

OFFICIAL PLAN

A Statement of Intent

Developers and environmentalists clashed head on, last week, during a Georgetown Planning Board public meeting, held to present Official Plan amendments to the public for discussion.

The clash wasn't a violent one; rather, it was a display of feeling for the plan amendments.

Environmentalists largely favored the amendments, which will control Georgetown population, and will protect water courses. Developers, and industrialists, were critical of some of the amendments which will tend to stifle development, especially development of new housing tracts.

The developers actually got short shrift, because the planning board has been reacting to not only the feeling of environmental quality, which is sweeping North America, but also the needs for limiting growth, or controlling it, as determined by the town's sewage treatment capacity. Too many people mean too much sewage, which the current plant, to be enlarged, can't handle, and which even the present water-courses, Credit River and Silver Creek, can't handle.

The planning board raised some hackles because it adopted a policy of setting out agricultural land designations as a form of building control. Such designation affects a large portion of what was planned to be a building tract south of Silver Creek.

What must be kept in mind, now, by both developers and industrialists, is the Official Plan is not an immovable object. It is only a statement of intent, which the planning board is bringing into line with the revised zoning bylaw. All this is being done to pre-date regional government. And town council might yet upset the whole planning apparatus.

Official plans can be altered through amendment, as is being done now. Feelings change with time, as do conditions. Even two or three years hence, conditions may warrant change.

Planning necessarily can't please everyone, nor can it alter the pace of life. An official plan won't guarantee that Georgetown will remain an idyllic place within Halton Hills.

We have to have change to survive, but we have to be able to control that change.

Unsafe Commercial Rigs

A recent study into defects of commercial vehicles, at Ontario Ministry of Transportation and Communications truck inspection stations, revealed that an alarming 86.7 per cent of commercial vehicles being checked were found to be defective.

The most prevalent defects were to lights and reflectors, brakes, tires and trailer attachments. Of 977 vehicles checked with trailers, 659 had defective safety chains or cables and attachments.

Other vehicle defects included damage or deterioration to metal body structures, window glass, fuel and exhaust systems, steering, suspension and frames, and wheels.

In an effort to remove a defective commercial vehicle from the highways, the ministry has increased the availability of motor vehicle mechanics at the permanent truck inspection stations located on controlled access highways, and also at portable inspection stations which can be set up on any highway at anytime.

Ontario Provincial Police are combining their efforts with MTC personnel in this operation of the vehicle inspection stations. All vehicles appearing to have defects will be required to visit the permanent inspection station where available. In those areas where there is no permanent inspection station, the OPP will be operating portable stations set up by MTC personnel.

In many detachment areas, police personnel have been assigned specifically to commercial vehicle inspections. This operation should continue in an effort to reduce the number of defective vehicles on the highways.

It's The Right Gift

The spiraling cost of living has all of us concerned. We shop more carefully in order to stretch our dollars. But this takes time. No longer can we dash into a shop and pick up "something nice". Now we visit two or three shops, comparing quality, wearability, quantity or price until we find the right gift at a price we can afford to pay.

Christmas shopping this year will undoubtedly take more time as we try to get the same number and quality of gifts for the same amount of money (or less!) than we spent last year. Traditionally, this is a time when we open our hearts and our purse strings just a little wider. We try to please our loved ones with just the right gift; we smile at strangers; we think about other people.

There is one gift you can give which is beyond price, yet costs you no money. You don't have to shop for it, line up to pay for it, or gift wrap it. When you give a blood donation, you give the gift of life.

Amid the hustle and bustle of holiday preparations when you are busier than ever, you may think "I'll do it later. A few weeks won't matter". You're wrong.

There is no manufactured substitute for human blood. Modern technology has put men on the moon, but scientists cannot reproduce blood in the laboratory. When a patient needs a blood donation, time is crucial; for him there is no "later".

A blood donation takes 30 minutes of your time. You are not paid for your blood, nor is the patient charged for it. It is a heart to heart gift, made possible through the blood transfusion service of the Canadian Red Cross Society.

Toys break; sweaters wear out; candy, toiletries and tobacco are consumed. All are gifts which bring joy to the recipient, but remember to give as well the gift of life. During the holiday season, give blood.

ECHOES FROM THE PAST

10 YEARS AGO
Joseph Gibbons returned to his post as mayor after defeating Mayor Ernie Hyde with a plurality of 277. Mr. Gibbons had served 13 previous terms as mayor of Georgetown. The election turnout was a poor 39 per cent.

