

Awareness is the first step

It was the second outing by Halton Hills residents to the Ontario Censor Board. Two separate groups have now seen uncut films showing violent and obscene pornography.

Clearly the uncut movies were a shocking experience to watch. The question remains: "Where do we want to go from here?"

It is hard to say whether or not the viewing will help launch a concentrated drive to sponsor our local lobby group.

However, for Gail Rutherford of "Citizens Against Violent Pornography", the second viewing of the film by prominent citizens in the area should be seen as a modest victory in itself.

The common denominator among the separate groups which viewed the films seems to

be that an awareness program on violent pornography is needed.

The Ontario Censor Board does not have a mandate to show their uncut films outside their premises in Toronto.

This poses a problem in trying to reach large numbers of people with their message.

The people of Halton Hills have a right to make decisions against pornography and censorship - but they should first have the opportunity to see the type of violent films that are being shown in the 1980s.

We wholeheartedly support Citizens Against Violent Pornography for their commitment to spreading the message that violent crime can be linked to violent "sex films". Their message is worth listening to.

HANDS off Santa parade

On the editorial page this paper has supported our local peace group HAND and their initiatives.

On the issue of the Santa Claus parade, though, they've lost our support. It's been a long-standing tradition not to let entries of a political nature into the Georgetown Lion's Club parade.

To let HAND use the parade as forum for their protest would be precedent-setting.

The Santa Claus parade is for the kids, for families wanting to share their child's joy during the type of weather that keeps us hugging each other just to stay warm.

In a similar situation, protestors were asked to leave their vigil premises on Parliament Hill in Ottawa during the Canada Day proceedings.

It's hard not to disagree with the government order for them to abandon their mission that day.

While nuclear disarmament should certainly be central in our minds, we hope Canadians would also like to concentrate fully on our nation's birthday each July 1.

Similarly, let's leave the parade to the children to welcome Santa to Georgetown. Let's keep Santa as the focal point of the parade.

Letter to the editor

Time of restraint

To the editor of The Herald:

Our committee feel it is important to explain to the citizens of Georgetown and Esquesing why we oppose the building of a municipal complex and the purchase of the Stevens' property.

We do not need to spend \$4,000,000 on a municipal complex that we just don't need. This is a time of restraint. We want governments to stop spending more. This town has not grown these last seven years and with the water shut off it may not be allowed to grow.

Despite the fact our space-needs study shows we have one third the space needed, our town continues to function. If we need more space we can add it on to the existing Esquesing town offices on land that we already own (it is FREE).

The site is a central location and land size is adequate for expansion. If future needs dictate. The only reason to buy the Stevens' property is to build a municipal complex. Do not be deceived by some politicians' argument that this is not a decision to build the complex. It is.

If we wish to stop the municipal complex we must stop the Stevens' property purchase. But there are other aspects of this purchase which we find very disturbing. The mayor in his

presentation outlined how the town would develop and service about 20 acres of their property for condominiums on 52 building lots. Thus they would get the seven acres complex site free and make \$460,000 as well (Finn Poultrop said \$200,000). A great idea... but according to our reading of the municipal act, a town is not allowed to act in this fashion.

Further, several members of our committee suggest the figures they use are overly generous. We may well end up losing money because of this council's entry into land development.

Finally the ministry of environment has stated that because of water restriction there is room for only 600 more people in Georgetown. If this fact is true council cannot develop to have wasted our money on land speculation.

They would have been wise to buy just the seven acres of the Stevens estate on Maple Ave. instead of the complex and not involved us in this mess.

A letter from Mr. Nichols of Longmore Developments who was acting for the council to search for possible complex sites suggested they would be willing to discuss selling just the seven acres.

A great deal has been made that a much needed secondary access can be available to the hospital. If this was so important why have they waited 25 years to do it?

But we do have secondary access to the hospital. The main entrance is through Princess Anne Drive and the secondary access is through Marywood Meadows.

Might I be too crass if I suggested that the hospital foundation would like to develop part of their 17 acre holding adjacent to the Stevens' estate into building lots? This strongly supports this venture.

