

Chrysler crisis

Surely by now it must be clear that neither all the king's horses nor all the government loan guarantees are going to keep the Chrysler auto-making together. In the past year the U.S. government has provided more than \$800 million in loan guarantees to help bail Chrysler out. Ottawa kicked in \$200 million in loan guarantees on agreement that Chrysler Canada would invest \$1 billion in its Canadian plants by 1982. The United Auto Workers union made unbelievably huge concessions in a desperate bid to save its members jobs.

And now that seems exactly what the entire exercise was - desperate at best, and perhaps futile. Chrysler in the U.S. says it needs another \$40 million in loan

guarantees just to live up to its promises, because costs were under-estimated. In the process it proposes to trim \$400 million from the promised \$1 billion investment in Canada, and thus could kill the loan guarantees promised by Ottawa.

It all was done in the name of saving jobs - 14,500 of them in Canada and many, many more in the U.S. But the more it goes on the more futile it seems. It just seems to be pouring good money - taxpayers' money - after bad.

Frankly, we think it's time to say "enough", to let Chrysler live or die the way it started - as a private enterprise. It will be sad, even tragic. But it now seems inevitable.

- Brampton Daily Times

West vs. East

A Western Canadian MP had some reassuring words for area audiences last week when he told them that westerners have focused their anger on the federal government and not Canada as a confederation.

There were some disturbing indications late last year that the emphasis of western dissatisfaction was beginning to take on some separatist overtones.

Arnold Malone, Conservative MP for Crowfoot, the man who ousted Jack Horner after he defected from the Tory party for a minister's job in the previous Liberal cabinet, said that separation was last summer's talk but hardly anyone brought it up in conversation during the Christmas holiday period.

Alberta's dissatisfaction with Eastern Canada generally and Ottawa in particular is a deep-rooted complaint. It does not find its beginnings in the current oil resources debate which is souring relations at this time in our national history. Freight rate inequities, immigration policies, and central bank decisions of the past century have long been thorns in the side of the West - home of the Riel rebellion, the closest Canadians have come to actual fighting over Confederation.

It is to be hoped that Mr. Malone's comments about the anger of westerners now being focused on "a heavy-handed government," and not the nation are more than partisan political rhetoric.

Mr. Malone's observations about the interdependence of eastern and western Canada are something few Canadians think about but ought to.

The Alberta MP noted that while we in the East grumble about the West getting rich from its oil revenues, we forget that development of those natural resources puts billions of dollars into the Canadian economy, particularly Ontario's.

The need for industrial growth to service the growth of the western economy will mean a flow of cash back to industrial centres in the East.

As westerners look to eastern markets to spend their income, there will be what Mr. Malone described as a "communion of wealth."

There can be no denying that the prosperity of one part of Canada should translate itself into well-being for all Canadians. That was the principle of interdependence that prompted the Fathers of Confederation to come together in the first place.

- Guelph Daily Mercury

Child at Risk

Spreading the word

Ottawa Bureau

of The Herald

SECOND OF TWO INSTALLMENTS

Child at Risk makes 28 recommendations; recommendations, says Sen. Lorne Bonnell, which are better for children and for society.

Among them are suggestions that:

- municipal, provincial and federal health agencies make greater efforts to tell the public and women of the importance of nutrition on growth and development of children;

- courses in parenting be promoted by all levels of government and non-government agencies concerned with the welfare of children;

- the federal government pay a pre-natal child allowance to a pregnant woman so she can feed and care for herself and her unborn child during pregnancy;

- the pre-natal allowance be paid on condition the pregnant woman continue to receive nutritional guidance and medical care;

- health agencies, physicians and drug companies caution pregnant women about the potential danger of many medications, drugs, tobacco and alcohol to the mother and her unborn child;

- hospital boards and administrations encourage breast-feeding as soon as possible, encourage contact between mother and child as soon as possible and allow parents maximum contact with their baby in the hospital and provide special accommodation for parents of premature babies to encourage as much contact as possible;

- the Unemployment Insurance Act be amended to give reduced maternity benefits to a parent who adopts an infant and to allow the mother

of a premature baby or a baby who must stay in hospital for some time to interrupt her maternity leave after childbirth and resume it when the infant comes home from hospital;

- provincial and territorial governments establish or expand in-home support services for parents;

- the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) raise the question of excessive violence on television when granting or renewing television licences and that the CBC, private television and cable companies reduce the amount of violence shown on television at times when children might be watching;

- all levels of government co-operate with the private sector in providing registered day care centres in areas not adequately served now by day care; and,

- that a Canadian Institute for the Study of Violence in Society be established, funded by the federal government, to determine causes of violent behavior and recommend practical methods of reducing the incidence of violence in Canada.

