

At Whitevale

Beefs plague mill operators

WHITEVALE — The Whitevale Mill, that still operates under the name of T.L. Wilson and Sons, has been providing a valuable service to

Windfall

Margaret Pickering, formerly of Claremont and now living at Agincourt, is richer by \$100,000 following last week's Wintario draw.

The 75 year old mother of three, grandmother of 13 and great grandmother of 17 says she has no immediate plans for the windfall.

The most pressing problem at the moment, she admits, is whether to retain her part-time job at Shepherd Lodge, a residence for senior citizens or retire.

She doesn't want to sever her connections with the many friends she's made there, she admitted. Mrs. Pickering sets tables and generally makes herself useful around the place.

"I've got to do some thinking about it," she said.

Reject salary increase

YORK REGION — Two-thirds of York County Board of Education's secretarial, clerical and technical employees have rejected an offer that would have meant an eight per cent salary increase, Jan. 1 and an additional five per cent, July 31.

A main issue, a spokesman said, is the wage disparity between the caretaking staff and school secretaries. Caretakers, The Tribune was told, start at \$7.85 an hour, rising to \$11.85. Secretaries begin at \$4.95 and go up to \$6.11.

The two sides will meet again in February. No strike deadline has been set.

Home destroyed

CLAREMONT — Firefighters were able to save a house the first time around, but a second blaze destroyed the residence.

Pickering Chief Don Lynde said units from Claremont, Brougham and Pickering answered a call to the home of Clause Ruttel, Paddock Road, R.R. 2, Claremont, Jan. 13 at 10:50 a.m.

The initial fire, he said, started in a north bedroom. This was brought under control with the men remaining on location until 2:30 p.m. A faulty electric heater was blamed.

area farmers more than 135 years.

However, according to Orrville 'Red' Wilson, there's a small but vocal group within the hamlet who'd like to see the operation closed down.

Initially, it began as a series of complaints, 'Red' told The Tribune. Now, he claims, it's verging on a vendetta and growing in strength with each passing month.

What he describes as a 'continuous stream' of officials from the Ministry of the Environment, the Town of Pickering and the Region of Durham keep checking the operation. He admits he's running out of patience.

"It's a wonder we ever get any work done," he stated. For all the people that have 'visited' the premises, not a single charge has been laid, in fact, he says, all seem sympathetic and understanding.

In an effort to live in harmony with everyone around them, the company has sought solutions for most of the problems.

First, there was the burning of waste material (mostly paper) on the north side of the property. So they moved it to the south side.

Then some complained that propane tanks were vulnerable to impact from vehicles. So the firm erected protective posts around them.

Next, objections were raised over the storage of anhydrous ammonia, a chemical fertilizer used by farmers and, according to 'Red', the most contentious issue of all—the noise caused by crop-drying equipment.

"I agree it's noisy and I'm sorry about that, but there's little we can do about it except cut our operation to a minimum," he explained.

The mill manager said the plant handles up to 800,000 bushels of grain crops in a season. Because of the volume,

Council granted them permission to keep the machinery going 24 hours a day during harvest time.

"We try to operate within normal working hours," he said, "but when the pressure's on, every hour of delay means a reduction in yield for the farmer."

Local customers, some that have included several family generations, claim the Wilson Mill is an integral part of the farming community. Without it, loads would have to be hauled long distances, even as far as Pontypool.

One farmer told The Tribune that the complainants are, for the most part, new people who've moved to Whitevale in recent years. "They don't understand the situation," he said, "and I suspect they don't really care."

Oppose course

DURHAM REGION — Objections to a proposed family life course in Durham schools, are still being raised by parents in the region.

Opposition has also prompted withdrawals from the program by parents of the children who would be involved, according to Bruce Walker, superintendent of program and curriculum for Durham Board of Education.

However, Walker said many schools wouldn't get around to teaching the program until spring. It is to be included in health classes from Kindergarten to Grade 13.

A family life advisory committee, that will review the course, will probably be formed by the end of January, Walker said.

Charged

UXBRIDGE — Brian Allen Robinson, 19, of Uxbridge, has been charged with criminal negligence, as the result of an accident, Jan. 16 at Danforth Road and Warden Avenue.

According to police, Jacob Crewe, 70, of Gordonridge Place, was walking near Warden around 3:15 p.m., when a car mounted the curb and ran him down.

The victim died two hours later in hospital.

