

Renaissance ideals explained to Hamilton university group

Milton evangelist Rev. Ken Campbell, sparkplug behind the Halton Renaissance Committee, told students at McMaster University last Tuesday, teachers in public schools try to liberate children in the classroom, swaying them away from the parents' ideas and moralistic values.

Throughout the Scriptures, God has always charged parents with the basic responsibilities for the teaching and the discipline of their own children and Mr. Campbell believes this should carry over into the school system.

In late February, 1974, Mr. Campbell a resident of Halton, "was shaken out of normal complacency" by disturbing circumstances in the high school his daughters were attending. The incident he said, was two homosexuals and two lesbians visiting a health class

where they stated a "gay lifestyle" is socially acceptable. Campbell viewed this exposure to high school students as a violation of human rights.

"Parents should be informed of speakers coming into the classroom and should be aware of what is happening in the classroom," he said. "The wisdom of a loving parent is more refined than that of a cold educational dictator."

He realizes most parents are apathetic towards the school system, and although he represents a small minority, he believes a majority of parents are not satisfied with the school system, yet keep quiet about their dissatisfaction.

In his determination to be a responsible Christian father and citizen, he announced his intention to withhold the edu-

ation portion of his property taxes.

He received a wave of support from Halton residents.

In March, 1974, a group of concerned citizens adopted the constitution for the Halton Renaissance Committee.

Mr. Campbell has published a book entitled, "Tempest in a Teapot", which is a detailed documentary of the history of the Renaissance committee. The theme of the book is the exposure of a "sex and security" scandal at the heart of public life in our society.

He pays \$5,000 a year to send his five children to private schools. Two daughters are enrolled in Brycrest Bible Institute in Saskatchewan, two in Trinity Christian School in Burlington, and his son at a Christian school in Hamilton. Mr. Campbell doesn't be-

lieve religion needs to be taught in public schools, but any system is improved by healthy competition.

"The standard of education would be improved if the present system's philosophy of secularism was challenged by public schools teaching Judeo-Christian values," he said.

He made three proposals for liberating the system:

—Public schools should respect the moral and religious conviction of the minority of people committed to the Judeo-Christian world view;

—Parents who send their children to private schools committed to Judeo-Christian spiritual values, be allowed to direct their property taxes to that school system;

—These private schools should be part of the public educational system, and parents be allowed to send their children

regardless of their religious views, to choose without social or economic penalty.

The Renaissance Committee was concerned with the school's curriculum three years ago, however more disturbing is the fact schools lack a commitment.

"Children have the right to be educated, but the system needs direction. Education is a greater enemy than wars," he said.

Mr. Campbell said the committee's criticism was not meant to hurt anyone, and apologized if their views offended other parents or teachers. Yet, he said, members of the committee have been labelled as dishonest, and no-one has ever apologized for these comments.

He wants to open up the school system between teachers and parents. He suggests a monthly town meeting with two or three speakers, for the system, offering distinct views points, with the public asking questions following the discussion.

He mentioned to a professor at the university after the session, the audience was quite mannerly, even at points when he knew it was hard for the audience to contain themselves.



KEN CAMPBELL

Letters to the editor By-election protest to province

A copy of a letter sent to The Herald for publication Minister Treasury, Economics & Intergovernmental Affairs, Toronto, Ontario

Dear Mr. McKeough,

As a member of a community, Halton Hills, governed by one of those luxuries that few areas of this province can afford; and a province whose uncompromising concept of government is supposedly based upon the philosophy of representation by elected representatives, it has come as a great surprise and indeed shock to me and many of the other residents of the Town of Halton Hills, to discover that Bill 151, establishing regional government in Halton Hills contains a section that expressly and specifically prohibits the holding of a by-election to fill the vacancy on Halton Hills Regional Council, which was recently created as

a result of Ric Morrow being elected Halton Regional Chairman.

As a result, Halton Hills Council in a rare display of speed and urgency, and contrary to the wishes of a good number of the affected area's residents, during a SECRET MEETING, held on Monday, 17 Jan. 77, decided to arbitrarily appoint a gentleman, who only several days earlier had advised me that he wasn't interested in the job, to fill Ric Morrow's vacancy.

As you may not know, this is the third time in three years of Regional Government, that vacancies have occurred in Halton Hills Council and in all three cases, our council, against the wishes of many of the residents, has arbitrarily filled the vacancies by appointment.

It has been particularly discouraging and offensive in this most recent instance because of the haste and manner in which the decision

was reached. Although I am informed that Bill 151 provides for up to thirty days in which to fill this vacancy, our elected representatives, in their wisdom and IN SECRET (they call it in camera) made the decision to fill the vacancy within five days and before a good many of the affected area's residents were even aware that a vacancy existed. Although our community is blessed with excellent newspapers and reporters, they are only published weekly on Wednesdays.

It is interesting to note that it was this same Halton Hills Council, composed of many of the same individuals, who in the fall of 1975, introduced and approved a 10 per cent pay cut for themselves as a show of leadership, restraint and support of the Canadian Governments Anti-Inflation Board. To the best of my knowledge, this fine and worthy motion which had the fullest support of most Halton Hills residents never came up for a second reading.

While I, personally have no objection to the gentlemen appointed to fill Ric Morrow's vacancy, I strongly and firmly believe that a very important principle and cornerstone of our democratic form of government has been compromised and I maintain that it is a principle which our society can ill afford to compromise on.

It is the contention of many of my fellow residents, as well as myself, that there is one and only one method of filling vacant seats in any form of elected government and that is via a by-election.

It is interesting to note that neither the Ontario Government, which implemented Bill 151, nor the Federal Govern-

ment, allow any vacant M.P.P. or M.P. seats to be filled, other than via a by-election. Bearing this in mind it is indeed difficult to comprehend the logic behind your governments decision to expressly and specifically prohibit the filling of regional councillor vacancies through a by-election.

Therefore, I am appealing to you, as Minister responsible for Regional Government legislation to immediately have Bill 151 amended to make it mandatory to have any vacant elected position of Regional Government filled only via a by-election and to once again get our form of government back on the rails.

Trusting that I will receive your support and positive action on this matter,

Yours truly,
D. Frerichs
23 Weber Drive
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Reader 'appalled' by health report

To the editor of The Herald:

Please, may I express my surprise at your Jan. 26, 1977, report that Halton Board of Education continues to supply part-time health care to secondary school students. Through experience of many years in school planning and administration I am aware of the importance of full time health care by a professional person in a secondary school. This service is also required during extra curricular activity - at the discretion of the principal.

Your report indicates that Halton Regional Health Unit recommended half-time health care in secondary schools.

The report also indicates that Halton Board of Education accepted and approved the recommendation.

If your report is correct and if I interpret it properly it appears that the school principals are the only ones who understand the situation.

One wonders if anyone has bothered to consult the students on this matter.

I am appalled at the possibility of people in high levels of administration displaying such disregard for the physical and mental welfare of our students.

I look forward with im-

patient anticipation to the time when people, endowed with good common sense, - bureaucracy, surveys, budgets, statistics and empires notwithstanding - will conclude that accident, distress and illness are not half-time affairs.

I recommend full-time extra if needed - professional health care in our secondary schools.

Ernie Forgrave

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