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Experiment's conclusions in two years

Halton Region is the first restructured municipality in Ontario to designate its chairman's role as that of part-time.

It is a change in the accepted philosophy of the position and will be keenly watched by municipalities across Ontario to see if the experiment works.

Ric Morrow, who was acclaimed by voters in Ward 4 during the December municipal elections, has been accepted by Halton Hills residents as a capable and hard-working politician. His drive, ability and diligence in serving these residents will no doubt hold him in good stead as he approaches a new challenge in his political career.

To say his perception of the job is unique is an understatement. He is faced with shaping a council filled with divisive and opposing forces. His first and major task during the next two years will be to eliminate (where possible?) parochialism which has been evident since the region was formed.

Mr. Morrow chose a strong platform on which to base his election. He is prepared to return whatever powers are shown to be served at the local level and he will not attempt to overshadow the role and image of the four area mayors. During a press conference Mr. Morrow reiterated his opinion that the chairman should not usurp the power of council and abide by its direction. It is a noble gesture which will take two years to see whether it is successful. Mr. Morrow is a man of strong

opinions and he may find that he will have to make these known to council during his tenure.

He faces criticism from several areas, notably from fellow regional chairman who see their job as a full-time venture. Indeed, Allan Masson, his appointed predecessor said at one time during the past two months that he has worked as much as 96 hours a week. Peel Region chairman Lou Parsons commented following council's election last week that it will be a short time before both Mr. Morrow and council learn that the role of chairman is not part-time.

But he is not concerned with anything more than what is happening in or, what direction, Halton will take during the next two years. Regional council, which over the past three years has been a loosely-bonded group of 24-members, will find itself under tighter procedural control and this may be the key factor in whether council will finally resolve its most pressing issue of landfill management.

It is going to be an interesting two years. Time will tell whether the proposals for redefinition of regional powers and a change in philosophy to meet area municipalities as equals will work.

We can only offer our best wishes for success in Mr. Morrow's new endeavors. What occurs in the next three years may offset the turbulent start Halton had in 1973 and set the tone for the future of a growing, prosperous community.



Deprogramming-cutting to the core and restoring life to many young people

By Gerry Landsborough
"Deprogramming" is a word given birth to in the past decade as a result of the ever increasing number of religious cults claiming young people from all walks of life.

Deprogramming can be free or, payed for. Heartack parents can spend tens of thousands of dollars on "professional deprogrammers" in the hope that their son or daughter can once again "think for themselves" and return to a "normal life."

Cultism is a form of religious worship preaching denial of self to the point where the cult member no longer functions as an individual. Moonies the nickname given to members of the Unification Church, founded by Sun Myung Moon has a philosophy built on "I am your brain." "I am the vine - you are the branches." Young people joining this group enter training centres where family and personality are forgotten. These innocent young people have a fresh appealing look about them. The danger lies in their "eyes" which sparkle brightly as in a trance while they speak by rote of what their version of "God" is doing for them. They are brain washed to the point where only the "cult" has meaning.

Moonies are everywhere - many canvass here in Halton Hills. The monies collected from this canvassing are all turned over to the local centre and "the vine" (Sun Moon) watches his "branches" well.

Another cult claiming millions of young people around the world in Iskon - The International Society for Krishna Consciousness. The Hare Krishna cult is another pseudo-religious group originating in India as an offshoot of Hinduism, it claims young people on the average of 19 to 23-years-of-age.

The Hare Krishna devotees denounce parents and family background and adopt a new psychology, sociology, politics, and a new culture. Between the change in physical appearance, and the change in name, and a move to a distant temple a young person can be permanently lost to his or her family.

This losing of personal identity is where deprogramming comes in to the picture. A deprogramming psychologist has called the

process "really inducing therapy." From a legal point of view according to the cults who can afford to hire the best of lawyers "deprogramming is a conspiracy to deprive people of their religious rights."

