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## Come again?

The changing character of Halton is reflected in the housing and employment study tabled last week at the regional planning committee. It is a comprehensive study which should be looked at seriously before the final decisions are made on an official plan for the future growth of the municipality.

"It is not intended," the report attached to the agenda of the planning committee states, "to provide solutions to the 'housing crisis', but rather to identify and document what the region must know of the future make-up of population in terms of age, occupation, household size and income."

It also states that long-term housing and employment statistics are required by the region for "detailing planning objectives for the future."

But the scope of recommendations made by the study group do in fact address themselves to the housing crisis. Encouragement for senior citizen and low rental (geared-to-income) housing; the need for rationalization of existing federal and provincial housing assistance

programs; and the increase in the level of Central Housing and Mortgage Corporation subsidies based on the higher average of Peel and Metro Toronto rather than on the Hamilton area.

As well, the report makes a recommendation which runs counter to the policy of the provincial government in that it recommends an end to rental controls to spur housing availability.

Assistance for home ownership will still be required for 25 per cent of Halton residents in 1981. That addresses itself also to the housing crisis. It addresses itself to the need for affordable housing not only in Halton, but elsewhere across the province and the country.

The study report raises questions about the future shape of living in Halton. It makes some very specific comments that needed to be said, some that should have been said long before now. With any luck someone at Queen's Park and on Parliament Hill will listen and take the corrective action that's needed to ensure all Canadians receive adequate shelter and employment.

## A great idea

Coun. Mike Armstrong makes a strong case for the members of Halton Hills council opposed to any expansion of the existing town offices serving on a committee studying staffing and space problems.

Mr. Armstrong has long been a supporter of the need for a larger office to integrate as many as possible of the various now fragmented town services. What he is proposing is leadership among those people opposed to such a project to either modify their position through involvement (i.e. first hand understanding of the situation), or to stand pat in the face of prima facie evidence that indicates something must be done.

It may be that Mr. Armstrong will end up modifying his position based on recommendations that such a

committee could propose, aside from a large-scale project such as that proposed by the former Halton Hills council. But that is essentially what the political game is about. The give-and-take, the trade-offs, all demand strong personalities prepared to bear the brunt of criticism in face of decisions they feel are justified. Our politicians were elected to provide such leadership, and they should be prepared to do so.

What such a committee also might attempt to do is seek to rationalize the cost of services under the present system versus a system where centralized offices, or some other adequate alternative, is implemented to see tangibly what the cost is to the taxpayer. Without such information known, it is unlikely that opposition to any proposal to expand the municipal offices will cease.

## Looking through our files

### THIRTY YEARS AGO

An Indian Tea was held in the school room of Georgetown United Church arranged by the Women's Missionary Society. The Sunday school room was transformed by decorations that were typically Indian. There were exhibits on two sides of the room, each representing a phase of Indian life.

With Presentation Day rapidly approaching the War Service Recognition Fund is slightly over the \$6,000 mark. Mayor Joseph Gibbons made a plea to citizens to raise the figure, because with 300 names on the presentation list it means less than 50 per cent of the original objective of a \$50 war bond.

Council learned that the high school board was considering adding agriculture and commercial work at the school next term, at an estimated cost of \$4,000 to \$4,500 which would be reduced by \$2,000 yearly after the initial year.

### TWENTY YEARS AGO

Several students from town and district advanced another step toward degrees in higher education when examination results at various schools were released during the past few weeks. Memories of Grade 8 students at Chapel Street school will be apparent as they re-read the Herald copy of pictures and

### graduates names.

Insects cause considerable loss to farmers each year by causing damage in stored grains. They eat the kernels, contaminate the grain with insect fragments and cause the grain to heat and become worthless. Trouble can be avoided by taking precautions to prevent infestation of insects before threshing or combining.

### TEN YEARS AGO

Council almost took the first step toward establishing a police commission Monday, then withdrew the motion when most members felt the timing was wrong. Coun. Jim Young pointed out that a police commission would soon be mandatory, on a population basis alone, and would take at least five months to set up.

Lawyers for Brumac Development Corp. questioned the use of occupancy permits recently enforced by council. An occupancy permit demands that the road have a base of 12 feet by 15 feet of stone or gravel either curb or sidewalk installed, grass in front of the house and water and hydro connected before the house may be occupied.

