

Honour Reg Williams, Now Horticulture Life Member

The February meeting of the Georgetown Horticultural Society held in Knox Church Hall proved to be one of the best attended on record. President D. N. Cole, chairman of the evening, especially welcomed the many friends and neighbours of the regular membership and interested citizens in attendance for the first time. The year ahead promised to be of great interest for the amateur horticulturalist and by becoming a member of the Society did give one an "in" on certain activities. However, all meetings of the Society were open to the public.

During the business period of the meeting items of interest in the correspondence were brought to the attention of those present by secretary J.N. Bird. Committee chairmen were called upon to report on their activities: H.J. Herder, membership and public relations mentioned his contact with the people of the Halton Hills Ratepayers Association at their Civic night held recently. Robert S. Barber, flower shows forecasted an additional flower show for July especially for the lily fanciers of the area. Mrs. J. F. Duffield, extra curricular activities, gave final instructions and arrangements for the bus trip to the Spring Flower Show at the O'Keefe Centre. President Cole made mention of the Society library under the direction of Miss Eileen Jackson. The membership was urged to patronize it.

At this point in the meeting Reg Williams of Stewarttown was asked to come forward. The president, on behalf of the society, presented to him a life membership certificate in recognition of his long active association with the society, his great interest in horticulture, gardening especially. Mr. Williams, until recently had had many terms on the board of directors and until last year had always headed the public planting activities.

A breath of spring in song was contributed by Miss Brenda McNeil accompanied by Miss Phyllis Barber at the piano. Eidelweiss and Red Sails in the Sunset were Miss McNeil's choices to delight the audience. Mrs. Wm. Boyle thanked the girls for their talented presentation, expressing the wish that they might return soon.

Ernest Ball, guest speaker for the evening was introduced by Norman Bird. Mr. Ball projected many outstanding coloured slides on New Zealand and other areas in the Pacific. He gave unstintingly of his first hand knowledge of New Zealand having lived there for two years and during that time criss-crossed the country by car. It is a land of unspoiled beauty, rugged and tempting to the tourist coming from the crowded cities of other lands.

No doubt the pictures and commentary put New Zealand on the travel list of many of those present.

H.J. Herder thanked Mr. Ball for his generous contribution to the meeting. Mrs. Harry Scott was called on to conduct the door prize draw and the winners were: Mrs. C. Bouwhis, Mrs. E.S. Thompson, Frank Brown, J. L. Colter, W.T. Graham, Mrs. A. Keir, E. E. Barr, Mrs. F.J. Murray, Miss O. Buddell, Mrs. J.F. Duffield, Mrs. R.H. Wright, Mrs. Dennis Wright, Mrs. W.A. Boyle. Refreshments and a time of visiting brought the meeting to a close.



Georgetown Horticultural Society president, new life member Reg Williams and Mrs. Williams.

AROUND THE WORLD PART (9)

Afghanistan Bus Ride Always Is Interesting

December 7th, 1958. Kandahar, Afghanistan.

Dear All: Time for another monstrous epistle — I wish I could write bigger but it's hard to get out of the habit.

We stayed in Teheran until Tuesday a.m. Monday a.m. had booster cholera shots (as they are only good for 6 months). I went into the American style department store and looked around a bit. We were all standing near the record counter beside a big blonde wearing sun glasses and a suede coat. She spoke to our friend Hassan and gave him her phone number and address, said she would like us to visit her and her friends. When Hassan phoned later in the day, she said that only two of us (Patti and I) should come but it would be useful for all of us. Immediately we all started thinking about what she meant! Chris and Sheila decided to go with Hassan and a friend of his named Nadir. And Hassan (who was the very protective and looked after us all the time) gave the address to Karen in case anything should go wrong.

As we were waiting in suspense for the outcome of this adventure, Mr. Hismati, the landlord from downstairs, came up to visit with his wife and several of their children. We visited with them quite a lot — sitting around on the floor drinking tea and smiling as they know no English. They showed us off to all their relatives as well and didn't want us to go away. Anyway, Mr. H. asked Karen and I to go for a walk with him, his friend and his little daughter. The next thing we were going into a photographer's studio (messy as we were) for a formal portrait! The Iranian men are quite vain — they carry pictures of themselves and often little mirrors which they gaze into quite intently. So, I suppose, Mr. H. will add this to his collection.

When we got back — Chris (like chocolate milk and instant coffee and milk) — we lay all over their house with had gone to a very plush apartment — all big thick blue velvet cushions and draperies and rugs, etc. The woman was a bit perturbed that Patti and I had not come but was willing to talk business anyway. She dragged Hassan off to another room where they could talk while Sheila, Chris and Nadir ate nuts and filled their pockets full of more nuts. About every five minutes, Hassan popped his head through the door to say "It's alright, I am only here!" This went on for quite a long time. The others were getting very impatient — especially as they weren't even offered tea — and besides, they were beginning to run out of ideas for speculation about what it was all about. Eventually Hassan came out and shepherded everybody into a taxi and proceeded to speak about the subject. Whenever he had anything embarrassing to Hassan and a friend of his named Nadir. And Hassan (who was the very protective and looked after us all the time) gave the address to Karen in case anything should go wrong.

He was particularly embarrassed at this point as the woman ran a very high class brothel and thought we five would be interesting for her clients! Dear Hassan maintained that we were all 'untouched' and wouldn't even think of such a thing. We all had a good laugh because it was really a good offer — she would have given us loads of money and kept us and probably we would only have had to be entertained at parties, etc! It was also funny to hear Hassan say that she though we were all beautiful — with our home made haircuts and dirty blue jeans. Anyway, there goes my chance for a Persian carpet.

