Disagrees Adult Status For Age 16 in Court

Magistrate Kenneth M. Langdon of Georgetown, Halton County's senior magistrate last week spoke out against the Ontario law which compels courts to try 6 year old youths as adults, regardless of their mental and emotional lack of maturity.

"This court has some concern about the importance this law attaches to the sixteenth birthd: .. " he told a Burlington high school student charged with the theft of auto 'seals, radios and parts. "In Ontario you are treated as an adult, in Quebec and British Columbia you would still be treated as a juvenile. If juveniles plead guil-Ly, no orin, val record is attached to them."

This court believes that branened criminals at this age I know it is wrong, But it is the law."



The accuse 'youth ;ave police a statement admitting the theft of the articles. His father and a former employer testified to than in 1967. his goe character.

which had been left at a gar-

Magistrate Langdon refused to register a conviction against the student, but ordered that he be held in custody for one week for judgmen, and for prepara tion of a probation report on the boy's background.

The magistrate admitted that |. remanding the youth in costody his action on the grounds without convicting him was an permits the court to gain backabnormal procedure but he said ground material about the ache feels 'it is the only way the cused before disposing of the court believes it can do justico case or before passing sentencel's (up 4:294 8 per cent) · accused in the long run."

The magistrate has been criticized at various times by default with the law that termint fonse lawyers for his proceates parental control of children dure of remanding accused perwho have reached the age of 16. sons in custody without regis-

youngsters as hard MAGISTRATE K. M. LANGDON

The magistrate also found! He took pleas of not guilty tering a conviction. It has been

Day Nursery Happy Serves Pre-Schoolers

As early as 7.30 in the morn the routine, they have very litmig, children begin arriving to the trouble. spend their week-days in the spacious playrooms and enclosed backyard. Some stay as late as 5.30, depending on when their parents finish work.

Under the ownership of and Mrs. E. C. Regen', school began operation this fall with a government license and a st 7 of three. Mrs. Regent was formerly in charge of the teaching staff at the Jack and Jill school in Brampton. Assisting her are Mrs. L. Pankenin Georgetown and Mrs. Rose Limehouse.

As a nursery school, the staff is not allowed to teach the children regular school work.

The program includes sing songs, story time, simple crafts and playtime under the willows outside. Lunch is served at noon foll-wed by a rest period, before resuming afternoon activities.

Mrs. Regent firmly believes that children who attend nursery school are at a definite advantage when they enter the regular school system.

"We can help them with their co-ordination and improve their powers of memorization and their attention span," says Mrs. Regent, "Some of the children come from families with several children and the mothers simply can't devote too much time to the child. In nursery school they learn to share and get along with others."

Discipline can be a problem with young children "The first week it was wild," admits Mrs. Regent.

She solved the problem with a 'naughty chair' where the

three to five years old. At present the school has an enrolment of 20 from the surrounding countryside and Georgetown. One little girl goes out two days a week from Acton.

Mr. Regent has a small school van for transporting the children to and from school and on are planned in the future.

ghly checked by education in- enrolment.

Happy Day Nursery School guilty party must sit while the spectors for equipment and fahas put a new look on the old others go on with the regular cilities. The playrooms are stone house at the west end of program. Missing the activity stocked with games and picwork: wond rs and now that tures. There are swings and a the children have settled into slide on the enclosed back lawn.

Mr. Regent has constructed wooden horses and a make-bo-The girls and boys range from lieve wooden boat for the children because he claims the mercial toys don't stand up: under constant use, "The homemade kind encourage the children to use their imagination because they are less than perfect reproductions," he claims.

According to government refield trips. Recently they tour- gulations, a school must proed Kortright water fowl park vide 30 square feet of classroom near Guelph, and more trips space and 90 square feet of yard space for each child. Happy Day Nursery has room for The school has been thorou- ten more children before full



HAPPY DAY SCHOOL



Carrie Mann passes the cookies at lunch time.

on each of three charges. The youth was charged with stealing three auto seats from a car, 8000 Increase in County charged with stealing a portable radio and also a number-of auto Population in Last Year

county continued to increase crease last year was 9,197. this year, but the rise was less

This represents an increase of was 958. --5 per cent compared with 6.05

argued that this procedure.

Magistrate Langdon desends

The population of Halton per cent last year. The total in-

Georgetown showed the most Figures released by county ly to rapid residential developassessor Robert Beach shows the ment. The town's population inpopulation this year increased creased by 1,905 this year, to by 8,079 to a total of 169,731. 14,528. The increase in 1967

> Following are the population figures for 1967 and 1968, folcentage growth in brackets.

Acton 4,429 to 4,604

Burlington: 71,781 to 76,075

'(175 - 3.9 per cent-

THE GEORGETOWN HERALD THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1948

PAGE 3

Georgetown: 12,623 to 14,528 (up 1,905 - 15.1 per cent) Milton: 6,670 to 6,726

(up 56 - .84 per cent) Oakville: 55,218 to 56,152

(up 934 - 1.7.per cent) spectacular increase due main- Esquesing Twp.: 8,037 to 8,605 (up 568 - 7.1 per cent)

Nassagaweya Twp. 2,894 to 3,041 (up 147 - 5.1 per cent)

The only municipalities which didn't have a greater increase that in 1967 were Burlington and Oakville, Last year, Burlinglowed by the increase and per- ton had an increase of 6,323 while Oakville's population increased in 1967 by 1,257; Increases in the other municipalities last year were: Acton, 76; Georgelown, 958; Milton, 50; Esquesing, 436, Nassagaweya,

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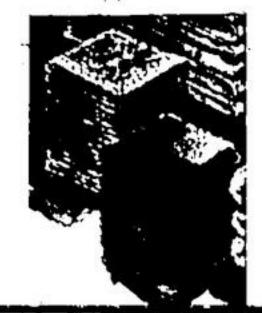
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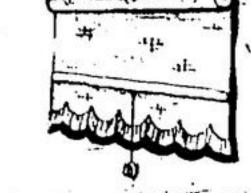


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