

fresh tracks

by Barbara McIntosh

Municipal Efficiency

The foremost thing in people's minds this week appears to be the election and how to select civic-minded individuals to carry on municipal government. Yet a fraction of the voting public really understands the power structure, so the campaign often becomes a popularity poll rather than a contest of ability.

In an effort to help the voter make his selection, the following episode points up the problems that can arise in the passing of a single piece of legislation, and the types of public representatives needed to complete the task with accurate thinking and efficiency.

The scene is a typical small town municipal meeting. Councillor Trafford has taken exception to a proposed notice at the entrance to South Park which reads: "NO DOGS MUST BE BROUGHT TO THIS PARK EXCEPT ON A LEAD." He pointed out that this order would not prevent an owner from taking the lead off his pet once inside the gate.

"I would suggest, 'DOGS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN THIS PARK WITHOUT LEADS,'" stated Trafford.

"Mr. Chairman, I object," piped Councillor Hogg. "The order should be addressed to the owners, not the dogs."

Councillor Trafford conceded on this point. "Very well, then—OWNERS OF DOGS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN THIS PARK UNLESS THEY KEEP THEM ON LEADS."

"But, Mr. Chairman, I object," stormed Councillor Hogg slapping a hand down on the table. "Strictly speaking, this would prevent me as a dog-owner from leaving my pet loose in the backyard at home and walking with Mrs. Hogg through the park."

At this, Councillor Trafford's face glowed like cooked beets. With clenched teeth he growled, "Mr. Chairman, I suggest that our legalistic friend be asked to redraft the notice himself."

"Very well," snapped Councillor Hogg. "Since Councillor Trafford finds it so difficult to improve on my original wording, I accept. NOBODY WITHOUT HIS DOG ON A LEAD IS ALLOWED IN THIS PARK."

Councillor Trafford was quick to reply to that. "I object, Mr. Chairman. Strictly speaking, this notice would prevent me, as a citizen who does not own a dog, from walking in the park without first buying one and putting it on a lead."

"Oh, I see your point," said Councillor Hogg with some warmth. "Very simply then, DOGS MUST BE LED IN THIS PARK."

"But Mr. Chairman," sighed Trafford. "This reads as if it were a general injunction to our citizens who own dogs, that they must lead them into the park—like the Pied Piper."

At this point Councillor Hogg interposed a remark for which he was called to order, and the Chairman directed that it be expunged from the minutes. "Gentlemen, please," he submitted. "Councillor Hogg has had three tries and you have had only two, Councillor Trafford. We will allow you one more."

Councillor Trafford pensively placed a hand to his brow, breathed deeply, and then slowly rose to his feet, an enlightened expression on his face. "ALL DOGS MUST BE KEPT ON A LEAD IN THIS PARK."

Anticipating another objection from Councillor Hogg, the chairman quickly rose to his feet and announced, "I suggest, ALL DOGS IN THIS PARK MUST BE KEPT ON A LEAD."

This draft was put to a vote and carried unanimously—with two abstentions.



GET SET . . . CAMERA . . . ACTON. Last Friday afternoon several students who took part in the walkathon for cancer last April, were interviewed by CBC's John Simpson for a

Acton student walkers on CBC cancer film

The Canadian Cancer Society is putting Acton students on television.

Last Friday, a CBC crew spent the afternoon in front of the high school interviewing a representative group of former walkers for a half-hour special on cancer.

Acton first attracted the attention of Ontario Division Headquarters when they held the first walk for cancer in this area a year ago. Then last April, they made headlines again with a second walk that raised \$1,300 for the cause. A lengthy report on the walkathon appeared in the fall edition of the Canadian

Cancer News Letter.

Then local campaign chairman Mrs. Ray Arbie was contacted to see if an interview with some of the walkers could be arranged. It was impossible to get everyone in the picture, so a cross-section of students from the various grades was selected.

Interviewer, John Simpson talked to several of the young people including organizer Marianne Coles. He asked them to explain how and why they began the walkathon tradition, and if they had plans for future projects. Marianne said she hoped next year they could



half-hour special on the Canadian Cancer Society.

