

Letters to the Editor

Student is being bullied by teacher Campbell says

Following is a copy of a letter sent by Ken Campbell to education minister Tom Wells. A copy of the letter has been filed with the Herald.

Dear Mr. Wells:

Thank you for your letter in response to mine of Nov. 19th and Dec. 8th, 1975, in which I had expressed our alarm at the destructive, anti-Christian philosophies underlying the Values Education project, a joint development of the ministry and the Halton and Hamilton Board of Education. We are relieved to note in a recent statement by the Halton Director of Education that that program has now been terminated, but we are apprehensive over the announced intention to continue to implement the same by a staff of social engineers in this region.

Although I have relinquished my executive positions with the Halton Renaissance Committee at the end of 1975, I have been directed by Mr. Gordon Reade, chairman of the HRC in my response to your correspondence to me, to suggest that in the current quest by the Ontario government for economizing which has necessitated the closing of several hospitals in the province, there could be a saving of millions of the Ontario taxpayers' money annually in education by:

1. the dropping of such expensive experiments as the "Values Education" project and a return to the teaching of the basics of the Judeo-Christian moral ab-

solutes in the public school system, (as required by the Ontario Education Act), as foundational for a life-time of values judgments in our complex, pluralistic society;

2. the closing down of the O.I.S.E., that ivory tower from which such extravagant waste of our educational tax monies emanate. It could be closed without being missed, except there'd be need for fewer Teacher Development days in which teachers are taken from the classroom to learn of the latest costly fads spawned at O.I.S.E. We'd all miss O.I.S.E.-produced headaches but could learn to live happily without them. Close it down before it destroys the system!

We're paying \$14 million annually for O.I.S.E. to import mediocriety from the U.S.A. at premium prices for the Ontario taxpayer. Close it down before it brings your government down!

There is another concern which I wish to bring to your attention and request the intervention of your good offices. Under the jurisdiction of most boards of education in Ontario I'm sure this circumstance would not have been allowed in the first place or would have and could have been quickly and appropriately resolved at the local school level. But in Halton where the board late last year hysterically passed an infamous edict slandering a private citizen as well as an 800-member citizens' committee as Liars, without presenting a shred of substantiating evidence or even allowing "the accused" its

"day in court", an action termed a "LYNCHING" by an editorial in the Oakville Journal Record - there is no hope of receiving a fair hearing from anyone in the Halton system regarding this outrageous instance of a gross violation of a student's civil rights in the classroom.

I refer to a 17-year-old Grade 13 student who has twice in the last couple of weeks been reduced to tears before her classmates by the brutal psychological bullying of teachers attacking and ridiculing her personal convictions in front of her classmates.

As a private citizen, and as a Minister of the Gospel, I am prepared to bring this young lady and her parents to your office with documentary proof that she has been made the target of a deliberate campaign of personal abuse with the tacit approval of the administration because her parents are active members of the H.R.C. and because she has publicly expressed her whole-hearted support for them and for their participation in the efforts of the H.R.C. to improve our fine public educational system.

Your immediate attention to this urgent matter will be appreciated.

Sincerely
Ken Campbell
President,
The Campbell-Reese
Evangelistic Assoc.



STANDING BY to give his father, John Tomazic, a helping hand is Rudy, 9. The Tomazics had to break through the thick crust of snow which formed after last Wednesday's sleet storm.

Concert again showed need for proper facilities

To the Editor of the Herald:
The success of the Children's Concert by the Hamilton Philharmonic last Sunday shows the strong local interest in music. The Canadian Federation of University Women is to be congratulated for their efforts to bring this excellent organization here for the first time. We are sure they were very gratified (and relieved) to be able to post the "sold-out" signs, particularly after the very discouraging early response to ticket sales.

This event indicated what entertaining performers and programs might be brought

here - provided we had the proper facilities. It would have been interesting to observe Mr. Brett's initial reaction on seeing where his orchestra was to perform. He did make reference to our high school "auditorium" in a few gentle, but pointed remarks during the course of the program.

No wonder! Half the orchestra had to be seated on the floor of the cafeteria with the result that these musicians were invisible to most of the audience.

The concert's success was due to the skilled and entertaining performance before a very receptive audience. How much more enjoyable might it have been with proper, comfortably comfortable seats, enough space, good lighting and last but not least, good acoustics.

Now that Halton Hills has three arenas, two indoor swimming pools, several tennis courts etc., it might be time now to seriously consider library and theatre facilities. When it is realized that between the two northern entities of Milton and Halton Hills (total population over 50,000), there is not one theatre auditorium, it is evident that such a building is long overdue.

In the areas mentioned, there are a plethora of multipurpose gymnasiums, cafeteriums and halls, none of which serves as a proper auditorium. They are dining, dancing or games places primarily and only very secondarily auditoriums.

A theatre with the advantages of good acoustics, lighting, vision and seating is eminently desirable not just for Little Theatre but for meetings of all kinds, concerts, musicals, recitals various ceremonies, movies etc. Most organizations, regardless of their main activities, will at least once a year (no doubt more often) stage a major event involving an important speaker or presentation for a large audience where a theatre is required.