"We're not recommending much compulsory legislation for child care," says Sen. Bonnell. "What we're recommending is that these services be available, and that they make every effort to contact young pregnant girls, or young married couples, to give them advice and give them encouragement."

"It would be almost compulsory that the society provide the services, but not compulsory, necessarily, that people accept the services."

"In other words, you can tell these social workers to go home, you don't need them; you can tell the public health nurse to go home, you don't need her."

does not think there is such a thing as a natural-born criminal.

What the committee did find, he says, is that a child with many of the risk factors is more likely to have criminal or anti-social behavior.

Even having one or more of the early childhood risks is no guarantee of future criminal behavior.

A child can have many or all of the risks identified in Child at Risk, says Sen. Bonnell.

"That child should have been the worst criminal in the penitentiary," says Sen. Bonnell.

"Yet, that child would come through life unscathed, strong, able to cope with society, cope with life."

The committee found it amazing, says Sen. Bonnell, that children with only one, two or three of the risks would end up in penitentiary.

"I think that needs a lot of research," says Sen. Bonnell. "Why can some children come through all these risks and still end up a normal adult?"

Seeking the cause of crime

Child at Risk is the result of one senator's desire to know what makes a criminal a criminal.

Credit for Child at Risk, a study into before-birth and early-childhood factors leading to possible criminal behavior, goes to New Brunswick Sen. Frederic McGrand, says Sen. Lorne Bonnell, chairman of the committee which produced Child at Risk.

Sen. McGrand suggested, at the height of the death penalty debate, that the Senate study the causes of crime. That could take years, felt the Senate, so Sen. McGrand, with Sen. Bonnell's support, returned with a suggestion the Senate study a more specific area.

That more specific area was before-birth and early life experiences as factors in criminal behavior; Sen. Bonnell became the chairman of the committee to study those factors.

Sen. Bonnell repeatedly emphasizes that the committee which produced Child at Risk



Provinces' struggle on BNA weakens Ottawa's credibility



Ottawa Report

By Stewart MacLeod

Ottawa Bureau

of The Herald

When Justice Minister Jean Chretien tabled that enormous batch of amendments to the government's proposals for patriating the constitution, he seemed to be suggesting that this should satisfy the complaints that have been echoing through the land.

"The government has listened to the views of Canadians," he declared. And later he was to add that there will be no further negotiations with the provinces. "They have made their points and we have responded. We are not negotiating any more. You know we are doing what is right."

I think it's reasonable for us to conclude that the amendments, which require a fair amount of digesting, do indeed improve that hugely complex patriation package that has now been before Parliament for three months. Certainly, so far as the proposed Charter of Rights and Freedoms is concerned, the improvement is obvious. And Chretien was right to say that the changes are a sensitive

response to the representations made by various groups and individuals to the joint Senate-Commons committee studying the proposal.

But that's really not the point.

NARROW VIEW

The committee has not been getting the over-all view of Canadians. It has before it the government's patriation proposals, along with terms of reference which enable the committee to examine the proposals. The committee has no authority to go far beyond this. Consequently, all 93 groups that have come before the committee have concentrated on trying to improve what was on the table, not to suggest that the entire package be scrapped.

What the committee has heard is obviously not representative of what Canadians are thinking. Dr. Gallup knows more about this than the committee does.

It is clear from various public opinion surveys that it's the government's approach, not the fine print of the patriation package, that bothers most people. The question is not whether the Charter of Rights and Freedoms now is much improved, but whether it should be in there at all.

There is every reason to believe a majority of Canadians would prefer, initially, to have a bare-bones constitution established in Canada and then have a charter of rights added as an all-Canadian undertaking.

When Gallup's people went out and asked Canadians whether the constitution should be amended by the British Parliament to incorporate a bill of

rights before being patriated, a meagre 22 per cent agreed with what the government is doing. But when they were asked whether the constitution should be brought under full Canadian control without amendment, a whopping 64 per cent said yes.

When you think about it, this is overwhelmingly decisive—particularly when you remember that we've managed to elect majority governments in this country with only a 41-per-cent popular vote.

