

## News

### Russell's recreation director resigns

by Greg Rokosh

Paul Wylie, who would have celebrated his second year as Russell's Recreation Director in June, resigned his position effective February 28th.

"The role and responsibility have changed from those of a recreation director to strictly those of an arena manager," said Mr. Wylie, "and even as the arena manager I had been instructed to just tend to my arena duties and forget the overall recreation scene in the community. I'm just not this kind of person." So he resigned to defend his principles. His future plans are not finalized.

According to Mr. Wylie, the kind of activities which were apparently at odds with what was expected of him were: summer day programs for children, alternate uses for the arena and parklands, and extending the resource of his office to planning and carrying out such activities as the Winter Carnival, tournaments, parties, and so on. Several of these undertakings, such as the children's day

camp program, depend on government grants which had been secured by Mr. Wylie in the past.

"A small community like Russell may not need a recreation Director," offered Mr. Wylie, "but I believe it does. What Russell or any community must have," he emphasized, "is a recreation plan. Until such a plan have," he emphasized, "is a the standard operating mode."

Chairman of the RA, Baird McNeil, said that Mr. Wylie's resignation came as a surprise. "There were several things causing pressure on Paul, from the budget to the fact that the RA Board has been going through some fundamental changes to regain a sense of direction, all of which must have been difficult for him to work with."

The RA has appointed Mr. Jack Garden as interim arena manager until a decision is made regarding a permanent replacement for Mr. Wylie to act as Arena Manager.



### River Study worth studying

by Thomas VanDusen

The South Nation River Conservation Authority has been working on a study of its area which includes all the land drained by the South Nation and its tributaries (including the Castor). The study is of vital interest to all the residents of the area.

Some preliminary findings and conclusion in the study have been made available in a recent issue of the Authority's newspaper.

Among the points made in the \$2 million study are:

- Sixty per cent of current land use is for agriculture, largely dairying.
- Twenty-five per cent of land-use is for forestry, in one form or another.
- Agriculture is moving into non-rotational cash crops, such as corn. This increases the danger of soil erosion.
- Land and water management policies are necessary if the area is to reach its potential.
- Increased tile drainage will increase the usefulness of the land for agricultural purposes.
- Increased production and

marketing of wood from privately-owned woodlots will stimulate the forestry industry.

The study pays scant attention to wildlife possibilities, recreation or small industry. Residential possibilities of the area are virtually ignored. Little attention is paid to transportation, highways, commercial centres or amenities of any kind. In summary, the preliminary findings suggest that the area should continue as it is now doing, with more intensified agriculture, more intensified draining of the land and more active cutting and marketing of farmers' woodlots. As far as recreation is concerned, the report's major consideration appears to relate to skidding.

The report does warn that unskilled installation of municipal drainage can add to flooding problems. It warns against indiscriminate draining of wet areas which are useful in holding back spring runoff. It mentions that last summer's late floods cost the South Nation area \$2 million.

Tile drainage does not seem to add to the flooding problems,

although widespread non-rotational planting of corn crops on tile-drained land can lead to serious erosion.

The findings and conclusions of the consultants must be subjected to careful study by local committees and it is hoped that serious attention will be paid to the recreational and tourist possibilities of the area; its wildlife potential (which appears to have escaped the study completely) and the need for small local industries.

An example of the curious short-sightedness of the study is the report that there is little future for beef in the area because of the lack of large-scale slaughter-house facilities. Rather than reject the

possibility of beef production on account of the lack of facilities, it would appear more logical to recommend the installation of the facilities required to make beef production pay, if necessary with the assistance of the provincial and federal governments, who participated in this study.

### Hosp. Auxiliary Tea

By Arlene Davidson

The Winchester District Memorial Hospital Auxiliary will hold a Tea on Tuesday, June 15th, to honour the ladies who organized the Auxiliary in 1948. The Tea will be held on the lawn of the hospital and the Auxiliary is hoping to track down as many people as possible who were involved in the early days of the Auxiliary. The following is the first of a series of articles on the history of the organization.

Thirty-four years ago, some community minded businessmen had a dream but they did more than dream, they enlisted the help of all their friends and the people of the neighbouring communities. They worked long hours and knocked on many doors. Winchester residents alone raised \$40,000.00. With the help of Russell, Chesterville, Osgoode and Finch villages, the townships of Osgoode, Winchester, Mountain and the counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, \$96,168.00 was raised. The province of Ontario kicked in \$36,000.00 and from the Dominion came another \$11,500.00. The dream became a reality in December 1948. The dream did not stop there, the same men who had knocked on doors and attended many meetings soon realized that before the building was to

