

Alexander raps press for biased reports

"I wasn't sure if the turkey dinner was to be symbolic of the meat being served or symbolic of one of the guest speakers," began Mrs. Judy Alexander chairman of the Halton Board of Education at the annual fall meeting of the Ontario Public School Men Teachers' Federation where she and Mr. Neil Davis, provincial president of the O.P.S.M.T.F. were the guest speakers.

A tense atmosphere could have developed however with Mrs. Alexander announcing "nothing is wrong with my foot, I'm just using the crutches for self-defense and in the

past couple of weeks they have been useful." It seemed that the guest speakers were not about to clash, just merely express their opinions.

Mrs. Alexander spoke on pressures which the Halton Board of Education have and must cope with, and also touched on the topic of "Is there a gap forming between the teachers and the board?"

Trying to function in the best interests of the students, parents and teachers the board must also cope with pressures from the Ontario ministry of education and their passing of such bills as Bill 100, pressures from numerous special in-

terest groups and pressures from the teachers.

Mrs. Alexander particularly slammed the media for its often "biased" and "one sided reporting".

"Slanted views are often reported by slanting quotes. A knowledge of all the background on all the issues is needed in order to have proper reporting. The reporting has often been slightly incorrect and sometimes grossly incorrect, as the stories and reports often do not show the entire picture," told Mrs. Alexander.

However, not wishing to blacken the name of all

because of some mis-reporting by a few, Mrs. Alexander continued to explain, that often time just does not allow for the reporters to delve into each issue and that some reporters do, in fact, check many of the facts with individual trustees.

Mrs. Alexander placed the blame on the individual teachers, if there is, indeed a gap forming between the school board and the teaching body.

"How can teachers get the proper perspective of the board's functions and decisions just by reading the newspaper. Ask yourself these

questions. Is a trustee welcome in your school and in your classroom? Is a trustee really welcome in the staffroom? Have you ever worked with a trustee on any special committees? How many board meetings have you been to?" questioned Mrs. Alexander.

"Teachers and trustees share many similar goals. The teachers really need the trustees and just as equally trustees really need teachers. For the sake of all our children in the school, I say we better bridge the gap and get acquainted," concluded the chairman of the education

board.

Neil Davis, provincial president of the OPSMTF, the next speaker, as if facing the cold east wind, stood and immediately announced that he was not about to deny or rebut any of the statements made by Mrs. Alexander and that in fact, he being in a political position realizes the pressures placed on any elected board.

"The only approach we can take for the future of education is to form a partnership between the trustees and the teachers. We respect the right of the school board to govern.

We don't think that the school board should be abolished and we do think that the Ontario education system is excellent," explained Mr. Mr. Davis.

He expressed his strong belief that a partnership must be formed so that the trustees and teachers can work together in the final decisions made by the board: Decisions which will affect the teachers and their students.

"We don't want the ultimate power to make decisions however, we do want to be

involved in the decision-making process. We have to direct input from the federation. We must attend the board meeting and see what's going on ourselves. You are welcome and it is your responsibility to attend these meetings as a taxpayer and as a teacher," urged Mr. Davis.

Mr. Davis also touched on the fact that it is up to the teachers to inform parents of students and to inform the general public on what the schools are doing and their future directions.

"We have been at fault for not keeping everyone informed

on the procedures of the schools. Invite the parents into your classroom and not just at "open house" time. I doubt any parent can discuss the entire scholastic career of their child in 15 minutes."

"We must co-operate together, work together for the benefit of the children. I don't think we are as far apart as it seems. However, we are getting farther and farther apart and it is up to us to correct this," he concluded.



WILLIAM'S 90th BIRTHDAY. William Walker a one-time resident of Georgetown celebrated his 90th birthday last Sunday, which was the actual date of birth. Mr. Walker worked for the town of Halton Hills for 13 years finally retiring at the age of 81. A birthday reception was held at

St. John's Anglican Church hall in Stewarttown last Sunday. Standing with Mr. Walker are left; his daughter Mrs. Gall Snow, his wife, Doris, son-in-law Edgar and, in front, his seven-year-old grandson, Frank.

Deborah Ferris - Richard Werner wed



Saturday, October 18, witnessed the marriage of Miss Deborah Delphine Ferris of Georgetown to Mr. Richard Bruce Werner, formerly of Milton.

The uniting of Deborah, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James John Ferris of 19 Jessop Court in Georgetown to Richard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Werner of Bolton, took place at St. George's Anglican Church.

