

HALTON TAXES

The Blow Fell Easier

Taxes are going up in Halton Hills, but be thankful that the rate of increase is considerably less than the burgeoning cost of living. Not all of us will feel that way at first consideration, of course, especially the residents of the former Esqueving Township, who face the biggest tax bite of all. In Georgetown, the tax increase is small enough to generate a mille-hum.

It took more than half a year to do it, but our municipal legislators have done a reasonable job of coping with inflation and holding the line on taxation. And this is a key year, the first of regional government, with its inherent new problems, rising costs and the like.

But what gives us pause is the future. Will our politicians be able to cope with conditions that bring pressures to bear on municipal government? Have our politicians

snaved dollars now that will have to be spent later? Are we holding back projects that could cost us all much more in years to come?

As in everything else, it is possible to be penny wise and dollar foolish in municipal operations. Savings we enjoy now through slight tax increases can come back to haunt us in years to come when extra dollars have to be spent on things that should have been accomplished in the past.

It would take a wizard of sorts to operate a municipality with no tax increase, and who really expects that? Municipal costs rise with all others. We expect a tax increase.

Hopefully, our municipal leaders have plotted a wise and sane course. We'll know during the second and third years of their term of office.

Pressure On Real Estate

It's time to question the long-term value of the present tight-money and high-interest-rate conditions in the real estate market. The conditions seem to have the blessing of government.

Real estate people recall that similar policies prevailed in 1969 and 1970 and after an easing of rates and money supply in 1971, there was a buying surge in 1972 and 1973. Prices accelerated sharply, and we in Halton Hills are familiar with that pattern.

Are realty prices much different now from what they would have been if trends of 1968 and 1969 had continued without interruption? When sharp anti-inflation measures were applied in 1969, business uncertainty and unemployment followed.

This condition is blamed for the general unemployment insurance scheme which followed,

and which has imposed a serious cost burden on the nation.

But now, will the tightness of the present money situation create another buying surge and price increase in housing and property? Senior levels of government, it seems, should be concentrating on improving the supply of housing, instead of measures that create pressures of demand.

Toronto Real Estate Board reports that high mortgage rates and tight money reduced real estate sales in July, and July's dollar volume was less than in any previous month in 1974. But the average price of houses sold was slightly higher than in June, though still below the May peak.

Significantly, condominiums and townhouses continued to account for a large portion of the housing market, representing 15 per cent of all housing units sold and 11 per cent of dollar volume.

Not Aware Of Grants

Health and Welfare Canada officials estimate that several thousand persons in Ontario are unaware of a special federal government grants program designed to help finance projects and activities they may want to initiate in their communities.

The program, called New Horizons, was started by the health department in September 1972. Since then more than \$4,769,000 has been awarded to 834 groups of retired people in this province.

Despite the program's popularity and extensive publicity through news media, many retired citizens in Ontario are still not fully aware of the availability of the funds, application procedures, and the type of projects that the program is designed to finance.

Objectives of New Horizons

are threefold: to encourage the retired to participate in community life; to provide an opportunity to senior citizens to utilize their knowledge and experience; and encourage mutual aid among retired people.

To qualify, projects must be planned and carried out by a group of 10 or more retired persons who become the directors of the project and who take responsibility for its implementation and administration.

Funds granted under the program may be used to meet the cost of planning, organizing, and carrying out projects. This may include such items as rental of accommodations, rental or purchase of equipment, minor building repairs, telephone, publicity, salaries of temporary staff, consultants and audit fees.

ECHOES FROM THE PAST

10 YEARS AGO  
Dave Manes of Ledger's IGA in Acton presented a ticket for a free trip to Nassau to Georgetown High School teacher Jim McCulloch. The McCulloch family lived at R13, Acton, and Mr. and Mrs. McCulloch left Mallon to enjoy the vacation within a vacation.

Mark Llewellyn and Janice Carter were named recipients of \$400 provincial scholarships from Georgetown High School, for securing more than 80 per cent in Grade 13 examinations.

An unattended pan which boiled over in the kitchen of Georgetown hospital set off an automatic alarm which brought firefighters to the scene. Fire Chief Erwin Lewis said the alarm system activated a buzzer in the dispatcher's office.

A suggestion by trustee Donald Lawson of the high school board that unruly passengers be ejected from school buses found favour with three other trustees at a board meeting, but the board decided to determine just what course of action a driver could take with students to maintain discipline.

The 47-day strike at Smith and Stone in Georgetown cut the town's water revenue by \$8,500, water chairman Don Powers told council. The cutback in purchases cut the department's hopes for a big surplus by year-end.

28 YEARS AGO  
Georgetown could have had a big cake, when a railway car loaded with flour left the track during an early morning rail crash on the CNR embankment, just as a rainstorm started. Little flour spilled, however, and the remainder was carted away by truck.

