

A decision must be made soon

Halton Region has about 19 months of landfill capacity remaining in its existing disposal sites. The only comment any official can make with certainty is that by June, 1979 there will be no place to dispose of the tons of waste generated daily by the region.

Efforts to select a new disposal site are bogged down in public participation, costly studies and continual debate at the regional council which drags up the same arguments over and over again.

Coun. Ric Morrow last week said the situation is critical. And indeed it is. For Halton Region is facing not only with continued delay in determining which of several landfill sites to select, but also, according to

Wallace Wells, senior environmental engineer for M.M. Dillon the region's consulting engineers, a minimum of 18 months delay to gain Ontario ministry of environment approval for any action the region takes.

But the clincher is that Mr. Wells says it is more likely that Halton will have to wait as long as three years for such environmental approval. That would occur if an environmental assessment public hearing is held and the same arguments which are being heard today will be heard again tomorrow.

It is rather unenviable position for regional councillors to find themselves in. A decision has to be made, and that decision has to be made shortly.

Let's clear the air

Halton Hills Council's decision last week to delay action on the municipal complex question until next year is nothing more than a delay in the inevitable.

No matter what course a new council might take in approving the project, the financing will ultimately have to be put before the people for their approval.

There is nothing today to indicate that feelings over the \$900,000 complex issue will be changed by the time a new council is elected in December. Therefore it is imperative that council members seeking re-election and

candidates for council seek to clear the air before the election and make voters aware of their position on this question.

An alternative, which this newspaper has supported in past, is a referendum on the matter which would clear, once and for all, the confusion and concern that surrounds it. It would give the new council its mandate.

A referendum could be held in conjunction with the municipal elections with little cost to the municipality compared to the costs that could result from further delays.

On Parliament Hill

Unless public

opinion shifts,

Liberals face defeat

By STEWART MacLEOD
Ottawa Bureau
Of The Herald

When Liberal MPs all get together for special two-day think session, you would expect Prime Minister Trudeau and other cabinet ministers to turn up with all sorts of fascinating facts about future plans.

And right now, with public opinion polls indicating the party's popularity is plunging to a crisis level, future plans are exceedingly important for the 139 Liberals in Parliament. Unless there is a dramatic shift in public opinion, many could be whopped at the polls in the next general election.

For two days, most of them gathered in Parliament Hill's West Block to talk about their troubled times and to hear Mr. Trudeau and party officials suggest ways of overcoming obvious disenchantment. Most wanted to hear great words of inspiration, to be told of still-secret programs that would encourage the public to love the government, and to be assured that there will be an enormous shift in public opinion before the next election.

Now, just a few days after this caucus, a Liberal MP was sitting in a cafeteria sipping coffee and looking back on what he had learned during those two days behind closed doors. It wouldn't be fair to name him since these meetings are secret and he was just chatting on a personal basis.

"You know what these meetings really prove?" he was asking. "They prove that there is no one up there with all the answers. I am just a backbencher, but in many areas I felt I knew more about what's going on than Trudeau himself."

He began talking about how cabinet ministers are always shown on television discussion issues on which they have acquired some expertise. "On television, I guess all politicians seem to have the answers, but this is particularly true of cabinet ministers who appear only after they receive a thorough background briefing."

"It would be interesting if you could see these same people in caucus trying to decide why the government is so unpopular at the moment. Most of them don't have a clue."

Mr. Trudeau told the Liberal MPs that

price and wage controls were the obvious cause of public discontent. He had to live with the fact that he campaigned against controls in 1974 and now was forced to defend them. He thought a new \$1.2 million advertising blitz would be effective in winning public approval, and he also expressed optimism that the anti-inflation program would be into its final phases when the next election is held. By that time, he said, the economic picture should be bright.

SOLE CAUSE
This MP said he got the impression that Mr. Trudeau and most of his cabinet felt that the anti-inflation program was solely responsible for the government's low stature on the public opinion polls.

The most recent survey indicated that only 29 per cent of Canadians now support the Liberals, while 47 per cent favor the Conservatives.

"Cabinet seemed really convinced that this was entirely due to price and wage controls," the MP said. "I was surprised there wasn't more emphasis on things like bilingualism."

Before entering the caucus, the prime minister said there is no way a government can be popular after imposing inflationary controls.

"We've been stomping on people's expectations," he said. "We're telling people they can't charge what they want, earn what they want, and bargain for what they want. We're restraining liberty and telling people all is not rosy. You can't be popular like that."

The backbencher mused about this for a time. "I guess he is right, and he certainly kept mentioning this in caucus, but I am still not fully convinced. What bothers me is that while we the politicians and labor leaders and businessmen talk about controls, the guy in the street seems more concerned about prices."