Yet, "freedom of thought" is a very important right in our society and cult worship takes this from the individual. Young people today are as always "searching for something." The cult offers security, continuity and a feeling of belonging. If the only purpose in these groups is an awareness of God and a simple loving life all would be well. But the real danger lies in the brainwashing (no self-questioning) that is fundamental to cult life.

It is heartbreaking to imagine parents having to kidnap their own flesh and blood and whisking them away to a deprogramming centre in the hope of returning them to a "free thinking individual" who places value

Policy stated

Several times during the past few weeks readers have asked The Herald why it has a policy of not printing names of individuals involved in police occurrences.

It is not that The Herald, as other newspapers, does not seek that type of information, or see a need for it to be made public, but that by publishing this information the newspaper holds as obligation to provide continuous coverage of a particular charge against an individual. It becomes almost impossible to follow all court cases which might result from charges laid by police. If a charge is dismissed it must be stated publicly.

The Herald will continue as in the past to provide coverage of those crimes of a serious criminal nature by following the matter through the courts.

Newspapers have an obligation to report what is occurring within the boundaries of their circulation areas, but they do not have any licence to malign individuals through innuendo or insinuation. The Herald is dedicated to this philosophy.

on family, friends, country, and self.

These cults appear to have strong political overtones. Hitler knew of the advantages of organizing youth beyond personal goals and personal well being. "all" became "all for the Fatherland." Here is where the danger lies.

Deprogramming groups such as the F.T.F. Freedom of Thought Foundation - PFRCTC Parents Fighting Religious Cultures by Retaking Their Children - CERF Citizens Engaged in Re-uniting Families - these groups and many more like them see the real danger. All cult worship is dogmatic and cited by rote by the cult member. The individual is no longer one but part of "the vine" - "The Consciousness."

If left to grow unattended the branches of these cults may in a surprisingly short time strangle us all.

The mind is the most powerful of all weapons and those who "control minds" have power beyond any nuclear holocaust or any other toys of war.

Churches are tax free and anyone can found a church. Millions and millions of tax free dollars collected in the name of God by walking zombies are one of the greatest dangers facing us today - and as all vines, in the beginning they look so appealing until they are out of hand and strangle all in the garden.

Take care of the means and the end will take care of itself. M. Ghandi

Queen's Park

NDP sees life as new prospective

By DON O'HEARN
Queen's Park Bureau of The Herald
... when you keep store you have to count the cookie cost?
Is this now beginning to hit the NDP?
Is it now beginning to realize there is more than one side to this world?
It would seem it might be.

sharp change!
Such speculation is prompted by reported statements by prominent members Pat Lawlor and James Renwick critical of public auto insurance.

There weren't absolutely against it. But they could see a great deal wrong with it. Even a year ago such a position by leading NDP members would have been heresy.

First of the line of party promises of socializing programs in Ontario has continuously been auto insurance.

And now no?
Not only that but the members based much of their change of heart on the experience of the NDP government in B.C.

Its auto insurance scheme was a disaster - losing something like \$80 million - which they now not only recognize but admit.

Finding fault with another NDP govern ment? Beyond heresy, this is the omega.

So what? Is it a transformation and what caused it?
... broad change
The likelihood is that we are seeing the start of a change in the NDP.

Lawlor and Renwick have always been two of the party's more enlightened members.

On The Home Front

Natural bent learned

By SUSAN DEFACENDIS
Plato once said: "Let early education be a sort of amusement; you will then be better able to find out the natural bent."

Now while my three children have probably never heard this quotation, it is a philosophy they subscribe to wholeheartedly.

With the education system carefully providing the "early amusement" my children have discovered their "natural bent" with a vengeance, namely school trips. In fact for my offspring, any period of time between excursions is considered non-existent, a suspension of time so to speak.

Schools trips are inclined to creep up on parents in an insidious manner and I am finding out that indulging their "bent" is breaking me.

When the youngest comes home full of excitement and exclaims: "Hey Mom! Guess What? All the grade one's are going to the fire station and I need 35 cents for the bus" - no panic. Mother can respond quite naturally with a genuine: "Terrific that should be fun."

