

# Barbara Cook wins essay competition, \$25

Winner of the Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association essay competition, sponsored by the Acton Free Press, is Barbara Cook, a former Acton student who now lives at Mallon and attends school there. Her father, Walter Cook, is a former Acton mayor.

Subject was "My Responsibility as a Canadian". She receives \$25 and her essay is published here. It will be forwarded for provincial competition, and a national winner will be declared eventually. It is with pleasure the Free Press presents the winning essay by this thoughtful young student.

## MY RESPONSIBILITY AS A CANADIAN

By Barbara Cook  
No impetuous vitality will carry today's youth through the unique world experiences we will embark on. We need willpower and faithfulness to succeed.

We who succeed will be the ones able to attain our goals, in the most efficient way open to us. We will not miss, nor will we be missed by, the skeptics who are busy spinning work in their infantile debates about remote utopias.

We young Canadians require minds that can think wisely and hearts that can feel warmly. What goes on in our minds and hearts is more important in deciding Canada's future than what happens in our factories and laboratories.

We must get along with one another. Even experienced success, if acquired at the expense of goodwill, is bought at too costly a price.

It is not essential that adults distress themselves, in

meetings between the ages, by trying to talk youth's language. What is needed is to understand their thoughts. First, listen; then, understand.

Adults today cannot look back into their own youth to reach decisions influencing the youth of today, because the entire environment has changed. They can, however, ripen the thoughts of youth with the wisdom they have gained through the years.

Youths and adults must go on together, increasing in mental, ethical and religious stature. It is not sufficient to be educated; we must gear education to ideals.

We need to learn continually; moreover, we need to connect what we learn to the realities of knowledge and practice. Therefore, education in our adult life will contain as much unlearning and relearning as the tackling of new subjects. If we do not do it now, we will walk into the future as do the blind who walk into a familiar room where someone has moved the furniture.

We cannot help being involved in the concerns of other nations. Powerful forces which affect every one of us are at work in the world.

The efforts being made toward economic revival, the aim of social improvement, and the urge by countries to dominate — all these have importance for Canadians.

We have to be prepared today to defend our country and to aid the free nations of the world in defending theirs, but our defence must be more than physical. We must maintain equally, ideas and practices of freedom.

The country that loses these may just as well resign itself to dwell in slavery. The loss of freedom indicates the loss of the right to think, and with the loss of the right to think, man ceases to be man.

We know that it is from nationalistic greed that wars are born. We know that war anywhere forbodes a world war. We need only to attain complete intellectual development in a society without fear, certain that our very humanity is the sole obstacle to the "best life" offered to us by the early Greeks.

We cannot attain such a world by having people run to their homes and lock the doors. Cynics say that no efforts have ever succeeded in bringing nations together to prevent war, and therefore, never will.

Many of us in Canada dream of staying neutral in case of war. But even so, it is impossible, for our geographical position will almost certainly involve us.

This being the case, what

can we do about it?

We need to study geography. Not the geography of naming capitals and defining islands, bays and peninsulas, but the geography of people and how they are linked with their native land. We need to understand people in other lands and learn what makes them different from us.

We do try to get newcomers from other countries to give their arts, skills and philosophy in an attempt to make Canada the best land in the world — a land in which we may live wholesome, varied, pleasant lives. The greatest loyalty to Canada is decided not by what we take out of it, but by what we freely put into it.

The late President of the United States, John F. Kennedy, spoke for men of all countries when he said to his fellow Americans: "Ask not what your country can do for you — ask what you can do for your country."

We are proud of our wealth of natural resources. But we cannot get on without the rest of the world.

Economic world co-operation is required because the economic activity does not consist of the single family or the single national state, but the entire living generation of the human race.

Commerce between nations is necessary to keep the world in running order. If all means of trade and transportation were terminated, millions of

people would die from want of the necessities of life.

New markets are required by nations which produce abundantly. Canada has been forced to build up an economy which depends on the outer world.

The world cannot be united by an ordinance or charter. The world can be united only when human beings insist that their governments fulfill their world duties.

We can no longer remain unbiased as to what is happening in the world, but we do not have stand inactive, despairingly twisting our hands. With goodwill, honest intention and effort, we can achieve our goal.

We of the Democracies believe that there is a scale of values in life, from the simplest satisfactions of ordinary living to the highest satisfactions of love, morality, intel-

lect and creative accomplishment.

We believe in freedom. The freedom of happiness of the human race depends upon the conduct of free men of goodwill in the present crisis. We young people of today have the capability to build new and happier skyscrapers of achievement.

