

Grade 13 may serve a purpose

To the Editor of the Herald:

One of the first things that catches the attention of high school students entering university for the first time is the similarity between first year university courses and the Grade 13 program. Material that has been covered in Grade 13 is taught again with only a minimum of new ideas being presented. Not until late in the first term does new work appear in any quantity.

Indeed many students have expressed the opinion that the re-teaching of already learned material is both unnecessary and time-wasting.

In this light Grade 13 itself can be seen to be an unnecessary part of the educational system and, in this light, it most certainly is.

There is, however, another view of this situation which shows Grade 13 to be an indispensable part of our educational system.

Consider: University freshmen are struck not only with similarities between their new and their former institutions of learning but with differences as well. Each change of environment has a profound effect upon the student who must analyze his new situation and adapt to it.

The most important change that will be noticed, one which impedes the progress of the largest number of students, is the change in the routine of study.

In high school, where timetables are based on a daily cycle, the student attends classes from morning to mid-afternoon learning new material and working on assignments. Homework is done after the school day and perhaps in the one-or-two-hour period of unscheduled classes.

A very similar method of study has been followed from elementary school and by the time the student reaches his last high school year, it has become an effortless and automatic procedure.

When he enters university the student finds that things have changed. A timetable is designed around a weekly cycle. Classes can be scheduled from early morning to late in the afternoon or into the early evening. No class time is allotted for working on assignments - lectures are a continuous presentation of relevant material.

As a result, the numerous and lengthy assignments cannot be completed in any thoroughness during the few evening hours that are frequently spent participating in extracurricular activities and attending a few of the abundant social functions. Much of the student's work must be done

between classes, during unscheduled periods. For a student who is used to working almost continuously throughout each high school day and enjoying the infrequent periods of relaxation, there is a tendency to over-enjoy the breaks in university and the three to four hours of "free time" during a day become three to four hours of wasted time.

The adoption of a new routine

consists mainly of developing new personal priorities and the system of time allocation that goes along with them.

A student who has been subjected to the public school high school study routine is in for a shock when he discovers that his former methods of learning must be greatly modified or totally discarded. He needs time to examine his abilities and employ all his acquired knowledge and

adaptive power to create and put into effect a new method of learning that will work for him in his new environment.

The overlapping of the Grade 13 and first year university courses can provide the student with the time that he needs to straighten himself out before going on to further his education.

By having presented to him work with which he is already familiar, the student can

concentrate his efforts on getting himself reorganized without seriously harming his marks. If he gets behind in his work because he has not yet found an efficient routine, he can easily catch up when he sorts out his problems by relying on the knowledge he acquired in Grade 13 to carry him through the review material and concentrate on learning the new aspects and applications that have been

presented. As the term progresses the new student at university is expected to become familiar with the new routine fairly rapidly. Soon after the initial weeks of familiar work are completed, new material comes to occupy an increasingly greater portion of lecture time until finally the course consists of entirely new work.

For the student who has mistakenly assumed that his first year at university was going to continue to be a facile review, and has not taken time to adjust to his new environment and adopt the new routine, the going becomes rough at this point.

He will find himself in a situation as difficult to handle as the one he would have faced had he been subjected to new work from the beginning. He must change his entire routine of study and at the same time learn the new ideas and concepts being taught.

Many students faced with this extremely difficult task, drop their courses to avoid failing, promising themselves that when they return next year to start again they will know better what is expected of them.

Thus it is important that students realize that the period of review is also a period of adjustment and reorganization and is something of which he should take the utmost advantage.

As a former student of Georgetown District High School, I hope that this letter will help to inform the unenlightened students in Georgetown of what to expect when they make their decision to continue their education past the high school level. I also hope that those who think Grade 13 should be eliminated will give some consideration to the opinions I have expressed here.

Larry Bushey
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TRIPLETS. One, Two and Three. Over 60 people gathered at the home of Ron and Cathy Tulloch in Barrie on an early October Sunday to wish triplet sons, Aiden, Dylan and Joshua, a happy first birthday. Three

"special guests" (from left) were grandmother Mrs. Thomas Tulloch, holding Aiden, great-grandmother Mrs. Joseph McGowan, holding Dylan and grandmother, Mrs. Harry Smethurst who is holding

Joshua. Mrs. McGowan and Mrs. Smethurst, the former Helen McGowan, are both well known in Georgetown and district where they lived for a number of years prior to moving to Barrie.



The Georgetown Optimist Club honored the Candystrippers of Georgetown District Hospital at a special dinner held last Tuesday evening. Lieutenant-Governor of Optimists International, Chuck Riley, made the presentation of a plaque to the two girls chosen to represent the town's Candystrippers.

Chuck Riley (left); Mrs. Marion Booth, Candystripper convener; Jennifer Green; Wendy Buskill; Mrs. Maureen Bewley, assistant convener and Optimist President, Jim Halstead, enjoyed the evening.

