



Members of the Acton branch of Theta Phi chapter of the Beta Sigma Phi sorority by dressing up as four year olds and visiting McDonald's in Georgetown. The big children are, left to right, front row, Cheryl Beaton, Marlene Kempton, Nancy Little, Bev Owen, Paula Stacey, Shelagh Wirth, Peggy Johnson, Joanne Luck and Maggie Hall. Back row, Jean McKee, Dian Bowers, Sue Robbins, Marg Oliver, Diane Bailey, and Marie Gilliss.

Arbitrator foresees strike

A strike by Halton secondary teachers is foreseen if teachers and the board of education go on bargaining as they have been, according to the man who settled the contract.

Mediator-arbitrator Martin Teplitsky made his observations in the wake of his ruling on a two-year package between the Halton board and the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation.

"The public will likely be the victim of a long and difficult strike in Halton," wrote Teplitsky, "if the board fails to heed the

responsible and able professional advice which is available to it and if the teachers fail to develop greater sensitivity for the impact of their tactical choices on the relationship."

Halton's 1,165 teachers gave the OSSTF executive a strike mandate early this year. However, they and the board later chose to try mediation-arbitration.

Teplitsky took two to three days to make his ruling, after he heard submissions from both sides. "There must have been a settlement there," observed Halton Board of

Education chairman Bill Herd.

Teachers have been working since September without a contract while talks between the board and OSSTF dragged.

Salary Committee Chairman Cam Jackson disagreed with Herd's assessment of the time needed for the settlement.

"The board had a difficult direction to follow in a difficult financial period," said Jackson. He noted the board changed its chief negotiator at least twice.

"We proved it can be a difficult job when we don't have the funds to spend."

Teplitsky also chastised OSSTF president Ron Ness for a letter he mailed to federation members which stated

"the mediation/arbitration proceedings had been delayed, and implied that the fault for such delay should be attributed to the board and to the arbit-

rator."

OSSTF's Ness, in an interview, said the letter was indeed sent, however, "the attempt was not to include him (Teplitsky) with the board's (negotiating) team." He said the arbitrator chose to interpret the message that way.

Ness said he sent another letter to OSSTF members to clarify his intent. "You could call it a retraction," he said.

The allegations in Ness's original letter, according to Teplitsky, "were untrue and improper" and such allegations "can only exacerbate the tensions in the relationship between the parties."

Concerning Teplitsky's comments about the board and teachers, Ness said he was not sure the parties will heed his suggestion.

PROFILES

with JENNIFER BARR



Blowing a trumpet is Chuck Wright's way to relax. He has been a professional and semi-professional musician all over the world and is now a member of the Acton Citizens' Band.

His trumpet is his main interest now that he's retired but for years it was his hobby—a way to get the cobwebs out of his mind when it was filled with the problems of business.

You don't often think of a musician being a technical representative during the day. Most of Chuck's life has been spent zooming around the globe for such companies as De Havilland and Avro. He was on the first trans Atlantic jet crossing in May 1952 as a tech. rep. and worked on the ill-fated Arrow for Avro.

When he retired two years ago he had been travelling with Garrett Manufacturing Ltd. of Rexdale as a field service engineer spending two years in Germany and another 18 months in Switzerland. While in Switzerland, Chuck was supervising the traction gear that is now on Toronto's new street cars.

Boogie woogie trumpet boy Back to music, Chuck was brought up within the Salvation Army in Lowestoft, England, and so had musical training through the Salvation Army Sunday School. He joined the band and found he could make a good job out of trumpet playing.

"I was no child protege but I worked hard at it," he says.

After serving a seven year apprenticeship as an electrician he found himself facing a job shortage and starting playing in dancebands and working as a prop boy at the local theatre.

When it was discovered he was a good journeyman musician who could read any music, play anything well, and fill any spot, he was much in demand.

He played with such big bands as Frank Warbutts, Harry Roys, and classical groups such as the Rugby Philharmonic.

