

Showdown at River Run

With the construction of the Morley Mills Co-op in Glen Williams, we've witnessed an outcry by neighboring townhouse owners. Their worries are based on concerns over the "calibre of people expected to move into a low-rent area."

This siege mentality, represents a formidable mind barrier of prejudice against the new residents who have not yet moved into their new homes.

The 46-unit co-op townhouse development will be completed by the end of the summer. Currently there are 17 co-op developments in Peel and Halton with Georgetown's project being the first one in Halton Hills.

Much of the confusion between defenders of the co-op system and their opponents focusses on whether the co-op inhabitants will be owners of their property. The townhouse residents feel the co-op inhabitants will only rent their property and therefore will feel little inclination to maintain their units.

It is true that individual units are not owned by co-op inhabitants - they instead hold a share in the entire development. Therefore it is in the interests of each and every individual to make sure their entire property is kept in a well maintained order.

With a stable type of cost structure through the co-op arrangement and a democratic management, the neighboring

townhouse owners should be happy that this system will encourage inhabitants to stay for a long time in their dwellings, considering it very much a permanent home.

There are many residents in co-ops whose rents are subsidized by government programs but there are also many who pay the full monthly amount because they are attracted to the concept of co-operative living.

Nevertheless, low-income families who occupy co-op units cannot and should not be prejudged as different than any other inhabitant of a home in Halton Hills.

Safeguards are more than adequate in finding the type of residents with the right attitude towards co-op housing. This should be explanation enough for townhouse owners fearing that their property will be overrun by their new neighbors.

Residents are carefully screened through application forms, personal interviews, orientation meetings plus a second review by a membership committee and a board of directors.

One comment was made about fears that children would perhaps "invade" the playgrounds of the townhouse owners. Hopefully, the children of these townhouse owners will not be so apprehensive about the new co-op inhabitants, and will warmly welcome their peers, whatever their socio-economic class.

Kiddie porn - Legal in Canada?

Citizens Against Violent Pornography

That children are being used in sexually explicit scenes in magazines and video tapes is the concern of Citizens Against Violent Pornography. At present Canadian law does not prohibit the use of children in simulated sex scenes, in sexually suggestive poses or as observers of adult sex. This article, the second in a three part series, deals with Bill C-53, The Child Exploitation Act and the need to have it passed into law immediately.

Kiddie Porn - Legal in Canada?
Child pornography is a very real and present problem in Canada today. It is a 1 1/2 billion dollar business in North America. It is readily available in video and magazine formats at retail outlets and through underground networks. It uses children from six months to 18 years of age.

Our existing laws do not stop children from being used in very real "simulated sex scenes". Only bestiality, actual penetration and violence with sex are outlawed.

Many people, including some politicians, feel that we should wait for the findings of the Badgley Commission, a national committee studying sexual abuse of children. Badgley wants another 12 to 18 months to study.

We already have a Federal Justice Department study from 1978 which recommended immediate legislation against child pornography. No such laws have been passed. The US passed the Protection of Children Against Sexual Exploitation Act five years ago and 38 states are now adding their own tougher legislation. Scandinavian countries have also toughened child

pornography laws.

Our Federal Government has a record of using only 5 per cent of the findings of commission studies anyway. In the meantime, Canada with its weak and outdated laws could become the headquarters for the making and distribution of this material.

There are also many powerful organizations philosophically opposed to Bill C-53. NAMBLA, the North American Man-Boy Love Association which now has a Toronto chapter and the Rene Guyon Society whose slogan is "Sex Before Eight or it's Too Late" are lobbying for the repeal of all age of consent laws and the legitimization of adult-child sex.

Bill C-53 prohibits the use of those apparently under the age of eighteen from being used in the production of pornographic visual presentations. Where children are concerned, "pornographic" describes material whose purpose is sexual arousal. It would provide a ten year sentence for those found guilty of the production or distribution of such material.