Two cyclists from Ohio stopped on their way back at a Georgetown resident's home after cycling from Ohio to Expo '67. The pair, both 18, cycled from Van West, Ohio to the big fair.



## Royalty offers new hope

By SUSAN De FACENDIS

I have been buoyed up by new hope. Just as the bottom started to fall out of everything with summer holidays still stretching endlessly ahead; blight attacking the tomato plants and aphids making merry on the rose bushes, a silver lining suddenly appeared on the threatening cloud of life.

Is Prince Andrew aware of what he has done for the hardpressed mother's of Canada, by publicly telling his elder brother, heir to the throne, to "Shut Up", even though he will probably get his allowance cut off for six months when he mother reads the newspaper accounts?

After all, if the Queen's sons indulge in this kind of language at a social event, however good-naturedly, it is quite conceiv-

## The cost of illiteracy goes up

These are troubled times for school trustees, administrators and teachers. Enrolments are going down. Costs per pupil, and as a whole, are going up.

Teachers are asking for job security and more money. Parents are getting worried about the kind of education which is being pushed into little Willie.

Now comes news of really serious trouble. Parents of a Florida girl are suing school authorities because their daughter hasn't been taught enough. They claim the girl can barely read or do simple arithmetic.

The school principal claims that her teachers have given her the right number of credits so the girl can be graduated. Given the present tendency in the U.S. to run to court for hefty malpractice settlements, it is inevitable such a case would be legally attractive. If the Florida parents succeed the U.S. courts won't be able to fit all the cases on the docket.

For year parents tried to bully teachers into letting little Willie graduate, even if he couldn't blow bubbles in his gum and scribble on the walls at the same time. And so the schools came up with all sorts of devices to get the little monsters out of the system - Bell curves, special sets of criteria - the lot.

Well, now the job market's none too hot. The universities are wondering why they have to teach elementary English to young persons who have spent 13 years in school. Parents are demanding that schools educate their children - or pay up.

How unfair can you get?  
(The Vancouver Province).

able that in the privacy of the palace chambers they would not stop short at calling each other such names as 'nerd', 'gunge-face' or even 'a royal pain', so why should we expect our children to be any different?

The relief I felt upon realizing that the Queen and I share such remarkably similar problems, along with just about every mother I know, was overwhelming.

Drawing from my own experience. I can well picture the Queen, while entertaining, tensely sitting on the edge of her throne, fingers tightly crossed, hoping the children will avoid an argument while she confers the Order of the Garter or a Knighthood. Heaven help the poor, unsuspecting soul kneeling under the upraised sword should the young princes decide to pick that particular moment to break out in brotherly hostilities.

Does the Queen also share with me the frustration common to such moments, of telling the children in a sibilant whisper to: "Bell up, or you'll get the royal wooden spoon across your bottoms?"

Would the Queen and Prince Phillip have to issue a stern warning to the royal children to keep their hands off the lemonade and

cookies at teatime, until after the 2000 garden-party guests had taken their share?

Of course, as a member of the ordinary public, my problem's are minor in comparison. While the actual fact of listening to ones children engage in violent confrontations is never easy, whether in a palace or a suburban bungalow, my progeny can at least indulge their bent for heaping verbal abuse on one another in anonymity, not as representatives in far corners of the world where every word is seized upon by avid newspaper reporters.

However, now knowing that I am not alone, it is with a new feeling of confidence that I refrain from yelling: "You kids ain't got no couth", when they begin their normal, daily namecalling routine of "animal", "twit", and "creep". I tolerantly sit back with unaccustomed equanimity, secure in the knowledge that, unlike royalty, no social blot is about to deface my particular family escutcheon.

How appropriate are the words: "Uneasy lies the head that wears the crown" especially when that head is also a mother of beautifully natural, newsworthy children?

## Regional government cost needs to be examined

By DON O'HEARN

Queen's Park Bureau  
Of The Herald

More on regional government and the need to examine it.

I had a discussion with Bill Archer, former Toronto municipal politician, who did a study on the Niagara Region.

Having only scanned his report I asked him whether he had gone into the question of cost, and particularly the relative cost of regional and non-regional governments.

He replied, hurt if not indignant, "You can't put a price on government!"

