

OUR READERS WRITE:

Still a part of Acton

Toronto, May 18.

We old citizens who tried to arrange a reunion are in heart very much a part of Acton. The Caswells, the Greens, the Colemans and many more were Acton and still are. I say thanks to those who were inter-

ested enough to reply. There were 25 of them but not enough to put it over. I could count 50 or more who, had they cared, would have made it possible. Perhaps the gap is wider than we think.

Trimmer Coleman

In favor of passive park

A council member of Ward 1 and members of the Recreation Advisory Committee show an unfortunate lack of knowledge and imagination in the statement that Leishman Park can only be used for flower beds and benches.

Landscaping with shrubs and trees could easily turn this parcel of land into a beautiful passive park area -- one which would benefit all the residents of Acton -- not just those who participate in competitive sports. Flower beds require regular maintenance and care, however shrubs and trees make a permanent landscape with minimum care and maximum privacy.

Many members of Council and the Recreation Advisory Committee view park land only as large areas that can be used for

sports ie. baseball, soccer etc. With this attitude they are ignoring the needs of many residents who do not wish to participate in sports -- yet should have the right to enjoy parks without the noise and interruptions caused by such sports.

A passive park where one can walk, relax and perceive nature would improve the quality of life in Acton, especially for the elderly residents who are often ignored in decision making. Our town is what we make it -- unfortunately I feel the Members of Council are only interested in making money on development while ignoring the quality of life in Acton.

(Mrs.) Donna Mavor

Campbell - Board agree on something

In a letter sent this week to Halton Board of Education Chairman Judy Alexander former Renaissance head Rev. Ken Campbell has commended trustees and administration on its stand against a sex education clinic recently attended by teachers from throughout Ontario.

It would appear this is one of the rare topics on which the board and Rev. Campbell find themselves in complete agreement.

Thursday night, May 20, 1976

Mrs. Judy Alexander Chairman, Halton Board of Education, BURLINGTON, Ontario Dear Mrs. Alexander:

I have just returned from tonight's Board meeting and am compelled to write at once to publicly express the gratitude which I spoke to you and Em Lavender as well as to two or three Trustees following tonight's meeting,

for the strong protest moved by Trustee Len Auger and unanimously endorsed by the Board against the outrageous circumstances reported in the May 1st Toronto Star story, "Teachers Learn To Talk Dirty To Teach Sex". Director of Education Emerson Lavender is to be commended for the letter he sent to the Dean of the University of Toronto Faculty of Education, protesting that degrading and dehumanizing and disgusting approach to the preparation of teachers for teaching our children sex education.

And I know that I speak for the great "silent majority" of parents when I thank you and the Halton Board of Education for taking the strong stand on this issue recorded tonight.

It is my intention to carry the protest I began 2 1/2 years ago against such destructive influences in the public

schools which originate in the universities where our teachers are being trained, with the strongest possible emphasis to Queen's Park this month.

It is most gratifying to know that in this issue we are at last apparently wholeheartedly in agreement!

Thank you for taking such a stand for decency. Here's hoping the Ministry will respond with the appropriate controls and throughout the Universities where teachers are being trained in the Province.

Your actions as a Board in this issue are most reassuring and refreshing to a multitude of concerned parents in Halton.

And "may Halton lead the way" in this crucial issue as in all aspects of public education "toward a sane and satisfying new day!"

God bless you.

Sincerely, Ken Campbell



GIRLS OF THE Second Acton Brownie pack who flew up to Guides last week carry their wings that helped them do it. Front row left to right Helen Lambkin, Monika Schumeth, Tracy Arnold, Christine Hoare, Denise Coleman, Monica Musselle; back row Dawn Cook, Rosemary Disano, Kim Weir, Sarah Homer, Lisa Morell. Christine's wings looks ready to fly by themselves.

Clelland suggests student painters

Halton Board of Education will pay eight contractors a total of \$78,000 to paint schools in the region this year and Trustee Jim Clelland is wondering why students in dire need of summer employment couldn't be hired to do the work in future.

Clelland raised the question at Thursday's board meeting when painting tenders totaling \$78,000 were approved. "I feel sure some of these students are expert tradesmen," said Clelland. "I feel the board is doing a disservice to students, who need work."

