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A turbulent year

1977 was a turbulent year in the short - application for 1,840 homes to be developed history of Halton Hills. It marked the first time that residents became actively opposed to several issues which must be answered in goals for development.

Acton 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 townhall.

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 south of Silver Creek in the Hungry Hollow

Ontario Energy Minister James Taylor 1978, and the year focussed on this lown's ' 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

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 sel 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

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

young activist

Kathleen Schoffeld of Galt Street, money and talent producing special shows for determined young miss who knows her own in bed when they are shown? mind and how to get her point across

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 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.

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 - Guiding Light and One Life to Live. impact of the Torrance School petition. What is the use of spending all that

Guelph, is only eight years old but she's a the kids if the viewing audience is tucked up

Kathleen's message was constructive Kathleen, who goes to Torrance School. She told the managers they should schedule had a justifiable beef. She can't get to see the the shows in daytime at weekends. And, dash special children's television shows put on for all all. Kathleen is the voice of the consumer! Some enterprising firm should hire Miss Schofield as a resident consultant, and

> Ralph Nader and Mr. Neilsen 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 adult Canadian taxpayer. Kathleen told a 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 snap operas at might?

The TV stations could heed the Torrance petition, switch children's shows from the later evening slots and replace them with

> Keep it up, Kathleen, GUELPH MERCURY

Drea as negotiator in national unity debate

By DON O'HEARN Queen's Park Bureau Of The Herald

In his appearance before the Task Force on Canadian Unity Ontario Premier William Davis stressed that there should be immedrate reform of practices between the federal and provincial governments

Particularly, he said, there should be an end to the fragmentation, duplication and overlap that now existed in the policies and programs of the two levels of government.

This is a fine objective. Though we undoubtedly will never see an end to it, or anything like it, there is a lot that could be

And, as a thought, he might put Correctional Services Minister Frank Drea in charge of negotiations.

GETTING ACTION For one thing Drea gets action. In a little more than to months in office. he has announced jail closings that have been hanging fire for a long time, announced that



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

prisoners will work on highways, and done an exceptional number of other things that have been opening eyes around here.

And, second, he has already demonstrated that he is well aware of the bad situation in duplication between the two levels of goveramen!

He has afready announced that he wants to see a single parole system in Ontario, to be run by the province, rather than the dual provincial and federal systems that exist now, and has already had early talks with

Ottawa on this. Then further he would like to eventually see one system of penal institutions in the province instead of the federal penitentiaries and the provincial reformatories and jails

that operate now As a first step towards this he hopes to take over the prisoners in the women's pentitentiary in Kingston (which would mean this old, partly filled building could be torn down) and house them at the Vanier Institute in Brampton.

Then he aims at taking over some mate penitentiary prisoners, with a financial agreement with the feds, of course, and perhaps 10 years down the road he can see the province, by agreement, taking over the penitentrary system.

This man is a doer.

ANOTHER DOER Incidentally there is some comparison to be made between Drea and Bob Macaulay. the one-time "minister of everything" around

here. Both are men to get things done, largely because they cut through bureaucrats, in fact pushing them aside.

And both are original thinkers - Macaulay so much so that he was the first man to bring in any new legislative Conservative policy since George Drew led the party back

Macaulay, by the way, was in the hospital recently for quite a serious operation.

The day before the surgery he had drawn up a plan of reorganization for the hospital. Two days after, he was dictating to his secretary on the telephone.

The operation is reported to have been



reluctant goodbye to 1977

By GERRY LANDSBOROUGH

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

1977 was a bard 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 ton 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 all 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 aftered which goes to prove the old adage "give the people what they want - even if it

THIRTY YEARS AGO

Limehouse Memorial Hall on Monday after-

noon the entire Esquesing Township Council

was re-elected by acclamation. Council mem-

bers 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

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.

officials of Local 788, LB.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

TWENTY YEARS AGO

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

Because the province will not approve a

Car portion of the \$650,000 cost of a d

treats to each child attending.

A gala Christmas was arranged by

The caboose of a standing freight train

an election by allowing his name to stand.

