

A weekend party to long remember

As the employee publications for national restaurant chains are fond of saying, here we grow again! Downtown Georgetown and its three satellite "happenings" - the library, Cedarvale Park and the Holy Cross auditorium - were the places to be Friday and Saturday when Halton Hills' first Joint Pioneer Days - Summerfest extravaganza took over the landscape.

With excellent weather warming the scene Saturday, the downtown combination of sidewalk sales and entertainment galore worked their usual magic and hundreds took advantage of the fun.

Organizers did a fine job mixing business with pleasure, so to speak, providing talented musicians, plus plenty of visual thrills, to complement the days' bargain-market atmosphere.

Down the road, the Halton Hills Arts Council set a picturesque display of the town's best artwork and crafts against the naturally beautiful backdrop of Cedarvale Park. Musicians organized by Jim Broughton of the GDHS Folk Club helped turn the event into a mini-Mariposa on the banks of the Credit.

Highlighting the Summerfest activities was the varied theatrical programme at Holy Cross Church, in which the community's best acting, singing, dancing, writing and joke-telling talents joined

forces to knock home the Arts Council's message that "the arts are alive and well in Halton Hills".

By all accounts, the show, featuring the Cantante Singers and a special theatrical troupe which presented The Great Catherine, was a big success. Participants and public dined and danced after the programme ended.

The Arts Council had some difficulty finding a focus for Summerfest after its initially encouraging first-year success. Last year's Summerfest at Acton High School offered numerous points of interest, but failed to draw its hoped-for crowds despite beautiful weather.

Finally, all the elements came together for the 1980 Summerfest, and certainly Pioneer Days was a big contributor to its success. We hope organizers of the two events follow up on this year's decision to pair the two festivals by building on what turned out to be such a delight this year.

The Herald hopes its own small contribution to the celebrations - the presentation of a special plaque to the community's Pioneer of the Year - will become one in a series of new ideas that can add to the excitement on an annual basis. This year's recipient of the plaque was Colonel John Barber, esteemed member of one of the town's oldest families.



Levesque barter for reform, Ryan watches debate on TV



Ottawa Report

By Stewart MacLeod

Ottawa Bureau of The Herald

These are not easy days for Quebec Liberal Leader Claude Ryan, who is sitting on the sidelines as Premier Rene Levesque goes about negotiating - of all things - renewed federalism.

That was the option that Ryan defended so vigorously during the recent referendum campaign, as Levesque fought just as diligently for sovereignty-association or, if you like, Quebec independence. During those hectic days, Ryan might have been physically exhausted from the ordeal of campaigning, but at least he could identify the enemy. And he was a man clearly in charge of his fate.

But now that the campaign has ended and Premier Levesque has been forced - reluctantly, no doubt - to sit down with Prime Minister Trudeau and other provincial premiers to try and negotiate a new constitution, Ryan is at loose ends. While 60 per cent of Quebecers opted for his renewed federalism, Rene Levesque remained

head of the government. And even though he is a non-believer when it comes to federalism, it is his responsibility to represent Quebec in the continuing negotiations.

Ryan can watch it all on television.

NO ENEMY

And if the adjustment is difficult for Levesque, it is even more awkward for Ryan, who doesn't know who to attack. During the referendum campaign, he shared the federalist camp with Prime Minister Trudeau and together they could aim their vocal artillery at Levesque and his plan for Quebec sovereignty. But now, with constitutional negotiations under way, Ryan, a Quebecer, is being represented at the bargaining table by Rene Levesque.

While Trudeau was a trusted ally during the referendum campaign, he and Ryan certainly don't see eye-to-eye on all matters relating to the initial difficulties reacting to current events. The Liberal leader was mildly critical of Levesque for not adopting a stronger stance at the first federal-provincial get-together following the referendum, and he couldn't understand why the premier didn't make more vocal demands in areas where the province has traditionally sought wider powers - cultural, social and immigration. But it isn't difficult to imagine Ryan's reaction if Levesque had gone overboard with his demands.

Ryan was also critical of Levesque for accepting Prime Minister Trudeau's break-neck schedule for

constitutional reform and the September deadline for agreements. He was "dumbfounded" that the premier would go along with such a restrictive formula.

