

The Georgetown Herald

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... EDITORIAL COMMENT ...

What We've Always Said...

For some weeks we have been on the verge of renewing an editorial plea for dissolution of North Halton high school district.

On many occasions in the past, this paper has stated various reasons for having high school matters controlled by more localized boards in preference to the present cumbersome set-up which keeps men from five municipalities attending meetings in various towns, and attempting to deal with matters affecting the whole of North Halton while their interests lie primarily with the district where they reside.

Now the Acton - Milton editor, whose views clashed at times rather radically with ours in the past, has beat us to the punch. An editorial which appeared in last week's Milton Champion and Acton Free Press, stated the case clearly. And so closely does it approximate our views, that we reprint it this week - an endorsement, as it were, of what we think any resident of any of the five municipalities should feel about high school matters.

Here is the editorial, titled "Let's Get It Over With" . . .

It seems to be an almost annual cry, but again Georgetown has asked to withdraw from the North Halton High School District Board.

The county is taking action to assemble a meeting with members of the Boards, members of the Consultative Committee and municipal councils. It will indeed be a large meeting.

The town of Georgetown was forced into

what it has continually regarded as an unhappy marriage, by the grant structure of the province that offered preferences to districts. They have never been completely sold on the other possible advantages of a district board. Of course the earlier proposal to build a central school at Speyside has long since been forgotten.

As the three towns - Acton, Milton and Georgetown - in the district continue to expand and the problems of each become more individual, it would seem the North Halton District High School Board could give way to an Acton District High School Board, a Milton District High School Board and a Georgetown District High School Board, continuing to serve the areas they now normally serve.

There appears now no particular reason why this transaction could not take place. Each municipality would then control the destinies of its school along with the representatives of the area municipalities that would be served.

Each of the three schools in the district, on completion of the present building program, will be almost entirely new. That leaves the three on a fairly equal footing as far as facilities are concerned. Each district would name its own representatives to the local board rather than a three town board and they would direct their thinking to one school.

We think it's time to scrap the North Halton District High School Board and forever still the annual criticism directed towards its structure.

ASHGROVE

ART AND ARTISTS IS SPEECH THEME AT TEA

The annual Daffodil Tea was held in the church on Thursday afternoon, April 2, with ladies from Georgetown, Stewarttown, Norval, Hornby, Bethel, Streetsville and Brampton. The W.A. president, Mrs. Vern Pickett, presided and welcomed the large gathering. Two beautiful solos were sung by Barbara Cunningham. Mrs. J. M. Wickson introduced the speaker, Miss Mina Hume of Milton, who had been a social service worker with the YWCA for several years. She delighted her audience as she spoke on Development, Sculpture, and Arts from the time the French first made settlement at Montreal and Quebec - then the influence of the British as they came to settle in Upper Canada. Many more recent artists were mentioned showing prints of their work. Among these were "the group of Seven" who are believed to be the real interpreters of Canadian scenery in their work. Following this Verna and Doris Pickett gave two piano duet numbers. Mrs. Clay-

ton Wilson thanked those who contributed to the program and invited all down to the basement where a salad plate, cookies and tea were served. The school girls with their bright dresses and corsages of daffodils made pretty waitresses and special thanks goes to Mrs. Leir Coxie and her lunch committee who spent many hours preparing the lovely plates.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was observed in the church on Sunday morning, also two by letter of transfer were received into church membership, Cecil Wilson and John McNabb and two by profession of faith, Mrs. Cecil Wilson and Miss Donna Riseborough.

Master Kenny Alderson of Drumquin spent Easter holidays with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Bridgen.

Sylvia and Faye Graham of Milton visited their grandmother, Mrs. R. J. Graham in the Easter holidays.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Bob Alexander who had a lovely April, the first surprise by the birth of their baby daughter a little sister for David.

Measles is prevalent right now among the schoolchildren. It has

been rather severe as Janice Coxie has been a sick little girl for over three weeks now, but is improving.

Mr. James McCarthy has received a shipment of six polled Hereford cattle from Mississippi and Texas. Among them was a polled bull from the Hull - Dobbs ranch at Walls, Mississippi. Since their arrival here one of the cattle has had a fine heifer calf.

Bank Accountant Is Transferred To City

Accountant here for two years at the Royal Bank branch, George Miehme has been transferred to the Yonge and Grenville branch in Toronto.

Mr. Miehme left yesterday for his new position as senior assistant accountant at the city branch. Replacing him here will be Joseph Connolly who comes to Georgetown from Oshawa branch.