At a well-attended nomination meeting in

The over-emphasis on "sex" was still going strong in 1977 though in the latter part of the year movie moguls have stated that its 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 fay before us.

For us personally another year with The Herald has come to pass and as in other years are 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 hootbold we look forward with hope to 1978 and the promise of IT'S BOUND TO GET BETTER HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYRODY.

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 a ddition 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 shamblers. 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 unorious 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,

service charge based on the number of water

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 MC'd by Jack

Gunning, Bob Bardsley of Brampton brought

along his Hammond organ to accompany the

Galdren 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

TEN YEARS AGO

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

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

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 tat construction there will start in

Reform Institutions Minister Allan

should each from the other two areas.

Division of the county into three planning

Saturday morning at a special meeting,

rollicking tunes played by Bob Bardsley.

Santa visited over 100 Lions Club children

Looking through our files

presents were distributed, as well as a bag of and the areas of Oakville and Burlington

mill slice of the general tax rate, plus a 1968 and be completed in three or four years.

outlets.

"I say it is an outrage. It takes my breath away. I find it so dismbfounding I can hardly speak.

WANTSBAN

But when it comes to those anti-scal protesters, the Newfoundland MP has no trouble speaking. And this is how our ealing and drinking habits could be affected, be-'cause Crosbie wants a counter-offensive launched against the French government for its move to ban the importation of seal pells. Champagne and pate de foie gras are his initial targets.

"Apparently Brigitte Bardot is such a powerful figure in France that in the twinking of an eye - and I will not say what else she might have twinked - they are going to bar seal pelts from France," Crosbie fold the Commons, "If this government has any guts or gamption they will har the importation of French champagne...

And in an obvious counter attack to charges that seal hunting is cruel, Crosbie talked about how the poor French groups are trampled to death just to make some alcholic

From the reaction, it was obvious that other parliamentarians were listening. And I am sure the French ambassador perked up

A few days later, the irrepressible Tory was at it again.

"Since the government of France in a most insincere and hypocritical manner has banned the importation of harp seal furs into France because of the allege cruelly of the seal hunt and since the government of France continues to ignore the fact that in the production of pate de foie gras the Frenchmen treat with great cruelty the French goose which is force fed and otherwise handled in an outrageous manner to satisfy the palates of the Frenchmen and the jaded appetites of the wealthy, I move. . .

Croshle wanted the federal government to send a diplomatic note of protest to France. NOTE OPTIMISTIC

"Of course they haven't got the backbone to do anything about it," Crosbie said later. "But at least I can ridicule the pretentions of the French government.

"They don't give a damn about anything they do, whether it be nuclear testing or interfering in our domestic affairs. They then turn around and make us out to be

"I am going to give them a bit of the same trealment.

Crosbie will be meeting with Newfoundland Premier Frank Moores later this month when he will ask that provincial liquor stores stop selling French champagen. "And damn it. I don't see why we can't ban pate de foie

As he talked in Parliament about the force-feeding of French geese, Crosble seemed to be drawing on some inner source of outrage - the type normally reserved for use by sealing protesters - and he emphasized "the abhorrance this practice arouses in all civilized countries."

In terms of publicity, Crosbic came up with a masterful performance. And he'll be doing it again.

"At every chance," he says. "I am tired of getting kicked around by France."

delayed A fictional work By MAGGIE HANNAH and LORI TAYLOR lierald 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 "Where am I? I'm in hospitat. Now, now, Jessica, ealm down. It's Just a little minor

patching on." "No I did not run into anything serious, Oh, you noticed 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 m f an'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 1. 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

"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 290 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 up 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 time we had il recharged. Yes, that's how I scorched the sleigh and burned my britches."

"What happened? Well, after we humped 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 it was all rotten."

"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 firehall. 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 but as the one in the igloo across the pole from the workshop ' "Where am I? Now you know what will

happen if the little kids find out where I am, It'll be total bedlam. The hospital is understafed 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 safety 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 andhe 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."

theHERALD

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