

# Halton cuts French . . .

(Continued from page 1) planning difficult so the board could either expand with no extra staff or add extra staff. The 35 French teachers for next year would come from within the existing staff.

Trustee Fred Armitage said the board has leaped at "Sweetheart deals" from the province in the past and been burned. The grants help put the program in place and when they are cut Halton

can't dump the program. "We are stuck with expensive programs when the crunch comes on grants. That's the game they (Queen's Park) play," Armitage declared.

The board had to be practical about the problem, Trustee Bert Hinton said. Trustees needed to listen to teachers, and principals, concerns and while everyone could support more French

being taught "we have to be practical."

"We want core basics to be taught and French will cut into this," Hinton explained.

He noted teachers have made it clear Halton can't have more French without sacrificing time devoted to the basics.

Hinton didn't think French was such a great bargain considering Halton ratepayers pay provincial taxes, too. "It's not a bargain — the taxpayers will know it." He warned federal government money is also tied into the expansion of French and they are always cutting back on programs they finance.

Hinton branded expanded French "elitist" and predicted it would benefit only a small portion of the students in Halton.

He didn't like the fact a person couldn't speak out against more French in Ontario schools for education and cost reasons without being branded anti-Canadian unity.

According to Trustee Judy Alexander the costs of expanding French were worth the value of the program.

Trustee Edna Robinson said the new grant information made it an affordable program expansion and allowed more teachers to be hired solving the staffing dilemma.

She noted a Halton teacher has been loaned to the province to assist in French program writing and this put the board in an "enviable" position for making sure French works.

Miss Robinson also felt squeezing French in wouldn't be much of a problem since Halton's school day is a half hour longer than in most other areas of Ontario.

Trustee Bill Herd said the board wasn't looking at the long range implications of expanding French.

He said it was "short sighted" to think the board could expand French when there are generous grants and then drop it later if grants are cut. Herd said the board

wouldn't drop a program once it is in place.

Herd said there are many things, such as remedial education, where money would be much better spent than on expanded French.

His suggestion that the whole subject be tabled so the finance committee could study the costs was rejected.

According to Trustee Elaine Rhim, the board passed the program last fall, worried about staffing problems. Now that the grants had solved the staffing problem there was no longer any reason to worry. She urged the board go ahead and expand French this fall.

The board was now able to provide expanded French at \$20,000 less cost to the local ratepayer so Halton should take advantage of the grants Miss Robinson declared. She warned if Halton didn't go after the grant money

another board would.

Trustee Cam Jackson said he was concerned about introducing a second language at an "early critical age" and suggested this could cause the board more remedial assistance problems. The cost impact after grants drop back to normal also worried him.

"We could go broke taking advantage of provincial bargains," he warned.

Expanding French would cause morale problems among teachers, Trustee Jim Clelland claimed. He said the board would be in a tough spot laying teachers off because of declining enrolment and turning around and hiring more French teachers.

Lavender said if board enrolment predictions and proposed policies are implemented there is a good chance teacher lay-offs won't be needed.

He said teachers are worried about lay-offs now and adding a growing program won't likely make them more worried.

Lavender recalled he has heard off and on that morale has been bad at different times and the only thing he could say for sure was "morale was better last year, just like taxes were better last year."

Trustee Florence Meares said the board heard the same morale woes when the 20 minutes a day French program was introduced for grades six, seven and eight but everything worked out well.

She said the board serves the special needs of a few with special education but French will serve the needs of all pupils.

The motion to scrap the expanded French program passed narrowly.

## Adults may attend h.s.

Any adults who wish to take high school courses this semester are asked to call the

Student Services of the school at 853-2920.

members sit in on other's classes now and then.)

Adults have joined the young people in classes at the school before, some of them even graduating with their classmates.

Arrangements can be made to accommodate the would-be students' wishes.

However there are no outside adults taking courses just now. (A couple of staff

For instance, someone might wish to just take typing. Any number of classes could be taken, all the way up to a full year.

## Two mishaps

Two more traffic accidents have come to light following the storm of January 26.

Halton Regional Police report an accident on Seventh Line at about 3 p.m. involving two southbound vehicles which rear-ended.

Police estimate damage to the van driven by Ian Marchington of 14 Guelph St., Georgetown, to be \$900.