THE COST?  
A few days ago I talked about the need for a select committee on regional government. Stressed was the need for a look at the cost of regional government.

It is the cost that has bred alarm in so many people across the province who have been put under it.

There have been numerous studies of regional government but none of them have gone into this question of cost.

We have just had a \$1 million study on Metro Toronto by John Roberts. It dwelt on structure and boundaries. But costs? No.

And is the reason for this perhaps that the people who have been making the studies - many of them professional "experts" - have

not been close to the people and do not know that there is a price on government - a price that comes out of the public pocket.

AND WHY?  
There can be a difference of opinion on select committees - made up of members of the legislature.

Certainly for some purposes they are good and for others not so good.

But this seems to be one case where they fit the need better than any other approach.

For the members here are close to the people.

And particularly they don't have to be self-serving to any municipal interests and politicians.

They can take an objective look and a down-to-earth look at the situation - and they don't have to enhance their reputations by getting into a lot of complicated detail and expertise as so many commissions and inquiries do.

The cost of regional governments has been big.

If NDP'er Mel Swart is right the rate of spending growth in regional municipalities in the past five years has been two and a half times that of non-regional municipalities.

Why?  
The people want to know.  
They do put a price on government!

# Was it worth it all?

By STEWART MACLEOD  
Ottawa Bureau  
Of The Herald

No, I am not still carping about that \$3.5 million Canada Day - or Dominion Day - party on Parliament Hill, but I must admit to being slightly underwhelmed by the opening of Canada Week which preceded the big event.

And it wasn't because there were no speeches by opposition representatives - a complaint that sent shudders through the hall of Parliament. Frankly, I think Opposition Leader Joe Clark and New Democratic Party Leader Ed Broadbent should have been asked to say a few words, but even if they had been invited to perform a Polish polka they couldn't have salvaged that production.

It was, to be blunt, a bush-league operation. Here we were on a glorious sunny day, sitting in front of the Parliament Buildings, all ready to kick off the biggest Canadian week of the year. We wanted to whoop it up, to get the whole week really blasting into the party spirit, to launch a celebration that wouldn't cease until the last firecracker went pop on Friday.

The great temporary stage was all in place in front of the Peace Tower, and those hideous stylized maple-leaf backdrops were all set for the television cameras. The sound system was blasting music all over the lawns and some 3,000 people waited with baited breath for the inevitable excitement.

### PRIVATE PRODUCTION

At this point, it may be worth pointing out that the federal government was not in charge of this particular production. The kick-off ceremonies were the responsibility of the Canada Week Committee, an offshoot of the Council for Canadian Unity, which gets a federal grant, and which contracted public relations firm to plan Monday's activities.

Anyway, as the 3,000 breathless patriots waited, it was announced that Prime Minister Trudeau couldn't be there for the kick-off ceremonies, and instead he would be replaced by Defence Minister Barney Danson.

A peculiar choice, I thought. Since this is a unity crusade, and one that has been valued at \$3.5 million, I would have thought that the prime minister's substitute should be able to speak French. A common courtesy so to speak.

Danson's French not only makes John Diefenbaker sound like a graduate of the Sorbonne, but he seems to speak it with a Swabian accent. His speech was generously described as a disaster.

Incidentally, Danson's nervousness might have been increased by the fact that the flypast by Armed Forces Voodoo jets was late. It must be unusually unworking for a defence minister when one of his precision flying teams is 10 minutes late for an appointment with the Peace Tower.

But, as I said earlier, the arrangements were made by private interests.

### LIMITED PROGRAM

As a follow-up to Danson's speech, we were entertained by two choirs and a high school band - and that was the official kick-off to Canada Week on Parliament Hill. In fact there were no other activities scheduled on the Hill until the July 15 holiday.

But inside the Commons, the fur was flying over the fact that opposition representatives were not invited to speak along with Danson.

Broadbent said there should have been all-party representation on the speaker's podium "in view of the decisive importance of maintaining a non-partisan approach to the question of national unity."

"It is nothing short of shocking and scandalous, as far as I am concerned, to think the minister of national defence kicked off Canada Week," said Robert Coates, PC-Cumberland-Colchester North.

Other opposition MPs joined the fray, obviously giving the government something to think about before July 15 when Trudeau would hold centre stage in The Great Canadian Birthday Party.