According to a preliminary report issued at Queen's Park, a rapid transit service between Georgetown and Toronto appears feasible.

Georgetown has been promised a traffic survey early in the new year to determine the need for better access to Highway 401. But Dr. Hildebrand thinks Council should continue to hammer on the door of the Minister of Highways with its appeal.

Norval farmer Chester Early today discovered a dead man slumped over the wheel of his car which was parked near where Mr. Early was working. "It was quite a shock," commented Mr. Early.

Georgetown experienced no rabies cases this year, and according to Dr. McCabe of the County Health Unit, it is the first time this occurred in several years.

20 YEARS AGO
Mayor Jack Armstrong was acclaimed for his third term, as Georgetown residents prepare to cast their ballots next week. In his acceptance comments, Mayor Armstrong forecast higher taxes for the coming year.

Members of the family which gave Glen Williams its name, Charles Edward Williams, 65, died in Simcoe on Nov. 25. Mr. Williams, who was the son of Joseph Williams, was born in the Glen in 1868.

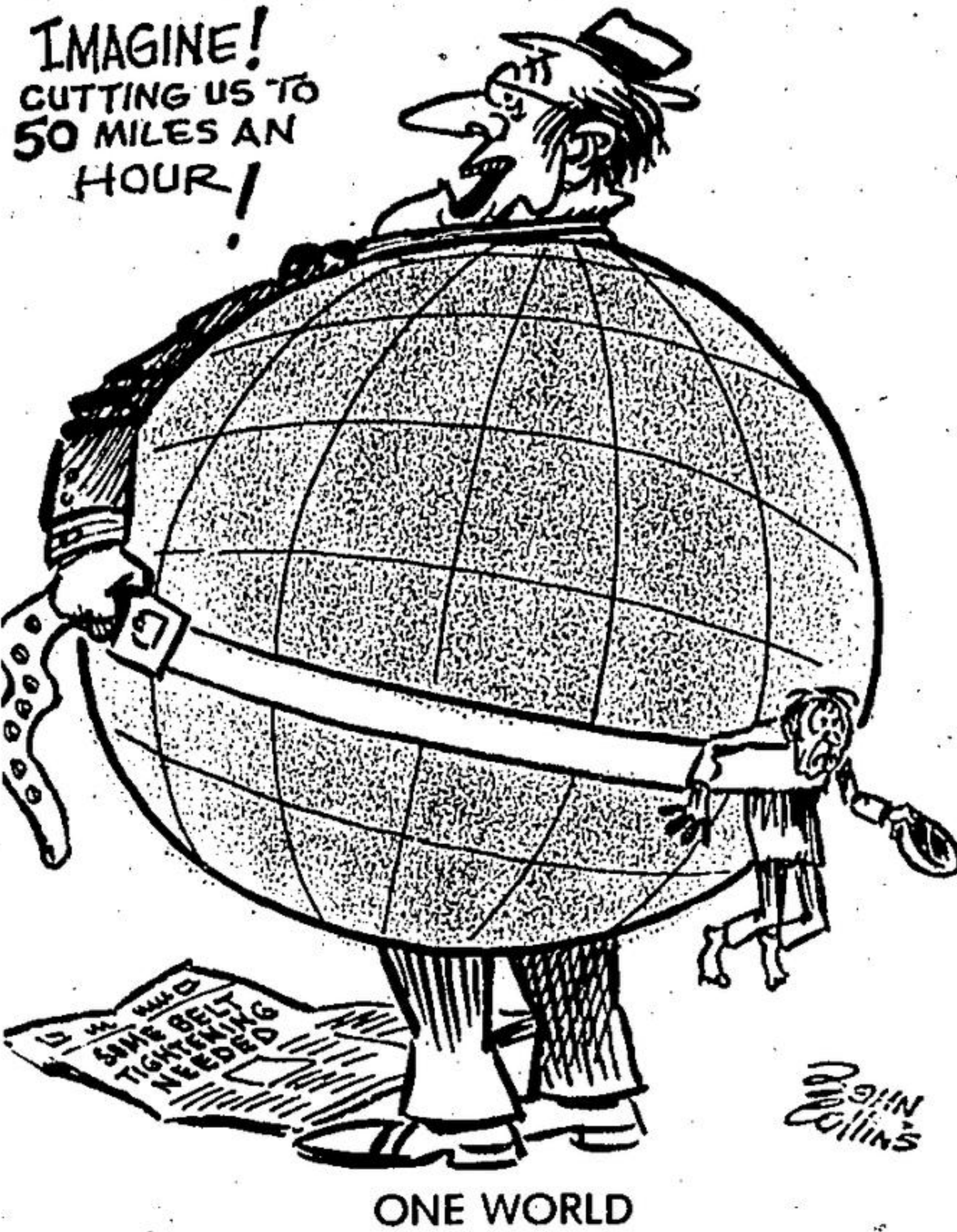
The annual Institute bazaar and euchre realized over \$80 for their funds on Friday. Mrs. H. Norton won the fruit cake donated by Mrs. Ellerby. Congratulations to Ruth McBride, a gold medalist in piano from our district at the recent Guelph Kiwanis festival.

