

Mississauga Times

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A good little arena

The Clarkson Arena and Community Centre was officially opened last Sunday afternoon before an overflow crowd.

The community centre is a long-awaited facility which the residents of Park Royal have worked hard to gain. They gathered the support of Leonard Finch and the United Lands Corporation, town councillor Lou Parsons, all three service clubs in the Clarkson area and, finally, town council. Their ambition was fulfilled and the fact that a new arena was included in the plans came as an extra bonus.

The whole complex is a tribute to the people of Clarkson but, the official opening ceremonies pointed out the one real fly in the ointment.

The Clarkson Arena, like all other arenas within the boundaries of the Town of Mississauga, does not have sufficient seating space for any first class entertainment. The large crowd who came out on Sunday to watch the NHL Oldtimers play a Mississauga Junior All-star team was more than this new arena could really accommodate.

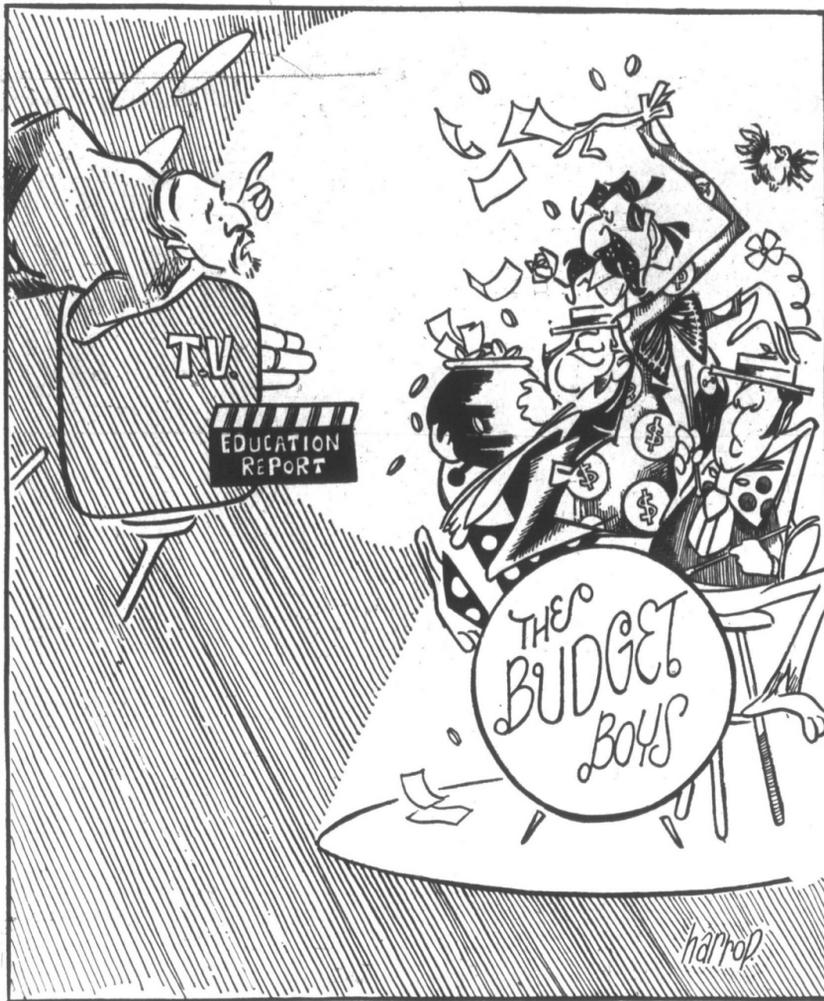
Many of the people, unfortunately were pushed about by others trying to get a glimpse of the game. Young-

sters had to stand right around the edge of the rink to see at all . . . and then they blocked the view of the people sitting in the lower rows of seats.

None of this is intended to detract from the Clarkson Arena. It is a real good "minor hockey arena" and, apparently, that is just what it was designed for. With that in mind, we can't help but wonder why events intended to draw over-capacity crowds are scheduled at all in Mississauga. Surely town officials know by now that we just don't have a place to hold such events with comfort to the spectators.

