

A young bride of three months complained to her mother about her groom's drinking habits. "If you knew he drank, why did you marry him," she was asked. "I didn't know he drank until one night he came home sober."

The full-size paper reaching more than 12,900 homes in Halton Hills



A partial family portrait of the Endicott family. Big sister Della is holding Bobby-Jo on her lap. The other children are, from left to right, Joshua, David, Debby-Jo, Buffy-Jo and Steven.

Christmas comes early as family grows to 12

By LORI TAYLOR
Herald staff writer

The Endicott family received five of their Christmas presents early this year—they arrived a few weeks ago, and their names are David, Buffy-Jo, Joshua, Samuel and Randy.

The recent addition of five new brothers and sisters to the Endicott family brings the total to twelve children, ranging in age from 18 to 1. The four oldest children are the natural children of Joe and Caroline and the eight youngest are adopted, but their parents are careful to make no distinctions between them.

"We don't say we have eight adopted children," Joe said. "We just say we have 12 kids."

The Endicotts are originally from the United States, Maryland to be specific. They moved to Canada in October of 1973, living in Ottawa and later in the Toronto area. They now live in a large house on the 6th line below Limehouse.

The arrival of the five new children was even more chaotic than that which might be expected under the circumstances. One-

year-old Randy and two-year-old Samuel had to be hospitalized almost as soon as they reached their new home. Randy was suffering from the croup, and Samuel had contracted pneumonia. Both were home in time for Christmas, though.

Bobby-Jo, 7, joined the family three days after she was born, while the family was still living in the United States. Debby-Jo and Steven, aged 7 and 8, who are brother and sister by blood as well as by choice, joined the family five years ago while they were living in Toronto. For the past fifteen years, the family has also taken in foster children.

The Endicotts were made aware of the situation of their five newest children through the feature "Today's Child" in the Toronto Star. Once they knew the application to adopt would be approved, the family put together a photo album for their new brothers and sisters, who at that time were living in the north in group homes and foster homes.

In the album were photo-

graphs of the children's future home and each member of the family. In addition, each person wrote a brief note, describing themselves and welcoming their new siblings.

"The children had the album for about a week and a half before we went to pick them up," Caroline said. "When Joe and I went to pick up Josh and Samuel, Josh stood looking at Joe for a minute. Then he said, 'My new daddy', and ran to him with his arms open, ready to be picked up."

All four of the older children know how to change a diaper, cook a meal and clean a house.

"Without the four older ones, it would be very difficult to have the eight younger ones," Caroline said. "One person can't do it all. If you do, you're dead. It's share and share alike."

The older children all have their chores to do. Keeping the house looking nice takes everybody, Caroline commented. She added that everyone likes to see the house look neat, and the rest of the children soon get

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Calibration monitoring of plant's sewage flow

Ontario ministry of environment officials confirmed last week that monitoring a new flow meter is underway at the Georgetown sewage treatment plant.

Art Thomas, manager of utility operations, said the new meter is being calibrated by the firm which installed the device in the recent expansion of the plant to three million gallons capacity per day. He would not confirm,

however, a suggestion that the monitoring is taking place because high daily flows are being reported since the device entered full operation Oct. 7.

The Herald has learned that flows have been generally higher than anticipated since the new meter was installed. One source indicated that a peak was achieved during the past two months of about 2.9 million gallons, a figure Mr. Thomas would not confirm

because of "possible" confusion surrounding the flows at the plant.

Beginning possibly in January flow charts will be released by the ministry because of the large amount of interest surrounding the operation of the Georgetown plant, Mr. Thomas said.

Average daily flows recorded for September show 2,644 million gallons; October, 2,592 million gallons; and

November, 2,757 million gallons.

Officials cautioned, however, that the figure for October does not reflect the total month of operation of the new meter.

There has been no confirmation that the old meter at the plant has been reading low for as long as the past three or four years, nor has there been confirmation that the meter may have been located in the

wrong location within the plant.