The best way to stop council proceeding is to apply pressure from the citizens. Finn Poultrop, seven years ago it was not a special interest group that swayed council, it was three thousand people who did not want their money wasted. Unfortunately we must tell them again. Please get out to sign our petition. If you would like to help us and canvas your neighbors please give me a call at 877-0123.

Alex Furness

EDITOR'S NOTE: Next week The Herald will publish a letter from Norm Elliot, chairman of the citizens' committee opposing the municipal complex.



Mail Carrier's interview rekindles Montreal memories



Staff Comment

CHRIS AAGAARD

Oh, for the return of the lowly glass milk bottle! That's a forlorn cry from someone swept away last week by a wave of nostalgia.

I was having an early morning chat with Steve Matjanec, the letter carrier supervisor at the Georgetown post office.

Somewhere in between talking about Christmas postal packaging and how mail is moved in and out of the local post office, Steve must have said something which set off a great deal of electrical activity in the dustier archives of my brain.

We chatted about letter carriers—mail men in lay language—and how, over the course of months and years they familiarize themselves with their routes and the people on it.

I don't suppose folks really get to 'know' their mailman, to the point

where they know what he likes to read or what brand of beer is on the end table when he goes home and puts his feet up.

Nevertheless, familiarity breeds a kind of trust.

And, as the memories our talk conjured up began to take shape, I realized that the door-to-door mailman is just about the last of breed of service men whose regular visits were once very much a part of neighborhood life.

For the most part, the milkman, breadman, and the fellow who used to deliver the dry cleaning have disappeared from my Norman Rockwell-like street scene.

I can fondly remember burrowing below the bed covers, listening to the wind of a Montreal blizzard slam the snow against the window, while out of the chilling din, I could hear the familiar tread up the veranda steps, the clink of empty milk bottles and the duller clunk as full ones were rested on the doorstep.

We kids used to buy Half-Moons right out of the back of the truck when the breadman made his rounds. He'd open the door and spring out trailing the warm crusty aroma of fresh bread.

The chap who used to deliver our dry cleaning was a particularly jolly

fellow. He'd show up on Thursdays, just after I got home from school. By some unspoken arrangement developed over years of punctual service, he'd dispensed with knocking and would throw the door open bellowing "Cleaning man!"

PHASE OUT

It seems like such an unimportant thing to remember, but I can recall the day a different fellow showed up, sadly announced that his familiar colleague was stricken with some illness and the route, like many others before it, was being phased out in favor of branch operations in local shopping centres.

Our mailman was cut from the same mold as the friendly men who puttered around in a variety of delivery vans.

He'd long since realized that our dog which spun around his feet in a blur of snapping jaws and wagging tail, was totally harmless and clucked at it patronizingly as he strode up to the mailbox two steps at a time.

He was like a neighborhood nursemaid, warning us in French and English—(he'd recognized which kids belonged to which families)—not to play so close to the road, or to keep wagons and bikes of walkways.

Without these people, I think that neighborhoods are a little less colorful.

Palliative care: Who cares about the dying in hospitals?

By Rev. Dr. THOMAS G. BANDY, St. Andrew's United Church

There is no doubt in my mind about the professional care or helpfulness of the staff of our Georgetown hospital. On numerous occasions they have assisted me, and been sensitive to the needs of parishioners I have visited. The hospital itself seeks to respond to the needs of our growing community—as the new building project bears excellent witness.

However, the clergy of the Georgetown churches have a deep concern. Some months ago the Georgetown Ministerial shared this concern by letter with the hospital board, who to date have not even acknowledged receipt of our letter. This vital concern is of interest to everyone in Georgetown, and I can only hope greater interest can be aroused on the part of the hospital board. The concern is this: How do we care for the dying in our hospital?

Many hospitals have established special "Palliative Care Units". Special rooms are set aside, along with specially trained staff, to care for the terminally ill and those dying of old age. Support is offered not only to the dying patient herself, but to the family of that patient, to help them cope with a difficult challenge.