For someone with Chuck's sense of humor, life as an entertainer was full of funny stories.

He tells of the band manager who used to make snide remarks about Chuck and his buddy whom he considered "hicks" from a small town.

One night when the band master was taking over for the drummer who was having a night off, he called the two young lads a "couple of bloody herring eaters." Those were fighting

words to the son of a deep sea fisherman and Chuck saw red. In no time the band master, drums and all, found himself tipped off the back of the rickety stage in a heap, yelling "you're fired" all the way down.

Another night, Chuck was acting as stage assistant and working the "limes" (spot lights), high up above the curtain. Suddenly, out of the air, came a disembodied voice remarking, "Call yourself a bloody lime man" and other imprecations.

Chuck started to have a fit until he noticed the other lime boy off his perch on the opposite side of the stage. He had been speaking down the hollow curtain rail and the eerie voice had floated through the tube to whisper out close to Chuck's ear.

Chuck became so rattled he allowed the curtain wire to come off its wire. The finale of the play called for a passionate kiss between the principals as the curtain swooped to a close. Only the curtain didn't swoop this night. The wire problem caused it to inch its way agonizingly slowly across the stage as the actors held their breathless and cramped kias for an age.

However, Chuck didn't want to be a professional musician.

"I was a small town boy" and he says he didn't like the sophistication of the other musicians—"There wasn't one that wasn't smoking reefers."

Music became relegated to a hobby as Chuck went out to work for a living.

Switzerland, well prepared Chuck and his wife Peggy loved Switzerland which was Chuck's last assignment overseas before retirement. He managed to play with the Neuhausen Verein Harmonic Blas Band and he didn't even speak the language. He speaks German, but Swiss German is deliberately designed to confuse everybody.

He loved the way the band was used to play for community enjoyment. Apartment buildings were serenaded and an impromptu party would result. Anniversaries were celebrated by unscheduled appearances of the band. Music seemed such a large part of community life.

Commenting on the differences of life in Switzerland, Chuck says it's very much a police state with considerable regulation. He remarks that every small village has complete fallout facilities, underground hospitals, water reservoirs and underground radio centres. Houses are built with fallout shelters and three months supply of canned food in storage are necessary by law for every family.

In the event of invasion, nuclear holocaust, or worse (worse?) a whole village in Switzerland could be under eight feet of concrete in no time.

"They couldn't hope to keep out the invader but they could make life pretty miserable (for it)."

Now retired and living on Churchill Road South since 1966, Chuck works in the garden under strict instruction from Peggy, enjoys his four grandchildren, offspring of the couple's two daughters, Crystal and Susanne, and plays his trumpet six nights a week.

He says he hasn't the endurance to play as well as he would like now and his false teeth (the result of tooth loss from lead poisoning in early years) hinder his playing a night, but he's "technically the finest trumpet player in the area," he admits.

He often assists bandmaster George Elliott with the Acton Citizens' Band practices, demanding a professionalism he's been used to over the years.

Chuck comments while Canadian amateur bands need improving he feels "Canadian professionals over here are as good as any in the world."

"I've reached an age where I can say things," he grins.



Chuck Wright

Petition asks for school bus

No action has yet been taken by Halton educators concerning the busing of kindergarten and older children who live a mile from their Burlington school.

The petition from 30 parents for busing closely resembles an earlier bid from some Acton parents. Halton Board of Education turned down the Acton request.

The Burlington petition states busing is important because the route to school is complicated and many of the streets have no sidewalks. They want children in kindergarten to grade two bused.

Burlington trustee Elaine Riehm spoke in favor of the petition during Thursday's board meeting.

Acton-Esqueusing trustee Betty Fisher reminded the board what it had done with the Acton request for busing; a request that was made under similar circumstances.

"So if one gets busing, the other gets busing," said Fisher.

Under the board's transportation policy the guide to determine who is eligible for bus service for kindergarten and

grade one is one mile.

For the next two grades the line is two miles.

Busing, according to the policy, is a privilege which may be withdrawn.

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