He ended the conversation by saying some Liberals, including Trade Minister Don Jamieson, were pushing for a full-scale national thinkers' conference, like the one held in Kingston in 1960.

"And I hope we have one," he concluded. "Because I am not sure our thinking is entirely on the right track."

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Prejudice and bigotry: It's real name is hate

By GERRY LANDSBOROUGH

This week Viewpoint looks at an insidious growth that is taking root in homes throughout Canada. Homes here in Ontario-homes here in Halton Hills.

It is a learned experience. It is developed and nurtured during the first five years of life. It is something Canadians have sat back smugly denouncing as they watched with complacency the problems of her neighbour to the south and similar problems elsewhere on this ever shrinking globe of ours.

What we are speaking of has many names. Some of which become mere soft-pedaled disguise for the truth. It is called intolerance - prejudice - bigotry - by some a realization of the differences between peoples - but its real name is hate. Hate born of fear. A fear that we might have to give up something that we feel is just ours alone. Fear is a product of hate that nurtures and constantly feeds its growth.

The innocent victims of this kind of hate are our children. They learn at home to develop prejudice built on intolerance and ignorance. Racial prejudice is the most insidious of the malignancies. It spreads its cloak of ignorance and hides from its victims the reality of truth. For instance, it is believed by many that we have tens of thousands of Pakistanis over-running this country - taking our jobs - our housing - taking from this country.

The truth is - the majority of Pakistanis people entering this country are skilled technicians and professional people who make a valuable contribution to our society. Our country is multicultural and multilingual - like it or not that's the way it is. The majority of children in large urban schools speak a language other than English at home.

And it is in the home that hate begins. Children as we have said before are the innocent victims of our sickness.

Educators bemoan the fact that there is little they can do to combat prejudice from rearing its ugly head - for the seed was planted long before the youngster arrived at school.

What do we do then? Do we continue with a hands tied behind the back attitude?

SOLUTIONS
Solutions? Well, as we have stated many times before a solution to any problem does not come about until you know what you are dealing with and why. Intolerance of other cultures and customs deprives a human being of so much. It takes away - it adds nothing.

Here in Canada because our country is so large and because our population was and is sparse when compared with other countries throughout the world, we did not have problems of racial prejudice before now. It was easy to condemn racial violence in the States because we saw few black people here. Now we are discovering that we are not only prejudice but perhaps we have one of the worst kinds of prejudice a surface smile and an under-current of pure hatred.

Why? The reasons are as many as there are people. For the most part intolerance appears to be handed down from generation to generation.

Part of a cultural heritage. We are better - "because." The truth of which is we are afraid to look at our own weaknesses therefore we shall find something to be superior about. We might not be wealthy, but we are proud - we know our own "kind." And though the animal instinct is to herd together amongst its own kind and to fear and keep out outsiders and intruders who are not

part of the pack - man who is the superior animal should be above this. We devalue ourselves as soon as we evaluate with a false set of values based on race, colour or creed. An individual worth as a friend a citizen a countryman or just a plain human being, should never be based on such a shallow measuring stick.

HAVE A CHANCE
We still have a chance here in Canada. It is a small one but never the less a chance. We do not have the hundreds of years of prejudice and hate behind us. We can still cut way this malignancy before it spreads too far.

To do this we have to take our heads from the ground and shake the sand from our eyes. Look at what has happened and is happening in Ireland. Look at Rhodesia. Look at South Africa. We have to listen with our ears and see with our eyes. Listen to the tears of children who are victims of vicious hate - see what we do to our own children and watch and listen how they interpret our feelings.

Children are mirrors of what we teach them, they reflect only what they have been taught or experienced.

We learn to walk by walking, to love by loving and to hate by hating.

Let us cut away this killer of humanity before it reaches out and destroys us - before in Canada it reaches a point of no return.

Queen's Park

Nothing noteworthy in Chamber brief

By DON O'HEARN
Queen's Park Bureau
Of The Herald

The Ontario Chamber of Commerce was by here last week for its annual presentation and meeting with the cabinet.

There was nothing really noteworthy in its brief.

It had a few good points, such as stress on the need to now put a clamp on education costs.

But for the most part it was pretty blah. Broad statements on questions such as consumer warranties and property tax changes which didn't really make any strong case.

And even these were confused with gobblegook. Using "polarizations", "interferences", and others of those lingo terms which are such a curse today. Probably a lot of the time even its own members wouldn't have understood what it was talking about.

(Ironically one of its proposals was that students leaving school should have "skills in communication". Perhaps it wasn't aware it was providing its own evidence of the need. The big catch in this, of course, is that educators are probably the worst group of communicators we have today).

