

Writ challenges validity of tax relief bylaw

A writ, challenging the validity of Mississauga's tax relief bylaw has been filed with the Supreme Court of Ontario, the News learned, yesterday (Tues.).

A motion to the court, calling for a hearing on the issue Jan. 20, has been made by Freehold Land Corporation Limited and Burnhamdale Terraces Leaseholds Limited.

The motion, in the names of Roman Humeniuk, president of Freehold Land

Corporation, and George Leonard Roberts, of Thornhill, president of the other company involved, says the town's Bylaw 8641 is illegal.

The bylaw was drawn up and passed by town council earlier this year following the approval of the provincial government.

It was drafted to ease the heavy tax burdens placed on thousands of Mississauga property owners as a result of

a reassessment program which assessed town properties at market values.

The bylaw allows for the tax increases to be spread over a five-year-period, rather than come all at once.

It limits tax increases this year and next to a maximum of 10 per cent of the total, or \$50, and limits decreases in the same manner.

The writ, served upon the town Dec.

23, says the bylaw is "illegal and does not conform to the Municipal Act."

It claims there was no statutory authority to allow for "arbitrarily assessing certain properties so as to produce in some cases almost double the taxes."

Both companies represented on the writ own several properties in Mississauga.

The bylaw has been used by several other municipalities as a precedent.



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52 PAGES

Several big issues facing new council

By MIKE SOLOMON
Members of Mississauga town council will be officially sworn in and will take their seats in the council chamber next Monday.

Two new members - Ward 3 Councillor Milton Gregory and Ward 4 Councillor Glenn Grice - are among the 10.

Former Ward 4 Councillor Grant Clarkson will be sworn in to his new position as Deputy-reeve as he replaces Roy McMillan who retired from council at the Dec. 7 election.

The council will serve a

three-year term of office during which time it is expected several major issues will have to be dealt with, among them regional government, in Peel-Halton and the establishment of a Landlord-Tenant Advisory Bureau in Mississauga.

Several earlier attempts to reshuffle municipal government boundaries in Peel and Halton counties met with failure but Municipal Affairs Minister Darcy McKeough is expected to take a strong stand on a regional set-up which is likely to be introduced to the area Jan. 1, 1972.

Meanwhile, Peel County council and a number of the county's municipalities are coming up with plans of their own for a regional government establishment on a Peel-only basis.

Plans from Port Credit, Streetsville and county council's regional government committee all aim at slicing up Mississauga.

Town council will have its hands full with those proposals and will also continue to press for Mississauga's elevation to "city"

See MAJOR page A2

School board's first meeting

The first meeting of the 1971 Peel County Board of Education will be held Jan. 5 at 8 p.m. at the board's central administration building, 90 Dundas St. W.

The 11 new members on the 20-man board will actively participate as trustees for the first time at the meeting.



There's nothing like the smell of a real Christmas tree and there's also nothing like the thrill of ridding yourself of the messy tree needles. Mike Scordino of Mississauga has the right idea: just use the aerial route and then do a little sweeping down below.

(Photo by John Willis)

FAMED ORNITHOLOGIST HOSPITALIZED

Fire ruins Ivor bird sanctuary

By JIM ROBINSON
An early morning fire Tuesday destroyed the Winding Lane Bird Sanctuary belonging to famed ornithologist, Roy Ivor razing his home and killing 21 birds.

Mr. Ivor, who is 91-years-old and recognized as one of Canada's top bird experts, was found standing bare-foot in the snow

Within a few hours of the disastrous fire, businessman Don Inman had set up a fund to raise money for the possible rebuilding of Roy Ivor's sanctuary. For story, picture see page A3.

when Mississauga firefighters arrived on the scene at 6:55 a.m.

Fire gutted Mr. Ivor's single storey frame home and an adjoining building suffered smoke damage.

Mr. Ivor, whose feet may have been frost-bitten, was first spotted at the back of

his house. He was covered with a blanket against the three-degree temperature and was subsequently rushed to Mississauga Hospital to be treated for frost-bite and shock.

Roy Ivor has operated the Winding Lane Sanctuary for many years on Mississauga Rd. opposite Erindale College.

Ontario Humane Society wardens who were dispatched to the scene of the blaze found three birds, all owls, still alive.

The wardens brought the remaining dead birds, including an eagle and a silver pheasant, back to the Humane Society shelter to be cremated.

ESCAPED

One Humane Society spokesman said there was a strong possibility that many other birds had been released or had escaped from the flames before firemen arrived.

The cause of the blaze was not known at presstime. The Mississauga Fire De-

partment sent two pumpers and 15 men to Mr. Ivor's home. When they arrived they found the house was already gutted.

The adjoining building, where many of the birds were kept, was not destroyed by fire.

However, heat or smoke could be the cause of the death of the birds found inside.

The pumper trucks had some trouble negotiating the 1400 foot entrance to the sanctuary and had to stop 100 feet away from the house as the pumpers could go no further.

Freezing temperatures hampered firemen with steam from the water sometimes confused as smoke.

A fire official said 1400 feet of hose had to be laid from Mississauga Rd. to the scene of the fire to combat the blaze.

The fire was declared under control by 8 a.m.

New News next week

This week's issue marks the final publication of The Mississauga News as an all-tabloid newspaper.

Beginning next week the first or A Section of The News will switch to a full-sized page makeup while the B and C Sections will retain their present formats.

The C Section will be renamed COMMUNITY and will offer to our readers news of interest to women, social events and church news.

The first issue of The News under the new format will go on sale Jan. 6.

the mississauga scene

Clarkson Community Centre furnished	A4
Erin Mills plans automotive centre	A5
A new low-pollution oil burner	A6
Tenant Talk	A7
Flashback - a look at the events of 1970	A9
Pancakes and pretty waitresses	A19
Sports highlights of the year	B1
Recreation activities for 1971	B9

and these regular features

A SECTION	
Courts	A4
Editorial	A8
Entertainment	A18
B SECTION	
Sports	B1
Women's	B9
Business and Real Estate	B21
Classified	B25

'NEWS' ITEM

DEC. 30: Banks were so busy they ran out of money.

