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HEY KIDS!!

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Hearing process broken down: Maloney

Ontario Ombudsman Arthur Maloney has referred in his letter of resignation to an apparent breakdown in the public hearing process that parallels alleged shortcomings in the government's handling of the Bruce-to-Milton hydro corridor proposal.

Writing to Premier William Davis, the Nassagaweya resident briefly called some high-lights of his three and a half years as the province's ombudsman, but refers to serious charges against the government stemming from its proposal to build an airport in north Pickering.

Mr. Maloney announced last week that he will retire from the post Oct. 9 in order to resume his law career. Since his appointment as Ontario's first ombudsman in May 1975, Mr. Maloney has supervised investigations into some 18,500 individual cases. Another 20,000 additional requests for assistance were dealt with on an informal basis. Mr. Maloney reported to Premier Davis in his letter of resignation.

The ombudsman proudly recalled some of his office's accomplishments on behalf of farmers, French-speaking citizens and inmates of the province's correctional system, as well as the thousands of other Ontario residents who came forward for help.

He apologized, however, for having to mar "the positive and agreeable tone" of his letter by raising the issue of land acquisition practices for the north Pickering airport.

Since December, 1976, Mr. Maloney explained, his office has been conducting a public hearing at which more than 200 witnesses have been questioned by solicitors for the 70 landowners involved and the province.

Through the hearing, the ombudsman is investigating the apparent failure of the Donnelly Commission, which handled the province's preliminary examination of the controversy, to appoint counsel, conduct a proper study and invite appropriate government officials and landowners to testify.

According to Mr. Maloney, Housing Minister Claude Bennett has told him that, contrary to an agreement reached between his predecessor, John Rhodes, and the ombudsman, he does not feel obliged to implement any recommendations that may arise from the current hearing.

Two years ago, opponents of the Bruce-to-Milton hydro transmission corridor approached the ombudsman with similar charges against the ministry of energy, saying that the province neglected to conduct investigation of alternative corridor routes and, in effect, deprived landowners of a fair hearing.

After weeks of meetings and preliminary studies undertaken in cooperation with the Interested Citizens Group, the provincial cabinet intervened to halt the ombudsman's investigation, contending that the matter was outside his jurisdiction. Mr. Maloney withdrew from the controversy with a public expression of regret and a commendation for the apparent sincerity of the corridor opponents.

ON THE HOME FRONT

Let's have a national referendum

By SUSAN De FACENDIS

When a nation of people not generally noted for revolt or a passionate espousal of causes begins to get angry, someone should listen.

National unity is not the issue for the majority of people, no matter how much is written about it. That issue is akin to two neighbours squabbling over an argument between their children - and who continue long after the children have resumed their friendship.

Welfare, inflation, unemployment and violence are the realities for most of us. The first three because they hit us financially and the fourth because it threatens our personal safety.

There is no question that welfare is one of the blessings of our society and no one could possibly refuse to help someone in real need. However, it should not be an across-the-board right.

It should be assessed on individual cases; granted only if the recipient takes courses to acquire or upgrade a skill and should have a cut-off time period, making it clear that it is temporary assistance only, not a permanent pension plan.

As a case in point, it is recognized that some 16 year olds live in intolerable home situations. They should be financially assisted in leaving and obligated to complete their education as a condition. However, because of the genuine need of a few, do we have to make it available to every rebellious teenager who wants to live free of parental supervision? Caring parents are helpless in this situation.

Violence is frightening, it can strike any of us without warning. Violence however, unlike economics which are largely influenced by the outside world, can be dealt with within our borders.

Along with the many other assets this country enjoys, is a very fine police force and we should be supportive of their efforts in every way as individuals and by our laws.

No one with a criminal record should be allowed to enter our country as an immigrant and a newcomer to the country, who commits a crime of violence, revokes his privilege to become a Canadian and should be immediately deported. We do not need them, we have enough of our home grown variety of criminal.

