



Harold Swallow and wife Vivian enjoy part of the skit performed during his retirement party.

After 34 years

History teacher Harold Swallow retires

In the 34-year career Harold Swallow has made of teaching history he has affected "several thousand people".

That was the figure given by one of Swallow's colleagues during last week's retirement party at Knox Presbyterian Church.

Other colleagues, from over the years commented on the main points of Swallow's character, as reflected in his profession.

"He always demanded high standards," commented fellow teacher Keith Black. One student, reported Black, told him that Swallow made "history come alive for him".

One characteristic was often mentioned during the speeches, and that was Swallow's sense of humor. He has one and according to Black and others it was the "one quality that has touched all of us."

The people gathered at Knox, friends, family and fellow teachers some 70 in all, however, exploited their own sense of humor during a skit.

In a later interview Swallow said that he "enjoyed the staff, especially the people in the social sciences." And as far as students at Acton High School were concerned he felt there was "a good attitude, generally."

For 13 years Swallow has taught the subject he loves, history, at the local high school. For much of that tenure he was head of the history department.

Swallow's fondest memory of his years at AHS came towards the end of his career. Three years ago there was a contest at the school in which students voted for their favorite teacher.

"I thought it was ridiculous letting them pick their favorite teacher." That was Swallow's attitude before the ballots were cast. "I thought one of the

young, good looking female teachers would win," said the history teacher. How wrong he was.

Doc Tamblin came third, remembers Swallow, and Dave Jones took the runner-up spot while the man who thought the entire contest was ridiculous—well, he won.

"I don't think anything's happened to me that was more pleasing than that," beamed Swallow.

The Windthorst, Saskatchewan native started on his teaching career by graduating from University College, at the University of Toronto, with an honors degree in History in 1944.

His first teaching job was at Trinity College, a private school, in Port Hope. For a year he taught grades nine and ten.

During the first year after World War II Swallow pursued an enjoyable year of research on the political views of John Strachan.

"In some ways it was my best year at university because I was doing research." That research was at the Ontario College of Education where he graduated in the top quarter of the class of 1946.

After a year of teaching in a large southwest Ontario city school, Swallow worked on his master's degree at the University of Toronto under Professor Frank Underhill.

Swallow describes 1947-48 as an excellent year though he did not complete his thesis. He did finish the courses.

For the next two years Swallow taught at another private school, this time, Lorne Park College in Port Credit. He broadened his experience in teaching with three years of instruction at a small continuation school, he and one other teacher for

grades nine through to 12. That was in Mount Brydges near London.

From 1953 until 1966 Swallow taught at Glencoe District High School. There he became the first head of the history department.

Westminster Secondary School, in London, was the next stop. It was a large, and as Swallow describes it, impersonal school. He did not get to know all the staff—there was more than 100—let alone get to know many of the students.

It was around this time that Acton High School Principal Ted Hansen was searching for someone competent to head up the history department. That search took him to London and Harold Swallow.

He remained head of the history department until the Halton Board of Education phased out departments a few years ago.

During his career Swallow has come to hold certain beliefs concerning his profession. "I believe a teacher is there to teach. He is the person with the knowledge... To me... many of the tech-

niques are good for good students who are highly motivated."

He looks forward to working for the church. He has long been a church goer and recently he started attending St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church at Guelph. There, he may have an opportunity to teach adult Bible classes.

And next spring there is a six week tour of England with his wife Vivian to visit relatives and friends.

Vince Whelan

Offers experience

Rookie candidate for Halton Separate School Board, Vince Whelan, feels he has considerable experience and excellent qualifications for the lone Halton Hills seat.

Whelan, a bank manager, points to his business experience and activities with the St. Joseph's Parents' Association as pluses in his favor. He says as president of the parents' association he has led the battle for a new Catholic school in Acton and that has allowed him to make important inroads and contacts at both the board and Queen's Park.

He says he has already begun a lot of work on behalf of separate school parents and electors. He says continuity is important and wants to continue working for the

community. With respect and credibility at both levels of the education process, Whelan feels he can pass on people's concerns to the board.

"I will not only keep people informed but also make things happen for Halton Hills at the board. I have credibility with the board and know I will get a good hearing from trustees when I raise Halton Hills concerns."

Whelan observes both the province and board have been impressed with the professional manner in which he has handled the Acton school issue and he will remain "professional."

The best way to solve problems is to make the board aware of local concerns and Whelan says he will take this duty

very seriously.

Having a child of his own in the system Whelan says he can "appreciate parents' concerns."

"My record speaks for itself. I have shown leadership and responsibility in everything I have undertaken. I wouldn't be running if I didn't think I could do the job."

"My family and I believe in the uniqueness of Catholic education and adhere to high moral standards. I firmly believe it is incumbent on us as parents and teachers to lead children by example and never expect more or less from children than we are prepared to give ourselves."

Whelan's fondest memory of his years at AHS came towards the end of his career. Three years ago there was a contest at the school in which students voted for their favorite teacher.

Irene McCauley

Pledges availability

Availability is the major plank in Irene McCauley's campaign platform.

The Georgetown housewife is one of two rookie candidates running to fill retired veteran Halton Separate School Board trustee Harley Sherk's shoes. Catholic education supporters in all four Halton Hills wards vote for this office.

McCauley says she is concerned about elementary separate school education and wants the best possible for the children. She notes high quality teachers and facilities are essential. Being inexperienced she plans to seek the input of teachers, students and parents in deciding what her position will be on various issues as they come to the board table.

"I will be available,"

she declares. Mrs. McCauley says she'll welcome calls and visits at her home to discuss their concerns and hear both positive and negative news about how they view the Catholic education system.

But she plans to be not only available but also keep the community well informed.

"I'll be a strong voice at the board for Halton Hills, reflecting the opinions and views of parents and taxpayers."

Mrs. McCauley called the province's decision to grant funds for purchase of the site for a new separate school in Acton as a step in the right direction. She pledges to work "very hard to get the school built in a reasonable period of time."

"I care about the education of our kids and

will be a good worker for the people of Halton Hills. I know I can do a good job for the people."

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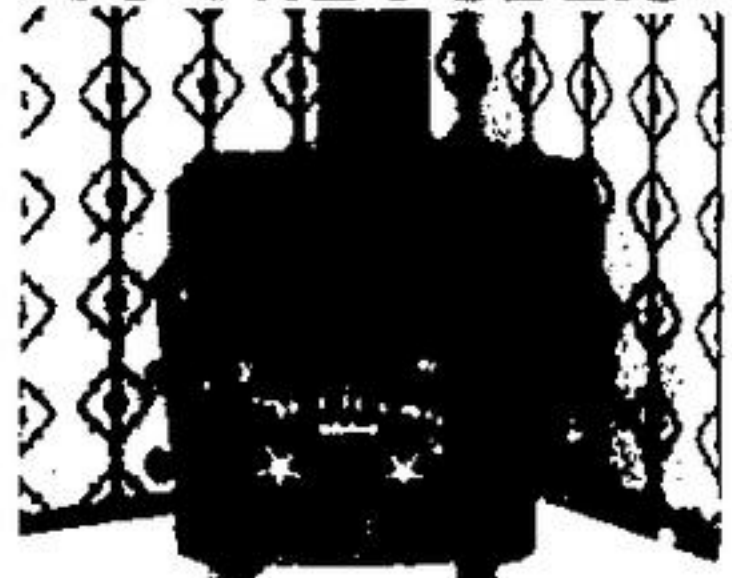
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