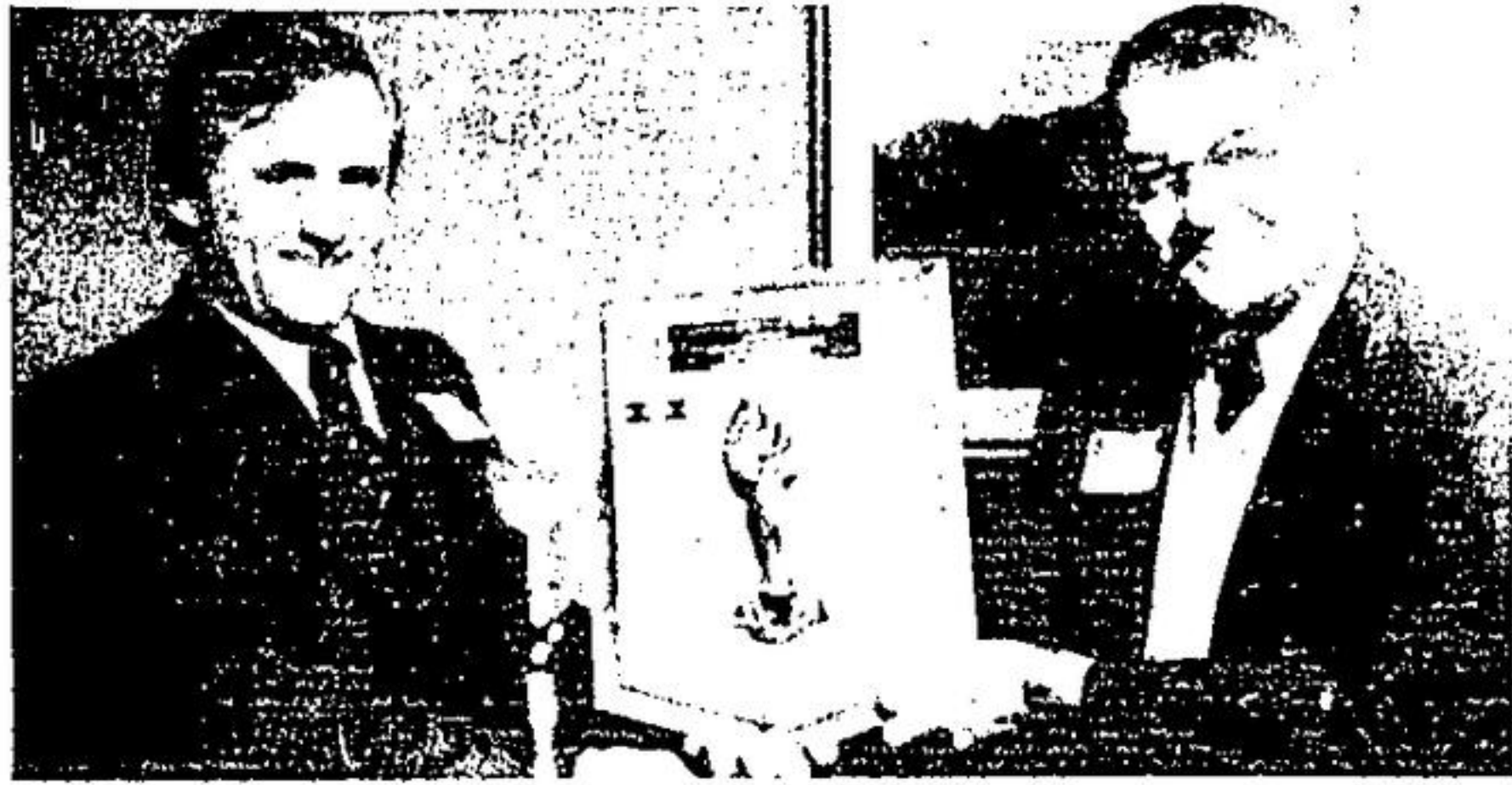


Smith and Stone's staff hike wins new award



Bill Crawford presents the first annual Business of the Year award to Smith and Stone Ltd. representative Dr. Stan Tooke at Wednesday's Chamber of Commerce banquet. (Herald photo)

By STEPHEN FROST
Herald staff writer

The expansion of its wiring parts division and the subsequent hiring of 100 additional workers has enabled Smith and Stone Ltd. to capture the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce's first annual Business of the Year award.