An heirloom gold pin, worn by her great-grandmother on her wedding day, enhanced

the wedding at Limehouse of Jean Catherine Lindsay, a graduate of Guelph General Hospital Nursing School.

Three Georgetown couples won prizes in a bowling tournament held at Elora. They were Mr. and Mrs. Ern Thomas, who won first prize, and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Williamson and Mr. and Mrs. George Wood.

Georgetown Bill Hardman made a television appearance, as part of the honor guard for the Duke of Edinburgh. He was taking part in a summer camp for cadets at Banff, when he was selected for the guard of honor at the British Empire Games at Vancouver. The event was televised nationally.

30 YEARS AGO  
Boys Band of Georgetown entertained at Cedarvale School, and words of appreciation for the show were expressed by the school's superintendent, Mrs. Houston.

Some ratepayers expressed the public opinion that the school area question in Esqueving Township could be revived. Formation of a new school area was rejected when 10 school sections rejected the idea, with only eight in favor.

A number of silos were reported down in a high wind that struck Terra Cotta. One silo, belonging to J. E. Rutledge, was blown in the storm.

Murray Coles of Acton was in charge of services at Norval Presbyterian Church for the month while Rev. J.L. Self was on vacation.

Young People's group had charge of the regular church service at Ashgrove, with members of the group in the choir and Miss Joy Rudell serving as organist.



THOSE LAZY, HAZY, CRAZY DAYS OF SUMMER

BILL SMILEY

Sort Of Backward Look On Summer Reflections

Summer reflections: some good, some bad. First we'll give the bad, as the current crud goes. If you don't know what crud means, ask your family doctor. Or somebody else's family doctor, if you don't trust your own.

A family doctor is someone in the family. That means you try to get everything for free. So if he tells you that you have a little headache once in a while, take an aspirin, relax, you know you have a monumental brain tumor.

On the other hand, if you take somebody else's family doctor, beware. He'll probably tell you that you have a possible brain tumor, that you should relax, and take plenty of aspirin.

Well, I hope that takes care of that. I didn't really mean to get onto doctors. Grand chaps, actually.

But I have a lingering resentment against an RAF doctor who insisted on giving me my annual anti-tetanus shot (a dirty great injection in your shoulder) the night of our passing-out party, from a training course on Spitfires.

destructible and were going to be destroyed. Perhaps that is what makes young people tick today. If they think some of them don't even seem to be wound up, let alone tick.

As usual, I've gone far from my theme. The good news and then the bad news. It's like a Newlie or Polish joke, both of which I despise.

Good news? It's not raining; the town engineer is not going to cut down 31 maple trees until he tries again next year. My grandbaby is a little devil. One of my students wants to come around and talk. My wife called me "Dear" today. My bursts are not hurting too much. There's a rose bed in the backyard which hasn't produced a rose in three years, but this summer has a fine touch of green (three baby elms). I don't have a heart condition, though I'm not sure about my liver. The electric storm last night didn't hit my oaks. The

plumber gave us a big bag of fresh beans out of his garden. BAD NEWS? Bad news? My grandbaby is a devil. He and his mother are living in a dome (no lights, no water, no electricity, no toilet). I left an \$8.95 library book out on one of the lawn chairs yesterday and it rained all night. There's a nest of yellowjackets up in the roof and the roofer will quit, after he's taken half the shingles off. Two stings will do it. The boys who are going to do the painting will all have fallen off a ladder and broken their right arms by the time they're ready to go. My mistress has the mumps. My doctor has a tongue. My cat is heterosexual. My daughter is cheerful. My son is cheerful. (This is bad news because it means they are both going to make a touch). All in all, it's a pretty average summer, so far.

Labor Pool For Jobless

Sir: Recent comments by the captains of industry about the value of a manpower office in this area show that generally speaking, employers don't have much faith in manpower services.

But there is a need for some kind of an employment service.

There is also the fact that many people are concerned about unemployment insurance abuses and the cost of supporting welfare recipients. Why not kill two birds with one stone? Unemployment recipients are supposed to be available for work. Welfare recipients who are healthy and able should be available for work. They, who not utilize school buses and bring the unemployed and welfare recipients who are employable to a central location (a school or public hall). Here they could be shown education films, be given

Meanwhile, employers seeking people for temporary help could phone in for enough persons to fill their needs. At the present time, people on the "pogy" (forgive the expression) are not required to take a lesser job than they had been doing before being unemployed. This rule could be amended so that any person could be temporarily employed. For instance a person earning \$8 per hour becomes unemployed. After so long on a rotation basis, he may be required to report to the central labor pool, where, for a limited period, he may be sent out to work on a temporary basis at less money or the rate paid by the company that he or she is sent to.