The present flow for the plant had been estimated at about 2.1 million gallons leaving about 900,000 gallons for expansion of residential commercial and industrial areas in the community.

If the meter shows an accurate higher flow, it might affect the ability of Georgetown to attract new industry or development.

ENVIRONMENT STUDY NEEDED FOR NEW CORRIDORS?

ICG disputes minister's statement

A spokesman for the Interested Citizens Group (ICG) has disputed statements by Ontario Energy Minister James Taylor that only one hydro transmission line has been approved entering the Milton switching station south of Halton Hills.

John Minns also disputed a statement by the minister Dec. 8 in the legislature that any further approvals would require an environmental assessment board hearing before being approved.

"You don't need any approvals if the lines follow existing corridors," Mr. Minns said.

His statement confirms comments by Ontario Hydro community relations spokesman Peter Webster to The Herald earlier this year in which he said as many as 11 hydro transmission lines may be entering or leaving the Milton station. Authorization is needed for each, but no further study.

Mr. Minns said an alternative proposed two weeks ago by the ICG for a Kitchener routing, a route supported by an independent consultant hired by the ministry of energy to work with the ICG, would not require environmental hearings.

In a speech to the legislature June 6, 1975, then Energy Minister Dennis Timbrell announced an environmental hearing for a section of the Bradley-to-Georgetown corridor.

"Only a small portion of the overall route from between Colbeck and Limehouse constitutes a new right-of-way which has not been in-

dependently reviewed or which does not follow an existing route," the then energy minister said in part.

While the Ontario government maintains that the Solandt Commission studied the Limehouse crossing, Mr. Minns says there has never been an environmental study of the section of the Bradley-to-Georgetown corridor extending south from Limehouse to Milton.

The Kitchener routing proposal suggested by the ICG would see improvement along an existing corridor from Bruce to Kitchener. Improvement along an existing corridor from Kitchener to Midport on the Nanticoke-to-Pickering bridge; and east along the existing right-of-way to the Milton switching station.

"This corridor would have a double use since it would transmit bulk power and serve a load centre as well," Gordon Kidd, a Halton Hills member of the ICG states. "With the cost reaching many millions of dollars this double use is important to all who pay hydro bills."

Refusal last week by cabinet to allow a four-month independent review of the Bradley-to-Georgetown hydro corridor now moves from opponents any fear they will be charged with "boiling up" power in Bruce nuclear generating station, Mr. Kidd says.

"Any further refusal or delay by the government would seem unreasonable," he says. "The citizens are justified in asking for the review because the record of change in corridor routes

speaks for itself," Mr. Kidd says.

He cites the "major change" in the Nanticoke-Pickering route approved by the Solandt Commission and another corridor near Chatham.

"One cannot commit oneself to something in the future which has not in fact been authorized," Mr. Taylor said in the legislature Dec. 8 replying to a question from Halton-Burlington MPP Julian Reed.

A few short hours after Energy Minister James Taylor gave the green light to expropriation of land for the Bruce to Milton hydro transmission corridor, executive members of the Interested Citizens Group (ICG) were drafting battle

plans aimed at bringing all progress on the corridor to a standstill.

In a phone call to ICG chairman Bill Mann early last night, Mr. Taylor announced that he has rejected the citizens' final appeal for an independent review of Ontario Hydro data used in planning the power lines route from the Bruce peninsula generating station near Milton. Expropriation of private land along the 109-mile long route will proceed, he said.

Mr. Mann and other ICG directors wasted little time assembling at the chairman's Ospringe home to finalize plans for an all-out war on a number of contentious aspects of the corridor dispute.

As Mr. Taylor was warned when he met with ICG representatives last week, the citizens, if their appeal was rejected, intend to stall work on the corridor through a series of lengthy court battles that could last as long as four years.

Mr. Mann reported that he reaffirmed the ICG's warning to Mr. Taylor upon hearing of his decision.

