

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1977

A Division of Canadian Newspapers Company Limited

103 Main St. South, Georgetown, L7G-3E5, Ontario

WILLIAM EVDOKIMOFF, Publisher

BOB RUTTER, Editor

PHONE... 877-2201

Second Class Mail Registered Number—0943

A turbulent year

1977 was a turbulent year in the short history of Halton Hills. It marked the first time that residents became actively opposed to several issues which must be answered in 1978, and the year focussed on this town's goals for development.

Action citizens opposed to regional government, and that community's involvement within a unified Halton Hills structure, have instituted attempts to restore municipal status to the town while others in the community are attempting to restore the town's former township.

Georgetown residents continued their opposition to a municipal offices expansion which was resurrected by a council almost solely elected on an anti-expansion ticket. And the proposal to build a library at Cedarvale drew strong vocal opposition.

Focal Properties Ltd. finally secured an Ontario Municipal Board hearing into its 1975

application for 1,840 homes to be developed south of Silver Creek in the Hungry Hollow area.

Ontario Energy Minister James Taylor continued to oppose efforts by the Interested Citizens Group (ICG) to have an independent study of the proposed high voltage corridor along the town's fifth concession.

All these and more issues must be answered sometime within the next 12 months. Some will receive satisfactory answers; others will see the debate prolonged and become mired in legal representations which might take years to overcome.

But the issues that will be addressed mark a beginning of the active participatory democracy we all accept as our right. We have entered a time when politics at the local level has become more than a cursory supervision of the direction we take into the future. We must accept that there are no easy answers, but a great deal of hard work ahead.

An early budget

Release last week of the regional proposed budget for 1978 underscores the diligent work that has taken place behind the scenes to ensure that not only would the budget be set as early as possible, but that some form of control be implemented to control rising costs.

Members of council, deputy-treasurer John Young and Milton Mayor Don Gordon should receive the credit for the outstanding job in formulating the new budget.

Mayor Gordon stressed earlier this year that council should begin early into the new year to estimate increases in various operations and set such increases in line with a limit approved by council.

This year council set a 5.4 per cent increase limit, and while some areas have increased in excess of that figure, the overall effect will be within the guidelines. All, that is, except the provision for funds toward the development of a regional landfill site. The budget allows for this but would then increase

to 7.2 per cent.

There is, however, some difficulties in finalizing the budget because some factors are not known. These include the degree of provincial subsidy grants for 1978, a police budget which should be released shortly, and accurate — rather than estimate figures — for two of the three conservation authorities in Halton. Also the impact of debt charges remains outstanding.

Some answers may be known when council discusses the budget Jan. 18. This compares favorably with efforts last year which saw serious budget discussion under way in the spring.

Certainly the preparation of the proposed gross budget does not mean that Halton will have an early budget; but what it does mean is that elected officials at the regional level are conscientiously interested in getting their house in order early in the year so that day-to-day business can be expedited without delay.

A young activist

Kathleen Schofield of Galt Street, Guelph, is only eight years old but she's a determined young miss who knows her own mind and how to get her point across.

Kathleen, who goes to Torrance School, had a justifiable beef. She can't get to see the special children's television shows put on for Christmas because they are scheduled to be shown after Miss Schofield's bed time.

She drew up a petition, got her fellow students to sign it, and fired it off to the managers of six Canadian television stations. It asked for better program scheduling.

Then, sounding rather like a battered adult Canadian taxpayer, Kathleen told a reporter she didn't expect a speedy set of answers because it was likely her letter "would sit on the boss's desk for two or three days."

If the station managers don't respond to the young Guelph schoolgirl and her comrades, they don't deserve to be in business. All the market ratings in the world can't have the impact of the Torrance School petition.

What is the use of spending all that

money and talent producing special shows for the kids if the viewing audience is tucked up in bed when they are shown?

Kathleen's message was constructive. She told the managers they should schedule the shows in daytime at weekends. And, dash it all, Kathleen is the voice of the consumer!

Some enterprising firm should hire Miss Schofield as a resident consultant, and quickly.

Ralph Nader and Mr. Neisen probably weren't firing off well-documented consumer complaints when they were aged eight. And look what they became!

