

No commune at Everdale Rimmer replies to charges

Allan Rimmer, founder of the controversial Everdale Place, near Hillsburg, emphatically denies the school is beginning to be a commune as was charged by P.V. Hancock in a letter to Erin township council.

Mr. Rimmer, who told this newspaper he and his wife are becoming re-involved with the school, after having little to do with it over the last two years, because it is going through a new phase in "formal educational experimentation."

"It is not going to be a commune," Mr. Rimmer said, "and I've told Mr. Hancock this before he wrote to the township council. I'm still trying to reassure him."

It appeared that whole families were just moving in and taking residence.

Councillors decided to talk to A. Rimmer, owner of the property, before going to the township solicitor. There have been rumors that the school was folding up, Mr. Lang said, but he had no evidence to support the allegations.

Local involvement
However, Mr. Rimmer said the school is going through a new phase which it is hoped will involve the local community much more than they are now.

New families are moving into the area, he told the Free Press, and the school authorities figure there is need for a day-nursery or day-care school which should be going by this fall.

As far as I'm concerned Everdale Place will always be a school, as long as I have anything to do with it, Rimmer asserted.

He said it had always been policy to co-operate with the community and he felt they had succeeded as well as any other school. Students had been urged to be courteous and obliging to all in the local community and he thinks they have been, with the exception of one or two, an average no worse than any other school.

Experiment in education
Everdale Place was founded as an experiment in education

where much of the emphasis was taken off the "authoritarian" methods of teaching. Students were or are allowed to pick and choose studies and work at their own speed in a manner which has been called "permissive" by some critics, but hailed by others as a pioneer in educational philosophy.

Several prominent people in the province have sent sons or daughters to Everdale Place, including well-known author Pierre Berton, and it has received widespread publicity, both pro and con, in the press and magazine articles.

The school is situated at R.R. 1, Hillsburg.

Founder Allan Rimmer, a teacher at Conestoga College, Kitchener, is the New Democratic Party candidate for Wellington-Dufferin.

Asks investigation
Mr. Hancock, a neighbor of the school, requested the council look into what is happening at

Everdale Place. He appeared before council three years ago regarding the school's "radical new concept in education". Now he feels it is beginning to be a commune and in his letter pointed out cases where 60 persons had moved on to a farm that previously housed just one family.

His letter read in part: "If the adult members of this probable commune cannot adequately provide for their own welfare from this land, who takes care of their general well-being under these conditions?"

"If... there are children... how could an equitable (school) tax assessment be instituted on this property?"

Several complaints
Reeve Lloyd Lang agreed that there have been changes at Everdale Place, and he's had several complaints. He said that



Susan McGilloway

Susan Marie McGilloway received her Registered Nursing Assistant's Certificate in a special ceremony at White Oaks Secondary School in Oakville Friday night. Susan was one of 13 of the school's first graduating class, all of whom began their studies at White Oaks in the fall of 1969.

Students took grades 11 and 12 of the regular high school course along with their nursing assistants training. Susan will receive her secondary school graduation diploma, tomorrow (Thursday) night.

Attending Friday's ceremony were Susan's parents Mr. and Mrs. Ed McGilloway, Victoria St., her paternal grandmother Mrs. William McGilloway of Acton, maternal grandmother Mrs. Ruby McCauley and great grandmother Mrs. Pearl Smith both of Alton, brothers, Bill and David, sisters Theresa, Cindy and Colleen and an aunt Mrs. Janis Withers.

Susan attended Robert Little School and Acton District High School. She has accepted a position at St. Joseph's Hospital, Guelph.



THE GOLDEN HELMETS of the Ontario Provincial Police.

O.P.P. Golden Helmets to star at Acton fall fair

The Golden Helmets—the O.P.P. Motorcycle Precision Ride—will be featured at Acton Fall Fair this year. The crack team, headed by Corp. Don Bell of the North Halton O.P.P., will be in the parade and then put on their exciting demonstration on the track in the park Saturday afternoon of the fair.

A former Acton O.P.P. constable, Corp. Peter Campbell gives the commentary for the riders as they execute their skilled manoeuvres.

Volunteer riders
The idea was conceived in 1965,

and Corp. Bell has been with the unit since its inception. The participating riders volunteer for the Golden Helmets from all over Ontario. Their popularity and fame is growing. They have now performed all over Ontario and during Canada Week in New York City last year.

The 17 men taking part are regular traffic officers. They begin their special training late in August at the police college in Aylmer.

Season starts
Then their fall show season starts, with far more requests

that they can handle, says Corp. Bell. This fall they are going to Acton Fair, St. Catharines grape and wine festival, Picton, Bracebridge, Glencoe and Norfolk county fairs, so far.

Of the 17 men on the team, 14 take part in each performance. A cruiser leads the parade and also takes part. A ranking officer usually takes the salute. Local O.P.P. officers will be included in their program plans here, Corp. Bell says.

