

**Portable could stall school**

# More St. Joe's gloom

**Herald Special**  
If St. Joseph's separate school gets a totally portable facility, it probably wouldn't get a permanent structure for many years - if ever, warns the chairman of the Halton separate school board.  
Bob O'Brien's warning came at the beginning of a board meeting held Wednesday night at St. Joseph's to allow trustees to view the school's defects first hand.  
Ironically, the meeting slated for St. Joseph's had to be

moved to the neighboring Robert Little public school because of insufficient space in St. Joseph's. Overcrowding is one of the problems parents of the school's 200 students are complaining about.  
He said it is unwise to look at a portable facility, as was suggested by a parents' association member, because pupils might be condemned to using it for some time.  
"Personally, I feel I'd prefer a new school," he said.  
Mike McMahon, a parent,

said he believes Erin separate school pupils have a portable school and the parents and staff are pleased with it.  
He suggested this might be a temporary measure to get St. Joseph's pupils out of their century-old stone facility if the ministry of education refuses funding for the new school again next year.  
Mr. O'Brien told the 50 or more parents attending the meeting that their present plans for a letter writing campaign and their co-operation with the board are helpful moves.  
It is important for parents to keep Education Minister Bette

Stephenson aware of the need for a new facility to back up the board's request for funding, he said. He is optimistic about a coming meeting with Dr. Stephenson.  
He told parents there is no other school to be built in the system and if Acton doesn't get the required funding in extra ministry allocations expected in September, it will be next year's top priority.  
Mr. O'Brien also told parents they can expect a third portable classroom to be installed soon. This is to be used for oral French classes rather than as a regular classroom.

## Reed backs Acton parents

**Herald Special**  
Halton-Burlington MPP Julian Reed intends to bring Education Minister Bette Stephenson to task on behalf of Acton separate school supporters.  
Mr. Reed said a letter to him from Dr. Stephenson said the ministry had funded the Halton separate school board's number one priority for a new school in the Oakville area.  
During a board meeting in Acton, the board said both Oakville and Acton were listed as priorities on its long-range forecast.  
In answering Mr. Reed's

letter the minister must have been given incorrect facts, he said.  
He said that since the board denies listing Oakville as number one over Acton, then someone in Dr. Stephenson's office was making errors and Dr. Stephenson should be told about it.  
Mr. Reed wrote to Dr. Stephenson on behalf of St. Joseph's parents when the ministry overlooked the money requested for construction of a new facility in Acton. St. Joseph's 200 students now use a century-old stone structure leased from the Halton board of education.



### Green-thum' n'

by Elli Dryden

## Planting by the stars

"Alright, I give up. But still holding true to my recent promise, my confession is to give credit where due."  
Poetry and illustrations from last week's column can be found in a booklet called, "How to tell the Birds from the Flowers and Other Woodcuts" by Robert William Wood. Try as I have, copies are almost extinct to get. Excellent book for light, green reading.  
Plants resemble birds and animals; animals and habits resemble people and society and so the chain goes.  
Food for thought: And God said, behold I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree in which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed: to you it shall be for meat, Genesis 1:29.  
And the fruit thereof shall be for meat and the leaf thereof for medicine, Ezekiel 47:12. Perhaps it is time for us to go back to the original source to alleviate sickness and eliminate disease. Has the pendulum swung too far for chemical medicine, foods, pollution etc? If every blade of grass, trees and plants were wiped off the face of this earth, could we survive? Then why are we killing the source? Why are we not using the source?  
Another interesting field in greenery is the Occult Sciences. Rather than lecture, please look up the meaning of "occult" you may be in for a surprise.  
For example, in Astrology (which is a proved mathematical science taken from Astronomy) each sign has a favorite plant or flower (in agreement depending on the influences). Also all signs complaints are counter acted by certain herbs, plants and fruits.  
In the science of "Auras or Auras" what experimenting done that is applicable to humans can be applied to plants. If there is any doubt, is a plant not made up of living organisms?  
We have all heard stories of humans who experience pain and feelings even though part of all of a limb has been removed, so it is with plants who experience the same which has been shown in the study of photokinesis.  
As with Numerology we discover the sympathy of certain plants, fruits and herbs that in the world of nature are related to the planets and months of the year in which one is born.  
Further showing us that in these studies of nature all has a specific purpose and design, how can anyone dispute that fact?  
With everything you have the balance of right or wrong, good or bad, too much or too little etc and each is to sift through all that is given to one and have it applicable to one's self.  
Isn't this great to discover the more you learn the less you know about anything.  
Anyway, I never promised all play and no work and just can't live up to being an Erma Bombeck in my little green world.

## The road to Ban Joo Lee

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mornings and eating when we felt like it. It really is an easy life, that.  
Stay for a while and then move on. Another beach, the same beach, the same hut, the same people, the same hut. The sameness is incredibly comfortable in many ways. There are no threats to you or your existence, as everything is cheap and relatively easy to come by. It's seductive and very dangerous. It leads your ever-wandering mind down a garden path of never-ending lightness, greens and blues separated by the whiteness of the beach. A delightful escape.

From here, John and I took a bus down to Singapore when we spent a few days shopping before we left for Sri Lanka (the old country of Ceylon.)

In Singapore, John and I did much of our Christmas shopping and mailed it home. I'm happy to report that all of it arrived home before we did, and in good shape.

Our impressions of Singapore had changed dramatically since our last visit. It was no longer strange to us, but in some ways, it had lost some of its mystique. It became a somewhat antiseptic version of

what south-east Asia was all about. As a Malaysian friend once told me, "If you want to see my part of the world in a very short time, then I guess a tour of Singapore will do you. But really, my friend, you will be missing one of the most interesting areas of the world if you forsake Malaysia and Thailand". He was so right.  
Soon after John and I left for Sri Lanka, where we were to spend a short two weeks.

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