

Sarge was a guinea pig

Sargeant, a horse owned by Judy Johnson of 5th Line, Rockwood, may go down in history as a guinea pig for cancer and tumour research.

Last spring, Sarge suffered from sarcoids, a tumour-like skin growth often confused with warts, completely unique to horses. Sarcoids are not uncommon but the method used to treat Sarge was unusual.

Dr. Eileen Ellick, just completing her year of internship as an equine practitioner in veterinary surgery at the University of Guelph, offered to help her thoroughbred mare and fully were stabled at the Johnson farm so it was convenient for her to observe Sarge daily.

The primary sarcoid on the gaskin or second thigh muscle, was a misadventure. It was large and fibrous and Sarge kept bumping and scraping the growth causing secondary infection and a most unappetizing appearance. Unfortunately, the usual procedure was out of the question. The skin was too tight and it was too awkward a place to operate for complete healing. So Ellick removed sarcoids on a return worse than before.

Dr. Ellick discussed the case with her professor Dr. Don Harnery at the University, who suggested the use of an old drug, Phodophullum, little used in North America. This drug causes regression in tumours and has been used for warts.

The expensive drug was acquired, mixed with a base of Friars Balsam, and applied daily to the sarcoid. Care was taken not to touch the surrounding skin. The first change was noticed two weeks later and after a month the tumour was gone completely.

Other sarcoids on the body

often disappear when one is treated. This appears to be happening to Sarge and hope is high he will be completely cured. His owner, Judy, is taking over observation of Sarge and any more drug application because Dr. Ellick is presently residing in Pennsylvania.

Research

The study of equine sarcoids is fascinating from a human point of view Dr. Ellick says:

"We don't know how it (Phodophullum) works but it

does kill tissue and retard growth. It's interesting for study in halting all tumour growth."

Doctors find the characteristics of sarcoids useful in the study of virus immunology. The sarcoids are almost certainly caused by a virus according to Dr. Ellick. The fact that the removal of one can cause the body to immunize itself and destroy others may prove to be valuable information in the study of all tumours, cancers and otherwise.

by
**Jennifer
Barr**



SARGEANT, owned by Judy Johnson of 5th Line, Rockwood, appears completely recovered from his use as a guinea pig in cancer and tumour research. He is shown here competing at the Rockwood Trail Riders Trail Horse Trials in August of this year. Holding him is Pam Warton of Guelph.

Final vote closes school

About 45 disgruntled, dejected Norval parents trundled out of the board room at the Halton Board of Education headquarters Thursday. The final die had been cast, the vote called and their school will remain closed this year.

While that move had been in the works since 1971 and came as no surprise to parents or onlookers, the disappointment and anger the people felt was evident as the final debate drew to a close and the votes were cast.

Only four trustees supported leaving the school open. Three of those four trustees were from Oakville and Burlington, and the fourth, Doug Wood represents north Oakville area.

Alternatives

The board decision would appear to preclude any future attempt to re-open discussion on the school closure at the board level. However, ratepayer spokesman Hugh McFarlane said there were a number of alternatives open to the people, some in defiance of the law.

He said a public meeting would be held to get a reading of the way the people felt. Withholding their children from the schools is one route the parents may explore, according to McFarlane.

The school had been closed by resolution last year and boarded up at the conclusion of the school year in June. A dedicated and growing number of people in the village met and were determined to keep the school open. A meeting with Education Minister Tom Wells provided little satisfaction.

Re-open matter

The Board re-opened the case last Thursday and heard some new information along with arguments they had heard before. A motion to open the school was tabled pending the outcome of a meeting Tuesday night between trustees and parents.

The motion and the subsequent meeting in Norval provided the first real glimmer of hope in a three-year battle in which the people of Norval had been engrossed.

Trustee Doug Wood proposed an amendment to the motion. The amendment would have established a list of 62 names of children provided by the parents committee as registration. The amendment would provide for other schools

where the 62 children would be attending to be notified of the loss of enrollment immediately and would have the school start up as a grade one to five school.

In his speech Wood said he found no factual information that would lead him to believe the school closing had been engineered, as claimed.

Better understanding

He said both he and the parents felt there had been a better understanding of the situation after the meeting. He said he still felt the school lacked the resources and valuable teaching aids children benefit from in other schools.

"The people believe there are benefits at Norval that can't be found at Centennial or Kennedy or larger schools. I can't confess that. I can't be a better judge of what is good for the children there than the parents are," he said.

He noted the parents should be under no misunderstanding about the stability of the school and said that even if the school was left open it would be subject to an annual review.

Unpopular

Burlington trustee Tony Goodyear noted the closing of any school is an unpopular issue. He suggested that with declining enrollments across the country more schools would have to be closed.

Verbal barbs

Outside the boardroom parents released pent up emotions, and hurled verbal barbs at the trustees who had refused to grant their wish.

Trustee Bill Lawson was singled out as one the parents were specially dissatisfied with. Group spokesman Hugh McFarlane said he was disappointed.

He felt trustees were buckling under the system. He claimed Lawson had attended a meeting Tuesday night and had remained silent then, but spoke against the re-opening of the school at the board meeting where his points couldn't be refuted.

"When you have a trustee who says nothing there and comes here and speaks against us, meaningful dialogue has not been accomplished," he said.

Another meeting will be held and the people will decide where to go from here, McFarlane concluded.



