

CASTOR CUPBOARDS

CHILLED AVOCADO SOUP

By Mary Rowsell

- 2 ripe avocados
- 1 cup chicken broth
- 4-6 tbsps sour cream
- 4-6 tbsps heavy cream
- 1 lemon juiced
- 1 tsp salt
- finely chopped onion or shallot
- thin lemon slice



Scoop out avocado flesh, dice coarsely and put in blender with broth, sour and heavy cream, lemon juice, salt, pepper and onion to taste. Whirl until pureed, check seasoning and add salt if necessary.

Serve in small chilled bowls with a slice of lemon on top.

SERIOUS INEQUITIES

Osgoode wants re-assessment

Osgood Township council has petitioned the province to revise the municipal assessment role which it feels contains "serious inequities."

If granted, a new role would not likely alter the tax load paid by each residence, farm, or commercial property in the township, explained clerk-treasurer Fred Wilson.

Nor would a new role change the township's total assessment or total taxes levied. What would change is the assessment on many individual properties within the various taxation groups.

The effect would be that all residences would be assessed on a common basis and would pay taxes calculated on the same mill rate.

"In other words," Mr. Wilson said, "two houses which might be expected to sell on the market at \$50,000 would be taxed for exactly the same amount no matter where in the township they might be located."

Preliminary calculations indicate that more assessments would be lowered than raised under a new role. A new system would also make it much easier for property owners to calculate whether their assessment is fair

and to succeed in an appeal where a mistake has been made.

If the province accepts the township's request, the changeover process will be fully explained through a series of public meetings, the clerk said. If approved, new assessments would become effective next year.

Library News

From Ina Kincaid

Mon., Fri., Sat.—2:30 p.m.—5 p.m.

Wed.—12:00 p.m.—1 p.m.

Tues., Thurs.—7:00 p.m.—9 p.m.

NEW BOOKS

The Complete International Salad Book

National Anthems, Paul Nettl

Think Slim, a Calorie Counter's

Guide to a Slimmer, Fitter you

Famous Kings and Queens of

England and Scotland

By the Sound of her Whistle,

John Craig

There has been a good response to

the children's reading program.

The library will be closed Aug.

27—Sept. 3.

Greely cold to board merger

Faced with steadfast opposition from Greely, Osgoode Township Reeve Albert Bouwers admits that amalgamation of the municipality's three community centre boards is still a long way off.

"We don't feel we would gain anything through amalgamation," said Anona Lawther, chairman of the Greely Community Centre Board. "Any new recreation facilities would just end up in Metcalfe anyway."

Reeve Bouwers and other councillors feel merger of community centre boards at Greely, Metcalfe, and Osgoode would result in fairer distribution among township ratepayers of the recreation mill rate.

There are now three separate recreation rates: Osgoode ratepayers are hardest hit at 14.8 mills, Metcalfe residents pay 10.3, while the Greely levy is an enviable 5 mills.

A single, township-wide levy would be in the order of 10.3 mills, representing a substantial

hike in Greely, a tidy saving in Osgoode, and no change in Metcalfe.

The township recreation committee, which is working on a five-year, recreation need master plan, has been assigned to investigate the feasibility of community centre board amalgamation.

Greely recently presented a brief to council in which it called for a "quasi-professional in-depth study" of the one-board concept and faulted the suggested Jan. 1 deadline for completion of the amalgamation investigation.

The Metcalfe Community Centre Board has endorsed a uniform mill rate while indicating satisfaction with the tri-board system.

The Osgoode board wants more information before making up its mind on amalgamation.

Mrs. Lawther said the Greely board is open to persuasion on the merits of merger but a very convincing argument would have to be made by council. So far, she

