# Home Newspaper of Halton Hills

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103 Main St. South, Georgetown, L7G-JE5, Ontario WILLIAM EVDOKIMOFF, Publisher BOB RUTTER, Editor PHONE ... 877-2201

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# Why not a chance at lower taxes

Halton regional council last week shouldn't have rejected the proposal to accept zero-based budgetting.

Its action in accepting a proposal to contain budget growth to the level of new assessment this year may ultimately reach the same target of stabilizing the mill rate with no increase in taxes but it does not allow for the possibility of the reduction in the taxes paid by ratepayers.

Zero-based budgetting allows for the re-appraisal of all budget items annually thereby giving elected politicians more latitude in making cuts of programs found to be inefficient or redundant and power to allocate those resources to other needed programs. New programs could be assessed on the amount of resources available after the appraisal of all existing programs and budget items.

This form of budget control is gaining in acceptance and Peel Region, for one, is expected within the next two years to move toward it as a goal for containing the recent rapid rise in tax levies. During the past provincial election the Liberal Party proposed this form of fiscal control to contain the growth of both the civil service and the programs proposed by the government.

It is only natural that when a set limit of growth is announced all parties to it will gear their needs to that growth figure under zero-based budgetting proof must be provided before continuation, let alone an increase, is permitted. Halton should seriously consider a move to zerobased budgetting.

#### Commendable

Halton Hills council should be commended on its rejection of any form of limit on the number of for a delegation to council prior to the delegations appearing before it. Council should also consider taking its usual method of handling specific own advice and finding ways to requests, but to deny presentation to control handling of individual delegations when they arrive for speak to council. presentation of their concerns.

Coun. Roy Booth, came immediately following a lengthy and involved is their right. To attempt to limit council meeting held the night before anyone from access, or to delay such which saw a large number of access, to elected representatives is delegations attend.

limit the amount of time each delegation might have to speak to council and to control the length of debate that follows.

In most cases, as Coun. Mike Armstrong argued, there is no need matter going to committee. This is the council is also to deny a basic right to

If members of the public wish to The move to limit, suggested by protect their interests at both the committee and the council levels that to inflict injustice upon people who Council should consider the ef. are today confused about a complex fective use of its procedural bylaw to form of government. Ultimately they have the final say when they go to the polls. Their right to seek satisfaction from government should not be

### Hurry! Hurry! Hurry!

By DON O'HEARN Queen's Park Bureau

Of The Herald Hurry, hurry, hurry

The NDP provincial council later this month will set the date for its leadership convention.

Behind the scenes at least half a dozen people are trying to make up their minds whether they will run. Wooing labor officials, who are all

important, and generally sounding out their chances.

Here is comment on some of them: HOW THEY RATE

- Ian Deans is the one declared candidate and is busily touring the province. Ian can be impressive. A good appearance, dresses well and talks profoundly. He presumably has had some assurances from

labor. - Jim Foulds of Thunder Bay. A teacher and a party moderate. He hasn't the force to be a leader and it is doubtful if he would get many votes at a convention, unless there was no other northener in the field.

- Floyd Laughren of Nickel Belt will probably be in. He would be representing the radical wing of the party. A supporter of the former Waffle, he is regarded as the most extreme

teftist in the house. He would get support from the radical wing - which, despite the influence of Stephen Lewis is still substantial - but would be anathema to the larger moderate wing.

BAD GUYS - Elie Martel of Sudbury East. A school

teacher and an enigma. With Elie it's all good guys and bad guys. He isn't particularly radical, but everything is black and white.

He has a good fighting platform manner and from this angle could be the best of all the candidates.

But his interests have been narrow, and largely local. And there is no indication he could broaden them with leadership. However, he is a fighter.