Whatever success they enjoyed in this objective, I can't imagine any of them being seriously upset about not taking part in that shiny kick-off ceremony. Everyone was so concerned about whether our Voodoos could find their way back to base that no attention was being paid to speeches anyway.

# Summertime living is . . .

By GERRY LANDSBOROUGH

Summertime is definitely here and the living is easy.

Bright sunshine - laughing faces - care-free days, all of which help to conjure up warm and hazy images of the good old summertime.

The summer season with its easy going ways is a definite favorite of mine, and as I sit here under the shade of a great summertime tree, I put my head in my hands and let my mind roll on by as I reflect on all the things that summertime is to me.

I hope you share some of them with me. Summertime is . . . kids who couldn't wait for school to get out so they could go swimming telling you "but I've been swimming - now what can I do?"

Summertime is . . . hot sticky nights when no one can sleep so you go for a walk and discover a neighbourhood that you thought you knew, but somehow seems different when your walking by instead of flashing by in the car.

Summertime is . . . as many business

meetings on the golf course as you can possibly find excuses for.

Summertime is . . . the laughter of friends at patio parties that become pool parties after someone is unexpectedly thrown in.

Summertime is . . . pool parties that become inside parties when after a week of great weather it suddenly storms - but no one ever seems to really mind.

Summertime is . . . the circus coming to town with all the excitement - the clowns the elephants, the lions and tigers, the smell of popcorn and candy floss, and the sparkling eyes of children - young and old alike.

Summertime is . . . reruns on TV. Some movies seem to get better with the second and even the third viewing.

Summertime is . . . shorts and swim suits - socks are a thing of the past and few mothers are heard to complain on the cutdown in the family wash tub.

Summertime is . . . hot sunny days from Monday to Friday and just as you pack up for a good cottage weekend it suddenly clouds over.

Summertime is . . . watching all the girls watching all the boys go by - and summer just wouldn't be summer without it.

Summertime is . . . concerts in the park - the smell of the grass and the barest whisp of a warm summer nights breeze as you listen to the local band play their heart away.

Summertime is . . . the backyard barbecue with all kinds of delicious smells to test your will power and your waistline. It somehow never lights when its supposed to but once its going you can watch the coals flicker away till dawn.

Summertime is . . . lovers of all ages - hand in hand in the park - long evening walks on the beach - picnics - and quiet summer evenings to just sit and watch the stars go by.

Summertime is . . . watering the grass and cutting it. Man is the only creature clever enough to seed in the spring for a good healthy lawn so he can work all summer cutting it down.

Summertime is . . . pulling out all those funny little things that were coming up where

you planted your petunias only to discover they "were" your petunias.

Summertime is . . . thanks to all those folks who make prepared chicken to take home, hamburgers and hot dogs and french fries, pizzas and ice cream cones and sundae - all of which make easy summer eating fun for all especially mom who takes a holiday as the families only cook.

Summertime is . . . diets, because after all those hamburgers and hot dogs french fries and chicken, not to mention ice cream and sundae - you "need" to diet.

Summertime is . . . little children splashing away in wading pools, and the wee one that always manages to loose the bottom half of his or her bathing suit - throwing it away as something that was in the way in the first place.

Summertime is . . . bike riding, a terrific sport the whole family can enjoy.

Summertime is . . . tanning time but before the tan the ouch that burn you were so sure you weren't going to get.

Summertime is . . . tall cool drinks sipped

slowly by the pool - if you can get it away from the kids for one night.

Summertime is . . . laughing days at the beach - rolling in the waves - counting pebbles in the sand - skipping stones on the water and finding treasures to take home with you to look at in the winter for remembering.

Summertime is . . . wet bathing suits found everywhere in the house, except hanging out to dry in the sun where they belong.

Summertime is . . . beautiful flowers growing everywhere making all the streets so colourful and cheery.

Summertime is . . . those ever famous words "What can I do now - I'm BORED."

Summertime is . . . a time to forget your troubles, remember a trouble is like a pebble if you hold it close to your eyes, it fills the whole world and puts everything out of focus, if you hold it at a distance it can be examined objectively for whatever its worth, however if you throw it on the ground it is seen in its true setting - a tiny bump in ones path.  
Happy Summertime Everybody.

## the HERALD

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