

# More on Our H.S. Situation

The Durham High School Area board meeting was held on March 29, 1958 and despite a 6 1-2 hour meeting it has not come any nearer a solution to the problem as it now stands.

The Millbrook district school problem was discussed and according to information passed on to me, the board intimated that they would be willing to sign an agreement to the effect that our High School would not be closed. As in my previous item in our paper, I again remind you, that this board's decision, written, oral or otherwise, are only for its own duration and they cannot commit future boards.

If this board is sincere in its efforts to help the Millbrook School Area, I would suggest that it publicly submit a plan for a 250 pupil High School in Millbrook and also set up a site committee to locate and purchase a suitable site for this area where by this school would be ready for use in 2 years or sooner from this date. In carrying out this type of progress, we will then know we are out of the NEXT and MAYBE category and that something

concrete is being done for us here. When the High School at Port Hope was proposed we were in the NEXT category, in that if we helped Port Hope, we would be NEXT with our school. At Bowmanville we were in the MAYBE category, as it was said, maybe we should have a new school in Millbrook. These are all like tomorrows in that they never quite seem to get here.

In our Public School in Millbrook we have 168 students and in our South Cavan Area school we have 100 students of these there is a possible 32 to pass into grade 9 High School this coming term. There are 78 students in our High School this present term and 95% of these are in the lower grades, which leaves us with a possible enrollment of over 100 for the coming term. In grade 4 Public School, which is our most heavily enrolled grade, we have 39 students and with the South Cavan Schools this could reach a possible high of 60 students IN ONE YEAR, to go into High School in the future. If this is not a sound basis for a new High School in Millbrook then we will never have one.

When we reach this stage of advancement we will then be able to take step No. 2 which is the raising of standard in our High School so that we will be on a par with surrounding schools and be able to sell education to the other near by areas. We cannot entice other students into our school with our present set up and in fact we will be lucky to be able to hold what we already have. We cannot enlarge our school enrollment without a school, so step No. 1 is the building of a new High School in this area and so I repeat, let this board set up its site committee and purchase a High School site and purchase a High School site and 250 pupil school to be finished and ready to operate in 2 years or less from this date.

Sincerely,  
Reg Hopkins.

The Editor:  
Mirror-Reporter, Millbrook.

Sir:  
It is with great interest that I have read, in your paper, letters expressing concern about the future of Secondary Education for this part of Durham County.

When the Durham County High School Area was formed, it was felt that there was no alternative but for Millbrook to join. A village of this size can neither attract, nor pay adequate salaries to secure teachers of high standing without the support of a High School area Board. At that



FIFTY AND ONE

George A. Dills of Acton, "Man of the Year" by The Ontario Weekly Newspapers Association and is shown here being interviewed by John Mackin, reporter for the C.B.C. radio's Assignment." This programme, which is heard nightly Mondays to Fridays on the CBC Dominion network, is referred to as "a Sunday newspaper supplement published every day."

time, we hoped to be able to enlarge our school, or to build a new one.

To qualify for Provincial Grants to build such a school, there were certain requisites:

- (a) an assessment of 33,000,000.
- (b) a probable High School body of 250 to 300 pupils.

When this became known, we held meetings with School Board representatives from South Monaghan, Manvers and North Cavan. Here we met our first stumbling block. South Monaghan had set its heart on continuing to send its pupils to Peterborough; Manvers was swinging towards Lindsay (Victoria); and this left North Cavan uncertain as to what it should do. They finally decided that they, also, would transport their pupils to Peterborough.

The next thing that was done was the outlining of boundaries for the Durham County High School area, and Peterborough suburban areas. This was a matter for Council to decide, and the line was drawn through Cavan village, jogging south to include Matchett's school. These boundaries can be changed only with difficulty, and once a municipality has joined a High School area, it cannot withdraw, except under very special circumstances.

This, briefly, brings our High School History up to date. The present problem is as follows:

- (1) The present High School Area boundaries, which limit our access to North Cavan pupils. South Monaghan does not seem interested in a new High School in our area.
- (2) Our difficulty in assuring the Dept. of Education that a new school built in our area would have 250 to 300 pupils.
- (3) The necessity of having a \$3,000,000.00 assessment which such a school would serve.
- (4) The present school building is owned by the Public School, and at the present rate of growth, the Public School will very soon require the whole building.

The Durham County Area Board have visited Millbrook many times, and they have been most co-operative in trying to solve these problems. If any local citizen can show the Board how they can attract enough pupils to our area to justify such a new building, I am sure they would give the idea their most serious consideration.

The only hope I can see is a re-allocation of boundaries within the area, so that pupils within 8 to 10 miles in all directions would be brought to this school. The alternative would be for

## VOICE OF MILLBROOK

Parliament Buildings,  
Toronto, Ontario.  
April 2, 1958

To the Editor  
Dear Sir:

May I greet your readers with this information?  
On April 18th and 19th the Ontario Liberal Association will meet in convention at Toronto (King Edward Hotel) to elect a Party Leader, to elect executive officers and to appoint key personnel for important posts. It is vital to every citizen of Ontario that the Ontario Liberal Party be re-born to resume an effective role as Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition and then alternative to the present Ontario Government.

There are presently 82 Government Members, 11 Liberals, 3 C.C.F. and two seats vacant. The need for effective opposition is manifest when you note the increasingly careless administration of Ontario's affairs. They have developed the attitude once prevalent at Ottawa—"Who's to stop us?"  
We need your presence at this important convention. It matters not if you are not a voting delegate; come along anyway and take part in the proceedings. It will be the most exciting and most colourful Provincial Convention in Ontario's history.

The Provincial Liberal Party with new faces and potent energy is about to resume its true role as a reform movement. Won't you come on April 18th and 19th? Thank you.

Yours sincerely,  
Albert Wren, M.P.P.  
Kenora, Ont.

M. E. Hobbs, M.D.

## RAILWAY TIME TABLE CHANGES

Effective Sunday  
**April 27th, 1958**

Full information  
from agents



### W. I. MEETING

The annual meeting of the Women's Institute will be held on Saturday, April 12th, at 2.00 p.m., at the home of Mrs. Thos. Harkness. There will also be a talent sale.

## Mirror-Reporter



J. H. Barringer, Publisher.

### JOHN PAYNE

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