The bill needs public support to be passed quickly. This week petitions are being distributed through the churches for public signatures. There are also "clip and mail" coupons in this and next week's newspapers. Simply sign these and send them to Justice Minister MacGuigan under whose jurisdiction this falls. No stamp is needed. You may sign the group petition and send a coupon as well. Please do your part in helping to protect kids from the horror of child pornography.

POETS CORNER

Happy Day

HAPPY DAYS
The sleepy morning
looked around
blew some of the unfriendly clouds
away
and eagerly made the effort
to get on
with the rest of the day.
Some dawns
are more full of fun

than others.
The warm love
of the sun
always helps
and happy plans
make the beginning
worth the effort.
Have a happy day
everyday.

—By MARLOWE C. DICKSON,
RR2, Beech

Halton's History

From our files

THIRTY YEARS AGO—Georgetown Lions Club will net about \$700 for welfare work, as a result of a successful Peanut Day Saturday. This was the third year that the club had brought the Planters Peanut float to town, preceded by an extensive sale of lined nuts. A new feature this year was the sale of Mr. Peanut banks, and the attractive green and red banks were in brisk demand. Also contributing to the profits was a page advertisement in The Herald which was well-supported by merchants and industries who took advertising space in

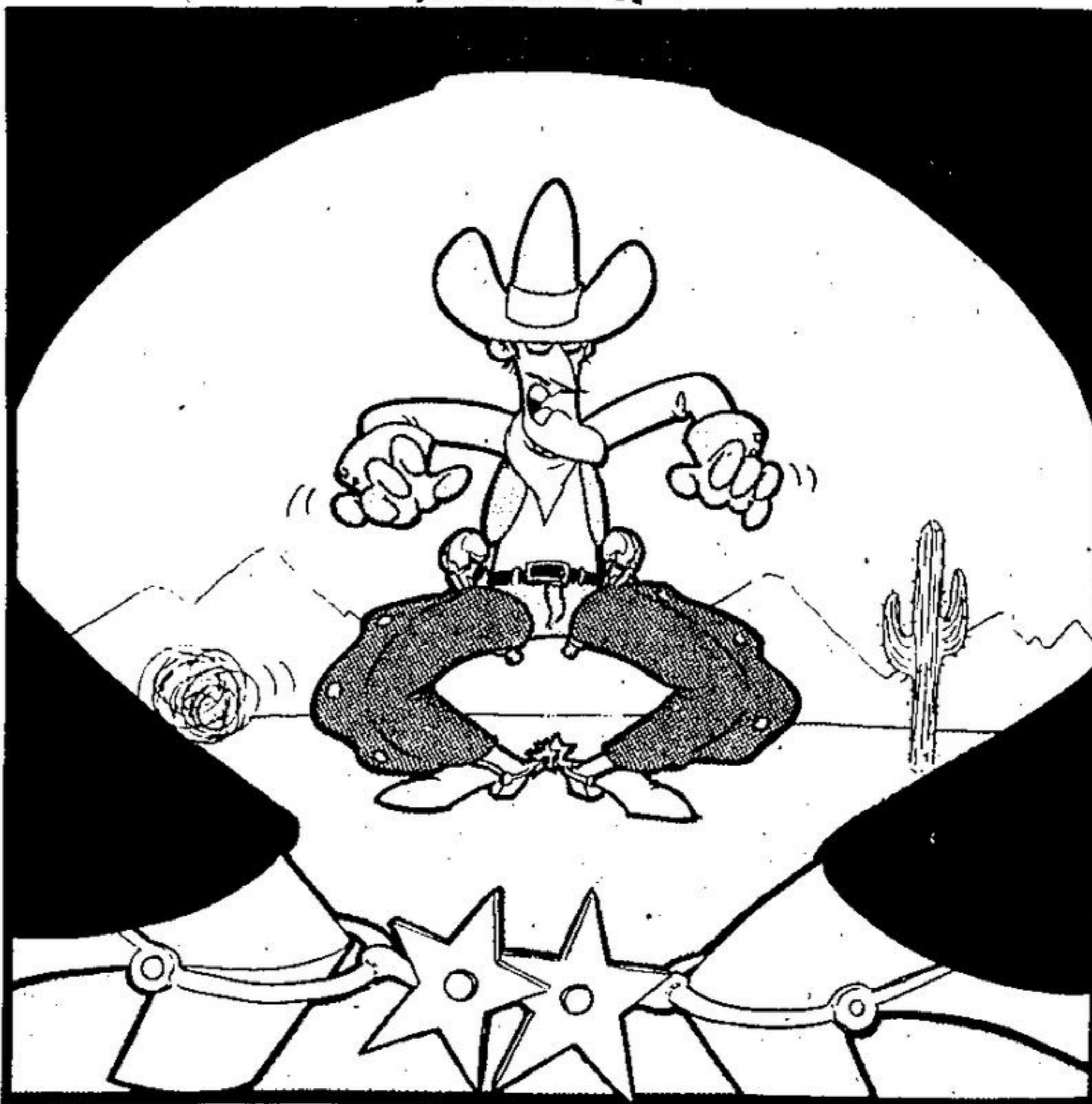
it. A local high school student, Sandra Scott, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Art Scott, was peanut queen, assisting the dancing peanut men who drew large crowds to see the float parked at the four corners on Main Street. The float also toured to Norval and Glen Williams in the early afternoon. Each person purchasing peanuts was given a guessing slip to estimate the number of peanuts on the float. The sealed envelope was opened when the day was over and Tommy Henderson of Maple Avenue was within 39 of the correct answer, 172,334. His guess won him a

