



Work is proceeding rapidly on the new 16 home subdivision in the south-west portion of the hamlet of Bloomington. Some of the homes are already occupied. There will be no future development in the hamlet for some time to come.

Last major development

BLOOMINGTON — Construction has started on the 16-home subdivision on the west side of the hamlet of Bloomington.

The project, being developed by Thornbay Developments Limited, has been in the works for "the past three or four years" according to Mayor Gord Ratcliff of Stouffville. The development features lots which are a minimum size of 20,000 square feet and "had been zoned residential for a number of years now" the Mayor said.

When asked about possible problems with the water supply due to mining in the area of

Three car collision causes difficulties

Ontario Provincial Police had a difficult time sorting out names and addresses early Sunday morning, let alone injuries, after a three-car collision on Hwy. No. 48 at 16th Avenue, north of

Markham, caused approximately \$3,000 damage.

Police said the accident occurred at about 9:52 a.m. when a southbound car driven by Leung Hung, 23 of

Toronto swerved across the centre line and struck a northbound car driven by Joseph Spiteri, 23, also of Toronto. The Spiteri car slid sideways and was rammed again by a second northbound car driven by David Gardner, 35, of Pickering who was towing a horse trailer. Police said seven passengers in the Spiteri car were "stacked like cordwood" and all were taken to hospital by ambulance and checked but no serious injuries were reported. There were no injuries in the Hung or Gardner vehicles and the horse was safe. The Markham Fire Department was called but was not required.

Police said those in the Spiteri car were bound for a day in the country with two other carloads of friends who were following close behind.

Damage to the cars was estimated at approximately \$1,000 each. Mr. Hung has been charged with careless driving.

Farm report

Drought continues

By A. A. WALL
AGRICULTURAL REPRESENTATIVE for YORK REGION

The long stretch of dry weather has been very hard on crops in York. Rain in the past week has helped, but a lot more is needed in this critical stage when oats and barley are filling, corn is tasselling and silking, and alfalfa plants are trying to put up a second crop.

Corn has been affected most. Fields that were planted late, some of them on a rough seedbed, just have not had a chance. The roots didn't get down soon enough, and wilting was very severe through the dry period. There is a big acreage in this category, and it may not be worth harvesting.

The main corn crop has survived fairly well on an abundance of sunshine and heat, but tasselling has started now with the corn a foot or two shorter than normal. This and lack of moisture right now will limit yields.

Our wheat acreage is only about half of normal, but it is quite well filled and combining will start this week. Oats and barley are fair — heads have filled properly, but kernel size is off, crops are thin and straw is short. Our estimate is that average yields will be down by around 20 per cent.

Prospects for soybean yields are off even more. Germination was spotty in some fields, and with their shallow roots, beans grow very slowly in dry weather.

Our first crop of hay was excellent. There is a good supply of first rate hay in everybody's barn. The second crop just has not come on. Very small alfalfa plants are flowering now, and of course, these terminal buds end any further top growth. Plants will start transferring nutrients to their roots after flowering.

This short alfalfa could be clipped, and given a chance to produce a third crop. If we get lots of rain from now on, the fresh cut stubble will put up a good crop.

An interesting point is that cultivation of row crops has made a comeback this year. It was needed in a lot of fields to knock out volunteer corn and weeds left by the herbicide, but the mulching and breaking the cracks in the soil crust saved some valuable moisture, too.

Very briefly, our crop situation is a serious concern right now, and we need very frequent rains in the next two weeks for reasonable yields.

Seniors club forms

The fledgling Ballantrae seniors club is making some headway in their quest to become established but they still need more help.

At their last meeting they had 20 members out, more than enough to meet requirements to get a New Horizon government grant, as reported in the July 14 issue of The Tribune.

However, the club has to ensure that at least that many people will come out regularly. One way they hope to accomplish that is by changing the time of their meetings. The group will still meet on Tuesday, but the time has changed to 7 p.m., from their previous afternoon meetings.

The 7 p.m. time will continue through summer, making the meeting a little cooler for its members.

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