Kitchener native, Mr. Miehme worked in branches in Waterloo, Toronto, Tottenham and Blind River before coming to Georgetown. He is a charter member of the local Kinsmen Club.

Premier's Report on Government Action Regarding Avro Situation

In connection with the Avro matter, I have reported to the House on two occasions - on Friday, February 20th and on Monday, February 23rd, and I should like now to bring the Members up to date.

The negotiations which I have had have involved at least four different groups, namely labour, the company, the Federal government and a number of businessmen who are interested in the progress of this province.

From the standpoint of this Government we have had the services of all departments and particularly those of Economics, Planning and Development, Welfare and Labour.

Concerning labour, I have had various meetings with Mr. Podger and Mr. McQueen, representing the International Association of Machinists. In my judgment, their views have made common sense and they have been of marked assistance to me. From a business standpoint, I have had the advice of Mr. J. Grant Glasco, the executive vice president of Brazilian Traction. I have also had conversations with Mr. Ian F. McRae, the chairman of the Board, Canadian General Electric; W. H. Evans, president, Honeywell Controls Ltd.; H. M. Griffith, vice president, Steel Co. of Canada, Ltd.; J. G. Mead, chairman, B. F. Goodrich, Canada, Ltd.; W. A. Osbourne, vice chairman, Babcock and Wilcox and Goldie McCulloch Ltd.; A. A. Thornborough, president, Massey Ferguson Ltd.; Thomas Edmonson, president, Ferranti-Packard, and as well the organization of both the Ontario and Canadian divisions of the Canadian Manufacturing Association.

I think, therefore, it can be said that I have brought to our assistance the very best abilities and experience available.

The Avro problem is a difficult one for the principal decisions lie completely within the areas of the federal government, and, of course, the company. It is not a provincial matter at all.

To sketch in the background, briefly, may I point out that the production of the Arrow, a military plane, is a subject that lies entirely between the Canadian government and the company. The operation of Avro for at least the past seven or eight years has been entirely a federal government matter. The contract is federal and the operations have been paid for with federal money. As I have pointed out before, the Avro company in 1951 or 1952, was asked to give up its project of building a jet liner and to concentrate on the building of a military plane the CF-100. This was followed by the present Arrow. I understand that in recent years the Canadian government has advanced something of the order of \$450 million for this program. It is said that the termination of the contract will cost an additional \$50 million to \$100 million. To proceed with the program would cost vastly increased sums of money, some estimates being as high as \$2 billion to complete 200 Arrow planes. Whether or not this estimate is correct, it, in any event, would involve very vast sums of money which must be paid from taxes. The decision not to proceed with this program is the cause of the present situation. Whether the Arrow would be obsolete before it came into real production, or whether there was any sale for this plane to other countries, were matters for federal decision. The facts upon which this decision could be based were entirely within the possession of the company and the Canadian government. They were not in our possession here.

One of the weaknesses in the situation at Avro has been the complete lack of diversification. Probably when the whole matter is assessed, it may be said that the decision to abandon the jetliner in 1951 - 1952 was one of the fundamental errors. The industry has been placed in the position that the Canadian government and taxpayer have been financing the whole operation and, therefore with a change of policy and position, there has been nothing immediate upon which the industry could fall back.

There are two different aspects to this problem, each requiring its own type of solution.

(a) The impact on workers and communities of the sudden loss of employment by over 12,000 employees.

(b) The problem of finding a new way of life for this organization so that it will continue as a substantial employer and an important part of the Canadian industrial complex.

From the standpoint of the impact on the workers, may I say that there are different points of view as to the methods which could be followed in the demobilization of the industry in so far as it affects the Arrow plane. These decisions again are not decisions for this government, and we have to accept the facts as they are. To date there has not been any marked hardship owing to the fact of separation pay, unemployment insurance and other factors which include some measure of re-employment on the part of workers.

Neither has there been any marked effect to date on the municipalities, and this effect cannot be accurately assessed for several months to come. Nevertheless, there is hanging over a large element of our population and the municipalities that are concerned the possibilities of very serious problems which cannot be discounted.

Concerning the welfare of the employees, our Departments of Welfare, Labour, Planning and Development, Health and Economics have been looking into the situation. We have been collaborating with labour. The House is very familiar with the services that can be rendered by a provincial government and I state that this government is taking time by the forelock in estimating the incidence on these individuals and will do everything that lies within its power to soften the impact of sudden unemployment.

As to the municipalities, there will be no marked effect on them for some time and, therefore, there is the opportunity to fully assess their situation. May I, however, assess their situation. May I, however, assess their situation. May I, however, assess their situation. (continued on Page 7)



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