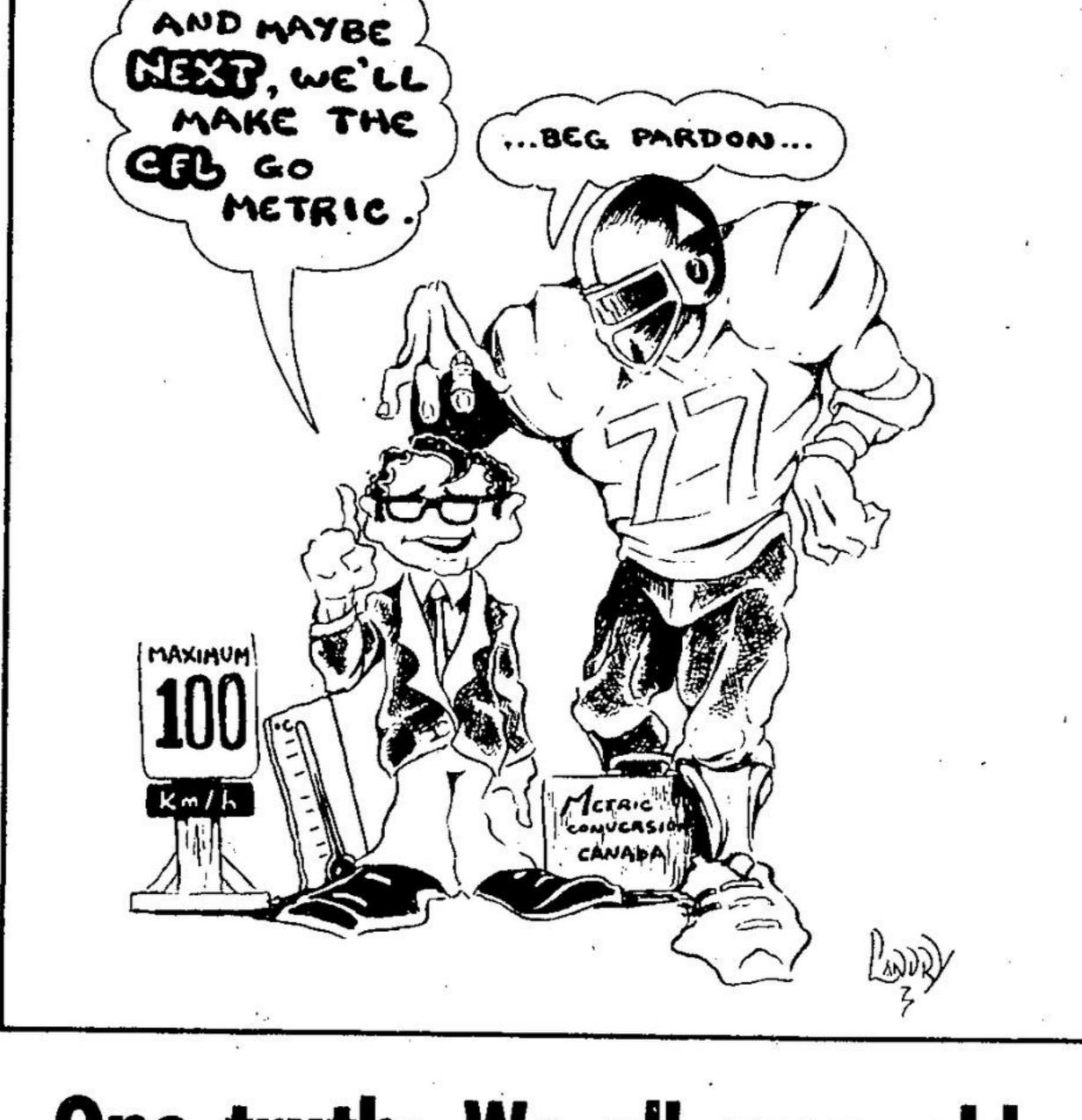
- Then there's Michael Cassidy, A former newspaperman (Financial Times) he as the best intellectual capacity of the potentials.

But he is a boring speaker, usually going on endlessly.

With a time limit involved, he might come up with a good convention speech. But as a leader he could bore the public to death. Also his public personality is not good. - Gill Sandeman, Social worker and

defeated member in Peterborough. She is personable, a solid worker and a woman.

The last could be an important consider-



## One truth: We all grow old

By GERRY LANDSBOROUGH

There is one truth in life that will effect almost all of us. Each and every person reading this column will experience it. We will all, God willing, grew old.

Aging in our society is actually frowned upon. We color our hair, God forbid that we should show any grays, and when it thins out we can wear a wig or a toupee. Weconcentrate all our energies on having that "youthful look." Aging is a process that we start outrunning in our early youth yet from the beginning it is a race we are destined to lose. Our culture looks at our senior citizens as something to be tolerated. We stick them away in homes as soon as possible. We retire them from business just as they are reaching their prime at a time when we could profit most from their experience. We seem to place our emphasis on the culture of our youth mindless of the wisdom of experience of the aged.

It is as though we believe that by hitting the old away and retiring them early from life we can avoid the irreversible process of growing old that begins on the day we were

The old seem to accept the ways of our society and soon after they are placed in a home they accommodate - by dying. How very sad.

