

Plan Naming Schools for Canadian Historical Figures

Education trustee John C. Ronson had a tough time getting three recommendations approved by fellow trustees of the Halton County Board of Education.

Contained in a report of the board policies committee chaired by Ronson, the recommendations included one suggesting the board designate names of new schools from a list of Canadian historical figures compiled by the committee.

An initial list presented last week contained names of about 130 men and women who have made significant contributions to the Canadian scene through medicine, politics, education, letters, science, etc.

"The list will save the board a lot of trouble later on," said Ronson. "It will also save a lot of arguing."

Start Dispute

Several trustees, however, immediately began to dispute the choice of names on the list, despite Ronson's cries that "this is precisely what we're trying to avoid."

Trustee Bill Priestner, of Burlington, suggested dropping the list from the recommendation because "it would be a lot more fun not to have one."

Oakville's Doug Palmer said more names could be added. He also objected to several names which he felt are already too commonly used in naming new schools.

"For instance, why include Sir John A. Macdonald and Sir Wilfred Laurier since there are already so many schools named after them in the province?" he asked.

"We tried to be fair to both parties when we were making the list," replied Ronson.

Richard Goodin, of Oakville supported by Georgetown's Ernest Bodnar, said he would like to see the list include persons who had made contributions to sports, athletics and the community.

Bruce Edwards, of Burlington, objected to including community names to "avoid pressure from communities who want schools named after all their favourite sons."

"We should stick to historical figures," he said. "It's better naming someone dead and safe than to slight someone living."

Oakville's Liberty Pease warned the board: "I think we're getting way ahead of ourselves in anticipating what to name schools which won't be built for several years."

"This is much ado about nothing — when the time comes to name a school someone will object to the list and then we'll be all involved with amending and get nothing done," he said.

"I suggest that the recommendation be amended by adding 'this list is not exhaustive,'" said Jim Price of Oakville.

Priestner seconded the motion although he was "not quite sure what the term exhaustive means — do you mean exhausting?" he grinned.

Approved

The amended recommendation was approved. Two other recommendations were also approved following some debate.

One concerned the installation of telephone facilities in schools, the other concerned

employment of teachers outside their duties.

Trustees argued whether summer employment should be prohibited, stating that such employment is often a major source of income for many teachers.

"You always seem to encounter difficulties in presenting your reports, Mr. Ronson," commented chairman Fred Armitage after all three recommendations had been passed.

"This is democracy, Mr. Chairman" said Ronson.

Demand Taxes if Children Attend R.C. Separate School

Halton County Separate School Board will only educate children whose parents pay separate school taxes.

Board trustees have decided this despite an attempt by several trustees to table the matter for a month because they felt it warranted more study.

The issue was brought before the board by trustees Leno Braida and Michael Noonan.

They were concerned that the board is educating children "that we're not being paid for."

Braida said there are many children who attend the county's Catholic schools even though their parents support the public school board instead of the Catholic board.

This situation arose usually because parents now with children in Catholic schools used to pay the lower public school taxes when they had no children, Braida said.

"We have set a mill rate equal to that of the public board this year, however," he said. "There is no reason why we should continue educating the children of public school supporters."

"There is now no excuse for supporting the public board instead of ours because our mill rates are now the same," he said.

"We're not trying to steal ratepayers away from the public board. We just don't want to continue educating children we are not being paid for," he said.

Braida's motion met with some opposition from trustees who approved of the principle but felt more study was needed.

"This is a serious matter and should not be discussed on the spur of the moment," warned vice chairman James Hourigan.

"We should table the motion and refer it to the finance committee for deeper study first."

Hourigan was backed by trustee R. J. O'Brien: "We can't deprive children of a Catholic education on the spur of the moment without serious study first."

"The board exists to educate as many Catholic children as it can," he added.

Donald Hill, of Burlington, chairman of the education committee disagreed.

"The matter has been discussed at education committee meetings before but died there."

"Now that it's been brought to life again it should be allowed to live."

A motion by Dr. Jack Cudmore, seconded by O'Brien, to table the motion for one month was defeated 5-7.

Eight trustees voted in favor of the Braida-Noonan motion and five opposed it.