Three weeks from now, there is a special Variety Show in aid of the Roy Ivor Bird Sanctuary Fund which has been scheduled for the Huron Park Arena. This promises to be an excellent show, worthy of a big turnout, especially with the proceeds going to such a worthy fund . . . but, Huron Park, like the new Clarkson Arena, can only handle a very limited crowd.

Fund officials must be hoping for a tremendous response while Huron Park officials should be keeping their fingers crossed in hopes that there aren't too many people to point up this town's big weakness once again.



"Could you inject a little humour into it...?"

LETTERS TO EDITOR

No "fuddle duddle" attitude by the company

Sir: In recent issues of your newspaper I have noticed with much displeasure and surprise that people complain about the St. Lawrence Cement Co.'s proposal to have an enclosed, precast, concrete overpass conveyor put across Highway No. 2.

In my opinion a company of that size should be praised not "run down" as it being done right now.

Municipalities are always crying for more industry, yet when an industry does estab-

lish itself and pays taxes to help support the community it is always being criticized.

With unemployment being what it is at present, I think we should be thankful that a company of this size is in our midst. Were they to close down, could you imagine the taxes, we as taxpayers, would have to pay in order to help support the unemployed? A construction project of this size is, in my opinion, an asset as it employs people and does not lay them off.

In my observations, I think people should be much more disturbed about the hazard of trucks crossing the highway rather than being disturbed about "a visual pollution" problem.

If you will note, their landscaping is one of the best in the industrial field.

From my inquiries and experience I know that St. Lawrence Cement Co. has never once maintained an attitude of "Fuddle Duddle".

Sincerely,
An Oakville Reader.

Spring flood warning issued

The following is an open letter to the wardens, mayors and Reeves of municipalities throughout the province of Ontario from George Kerr, minister of energy and resources:

Sir: With deep snow covering most of Ontario I wish to remind you that this represents a threat of considerable flooding along our rivers and streams should the spring break-up occur with a combination of high temperatures and rain. The prevalence of thick river ice is also a matter of concern as ice jams can develop quickly and unexpectedly causing severe local flooding.

It is therefore suggested that immediate attention be given to ensuring that your Municipal Council Committee on Emergency Planning has developed an operational procedure and is prepared to take action should the threat of flooding develop. The inventory of all equipment which can be made available quickly in the case of emergency, should be checked and up-

dated. River watchers, whose duty it will be to report the dangerous rise of the river to a central office, should be alerted to the need for careful attention in the event of rain or sudden thaw.

Those persons responsible for emergency flood action should maintain a careful watch on daily weather forecasts for information on the development of adverse conditions. More detailed information regarding both weather and stream-flow can be obtained from Mr. D. N. McMullen, Hydrometeorologist, Conservation Authorities Branch. He can be reached by telephone: during office hours at 365-6292 (area code 416) or after office hours and on Saturdays and Sundays at Cooksville 277-8618 (area code 416).

After hours call one of the following in Toronto: N. D. Patrick, Director, 487-8540 or J. W. Murray, Chief Engineer, 291-6626.

Yours very truly,
George A. Kerr, Q.C.

Open letter on expressway

The following is an open letter to the citizens of South Peel from a Toronto resident:

Were you asked?

The Ontario Municipal Board today, on a split decision, decided to approve the Spadina Expressway for Metro Toronto at an estimated cost of \$237,000,000. You, as a citizen of Ontario, will pay 50 per cent of this amount — i.e. \$118,500,000. Will it benefit you? You have every right to ask.

Meanwhile, thank you for your gift (even though some of us are looking the gift-horse in the mouth).

Who do you ask? Your Member in the Provincial house.

E. M. Guelzner,
Clen Road,
Toronto.

Engineer defends nuclear energy age

Sir: Referring to some statements in the press and radio of a group of people condemning the use of nuclear energy, I wish to make a few comments.

The use of nuclear energy is a very complex system and only a few individuals if any, can claim to be thoroughly familiar with all aspects of it.

We know quite a lot more about radiation effects on living organisms than about the effects of many other environmental factors (e.g. lengthy exposure to polluted air etc.) however we do know very little about the effects of low level radiation simply because they are not measurable yet.

Strangely enough the nuclear industry is the only one where there are internationally accepted guide lines all over the world for radiation protection including the socialist countries.