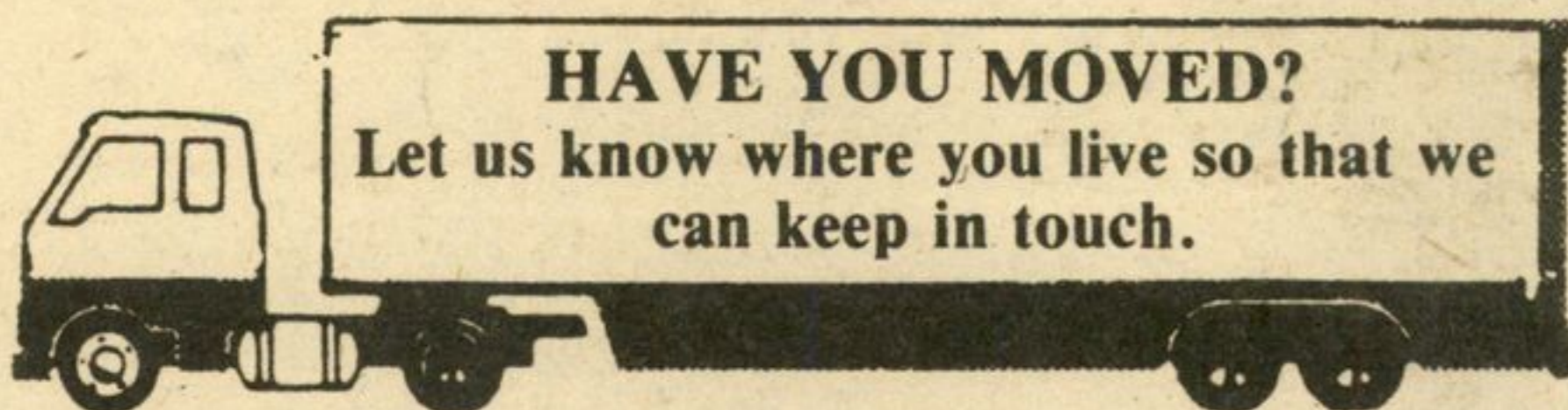
even open its doors, they needed more help. Residents had already dug deeply into their pockets and some had even manned shovels, so obviously the help must come from the women of the community. The help needed had to be volunteer.

On August 3, 1948, twenty-five ladies met at the Winchester Town Hall, with representatives from Elma and Russell, for the express purpose of forming an auxiliary group to help get their hospital open to help.

The word auxiliary means help or assistance and help and assist is exactly what they did. From that group of twenty-five ladies came the first executive of the Winchester District Memorial Auxiliary.

The President was Mrs. Chester Robinson of Winchester, the first Vice-President was Mrs. Milton Walker of Russell and the 2nd Vice-President was Mrs. Harry Carruthers of Elma. The Secretary-Treasurer was Miss Nora Elliott of Winchester. Convenor of the sewing committee was Mrs. Neil Hutt and Ways and Means convenor was Mrs. Irene Byers.

A motion at this meeting set the fee for membership at .50¢ where it still stands today. It is probably the only thing not effected by inflation.

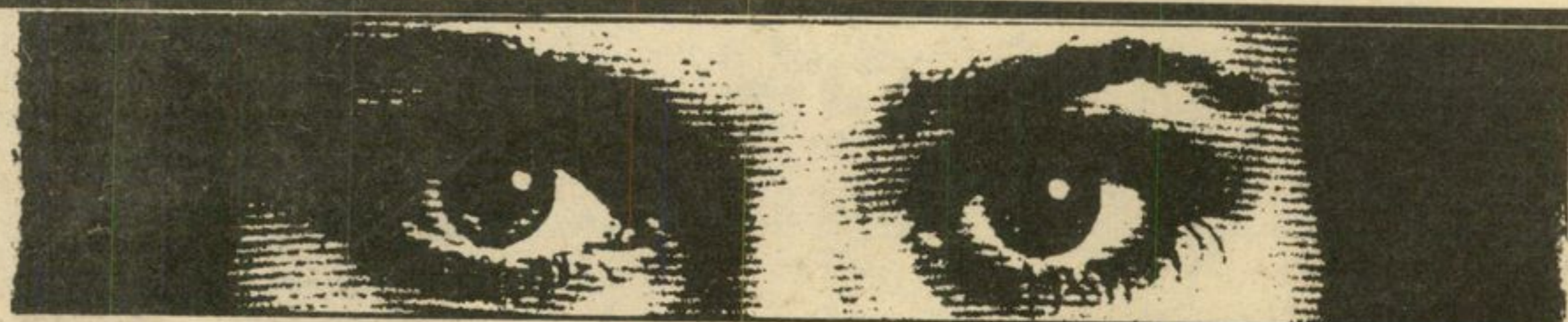


**COCHRANE'S  
DAIRY LTD.**  
Russell, Ontario.

FRESH DAIRY PRODUCTS  
HOME DELIVERY

COMPETITIVE PRICES      LOCALLY OWNED

Phone 445-2959, 821-3887



Most people plan for an orderly conclusion to life with a will, adequate life insurance benefits and pension plans. The pre-arranged funeral is part of this kind of sensible planning.

Any type of funeral whether simple or elaborate can be pre-arranged.

Christopher Duncan, a funeral director at Vice and Craig Funeral Homes Inc., Metcalfe, would be pleased to provide more information about pre-arrangement. Or, if you prefer, we will send you the booklet described in the coupon below.



Mail to:

Please send me a copy of your booklet  
"The Time to Plan a Funeral"

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

# THINK ABOUT IT