ONCE MORE

In arguing for one more round of federal-provincial negotiations — something I've done on five other occasions in this column — I am not even particularly concerned about the contents of the patriation package. For all I know, Prime Minister Trudeau may be absolutely right when he says that once the constitution is patriated as he proposes, Canada will be a much stronger, more united and proud country. And, again for all I know, Trudeau may be dead-on when he says the provinces are not interested in improving his constitutional proposals; they simply want to scuttle them.

It seems to me that if opposing provinces can claim 64-per-cent support for their actions, it's difficult to dismiss them as a group of discontented seceders.

And you know what really strikes me as a curious irony? It's the fact that, despite an apparent 64-per-cent opposition, the government is still determined to give us a bill of rights that "can be demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society."

Davis the sole beneficiary in debate over bilingualism



Queen's Park

By Derek Nelson

Queen's Park Bureau

of The Herald

One suspects the two big losers were men who weren't there. Liberal Leader Stuart Smith and NDP Leader Michael Cassidy.

There's a widespread media assumption that an anti-French vote exists in much of English-speaking Ontario and all that is needed to stoke the fire is to mention bilingualism.

In that theory "official bilingualism" (in any of its many guises) is as the red flag to the bull, and translates loosely in many people's minds as "forcing French down our throats."

On those grounds Premier Bill Davis should offer Quebec Liberal MPs Celine Hervieux-Payette, Eva Cole, Jean-Claude Malepart, and David Berger, honorary memberships in the Ontario Progressive Conservatives.

The Quebec MPs traipsed out to Toronto airport to urge Davis, who was returning from vacation, to apply Section 133 of the British North America Act, what some call "official bilingualism", to Ontario.

That section already makes bilingualism in Quebec and Manitoba courts and legislatures (and those areas only) official. In the new constitution, New Brunswick, but not

Ontario, will join them.

DAVIS REPLY

The MPs were given the same answer as Davis always has to the Section 133 question: Ontario has increased services for its Francophones over the years in many areas without confrontation or unnecessary symbolic gestures and will continue to do so.

(In truth Ontario is far beyond Section 133 in areas such as education, and behind only in lacking province-wide bilingual civil and family courts.) But the MPs couldn't have expected anything else, which makes one wonder why they staged such a media event in the first place, unless it was to win points with the folks back home in Quebec.

The big winner, again accepting that there is wide anti-French feeling in Ontario, is Davis, who looks like the sole defender of Anglophone purity.

It also doesn't hurt Davis to be attacked by federal Justice Minister Jean Chretien for a mythical reversal from supporting Section 133 for Ontario last summer to now opposing it.

TV IMAGE

Where it really counts, on the television screens at supper time, the details blur and all that remains clear is the image of Davis holding off the Francophone hordes.

Meanwhile, Smith and Cassidy are trapped. The impression is abroad, reinforced by Tory campaign literature, that the Liberals and NDP would force bilingualism upon Ontario.

And while that obscures their true positions, they do favor more Francophone services than Davis has so far been willing to provide, which helps the Conservatives paint them into a political corner.

Halton's History

From our files

THIRTY YEARS AGO—A Canadian National Railways sectionman for forty-and-a-half years, Emmanuel (Mike) Lorusso has retired on pension. Mr. Lorusso was honored by fellow employees on the railway Saturday when they gathered at the station in the evening and presented him with a leather wallet containing a generous sum of money as a farewell present.

The local firm of J.B. Mackenzie and Son were successful contractors for the general building contract for the new Acton Public School. The firm, one of four bidders, was given the contract at a meeting of the school board a week ago Saturday. Contract price is \$143,700.

Corporal Markle, a CNR constable from Kitchener, visited the various classes in the school on Thursday afternoon. He addressed them on "Railway Safety". His very impressive talk was accompanied by enlarged photographs which revealed to the listeners the tragedies that accompany railway accidents. He urged the children not to walk on the tracks and not to cross where there were "No Trespassing" signs.

A motion to build a new school in the northern part of Halton and to add a gymnasium to the Milton School found little favor at a meeting of the North Halton School Board in Milton Monday.

TWENTY YEARS AGO—Expected increases in student enrolment next term and suggested school additions to take care of any increase came under discussion last week when the Esquimes School Board met in the Stewarttown school. Nothing was finalized but tentative arrangements were reviewed and board members will be requested to delve into the situation at a later meeting.