The expansion, commemorated at last Wednesday's Chamber banquet, was the direct result of a merger between Smith and Stone's parent company, Duplate Canada, and General Electric of Canada last April.

The award was presented by Chamber president Bill Crawford to Smith and Stone representative Dr. Stan Tooke after a dinner at the North Halton Golf Club. Also on hand to

make presentations and offer congratulations were Brampton-Georgetown MP John McDermaid, Halton Burlington MPP Julian Reed, Halton Hills Mayor Pete Pomeroy and Halton region's business development officer, Bill Marshall.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Crawford stated that mergers of this kind are not only important for Georgetown's economy, but have a much "broader national effect" than most people realize.

"Imports threaten job security," Mr. Crawford said, adding that Smith and Stone has merged with a company that exports electrical products, many of which will be produced at the Georgetown plant.

As a result of the merger, Dr. Tooke commented, GE

transferred equipment and "obviously" customers to Smith and Stone in Georgetown.

"The merger," he told The Herald, "proved to be of mutual benefit to both companies" and involved contracts for the local plant valued at several hundred thousand dollars.

The merger, which occurred on Smith and Stone's 75th or diamond anniversary, allowed GE to acquire one third of the company's stock. Dr. Tooke, who took over as the firm's vice-president last May, said the merger was important because it brings to Smith and Stone "the opportunity to participate in the export market", as GE is quite active in the international defence industry.

Dr. Tooke added that because the company is involved in the electrical wiring business, it would also be active in the retail and do-it-yourself business of electrical devices.

Mr. McDermaid presented Dr. Tooke with a letter congratulating the company for its endeavors in the marketplace. The letter calls the award "a fitting tribute to your business and contribution to the community" and praises Smith and Stone's involvement over the years in sports and minor hockey. The letter was signed by Prime Minister Joe Clark.

Mr. Reed also presented a congratulatory letter to Dr. Tooke from Ontario Premier Bill Davis, which praised Smith and Stone as a pioneer in the electrical industry with "dedication to technical excel-

lence". The firm's economic importance to the community, he said, "is a tribute to its founders".

Mayor Pete Pomeroy concluded the list of speakers, complimenting the Chamber for its "fine job" in preparing the dinner and award ceremony. He also congratulated Smith and Stone for its contributions to the area economy in the past year.

Bill Ward, chairman of the committee which decided on the recipient stated that Smith and Stone was a unanimous choice.

The evening was capped off with entertainment from comedian-ventriloquist Billy Davis. Before moving to Ontario, Mr. Davis was based in Chicago and has appeared on the Merry Griffin Show.

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Chicken shortage critical

Maple Lodge problems prompt staff lay-offs

By PAUL SARGENT
Herald Special

Recent legislation requiring Maple Lodge Farms in Huttonville to limit the number of chickens it can import has prompted the firm to lay off some employees.

Maple Lodge, the largest independent chicken processing firm in Ontario, started laying off workers last week, according to company spokesman Robert Sagness.

"Our attorneys advised us not to reveal how many employees were laid off," Mr. Sagness told The Herald.

A Maple Lodge employee

who asked to remain anonymous, however, revealed that eight truck drivers have lost their jobs because of the lack of work.

A decision concerning the equitable distribution of live chicken "locked up" in Ontario is expected from the Supreme Court of Canada.

Maple Lodge officials believe that integrated processors have tied up the quota of live chicken in Ontario, boosting their own stock while production drops at Maple Lodge. Mr. Sagness said he is hopeful that some-

thing will break for us and the judge will see it in our favor."

The decision could take three days, three weeks or three years, he said.