In election commentary, Councillor James Goodlet made the following comment on the mayor's salary: "I think the mayor's pay should be increased, at least \$500 per year."

30 YEARS AGO
The annual Warden's dinner was held at the Estaminet, Burlington, on Sat. Nov. 27 when Warden J. M. McDonald, Reeve of Acton, was host to more than 60 guests from all parts of the county, representing all walks of life.

Cables were received yesterday telling that Pte. Gordon James and Cpl. Lovell Puckering had arrived in Italy. Pilot Officer Jim Ruddle left last Thursday for the G.R.S. at Charlottetown, P.E.I. after spending a week's leave at home.

Halton County Holsteins did exceptionally well in the All-Canadian Contest just recently concluded, receiving one All-Canadian award, and three honorable mentions.



BILL SMILEY
Crises Nothing New, In Every Generation

It seems that in the Seventies, the whole world is lurching, as most of us do in our private lives, from one crisis to another. Crippling strikes, crippling food prices, crippling political scandals, and now the energy crisis, so-called.

A crisis may be defined as a turning point. Perhaps it's time we reached some turning points and did some turning in new directions.

What so many people of the affluent post-war years don't realize is that crisis are nothing new. Every generation faces them, meets them and resolves them, somehow.

War, depression, another war, the bomb. All these have been universal crises in this century. Beside those big ones, a hike in the price of beef is less than monumental, and even the expected energy crisis is small potatoes. (I must be hungry.)

FAT-CAT WORLD
If the energy crisis becomes more than newspaper headlines, and shortages and rationing occur, it might be the best thing that has happened to the fat-cat Western world for generations.

We are in grave danger of turning into slob, physically, mentally, emotionally and morally. Maybe we need a good purge, in the form of a sharp cut-back in our soft way of living. Get rid of some of the fat, even if it requires a surgeon's knife.

Take a day in the life of an average family. Someone, very often the husband in these degenerate days, gets up first and turns the thermostat up to seventy. The beast in the basement starts gulping more energy.

QUEEN'S PARK
Crisis In Energy Gets Pipe Fixed

And so it goes, right across the land, all day long. The television set burns juice far into the night. Advertising signs pop on and eat more juice. Industry belches its wastes and burns energy with a lavish hand.

Right now, in our kitchen, the electric oven is glowing red. It will be for the next two hours. Know what's in

Our friend shaves with his electric razor. He goes down and gets his orange juice out of another beast that has been burning electricity all night, producing nothing.

Then he flips on two burners on the electric stove, one for coffee, one for bacon and eggs. When they're ready, he jams some bread into the electric toaster.

BURNERS ON
Then the mother stumbles down and turns the burners back on. Father drives the eight blocks to work, stinking up the environment and burning energy. The kids waffle off to school which is probably burning far more tons of coal a day than it needs to. That school has thousands of lights which are on even on a bright day.

At home friend wife throws the laundry into an automatic washer which uses large quantities of hot water which has taken a fair amount of electricity to produce. Then it goes into the automatic dryer, run by electricity.

Then she tackles the ironing, and we all know what heats on iron in this day.

She decides to wash her hair. More hot water. Then she sits under the electric dryer with fresh coffee made on the stove burner. At this time of year, probably half the lights in the house are on, merrily chewing up the watts.

BIG EATERS
And so it goes, right across the land, all day long. The television set burns juice far into the night. Advertising signs pop on and eat more juice. Industry belches its wastes and burns energy with a lavish hand.