case of Party-Pack nuts.
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO—One of the few remaining farm properties within Georgetown limits has been held for future subdivision. Local contractor Harold Fobert, acting as trustee for a company in the process of formation, announced this week that an 85-acre portion of the Moore farm on Main Street North has been acquired by the company. Miss Isabelle Moore is retaining a ten-acre portion of the property, including her residence, on the south-east corner of the property. The company has long-range plans for industrial and commercial development of the property. Mr. Fobert says there will be a residential area as well. The farm has been in the Moore family since its purchase 81 years ago by Miss Moore's father, the late James Moore. Mr. Fobert has been a Georgetown resident since 1954, coming here via Toronto from his home town of Tweed. Starting here as a real estate salesman, he branched into contracting a year later and has built many homes in the Delrex area, on Main Street North and in other parts of town. Mr. and Mrs. Fobert and their four young sons, Joseph, Michael, Eric and Patrick live at 82 Rexway Drive.

TEN YEARS AGO—Residents of the Water Street area made little objection to a proposed 209-unit apartment complex at a public meeting called by the Planning Board Wednesday night to hear their opinions. Paddy Woods, of 35 Water Street, questioned the amount of parking in the McNally Construction complex and suggested Water Street be closed to traffic at the Main and Park Street intersection so no traffic would be coming down the sharp hill. The latest plan, revised several times, has 209 suites, 20 fewer than the previous plan, and six ground floor shops with underground parking for 209 cars, an additional 19 spaces in front and if necessary, another 41 at the rear. Nine-storey, seven-storey and five-storey buildings now make up the complex. A health club, hairdressing parlor, cleaners, a convenience store and an outdoor coffee shop also are planned for the complex. It would cover land now occupied by the old Harley Kay building and apartment house, and takes in the vacant land previously occupied by Beaver Lumber Co. The Harley Kay plant and the existing apartment building would be demolished.