BOTH CONFUSED

Levesque seemed equally dumbfounded by the criticisms, coming from this champion of federalism. In fact, both men seem to be moping about in a state of confusion since the ground rules have changed so suddenly.

Levesque, with a mandate to negotiate renewed federalism, must keep an eye on his own troops in the Parti Quebecois who remain dedicated to independence. While the premier can't afford to be insincere in the eyes of the 60 per cent who opted for renewed federalism, he can't seem to be too sincere about federalism in the eyes of the Parti Quebecois supporters who will be voting in the next provincial election.

But it's worse for Claude Ryan, who doesn't even have a seat at the bargaining table. About the best he can do is agree to forming a common front with the Parti Quebecois government in present proposals for renewed federalism. However, if the negotiations are successful, Levesque will no doubt get all the credit. If they fail, Levesque can again, for other purposes, take the credit.

Ryan these days looks somewhat like a tank commander who just won a battle, only to sign on with the enemy to fight the war.

Cool response to PC speech: Tories not ready for election



Queen's Park

By Derek Nelson

Queen's Park Bureau of The Herald

If Premier William Davis' wrap-up speech to the annual Progressive Conservative meeting here was intended to test party desire for an early election, then he knows the answer.

It isn't on. Even Tories are lukewarm to the idea.

While the audience applauded Davis 26 times throughout his speech, much of it sounded dutiful rather than heartfelt, with none of the Liberal-beating lines kindling fire in Tory chests.

The only truly spontaneous outburst took place over those issues that tend to be symbolic rather than concrete, what might be called the current Conservative rally motherhood items.

In particular the rafters rang when Davis took a slap at External Affairs

Minister Mark MacGuigan's meanderings on American foreign policy, saying "now is the time for Canadians to support our American allies, not take self-righteous and cheap shots."

The Queen, police and even nuclear power did better on the applause meter than did Davis' digs at provincial Liberals.

NO NDP

(Interestingly, the New Democrats are almost ignored in the Davis address, which kind of indicates what the Tories think are that party's chances in the next electoral dust-up.)

Even Davis' best line knocking the Grits produced surprisingly little reaction.

"My friends, if you poured into the bottom of a swimming pool all the convictions and principles of the present Liberal Party of Ontario, you and I could walk through that pool without getting our feet wet," he said.

What it seemed to amount to, and private conversation with delegates tended to confirm this, is little or no interest in an election before next year.

NO CHOICE

Davis did warn the troops to keep their powder dry, noting opposition "irresponsibility" is weakening Ontario's position at the constitutional bargaining table, and "may, in one way or another, force us into an unavoidable election."

And he did not repeat his pledge of no election before 1981, to the contrary

pointing out that his government starts its fourth year in office this week. Most politicians consider four years a "normal" term.

He accused the Liberals, too, of trying to "destabilize minority government," a nice turn of phrase from other political wars that conjures up all kinds of nasty images.

To be fair, though, Davis did repeat that he is "resolutely committed to avoiding an unnecessary election."

But he certainly implies the Liberals make it tough on a man.

BUDGET ELECTION

He noted the temptation to fight an election on the recent budget, with its lack of tax increases and increased spending in all directions.

Yet for all his polished rhetoric, Davis just couldn't arouse his people against the evil Grits. One had the distant impression that many Tories just don't take Stuart Smith seriously at this time.

Whatever the government's frustrations with minority government, and they are legion, people in the streets, whether Conservative or not, appear content with the arrangement.

If the increasing difficulty the Conservatives are having in getting legislation through the House is pushing them towards a fall election, perhaps the cool response to Davis' call to arms at the convention may now be giving the Tory brass second thoughts.

Halton's History

From our files

THIRTY YEARS AGO-Tom Hewson, local implement and car dealer and real estate agent, has purchased the Main Street business block formerly owned by the estate of the late Mrs. Herbert Kennedy. The block comprises the premises occupied by Farnell's Grocery and Richardson's Hardware. Mrs. Kennedy willed the proceeds of the sale of the building to the United Church.