Damage to the auto driven by Edward Birkland of R.R. 2, Erin is about \$3,500, according to police.

The second mishap occurred about a half hour later on the Guelph Line.

There was damage to the left rear light of the car driven by Helen Daniels of Guelph. No estimate appeared on the police report.

Damage to the auto driven by Peter Jackson of 251 Main St., Rockwood, is about \$573 police indicate.

### Open House

**HALTON HILLS MONTESSORI SCHOOL**  
Norval Community Centre  
Highway 7, Norval  
Saturday, Feb. 18 • 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
*Children, parents & friends all welcome*

There will be a parents' meeting at the school to discuss future plans  
**Monday, February 20, 8:30 p.m.**  
For information call 457-6873

## Ebenezer

### Sunday service in hands of young people

By Mrs. Ron McLean  
The young people had charge of the service on Sunday. They had an interesting rendition of four of the parables, The Good Samaritan, The Prodigal Son, the Wedding Banquet and the Two Builders. Among those taking part were Richard Anderson, Laurie Caron, Mark Davidson, Diana

Green, Greg and Jay Kitching, Laurie and Sandra Early, David McGregor and Kathy Smith.

Next Sunday, the Rev. Bernie Warren of Bezek Centre, will have charge of the service.

Church on Feb. 19, when the Guides and Scouts attend, is to be held at 11 o'clock.

## Roy Booth injured

Halton Hills councillor Roy Booth was hurt in a car accident Tuesday afternoon while travelling from Georgetown to a region meeting in Burlington.

available about the accident at press time.

Reports had Booth being taken to Oakville-Trafalgar Hospital and later moved to Georgetown Hospital.

He wasn't believed to have been seriously hurt

## Rockwood couple in two-vehicle accident

A Rockwood man and his wife received minimal injuries following a two-vehicle crash near Guelph last Friday.

(Mustang Drive-In Road) and was turning onto Highway 7 when the accident occurred, report the Guelph detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police.

The car carrier received approximately \$400 in damages to the frame and dolly wheels, police say, while the Poole vehicle received \$1,000 in estimated damages to the front end, motor and frame.

Grant Howitt, of R.R. 4, Rockwood, was travelling west along Highway 7 about 4 p.m. when his 1970 Ford was in collision with a 1977 tractor-trailer car-carrier unit, driven by Arthur Poole of Barrie. The loaded carrier was heading south on the Guelph-Eramosa townline

There were few details

## Little mail disturbance

There has been very little disturbance in mail at the Acton post office, in spite of rotating strikes in Toronto by maintenance workers, according to postmaster Gord McKeown.

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## \$1,900 total damages

A total of \$1,900 in damages resulted from a two vehicle collision on Churchill Road North on January 30 at 4:15 p.m.

Damage to the auto driven by Andrew Wyga of R.R. 2, Acton is estimated by police to be \$700.

The balance of the property damage is taken on the station wagon driven by Martine LeFebvre of Hamilton, police say.

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**REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF HALTON**  
ECOLOGICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (E.E.A.C.)

The Region of Halton Ecological and Environmentally Advisory Committee (EEAC) is a TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE established by Regional Council to, among other matters,

"Assist the Regional Government and the Regional Planning Department in the development of an Official Plan which will be in keeping with the area's desire for a high quality natural environment,"

and to,

"Examine issues which would affect the natural environment of the Region and to make the Committee's opinions known to the appropriate Regional Department Head and Committee."

The Region is now receiving letters of application to fill several positions on the **ECOLOGICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Applicants should be residents of Halton Region and be prepared to devote a minimum average of five (5) hours per week on Committee matters. The EEAC will assess each application on its own merit with preference given to applicants having backgrounds in the environmental area.

Applicants should describe their previous experience and/or training in the environmental area, and submit a resume with their letter.

Interested individuals are requested to write to:

**Region of Halton Ecological and Environmental Advisory Committee,**  
3027 Harvester Road,  
Burlington, Ontario,  
L7N 3G8  
Attention: E.E.A.C. Chairman

The last date that applications will be received is February 28, 1978.



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Beautifully coloured tiffany style fixtures in several sizes. 4 colour glass — Amber.  
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- 5" Fixture For Hallway**  
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- D) Finish It Off With Flecto X3D Wood Stain**  
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