Then the second child bursts through the front door and says - can you guess? - "Hey Mom! We're going on a trip to Newfoundland in May and it's only \$65.00."

By the time the third one arrives I have decided it is obviously not my day and I am ready and waiting. Before he has had time to drop his boots in the hall, his gloves in the livingroom and his jacket in front of the refrigerator door, I have nailed him.

"O.K. buddy, break the news gently. I am not interested in where or when - only how much?"

"\$600.00," he quickly rejoins. "For one week in Paris, but that includes the hotel and meals."

"I am delighted", I mutter. "For a moment I was afraid there might be 'extras'."

Upon their fathers arrival the children, having had time to strengthen their respective causes, are ready and waiting to launch a massive assault on a work-weakened, hungry man.

He receives the news of the firehall trip with comparative calm, puts off Newfoundland with a reluctant: "Well, we will think about it", and freaks out over Paris.

You think I'm ever going to send you out to Paris? Nobody ever sent your mother and me to Paris."

"But Dad, think of the culture."
"I am" states Dad. "The Folies Bergere, the Can-Can and the Rue Pigalle. How can a boy of 14 possibly appreciate french culture?"

Personally I am not too sure about the male logic of this argument. I have never really thought of the can-can as a folk dance, but if it is going to save me \$600.00 I am certainly willing to consider the possibility.

Meanwhile Plato, things are tough enough for parents today. Why don't you keep your ideas on education to yourself and give me at least a fighting chance to find a cheaper "bent" for my children.

In a lighter vein...

Skeptical

The office beauty was regaling her bored companions with the tale of her adventures on the previous night. "This fellow," she said, "took me up to his apartment and showed me a closet that contained at least fifteen absolutely perfect mink coats and what do you know," she said, "he gave me one of them."

"What did you have to do," asked the skeptic in the audience.

"Just shorten the sleeves," she said.

On Parliament Hill

Young Quebecers don't care what we think

By STEWART MACLEOD
Ottawa Bureau of The Herald

I was sitting in a Hull restaurant the other evening, surrounded by an enthusiastic group of junior college types who talked optimistically about possible Quebec separatism, and after an hour or so it suddenly struck me. These kids, all of voting age, had not even mentioned the economic consequences of an independent Quebec.

Then I thought of all these federal cabinet ministers who talk of nothing else, and all those statements about how undecided Quebecers, when told independence would result in lower living standards, would soon be confirmed federalists again. Federal studies are under way to prove separatism would be an economic disaster; Parti Quebecois studies are under way to prove the opposite.

And here were these students, some of them in such practical classes as engineering and electronics, talking about culture, language, price and other aspects of separatism that having nothing to do with the almighty dollar.

Then again I thought of a recent statement by Premier Rene Levesque to the effect that federal ministers, and Prime Minister Trudeau in particular, have lost touch with the youth of Quebec. "He (Mr. Trudeau) doesn't know what young Quebecers are thinking now," says the premier. "He's out of touch."

I am certainly in no position to know whether this is true, and one evening in a Hull restaurant is a somewhat incomplete education, but I think it's fair to ask whether we are placing too much emphasis on economics when we talk about the future of Canada.

I was always told that the surest way to drive a teen-age son away from home is to tell him he's incapable of making it on his own.

BUT WHAT?

Yes, I think a good case can be made for the argument that when and if Quebecers decide on their future, economics will play only a minimal role in that decision. Trouble is, I have no idea what will play a maximum role. And from many of the so-called educated comments I've heard, I am not sure who does have these answers.

Trade Minister Jean Chretien has been preaching that if Quebec secedes, the remainder of Canada will be absorbed by the Americans and then Quebecers will be engulfed by a surging sea of unilingual Englishmen.

Urban Affairs Minister Andre Uthoff has suggested an independent Quebec would be plunged into lonely turmoil. Union Nationale Leader Rodrigue Biron says that if Quebec separates, some 800,000 francophones in other provinces would be abandoned to English unilingualism.