If Kathleen is successful, and we hope she is, she might turn to other areas of TV marketing. What do the women think of all those football games? And why shouldn't working men have a chance to see soap operas at night?

The TV stations could heed the Torrance petition, switch children's shows from the later evening slots and replace them with Guiding Light and One Life to Live.

Keep it up, Kathleen.

GUELPH MERCURY



A reluctant goodbye to 1977

By GERRY LANDSBOROUGH

Once again we reluctantly say goodbye to another year that has raced by all too quickly and even though the parting is always sad, as you find yourself another year older, but seldom the wiser, we greet the new year with the greatest of enthusiasm.

1977 was a hard year for many of us. The continuing unemployment and rising costs have put financial hardships on most people and even those comparatively well off had to cut a few corners.

We seemed to have lost much during '77. The deaths of Bing Crosby and Elvis Presley were tragic happenings that millions felt as a personal loss. Both men gave so much to us and I'm sure that their music will live on for many years to come.

Another loss that stood out during 1977 was the breakup of so many families — even the home of the Prime Minister did not go untouched. Family breakup is the greatest of tragedy yet perhaps this trend will help to bring about relationships of deeper meaning and stronger value in the years ahead.

Many Canadians expressed embarrassment at the publicity centering around Margaret Trudeau and her personal life during 1977. Margomania swept the nation, yet somehow we still sympathize with this troubled young woman. Experience tells us that no career no matter how fulfilling can take the place of one's children and many unfortunate young women such as Margaret will discover this for themselves. Though very often the discovery comes too late and much too painfully.

Our annual Christmas postal strike has once again proven the unions have become much too powerful. Many Canadians still belong to the "I want a bigger piece of the pie" school, and all too soon we will learn that nothing survives constant taking without giving something in return.

On the brighter side even though Quebec is threatening to leave the Confederation there has been a definite increase in what could only be called Canadian Nationalism. Perhaps it is this awakening of our Canadian identity that will help us see this crisis through and keep us together in unity.

1977 was also the year of the great saccharine scare. Saccharine was linked to cancer and was to be banned from the market. However, John Q. Public wouldn't stand for it and the scheduled removal was altered which goes to prove the old adage "give the people what they want — even if it kills them."

The over-emphasis on "sex" was still going strong in 1977 though in the latter part of the year movie moguls have stated that it's time to switch to something else. The public has seen it all as far as sex is concerned and they're starting to get bored and consequently the sex films aren't drawing the same crowds.

Star Wars was the big movie thriller of 1977 quickly followed by several Star Wars imitations. Who knows Star Wars then Son of Star Wars might give rise to Grandson of Star Wars for '78. The whole sequel thing is given over-kill as far as I see it.

So along with the above and countless other happenings 1977 passed on into the past and 1978 lay before us.

For us personally another year with The Herald has come to pass and as in other years we take this opportunity to acknowledge

those of you who have rapped our knuckles or handed bouquets. We are, too flip, too common, too intellectual, too much in the pulpit, not strong enough (P.S. that's not enough in the pulpit) but all in all we've enjoyed every minute of it.

You might not always agree with us but this is one column here you never know from one week to the next just what or who will turn up and as always, dear readers, it's your interest that makes it all worthwhile.

We look forward to your comments both good and bad in the New Year.

So here's to 1977 the good, the bad and the ugly. And although for the most part the bad and the ugly seemed to have a stronger foothold we look forward with hope to 1978 and the promise of IT'S BOUND TO GET BETTER. HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYBODY.

Former Grit takes initiative after break-in as Tory MP

By STEWART MACLEOD
Ottawa Bureau
Of The Herald

John Crosbie has always been blessed with a magnificent sense of outrage, and now that he is spicing it with a dab of humor he might even affect the drinking and eating habits of Canadians.

If not, it won't be for lack of effort. The 46-year-old former Newfoundland Liberal, who now is the sitting Tory MP from St. John's West, has never been one to sit and simmer in the background while debate rages around him. But as a relatively new addition to Parliament — he came to Ottawa in an October, 1976 byelection — he has had to go through the same breaking-in process as other MPs. You don't start shouting the first day on the job.