"If the decision of the judge goes against Maple Lodge, there could be a lot of soul-searching on the part of (company owners) the May brothers," Mr. Sagness added, pointing out that the Supreme Court has been asked to make a quick decision on the matter.

Mr. Sagness said he believes the whole problem to be the fault of the large integrated companies that are hurting

financially in the market.

Maple Lodge is competitive in the market, while integrated firms are losing business, he said.

"Their philosophy is 'if you can't beat them in the field, beat them at the market gate,'" Mr. Sagness said.

Since the government passed new import legislation, Maple Lodge has asked that the system of distribution be modified. There are some 43 million pounds of live chicken in storage across Canada, and only eight million pounds in Ontario.

According to Mr. Sagness, it would be impractical for Maple Lodge to truck in chicken from New Brunswick or the western provinces.

"The government sees that there is plenty of chicken in storage on a national level," he explained. "We aren't a national company, therefore we can't get that surplus product."

The integrated companies are charging that Maple Lodge is importing U.S. chickens at a cheaper price, making their product uncompetitive with the independent processor's.

"That's a lot of crap," Mr. Sagness responded. "By the time we've paid for transport costs, tariffs, and the difference between the U.S. and Canadian dollars, the price evens out."

"Over the past two years, our import level is the same while our production of home-grown chicken has doubled."

Mr. Sagness said that he does not anticipate any more layoffs, but if the present situation gets any worse, more may occur.

Chretien here to boost Trudeau's leadership

By EMIN KENNY
HERALD SPECIAL

The Liberal Party is the only party which can unite the people of Canada, according to Jean Chretien, finance minister in the last Liberal government.

Mr. Chretien, speaking here Thursday in support of Liberal candidate Ross Milne, said that the key issue in the campaign for the Feb. 18 election is providing the leadership necessary to keep Canada together. He said that under the leadership of Joe Clark's Conservatives, the federal government has been like a headwaiter, taking the orders of the provincial governments.

"For example," he said, Clark promised off shore oil rights to the Maritime provinces, but to do so would require an amendment to Canada's constitution. That would take the agreement of all 10 provinces. It's an obvious move to buy cheap votes."

Mr. Chretien said he preferred the policies of a leader like Pierre Trudeau who, although he doesn't always say what people wanted to hear, refused to promise something he knows he can't deliver. Mr. Chretien said the Liberal party had a single ideology and it was to Canadian unity.

"We've been given too much

by our fathers and grandfathers to not pass it on to our children," he said. "We have to pull together as a nation. The problem is that we're too much Ontario, too much Alberta, too much Quebec, and not enough Canada."

It is depressing, he said, that Prime Minister Clark thought that because he was from Alberta, the referendum did not concern him personally.

"I find it depressing that Mr. Clark feels he has no business in Quebec," he said. "Well, I take the referendum seriously. This is the second campaign I've fought in the past 12 months and we're going to win it. The third campaign will be the fight against the separatist referendum in Quebec and we'll win that one too. Remaining united is the key."

Mr. Chretien admitted the

PC's Flora also here
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Liberals had had some problems, but the problems could be overcome.

"We got kicked out last spring on a wave of bitching," he said. "People were tired of Pierre Trudeau and 15 years of Liberal government. In the last election they wanted a change for change sake. What they got was a change for nothing."

The former finance minister said that despite all the criticism, the Liberal party remains optimistic. The voters, he said, realize now that Joe Clark wasn't who the people wanted.

"The Conservatives complain that they didn't get a fair chance," he said. "They waited seven months to recall Parliament, and during that time, they fumbled on the embassy move in Israel, they flip-flopped on PetroCan, and they failed on the pipeline issue. There's no such thing as on-the-job training for prime ministers."

Mr. Chretien said that Mr. Milne, a five-year veteran in Ottawa before being defeated by Conservative John McDermaid in the last election, was a good MP. He said the most important thing in the election as far as this riding was

Thirty per cent drop in budget?

Halton Region's operating budget could include a 28 per cent drop in the mill rate, regional council's administration and finance committee learned last week.