John Douglas, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ryerson Douglas of town, has been chosen to act with the Earl Grey Players, a well-known theatrical troupe which is presenting a Shakespearean festival in Trinity College Quadrangle for four weeks. This group is composed of top-notch Canadian radio and stage actors, such as Lorne Greene and John Dralnic, as well as some excellent English talent. For the past year, John has been studying dramatics at the Conservatory in Toronto.

This year for the first time there are no entrance examinations and public school pupils have been promoted from Grade 8 to Grade 9 on the basis of their year's work. The new system, announced by the Department of Education, replaces the former system whereby students with sufficient grading on their year's work were automatically promoted and those below had to try examinations.

TWENTY YEARS AGO-A spectacular crash of a car into a house got front page attention last week in the Guelph Mercury and is of local interest because the house owners, Mr. and Mrs. Ken Weston are former residents of town and Glen Williams. Here is how the Mercury reporter tells the story: A car crashed through the kitchen wall, hurled a stove through a bedroom door and up against the bed, and came to rest with the front fender two and a half feet from the bed were Mr. and Mrs. Ken Weston were sleeping.

Jack Gudgeon, who has been one of those active in Kid Hockey activities, has an idea for next year which could mean valuable publicity for the town and add a feature which would boost Georgetown sportswise. Mr. Gudgeon is trying to promote a bantam hockey tournament for Easter week.

Orangemen from four counties will invade Georgetown for a July 12th celebration next year. On Monday, Fred McNally and Albert Dawson, representing the local Royal Oak Lodge, asked for use of the park that day so plans could be formulated for the celebration.

William Davis, M.P., has announced that the government of Ontario has approved a grant to the Credit Valley Conservation Authority in order that the Authority may establish an automatic stream recording gauge on Silver Creek in Ingham 7 in Norval.

Milton hockey hearts accelerated briefly last week when it was rumored around town that "three and possibly more" Georgetown Raiders would bolster their hockey entry next season. The rumor was launched by an article in the Milton newspaper, but a spokesman for the Raiders said the claim was completely unfounded.

Merchants will pay for a sign indicating the downtown parking area, said Paul Barber who asked the town to arrange installation of the sign on Mill Street. It is planned to clear away the rubble from a wrecked building beside Buck's store to increase parking, he said.

Last week, while in Ottawa, Herald staff member Les Clark visited for a day in the House of Commons and had a short visit with Prime Minister Diefenbaker there. Mr. Diefenbaker recalled his brief stop in town just prior to his election in 1957 when he was enroute to a meeting in Burlington, and expressed interest in the town and a wish to visit it again some time.

TEN YEARS AGO-A hooded gunman held up Emil Zuber, owner of the Riviera Club, Sunday morning at 3 a.m. as he left the club carrying a sack of money. The gunman, covered from head to toe in a burlap hood, grabbed the money at gunpoint and handcuffed Mr. Zuber to a power lawner, which the gunman evidently had disabled so it couldn't be driven. He made off in the Zuber car, which was found the next day in the "GO" train parking lot in Clarkson.

Plans for an addition to Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital, suspended since 1968, will be going ahead in about six weeks, hospital administrator Fred Whittaker revealed to a small audience at a Halton Hills Ratepayers meeting Monday. Overcrowding in the hospital's medical and surgical wards and emergency and admittance areas have been a sore point with hospital visitors for almost two years.

Municipal affairs minister Darcy McKeough has rejected Halton County's proposal to set up its own regional government unit. Warden Allan Day revealed last week that McKeough turned down the Halton Region in a letter received by the county. Halton proposed carrying out its own local government reform program after McKeough announced he wouldn't proceed with a plan to unite Halton and Peel Counties in a single region. Mr. McKeough said, in part in his letter, "I don't think we should settle for the kinds of solutions that only appear to get us by for the moment. I am convinced that this kind of approach would have to be substantially altered almost immediately and I would prefer to keep major disruptions in administration to a minimum."

John Paska, playing in the annual Varian Day competition at North Halton Golf and Country Club Thursday, aced the 105-yard par three ninth hole with a nine iron. He was in a foursome with Dave Uren, Gord Fendley and Peter McNair. One more revolution by Uren's ball would have resulted in a fantastic double ace on the same hole. His tee shot stopped at the lip of the cup.