The citizens had asked Mr. Taylor last week to commission a four-month long independent study of Hydro information concerning a possible corridor route from Bruce to Kitchener.

According to the ICG, the information would confirm its long-standing contention that the alternate route is superior to the one now being considered, both in engineering and environmental terms. The information was shelved for political reasons, the ICG believes.

The contention that better routes exist than the Bruce to Milton route was one of a recent independent consultant's six-week study ordered by the ministry of energy at the ICG's request.

In his report, Ken Slater of Slater Energy Consultant Inc. confirmed that possible routes and systems suggested by the ICG are in fact superior, as is Hydro's original preferred

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Cabinet rejects review proposal

TORONTO—Ontario cabinet last week rejected any further study of alternatives for the Bruce to Georgetown hydro transmission lines, Energy Minister James Taylor said in an interview.

Interested Citizens Group (ICG) proposed to Taylor earlier that a Kitchener route for the line would save time, construction costs and provide better systems security.

But Taylor said such a route would have to go through environmental assessment board hearings which would take two to five years.

The options were examined by himself with Hydro staff and also in cabinet, he said. Cabinet also has authorized Hydro to continue acquiring land and proceed with construction on the original Georgetown route.

Taylor made the commitment to look at the Kitchener option to the ICG Dec. 13.

He said Hydro denied a couple of beliefs attributed to the corporation. One was that Hydro preferred a Kitchener route, which they don't another that it would be cheaper, which it will not.

Taylor also said he'd review the report of Slater Energy Consultants, which was commissioned by the energy ministry to review Hydro's system security studies presented to the Solandt Commission in 1973.

Slater supported the Kitchener option.

But Taylor said Solandt did not, implying that you pay your money and take your choice.

The minister did express misgivings about the whole process that led to the final cabinet decision. Something went amiss somewhere over the years to cause so many people to fight the original

decision, he said. If he'd been in command from the beginning which he was not, "I don't know whether I'd have reached different conclusions" about the Bruce to Milton route.

But as of now it's too late, he said. Taking another route would mean major delays that would add costs to consumers in the form of higher electrical rates, he said.

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Separate school teachers talking

The first meeting between the Halton separate school board and its teachers since the appointment of Toronto lawyer Jane Devlin as mediator was successful, according to the chairman of the salary negotiations committee.

Hartley Sberk feels that the meeting last Wednesday evening was a "pretty good start" because both sides made concessions. Ms. Devlin was able to get the teachers to respond to the last seven-point package which the board offered, he said. This was something they had not done.

She showed quite an interest in the situation, he says, and he feels she will be able to get the teachers to be more realistic in their demands.

The teachers have demanded an 11.9 per cent increase while the board has offered 7.9 per cent.

Mr. Sberk feels that the

teachers are intruding on the board's rights by demanding a reduction in pupil-teacher ratio. Meeting their demands would require an addition of 27 teachers and raise the board's teachers salaries total by \$500,000. This would mean an extra two mills on the tax bill, he says.

Right now Mr. Sberk feels that separate school teachers are getting a "pretty fair salary" and their benefits are "equal to or better than those given by the Halton board of education." On top of that they are not facing redundancy problems as teachers are who work in the public school system.

"We're in a grow situation," he says. "Predictions are that our enrollments will increase over the next 10 years by 1,400 students."

The next negotiation meeting is set for Jan. 9.

Picked Up In Passing

Electron tubes contract

A federal contract worth \$115,709 has been awarded to Varian Associates Ltd. of Georgetown to provide the transport department with electron tubes, the department of supply and services announced Monday. It was one of 230 unclassified contracts worth \$10,000 or more that were awarded by the department to Canadian companies during the week ended Nov. 25. Total value of the contracts amounted to \$50,950,828.

Salesmen bonded

All insulation companies involved in door-to-door selling must be bonded by the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations. Paul Tuz, president of the Better Business Bureau of Greater Toronto, has said that a number of small businesses may be unaware that they need a \$5,000 bond, which is to cover claims regarding damage to a home or business. The bond can be obtained through an insurance company.