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South freezes north

rate of two percent per year." "I'd rather see this reflect the Halton Hills policy which will be established Wednesday night," he said. "If council agrees to the rate of two percent then I'll accept it, but the region should allow develop-

ment as we see we want it." Coun. McKenzie added that water and sewage services from Georgetown could be extended to serve the areas of Glen Williams, Norval, Stewarttown and possibly as far as Limehouse.

He said a recommendation to prohibit any estate developments in the former Esqueving township should be opposed by Halton Hills council.

"I think we have some ideal land around here for estate housing," he said. "We've even

had a proposal by the people operating the dragway which wouldn't be allowed by the region."

Coun. McKenzie said he agreed that a blanket policy for Esqueving township would not be acceptable because

development and land severances should be judged individually.

"There's acres of land in Esqueving which can't be farmed," he explained. "These areas could be severed for one or two houses which would help the assessment in the rural areas."

The one recommendation which Coun. McKenzie strongly opposes states the region will "continue investigating alternative means of servicing the central and northern servicing area and, until conclusions are reached, no major works will be undertaken on sewage treatment plants in the urban areas of Milton, Acton and Georgetown."

Coun. McKenzie said this could mean the region can block any attempts to expand the sewage treatment plants if problems occurred. "It seems as if the region is trying to direct as much development as possible to Oakville and Burlington," he continued. "They've put as many roadblocks as they can to prevent development in Milton and Halton Hills."

Looking at the financial situation today Mr. Bulloch predicted a recession. "There's really nothing we can do about it," he said, unless the federal government is made more effective in operations.

Stewarttown

The regular November meeting of Esqueving Women's Institute was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Thomas on Thursday evening, Nov. 14. The roll call was answered with "A Method I Use to Relieve Tension."

The evening bingo held October 6 in the Community Hall was a new venture for the Institute's ladies. However, the organizing committee's report showed a most successful evening and many of those who attended expressed their delight.

Road construction through Stewarttown came under discussion and several expressed concern regarding the approach from the old road to the new road on the north hill.

To go north from this spot, one must first come to a full stop before crossing south-bound traffic. This is just below a knoll on the 7th Line where one cannot see approaching traffic. This could be a most dangerous spot, especially when the hill is slippery.

However, we trust motorists travelling both ways will exercise caution to prevent accidents.

A regular donation was made to the Poppy Fund and plans were made for the program and for an exchange of gifts at the Christmas meeting.

A brisk auction sale added to the treasury funds and members left for home, happy with their purchases. Mrs. Godden assisted the hostess in serving lunch. A social half-hour was enjoyed.

By E. Grant

He made them mad

John Bulloch, the man who turned a personal gripe against the government into a \$1 million business, got on the nerves of some Georgetown businessmen last Wednesday night at the Chamber of Commerce's fall dinner meeting. But getting on peoples' nerves is not unusual for Bulloch. He's made a business of that, too.

Mr. Bulloch is the president of the Canadian Federation of Independent Business. The non-profit organization was formed in the fall of 1971 to act as the "permanent voice of the Canadian businessman, farmer and professional." The stimulation behind its birth was the federal government's doomed White Paper on Taxation.

Mr. Bulloch, a teacher at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute at that time, became very involved in the fight against the white paper. With partial success achieved Mr. Bulloch decided to continue the battle on the federal level, acting as a spokesman for small independent businesses across Canada.

The federation has grown to the point now where it has a membership of 21,000 and a staff of 60, headed by Mr. Bulloch. There are approximately 50 members in the Georgetown area. Members pay anywhere from \$40 to \$500

annually for voting membership in the federation. For that they receive, nine times a year, "Mandate," a four-page public relations-public opinion pamphlet dealing with the federation's current campaigns.

The federation is strictly non-political said Mr. Bulloch, who went on to note, "Actually this bit about political parties is strictly a myth. If you look at the platforms of the Liberals, Conservatives and NDP you wouldn't know there were any differences between the three."

This country, by definition, is an economic abortion. Only a drunk could have put this country together the way it has been.

Provincial parties were no different, in Mr. Bulloch's opinion. "The provincial governments are like a big octopus having convulsions. The provincial governments accuse the federal government of a conspiracy against them. Yet we all know that they couldn't pull

it off, even if they knew how to. They're totally incapable of coordinating or meeting any kind

of objective."

Ottawa, said Mr. Bulloch, would be a beautiful place to lease to India for a nuclear test site. The fault for that however, he added, did not lie with the individual MPs but, instead, with the size of government today. "The federal government is so big today MPs have a difficult time getting a bead on it."

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John Bulloch

Curling executive

North Halton Curling Clubs' executive for the 1974-75 season are: Andre Wolfer, Harold Martin, Bill McCracken, and Roger Leveque.

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