Our senior citizens have earned a prominent and honored place in our society but we choose to ignore them and retire them early from life - in so doing we all lose.

theHERALD 103 Main \$1. South. Georgetown, L74-3E5 WILLIAM EVDOKIMOFF Publisher & General Manager Phone 877-2201 Grond Class Mail Registered No 0141 1776 flest News & Fraluces 1975 Best News & Features 1975 Hest Composition & Layout 1975 Best Editorial Page CIRCULATION As of February 1977 12,757 Advertising is accepted on the condition that the

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fathers our young people do not have aged grandparents to instruct and spend time with their own lives and when the time comes to in younger days. instruct grandchildren or great-grandchildren they are put away to a Senior Citizen Let me show compassion Lord, understand-Home. Out of sight soon becomes out of mind. ing, for a faltering hand

home has a story to tell - of the lonely, the quick as mine unloved, the unwanted, who sit broken. For the curse of the living is old age heartedly in chairs and wait for death. With the above in mind we offer you the portals

GRACEFUL YEARS

following for thought.

command.

G. Landsborough Dear Lord give me the wisdom to understand that my step will not always be as light That these nimble limbs that carry me so swiftly up the stairs Will not always bend so readily at my

That these eyes that see the finest print with ease, and read for hours without firing Will blur and cloud with passing years.

Unlike the youth of our pioneer fore For I too will slow with quickly passing years Sometimes Lord the sharpest mind plays them. Grandparents to day are caught up in And the years slip back and the memory lives

Every matron or nurse in a old people's To slow my pace for footsteps that are not as ...

And though we all step quickly through those

Let me follow gracefully Lord, without the impudence of youth. Let me be mindful that loneliness is painful for the old

And though my days flit by so rapidly - days for someone left alone do not For youth sneaks away so quickly Lord, and one day not so very far away I too will find that I am old.

Then I will sit and long for a cheery word, a smile, a bit of time And all of these dear Lord are mine to give so

If I only for a second pause to remember that I too am a victim Let me not show impatience with the old Lord Of that clever trickster time.

#### Looking through our files

THIRTY YEARS AGO

Plans were under way for the Georgetown Fair this weekend. Special features are the horse show, cattle exhibit, harness and road races, poultry show, hall display, merchant's display, baby show all for the 101st annual fair.

Esquesing council went on record this week as being opposed to a pheasant hunt in the township this year when council met for its regular monthly meeting Tuesday.

Council also approved payment for an air raid siren, which had been tried out and recommended by the fire brigade, to supplement the present fire siren. Cost is \$150.

TWENTY YEARS AGO A large crowd was on hand to attend the celebrations going on the opening of Stonehouse Motors, Georgetown's newest car dealer and to view the introduction of the 1958 Edsel.

Parking meters begin official operation in Georgetown Thursday when the police force will begin handing out tickets for violations of the 5 cents an hour charge now being levied for downtown parking.

Another seven stores will join the "Closed Mondays", open-all-day-"Thursday" classification soon. Council passed a bylaw to set new hours for hardware and appliance stores after a petition was read at council.

TEN YEARS AGO

A three-man bid to withdraw from the Credit Valley Conservation Authority was defeated at council. Coun. Jim Young said, "we are not gelting anything for our \$11,000" and suggested the town take steps to withdraw from the authority. Coun. Steamer Emmerson compared the CVCA to a longterm investment which would be thrown away if the town did withdraw. Two other councillors felt the town would never get a dam built at Hungry Hollow "if we have to pay for it ourselves," Coun. Emmerson said.

The latest addition to the Georgetown Police Department fleet, a Chevrolet van, is an all purpose vehicle that should result in better patrolling efficiency and traffic control. Its use in transporting prisoners fromt he county jail will free a cruiser for other duties.

### Civil service peace over language

By STEWART MacLEOD Ottawa Bureau Of The Herald

The government's decision to gradually phase out its second-language training centres could go a long way toward restoring some sense of tranquility to Canada's public service. And it will certainly remove a heavy load from the shoulders of Maxwell Yalden, the new Commissioner of Official Languages.

The training program for public servants began in 1954 when the prime minister, Lester Pearson, declared that "both French and English-speaking Canadians should have the right to communicate with their federal government in their own language." And because there weren't enough French-speaking public servants to provide this service, a crash program had to be undertaken to creat more bilingual employees.

It hasn't been a smooth process for many of the public servants involved. Some 63,000 jobs have been designated as bilingual, and to fill these positions employees either had to pass a second-language test or agree to become bilingual at public expense. In the last 13 years, the government established 533 language-training classrooms, the majority of them teaching English-speaking public servants to handle French.

Many older English employees complained of discrimination because job above them had been declared bilingual and it would not be practical for them to learn a second language late in their careers.

OTTAWA RESENTFUL There were other complaints that because the government's primary concern was to acquire more French-speaking public servants that the training program naturally favored those whose first language was French. For a time Ottawa seemed to be seething with resentment.

Above all, there were constant claims that the training program was largely ineffective; that graduates seldom achieved a full working knowledge of the second language, and that they often had no opportunity to use it once they left the language-

training centres. But the government, facing continuous complaints that the largely English-speaking public service automatically discriminated against unilingual French Canadians, was forced to press on with its crash program to prove it meant business. And, at the same time, it established a series of French-only units in the public service where some of these unilingual employees could find employment.