The International Commission on Radiation Protection (ICRP) has set recommendations for the genetic dose to the population as a whole over a period of 30 years with respect to exposure other than by natural radiation and by medical treatment. This must not exceed 5,000 mrem over the period. Generally this means that all exposures except those from natural background and medical applications should not contribute on an average more than 179 mrem per year. Present exposure is only about one per cent of that figure.

The ICRP has also recommended dose limits for the individual members of the public to guard against normal effects. The operational experience with the existing nuclear reactors shows that the highest degree of exposure to people living in the vicinity of reactors is only a few tenths of a per cent to a few per cent of the dose limits permitted. It is interesting to note that the permissible limit for people work-

ing in nuclear plants is 10 times higher than that for the general public and it is still considered safe.

If we want to just keep our living standards at its present level and raise that of the two-thirds of the earth's population, we have to use something instead of fossil fuels for two compelling reasons. Firstly the deteriorating air pollution and secondly the known resources are very limited indeed. At the present time we simply do not know anything better than nuclear energy. If no satisfactory solutions are found for environmental problems, reduction of power production or population control, or both may be forced upon mankind.

We are very fortunate here in Canada because we use the natural uranium fuel cycle in our reactors, which releases the least amount of radio-activity into the environment. (i.e. The fuel does not need reprocessing where 99 per cent of the radioactive release occurs.)

One of the main points being brought up by the opponents of the nuclear energy in the U.S.A. is to separate the promotion and regulatory functions of the United States Atomic Energy Commission (USAEC). We do have this separation in Canada. AECL is developing and promoting the use of nuclear energy and the Atomic Energy Control Board (AECB) enforcing the safety aspects. I think that anybody who knows something about nuclear energy and the functioning of these Federal Government Agencies, would agree that the AECB is doing an excellent job with its relatively small but dedicated staff.

As a newcomer in the nuclear industry, I have been studying this field for the last seven years and I am completing a Master's Thesis on the Environmental Aspects of Nuclear Generating Stations. I could not

find any other responsible course of action than to use atomic energy, even after reading about 6,000 pages of documents and writing from both sides including such books as "Doomsday Book" (G. R. Taylor) "Perils of Peaceful Atom" (Elisabeth Hogan) "The Myth of Peaceful Atom" (E. Hogan - R. Curtis) "The Careless Atom" (S. Novick) etc. etc.

Certainly there are new risks involved, but these are usually much smaller than the risks readily "accepted" by us in connection with other activities (e.g. deaths by disease or by automobile, airplane and railway accidents etc.) These risks could be and probably will be reduced in the future. The question is "how safe is safe enough?" The probability of a catastrophic reactivity accident is about one to one million during the lifetime of the reactor which is better than anything we know on our planet today. If we want to decrease the probability of having these reactors damaged by major natural catastrophes (e.g. earthquake, tidal waves) or wilful acts (e.g. sabotage, enemy attack) this again could be done at a price, by building underground reactors or not building them at all.

We have to be very much concerned about our environment and we must do something about it very quickly, but we also have to be prepared to pay for it directly and indirectly by making decisions based on environmental, rather than purely economical considerations. However it would be a tragic mistake to slow down the nuclear industry which is one of the most promising for the future.

There is no absolute safety on this earth and we should not reach for such a Utopia. The nuclear reactors are here and we should make the best use of them.

G. Bethlendi, P. Eng.

OBSERVATIONS . . .

. . . the percentage growth rate of students in Peel County has actually dropped in the last year, according to a board official. There was a 5.89 percent increase in 1970 compared to an 8.35 percent increase the year before. There are now 62,086 pupils under the care of the Peel County Board of Education.

. . . The Univac building rising at the corner of Burnhamthorpe Rd. and Highway 10 appears to be progressing far more quickly than did its neighbor, the new Civic Centre, which is still not completed.

. . . The Shipp Corp., the St. Lawrence Starch Co., and Mississauga's own Col. Saunders (who lives in Applewood Acres) were singled out by H. K. Vander Linden, vice-chairman of Mississauga Hospital board of directors, for their generosity. Shipp donated \$25,000 towards the purchase of cardiac monitoring equipment. St. Lawrence Starch gave \$3,333 and Col. Saunders donated \$3,000.

. . . Former Ward 3 councillor Caye Killaby, who spotted an Observation last week wondering aloud about her whereabouts, called to assure us she is alive and well and living on Britannia Rd. (Mind you, we knew that, but weather conditions being what they were and the snow removal being what it wasn't, we managed to get stuck before reaching her house.)