(Photos by Ray Saitz)



WINE, WOMEN and principal Ted Hansen in a toga were all part of Latin night. Actually it was grape punch, served by slave Roberta Nessel. The leafy head in the background is Mr. Martindale.

Togas and dancing girls at traditional Roman feast

Latin declensions may be a drag, but the Latin Club banquet last Friday night recreated old Roman glory complete with slaves and dancing girls.

Toga-clad upper class dined by candlelight on mounds of roast chicken, salads, fresh fruits and fancy cakes. Slaves who hadn't counted on such realism when they volunteered, were kept busy filling glasses with grape punch, passing food, and washing feet, to the strains of soft dinner music. A few were seen munching left-over chicken in the kitchen.

In the old Roman tradition the evening's entertainment came on toward the end of the meal. Mark Hurst and Mike Cooper staged a wrestling match for the girls, while Nancy Morris performed acrobatics and Marianne Coles an eastern dance

for the boys. Several students put on a Latin play "The Slave Boy", and Victor Funk on the mandolin and Joe Petric on the accordion provided after dinner music.

To end the evening, Mrs. Martindale sang a few numbers for the students, and Roberta Nessel presented her with a bouquet of roses.

The best dressed Roman turned out to be Henry Van Stralen who came complete with tunic, toga and laurel leaves.

The event was organized by Mrs. Martindale in an effort to make Latin studies more exciting for the students.

Special guests at the head table included Mr. Hansen, Mr. Martindale, Mrs. J. Hurst and Mrs. Hueniken, all dressed in the Roman tradition.

Lynda Chandler of Brookville won first prize in the Junior section of the Library Scrapbook Contest for her book entitled "CANADIAN INDIANS".



THE HEAD TABLE of dignitaries included Mrs. Martindale and Mr. Hansen. Hueniken, Mrs. Hurst, Mrs. Martindale, Mr.

(Staff Photo)

Mrs. Margaret Tamblin began teaching in the Acton high school last January. She is a native of Leamington and a graduate of the University of Guelph. She teaches Physical Education and French to grades 9 and 10.



Pedagogues are people

Mrs. Margaret Tamblin has the unique position of being the only woman living in a men's residence on the University of Guelph campus. Her husband is head resident in Johnston Hall while working on his Ph. D. in Bio-Chemistry.

Her comment, "It's different!" Chaperoning a houseful of freshmen is not without the odd crisis. "Actually it's quite interesting seeing all

the nervous breakdowns and the problems with drugs, from an inside angle."

Mrs. Tamblin began her teaching career in English and French, but found she didn't like the strict, regimental atmosphere, so she switched the English for Phys. Ed.

She feels that not enough emphasis is being placed on the programs in schools. "Canadian children are really in a sick state."

As a part of her health course, Mrs. Tamblin has been conducting tests, measuring pulse rates and breathing after strenuous exercise. She has concluded that no more than 5% of the students in the school are really physically fit.

"I am thoroughly convinced that television is the problem. Students go home, rush through their homework and sit in front of the set. TV is wonderful in its place but they watch too much. They don't get out for active entertainment and I think people lose their ability to communicate with each other in person."

However, you can pass Mrs. Tamblin's classes despite a pallid complexion and flabby muscle tone if your attitude is right. "I would never fail anyone on performance. It's the effort that counts. Even if she couldn't do anything, she'd pass if I thought she was really trying."

Mrs. Tamblin also teaches French to grades 9 and 10. She feels that it is unlikely that Canada will ever become fully bilingual because "Canadians are generally too lazy—both mentally and physically."

Outside of school, Mrs. Tamblin has a variety of interests and activities. She enjoys music, particularly folk music, and she plays the piano and guitar. A nature lover at heart, she likes most outdoor sports, including riding and skiing.

At home she had a dog and a cat, but living in the residence she has to be content with a friendly squirrel that visits regularly. Her biggest ambition at the moment is to move to a house in the country where she can have all the pets she wants.



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