An Esquimes representative to the Georgetown and District High School board, Clarence Anderson, was named chairman when the board chose its officers and named its standing committees at the inaugural meeting last week.

Firefighting equipment of all Halton fire departments will be controlled by radio if the necessary approval can be obtained. Halton Mutual Aid Fire Services at its annual meeting in Burlington last week decided to request Halton County Council through the Emergency Measures Organization to undertake the project.

One Acton district farmer, O.W. Manes of RR2, Acton can scoff at the superstitions who dread Friday the 13th. This month's Friday the 13th saw his two-year-old heifer give birth to triplets. The chances of it happening are one in 50,000.

Councillor Les Dube of Acton was elected chairman of the North Halton Urban Board at a meeting held last week here in Georgetown. Retiring chairman Deputy-Reeve John Elliott welcomed the members to Georgetown and gave a brief summary of past Urban Board activities.

Rev. Moses Ariye, pastor of the Evangelical Mission Church in Lagos, Nigeria, was the speaker at the Grace Baptist Church in the Oddfellows Hall on Market Street on Sunday. Pastor Ariye is the father of five children and has served as a native pastor for the Sudan Interior Mission in his native African Republic of Nigeria.

The last coat of paint was put on the new women's normal care wing in the Halton Centennial Manor last week, and the future occupants prepared to move in. This completed the last phase of the addition construction.

TEN YEARS AGO—Six people were left homeless Saturday when fire partially destroyed a ranch-style brick house on 15 Sideroad between Main Street South and Stewarttown Senior Public School. Mr. and Mrs. Bob Devolin and their three sons are currently staying with her sister in Georgetown, and the owner of the house, Bob Turkington, has moved into an apartment here. Cause of the blaze and the damage in dollars are still not known.

Ninety Grade 5 students from Harrison School had an outing turn into an adventure Tuesday night, when the storm stranded them in Toronto overnight. The three Grade 5 classes went into Toronto by bus before the storm began to visit the McLaughlin Planetarium and found they couldn't get back.

This winter has been a boon to skillets but a bane to men who battle the snow and ice on the roads. The Georgetown works force has spent twice as long out battling the snow as they did last year and have cut deeply into the stockpile of sand. According to Works superintendent Frank Morette, the roads have been covered with 1,000 tons more of sand than at this time last year.

Only Deputy-Reeve Russell Miller at the moment has accepted the challenge thrown out by Mayor Bill Smith of Georgetown to compete in a race with Georgetown Council Feb. 6 and 7. The race for township councillor will be held at the Jaycees International Snowmobile Races, to be held at Polar Bear Trails on the Seventh Line.

Meadowlen Mushrooms Growers Ltd. is planning its own canning plant on their Mountainview Road property. Building Inspector Doug Sargent turned over a building permit application by the firm's president, Ernie Skrow, to council for their opinion.

ONE YEAR AGO—With the Interested Citizens' Group's (ICG's) application for a hearing before the National Energy Board (NEB) still under consideration, the battle over Ontario Hydro's 500,000-volt transmission corridor has escalated into a series of tense, police-supervised stand-offs between affected landowners and Hydro's construction crews.

Halton Hills council has turned over the site for the new Georgetown police building to Halton Regional Police, and the police commission hopes to hear proposals from architects at its next meeting.

After months of uncertainty, area sponsor groups awaiting the arrival of Vietnamese refugees families expect to hear further news any day. Although no one is giving specific dates, government spokesmen contacted about the delay have indicated that more "boat people" can be expected to start arriving within a matter of days, according to several would-be sponsors who attended Wednesday's Operation Lifeline meeting in Georgetown's St. John's United Church.

Responding to requests from area farmers whose crops are being threatened by a rapidly rising deer population, Halton region's planning council committee has advised council to ask the minister of natural resources to approve a controlled deer hunt for next Nov. 3.

Poet's Corner

A boy's little dog

BOYS LITTLE DOG
The catcher stole my little dog
My heart is full of pain
I have no money to pay the fine,
I'll never see Toby again,
I'd give my sleigh, I'd give my skates,
If someone would free my dog from
those prison gates
Toby and I, our love was great,
To see him again I just can't wait,

Why should my doggy stray?
He didn't mean to run away,
Please let my little dog go,
Or the rest of my life I'll hate you so,
Then he asked his poor old dad,
For the only money that he had,
All bylaws do not pay,
Hurt someone in some way
Those officials are only bluff
Loving men couldn't be so tough.

-Albert Brooks