will be circulated to all the municipalities over the summer, and revisions will be made, but June 1 will be the first public presentation of the first draft of the plan.

According to Mike Ufford, TTPPB co-ordinator, Midland was selected for the

meeting because it is centrally located, and because the area board hasn't met in Midland for quite some time. Letters announcing the TTPPB meeting went to all member municipalities, inviting them to attend the presentation.

After the Peninsula Plan has been presented to the TTPPB, it will be circulated to the various municipal planning boards in June, July and August will be used for various public presentations in the six member municipalities.

The final draft of the plan should be ready sometime in the fall, according to Mr. Ufford, and it will then be presented to the municipal councils for their approval. It will also be submitted to the provincial government at that time.

Skeleton found in Tay

Midland OPP and the Centre for Forensic Sciences are trying to determine the identity of a skeleton found Saturday beneath the earthen floor of a Tay Township building.

The skeleton was found buried in a shallow grave about 12 inches under the ground. Police suspect that it had been there for a minimum of 50 years.

The building under which the remains

were found has been standing for six years on cement pads. The skeleton was discovered by a man digging out a basement.

Police say that no traces of clothing were found with the remains, nor was there any sign of a casket.

After the discovery was made, the remains were collected and sent to Toronto in an effort to learn the sex of the skeleton and its race.

Local cottage robbed

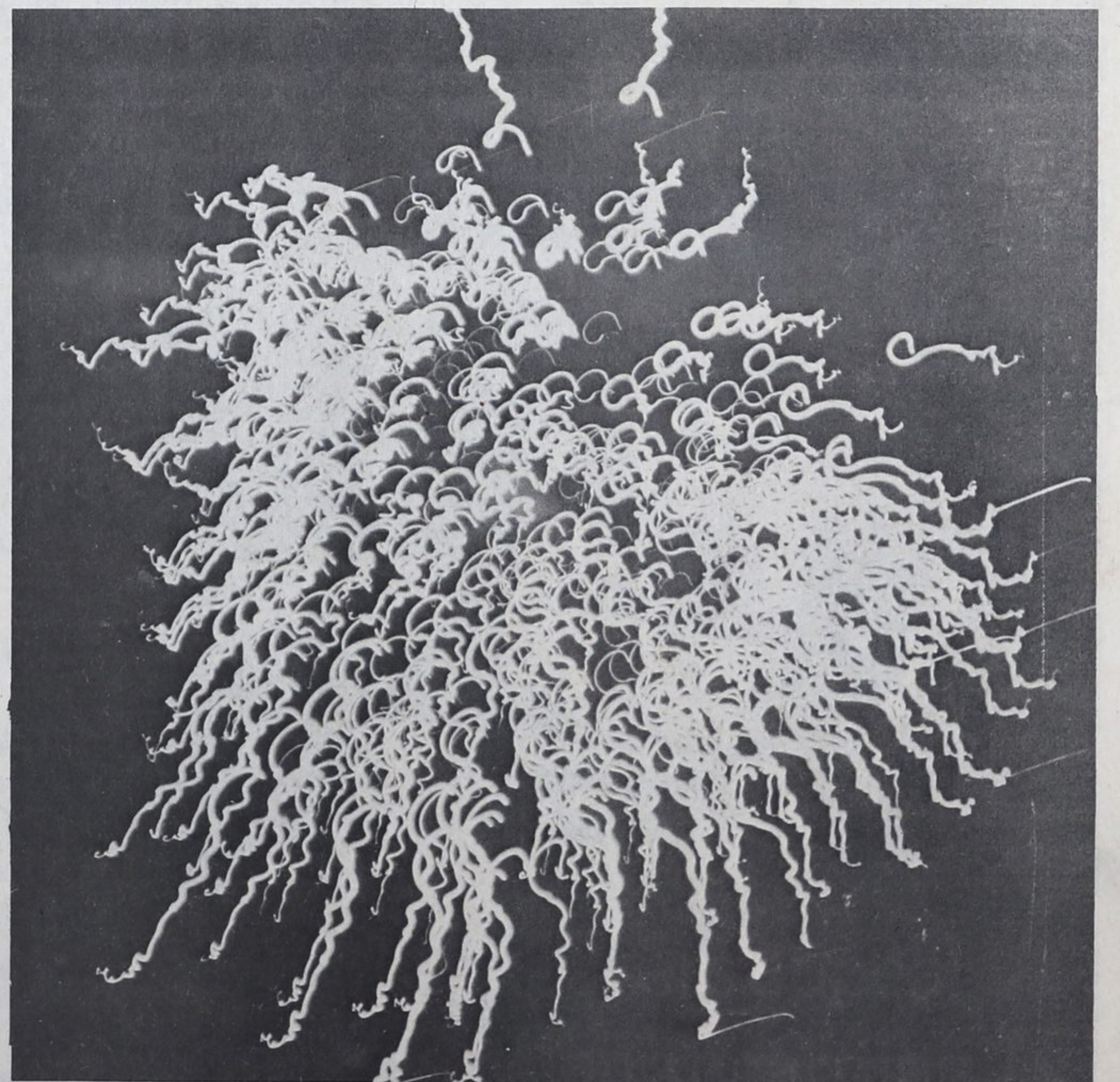
A Toronto student holidaying at his parent's cottage on Duck Bay Road near Waubaushene answered a knock at the door last Friday night and found himself staring down the barrel of a shotgun.

According to a Midland OPP constable two men forced their way into the cottage and asked Edward Conway, 25, of Shallmar Boulevard in Toronto, for some money. Before they left they asked Mr. Conway to fry them some eggs and ate some chicken and bananas from the cottage supply.

Edward Conway was tied to a chair with tape and robbed. The two men took his car when they left. Shortly after Mr. Conway worked his way free and summoned assistance.

According to the OPP the two men, who were heading toward Parry Sound, picked up two teenage hitchhikers, who were robbed and left abandoned on the side road.

The suspects were arrested by OPP in Sault Ste. Marie on Saturday at 6 a.m. following a short chase on Highway 17 east. The investigation is continuing. The names of the suspects have not yet been released.



Weekend fireworks

The Chinese may have invented them, Guy Fawkes may have popularized the, but as far as North American kids are concerned, fireworks were made especially for their

enjoyment. Although the town of Midland did not have a community display this year, kids—young and old—made sure they got their Victoria Day treat Monday by attending

neighbourhood displays or travelling to other municipalities which still view the May 24 holiday as Firecracker Day.

Staff photo

News briefs

Town council met Tuesday night

Town council met last night at the municipal offices on Robert Street West. Council meetings are usually held on Monday night, but because of the holiday, the meeting

was postponed until Tuesday evening. Details of that meeting were not available at press time, but will appear in the Friday Citizen.

Elmvale OPP find missing girl

Tracking dogs and Elmvale OPP were called Saturday evening to search for a two-year-old girl who was reported missing from a Tiny Township, Concession 4 residence.

About two hours after the missing person call was logged by police, the girl was located

in a wooded area near her home. Police say the girl was unharmed except for some mosquito bites.

Apparently the child had wandered off into the bush area, and was unable to find her way back home.

Umpires clinic held at PSS

The Penetanguishene parks committee along with Softball Ontario are sponsoring an umpire clinic at Penetanguishene Secondary School this Saturday.

The clinic begins at 8:45 a.m. and runs until 3:45 p.m. on Saturday. Enrollment fee is \$2 per person, and participants are advised to bring a lunch.