ONE YEAR AGO-Architect Keith Wagland has been given a chance to realize the Georgetown Public Library into a multi-use cultural centre. Mr. Wagland's nine-year-old firm was hired for the project by town council last Tuesday night.

Georgetown's Halton Regional Police have been occupying their in-town office rent-free and without a lease since February. The police commission learned of the situation when the building's landlord complained. Oakville Mayor Harry Barrett, chairman of the commission, said the region paid the rent on police buildings directly without going through the force's bookkeeping records.

Halton region stands to gain some \$221 million in annual revenue from a newly-appointed approved lot-levy policy. After two years of study and debate, regional council has implemented a capital contribution policy by which local developers will be levied special per-unit charges on residential developments aimed at recovering part of the cost of providing municipal services throughout the region.

John Mallet gambled and won when the volunteered his property on the Guelph Line north of 25 Sideroad to be a test case for an Acton High School building project. Answering an advertisement in the school newsletter, he agreed to let the students build a pre-fabricated garage for him.

Contrary to earlier speculation, town council has maintained its opposition to the formation of a citizens' committee to advise the town about preserving local buildings of historical or architectural significance.



Letter from the Editor

Paul Dorsey

'Nobody knows Russia'

"Nobody knows what Soviet Russia...intends to do in the immediate future, or what are the limits, if any, to their expansive and proselytizing tendencies."

Ronald Reagan on the campaign trail? Iran's President Barli-Sadr addressing his throngs? No; it was Winston Churchill addressing academics at Montreal's Westminster College a scant ten months after VE Day.

This and other timely, painfully ironic gems emerge from a text of the British PM's speech reprinted in the March 6, 1946, edition of the Montreal Daily Star. A Georgetown man who was working in the city at the time saved the clipping and submitted it for our perusal.

In retrospect, Churchill's lengthy speech underlines the failure of the United Nations to co-ordinate and regulate the political and military powers of the world in the 35 years since World War II ended. Indeed, the Old World statesman placed much hope and confidence in what he termed the United Nations Organization, successor to another global union that failed, the League of Nations.

"Our supreme task and duty is to guard the homes of the common people from the horrors and miseries of another war," he said after receiving an honorary degree from the college. "The UNO must immediately begin to be equipped with an international armed force...I propose that each of the powers and states should be invited to dedicate a

certain number of air squadrons to the service of the world organization.

Churchill modified his support for co-ordinated global armament against any subversive threat by cautioning against the sharing of atomic technology.

"It would nevertheless be imprudent and wrong to entrust the secret knowledge or experience of the atomic bomb, which the U.S., Great Britain and Canada now share, to the world organization while still in its infancy."

The fall of "an iron curtain" across Europe clearly tormenting him, Churchill warned listeners that the Soviets and "fifth column" could not be trusted to leave "Christian civilization" alone, and that the free world should be ready if challenged. His optimism was maintained, however.

"I repulse the idea that a new war is inevitable; still more that it is imminent...I do not believe Soviet Russia desires war."

Two other quotes say more than any others about the current world situation, particularly in light of the crises in Iran and Afghanistan:

"If we adhere faithfully to the charter of the United Nations and walk forward...the high roads of the future will be clear, not only for us but for all, not only for our time but for a century to come.

"We cannot be blind to the fact that the liberties enjoyed by individual citizens throughout the British Empire are not valid in a considerable number of countries, some of which are very powerful."

Alas, Churchill's urgings to support the UN have gone unheeded by too many, and several of those smaller countries, where liberties are few but political and military might is great, have risen to dramatic and dangerous prominence in the modern world.



CHRIS AAGAARD

Marie and Sudbury and which boasts a population similar to that of Georgetown.

Chris takes over the municipal beat from Stephen Frost, who is currently pursuing other professional interests in the hope of seeing the world again, this time in reverse! While Steve raises funds for another global tour, to start in Great Britain and end up, I suppose, in Hawaii, he'll still be filing installments of his ongoing travel feature, Around the World in 360 Days, for The Herald, and hopefully tackling occasional feature stories for us as well.

Together, Steve's twin journals of his meanderings should make quite a book someday, perhaps even a movie. Just remember you read it all here first, folks.