Some of us may be shying away from the reality that the future depends on us. But there are enough of us to be certain that today's passing disturbance in our affairs shall not finish in continuous chaos, and that the freedom of man's minds shall not be hampered by evil and cruel men.

We are embarking on adult life with courage capable of endurance, high ideals and rich accomplishment. Ours is a challenging and illustrious prospect.



I.G.A. STORES celebrated 16 years of I.G.A. in Canada with birthday celebrations last week. Acton I.G.A. served birthday cake and coffee to customers as well as holding a draw for groceries. Joan McCristall serves Mrs. C. Snook, Acton, while store manager Harold Manes looks on. (Staff Photo)

## Ballast bags were useless

Four 50-lb. plastic bags found in a farm field in Esqueving Township last week, caused a bit of head-scratching around Milton O.P.P. headquarters, when it was learned they were the type used for airplane ballast.

But the problem appears to be solved. The four bags contained a black, tar-like substance and when they cropped up in a farm field, everyone began wondering if a plane had dumped them there. However, airlines officials said the ballasts were useless because their containers were broken, and suggest someone connected with the owners must have "ditched" them there.

Modern discipline: knowing when not to talk back to children.

## News of the District

### GEORGETOWN

Right on the heels of a projected residential expansion in Georgetown, word came last week that Sid Silver intends to build a large business block adjoining his store on Main St. N. The block will house a number of retail stores and offices. Another new building is also planned by Halton and Peel Trust and Saving Co. just to the north.

Residents in the middle section of Glen Williams village will have natural gas made available to them later this year, it has been disclosed by United Gas Co. The service will be extended to that area between the west branch of the Credit River, paralleling the Ninth Line and where it passes through the middle of the village.

Georgetown's Jr. C. Raiders could lose as many as eight members of this year's club if a new age limit being considered by the O.H.A. is introduced. The O.H.A. is considering setting the 20 year-old limit back half a year. Rod Presswood, Jim Blair, Terry Lane, Tommy Ayres, Don Norton, Mike Cummins and Ron Stewart, all played their last game in a Raider uniform when they lost to Aurora. Kent Robinson is the sole player sitting on the fence.

### ERIN

A \$54,000 addition to Erin public school has been approved. The new addition will include two new classrooms and the installation of fire doors in the halls of the old section of the school. Contract has been let to Landoni Construction of Fergus.

Three hundred men were present to enjoy the spicy stag party entertainment and the excitement of the elimination draw at the Erin district Lions club draw dinner. The final grand prize of \$2,450.00 was shared on five tickets, some of which were held jointly. Winners were: 1. Gordon Simpson and Nelson Rathbun; 2. Norman Nixon; 3. Ken Jackson; 4. Vince Mountford, Jim Mundell, Tibb Miller, Bert Atkins; 5. Jack McKinnon, of Guelph.

### HILLSBURG

Ilderton took the second game of the O.R.H.A. Intermediate series 6-4 in the Lucan arena. Ilderton took a 3-2 first period lead, stretched it to 4-2 at the end of the second. Both clubs bagged a pair in the final chapter. Hillsburg goals were scored by Don McKenzie, Lawson Montgomery, Mike Kalapaca and G. McArthur. Ten of the 18 penalties went to Ilderton.

### MILTON

Milton Council accepted the proposal for a \$1,309,000 addition to the high school. Subject to more than \$900,000 in construction grants, it will make the Milton district

school fully composite and able to serve 1,100 pupils. The finance committee of council estimates the debenture issue of \$417,319 required will cost Milton taxpayers \$15,773.04 annually after grants.

A likely boost of nine mills in the town tax rate was forecast following a budget session but subsequent meetings were expected to achieve some cuts in the spending. Last year's mill rate was 75.95 for residential and 83.15 for residential and industrial.

Rezoning of the site at Omagh for the proposed Burlington Airport venture was approved at a special meeting of Oakville council Tuesday evening on an 8-3 recorded vote. Despite a "vigorous protest from Ward 1 Ratepayers' Association spokesman Bill Kelly, council adopted a recommendation from the Planning Board to rezone the 300 acres for airport use. Halton M.P. Dr. Harry Harley attended the meeting and promised to lend support when the project comes before the federal government. The ratepayers' objections were based on the poor location, the high cost and doubts that it would be used enough to warrant the heavy expenditure.

### BURLINGTON

Water consumption here last month was 121,500 gallons — as compared with 115,370 gallons used in February 1966.

So far this year the Public Utilities Commission has pumped 255,870 gallons.

