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Few candidates as deadline rapidly nears

Time is running out for candidates, and the voters of Halton Hills.

This Monday, October 23 is the last day for candidates in the November 13 municipal election to file their nomination form with the Chief Returning Officer.

As The Herald goes to press the Halton Hills elections are not shaping up to be a stellar example of the democratic process. It looks to be barely an election at all as many positions will be filled by acclamation while other positions have only a minimal number of candidates.

Voters in Ward Two look to have the poorest choice of all and that is no choice. Unless a nomination turns up in time to beat the Oct. 23 5 p.m. deadline -- and we hope it does -- all three council positions for the ward will be filled by acclamation.

Many people in north Halton are ambivalent about the existence of regional government and nothing points up this attitude more clearly than the fact that there are no elec-

tions shaping up for any of the seats on regional council. In every ward so far the regional seats appear fated to be filled by acclamation. Considering the strong feelings and weighty issues and budget, dealt with by the region it is imperative that Halton Hills be strongly represented at the regional level.

The Halton Hills mayoralty race, as well as the area councillor seats in the other wards and the school board trustee seats all have barely enough candidates to make an election.

It would be tragic to see the positions of Halton Hills' councils and school board filled by default rather than a hard fought, issue oriented election campaign. Voters should have a real choice and it takes candidates to provide that choice.

Maybe with the end of Monday's 'mimi' federal election local residents will now turn their thoughts to municipal politics, maybe some of them will even run for office.

We hope so.

Local BIA unity a positive step

It is encouraging to see the membership of the Acton and Georgetown Business Improvement Area Boards of Management pooling their forces to pursue provincial loan money.

Previously representatives of Halton Hills' two BIA's were told that because of the town's population neither area qualified for downtown improvement area loans. The town's lack of property maintenance and occupancy standard by-laws also disqualified the town from receiving any loan money under Ontario's Main Street Revitalization Program.

Acting as a united force the two groups have already managed to impress upon at least one council member -- Roy Booth -- the need for the appropriate by-laws to meet government requirements.

We think they will also have an easier time convincing the provincial government that Halton Hills does meet population requirements when they approach them as a united group.

The united approach by the BIA's appears to be an extension of the same type of thinking that led to their formation in the first place -- business people realizing their common problems and working together to overcome them.

Surely the Main Street Revitalization Program was created to help downtown business communities in the very situation the Acton and Georgetown BIA merchants find themselves. We hope the joint loan appeal will result in the government changing its position and supplying the necessary loan.

Music program was money well-spent

Compliments are in order for both the Halton Hills Board of Education and the Musicians' Union for a program that has been operating in Halton Hills schools during the past two weeks.

Through the program that is jointly funded by the two groups, actors from Hamilton's Opus Theatre group and a string quartet from the Hamilton Philharmonic have been exposing local elementary school children to both acting and classical music with

gymnasium concerts.

It is commendable to see both groups trying to instill cultural appreciation in local youngsters while they are still receptive to new ideas. Based on the positive response from the young audiences at local schools to the program, the concerts were worth the effort.

Maybe some budding artist were inspired by the visiting musicians and actors enough to consider pursuing such a career for themselves.

Legislators wrestle with adopted children's rights consider laws to help them find their blood parents

By DEREK NELSON
Queen's Park Bureau
Of The Herald

TORONTO. For some people nothing can cause as much anguish as to know they are an adopted child, without a known blood relative in the world.

This is especially true in homes where the surrogate parents are less than loving in raising the child they've acquired.

For the youngster, it's as though he or she just is, and that can hurt.

As one witness put it when he spoke before the legislature's social development committee, "There are strong and persistent cultural values which suggest that real family membership is not acquired by social or legal contrivance but derives from blood relationship."

A classic example he gave of the difference between blood and adopting parents is the New York court ruling in 1975 that a man could legally marry his adopted daughter.

In their search for roots some adoptees seek to trace their natural or biological parents.

And there they hit a brick wall.

FULL DISCLOSURE

Adoption agencies will usually fill in the blanks for a questing adoptee, such as ethnic origin with perhaps a character sketch of the mother and father who put the child up for adoption.

But by law they will not reveal parents' names or addresses.



Tory's Diefendollar research shows Liberals 'irresponsibility'

By STEWART MacLEOD
Ottawa Bureau

That was an entertaining bit of research by Perrin Beatty, the Tory MP from Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo, who checked some 1962 newspapers to see what critical Liberals of the day were saying about the so-called "diefendollars".