Assault on any person should be harshly dealt with, there is no room for the law of the jungle in a civilized society. A man serving life imprisonment is a dangerous man, he has nothing to lose. Escape is always imminent, he endangers the life of prison guards and makes the possible rehabilitation of non-violent prisoners more difficult.

I believe we are all tired of the heart-rending stories printed on these vicious, conscienceless characters that continue long after their unfortunate victims have been forgotten. I, for one, am not interested in their deprived backgrounds, only in who may be their next victim.

The public should join with the police in their call for a national referendum on capital punishment. Let us find out how the majority of people would vote on this issue, not merely leave the decision to the conscience of our particular elected representative.

No solutions to complex problems can be simplistic, but I believe we owe it to the already over-burdened, law-abiding tax payer to at least tackle them. The rumblings of dissatisfaction are growing and the government would do well to start listening.

News of Ballinafad

By WINIFRED SMITH

Douglas Burt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Burt of R.R. 2, Acton flew from his home in Calgary last Monday to attend his grandfather's funeral which was on Tuesday of last week. Luckily the Air Canada planes were running the beginning of the week, but he had to travel home by bus. While here, he spent some time visiting with his grandparents at Ballinafad, Mr. and Mrs. F. Smith.

Linda O'Connor accompanied her friend Linda Larsen to the States on Friday of last week. They spent the weekend with Mrs. Larsen's parents and members of her family. Wilfred Burt and son John, attended the funeral of Mr. George Burt at Hillsburgh Baptist Church on Tuesday of last week. Wilfred also attended the funeral of a former neighbor Mr. Henry Brown of Erin, last week. Mr. Brown was involved in a car accident near Orangeville just previous to his death which occurred in the Orangeville Hospital.

Dr. and Mrs. Brian Buckrell and children returned home after spending last week holidaying at Tobemorey.

ANN LANDERS

Dear Ann Landers: I have something of grave importance to say and I don't know a better place to say it than your column. It's about that medical miracle - the first baby to be conceived outside the mother's body. The baby's name is Louise Brown and the family lives in England.

The whole world is cheering this incredible scientific achievement. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are euphoric. The neighbors are "celebrating". The physicians and technicians who worked on the project are ecstatic.

But how many people have considered where this "linking" with the miracle of procreation might lead us? The legal, social and ethical complications that would result from this breakthrough are horrendous. For example:

A barren woman with a healthy uterus could obtain an egg from a donor (perhaps a sister or cousin). The egg could be fertilized by the woman's husband and then implanted in her womb. Or, if she obtained an egg from the ovary of a stranger her child would then carry the genes of that stranger - look like her and have HER family traits.

If the woman does not have a healthy uterus her baby could be conceived in a test tube and transferred to another woman to carry the child to full term. This suggests another possibility.

A woman who may not want to be bothered with a pregnancy could have a baby by "proxy". In other words, it would be HER egg, fertilized in the laboratory by HER husband, but carried for nine months in the uterus of a woman hired to do the job.

When artificial insemination was first practiced it created many legal entanglements. Since no sexual intercourse took place (the sperm is injected mechanically into the woman) many couples thought it carried no moral stigma. But some judges declared it was "adultery" and ruled the children "illegitimate".

About 12,000 children a year are born as a result of artificial insemination. Although the Roman Catholic church has condemned it (even with the father as donor) most religious leaders have remained neutral and it is assumed they will take the same position in regard to the test tube baby technique should it become a common procedure.

The ethical and moral complications are obvious. Should reproduction be considered purely a scientific procedure - completely devoid of love or caring? It is apparent now that there need be no sexual intercourse, merely the fertilization of the egg by the sperm. What do YOU make of this, Ann Landers? Frankly, I am - Deeply Concerned in Boston.

Dear Concerned: There is no question but what this mind-boggling achievement can be a wonderful thing for women who, like Mrs. Brown, cannot conceive because of blockage of the Fallopian tubes.

..... The possibilities of abuse you suggest are also real and frightening. I do not fear, however, that any scientific discovery will put a dent in love - or that sexual intercourse will become obsolete. The urge to merge is a fundamental human drive for which there will never be a substitute. No matter what goes on in the laboratories the same old thing will go on in bedrooms, on the beaches (and in the brothels) - wherever woman meets man.