## Acton fire brigade aid helps swell muscular dystrophy fund

J. J. C. Evans, president of The Muscular Dystrophy Association of Canada announced today that for the first time in its 13-year history, the association had raised over half a million dollars through its annual campaign and other sources.

"An interim total of \$545,000 to date," said the president, "represents an increase of \$53,000 over the previous year's income."

Mr. Evans estimated that about 75 per cent of the MDAC's income would go into medical research, in a program that involves every major university and medical school in the country. He expressed his thanks to the many individuals and organizations that have

helped during the campaign. These included, in addition to MDAC's regular membership, members of over 500 professional and volunteer fire departments, including the Acton Fire Department, the I.O.D.E., the Catholic Women's League, the Royal Canadian Legion, Zonta Clubs, Women's Institutes, Boy Scouts, Rotary Clubs and many other service clubs and organizations.

**SAVING FOR COLD DAY**  
The watermelon Mrs. J. P. Harrelson Sr. of Spartanburg, N.C. cut into on a cold winter day was almost as good as one just plucked out of the fields, she reported. She had kept the watermelon under a bed in an unheated room.

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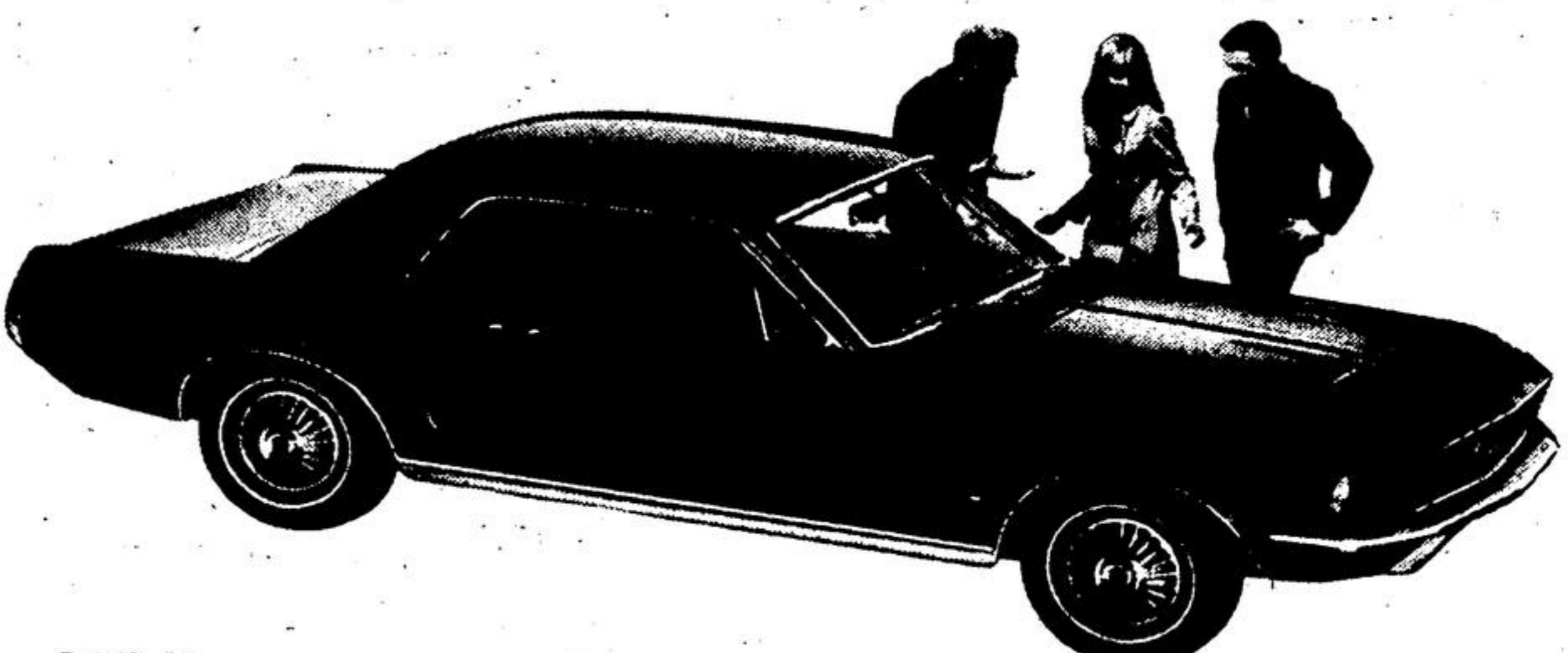
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