

# He's agin it!

In this corner: the hard line. Dr. Garnet McDermid, professor of curriculum theory at Ontario Institute of Studies in Education.

It was the launching of sputnik that revolutionized education. Change mounted on change until, for Dr. McDermid, the Hall-Dennis report's faith in the naive wisdom of kids proved to be "the place where I dropped off the wagon!"

Schools used to always be places to rear the young in the image of the families of the time; the teachers operated in place of the parents and honored their virtues. Nothing changed much until the 1950's with the cognitive movement.

Then the bottom fell out of the scientific movement when everyone became disenchanted with the results.

Then, again emulating the U.S., came the freedom movement in the schools. The Hall-Dennis report identifies with the kids and advised "Get off the kids' backs, they know best!"

**Learn values**  
He declares, the schools are NOT for the socialization of kids; they're for social values: literature, history and the values of the country. That's important to me, he asserted, and what I want for my kids.

Teachers don't understand the Hall-Dennis report any more than we do!

Answering Paul Nielsen's question as to how the schools deal with the knowledge explosion he admitted ruefully, "We can't. We can teach kids how to get material and give them the self-confidence to make decisions."

Upholding discipline, he said a youngster mustn't be allowed to be noisy when exercising his freedom when it takes it away from someone else.

**Structure necessary**  
The world itself is structured; it's a necessary part of training. A couple of questioners, avid upholders of the hard line, produced rounds of applause from the audience.

Maurice Staley: "Our whole society is based on standards. We need standards and discipline."

Esther Taylor: "Discipline never hurt a kid. We've swung the pendulum too far. Kids respect teachers who lay down the law, and they laugh behind their backs at teachers who try to be popular. I wanted to be a teacher but I couldn't have fitted into this scheme of things!"

# PERMISSIVE EDUCATION

## BLURRED VIEWPOINTS

Two attitudes toward education provoked 40 at the Chamber of Commerce dinner into a free-wheeling, sometimes heated discussion Monday. After the dinner meeting in the Station Hotel, two educators were introduced and each spoke on his own opinions and attitudes on education today. Differences weren't sharp, but blurred with experience. (See accompanying stories).

The kick-off to the town's centennial celebrations was symbolically made by ebullient Jack Carpenter, who tossed out an Argo-autographed football. It'll be raffled off at a sportsmen's dinner in January to raise money for the town's centennial. He produced gales of laughter (does the town really want a Royal Bank with the centennial profits?) and promised plenty more fun in 1974. Someone, momentarily fired with his enthusiasm and promise of more laughs to come, ran right out the front door of the Station Hotel with the treasured Argo ball.

Chamber president Roy Goodwin was chairman; Alan Eastwood introduced the two speakers and Betty Eastwood presented gifts made at White Oak ceramics.

Doug Mason was a guest, in appreciation of the hydro crew's work in putting up Christmas lights.

# He's for it!

In this corner: the soft line. John Maxwell supervisor of general arts and science department, Humber College. Permissive education, to him, means letting students make decisions on information available.

He was labelled a radical in school; he complained a lot. At Humber, he preached the gospel of freedom. He wanted to help people deal with change and to initiate change.

Students now don't want revolution, he notices. Now it's a problem to slow down change, as shown in the popular book *Future Shock*.

Parents and children have different values. Differences in the hard and soft dialogue arise from trying to determine a way to control change without stifling change.

**Free school**  
In Humber, a free school, we try to build a system which allows people to exercise their imagination and develop sensitivity.

How are people to be made happy in their work? A steelworker has satisfying competition. But how is a computer operator to develop a sense of his ability to deal with people and situations? Living means a lot more than

working. Students must be given the tools to live in our society.

**Education reward**  
Humber students have freedom to investigate and make decisions. Education is their reward.

His reference to illiterate students brought a wail of agreement. Another popular comment with the crowd was his revelation that when he found his best students in the cafeteria

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HARD LINER Garnet McDermid (left), soft liner John Maxwell (right), Sharon Secord in the referee's spot.—(Staff photo)



ALL TOGETHER FOR the first time in five years are the Oakes family at the traditional warden's dinner Friday. With the warden and Mrs. Oakes are, left to right, Frances

Gaulton, Peggy Lawson, Carolyn Gregory and George Oakes. About 180 attended the dinner in Oakville. Mrs. Oakes holds a crystal vase, gift of the mayor and council of Acton.