It may be true that funds are not available to build a whole ward or train an entire staff for palliative care. Yet



CLERGY COMMENT

the clergy of Georgetown believe that some steps can and should be taken:

1) Space for the Grieving Family: At present there is not really a comfortable lounge chair in which a grieving family member can rest while awaiting the death of a loved one. They need space: a room that is tastefully decorated, comfortable, and above all, private. There they can counsel with their minister, priest, or rabbi. There they can rest even overnight in complete privacy.

2) Space for the Dying Patient: At present, most hospital rooms are small and semi-private. Certain rooms should be designated for optional use as palliative care. They should be larger, private rooms. They should have more chairs for visiting family, and more table space for flowers, pictures, and other tangible signs of friendship and love. They should be decorated in a more home-like style than is usual in hospital rooms.

3) Training for the Staff: Specialists devoting full time to palliative care may be a budgetary impossibility. Yet some continuing education for selected doctors, nurses, and volun-

teers should be regularly available. Designated individuals should be available for service when the need arises for care of the dying and their families. This means additional training in personal relations: how to be sensitive and emotionally supportive to all involved.

4) Support for the Staff: We can become more aware of the special needs of the dying and their families. Let us also be sensitive to the frustrations of the staff. They have, perhaps, the most demanding task of all medical care. Perhaps a full-time or part-time Chaplain is a budgetary impossibility. Yet a definite strategy for the personal support of the staff involved in palliative care can and should be developed by the hospital.

Those who are dying, their families, and the staff who help them, all deserve our special attention. The clergy of the Georgetown Ministerial have made themselves available for consultation. We have also recommended the North Halton Hospice for such consultation. With the present expansion of the hospital under way, now is the time for this new dimension of hospital care.

I support the effort of the hospital to update their medical technology and expand the facility. But in addition to becoming more scientific, let's also make room in the budget to become more personal!

Letters to the editor

Memories are short: reader

To the editor of The Herald:

Memories are short and the mind fickle and easily influenced. I feel obliged, therefore to reply to the "concerned citizens of Georgetown" who, incidentally, if given half a chance, will tomorrow call themselves "the concerned citizens of Canada" and later "of the world".

The fact that I spent six years in the '39 war does not necessarily, I know, give me the right to scorn these glib peace-makers, but to their usual question, "Why did you go to war?", I would reply that even at 20 years of age I could separate right from wrong and I knew and still believe that freedom to express one's self, to bring up a family in a free society and to be allowed to defend that special way of life could not be protected by words,

even by passive resistance.

"Man" has always had to go to war to defend himself because frailty and weakness have always been attacked - and by the

way, women have played their part on both sides.

Therefore to believe that any form of unilateral disarmament will protect us from wars shows lack of mature and intelligent

thought.

The stated aim of world domination by the USSR is a fact of life. Fortunately, equilibrium in armaments maintained by the USA with the USSR has avoided a world war in nearly forty years.

That is the catastrophe that we must continue to avoid. But local battles and conflicts will arise because of the USSR's insidious propaganda and fostered rebellions to "socialize" and dominate the countries of the world, one by one.

By whatever name they choose, the demonstrating peace-makers of Georgetown, Greenham Common or Washington must not be protected by those and their descendants, upon whose very existence, intelligence, foresight and bravery they owe their freedom and their lives. Ron Rawson

Blood clinic thanks

To the editor of The Herald: The Blood Donor Clinic Committee would like to thank all donors who supported our Nov. 14 clinic, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

The Knights' help with setting up clinic, loading equipment and general assistance is appreciated, also the help of the students of Holy Cross School with unloading equipment. Thanks to Dr. Kennedy, who was on call, the nursing staff, nursery help and drivers, volunteers and volunteers,

the clergy, Mrs. Ann Lysy and Mr. Douglas Tucker for distribution of posters, John Ollivier of Halton Cable Systems, Halton Hills Hydro for special efforts with promotional banners, the radio stations, Mr. Altimas and Mr. Hyslop of the Dairy Queen

