Raise drinking age-trustees

Halton Board of Education has joined the Oxford board in calling for the drinking age to be raised.

Thursday trustees passed a motion supporting Oxford's letter to Attorney General Roy McMurtry, Liberal Leader Dr. Stuart Smith, NDP leader Stephen Lewis and five MPPs urging the drinking age be raised.

Trustee Ivan Armstrong noted Oxford didn't suggest a new drinking age but he favors 19. He said many felt 21 was too stringent an age and many probably feel the same way today.

Armstrong said 19 would probably solve many of the problems schools are having with alcohol consumption by students.

The Ontario Public School Trustees' Association has passed two resolutions which were sent to Education Minister Tom Wells urging the drinking age be raised, Trustee Judy Alexander told the board.

Trustee Bert Hinton said the more motions that are passed the better. He also urged calls for a higher drinking age should go to more provincial politicians than just Wells.

Halton agreed with Oxford's letter which said, "The present legislation has resulted in an unacceptable situation in terms of its effect health, safety and morality."



STEVE PAPILLON AND Bill Break caught these three chinook salmon last week down at Bronte. The fish averaged about 25 pounds each.

Hinton says

Fire drivers who won't stop smoking

He said something had to be

done to ensure dirvers report

offending student is put off the

"Adults can't smoke on

Hinton said a driver who

shouldn't be driving. He said

Trustee Ivan Armstrong

Superintendent of Business

and Finance Bruce Lindley

said drivers are trying to

enforce the no smoking rule,

but it is hard sometimes to

catch offending students.

smoke when students are on

Trustee Cam Jackson said

there are numerous reports drivers are smoking while

walting for students to board

said he has talked to Mr.

now been solved.

If there is smoking on school as Boich suggested. "We have buses, drivers should be fired to stop it." according to Acton-Esquesing Trustee Bert Hinton. He says it is happening on buses in smoking to principals and the North Halton.

Thursday, Halton Board of bus Education received a letter from William Nurse, R.R. 1 buses and children might as Milton, complaining about well learn now they can't smoking on buses his children smoke on buses either," ride. He claimed previous Hinton declared. complaints to schools and the board had not solved the won't enforce the board rules

Superintendent of Instruc- he has heard of smoking on tion John Boich told trustees a school buses in Halton Hills. sign at the front of the bus says smoking is prohibited. It also sets out other rules of Nurse and the problem has

behavior. He said when students smoke on buses the driver should report them to the principal. Drivers can also

order the pupil off the bus. Boich said he hoped drivers would set a "fine" example and not smoke around Drivers are told they can't

students. He also urged parents who the bus, he said. hear from their children that students are smoking on buses

to contact the principal. Hinton said the problem couldn't be solved as simply the bus.

Halton says keep grade 13

Despite rising costs Halton Board of Education doesn't want to see grade 13 dropped. Thursday, trustees rejected

a call from Peterborough Board of Education to eliminate the senior grade in Ontario.

Peterborough noted other provinces and countries don't have grade 13 and many boards have prre-kindergarten, kindergarten plus 13 grades totalling 15 years of public education.

Ontario castern board's letter to Halton pointed out there is great public concern about education costs and schooling eats up nine percent of Ontario's Gross National Product compared to just five or six percent elsewhere.

Peterborough asked Ontario trustee associations and boards to urge Queen's Park

to study "the educational merits' problems and impact of telescoping courses of study to, 12 grades above kindergarten."

Study of possible cost savings and the social impact of dropping grade 13 was also suggested.

Superintendent of instruction John Boich voted Halton studied the viability of grade 13 in 1973 but rejected the idea of dropping it.

He said the study found there wasn't much relationship between education in Ontario with school ending at grade 13 and British Columbia where school ends

with grade 12.

Bolch pointed out 25 percent of Holton students are completing 13 grades in 12 years because of the credit system and added the figure

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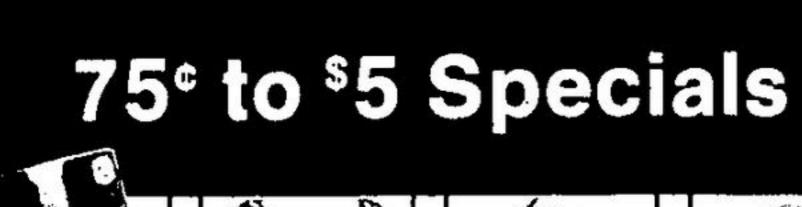
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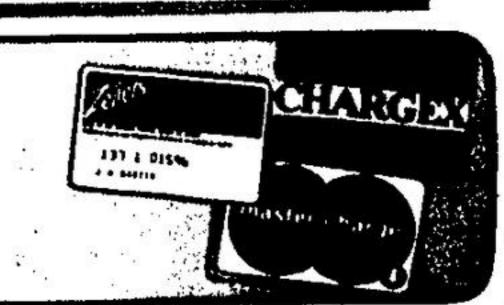
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