ONE YEAR AGO—Halton Hills parks have only been open a month and already there's been \$4,000 damage done to them by vandals. Glass mirrors in the men's and women's bathrooms were smashed May 4 at the Georgetown Fairgrounds. At the Hornby Park, bikers burned grass and left tire marks which will cost \$700 to repair. At Acton's Prospect Park, the blockhouse door lock costing \$60 has already been replaced three times by the recreation department. Since the picnic tables were put out for the public's enjoyment in April, six have been smashed. They each cost \$100. Last week, a picnic shelter put out last summer had its roof bent out of shape and three picnic tables were floated down Silver Creek at Cedarvale Park in Georgetown. Facts like these concern the town's public works and recreation departments. "It's become a serious problem," public works superintendent Frank Morette said. "Vandalism seems to be on the increase."

"OK, 'CO-OP'! GIT READY TUN DEEFEND YURSELF!!"



Tory popularity increases while Grit esteem crumbles



Ottawa Report

By Stewart McLeod

From the Ottawa Bureau of The Herald

A month ago, when the Gallup poll showed that the Tories had soared further ahead of the Liberals despite the fact they had no leader, we all made jokes about this new formula for success. Never before had a headless party increased its lead over a headed party.

Amid the jokes was a widely held view that this surge in popularity was an aberration. It had to be. There was no way a leaderless party could continue to gain popularity. And next month, we thought, the Conservatives would begin to reap the havoc they appeared to sow at that Winnipeg Convention when one third of the delegates forced Joe Clark to call for a leadership review.

Well, as we have now learned, a new Gallup poll has just been published and, surprise, surprise. Now a full month into the leaderless experience, the Conservatives have increased their popularity by two percentage points.

This means that 52 per cent of Canadians now support the party - the highest level since the Diefenbaker heyday of June 1958 when a remarkable 60 per cent favored the Tories.

NO JOKE

What the latest poll also showed is that the governing Liberals have slipped to their lowest level since these polls were begun in 1942. Now only 27 per cent of Canadians support the Grits, a drop of three percentage points from last month.

The New Democrats, who tend to bounce around like a short-string yo-yo, climbed back to 19 per cent, two points above last month's level. This is where they were two months ago.

Meanwhile, the level of undecided voters rose to 28 per cent from last month's 26 per cent.

The figures, when you think about them, are rather startling. Apparently it isn't a joke after all. The difficult-to-digest fact is that over the last two months the leaderless Tories increased their popularity at greater speed than in any two-month period since the last election. And this is happening at a time when the party is not only searching for a new Messiah, but exposing all sorts of alleged dirty tricks in the process. Amid charges and counter charges by squabbling leadership factions, the Conservatives keep winning new converts.

Within the party there are as many explanations as there are factions. Generally, Clark's opponents say this

proves that the former leader trailed the party in popularity, and that the Tories would be better off under anyone else.

DIFFERENT VIEW

Clark, on the other hand, attributes the party's increasing popularity to his past good work.

"In the last 18 to 18 months under the type of leadership I have brought to the party, under the determination to be a modern, moderate and national party, we have been consistently ahead of the Liberals..." The important thing, he said, is the long-term trend.

While the Tories dicker among themselves over the significance of the result, the Liberals must be asking a few painful questions. If, during a two-month period, a leaderless party can increase the popularity gap by 14 percentage points, what does this say about the public's esteem for the Liberals? Not much.

Not even the most optimistic Liberal could find any crumbs of comfort in this poll. "Don't ask me to explain it," said a harassed MP. "All I know is that this isn't the easiest time to be a Liberal."

What he knows, too, is that the worst is still likely to come. The leadership convention, with its vast television exposure, and the inevitable display of unity which will follow this extravaganza is almost certain to boost Tory fortunes still further. For most Liberal MPs, it's going to be a long, hot summer.

Report favors a scheme to compensate all disabled



Queen's Park

By Derek Nelson

Queen's Park Bureau of The Herald

Perhaps no issue over the years has put the Conservative government on the defensive as easily as that of explaining why the Workmen's Compensation Board has granted disability payments for some disease victims but not others.

These are not the break-a-leg kind of cases that are easy to determine, or even the back pain kind of disability that is hard to diagnose and is sometimes badly abused by so-called injured workers.