I think this would benefit the unemployed, the taxpayer and industry.

The unemployed, particularly the welfare recipient, would have a gainful occupation, thus easing the weight on the taxpayer. Industry, requiring part time help, could get those sent to work for them and offer the diligent and industrious full time employment.

Such a service might get off the ground with a LIP grant.

W.A. Johnson  
Rockwood

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VIEWPOINT

Putting The Credibility Back Into Politics

BY G. LANDBOROUGH  
Terra Cotta

The continuing saga of Watergate is something I'll be more than glad to see the end of. It would appear that living in a time of "history being made" can get too repetitive - almost downright boring.

At the time of this writing President Nixon's least revelation about full knowledge of the cover-up had resulted in neither his resignation nor impeachment - though loud cries of one or the other could be heard from everywhere even his staunchest supporters. For a man who has always tried to "make himself perfectly clear" Richard Milhous Nixon has fallen quite short of his goal. The tragedy of Watergate

has been a very lonely place in those final days. American newspapers headed by The Washington Post have relentlessly searched for more truths to uncover until now the whole sordid mess seems to be laid out before the American people, and the watching world, who stand waiting for the outcome. What is done by the American congress will decide the power and conduct of the office of President from this time on.

The message of Watergate is twofold.

It shows on one hand that even the President of a nation as great as the U.S.A. is not above the law. On the other hand, we wonder how such a complicated web of deceit and injustice could occur in the first place. It

Toronto Star's farewell salute on the death of senator Wayne Morse states that the U.S. has lost its last angry man of politics.

When the late Sen. Morse saw something was wrong, he voted against it regardless of the vote of the majority. He was a man of moral conviction who stood fast for what he believed in. When we look at the number of victims of Watergate, whose careers have been smashed such as: Agnew, Magruder, Mitchell, Ehrlichman and Haldeman, Dean, Hunt and Liddy to name only a very few who whether rightly so or otherwise have gone from the very top to the bitter bottom we wonder if there is any political moral conviction left in force. So many

men who have been awayed to mishandle "the power at the top" have been caught up in a web of their own making.

NOT ISOLATED  
The problem of Watergate is that it is not an isolated incident. Lesser events happen all the time for those that follow "the end justifies the means" school in politics and big business. Whether Watergate will act as a deterrent and democracy will come out cleaner and further ahead is yet to be seen.

Here at home we already have our own inevitable hints at a supposed "Canadian Watergate."

What Conservative Jed Baldwin has hinted is that what happened in Washington might also be

taking place in Ottawa has to date received no valid confirmation.

Perhaps his statement is nothing more than mere conjecture to ride the Watergate expose train.

Time alone will tell, political credibility is such that at this moment I would rather believe nor doubt any statement made either this side or the other side of the border.

My own feeling had been that impeachment was a must. If the office of the President, if the very workings of a true democracy as opposed to even a hint of a dictatorship were to be restored, President Richard Milhous Nixon had to be removed from office.

Catching Up Is Required To Even Electrical Costs

"Hydro is not immune or insulated from the forces of inflation," George Gathercole, chairman of Ontario Hydro told the Ontario Energy Board public hearing examining Hydro rate proposals for 1975 in Toronto last week.

"Electrical power customers have taken for granted for many years that electricity should have a stable price," he stated.

In describing the cyclical effects of inflation, Mr. Gathercole told the Board that "even though we were to have a freeze on wages and the stabilization of interest rates, the cost of electricity would continue to rise in the future because there has to be a catching up."

"I would like to hope that inflation would be brought more quickly to a position of stability," he continued, "but I don't see the prospects at the moment."

Replying to questions raised by the Consumers Association, the Hydro chairman agreed that the effects of rising power costs are to be reviewed by the Board. "But this is a time of rising prices, whether it be for a commodity such as eggs, bread or milk, the prices of which have risen more rapidly than electricity," he told the Board.

Ontario Hydro has proposed a 15 per cent increase for 1975 in its wholesale cost of power to municipal utilities and a 10 per cent increase to direct industrial users. The rate proposals are being reviewed by the Ontario Energy Board. The hearings began early in June and are expected to be completed in August.

John Dunn, chairman of North York Hydro, the second largest municipal utility in the province, told the Board that electricity is under-priced, and as part of his comments

predicted an increase in the use of electricity.

He based his prediction on forecast increases in natural gas, oil and coal prices ranging from 100 to 250 per cent in the next five years. Hydro has estimated that electricity rates will rise by 96 per cent in the same period.

"We are bound to have an accelerating trend towards electricity," said Mr. Dunn, and cited a shortage of electric heating devices as the bottleneck towards even greater conversion by the public to electricity for heating.

