



THE HERALD SHOP — CIRCA 1900

THIS WAS THE GEORGETOWN HERALD'S PRINT SHOP around the turn of the century. At that time it was located in the second storey of a Main Street N. business block, over the premises now occupied by Henry's Clothing. At left is editor R.D. Warren. Also identified are Joe Moore (white shirt and vest), who later became editor; Percy Glass, standing on stool. The picture was submitted by Mrs. Edna Hill.

## Seek Facts, Call Meeting to Discuss Larger School Board

Worried over inadequate representation and the spectre of a double tax billing each year, members of the North Halton Urban Board have decided to invite a Dept. of Education representative to their March meeting to answer a pile of questions on the County Board of Education system.

While the board is made up of delegates from Acton, Milton and Georgetown councils, the meeting will be held in an auditorium large enough to accommodate a crowd. An open invitation will be issued to educators, school trustees and municipal councillors from all over Halton County to attend.

The County Board system goes into effect next January, and an election is slated for this fall to name the expected twenty trustees to the board. A blue print for the organization of southern Ontario has been released by Education Minister William G. Davis, but Urban Board members claim it does not answer all their questions.

They suggested Y. J. Thompson of the Department would be an excellent speaker. Plans for the meeting include a talk by the Department official followed by a question period conducted by a panel of four Urban Board members who will field queries from the audience toward the speaker.

Representation for some of the smaller assessed municipalities is one point the board wants clarified. Some members are worried that municipal boundary lines will be forgotten and one trustee may represent a village town plus perhaps a portion of all of a township on the board.

Others noted a Halton consultative Committee of Education has been studying regionalized education for several years, but the committee's future looks dim. They wondered why members of this committee are not being consulted, pointing out they were better acquainted with the overall picture of education in Halton than most councillors or present school trustees.

Another area of concern is the double-billing for education costs. According to the blueprint the County Board will notify each municipality how much money it must collect to support the county group, and the municipal office must issue an invoice to each ratepayer, collect the taxes and turn them over to the County Board. The members called it a duplication of the present tax-gathering system and suggested it would mean a whole new set of records and twice as much work.

Most agree the onus for collecting costs should rest on the County Board, not the municipalities. "There's no collect 100 per cent of our taxes each year. There will be arrears, and who is responsible for arrears?" wondered one councillor.

Acton Reeve H. H. Hinton said the county will be better off with the County Board of

Education, and the north of the county will be able to take advantage of the high industrial advantages, too.

## Compare Salary Information In Three Halton Communities

An information swapping session at the February meeting of North Halton Urban Board brought out three interesting facts. Councillors from Milton, Georgetown, and Acton traded salary lists during a discussion and found:

- Each town pays its mayor and councillors a different rate, but the rates are governed by a statute that places limitations on each salary.
- Georgetown's Mayor Joseph Gibbons won't accept his pay as Mayor.
- And Milton's Mayor Brian Best wasn't even sure how much he was supposed to be paid for his work.

Milton pays its mayor \$2,000 and councillors \$750 per year.

A councillor is allowed four weeks off for sickness and holidays, but after that he is docked \$10 a meeting off his \$750 total.

Acton's rate is \$1,200 for the mayor and \$12 a meeting to a maximum of \$600 for councillors. Georgetown's rate for the mayor is \$2,500 (although Mayor Gibbons hasn't accepted it since he used 'no pay' as an election promise four years ago) while councillors get \$20 for their weekly council meeting and \$10 a meeting for his weekly committee meetings.

Milton Mayor Best said he wasn't sure how much he would receive as mayor. It's his first year in the office. Someone thought it was \$2,000 or \$2,200 while another said \$2,500. It turns out to be \$2,000, from

which he must pay the expenses for the annual Mayor's dinner for the councillors and town administration staffers.

One councillor wondered how school boards can claim \$20 per meeting when councillors only receive \$16. It was reported the Dept. of Municipal Affairs is currently studying proposed changes in the municipal remuneration system, and Acton Mayor Les Duby said the Ontario Municipal Association is studying a request for a tax exemption on the first \$1,000 of such income.

Milton Councillor William Ferguson wondered why some members of municipal boards and commissions are paid for meetings, while others are not. He cited the case in Milton where the Recreation Committee members are paid, while the Parks Board is not. He felt both bodies held similar responsibilities and it was not fair for members of one to accept remuneration while the other contribute their services without pay.

Heading of complaints often brings improvement to our product or service. There is a difference between the nasty cracks of a chronic griper and the honest claims of a reputable person, but few management are capable of differentiating between them.

## HARLEY TO HALTON



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

I AM SURE that everyone in the riding of Halton is aware of the current political situation on Parliament Hill. To briefly review the situation the Government was defeated on third reading of the Income Tax Bill which would have legalized the implementation of a tax which took effect 1st January, 1968. The Bill had received 2nd reading which is approval in principle and each clause had been passed without amendment. Normally 3rd reading is a formality but in this case 3rd reading was challenged and the Government lost by two votes. I am sure that my constituents are aware that I was present in the House of Commons during this vote.

THE EXACT interpretation of the constitutional meaning of the loss of a vote at this stage (3rd reading) is debatable. Because of this the Government has introduced a confidence motion to the House of Commons which is now under debate. As far as the Government is concerned the vote Monday night defeated the Bill on the Income Tax change and no attempt will be made to reintroduce it in that form. It appears likely that the Government will pass the vote of confidence with the assistance of some members of Parliament who do not feel that a general election at this time is necessary or justified. If, however, the Government fails to get a vote of confidence at this point, it will have no recourse but to resign and would undoubtedly dissolve Parliament and call a general election.

IT WOULD APPEAR to me to be a waste of time to turn the power over to the Official Opposition as they obviously have less voting strength than the present Government.

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