Right now, in our kitchen, the electric oven is glowing red. It will be for the next two hours. Know what's in



Tradition Is Continued In Names Of Newspapers

Perhaps you have noticed that The Georgetown Herald has become The Herald, with a subtitle that links it to Acton and Esqueving as well as Georgetown. You would run out of breath ordering a copy of The Halton Hills Herald, with all those H's, if the name of the new town were incorporated in the title. And you might stumble if the names of all the present communities served by the paper were included, though people a bit north of here once read The Orangeville Sun, Garafraxa, Erin Caledon, Albion, Adjala, Mono, Amaranth and Melancthon Advertiser.

The first newspapers in this country were fiercely loyal-partly, perhaps, because many of them depended on government printing contracts to survive. By the 1830s some papers had begun to proclaim their independence, such as the Coburg Reformer and the Hamilton Free Press and the St. Thomas Liberal.

Papers were openly partisan, and the Tories of Brampton must have been happy when the Conservator started to rival the Reform Peel Banner and Times published there.

Times have changed, so that the Times and Conservator is now one paper. Newspapers no longer simply advocate the platform of one party; they argue for or against policies on their individual merits. The old names can, though, indicate that there is a continuity of style and tradition.

A few years ago the magazine Saturday Night was briefly owned by a man with distinctive views, and was made to reflect those views. When he sold it again, the new editor indicated his intention of restoring the old tradition of the magazine by opening a first editorial. "As we were saying, before we were so rudely interrupted..." But it seems anachronistic for a new

paper to proclaim its independence.

Some titles indicate the atmosphere of the journal. In the southern part of the county more than a century ago, The Little Wasp addressed its stinging comments to readers in Nelson Village, as did The Bee in Oakville. Some titles point to local color, such as the Grand River Scedonia, which comes from Saledonia, near the Six Nations Indian Reserve. Some suggest that news is not the major business of the paper, like the many Advertisers. And others simply report the news, though Herald and Telegraphs suggest more urgency than Spectators and Mails.

A place name is not always included--that can seem limiting. Perhaps Joseph Craig, who established The Halton Herald in Georgetown in 1865, would be happy to see the geographical base of his paper broadening to its original scope.

Regional Offices Reduced By Ministry Of Education

The Ontario Ministry of Education has reduced the number of its regional offices by one, and will re-structure all of them next year, education minister Thomas Wells has told the Legislature.

In presenting the ministry's spending estimates, Mr. Wells said that the ministry's two Toronto-based regional offices will be amalgamated, Jan. 1. The move will reduce the number of regional offices from 10 to 9.

The combined regional office will be based in Willowdale and will continue to serve school boards in Metropolitan Toronto and the counties of Halton, York, Victoria, York (north of Metro), Ontario, Simcoe, Dufferin, Peel and Halton.

Mr. Wells said that as a result of the amalgamation, the office will be able to provide a more co-ordinated and effective service to the boards in the eight-county region.

Next year the nine regional offices will be re-structured so that each will contain curriculum, supervisory and financial components capable of providing better and more direct service to the boards within their areas.

Mr. Wells announced the appointment of Lauri Maki, 43, of Agincourt, as the director of the combined Toronto area regional office.

Mr. Maki, joined the ministry in 1960 as an area superintendent in Dryden

Ontario. After working in the Dryden area, Mr. Maki was appointed assistant director of the ministry's Thunder Bay regional office. He was transferred to Toronto in 1969, joining the ministry's supervisory services branch, and then moved to the school business and finance branch.

Mr. Maki, a native of Thunder Bay, taught and was principal of schools in Thunder Bay. He is a member of the Canadian and American Associations of School Administrators.

The ministry's other regional offices are located in Thunder Bay, Sudbury, North Bay, London, Waterloo, St. Catharines, Kingston and Ottawa.

READER'S FORUM
Official Plan Amendments Are Termed A "Disaster"

The plan completely ignores possible industrial expansion in the community and comments made by some of the board members are shockingly anti-industrial. In reducing the present industrial zoning by allowing encroachment for other uses, it therefore ignores the fact that Georgetown is a good place to work as well as to sleep by disregarding job growth potential within the community boundaries. Under the plan part of Smith and Stone's property is shown zoned residential but I have been assured that this was a drafting error and that it will be corrected.