And Bryce Mackasey, the former federal cabinet minister now a member of the Quebec national assembly, says Confederation should be sold on a cultural basis. But he didn't go into details, and I would certainly be at a loss to explain a satisfactory sales campaign.

And Mr. Trudeau's comments on the subject so far haven't helped clarify the issues at stake.

OFFERS VARIETY

At various times he has emphasized the economic aspects, saying we must defeat inflation and high unemployment to show discontented Canadians "that it's worthwhile that the economy can perform in a way which can meet his legitimate aspirations."

Then he has talked about making French-speaking Canadians feel at home in all of Canada, which must be seen as a desirable place to live. "This means not only desirable from an economic point of view, which it must be for all of us, but it also means desirable from the linguistic and cultural point of view and that means that they must be able to feel that they can fulfill themselves in a cultural sense, in a human sense, better in Canada than they could in a separate Quebec."

The challenge is for all Canadians, he has repeated and repeated. We must all do our part if Canada is to be held together. And Bryce Mackasey has been touring Western Canada saying the same thing. In Quebec City, Mr. Levesque is saying it really doesn't matter what is being said in English Canada. Friendships between the two cultures can improve only when there is a new constitutional arrangement.

So, as concerned Canadians, how do we make a practical contribution to national unity? Two months after the Quebec election, there don't seem to be any apparent answers. And during that evening in the Hull restaurant when I noticed that all those young separatists were ignoring economic issues, I also noticed they didn't spend too much time discussing what was being said in English Canada. Actually, I got the impression they didn't care.

Hopefully, they will remain in the minority.

Looking through our files

30 YEARS AGO

The nine-member Georgetown council was sworn in by town clerk P. B. Harrison at its inaugural meeting. Taking the oath were Mayor Joseph Gibbons, Reeve Alex MacLaren, Deputy-Reeve Jack Armstrong, and Councillors James Goodlet, James Ritchie, William P. Thompson, Thomas Lyons, Arthur Herbert and Harry Hale.

Election expenses reported for Esqueving Township totalled \$147.95. The new council comprised Reeve George Cleave, Deputy-Reeve George Currie and Councillors George Leslie, H. Craig Reid and Wilfred Bird.

20 YEARS AGO

George G. Brown and Murray Coles were reappointed as Esqueving members on the North Halton High School district for 1957. Chamber of Commerce President Raymond Dupuis predicted that prosperity as noted in 1956 would continue in the new year.

A warning was delivered by Police Chief Roy Haley to youths who were shooting .22 calibre bullets behind the Sunbeam subdivision and the back of Ontario Street.

Georgetown high school students, who seemed to have taken over this issue of the Herald, commented on the need for a gymnasium in the school.

The first meeting of an association to sponsor Guides and Brownies in Glen Williams was held at the home of Mrs.

George Johnson.

10 YEARS AGO

A hen named Samantha, owned by 14-year-old Ken Alderson R.R. 1, Hornby, laid an egg with a perfect "S" in relief on the shell.

Georgetown council issued an ultimatum to Esqueving council that by Feb. 24, Esqueving accept or reject paying 45 percent of the town's firefighting budget. Esqueving council claimed they should pay only 26 percent of the budget.

At the inaugural meeting of the separate school board, William A. Boyle was re-elected chairman. Other members of the board were Robert Thompson, M. Gerald O'Dwyer, Stanley Walsh, Ted Rawlinson, Hartley Sherk, George M. Frost and Clarence Doyle.

Counterfeit \$10 bills were turning up in the area, most notably at Bob Crawford's store in Hornby at Base Line and 7th Line.

Georgetown Volunteer Ambulance Service responded to almost a call a day during the year's first week.

The Georgetown Raiders, who went the first 20 games of the season losing only one, were in a three-game losing slump.

Ronald Challenger was named president of the Georgetown Revolver Club. Other members of the executive were Lee Moughloughlin, Max English, Norm Wodhams, Bill Haynes, Ken Kingman, and Paul Kent.