# Council shook up by blasts

"What can citizens affected by blasts from nearby quarries do about it," asked Deputy-Reeve G. W. (Pat) McKenzie at a meeting of Acton council.

"There should be some follow up—it is becoming quite a nuisance," the deputy-reeve told councillors, most of whom also have received calls from

concerned ratepayers at some time over blasts alleged to have originated at the Indusmin Quarries.

"It's coming right up through the heart of town," the deputy charged, "and affecting quite a few people."

Councillor Greer agreed there was a problem, mentioning that

some councillors had discussed means of combatting the blasts in an off-the-record session recently. He said the suggestion was advanced that the town purchase or rent a seismograph to monitor the blasts. Then there would be something to work with in regard to over-blasting.

controlled by government regulation.

**Esqueuing care**  
"A fine idea," said Councillor Masales but noting it would be quite a cost for something that is really a responsibility of Esqueuing.

The matter was referred to the mayor who recalled "council has been right through this exercise with the aggregate industries," before, intimating there was not much could be done that hadn't already been done.

Appointed a member of a special committee to make recommendations about the aggregate industry, the mayor said the Minister of Mines had new legislation pending which would go a long way to improving the way the industry is run.

"But there is nothing in the new legislation relating to blasting," the mayor related.

He referred to instances in the past when excessive blasting complaints had been investigated. In each instance the companies involved could prove by seismograph readings or other evidence that they had not been circumventing regulations.

**Not harmful**  
"They were confident they were not harming the town and there was no way we could do anything," Duby said.

"We should suggest the level of allowed blasting be lowered," Marks suggested.

The mayor said he had done this for Mrs. Bernier's benefit and the Minister said he would look into it.

Councillor Norm Elliott suggested council should talk to management of the quarries and tell them their operations were causing concern. "We can't prove they are exceeding the limits," Elliott said, "and there is no use chasing up blind alleys."

"We could rent a seismograph for six months and they'll behave themselves—then comes the seventh month and we get a real bump."

# Bernier cancels quarry licence

The Hon. Leo Bernier sent shivers of apprehension down the backs of pit and quarry owners in this area Monday when he cancelled the licence of Consolidated Sand and Gravel Co. to operate a gravel pit near here at Terra Cotta. It is the first time the Government has cancelled a pit and quarry licence and operators saw this as the beginning of a "get tough" policy by the province.

Minister of Mines and Northern Affairs, Bernier said the action

may give rise to a feeling of uncertainty among the other 150 pit and quarry operators who hold licences within the Niagara Escarpment area and appear the Government was acting in haste, but assured both groups this was not the case.

Mr. Bernier said the Terra Cotta decision was one which merited special consideration because the area was so important to people in southern Ontario. Consolidated's pit is just

north of Terra Cotta, a recognized beauty spot.

**Faulty plan of site**  
A resident of the area opposed to the quarry I. R. L. Synames, revealed that when the company applied for a licence to operate the pit they had failed to show the existence of all buildings situated within 500 feet of their property on the site plan filed with the Government, including his residence.

Mr. Bernier subsequently suspended Consolidated's licence and ordered a public hearing before mining commissioner Forbes McFarland. Despite a recommendation that the suspension be removed until Nov. 30, Mr. Bernier continued it until the cancellation decision Monday.

Mr. McFarland in his report said there was no deliberate intention on the part of the company to mislead the department.

Despite the Minister's assertion that the Consolidated decision was a special case, pit and quarry operators can likely expect sterner application of regulations and probably more of them within the next few months.

It is expected all operations will be reviewed carefully before licences are granted.

Many pits and quarries in this area could be affected.

# Pleads guilty 33 counts

In court in Milton Monday an Acton man was remanded in custody for psychiatric treatment, and later taken to the Clarke Institute. The man, one of two brothers charged with 33 incidents of car theft, pleaded guilty.

The other brother appears in court December 16. Judge Sharpe presided.

# Ask by-law extension

Esqueuing Council will apply to the Ontario Municipal Board to have its agricultural holding by-law 29-69 as amended extended beyond March 31, 1972, the present date of expiry.

Council decided to apply for the extension on the advice of their solicitor Terrance Baines.

The by-law was to be in effect only until the township's official plan is approved and in force. However, the official plan was recently referred back to planning board, when it came before council for approval.

# Mushy ice

Curious tots are tempting fate this week by testing the state of the mushy ice on the pond and school creek.