Drug arrest

CLAREMONT — Raymond Terrence Uzell, 34, of R.R. 1, Claremont is to appear in Ajax Provincial Court today, to face a charge of possession of narcotics for the purpose of trafficking.

Uzell was arrested following a search of a Claremont residence and place of business by officers of the R.C.M.P. and Durham Regional Police.

Eight pounds of marijuana were seized, having a street value estimated at \$8,000.

Bell rates increase by miles

STOUFFVILLE — A news story carried in The Tribune issue of Jan. 15, announcing increases in monthly residential telephone rates was accurate but 'misleading', a Bethesda party told the paper this week.

The caller, who wished not to be identified, said the rate had gone up from \$12.10 to \$12.95 as stated. However, outside the urban area, it had increased an extra \$1.30 for every quarter mile.

His own bill, he said, was \$25 a month.

The Bell office has confirmed this. Known as a mileage rate, customers outside the urban district of Stouffville, are also paying more, according to their distance from town.



As much a community landmark as the community itself, Orville 'Red' Wilson stands outside the Whitevale Mill that still operates under the name of T.L. Wilson and Sons Limited. The mill manager claims a small but vocal group of residents in the hamlet are making it increasingly difficult to carry on. He says everything possible's been done to appease the complainants without success.

Extended time allowed on housing project

UXBRIDGE — The high cost of living, as exemplified by interest rates, received speedy recognition from Uxbridge Township Council last week.

As a result, developers of Forsythe East in the west end of Uxbridge, are breathing a little

easier.

Appearing before Planning Board, a spokesman for proponents of the 60-single-family, 16-townhouse project, asked for a six-month extension to the draft plan approval. A shaky economy and high in-

terest rates were making financing difficult, he said.

It was the third time since June, 1977, when draft plan approval was first given, that such a request had been made.

Said Councillor Don Jackson: "I realize the position

they're in with the condition of the economy and inflation. I'd be prepared to grant an extension of a year, if they want it."

The offer was quickly accepted, and just as quickly agreed upon by the board.

Ayatollah 'hostage' rejected by council

VANDORF — A Vandorf area man may be another "hostage" of sorts for the Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran, but Town Council doesn't plan to come to his rescue.

The matter arose just before Christmas when Bahaed Alizadeh, 76, appeared at a meeting seeking a reduction in taxes.

The complainant, an area resident 16 years, said he had assets in Iran and had been receiving regular financial

returns from there. However, his investments had now been frozen and he and his wife were existing solely on their Canadian pension.

Council agreed to consider the matter after receiving all the "necessary documentation."

Last week, however, members dealt with the matter in summary fashion.

Alizadeh did not appear before them and Mayor Eldred King said they would have to

rely on the treasurer's report, "as whether to give a rebate."

Pointing out that there were three liens on the complainant's house, the mayor said: "This is one of those cases where being hit with a crisis as he (Alizadeh) has, he can't exactly live as before. He'll have to face the fact he must adjust."

He said he couldn't see other taxpayers "carrying someone in a house, valued at \$125,000 to \$150,000."

Said Councillor Charles Warden: "Are there cir-

cumstances we don't know about? I'm not saying we should reduce them (taxes), but have we fairly investigated the problem?"

"It's up to the applicant to bring forward all the reasons," answered Mayor King.

Said Councillor Bill Kamps: "After listening to the rantings of the Ayatollah, I wouldn't doubt he's been cut off."

"It's unfortunate, but we can't make exceptions."

Council agreed not to allow a tax reduction.

Ross Stevenson

PC candidate

DURHAM-YORK — Ross Stevenson of Uxbridge has announced his intention to seek the Progressive Conservative nomination in the provincial riding of Durham-York.

Mr. Stevenson, 38, a former professor in the Crop Science Department at the University of Guelph, now operates the family's large beef and hog farming business in Georgina Township.

He attended elementary and secondary schools in Uxbridge before going on to the Ontario Agricultural College for his B.S.A. and M.Sc. degrees. Later, he received his Ph.D. degree at Iowa State University.

Stevenson joined the faculty of O.A.C. for seven years before returning to active farming in 1977.

While at Guelph, Dr. Stevenson was awarded the Alumni Medal of Achievement for research work in agriculture and environment. In 1978, he was awarded the Canadian Merit Award for leadership.

Ross and Elaine Stevenson have three children, Dawn, 15, Lisa, 13 and Darryl, seven.



ROSS STEVENSON