Officiating at the double ring ceremony was Rev. Callagher of St. George's.

Mrs. Beverley van Alphen, a close friend of the bride and groom, attended as the matron of honor. Mr. Terry Tyner, a close friend of the groom, stood as best man.

The bride's wedding party included: Miss Barbara Ferris, sister to the bride; Miss Susan Hansen, friend of the bride and Miss Terry Ferris, sister to the bride, were all bridesmaids. Flower girls were Miss Jennifer Ferris, a sister, and Miss Lorna Sinclair, cousin of the groom.

The groom's attendants were: Mr. Glen Gillis, a friend of the groom, Mr. Jack Robinson, a friend of Mr. Colin Werner, brother to the groom, who all served as ushers.

The reception following the wedding, was held in the church hall of St. George's. Mr. and Mrs. Werner are presently living in their new home in Cambridge.

Region gives \$300,000.

Halton has handed over the \$300,000 the town of Halton Hills had asked for to aid in acquiring land and building an addition to the town's municipal building on the Seventh Line.

At last Wednesday's meeting of regional council in Burlington the council agreed to issue debentures in the amount of \$300,000 for the municipal building.

Additions to Halton hospitals is going to cost regional taxpayers an extra \$10 million over the next four years.

The region's administration committee reported to regional council last Wednesday that debenture issues for \$10,066,533 should be included in the region's capital forecast for the next four years. Also included, they reported, should be plans to issue debentures of \$540,882 for conservation authority projects and \$700,000 for the new regional headquarters building.

"My glasses? House of Spectacles, of course."

House Of Spectacles

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Halton Hills donates \$1,332 to UNICEF

Thanks to the children of Halton Hills and to the families who donated, collections from the UNICEF boxes on Halloween night increased from the total collected last year.

Last year, \$1,105.22 was collected from Halton Hills and this year \$227.13 more was raised, bringing the total figure of monies raised to \$1,332.35.

The organizations and totals submitted by each should be acknowledged and congratulated for the hard, yet worthwhile, work towards a worthwhile cause.

Centennial Public School saw \$311.60 come in; Georgetown and District High School brought in \$129.78; Verdun Rebekah Lodge, \$25; Knox Presbyterian Church Women's \$25; Church of Strathmore Chapter I.O.D.E. \$10; St. Andrews United Sunday School, \$58.63; Howard Wrigglesworth Public School, \$80.88; Limehouse Public School, \$92.02; Joseph Gibbons Public School, \$60.87; Norval and Huttonville United Sunday Schools, \$68.40; Park Public School, \$44.19; Glen Williams Public School, \$39.01; Stewarttown Senior Public School, \$44.91; St. George's Anglican Sunday School, \$43.40; St. John's United Sunday School, \$75.52; Union Presbyterian Sunday School, \$17.22; Norval Presbyterian Sunday School, \$13.91; St. Paul's Anglican Sunday School, Norval \$20.20; Mountainview Baptist Sunday School \$11.82; Junior Library, Georgetown, \$1.10; Georgetown and District Christian School, \$150.42 and anonymous donations totalled \$7.51.

Winter Traction for Light Trucks

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Region won't help pay for Finnish trip

A group of Burlington hockey players will have to head to Finland with just the best wishes of the region. Regional council last week turned down a request from the team for \$1,000 grant to aid in the expenses of the trip.

The trip is to cost approximately \$18,000 of which \$17,000 has already been raised. However the majority of regional councillors felt that donating to any one sports club would set a dangerous precedent.

The former solicitor for Halton, Noel Bates, has been rehired by the region to represent Halton at the upcoming Ontario Municipal Board hearings into the application of Springbank Sand and Gravel Co. to operate a quarry in the Speyside area.

The hearings are scheduled to take place December 15.

Mr. Bates is now working with a special inquiry in Mississauga.

GEORGETOWN TIRE SALES

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Coming soon TO HALTON HILLS the Dale Carnegie Course

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DECEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

DEC. 10th to 13th	Regency Racquets Club Physical Fitness Demonstration
12th	Brampton Townsmen's Chorus Leading a Choral Sing 8 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.
13th	Bramalea Lionaires Twirl-A-Thon ALL DAY
13th	Free Films For Children At Famous Player Theatre
15th	Peel Choral Society Leading a Carol sing
18th	Red Cross Blood Donor Clinic From 1 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.

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