No, these are the cases of people who develop cancers and other respiratory disorders or suffer the kind of symptoms they blame on years of exposure to various substances in the workplace.

Whenever the issue is raised in the Legislature, particularly by the New Democrats, the government is portrayed as heartless because it defends the current system of trying to find the cause of a disease before considering it

for disability payments.

And over the years the number of diseases and workplaces that are recognized for compensation has continued to expand.

FIRST CLAIM

First was coal tar exposure in 1950. And the NDP successfully fought a tough fight in the early 1970s to expand the number of cancers caused by asbestos beyond the obvious asbestosis.

But there is always a problem in this regard, as illustrated by the study published in 1978 of cancers among employees of the Dofasco Foundry in Hamilton.

The 10-year study followed 435 workers who in normal circumstances would have been expected to develop 8.4 cancers. In fact they experienced 18, which indicated the foundry process was carcinogenic.

But which were the extra 10 who contracted the cancers because of where they worked as opposed to the eight who would have suffered the malignancies anyway?

That is the inherent problem in separating the casualties of industrial disease in Workmen's Compensation cases from those of the broken leg or back pain variety.

GOOD ANSWER

Yet there is an anger. Paul Weller's latest report to the Labor Ministry (from which the Dofasco example is drawn) points the direction we should be going: a general

disability scheme to compensate all victims regardless of cause.

An Industrial Disease Standards Panel would be set up to develop criteria for evaluating disease claims and if the link to a workplace was proved all employees so struck would benefit.

The need of the victim rather than the specific cause of the disability would be the determining factor in the size of the payment.

(This is not to be confused with the clamour for a universal insurance scheme, which confuses income maintenance for everyone with income substitution for those capable of work).

MONEY TOO

And how would this general disability scheme be financed?

Here is the beauty of Weller's recommendations. The method of assessing companies for Workmen's Compensation would be changed so that the more risk-free workplace the lower the fees.

This would give employers economic reasons for creating and sustaining less hazardous environments.

Also, employees themselves would pay premiums based on the same principle. Using tobacco, for example, would drive up one's rates.

For the political reason alone of stopping looking heartless, maybe the government will pay close attention to what Weller has to say.



By PAT WOODE
Herald Special

Computer invasion

Computers have invaded everyday life for almost everybody changing our lives in ways unforeseen even as little as two or three years ago. Nowhere has the potential for change been as great as in the lives of the handicapped.

Over 500,000 North Americans who are not retarded and cannot speak or use hand signals will soon have the ability to communicate verbally through hand held units now commercially on the market. Braille translators are being perfected. Manipulation of remote objects such as windows, door locks, and microwave ovens through voice commands is becoming more reliable.

In researching this article I attended a short talk on computer application at the Ontario Crippled Children's Centre. The most impressive part was not concerned with any of the technology on display. Sitting in the audience was a young man strapped in his wheelchair. He could not speak and had limited control of his limbs. His excitement at possible uses of this machine was apparent to all. By pointing at series of symbols displayed on a board placed before him, he asked about various units being displayed. To him the computer is a door he can use to enter the world most people take for granted.

Micro computers are mass produced and are relatively inexpensive. General purpose machines are still not small enough to be considered "portable" by the vast majority of the handicapped. A truly rugged machine is still not on the market. Special purpose units for speaking and calculating are small but by definition lack the versatility required.

Micros are flexible. Their range of abilities makes it unnecessary to design a special machine for the disabled. Most handicapped people do not like gadgets. It is far better to use the same tools as everybody else even if it means using them in a slightly different manner.

Everyone wants to feel accepted. Micros, like glasses, are one appliance with which the general public can feel comfortable. Children are cautioned not to ask, "Why are you wearing a brace?" It is permissible however to ask, "How did you break your arm?" Having the first micro on the street will elicit a very positive response from friends and acquaintances.