The Diefendollars figures prominently in the 1962 general election and were largely credited, or blamed, for the loss of the Tory majority in Parliament. After the Diefendollar government pegged the Canadian dollar at 92.5 cents American, Liberal opponents issued replicas of the dollar bill, complete with a picture of the prime minister, and they were generously distributed across the country.

The way the Liberals described the situation at the time, we were headed for certain economic ruin. It was considered a disgrace to have a dollar that was worth only 92.5 cents in relation to the U.S. buck.

Well, now our dollar is hovering around 84 cents, and the Tories are talking about a national disgrace. And Party Leader Joe Clark has predicted that things might get worse, with a climbing deficit, and falling confidence in the management of our economy.

Finance Minister Jean Chretien, to the surprise of no one, has accused Clark of being "extremely irresponsible."

"These things are taken seriously when the leader of the Opposition speaks," he complained. "It is kind of destructive to Canada's image."

COMPARES COMMENTS

So against this backdrop, Perrin Beatty set out to establish whether the Liberal critics of 1962 showed any greater degree of responsibility when the Tories fixed the dollar at 92.5 cents.

Mitchell Sharp, later to become deputy prime minister, had this to say: "When a government loses control of the exchange rate, when it is forced to abandon its policies and to devalue the currency, the country is in serious peril." He said it was okay to reduce the dollar to assist the country's trading position, but "it's quite another thing when the Canadian dollar is forced down because the world is losing confidence in our economic and financial policies."

Seems to me I heard someone else say that not long ago.

During the first seven months of this year, the government has used some \$3.2 billion of its currency reserves to prop up the dollar, and it's interesting to note that Walter Gordon, later to become Liberal finance minister, didn't think much of this approach back in 1962, when relatively speaking, it was

a petty cash operation. "In the first four months of this year when it was too late, the authorities poured \$400,000 out of the exchange fund in a panicky attempt to prevent our Canadian dollar from falling below 95 cents in terms of U.S. funds. They failed."

And with the Canadian dollar way down at 92.5 cents, Gordon could foresee no salvation.

"The Canadian dollar will depreciate in value even further if we continue a system of chronic deficit financing, if we continue to incur heavy deficits in our annual transactions with other countries, and if we continue to manage our affairs so badly."

MARTIN MOANS

Paul Martin, later to become external affairs minister under Lester Pearson, was devastated by the 92.5 cent dollar. "It's too great a burden for the common man to bear," he said.

As Canadian High Commission in London, Martin seems to be having little dif-

iculty carrying the burden of an 84-cent dollar.

Beatty found out that Liberal Senator David Croll didn't think too much of the devalued dollar back in 1962. "This is more incompetence... this is stupidity."

And Pearson was in total agreement. "What respect can anyone have for a government which runs the affairs of the country this way?"

As for Mitchell Sharp, he couldn't seem to bear the thought of the Tories remaining in office after pushing the dollar down to 92.5 cents.

"The greatest catastrophe in our history would be the return of the Conservatives," he warned. "Today we are struggling with a major financial crisis."

When I have a few moments, I must look back and see how the Conservatives defend a devalued dollar back in those days. That, too, might make interesting reading in relation to their comments.

INCO move a mistake says United Church

Murdering all of the people in one family is wrong; murdering the same number in a variety of families, at random, is acceptable.

That, essentially, was the moral message presented by the Ontario government when it decided that the International Nickel Company of Canada (Inco) could continue to pump 4,000 per day of sulphur dioxide into the atmosphere.

Originally, Inco was to have reduced emissions to 750 tons per day by end of this year. That order has now been changed. Government spokesmen say the research on which the 750 ton figure was based has been superseded; Inco's new stack, at 1,250 feet the world's tallest chimney, has produced "acceptable" sulphur dioxide levels in Sudbury and beyond. Acid rains that have been affecting lakes and vegetation in northern Ontario can't be blamed entirely on Sudbury's emissions, they say much of it results from other industrial pollutants.

Now, no one would imply that emitting sulphur dioxide is the same as committing murder. The damage is not intentional, for one thing. But the facts remain: sulphur dioxide gas is a poison which has caused

industrial deaths, has harmed health in Sudbury and has converted lands nearby into a wasteland used by U.S. astronauts for moonshine practice. Combined with moisture in the air, sulphur dioxide gas becomes an acid which, in falling, gradually alters soil and water conditions, upsetting delicate ecological balances. And Inco's Sudbury stack, emitting 3,600 tons of sulphur dioxide every day, is North America's largest industrial source of sulphur dioxide in the air.