But there is every indication that Crosbie has completed that breaking-in process. He has graduated, so to speak.

"The economy of Canada is in a shamble, they are a group of shambles. When I watch the minister of finance, I ask myself how many ministers of finance can dance on the head of a pin. He is positively unimpressive with respect to members of the opposition."

And he goes on, blasting away at the dreaded government, pausing only when he seems to be overcome with a bout of disbelief.

Looking through our files

THIRTY YEARS AGO

At a well-attended nomination meeting in Limehouse Memorial Hall on Monday afternoon the entire Esqueping Township Council was re-elected by acclamation. Council members for 1948 will be Reeve George Cleave, Deputy-Reeve George Currie, Coun. Wilfried Bird, Coun. H. Craig Reid, and Coun. George Leslie. The only other nominee for office was former councillor R. N. Brown, who was present at the meeting and declined to cause an election by allowing his name to stand.

The caboose of a standing freight train was demolished, two cars derailed and another damaged in an accident which occurred at 11:35 a.m. Sunday morning on the CNR line just west of the Main Street bridge.

A four-car freight train coming from Acton hit the rear end of the standing freight after a crash heard by residents in the district, many of whom hurried to the scene. Luckily no one was in the caboose and no injuries occurred.

A gala Christmas was arranged by officials of Local 788, I.B.E.W. the union local at the Smith and Stone plant, for children of employees. The party, complete with tree and Santa Claus, was held last Tuesday night in the Oddfellows Hall. Altogether, 219 presents were distributed, as well as a bag of treats to each child attending.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

Because the province will not approve a flat rate sewer charge on the water bill, council has had to revise its opinion on how to assess the cost of a proposed new sewage disposal plant. Originally council had decided

service charge based on the number of water outlets.

Santa visited over 100 Lions Club children at the arena Rose Room on Sunday afternoon as the club presented its second annual Christmas party. The members and their wives were also on hand for fun M.C.'d by Jack Gunning. Bob Bardsley of Brampton brought along his Hammond organ to accompany the children in the singing of Christmas carols and all the old Christmas favorites. The children swarmed around Santa and his three helpers when he made his entrance near the close of the festivities and danced to the rollicking tunes played by Bob Bardsley.

TEN YEARS AGO

Saturday morning at a special meeting, the Board of Police Commissioners appointed Acting Police Chief Harley Lowe Chief of the Georgetown Police Department. Chief Lowe joined the force in 1956, when it consisted of four men.

Division of the county into three planning areas was proposed to Halton County Council Tuesday, when Robert Serena reported for the Halton Planning Association. Mr. Serena proposed that from "some spot north of Hwy. 5" should be designated as one planning area and the areas of Oakville and Burlington should each from the other two areas.

Reform Institutions Minister Allan Grossman yesterday announced a \$7 million construction program, the first leg of which will be Maplehurst, a regional detention centre to replace the antiquated Halton and Peel County Jails. Grossman said in a press conference that construction there will start in 1968 and be completed in three or four years.

Trip slightly delayed

A fictional work
By MAGGIE HANNAH
and LOUISE TAYLOR
Herald staff writer

"Hello, Jessica? Oh, it's you Siegfried. Be a good elf and find Mrs. Claus for me, will you? Yes, I'll hold on. But hurry up. This is long distance."

"Whoa, steady. Yes, it's me. No, I'm not fine, but I'll survive. Oh, they did show up. I wondered if they'd go home. That's good. At least I don't have to worry about where they got to. Now I can just get myself all rested up."

"Where am I? I'm in hospital. Now, now, Jessica, calm down. It's just a little minor patching up."

"No I did not run into anything serious. Oh, you missed the scorch marks on the sleigh. Yes, well, — uh, — that's why I'm in here. I got a bit too warm and my suit started to smoke."

"No, no. It isn't ruined. It's just the pants. I'm sorry, honey. I know how hard you worked after I split them last year. It's all these snacks the kids leave me. I can't ignore them or the little nippers get all upset."

"Actually you see, that's what started it all. That and this new subdivision that Halton Hills doesn't want."