Major intervenors in the Hydro rate case are the Ontario Municipal Electric Association, the Consumers Association of Canada and the Association of Direct Customers of Ontario Hydro. Each is presenting evidence and cross-examining Hydro witnesses as part of their intervention.

READER'S FORUM

Rain Still Required To Produce Our Crops

Sir: Each summer I hear the radio announcers wishing the clouds and rain away and hoping for sunshine and more sunshine. I realize they are thinking of people who are on their long awaited vacations and who want to enjoy the outdoors.

If I say we need rain or that was a wonderful rain the answer is, "Yes it will help the farmers."

Many people do not seem to realize that no rain means no grain and hay to feed the cattle who produce the milk and meat; pigs and poultry that provide the bacon and eggs for breakfast. The farmer, yes it will help the farmer, the farmer, the same people do not seem to connect rain or the lack of it to the price or scarcity of food.

Food is not produced in the warehouses behind the supermarkets. It grows, dependent on rain and sunshine and we should be equally grateful for both.

I saw oats that would not

produce kernels unless there was a good rain immediately. Hay will be \$1 a bale I am told. Why? Because it is in short supply. The farmer cuts down his livestock when feed is scarce.

Town and city people are as dependent on rain as the farmers. No rain eventually means no milk. It's as simple as that.

There is a saying. The farmer farms the land, everyone else farms the farmer.

Another saying—Destroy the cities and leave the farms undamaged and the cities will rise again.

Destroy the farms and leave the cities intact. The cities die also.

Rain benefits all and we cannot live without it. Remember that when you see the beautiful juicy berries and peaches.

A. Ferwerda

Look Out For Bikes

With the summer weather more bicycles are on the road. Traffic accidents take the lives of many bicycle riders every year and injure thousands of others in Canada. Many of these accidents involve a violation by the bike rider, but that doesn't excuse the driver. Be on the lookout for bicycle riders - especially at dusk - and give them a break.

UNEVEN  
Stopping is controlled by friction. When a vehicle is travelling over an uneven surface, tires spend part of the time off that surface, thus lessening the amount of friction and thereby increasing the stopping distance considerably in some instances.

THE HALF BLIND DRIVER  
You have to be able to see to avoid accidents. Check out your windshield wipers and be prepared for those summer rains. Are the wipers doing an efficient job or are you only half seeing? If they're not up to par have them replaced.

QUEEN'S PARK



BY DON O'HEARN  
Queen's Park Bureau Chief of The Herald

Authoritarianism In Government

being enforced is a bad law because it makes a mockery of all law.

The second is that rowdism is a quite separate offence which can be policed quite apart from the presence or non-presence of drinking.

This action was quite out of keeping with the usually broad and reasonable view that this minister takes. And in this he was in line with an out-of-character attitude that has rather consistently marked his attitude on liquor.

There have been a series of controversial incidents concerning liquor in recent months.

There was the Kitchener beer festival where a large pavilion was shut down by the Liquor Licence Board; festival in Brantford where licences were refused because there would have been some drinking in a school; the silly situation in Toronto where some bars are allowed to serve free peanuts and snacks and others aren't. And then there were the recent increases in liquor prices by the LCBO, by far the largest in history.

These and other cases all had some ring of authoritarianism.

The head of the Licence Board is former Toronto police chief J.P. Mackey and of the Control Board retired major-general George Kitchner.

Which leaves one to wonder whether Mr. Clement's uncharacteristic lack of common sense on liquor matters may be caused by an over-balanced loyalty to his officials.

John Clement is certainly one of the most able ministers in the government.

His ministry of consumer and commercial affairs covers a wide field. And as minister he has been able to come up with balanced and logical answers to the many problems that confront the ministry.

But one particular area has had him baffled.

One of the responsibilities of his ministry has been the administration and control of liquor.

And this responsibility has proven to be an almost constant public headache. The most recent controversy was over the arrest of two women in a Toronto park for having three bottles of beer and a bottle of wine at a picnic in a Toronto park.

The Liquor Control Act says there can't be drinking in a public place and the arresting officer was within his rights.

But there was a considerable outcry over the incident, evidence that this section of the Act was seldom enforced by police when applied to picnics, and with the outcry a demand that the section should be repealed.

But Mr. Clement said no, he wouldn't change the act, giving as his principle reason that to sanction drinking in parks could lead to rowdism.

TOO LOYAL?  
In this decision the minister was blatantly wrong on at least two points. One is that he was going against the principle that a law that is conclusively not

Bible Thought

"Because I live, ye shall live also." John 14:19  
The life of Christ assured us of His dedication. His death assured us of our Salvation, and His resurrection assured all believers of eternal separation with Him in heaven.