



TOOK LONG ENOUGH TO GET THERE

Defends Langdon, Says Magistrate Humanitarian

Halton's member of provincial parliament rallied to defend the county's senior magistrate against an attack by "that wild Grit from Owen Sound."

Burlington lawyer George Kerr called Magistrate Kenneth Langdon "a great humanitarian" but suggested "that many of the magistrate's views could be ahead of his time."

Eddie Sargent, Liberal member for Grey North, criticized the magistrate for "irresponsible statements" and said the magistrate "should be tested as to his fitness of holding the office he does."

Unwed Mothers
Mr. Sargent was commenting on statements reportedly made by the magistrate that unwed mothers should be sterilized because "we're getting too many illegitimate children."

The magistrate has proposed the division of society into first and second class citizens. Only first class citizens would have the right to vote, marry and have children.

Mr. Kerr's supported the ma-

gistrate's right to freedom of speech and pointed out that the controversial statements are made to public meetings and magazines. "Whether this affects his competence on the bench is debatable," he said.

Free Expression
The Halton MPP termed the reference to second-class citizens a "retrograde step" but stressed the magistrate "shouldn't be muzzle" and should be free to air his opinions.

Mr. Sargent also attacked a recent court case in which the magistrate took away the driving privileges of two youths convicted on charges of drinking under age — charges which did not involve a motor vehicle.

The Attorney General's Department stepped in after the case and issued a directive that a decision was not to be rendered again. MPP Kerr suggested that the suspension order for the two youths would probably not be invoked.

Moral Problems
He said the magistrate sees people with alcoholic and moral problems, people from broken

homes and teenagers in trouble come before him and that he suffers as much as the accused.

Mr. Kerr said that the magistrate tends to shock people and becomes controversial because he is attempting to "combat these social ills by offering solutions that seem a little extreme."

"The man is a great humanitarian. He really is," Mr. Kerr asserted.

The MPP noted that the magistrate's call for "more stringent requirements for marriage" "may not be too far-fetched."

The province may eventually wish to lengthen the three-day waiting period between the purchase of the licence and the marriage, he indicated.

HARLEY TO HALTON

Weekly Observations by Dr. Harry Harley, M.P. for Halton

THE PAST WEEK has been a productive one in the Parliament of Canada. We have passed various estimates of Government spending for 1966-1967 for the Depts. of Veterans Affairs, Citizenship and Immigration, Legislation, Privy Council and Northern Affairs and Natural Resources. Work is at various stages of progress on the Dairy Commission, the Crop Insurance Act, the Canada Assistance Plan and the Health Resources Fund.

COMMITTEE WORK IN Parliament is very heavy at the present time with almost every committee also working on spending estimates. This is a detailed study that is carried out and is designed to save time of the House of Commons. To date this appears to be quite successful in accomplishing this. The Committee on Drug Costs has a very heavy schedule and has enough witnesses now to last until at least early December of this year. I hope that we will have a useful report to make to the House of Commons by the end of this session.

THE AMOUNT OF legislation passing the House of Commons is excellent. Apart from rare mild flare-ups the procedures in Parliament are straight-forward and without incident. In addition to this the new Committee system is working well. This system allows very detailed questioning into Government spending that is never possible when in the House of Commons itself. There is no question in my mind that to date this is a good and effective system.

SUGAR AND SPICE

by Bill Smiley

Oh, These College Boys

May you never have a child who is going to college. And if you have one, please accept my heart-felt condolences.

Ours is a male. I don't know what college girls are like (any more, he said sadly) but I suspect they're just as much of a cross to bear for their parents.

I had to get out of bed this morning at 6 a.m. to get rid of ours, but it was worth it. After he'd climbed on the bus, in a flurry of last-minute kisses and admonitions, I must confess to a distinct lifting of the spirits.

It isn't that we don't love our son. We have the deepest affection for him, and show it in the usual stupid ways. That is, we worry about his welfare; we puff with pride when he does something well; we spend hours trying to figure out what is best for him; and we put up with murder from him. Typical, normal parents.

And it isn't that he's a delinquent. Although there are times when I've been tempted to look up the exact definition of that word.

No, he's really quite a decent average college student. He's generous, idealistic and perfectly good-natured, if you don't cross him. He is reasonably polite—to everyone but his family. He is thoughtful with old people and children—until they bore him. He can work steadily for 12 hours at something he likes doing. Like sleeping. He would give you the shirt off his back; and is completely self-centred. He can dance all night, but collapses when the lawn is half-mowed.