The plan makes no provision for integration of growth between the town and the satellite hamlets of Norval, Glen Williams and Stewartown.

The plan conveniently ignores the effects of Georgetown's absorption into Halton Hills except that a proposed Halton Hills industrial area near 401 Highway is given as an excuse for the lack of any consideration to future industrial growth within this community.

The plan's only encouraging feature is the zoning of the Silver Creek valley basin as parkland. However, the board's consultant seemed to be apologizing to the people present for doing this day, the Ontario conservation authorities would have forced it anyway.

In conclusion, we are being asked to accept a package which will result in overdevelopment of the town zoning of Maple Avenue and no development at all of the vacant land in the town's swerving business. My ear is not heavy that it cannot hear nor my arm shortened that it cannot save."

Sir: Last Wednesday night at a public meeting the planning board introduced its proposed master plan for Georgetown. Quite frankly it's a disaster. Its salient features are as follows.

Rezoning of the town between Maple Avenue and the northern boundary to accommodate an additional 10,000 people. It is proposed that approximately 1,000 of these people will be jammed into the vacant lands off Ontario Street adjacent to Smith and Stone's industrial property and several thousand jammed in between the two main line railway tracks behind the hospital.

The rezoning takes the form of high, medium and low density housing arranged in such a manner to forever change the face, character and charm of Georgetown. Some people at the meeting complimented the board for the plan, but I am convinced they did not fully grasp its significance or its full geographic, demographic, cultural and economic effects on the community as they know it today. Think of the logistical effects of traffic flow that the proposed development generates.

The plan proposes the zoning of vacant lands in the southern extremity of the town for agriculture use despite strong arguments for its development as a residential area. The almost blind, unreasonable and bullheaded stand taken on this by certain members of the board is very unconvincing.

And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint. Luke 18:1 Keep your petition with praise before the Father. He is still in the prayer an-

Canadian Studies Eggs Important Food, But Consumers Resist

English and Canadian studies should be mandatory subjects for secondary school students.

Education minister Thomas Wells told the Legislature, during the presentation of the ministry's estimates, that students entering secondary school in September will be required to complete four credits in English studies and two in Canadian studies to qualify for a secondary school graduation diploma. Credits in English and Canadian studies are not now mandatory for secondary students.

Mr. Wells said the change is the result of monitoring the effects of research into and reaction to the credit system from teachers, students, parents, principals and administrators.

"This elaborate and thorough process has proved that the vast majority support the principles of the credit system. There were one or two aspects which caused concern and which tended to cloud the acknowledged and positive features of the program. There is also a wide public consensus that it should not be left to chance that secondary school students acquire a deeper understanding and appreciation of the English language and of Canada".

Mr. Wells said.

With English studies mandatory, schools can include not only the traditional courses in English but also related courses in creative writing, special areas of literature, drama and any other courses which develop communication skills in the English language.

Canadian studies deserve a prominent place in schools. Never has it been so clear that the unique heritage and culture of Canada and Canadians should be cherished and strengthened. Pride in country and a genuine sense of patriotism should be considered national priorities, and the schools have an essential role to play in this regard.

Food prices have been in the news for many months and consumers have become increasingly curious about why they have risen so rapidly.

Eggs are an important food but have traditionally met with consumer resistance when prices have risen over 65c per dozen. Perhaps this is because homemakers usually use eggs as "hidden" ingredients in recipes.

Their value as a food has been ignored when used to make cakes, cookies and desserts or to thicken sauces. But when used for a main course at lunch or dinner as a meat substitute or meat extender they soon prove their value as an economical, versatile and satisfying food even at today's prices.

Dorothy Batcheller, Consumer Consultant, reports that the first official survey of the actual cost of producing a dozen eggs in Ontario, was concluded in August of this year. To many people's surprise it was discovered that the cost was 58c to produce one dozen hens' eggs (for all sizes). Cost of feed, transportation, fuel, labour and many services required by the producer of eggs have sky rocketed, hence, the increased cost at the farm.

It doesn't take a mathematical genius to figure that when one adds other necessary factors to the primary cost of 58c a dozen, the cost increases. For example, there is transportation to the grading station, cost of egg cartons, of grading and shipping to the retail stores; handling and displaying the eggs in unattractive cases plus a small profit on their labor for the people involved along the line.

It makes prices, whether we like it or not, seem more realistic.