Half hour show
The noisy show will last about 35 minutes on an oiled section of

track 600 feet by 40 feet on the west side of the park. Barricades will be set up with spectators on both sides.

Their intricate manoeuvres are performed at high speeds. The better the track, the higher the speeds, and Corp. Bell thinks the Acton track is quite good. Corp. Bell asserts that the manoeuvres which look so dangerous are really not, because of the extensive training behind the highly skilled team.

Rain? Don't mention it.

Call off hearing over dragway

Although approval for the Esqueping township Restricted Area by-law has been approved by the Ontario Municipal Board, the Board reserved decision on property owned by the Golden Horseshoe Dragway, known now as Toronto International Dragway, in their decision.

Then O.M.B. vice-chairman D. Jamieson and H. H. Lancaster called off Monday's hearing at the township offices after a series of legal sparring matches between counsel for the Dragway and solicitors for the township, the North Esqueping Ratepayers' Association and Charles Hildebrandt, leaving the dragway zoning still unsettled.

Mr. Jamieson ruled that the by-law merits careful consideration and although he appreciated the inconvenience adjournment of the hearing would cause, proper evidence must be shown before the board could make a decision. He said the issue was in the fact the township applied for the by-law approval and the municipality must show the O.M.B. why the by-law should apply to the Golden Horseshoe Dragway.

Evidence in hour
Township solicitor Terry Baines testified he could have competent professional evidence on the stand within an hour but Walter Sopinka, counsel for the dragway, said it would be at least two weeks before he could assemble suitable professional witnesses and evidence.

The hearing was called because the Golden Horseshoe Dragway Ltd. allege that notice of the previous hearing February 11 was not received by them and the June 21 date was to permit the dragway and any other persons to make representations.

It was suggested by Robert Swayze, counsel for the North Esqueping Ratepayers that dragway owners may have decided it was not in their best interests to appear at the previous hearing and he urged the Board to approve the entire by-law as it is. He supported the motion of Mr. Baines to approve the by-law since the municipality had shown by affidavit that proper notice of the previous hearing had gone to counsel for the dragway.

"There is no reason just because we are here to go on," Mr. Swayze commented.

However, Mr. Jamieson ruled that there was reasonable doubt that Mr. Sopinka had received notice of the previous hearing. "The post office is not infallible," he commented. He observed that there was no doubt that notice of the hearing had been sent out by the clerk. Mr. Sopinka testified by affidavit that he could find no notice of the hearing in office files.

Mr. Winters, counsel for Mr. Hildebrandt, said the onus should be on the dragway owners to show they did not receive notice.

"It taxes my client's belief that the owners did not know of the first hearing," he added.

Mr. Sopinka argued the Board accepted the sufficiency of the evidence to show he did not receive notice of the first hearing and the hearing should proceed.

Mr. Jamieson and Mr. Lancaster called a short recess to confer and emerged with a decision favorable to Mr. Sopinka. They also suggested the question of costs for the hearing could be argued at the conclusion of the hearing, following a submission from Mr. Baines.

Only replies
Counsel for the municipality, the ratepayers' association and Mr. Hildebrandt argued that all the evidence concerning the dragway had been heard at the first hearing and the Board accepted the evidence. Baines suggested there was no further need for evidence to be put forward again, that the municipality would deal only in replies.

Mr. Sopinka argued that the by-law would affect the use of his client's lands and it was not his intention to introduce evidence to show whether the land in the south-west half of Lot 29, Sixth Concession, was a desirable place for a dragstrip. He intimated that council was sympathetic to the drag strip and a conforming use since they had issued a building permit after the

by-law was passed but felt they were less than disposed towards the strip now.

Felt compelled
However, counsel for the other three parties argued that the municipality felt compelled to issue a permit or be subject to litigation in the courts. Mr. Swayze said that in his interpretation of events council passed the by-law to show the drag strip was not a conforming

Share costs of janitor

Acton Parks and Recreation Committee will share 50 per cent of janitorial costs, \$100, at the Y.M.C.A. building with the Y board during the summer months, against the wishes of committee member Barry Insoce. Parks and Recreation Committee has the use of the building four nights a week during the summer for their youth centre.

When program committee chairman Peter Marks told members Thursday night about the Y board's request that they share the cost of janitorial services, Mr. Insoce remarked "I'm against that. That place is run by a town grant. Our kids have done a lot of cleaning up down there."
Teenagers have been busy

use.

Mr. Jamieson conferred with Mr. Lancaster again before deciding that the onus was on the township to show why the strip should be zoned agricultural and classed as non-conforming. As a result they decided a further hearing at a later date would be necessary when all the evidence could be assembled for a proper hearing.

No date was set for the next hearing.

cleaning up, painting and redecorating the interior of the building for the last week.

There are two kinds of people in Czechoslovakia, optimists and pessimists. The optimists think that the entire Czechoslovak people will be transported to Siberia. The pessimists believe they will have to walk.

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