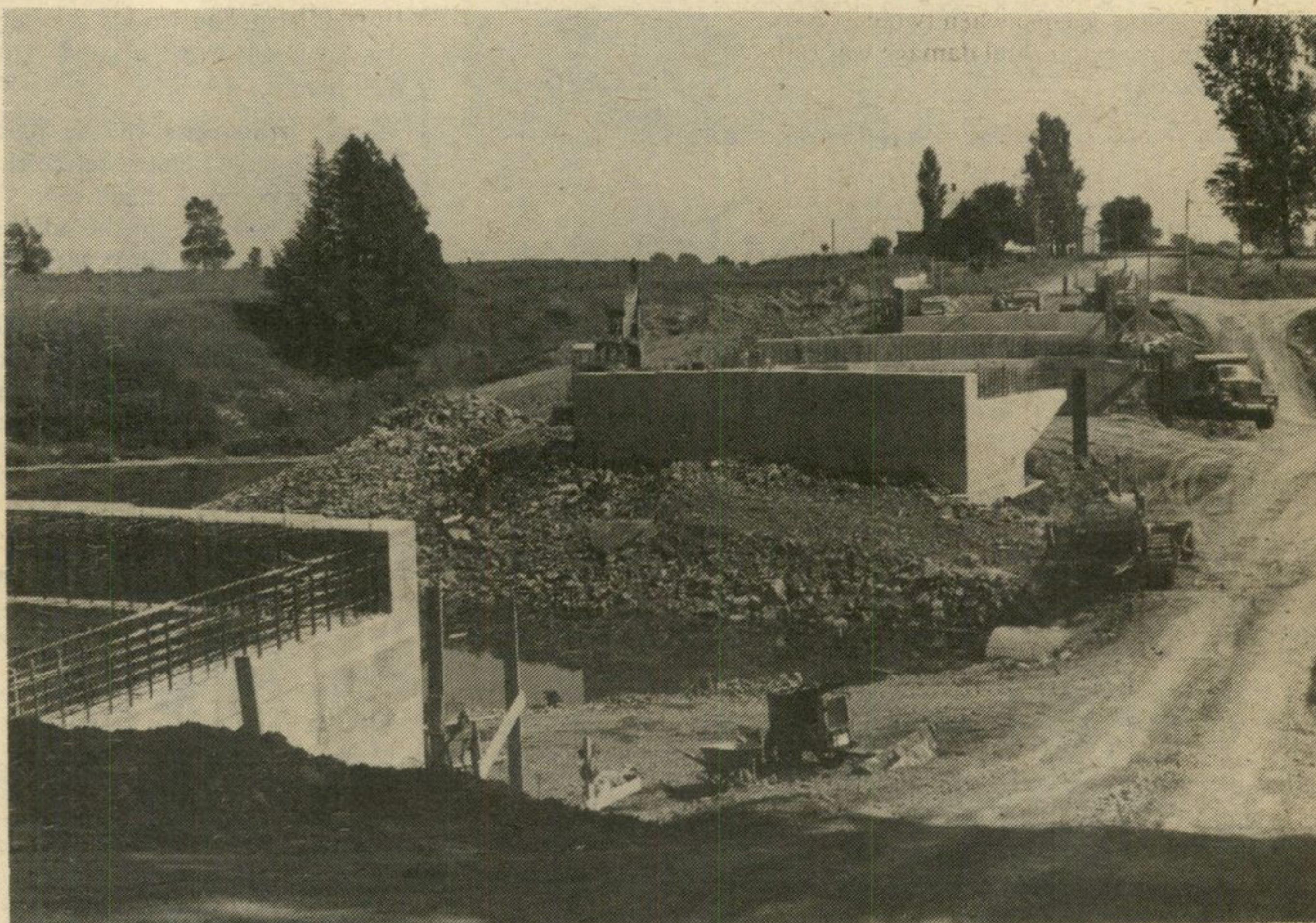
noted, that argument has not been forthcoming.

She pointed out that the Greely community centre is paid for while centres at Metcalfe and Osgoode are both undergoing expansion and renovation. With a uniform mill rate, Greely ratepayers would end up helping to pay for facilities in the other villages.

She denied that Greely residents are freeloading on Metcalfe recreational services, explaining that, in most cases, parents pay for ice time and other amenities in the neighboring community.

If taxes are raised, the efficient volunteer system employed at the Greely community centre could be jeopardized, Mrs. Lawther said.

Reeve Bouwers understands why Greely residents would be upset in seeing their recreation rate doubled. But he suggested that all township residents should be looking at the common good rather than strictly their own back yards.



Bridging the Castor
The concrete supports for the new bridge at Embrun south of Latremouille's are nearing completion. The \$725,000 structure is scheduled for completion this fall.

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