WORKMEN ARE pictured last week preparing to tar the shower and change room rooves at the new swimming pool. Problems have plagued progress but work continues.

Fire duty at Plowing Match

Halton Hills is taking precautions to ensure that any outbreak of fire at the International Plowing Match will be adequately handled.

Georgetown Fire Department plans to have at least three firemen on duty along with one officer and would prefer to have four fire fighters and two officers. There will be a pumper unit and a tanker on the site at all times.

The Plowing Match will be required to have a fire extinguisher within every 1,200 square foot exhibition area. In the event of a large scale blaze somewhere else they would be able to withdraw the men at the Plowing Match and send in a back-up crew. The Plowing Match will pay \$5 per hour for each fireman on duty.

He said he favored the present structure and felt the board was operating with the utmost of efficiency.

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First camping season for Nor-Halton Park

Ten miles north from Milton on 25 Highway and one and a quarter miles west on 25 Sideroad is where you can find Nor-Halton Park, otherwise known as Can Camp.

Nor-Halton Park, owned and operated by Mervin and Doris Barber, is new this year. It caters to any kind of camper and has quite a bit to offer, but what attracts most people, says Doris Barber, is the fact that "it's quiet".

The actual campsite features include a swimming pool, camping sites with water and electric hookups, open and wooded sites, modern washrooms with hot showers, a dump station, picnic tables and fireplaces, a children's playground, laundry and grocery facilities, fresh vegetables from the Barber's garden and fishing.

Campers are attracted to Nor-Halton for these reasons among others. The camp is close to Toronto and Hamilton, with their many attractions, but also because of its natural surroundings. Conservation areas, the Bruce trail and other recreation facilities in this area are things that appeal to campers.

Doris Barber feels that this year has been quite successful with campers from as far away as Michigan, the Netherlands, Ohio, Massachusetts, Florida, Montreal, and Ottawa. They have had about 200 campers so far this season.

Doris Barber mentioned that even now they are starting to get regular campers. Their camping season ends on October 1.



HOME COOKED meals away from home. Mrs. Agnes Harrison cooks breakfast for daughter Kim and friend Lauri Gauthier.

Let's talk about HORSES

By Jennifer Barr

A friend is currently going through the painful experience of being trained to ride a very green horse who is also being trained (by a professional). You've always heard that a green rider and a green horse make a bad colour combination. Sometimes, however, with expert help it can be done, but not without considerable frustration.

My first horse was a yearling. I did what one is never supposed to do—bought a colt and a book ("Horse breaking in ten easy lessons" or some such nonsense). We had Gypsy at the time and I was learning to ride her but being a young romantic teenager, I fell in love with a thin, unkempt Hackney yearling who NEEDED me. Hackney, yet!

Mind you, that colt was the best thing that ever happened to me. I became very anxious to learn to ride well so that I would be able to train Corey. I bought numerous good horse books, talked to lots of people, and watched! With the help of a couple of friends I produced a reasonably trained horse who never had an unhappy day in his life. Of course, it took three years to accomplish what most people accomplish in one. Corey was

lugged more than any other horse in history. Every step was such a major one for me—he mustn't be frightened, on any account. The result was a quiet responsive colt who accepted everything with equanimity.

The day I first climbed on his back was THE day—I hoped my careful grand work would pay off. Gingerly balancing on an upturned pail, I inched my leg over his bare-back. Turning his head to scratch a fly, Corey noticed my foot where it hadn't been before. He stared, did a double take, then developed such a look of disbelief, I started to giggle and fell off the bucket. A few minutes later I was sitting on his back with no fuss whatsoever.

The three years with Corey taught me more about horse training, equine psychology and just plain love than any other. Unfortunately, Corey contracted a brain tumour at the age of four and went dangerously mad. A dramatic and tragic end to an irreplaceable partnership.

Britain's first great postal reformer was Thomas Witherings who was appointed by Charles I.

Regional proposal

CAS president will fight abolition plan

Abolition of the Children's Aid Society isn't apt to be something Halton Regional Council will accomplish without a dedicated fight from the board of directors of that group.

At least that will be the case if the 18-member board feels the same way about the possibility as president George Heym.

Contacted at his office, Heym said he could see no benefit in the change. He said the contribution of the citizen volunteers would not be easily equalled.

No action yet

While no official action has

been taken on the proposal yet, key staff at Halton Regional offices have told the region's administration committee semi-autonomous bodies such as CAS, the Police Commission, PUCs and the Health Unit should be abolished.

The administration committee referred that proposal back to the staff for more information. Under the current legislation the CAS Board of Directors is guided by the Child Welfare Act and is governed by 12 citizen appointees and six regional councillors.

According to Heym there is an element of co-operation between the board and the politicians now. Other than budgetary matters he claimed there had been no conflict between the two.

He said he favored the present structure and felt the board was operating with the utmost of efficiency.

PUBLIC DECLARATION

Whereas the Regional Municipality of Halton shares the concerns of its citizens as to the necessity for providing safe working conditions in the field of construction work.

And whereas members of government and representatives of labour and management wish to demonstrate their continued vigilance in preserving the high standards for construction safety within the Regional Municipality.

Now, therefore, on instructions of the Regional Council unanimously expressed by resolution I hereby declare the month of September 1974 to be:

CONSTRUCTION SAFETY MONTH

Signed,
ALLAN M. MASSON
CHAIRMAN
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF HALTON

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