Tuesday — up at 6 a.m. to catch the 9 a.m. bus to Mashhad. The boys were very sad to see us go. We can't think why, as we ate all their food — they bought everything we wanted in the way of special treats

(like chocolate milk and instant coffee and milk) — we lay all over their house with had gone to a very plush apartment — all big thick blue velvet cushions and draperies and rugs, etc. The woman was a bit perturbed that Patti and I had not come but was willing to talk business anyway. She dragged Hassan off to another room where they could talk while Sheila, Chris and Nadir ate nuts and filled their pockets full of more nuts. About every five minutes, Hassan popped his head through the door to say "It's alright, I am only here!" This went on for quite a long time. The others were getting very impatient — especially as they weren't even offered tea — and besides, they were beginning to run out of ideas for speculation about what it was all about. Eventually Hassan came out and shepherded everybody into a taxi and proceeded to speak about the subject. Whenever he had anything embarrassing to Hassan and a friend of his named Nadir. And Hassan (who was the very protective and looked after us all the time) gave the address to Karen in case anything should go wrong.

The bus ride was long and cold especially crossing the desert in the north of Iran. The scenery in the mountains just north of Teheran was beautiful. When we were driving along the Caspian Sea there were orange, lime and grapefruit trees and people selling oranges elsewhere. It was really warm there so it was unbelievable to come from the snow in the mountains to the warmth, and then again into really cold weather.

We had some crazy times on the bus as usual. There was a little woman with hardly any teeth sitting behind me with her baby — when everybody started to smoke, she started hitting me and shrieking about Ramadan. But a little while later when we had some biscuits, she pinched her baby to make it cry for a cookie and then ate some herself. There was a fellow who spoke some English sitting across from me (he wrote poetry and gave me his worry beads) and he said some Iranians have small brains. He said that later after the bus had knocked a man over and everybody started jeering and yelling and fighting. When they finally got the bus to a police station, all the people filed off the bus into the station and stayed there for ages. The man didn't come back

(Continued on Back Page)

School Board Accedes, Will Form French Advisory Board

A five year capital budget of almost \$7,000,000 less than the combined total of the previous boards was approved by the Halton Board of Education Thursday night, in Robert Little School, Acton.

The 5 year capital budget amounted to \$31,318,000 compared to last year's total of \$38,172,500 stated Bruce T. Lindley, Superintendent of Business and Finance.

Included in the forecast for September 1970 opening, was a \$450,000 allocation for a twelve room Centennial School addition, and \$600,000 for a fifteen room junior school in Moore Park. A six room addition at Park School is also planned, with its opening date projected as September 1971.

The plans for the addition to Georgetown High School, already approved, including science laboratories, commercial area, classrooms, library resource centre and cafeteria were reviewed by the board.

By modifying the plans an additional 165 pupil places were provided, bringing the accommodation in the addition to 500 students instead of the anticipated 350. Upon completion the school's rated capacity will be 1900.

Over the objections of Georgetown's representative, the Board approved the construction of a special vocational school with a capacity of 650 students. The school will be

modelled on the General Brock Vocational School, which has only occupations courses.

Trustee Ernie Bodnar asked for a study to show the validity of such specialized courses, showing the cost per student. Chairman Fred Armitage assured him he would receive all the material gathered before the erection of the school.

This 650 special vocational school would free the occupational facilities at both Georgetown and Milton High Schools, since students would be transported from a wide area to it, just as is now done at General Brock.

The board also approved the construction and equipping of a 600 student place addition to T. A. Blakelock High School, Oakville to open September 1970.

In response to a letter from Edmond Routhier, 5 Raylawn Crescent accompanied by nineteen letters from French speaking ratepayers, the board decided to establish an Advisory Committee on French language instruction.

R. K. Self, superintendent of program, pointed out that the Board is required to provide for the establishment of such a committee, within two months of the application. He stated the committee must consist of seven members, three from the board, and four French speaking ratepayers, elected by the

French speaking ratepayers of the school division.

The superintendent explained that the board must arrange a meeting of French speaking ratepayers to elect members to the committee and must advertise in each of its schools, the place and time of the meeting.

In accordance with the recommendation the board authorized a meeting in Martin Street Senior School, 184 Martin Street, Milton, on Wednesday, March 12 at 8:00 p.m.

J.W. Singleton, director of Education, said the problem arose when the French speaking students reached high school, since in the separate schools, most had been taught in French. He pointed out that the taxpayers presenting the request were very reasonable, and realized it would be impossible to teach all subjects in French, because of the low number of French speaking students in the area, but hoped for a bilingual situation, with perhaps half instruction in French.

The elementary school teachers accepted roughly a four hundred dollar, a year raise, while the secondary school teachers have not yet accepted approximately the same offer. These amounts are being advertised in the "Teachers Wanted" columns of the newspapers.

Salary schedule for elementary teachers has salaries varying from a minimum of \$5200 for teachers in Level 1 to a

maximum of \$14,400 for those in Level 7.

There are automatic yearly increases, mostly \$300 a year, in all levels, to the maximum which varies according to a teachers' qualifications.

The proposed salary schedule for secondary school teachers is divided into four groups, according to qualifications.

Group 4 varies from \$8400 for a first year teacher to \$14,400 for one with 15 years' experience. Group 1 schedule goes from \$6,800 to \$11,200 and the intermediate groups have maximums of \$11,900 and \$13,500.

Here too, there are automatic yearly increases, most of which are \$300 yearly.

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