Once the facility is there, more attractive events, artists and speakers will be booked. An example of community use is the Lester B. Pearson

Theatre in Brampton. The only relatively slack time is in July and August. The remainder of the time reservations for its use must be made a year in advance. This situation exists in a community where there are also three additional theatre auditoriums attached to high schools.

In other words, the building need not be a white elephant. On the contrary, once there, it is used with increasing frequency to the community's advantage.

Yours very truly,
Ralph Ureel
Halton Hills Music Association

Where were you?

To the Editor of the Herald:
Sir John R. Kerr, why don't you emigrate? Canada needs you!

Sir John R. Kerr, Australia's Governor General, fired Australian Prime Minister Whitlam in 1975.

William A. Johnson

Why close the hospitals?

To the Editor of the Herald:

The enclosed letter was sent to Mr. Miller in protest to his indiscriminate closing of hospitals. If you would like to place this letter in your editorial page I would be sure to send you the minister's reply if and when it arrives.

I realize that that people in Georgetown will attend Georgetown's own hospital and that my letter is mainly concerned with Milton. But in the future a hospital closing in Georgetown would affect the town's service and that affects the people of Georgetown.

Alison Brown
Third Line Halton Hills

any drop in efficiency or degree of service to the community. I would like to know who conducted the studies, when they were conducted and where I can get a copy of the reports? In case studies were not done, I would like your reasons for not conducting them and how you could make a proper judgement without proper information? Eeeny, meeny, miney, moe is not exactly the most efficient way to decide.

Will the closing of certain hospitals increase the efficient use of monies in the hospitals still in operation?

What happens in the future when more cuts in budget are needed to keep health costs down? At the present time the most vocal dispute is being made over the closing of Doctor's Hospital in Toronto. Doctor's Hospital attends to the needs of many ethnic groups in the downtown area, but while Doctor's was closed neither Toronto Western nor Mount Sinai hospitals, both in the immediate vicinity, had budget cuts. Why?

As a member of the provincial legislature and a representative of the people of Ontario I would have assumed it was your job to work for better health care, not try to lessen the availability of hospitals.

During the recent hospital workers strike the ministry of health stated that hospitals were essential services. Now that money is tight hospitals

become money-wasting institutions of which a few are picked to take the full brunt of your budget cuts. If I was to consider the health ministry as a person you are just lopping off an arm, a few fingers, and maybe a leg because the heart is too weak to pump blood to the whole body.

You are chopping budgets here and there instead of across-the-board cut backs which would save money at all hospitals. Not only would you not need to close any hospitals, but every hospital in the province would have to tighten up. What good is it to cut the grass in the front yard while the backyard grows to three feet high?

During your search for more money did you ever investigate other government departments to see if they were holding the line on expenditures, for example the Royal Commission investigating violence in the media.

I am seventeen years old and live in Halton Hills. If there is an emergency at my home the members of my family would be treated at Milton District Hospital. Milton has had

twenty-five beds cut from its budget. In the future if it is found that, by your method of cost cutting, more hospitals have to be closed what will be the future of the smaller hospitals like Milton?

If Milton's hospital was closed the people of the Milton area would be forced to travel to Georgetown, fifteen to twenty minutes; Guelph, twenty to thirty minutes; or Oakville, thirty or forty minutes away. I realize that people in other parts have to travel even farther than this and I feel sorry for them but I am personally concerned with Milton.

If someone has a weak heart, is a cancer patient or is bleeding seriously that extra few minutes could mean their lives. This is why I would like to know what the criteria were for the closing of the hospitals and I am sure the other members of our community would like to know as well.

That is why I am going to send this letter to the local newspapers with your answer as a follow up.

Thank-you,
Alison Brown

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Hon. Mr. Frank Miller, Queen's Park, Toronto.

I am writing an open letter to you with copies to Premier Davis, Halton-Burlington M.P.P. Julian Reed and the newspapers of the Halton region on the subject of the closing of some Ontario hospitals and the cuts in expenditures.

My first question is why did you close ten hospitals in Ontario? The closing of a hospital seems to be a drastic measure done when all else fails, therefore what were your preliminary measures to closing the hospitals? What money saving programs were instituted previous to the closing?

Before closing the hospitals studies must have been done to determine what hospitals could be closed down without

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THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF

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OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF HALTON

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ANNUAL MEETING

ON

Tuesday, March 16, 1976

at 8:30 p.m. in

THE AUDITORIUM, HALTON CENTENNIAL MANOR, Ontario Street (Hwy. 25), Milton, Ontario.

Special Guest Speaker

MR. H. H. DYMOND

Executive Director, Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies

Because of budgetary restrictions individual invitations will not be sent.

- EVERYONE WELCOME -

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Block Parents programme well worth the effort

To the Editor of the Herald: I read with keen interest the Local Council of Women's suggested "Block Parent" programme for Halton Hills in your Feb. 25 issue. After reading about this program several weeks ago, my wife and I both agreed that this would be good for our community especially for our community's children.

knowing our children are being watched over and protected by our neighbours and friends throughout the community whenever they are away from their own homes.

P. Morris,
Wilson Court,
Georgetown.

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We applaud the Local Council of Women for their efforts to initiate the programme and we offer our help in any way we can.

To run the "Block Parent" programme requires the co-operation of citizens, the school boards, the town council and the police department.

The co-operation and efforts required will be well worth it

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