The anticipated drop is a result of a 39 per cent increase in assessment revenues and the new system of collecting sewer rates.

The budget could undergo substantial changes when it goes for a review before the standing committee, however. The transfer of sewer charges from regional jurisdiction to the "user-pay" system has decreased the region's \$50 million budget by \$5 million.

Lower regional levies will result because of the change in the method of collecting sewer charges.

The committee was asked to endorse a resolution limiting the amount of money Halton's four area municipalities would give to the region. Committee members noted that council will likely deny its request for 36 extra staff members, an increase of five per cent in the staff complement.

Continued on page 3



Valentine's Day is the day when everyone can show the people close to them how much they care. That doesn't mean just husbands and wives, or sweethearts, but grandparents too, as Joet Glaude demonstrates. Joet may only be two years old, but he knows the way to his grandmother, Sylvia Glaude's heart.

with a special valentine, just for her. Herald columnist Susan de Faucendis takes a look at a similar display of family love on Valentine's Day below, while Viewpoint's Gerry Landsborough shares some thoughts on the same topic inside, page 5. (Herald photo by Lori Taylor)

Those special valentines, when families exchange love

By SUSAN DE FAUCENDIS
Herald columnist

Well, it's that time of the year again and 'love' is the password of the day. How can I, ill-informed as I am on the subject, possibly pass it by without mention. It is, after all, supposedly the emotion on which the world turns.

My youngest daughter, Teresa, brought the subject to mind quite unwittingly a few days ago, with the question: "What is all this stuff in the comics about the birds and the bees?"

Naturally, with her not yet having attained the age of 10, I gave the question some deep thought rather than carelessly tossing out an answer off the top of my head.

"There comes a time in every girl's life," I responded carefully, "when you will no longer consider all boys needs and turkeys, but... well, O.K. people."

"You mean one day I will like boys? Yeeeh!" she exclaimed, totally horrified by the explanation. "Birds, I like, bees, well at least they give us honey, but boys - all they give you is a punch and then steal your erasers..."

"Well, sweetheart, that suits me just fine right now, but, yes indeed, one day you will look at them - acne, hair and all - and think they are pretty neat."

"No way!" was her adamant reply.

CHANGE HER MIND

She will, unfortunately, change her mind all too soon and contribute a fair share of grey hairs to her poor old mother's head before she is through.

Love - How does anyone fully understand it until they have children? I know Valentine's Day is officially

designated for sweethearts, but how does even that love last permanently without the natural progression to bearing, or at least raising, children? Undoubtedly this is an old-fashioned idea, a negating of the 'do-your-own-thing' ideology so currently in vogue, but what do people, married for many years, talk about without children?

To see an echo of your spouse, emanating in words from your 15-year-old, is to raise an eyebrow at each other. "That's you showing up in them", is the unspoken message conveyed.

TEASE YOU

Children tease you, torment you, worry you, until you are sure you can take no more from the unheeded, ungrateful, uncaring, expensive wretches - and then suddenly, you discover you have a friend, an ally, one who will support you through thick and thin, merely because you are their mother. They do not ask for perfection, they do not demand changes in you; you are accepted with all your human faults, failings, weaknesses and strengths, because they know you love them. Where else will you ever find such an unrestrictive, unstinting definition of love?

The birds and the bees? Well, they can lead you into quite unexpected paths of love and endless devotion, but how do you explain all that to a not quite-10-year-old. It is Valentine's Day, and if this column turned into an unpremeditated love song to my children - so be it. Who is to say which form of love makes the world turn the smoothest, as long as we know it and experience it. To my three marvellous kids (in my humble opinion only) and the husband who helped make them that way - Happy Valentine's Day!



Brampton-Georgetown Liberal candidate Ross Milne (left) and former finance minister Jean Chretien were here together Thursday night to rally Liberal supporters for the upcoming election. Mr. Chretien told Georgetown supporters that the Liberals may have some problems, but all can be overcome. (Herald photo)