FELT ABOVE
This aside, however, one important impression was left by the Chamber's visit. This was the failure of commerce to fill its proper, and needed role in the political-

On The Home Front

Back in the dog house again

By SUSAN DeFACENDIS

According to my husband I am once again in that most unwelcome of abodes, the dog house.

He informed me that I should stop 'putting my children down' each week in print and start stressing their positive side of their many accomplishments.

Believing that the sanctity and peace of a marriage, not to mention the financial support, should be preserved at all costs, I have given the matter some serious thought and, under the circumstances - (dog houses being as uncomfortable as they are unwelcome) - came to the rapid conclusion that he is absolutely right.

We have three beautiful, healthy, intelligent children and I am sure that if I just concentrate hard enough, I shall be able to come up with some startlingly brilliant evidence to prove this fact over the next few weeks.

Strangely enough, whether due to ESP or just plain coincidence I cannot say, on the very day my husband made his pronouncement, Richard actually took a giant step forward in maturation, intelligence and physical prowess.

He closed a cupboard door. Not - I did not receive this as hearsay evidence, I witnessed it. He reached out one beautiful 14 year and 3 month old arm and literally closed a kitchen cupboard. How many other mothers can claim to have seen this feat performed by one of such tender years?

In a voice trembling with barely suppressed emotion, I asked him if he realized what he had done and requested that he repeat the act, so that I could be quite certain I was not suffering from a delusion brought about by years of wishful thinking.

Slowly and gently, but firmly, he did it again. Despite my excitement, I naturally as a concerned and loving parent, checked him over for a possible fever of 106 degrees and assured myself that he had not suffered any physical damage, such as stretched tendons, pulled muscles or water on the elbow.

Amazingly he appeared to have no ill effect at all - in fact he was in better condition than his mother, who was definitely in shock.

Imagine the future possibilities!

I can clearly see, now that he has taken such a huge overnight leap into a 'new phase' that his bedroom dresser drawers may now be closed by a newly firm hand. It is even within the realm of credibility that he may very soon bend down and pick up the chewing gum wrappers littering his bedroom floor; untie the laces when removing his shoes; take out the garbage; eat his vegetables; speak nicely once a week to his sisters; turn off the television; comb his hair; save his allowance and smile while sitting at the breakfast table. It is positively mind-boggling. He may even prove to be an inspiration to the other two.

My husband is unquestionably right. How can motherhood be a bummer when one is surrounded by so much gratification?

From now on I am turning over a new leaf. Positive thinking obviously brings its own rewards.

From here and there

Believe only me

Critics of Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau are fast becoming legion. Among them people who have long suggested that, given an appropriate moment, and circumstances suggestive of crisis, Trudeau would present himself, if not as a pseudo-dictator, then certainly as a demagogue.

These latter critics are about to have a field day. Mainly because Trudeau and his Liberals-in-office have stepped forward to defend a \$1 million advertising program, to be billed to the taxpayers, and designed to tell the same why only traitors would defy the government's will in imposing measures to control inflation.

The critics won't be inclined to look further than Trudeau's salient points for ammunition. Since a demagogue is one who leads by appealing to the passions and prejudices of a populace, what Trudeau had to say will qualify him, well, in critics' eyes for the title.

The massive expenditure for advertising is justified, Trudeau said, because the situation is akin to one in wartime. At such times all governments spend from the public purse to promote the sale of bonds, urge conservation and encourage patriotism.

And in present circumstance the Canadian government will be making like wartime counterparts to do the latter, Mr. Trudeau suggested.

But here's the passage from Trudeau's observations to media representatives that will set the critics off, and have them zering in.

"They (the Canadian people) shouldn't

listen to the labor unions, and shouldn't listen to the businessmen," objecting to wage and price controls.

The PM couldn't have better incurred whatever wrath is to come had he pronounced that the nation should have "no other gods before me."

Canada is not at war, the government is still by the people, among these unionists and businessmen; and criticism of government action is neither to be abjured or prohibited. Canadians, as a race, may listen to whoever they choose to heed, and whenever they want to listen.

It is unfortunate, for Trudeau, that at a time when the fortunes of the Liberal party are at a low ebb; and when there have been strong appeals to him by colleagues to change a personal image, that his first public appearance in months should have been one which will replenish the arsenals of those in critical opposition to him and government policies.

Had Trudeau wanted to rally Canadians, all Canadians, to his side, he could have done much better than suggest that groups which represent them all have been talking through the backs of collective hats in the matter of action to cure national economic ills.

We fear that while Trudeau assuredly knows whereof he speaks in terms of the seriousness of an over-all situation, his current effort (and that of the complex advertising program) will do little more than touch off new broadsides aimed by business labor, and personal critics at this Liberal heart.

(Guelph Mercury)