

# Sunshine School Notable Record of Achievement

The test of any civilization is the measure of consideration and care, which it gives to its weaker members.

These words were said by the noted author Pearl S. Buck, herself the mother of one of the weakest members — a retarded child. Heaping measures of consideration and care are given daily by the staff at the Sunshine School for the Retarded in Milton.

Despite the tremendous handicap of a tiny building, the size of a two car garage, and fronting directly on a busy street, the staff has accomplished near miracles, according to the mothers.

One child who couldn't talk at all on coming to the school, sang along at the Christmas concert this year, while her mother watched with moist eyes.

Another child, five years in the first grade of a public school, and still unable to learn numbers, can count and delightfully tells everyone the time. Neither could he read when he entered the school, now he is reading, not fluently, but reading nevertheless.

Measuring, telling time, identifying numbers, counting, dressing themselves, singing, tumbling, painting, memory work, handiwork, cooking, learning health rules, and many other simple things, are drilled and re-drilled.

One is working on flash cards

in an effort to improve his reading, while another loves to add and subtract. To a little boy with a maimed hand, his newly-won bottle to tie his own shoes is a big accomplishment.

With the gradual lifting of the veil of secrecy which has surrounded these children, confidence is increasing, and will continue to increase as more mothers hear of the school. Consequently, the need for the new school is urgent. The site has been purchased on the 7th Line, just north of Huron, and awaits only your help to become a reality.

In a new or old school the heart of it is the principal, and here it is Mrs. R. P. E. Jeffares has in abundance. The warmth and love she has for the children is matched only by their love for her. The one quality most necessary for this work, infinite patience, is evidenced continually. Mrs. Jeffares graduated as a nurse from St. John's Hospital, Toronto, and later took a special course in handling the retarded at the University of Toronto.

Mrs. Jeffares and Mrs. Jean Mitchell, a teacher, who also took the University course are the total staff. However, four other dedicated women, work without pay of any kind. Mrs. Robert Bachner, wife of Dr. Bachner, the psychiatrist connected with the neuro-psychiatric centre at Guelph Infirmary, regularly instru-

cts the children in Eurythmics, a method of teaching music appreciation. For six years the school has benefited from her training at the Royal Academy of Music, and at the Dalroze School of Eurythmics in London, England. She teaches rhythm band, singing, and dancing freely to music. In addition to helping the body, it's great fun, as the glowing faces testify.

Talking, which we take so much for granted, is the most difficult task for the retarded. Here, we in North Halton are indeed fortunate. Mrs. M. English of Georgetown, voluntarily teaches speech therapy several times a week. Well qualified she is too. She studied occupational therapy at the University of Southern California, in Los Angeles. Upon graduation, she worked in the Children's Hospital there. During the war she served in an Army neuro-surgical hospital in Kentucky.

In addition Mrs. J. Hill is an unpaid substitute teacher, and Mrs. George Elliott also gives her time freely to instruct the children in music.

What is the measure of this community? How much consideration will we give our weakest members? Let it be enough to give them a new school, not lavish, but with space to grow in mind and body. Give during this week's campaign.



EASTER BUNNY?

LOOKING FOR ALL the world like a very popular cottontail is Laura Smith, George Kennedy public school pupil who took part in 'March Moods', an entertaining program presented by her school at Howard Wigglesworth Auditorium. The genuine seasonal hare toured the town on the week-end.

PEOPLE BUY THE HERALD TO READ AND READ THE HERALD TO BUY

## Aptitude Tests Are Planned At High School

High school students in Georgetown and across the province will shortly be taking scholastic aptitude tests.

"One of the big questions for a student in Grade 12 is, 'Do I have the necessary scholastic aptitude to ensure success in the more rigorous mental disciplines of Grade 13 and University. Marks on regular school subjects offer a good indication, but may need to be supplemented by a 'measuring device' which would show the student's capacity for pure reasoning, entirely divorced from memorization of facts."

It is now a regular departmental examination, two hours in length, and it is taken at the same time in all high schools of the province.

The guidance department plays an active part in familiarizing students with the purpose and characteristics of the test. This department also assists in its administration and in its interpretation to students, teachers and parents.

The results of S.A.T.O. are expressed in percentile ratings, thus showing the pupil's standing relative to all Grade 12 students in Ontario. If a pupil's score is at the 80th percentile, it means that only 20 per cent of all pupils taking the test scored higher.

The test itself is similar to the so-called 'intelligence test' and ratings obtained from it are comparable to IQ scores.

The importance of this new 'measuring stick' is evident from the fact that universities, teachers' colleges, hospitals and technological institutes are now requiring high school guidance departments to report S.A.T.O. scores in their confidential reports on students.

