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Council Visit Essay Georgetown Prizewinner

A Georgetown boy won third prize in an essay contest for pupils who had attended a meeting of the county council in May.

A Grade 8 student from each public school in Halton was selected to make this annual trip and afterwards each was asked to submit an essay telling of the visit to Milton.

Douglas Wrigglesworth, from Chapel Street School, Georgetown, won third prize in the contest. Alan Emmerson, Trafalgar No. 1 was first and Allison Dingle, Strathcona, second.

FIRST PRIZE

by Alan Emmerson
No. 1 Trafalgar

It has been my wish for several years that when I reached Grade 8, I might have the privilege of attending a meeting of our county council. How very pleased I was when the invitation came and my school mates chose me to represent our school.

We assembled in the council chambers, in Milton, where the Warden Mr. Leslie opened the meeting by asking us to repeat in unison, The Lord's Prayer.

He then welcomed the students, introduced us to the council members, and had each of us tell our name and the school we represented.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, followed by reports from various committees and discussions on general council business.

By this time it was noon, so we went to the United Church School room where a most delicious dinner was served by the ladies of the Mountain Union Institute.

The programme which followed consisted of solos by two gold medalists of the Halton Music Festival. The guest speaker, Mr. R. F. Bornhold, assistant school inspector, of the county of Halton spoke to us, praising the work of our schools and advised us to get all the education we could receive.

On returning to the court house, we were divided into groups to inspect the various offices and departments in the county buildings. The jail cells though of interest to us, made us think that we wouldn't care to spend any part of our lives there. In the Surrogate Court office we were shown wills and it was explained to us the use and work of the Supreme and County Courts.

We returned to the council chambers where the crown attorney, Mr. Dingle explained to us how justice is administered in the county, and urged us to shun temptations, to guard our good names and to cooperate with the police.

Further discussions took place on the beaver which have migrated into Esquema, and are flooding some of the roads.

After several other minor matters were discussed, Douglas Wrigglesworth thanked the council for giving us the opportunity of attending their meeting.

After singing the national anthem "God Save the Queen," we adjourned and departed for our homes with a wider knowledge of the work of a County Council and the many problems with which they must deal to make Halton such a progressive and pleasant place in which to live.

SECOND PRIZE

by Allison Dingle,
Strathcona School, Nelson Twp.

Every year one or two pupils are chosen from each public school in Halton County to go to Milton to attend a county council meeting. I

had heard about the trip from pupils who had gone previous years and it sounded interesting, so it was with a feeling of anticipation that I looked forward to the day when I was told I was going.

Honestly the world is full of the nicest people. A Milton as soon as we stepped in the court house, we were introduced to the warden, Mr. George Leslie. We were all a little nervous but after a firm handshake and a friendly smile and greeting from the Warden, all nervousness disappeared.

In the morning session of the county council each reeve and deputy reeve from the towns and townships stood up and was introduced to us. They seemed a little embarrassed by the presence of so many children, however, they did not appear very much embarrassed during a most delicious dinner served in one of the churches, especially when the lemon pie made its entrance.

At this dinner Mr. Bornhold, as guest speaker gave a very interesting talk about how beautiful Halton County is. Mr. Bornhold is assistant to Mr. Sucee our Inspector of Public Schools. He said, too, that he expected to see us taking places of responsibility in our county in days to come! Imagine me as warden.

As I am well acquainted with school buses I was especially interested in one of the discussions in the morning.

Members of the council were considering ways of making motorists slow down when approaching a stopped school bus. As I am even more attracted to fairs, the discussion which took place in the afternoon about horse racing track at the Milton Fair held my attention still more.

Just before this latter discussion, the Crown Attorney, Mr. L. D. Dingle, spoke to us. He said we should cooperate with the police and asked us to remember that a good name is better than riches.

I think what I enjoyed most of all was the visit to the jail. The only drawback is that the guards do the cooking.

A very gruesome thought is that a prisoner is sometimes condemned to stay his life in prison. I wonder what Mrs. Boyle would do about his will. She is the assistant registrar and showed us through the Surrogate office and explained all about people's wills. We were taken into the vault and shown a will dating back almost a century.

On the way home, the council member who drove us to Milton treated us to an ice cream cone. I liked him very much.

Now I understand fairly well about how our county is run and I really enjoyed the visit.

THIRD PRIZE

by Douglas Wrigglesworth,
Chapel School, Georgetown

I considered myself privileged indeed to be the one chosen to represent our school at the annual visit of the pupils to the county council meeting at Milton, May 12th dawned clear and bright, a perfect day for our visit to the county seat. Our drive to Milton was a pleasant one. We drove along the country roads and watched nature awakening to a new life all along the way. One couldn't help but feel that ours is a wonderful country and it was good to be alive.

Upon our arrival at Milton we had a short time to spare before the Council meeting was to begin. We took this opportunity to view the business section of the town. When the appointed time came we went upstairs in the Court House and received booklets on the "Minutes, Reports, and by-laws of 1952." We were also labelled with a badge telling our name and the school which we represented.

The council members filed in and took their places. After the

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Lord's Prayer was said in unison we listened with interest to the roll call, incidentally learning our Councilors names and the municipalities which they represented.

The morning session consisted of reports from the various committees. This proved interesting and instructive.

The noon hour was particularly enjoyed by all. The Mountain Union Institute served a very delightful dinner for us in St. Paul's United Church Sunday School room. I know the Grade 8 students took their full share in this part of the day's programme. Two vocal solo medallists from the recent Music Festival added nice variety after the dinner. Mr. Bornhold, newly appointed assistant inspector in Halton was the after dinner-speaker. He spoke to the boys and girls stressing the need for them to develop an interest in Municipal matters. He also spoke to the Councilors reminding them of their responsibility to the boys and girls of the county.

The afternoon was mainly taken up with a tour of the jail and the office of the Supreme and Surrogate Courts. The jail has four cell blocks and room to confine twenty-three people in cells. At the court office a lady told us of the work of that office. All the proceedings of the courts of the county were filed in the County Court. The Supreme Court dealt with breeches of the law beyond the county court jurisdiction. The Surrogate Court had

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