Library board appointee

Halton separate school board has named Georgetown High school teacher Michael McMahon as its appointee to the library board. Mr. McMahon replaces W. A. (Ben) Boyle.

Contract awarded

Halton region's public works committee has recommended that a \$24,140 contract for a 24 inch storm sewer at the Georgetown garbage dump be awarded to Piza Construction Ltd. of Maple. Installation of the sewer line will solve a severe erosion problem at the dump.



Josh, Steven and David Endicott played with trucks and blocks on the floor in the play room while waiting for their parents to bring their younger brother, Samuel, home from the hospital.

Region proposes 4.8% increase in '78

Halton region has proposed an increase of 4.8 per cent in its 1978 gross operating budget, slightly more than half of one per cent less than guidelines approved this year by council.

The gross budget, released Wednesday and which does not contain the police budget, calls for an increase to \$23,015,900 from \$22,859,975.

Effect of the proposed budget on the average taxpayer remains uncertain until Ontario Treasurer Darryl McKeough announces the amount of provincial subsidies available to the regional municipality.

The budget also does not allow for an approved reserve for landfill purposes which "if not recommended (would) add a further 2.4 per cent increase to the gross budget," regional chairman Ric Morrow says.

Also not included in the proposed budget which will go before council at a special

meeting Jan. 18 are changes in debt charges for debentures issued for sewer works in all municipalities, some grants, hospital debt charges and furniture purchases and equipment rentals.

Most significant increase comes under the general government heading which makes provision for the construction cost of \$505,900 for the new regional building on Bruce Road. The classification which includes cost of the chairman's office, stipend for councillors and other general services is expected to jump 4.6 per cent to \$1,901,300 from \$1,843,902.

Assistant regional treasurer John Young who compiled the figures said the increase comes from the cost of the regional headquarters building and a 105 per cent increase in the operation of the health unit building in Milton.

Actual cost of the chair-

man's office is expected to decrease by 1.3 per cent to \$46,850.

Halton region has only \$2 million reserve toward the cost of the new headquarters building.

Mr. Young explained that difficulties in approximating the cost of operation of the Milton health unit building arise from the expected move by the unit to the new regional building sometime next summer. There is a provincial subsidy grant available but the amount of the grant and the charges for rental of the building remain unknown.

He said the building could be sold giving the municipality a net recovery sometime in 1978.

Other areas of increase include a 19.6 per cent increase to protection to persons and property. Fire co-ordinator costs are expected to drop by less

than one per cent while the cost of participation in federal-government sponsored Emergency Planning Canada will increase by 5.3 per cent. Total for the two areas is \$11,790.

Largest percentage increase in protection of persons and property comes because of the approval of capitalization of the Halton Region Conservation Authority Glen Eden Ski hill expansion. The proposed budget calls for a 19.8 per cent increase for the HRCOA, Grand River and Credit River Conservation Authorities. Both the HRCOA and the CYCA have pegged increases to below 5.9 per cent.

Public works shows a gross budget increase of 1.5 per cent reflected by 100 per cent drops in cost of operation at the Acton, Georgetown and regional landfills sites.

The other areas of increase show:

- A 19.8 per cent increase to \$110,400 for recreation and community services.
- 11.8 per cent increase to \$2,428,800 for conservation of health. Conservation of health includes an overall 8.2 per cent increase for health unit activities and a 21.7 per cent increase to hospitals.
- Social and family services proposed budget was held to 5.8 per cent or \$2,420,000 from \$2,094,512.
- Halton Centennial Manor budget has been held to 4.5 per cent or a proposed budget of \$2,958,300.
- Children's Aid Society which last year sought more than 60 per cent increase this year had the proposed regional cost held to 7 per cent or \$295,800. Grants to organizations increased by 13.8 per cent to \$97,200. Both grants and CAS reflect an 8.6 per cent increase.