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## 10 and 25 YEARS AGO ECHOES

From the Pages of The Herald April 4th, 1951, and April 13th, 1936

### 10 YEARS AGO

Winners of the Tour for Talent Show in the Old Town Hall Friday were Sandra Scott, 1st for her singing, the quartette of Patsy Hill, Bev Hyde, Sue Cray and Jacqueline Graham. Shirley Forbes, vocalist, was third.

Novelty Midgets won their group championship last Wednesday night. Included in the lineup were: Goal, Julian Reed; defense, Richard Sienko, Dale Sedore; centre, Jamie Cunningham; wings, Don Jarvie, George Grasby; subs, Don Smith, Bruce Van Vliet, Barry Archer, John Doherty, J. Hancock.

Council struck the budget this week and the tax rate is set at 43 mills. The town's assessment is \$3,399,000, with \$145,340 to be raised in tax money.

### 25 YEARS AGO

There was a good attendance of members in the Legion Club Rooms on Thursday night where a reunion of the 164th Halton and Dufferin Battalion was planned for the First of July celebration.

It cost three young men who got into a fight in the Georgetown Cafe recently, \$10 and costs, amounting to about \$15.00 each when they appeared before Magistrate J. C. Bull at Georgetown last Thursday. Chief Marshall laid the charge. The quarrel started when one of the trio attempted to sit at a table where the other two young men were entertaining two lady friends.

At the Gregory Theatre: Rendezvous, starring William Powell; The Rainmakers starring Bert Wheeler and Robert Woolsey; Ah Wilderness starring Wallace Beery and Lionel Barrymore.

### PLASTICS DEMONSTRATION FOR SUNSHINE CLUBBERS

The members of the Sunshine Club held their anniversary supper in First Baptist Church. The hostesses were Mrs. John Stopper, Mrs. John Emmerson, Mrs. Ron Breen, Mrs. Don Black and Mrs. A. Norton.

Mrs. Al Robson conducted the business meeting. Mr. John Emmerson demonstrated and gave an interesting talk on plastics. A very pleasant evening was enjoyed by everyone.

## Brampton To Participate National Survival Exercise

Screaming sirens in Brampton sometime around early May will herald the beginning of a national survival exercise.

It will also signal the participation of representatives of the Red Cross, St. John Ambulance, Canadian Legion, church groups and service clubs.

Operation 'TDCSN 1961' will be an exercise to practice the emergency measures necessary for national survival and the continuity of government, federal, provincial and municipal, in the event of a nuclear attack.

Peel is one of the more recent counties to be co-ordinated in the ENRO system and the federal government is most anxious that it participate.

The exercise is not for all-out public participation. It is primarily designed to test manning procedures and emergency communications.

The immediate aims of the exercise as far as Peel County is concerned is to bring to the attention of selected public service groups, the type of survival activities that must be developed to provide for the protection and safety of citizens under natural disasters.

Activities will be: Mobilization of key government and volunteer officials, using emergency communications, pass pre-attack, post-attack and fall out reports, and establish simulated emergency communications between the municipalities.

The 10 municipalities will be asked to mobilize their key defense officials according to the ENRO plan.

The exercise is on a national scale and the USA, usually conducts similar survival exercises around the same time. Because of the attack warning system there is often a connection in the exercises. It is expected the same may apply this year.

## Acton Tax Rate Stays at 74

Acton's 1961 mill rate was set at 74 mills residential and 78 mills industrial-commercial at Wednesday's council meeting. This is the same rate as for 1960. A surplus on the budgeted 1961 operation of \$14.28 is anticipated.

With the total assessment of \$5,540,237.69 in the town, this millrate will raise, through taxation, \$430,357.29.

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YOU CANT BREW COFFEE ON THE STREET  
... but shopping sure makes you cold these days. Makes you want to take a rest in a warm, cheery atmosphere with a hot drink and a bite to eat.  
Come to think of it, that reminds you of...  
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Can your child read this page?

If he's a normal child, over the age of twelve, he can probably read these words quickly, easily. ...

The child in this picture is 12 years old. She is just beginning to learn the alphabet. It is a slow, painful process. But she keeps trying — and one day, soon, she will be able to spell her own name — J-E-N-N-Y.

Jenny is luckier than some retarded children. She is one of the ones, who through patient understanding and specialized training are being coaxed out of their shadow of darkness. She is one of the 25 out of 30 retarded youngsters who can be taught at least marginal self support. Not all of them get the chance.

Today in Canada, there is a retarded child born every 25 minutes. Mental retardation is the greatest single childcrippler—10 times that of polio at its height—15 times that of blindness.

There is an area where the retarded child is probably more advanced than others. This is in his response to love and affection. He tries hard and longs for approval. He looks for the reassuring word, the gentle hand of kindness on his shoulder. He seeks understanding.

The parent extends his hand—but he cannot reach far enough, alone. Yours is needed too. Mental retardation is not just a problem for the parents involved. It is a problem for everybody. Please help.

By giving when a canvasser calls at your home this week. Only with your help can the new Retarded Children's School at Hamby become a reality.