GOVERNMENT POSITION



PETER WRIGHT
Now working with the Department of University Affairs in Toronto, Peter Wright received his Bachelor of Arts degree in honours economics and political science at the University of Toronto convocation on June 6. Son of Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Wright, 43 Hewson Crescent, he is a graduate of Georgetown District High School.

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Cadi Would Bar Children Unless Parents Can Afford

Halton County senior magistrate Kenneth M. Langdon of Georgetown says he questions the right of parents to have more children than they want or can adequately support.

"If parents cannot support one child, should they be allowed to bring another into the world?"

"Instead, should we consider legally restricting the size of families?" he asked.

Langdon was speaking at the Ministerial Association's annual dinner, last week at St. Paul's United Church in Oakville.

Langdon said he "wants to place full responsibility for the family on the shoulder of the parents."

The Unwanted

"It is my belief that 75 to 90 per cent of all those who appear in juvenile court, and who later will go on to appear in criminal court, are unwanted children."

"I believe if it was possible to insure that every child was wanted, we could make some progress in curbing crime."

Langdon says the number of juvenile offenders and unwanted mothers appearing in court increases every year.

He said that in 1945, 10 unwanted mothers appeared in court to place their babies for adoption.

Recently he was asked to handle 12 such cases in one day's session.

"In the case of the unwanted child, it is not the mother or father, but the child, who pays, and continues to pay, for the rest of his life," he said.

Langdon says he favours stricter controls over marriage.

"With divorces getting easier to obtain, young people walk into marriage with the idea they can walk out again whenever they feel like it."

"After they have walked out a couple of times, they lose all respect for the institution of marriage."

Langdon said he thinks couples under 21 should be required to take a marriage counselling course before marrying.

Earlier Views

The magistrate has expressed his views on marriage in earlier speeches.

In 1968, he said he felt the license to marry should be restricted to those "who are willing to assume the responsibility of parents and that no one under the age of 18 should qualify."

He also said that prospective marriage partners under the age of 25 should produce a savings account of at least \$500 "as a mark of good faith."

Drop Hilton Falls Project Scotch Block Dam Replaces

Hilton Falls dam, designed to control spring flooding on the west branch of the 16-Mile Creek and provide a future water supply for Milton and Campbellville, has been dropped in favour of the Scotch Block dam project.

The \$600,000 Scotch Block dam and reservoir, a sister project to Hilton Falls development, is located on the middle branch of 16 Mile Creek in Hornby area.

It is to supply water during the dry season to a large area of market-garden farms and golf courses.

The Hilton Falls development has been stalled by land disputes for almost two years now.

Conservation Authority Resources Manager Dave Murray says the authority had almost concluded expropriation proceedings for the necessary land

last year when the provincial government came out with its new expropriation legislation.

Murray said the authority had to begin proceedings over again.

According to Murray this new round of expropriation proceedings has been stalled until the province appoints an investigation officer.

Under the new legislation, he explained, expropriation proceedings can't start until the investigation officer has been appointed.

The original project was approved by Ontario Municipal Board at a cost of \$500,000 but plans had to be scrapped when estimates jumped by \$160,000.

The plans were redrawn re-estimating the size of the dam and dropping estimated cost to \$480,000, exclusive of land costs.

Honour 51 Donors for Giving Red Cross Blood

In October, 1968, Langdon said there should be no conception in a marriage until two years have passed, and after this time it should, he made more difficult to obtain a divorce.

Last week, the magistrate said: "I seem to be fighting a losing battle all alone."

"No one seems to be taking up the gauntlet. If I could sell my ideas, maybe we'd make some progress and turn the tide of crime."

Tenth Donation Pin: R. Han-

Fifty-one donor awards were presented at the Blood Donor Clinic in Georgetown on Monday, June 9th.

Twenty donation pins: Mrs. M. McMenemy, W. R. Oliver, Mrs. M. Peardon, A. S. Taylor, R. Breen, R. Ward, K. W. South, A. Barrett, D. Rawson, N. Nelson, G. Bos, M. Herbert, C. Doyle, W. Donahue, Mrs. I. Engleby, J. Schertz, C. Stephens.

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