..... CONFIDENTIAL to A Conservative Man Who Would Like You to Be Fair: I DID read William Simon's book "A Time for Truth" (McGraw-Hill) and thought it was excellent. Yes, I'll recommend it.

It's not always easy to recognize love, especially the first time around. Acquaint yourself with the guidelines. Read Ann Landers' booklet "Love or Sex and How to Tell the Difference". For a copy, mail 50 cents in coin and a long, self-addressed envelope with your request to Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11995, Chicago, Illinois 60611.

YOUR WEEK AHEAD By DAMIS

- ARIES** Mar. 21-Apr. 19 A creative project begins to shape up beautifully for you. Be sensitive to the needs of children.
- TAURUS** Apr. 20-May 20 Take advantage of the harmonious atmosphere at home and get the family involved in fun activities.
- GEMINI** May 21-June 20 Your inventive mind develops a plan or product that brings some degree of recognition.
- MOONCHILD** June 21-July 22 Trends in finances are unpredictable. Play it on the safe side and practice economy until things stabilize.
- LEO** July 23-Aug. 22 Things are going well for you. Fame is fleeting so take the limelight with the "grain of salt."
- VIRGO** Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Contact with hospitals or institutions is quite likely. Be alert while driving. No need to make that contact on a stretcher.
- LIBRA** Sept. 23-Oct. 22 Friends present an exciting proposition. Keeping finances in mind, join in their enthusiastic plan.
- SCORPIO** Oct. 23-Nov. 21 Pay attention to job situation. Accept responsibility, look beyond the seemingly petty criticisms.
- SAGITTARIUS** Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You may find yourself involved in the affairs of one at a distance - probably an in-law.
- CAPRICORN** Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Collectibles warrant some attention. Contact those who are overdue and press for payment.
- AQUARIUS** Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Relations with mate or partner are emphasized. Let others make the first move and realize the long term benefits.
- PISCES** Feb. 19-Mar. 20 Be as helpful as possible with co-workers. Cogeniality relieves the pressure and lightens the job.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

<p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 More capable</p> <p>6 Tarnish</p> <p>11 Leather</p> <p>12 Slow, in music</p> <p>13 He "sings" for his supper</p> <p>15 Motel employee</p> <p>16 Exist</p> <p>17 Fitting</p> <p>20 Abound</p> <p>22 Lector</p> <p>24 Sanction</p> <p>25 Annoyed</p> <p>29 - hitch</p> <p>30 Formal fight</p> <p>31 Kind of rule</p> <p>32 James Bond's school</p> <p>34 Remnant</p> <p>35 Spunge up</p> <p>38 Girl's name</p> <p>40 Victor</p> <p>41 McGlen movie</p> <p>45 Silly</p> <p>46 Preminger movie</p> <p>47 Thesaurus compiler</p> <p>48 U.S. violinist</p> <p>DOWN</p> <p>1 Onager</p> <p>2 Word of protest</p> <p>3 Zodiac sign</p> <p>4 Biblical country</p>	<p>TODAY'S ANSWER</p> <p>5 Kindred</p> <p>8 Kind of projector</p> <p>7 Children's game</p> <p>8 Kind of code</p> <p>9 Stravinsky</p> <p>10 Not a bit</p> <p>14 Wharf</p> <p>17 Desert-like</p> <p>18 Llama land</p> <p>19 Gate</p> <p>21 Shopping receipts</p> <p>23 Remove center</p> <p>23 Remove from copy</p> <p>25 Presage</p> <p>26 Fully revenged</p> <p>27 Operate</p> <p>29 Instrument panel</p> <p>31 Trevino's game</p> <p>33 Doctrine</p> <p>35 Cuisine</p> <p>36 Cry of despair</p> <p>37 Wampum sea</p> <p>39 Russian</p> <p>41 Feminine suffix</p> <p>42 Saying nothing</p> <p>43 Epoch</p> <p>44 Was a candidate</p>
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