. . . Former county warden Ivor McMullin recently suggested Mississauga should become part of Metro Toronto. Last week he suggested that the Credit Valley Conservation Authority become part of the Metro Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. Perhaps Toronto should incorporate Albion Township (of which McMullin is Reeve) and he would then feel at home.

. . . there is an interesting bit of information in the annual report of Markborough Properties Limited. Markborough is the company sponsoring development of the big Meadowvale community in Mississauga. It will spread over 3,000 acres and accommodate 80,000 people. The development, which starts this year, centres around the Streetsville area. But on page 22 of its report to shareholders, Markborough says that it has sold a 152-unit apartment building and "the company will not be developing rental apartment properties for its investment portfolio until the yields shown by new apartment buildings improve considerably." In other words, operating apartments isn't as profitable as it was a few years ago. In fact, watch for some hi-rise operators to crash. Anyone who thinks that Markborough will never finish off the massive Meadowvale project has only to look at the major corporations represented on its board of directors. These include Investors Syndicate Limited, George Wimpey and Co. Limited, A. E. LePage Limited, Green-shields Incorporated, Gulf Oil Canada Limited, Kinross Mortgage Corporation, The T. Eaton Company Limited, Commercial Trust Company, Alan Design Homes Limited, The Mutual Life Assurance Company, Transatlantic Securities Limited, Canadian National Railways and the Royal Bank of Canada.

. . . James J. McCarthy, the strawberry king of Dixie and Georgetown, and his wife are off on a two month holiday to Australia, New Zealand and the British Isles.

. . . just a reminder to Ward 1 councillor Harold Kennedy who ran successfully for re-election in Mississauga last December that the campaign is over and you can take down your election signs still depicting hydro poles (in all places) Port Credit.

. . . A little bit of Old Cooksville has disappeared forever, victim of a bulldozer and a sacrifice to "progress" Little John Lane, a quiet and pastoral private drive which wound through untouched woodland bordering the once scenic Cooksville Creek between John St. and the Dundas Highway, has been obliterated. Homes have been flattened, the land filled in, and the trees cut down to make way for that ubiquitous boon to modern living — the high rise apartment building.

. . . One more temptation has arisen in the path of hard-working Times staffers in Port Credit. A Vegas Off-track betting shop is now located (strategically enough) on Elizabeth St. S. between the Times office and the popular Newport Hotel.

. . . Long line-ups and hour-long waits or more failed to materialize at local car licence issuing offices according to Times photographer Stan Harwood who spent a mere 20 minutes waiting for his plates at Reed Chrysler in Streetsville Saturday, the final day for new licences.

. . . Letters to the Editor . . .

We get letters . . . and we want more. If you have a comment on a current event, a beef about a story or just an anecdote to tell, drop us a line. All letters must bear the writer's name and address although a pen-name may be used if requested. Shorter letters (300 to 300 words) make easier reading and stand a better chance of being published. Letters may be edited. We cannot return your letters. All letters should be addressed to The Editor, Mississauga Times, 4 Elizabeth St. N., Port Credit.



Standing room only.

Schools are for people

The official opening of Education Week in Ontario will be held this coming Sunday at London, Ontario.

Every school in the province will open its classroom doors to the public during this special week and the theme during the week is "Schools Are For People". To bring the theme to life, all people will have a chance to witness the type of education which our students are being given in Ontario.

Students will also be urged to bring their parents to school anytime

next week in order to bring the family and the school closer together. This is an excellent opportunity for the local board of education to show what is being done with the public money . . . and an equally good opportunity for the public to get an inside look at this province's first-class education system.

The Peel County Board of Education must be classed among the best in Ontario. Despite the problems of being in one of the fastest growing areas in all of Canada, the Peel Board has done a first rate job of providing our youngsters with the finest facilities for a good education.

Schools within this system are generally well equipped and, for the student who really wants to get an education to benefit him in later life, there is just about everything available to achieve that goal.

Next week, during Education Week, the parents will have their chance to see for themselves. Don't let this invitation just slip by . . . come out and see what is being done as far as education is concerned in your area.

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MEMBER CANADIAN WEEKLY
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