You'd wonder why we'd have this sense of relief when he leaves. There's lots of fun when he's around the house. He plays guitar and sings, plays piano well, plays mouth organ, is full of beans.

When he's around the house. Ay, there's the rub. He has just spent three weeks "at home." This included a couple of days visiting his grandparents, a week off hitch-hiking to Montreal and back, three days with a friend at the latter's cottage, and a day with another friend in the city.

But it's been nice to have him home.

And he's been a great help to me. He moved on-third of the lawn one day; dug four feet of a 60-foot border; another, and washed the car another (at the coin-wash).

I'm not trying to imply that the boy is bone-lazy. It's just that he's too busy. When he is home, he usually gets to bed an hour, sometimes two, before I get up at 6.30. When I get home for lunch, about 1.30, he is just coming to. By 2.30, it's too hot to mow the grass, but just right for the beach.

Honesty compels me to admit that he did set a new record this time. He got in at 3.30 one morning, and was just struggling downstairs for breakfast at 5.30 p.m., when his accomplices of the night before arrived to pick him up for a date they'd made for 7 p.m. Even they were a bit startled.

Oh well, youth and all that jazz. I guess. Anyway, he's off to his summer job, working on a cruise boat on the west coast. Got a free rail pass from the company.

He started figuring out his expenses for the trip out. A berth for three nights; meals in the diner for three days; perhaps a couple of nights in a Vancouver hotel in case the boat wasn't in, plus meals for those two days. My jaw dropped gradually but steadily during this recital.

He was pretty badly shaken up when I told him he would be renting a pillow for 25 cents and sleeping in his seat, would be eating ham sandwiches wherever the train stopped long enough, and would stay at the YMCA when he got there.

We compromised on \$50. My wife and I were talking it over. "It seems odd," she said, "that we're forking out \$50 so he can get to a job, so that he can save money, so that it won't cost us so much next year." I agreed.

Anyway, our vacation plans for the summer are made. A week ago, the old girl stated flatly that this only trip we could afford this summer was a week camping in a government camp, with a borrowed tent.

Ten minutes after he'd left, she informed me that we were making a trip to the west coast, and taking a cruise on Hugh's boat.

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KERR'S COLUMN

M.P.P. Reports to Georgetown from Queen's Park

The Ontario Housing Corporation is a young and vigorous new arm of your Ontario Government. Established less than two years ago under the chairmanship of Hamilton businessman Kenneth Sobie, the corporation has made outstanding progress.

The Corporation's housing program, in response to requests from Ontario municipalities, now exceeds eleven thousand units. During the twelve month period between April 1st, 1965 and March 31, 1966, 1,752 houses were built or bought and have been allocated to tenants. Contracts have been awarded for another 1,834 houses, all of which are now under construction. In addition, 1,330 units have been inspected and appraised with completion of purchase negotiations underway. For 1966, tenders or proposals have been called and will provide another 3,100 units.

Among the communities taking advantage of this program in Halton are Burlington, Oakville and Georgetown and of course a number of these units have been constructed in the Hamilton area. The list contains the names of 51 cities, towns and townships throughout Ontario. The purchase of existing multiple and single-family units has been of great assistance in meeting the most urgent needs while planning and construction of new units is underway.

At this point I would like to refer to certain new features of the Ontario Housing Corporation's program which will be partly implemented this year.

We have recently been advised of the Federal Government's willingness to participate in financing, through

Central Mortgage and Housing a major student housing program. This will supplement, but not supersede, programs which several universities are undertaking on their own. To begin with, this new scheme will be available to provincially assisted universities only.

However, negotiations have begun with the Federal Government in an effort to extend the program to include other educational institutions such as teaching hospitals and colleges of applied arts and technology.

The second area of new activity involves a joint effort to establish a community development program for Ontario citizens of Indian descent. For some months now a special committee of senior federal and provincial officials has been examining this proposal, of which housing is one part. It is clearly recognized that provision of housing alone will not solve the problems facing many Indian families. But housing is important in this situation and must be provided as quickly as possible.

At this stage in the discussion, it appears likely that provision of adequate housing for Indians will be similar to the general housing program to be put into effect throughout our Province and will include both the buying of existing homes and the construction of new ones.

In conclusion I would say the Ontario Housing Corporation has achieved remarkable results in its very short life. Many challenges remain, of course, and must be met. However, with the continued cooperation of all levels of government, and with strong community support, continued and increasingly rapid progress is ensured.

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