Clelland said he was speaking, not necessarily of secondary school students, but of first and second year university students.

Superintendent of business and finance, Bruce Lindley said there's a possibility students would have to be

supervised. He recalled that in a similar situation, results of student work was not too satisfactory. Lindley added that tenders were advertised in region newspapers.

Trustee Don Venus expressed his opinion, "I feel that if there are students interested, they should be knocking on the doors of the successful contractors. Maybe they could learn how to paint," he suggested.

Schools in North Halton will get \$21,000 worth of painting, all of the work to be done by A. C. Farlow, the only contractor to tender for North Education area schools.

In Georgetown, \$1,550 will be spent at Georgetown District High, \$2,420 at Wrigglesworth school, \$2,180 at George Kennedy, \$1,120 at Joseph Gibbons and \$900 at Centennial.

Milton District High will get a \$3,850 interior paint job, J. M. Denyes a total of \$2,190, interior and exterior, and W. F. Dick \$420.

A total of \$1,780, which will include painting of basketball posts and backboards will be spent at Brookville, \$1,330 at

Campbellville and \$905 at Sunshine school in Hornby.

In Acton, the high school will get \$1,250 worth of painting.

Palermo school, which is in the East Education area, gets a \$295 paint job.

Time off for Federations' new executive secretary

Halton Board of Education decided Thursday to grant a one year leave of absence to Burlington School teacher John Lynch so he can assume the position of Executive Secretary for the Halton Elementary School Teachers' Association (H.E.T.A.) and Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (O.S.S.T.F.) District Nine, Halton.

The executive secretary's position is a new one. Replacing the old job of research officer for the teachers' associations.

Ron Harris, the research officer will be returning to the classroom next fall.

The cost of the leave of absence for Lynch will be paid for by the two federations.

decided to continue its policy of allowing the president of HETA and OSSTF half time off and half time off for the chief contract negotiator of the OSSTF.

The board adopted the policy that each federation can have time off for executives up to one and a half full time positions as long as the teachers' associations pay the bill.

Paving contracts let

Halton Board of Education awarded a contract worth \$2,435.16 to Burlington Paving Thursday for paving work to be done this year at Harrison School, Georgetown.

At the same meeting the board decided to spend \$1,500 for paving at Acton High School. That contract was awarded to Bramal and Company Construction.

work. That project will cost \$1,809.

For each of the three projects the lowest bid was the successful one.

The bids at Harrison School ranged from \$2,435 up to \$6,100. A total of 11 firms were in the running for the job.

There were 11 bids for the paving work at Acton High School and the prices ranged from \$1,500 to \$2,867.

Only 10 firms bid for the work at the North Education Centre and bids ranged from a low of \$1,809 to a high of \$2,945.

Asphalt paving will also be carried out at the North Education Centre, Milton, this year where Pacific Paving, Markham, will do the



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Propose maintain limit of nine PA days

Halton teachers will be held to nine professional activity days, if the Halton Board of Education adopts a recommendation of Superintendent of Special Services John Graham. The recommendation is part of plans to modify the 1976-77 school year.

At Thursday night's regular board meeting, Director of Education Emerson Lavender explained the board's executive committee took the position that the number of professional activity days should not vary from year to year. Rather, he said, the number of instructional days

should increase. The number of school days in a year ranges from 194-198, he said.

Trustee Ernie Bodnar said he'd be pleased to see a trend towards more PA days at the beginning of the school year. According to Bodnar, the public becomes annoyed with PA days, which crop up here and there throughout the school year. He suggested an ideal situation would be to have four PA days at the beginning of the year, four at the end and only one in between.

Also in connection with the board's proposal to modify

the 1976-77 school year, Bodnar said he's concerned that a number of schools may be having final exams as early as May 16-20.

"It's got to be some teacher to keep the interest of students for the rest of the term," Bodnar suggested.

Have plans for French

Halton Board of Education has long range plans for the teaching of French in Halton schools, Chairman Judy Alexander said during the question and answer period of Thursday night's regular meeting.

According to Mrs. Alexander, 20 minute periods now being used to teach French have been called inadequate by staff members. She said the board hopes to be able to have 40 minute periods.

She said any new program would have to happen after 1976 because of cost implications.

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