"Well, Siegfried said something about 1,800 new homes in the Focal Properties subdivision so we loaded up the toys for all the kids on that assumption. Only when I arrived in Georgetown I found the darn thing hadn't been built. So you see I was already overloaded when I headed south to Milton."

"Then all those snacks those rich kids left for me weighed me down too. Oh, you haven't heard. Yes, well, it seems that Georgetown is a very affluent place. That's why the kids can afford such big treats for the team and I. Who says? The head of the Halton Law Society, that's who. No, I don't know his name. Gee, Jessica. What am I? A walking Who's Who?"

"I was just coasting along over Trafalgar Road when this guy yelled at me over his CB. Apparently the police were after me for speeding. Would you believe those reindeer can go 230 kilometres per hour?"

"I guess I was so angry about the ticket that I got the team upset, too. Anyway, the next thing I know Rudolph tripped over something and I got a hot seat."

"No, no. Not a TV antenna. It was a tower of some kind the Ontario Hydro fellows left stuck out in the middle of nowhere near Milton. I think they're going to put a power line on it or something. No, I don't know why it's there. All I know is Rudolph tripped over it and his nose lit up like the last I had it recharged. Yes, that's how I screeched the sleigh and burned my britches."

"What happened? Well, after we bumped on that I sort of bounced. No, I didn't break anything. Well, not on me, anyway."

"I lit on the roof of this old building in Acton. Just as well I picked the old one, not the new one beside it. I hear they're talking about tearing it down or restoring it anyway. I gave them a helping hand towards the project. Well, if they tear it down they don't have to bother with the piece I knocked out. If they restore it they'd have to rebuild the roof anyway because of my fall."

"Right. Of course, it wasn't a nice thing to do but I couldn't help it. Heck, Jessica. I'm just glad I didn't land on their brand new fireball. On the other hand, it's a good thing I came so close. They had a traffic jam there so they'd never have got a pumper out if I'd been too far away. Really efficient firefighters those guys. Got my britches cooled off very quickly."

"No, they didn't take me to the hospital in Georgetown. They wanted to but my age was against me. They figured I'd been shaken up enough I'd need extended rest after they patched up my burned spot and they haven't room for an extended care facility in the place."

"Just as well. I didn't go to Georgetown. You know how I like to read. Well, their library isn't a bad one in the igloo across the park from the workshop."

"Where am I? Now you know what will happen if the little kids find out where I am. I'll be total bedlam. The hospital is understaffed as it is. They'd never manager with all the little people dropping by and the switchboard jammed with calls. It'd be worse than when Elvis died."

"I just wanted to be sure the team got home safely and you weren't too worried because I wasn't with them. I'll be just fine. Get the suitcases packed up because we're taking that vacation as soon as I get home."

"How soon? I don't know. I've got a Dr. Philbrook looking after me and has to be back for Parliament to reconvene so I'll probably see you within the next month or so. I'll call you then and tell you exactly when to expect me. Okay?"

"Yes, Jessica. I love you too. Now be a good girl and I'll see you soon. Bye."

FUNNSIDE



"I got my last babysitter in trouble by making obscene phone calls."

the HERALD
A DIVISION OF CANADIAN NEWSPAPERS COMPANY LTD.
103 MAIN ST. SOUTH, GEORGETOWN, L7G-3E5
WILLIAM EVDOKIMOFF
Publisher & General Manager
BOB RUTTER, Managing Editor
BOB MILLER, Adv. Sales Manager
Phone 877-2201
Second Class Mail Registered No. 0943

AN AWARD WINNING NEWSPAPER
1976 Best News & Features
1975 Best News & Features
1975 Best Composition & Layout
1975 Best Editorial Page

CIRCULATION: As of February 1977 13,752
Advertising is accepted on the condition that the advertiser agrees that the publisher shall not be liable for damages arising out of errors in advertisements beyond the amount paid for the space actually occupied by that portion of the advertisement in which the error occurred, whether such error is due to the negligence of its agents or otherwise, and there shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement beyond the amount paid for such advertisement.

National Advertising Office:
The Canadian Press
45 Queen St. W., Toronto, Ont.
M5H 1M8