Library staff and patrons rushed out Tuesday to warn the adventurers off the edge. The school creek is deeper this year.

# '72 Warden Three hats in ring

At least three members of Halton County Council will seek the position of warden when it goes up for grabs in early January.

Reeves Ron Harris of Milton, Tom Hill of Esqueuing and Jim Swanborough of Burlington have all indicated they will stand for office.

**Will run**  
Swanborough is the newest member of the three on county council. He has just completed his first year on county council and has had four years in politics, three as councillor and one as reeve.

He has chaired the roads committee and has spearheaded a drive to increase representation for Oakville and Burlington on county council.

Questioned on the matter, Swanborough said he was a candidate but indicated he had not asked for support from members of council. He suggested council had worked with him for a year and would know his qualifications.

Reeve Hill, 51, an employee of Dornier Fine Paper in Georgetown has the longest record of municipal council work of the three. He has been a member of Esqueuing Council for six years, three as councillor, two as deputy reeve and one as reeve.

Mr. Hill is chairman of the Manor committee.

**Rum again**  
Reeve Harris was recently acclaimed to his second term as reeve. He has served two years as deputy reeve and two years as

reeve. Prior to being elected to council he served for seven years with the Milton Public School Board.

He is chairman of the Halton County Social and Family Services Committee and has held that post since the department was formed. Harris was unsuccessful in his attempt to be elected warden last year. The only vote he was able to capture was his own when Milton's Deputy Reeve Percy Barr threw his hat in the ring, as a dark horse.

The purse for holding the position of warden was increased to \$10,000 when Warden F. G. Oakes was elected last year. Prior to that it was \$6,500.

Oakes' term as warden ends at the conclusion of the calendar year.

# Panic call for clothing

The Yirrit Shop has a "panic" call out for children's clothing this week. One needy family just about wiped out the shop's entire stock of children's clothing.

Anyone with clothing to donate is asked to bring it for the next open day, Tuesday, Dec. 7 from 1:30 to 3:30, or to phone Mrs. Cohen 853-2815 or Mrs. Tremblis 856-1423. Any size — just clean and in good repair.

# Part of barn collapses

An Acton area farmer John Van Aragon lost three heifers and about three or four tons of corn, when a portion of the barn he rents on the Third Line of Esqueuing collapsed Friday night.

There were other animals in the building, but they were able to be freed.

Mr. Van Aragon rents the farm from Charles Gough.

# Should ask G.-G.

S. G. Bennett is interested in what's going to happen to the wedge-shaped piece of land, which lies between Highway 7 and the Seventh Line at Silvercreek.

At Monday night's meeting of Esqueuing Council, clerk-treasurer Delmar French reported Mr. Bennett called to ask if the Department of Transportation and Communication intended to clean up the land, he feels could become a park for the township. Attending the Governor-General's dinner, he learned there were funds available under a federal works program.

"Well," replied Reeve Tom Hill, "Mr. Bennett should have asked him what's going to happen to the land."

# Break-in Hardware

Following a break-in Saturday and an attempted break-in, police are asking anyone who hears unusual noises to call them. "We will be glad to come and investigate," the police state this week and they continue investigation on two recent break, enter and theft cases.

Last Saturday Wayne Moss of Moss Hardware reported entry had been gained to his store by the removal of two boards on the west side. About \$20 in change was missing.

An attempt was also made to gain entry to Symon Hardware. The week before, a similar entry and theft was made at Hinton's store.

Nearby residents who hear or see anything strange are asked to inform the police office. If a police officer is not there, the message may be left on a recording which he will replay as soon as he returns from patrol duty. The phone call also puts on the Mill Main police light to speed his return.



IT'S NOT THE size of the dog in the fight, it's the size of the fight in the dog. Diminutive Jim boys' club. Boxing instructor is Charlie Allonby tees off on George Binden during a boxing lesson at the Monday night Y.M.C.A. (Staff Photo)

# Adams Knitting opens in AIC

Acton's newest industry Adams Knitting Co. Ltd. opened recently in the Acton Industrial Centre, adjacent to Beardmore's.

The company, which manufactures pyjamas and undershorts, already has a base in Toronto where all cutting of material and shipping is handled.

# Man jumped

A Rockwood man required treatment in Guelph hospital after being assaulted by two men at the back of the Dominion Hotel Saturday. The case is still under investigation.

Acton, but company secretary-treasurer P. G. Fuller expects more women will be hired and shipping may be done from here eventually as well.

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