Not only was the entire program generally disruptive, but it was frequently misunderstood. Many Canadians thought there was no employment available for them in the public service unless they could speak two languag-

These were the types of complaints frequently handled by Keith Spicer, the witty, unconventional Commissioner of Official Languages, who has spent seven years trying to sell Canadians on the value of bilingualism

as the overseer of the Official Languages Act. And these weren't the only complaints faced by Spicer whose office heard about everything from unilingual airline tickets to the fact that not enough French-Canadian composers were utilized for the music played in supermarkets.

MOVE UNHELPFUL

But it was the public service that produced the greatest number of complaints. as the crash training programs altered careers and created ahost of resentments. The situation wasn't helped by the fact that the government, in an effort to make the city of Bull an integral part of the national capilal, began moving 15,000 public servants across the Ottawa river.

Even Spicer, in his last annual report, was critical of the government's bilingualism program, and he said the problem would not be solved until second-language training shifted from the bureaucracy to the schools.

Trouble is, this takes time. But now, we are told, the government feels it can phase out is language-training programs by 1983, while reducing the number of designated bilingual jobs by about onethird. And some of the \$65 million now spent each year on the programs may be shifted to bilingualism education in provincial school systems.

The timing couldn't be better for Maxwell Yalden, a 43-year-old career public servant. Given present circumstances in Canada, his new job will produce enough headaches without having to worry about the career paths of the country's 350,000 public servants.

## Trapped! Opting for the Foreign Legion

By SUSAN DE FACENDIS

After the siren call of summer with its seemingly endless lazy days, a massive effort is needed to lift oneself out of a state of Inertia and realize that the mexorable ticking of the

clock must once again be heeded. The tomatoes in the vegetable garden are ripening faster than I can pick them and the beans are plaintively crying out to be harvested. While one is caught up in the scramble from garden to kitchen amid the boling pots of water, a temporary emergance from the freezer bags becomes necessary to begin the preparations for school opening and total choas reigns supreme.

The two girls demand appointments at the hairdresser - a new hairstyle being almost mendatory for the start of the fall term -

while on the other hand, I have to literally drag my son, kicking and screaming, to the nearest barber and shackle him to the chair. The lirst faint drop in temperature

causes chills to run down my spine as I realize that winter clothing must be sorted and assessed and that three barefoot children need to be shod. "Mom! My shoes are too tight," comes the

call from Richard's lair. "Can't you curl your toes?", I reply. When I receive no answer from this obvious query I try another tack: "O.k. are

either of you Cinderella's ready to wear a boys size nine, cast-off shoe yet?", I enquire hopefully of the girls. "Oh, mom!", sigh Louisa and Teresa in unison, who can never take a jocular apemptied. "I have one red, one brown and one green mitt. Anyone care to start a new fashion in vari-colored hands?", I brightly "Mom, I would like to oblige, but they are

proach to the serious subject of clothes.

The bag where winter bats, mitts and

scarves were hastily stuffed last May, is

all left hands" "Well you could each wear one and keep

the other hand in your pocket. I am only trying to keep expenses down in these economically troubled times." "Mom, I think the word you are looking for is 'Cheap'"

Choosing to ignore that totally uncalledfor remark, I doggedly continue: "Louisa, do you have gym shorts that fit?"

"I don't know, but I need new skis". That comment proves to be a 'bummer' as all three of them then become diverted onto a heated discussion of skates, ski poles, goggles and sled and I know, regretfully, that this job is going to take at least three days to complete.

White we stand amidst the piles of clothing still to be sorted, it appears reasonable to me to discard tacky, worn-out summer clothing at the same time. I distastefully pick up a pair of blue Jean cutoffs that have not only faded to a dirty offwhite shade, but are totally worn through in the seat.

"Mom!" screams Louisa, "You can't throw them out, they are just getting comfortable" - and young Teresa chimes in: "Yeah Mom! She's going to pass them on to me when they don't fit her anymore."

I reluctantly drop them back in the pile with a muttered: "If either one of you appears on the street in those, you will probably get arrested", and make a mental note to discard them when, as the schoolbells joyfully chime. I can reassume my solltary position of authority in the house.

My full cleaning spree is obviously going to have to be postponed indefinitely. On top of everything else, the mere thought of tackling Teresa's collection of mouldering pinecones; the dead butterfly taped to her bedroom wall that is about to fulfil it's destiny of 'from dust to dust' and other, as yet undiscovered summer remnant horrors, is enough to give me nightmares. I wonder if the French Foreign Legion would accept a runaway housewife?