The new 1,250 foot stack distributes emissions over a far wider area, protecting Sudbury itself. It still supplies three per cent of North America's total emissions, or about one per cent of the total world emissions. And that's just not good enough; Canada ought not to hold such an unenviable distinction.

The Ontario government has ruled that 3,600 tons per day of pollutants are acceptable now that they're spread around more thinly.

As an economic verdict, or a scientific assessment, that may be "acceptable." As an indication of moral leadership, it is not.

The Ontario government should again reverse its stand and demand that Inco clean up its act.

Looking Through Our Files

**THIRTY YEARS AGO
BARN DESTROYED**

Fire destroyed a barn owned by George and James Light.

Flight Lieutenant Gordon McDonald won the Clarkson Aerobatic Trophy at the end of his training course. F.L. McDonald was the first Canadian to win the award in several years. The competition included all forms of flying including a forced landing.

Bob Lane won \$50 for guessing the number of miles the bus would carry the Georgetown Girls' Pipe Band during their summer season. The contest was part of a lucky draw to raise funds to pay for the bus which carried the girls over 1,000 miles since it was purchased.

Evelyn Pelletterio of Halton won the Dairy Queen Honours in the Brantford Black and White show.

Georgetown high school placed first in the North Halton and Erin field day.

Crafts were a popular form of relaxation and Mrs. Ern Batkin of Wildwood demonstrated weaving on her portable loom at the Norval Women's Institute meeting in Mrs. Walter Fidler's home.

Both Georgetown and Maple Leaf Dairies signed a Herald advertisement stating that there would no longer be milk deliveries made on Sunday.

**TWENTY YEARS AGO
WINDOWS BROKEN**

Bishop Ryan cut the ribbon to officially open Holy Cross Separate School.

Vandalism existed in 1958 as Harrison school suffered \$75 in damages through broken windows.

Georgetown Volunteer Ambulance Service reported 81 calls during the year.

Council decided to extend a sidewalk along Ewing Street as a result of a parents delegation who claimed heavy traffic made it dangerous for children to use the street enroute to Chapel Street school.

Architects submitted plans for a one storey building to the Georgetown Hospital Association. In discussing the plan Dr. Hoyle Campbell suggested that the initial building might start out with 65 to 70 beds with provision for additions to the structure to take 150 beds in three years. He felt it might be necessary to increase it to a 600-bed structure in 10 to 15 years.

**TEN YEARS AGO
UPSET RESIDENTS**

Georgetown's population jumped nearly 2,000 people in the 1967-68 year. It stood at 14,528 in September 1968.

Georgetown Y was having financial problems. Only \$1,500 of the promised \$11,000 had been turned in by the third week of October.

Area residents upset over the report of plans to raise Burwick Hall were told by Harold Robert, the building's owner, that the story was a misunderstanding.

Gilbert Bay, Charles Street, Georgetown was elected vice-president of the International Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers International Union at the 28th convention in Hollywood, Florida.

**FOCAL DETAILS
ONE YEAR AGO**

Halton Hills Council released some details concerning Focal Property Ltd.'s proposed 1,840-unit residential development on the Ninth Line south of Silver Creek. The announcement was made to try to enlighten citizens in preparation for the Nov. 7 Ontario Municipal Board hearing on Focal's application.

The Ontario Municipal Board approved a re-zoning application from Halton Hills council to permit construction of a 70,070 square foot plaza adjacent to the Gordon Alcott arena on Highway 7.

The Herald reported Halton Regional Police charges of fraud, rape and indecent assault laid against Denis Scallion, a Georgetown man who operated a religious retreat in an industrial shed near Limehouse.

Grant Gillespie was named as fact finder for the Halton Separate School Board negotiations with its teachers.

Reltec Development and Construction Corporation president Jack Cutler rapped the knuckles of the Niagara Escarpment Commission, Halton Regional Planning Board and Halton Hills Planning Board at an Ontario Municipal Board hearing for the high handed and secretive way in which they handled his application for a 100-bed retirement lodge a mile from Limehouse. Mr. Cutler was angered at the way each group had used the other as part of their excuse not to give him permission to build.

Georgetown's Block Party group was in trouble according to its chairman Linda and Bob Anderson because of lack of community enthusiasm and response.

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