Special thanks to Jean Barton and her telephone committee and to Lea Douglas and Peggy Douglas, who convened this clinic. Sincerely, Flo Street and Erica Thompson, Co-chairpersons



THIRTY YEARS AGO—Salary increases which will total \$300 in the next three years to each teacher employed prior to this fall, on the staffs of high schools in Georgetown, Acton and Milton were made at a meeting of North Halton high school board on Monday in Stewarstown. Teachers, who normally receive a yearly increase of \$200 will have this boosted to \$300 for the three year period.

At the same time, adjustments were made in the salary of Miss Dorothy Parkinson of the Georgetown staff from \$2,800 to \$3,000 and Mrs. Hess of Acton from \$3,000 to \$3,100. Mr. S.B.G. Robinson, general secretary of the Teachers' Federation met with the board to discuss the salary question, after teachers had appealed to the federation over what they felt was an undue delay since their request for salary adjustments last June.

The teachers had asked for adjustments after the hiring of a teacher at Acton at what they claimed was \$300 above what he would receive under the salary schedule, and a new teacher at Milton at a starting salary of \$3,000, higher than two other new teachers engaged earlier would receive.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO—News that North Halton high school board, meeting in Georgetown the same evening, had signed a contract with Lostracco Construction for a \$430,000 addition to Georgetown High School, ended a council debate in which Coun. Ern Hyde was expressing strong criticism of the board for not favoring a local contractor whose price was close to that of the low tenderer.

Coun. Hyde spoke at some length, reiterating his stand of two weeks ago when, at his suggestion, council wrote to the board asking it to give further consideration before awarding the contract. After some discussion, the town clerk was asked to phone and ascertain what action had been taken at the board meeting.

The subject lapsed when the clerk reported back that the matter was settled by the contract signing. Coun. Hyde, during the debate, said he felt council had received no consideration from the board, in its plea to keep a large contract in town.

"I'm very disappointed in the type of setup we have for a high school board, and the sooner we can change it, the better," he said. "Apparently, we have no control over what's being done in Georgetown. It's wrong for our school system to depend on somebody's vote in another community."

TEN YEARS AGO—At least two interested parties will attend a board meeting of the Halton County Board of Education in Burlington Thursday to protest the planned closing of Norval School. The Board approved a recommendation that the school be closed effective June, 1974, at its last meeting Nov. 8.

The agenda for the Thursday meeting lists Julian Reed of Norval as heading a delegation of the Norval Ratepayers' Association, but that is not the case, Mr. Reed said. "They put up on the edge of the needle," Mr. Reed said. "I will be attending the meeting, along with former ratepayers' association chairman Peter Hughes, but we represent no organized body from Norval. We decided to back it alone," he said. "We did not even attempt to reactivate the ratepayers' association," Mr. Reed said.

"I had to give written notice five days prior to the board meeting and that allowed only nine days 'leeway,'" Mr. Reed was quite vehement about the school closing. "The board has been undermining the school," he said. "It has removed half the grades from the school and then talks about decreased enrolment. It has engineered the entire solution." The real reason the board wants to close the school is to give a better teacher-pupil ratio to other schools, Mr. Reed said.



Jobs are difficult to get for anyone in today's society. For someone with a physical disability it can be impossible if the prospective employer is not prepared to look past the disability and recognize existing skills and potential.

Since the International Year of the Disabled in 1981, attitudes have been changing slowly as the government introduces programs and incentives to encourage employment of the handicapped.

Job Information Centres, vocational counselling, skill training programs, and mobility grants are some of the services provided to all by Employment and Immigration through Canada Employment Centres. In addition, special programs are of particular benefit to the handicapped.

Diagnostic Services help determine barriers to employment, work adjustment, training assesses, work habits, attitudes and work tolerance, while job readiness training assists one to develop awareness of their own attitudes, abilities and interests.

For employers there are incentives, also, to hire the disabled. Canada Manpower Industrial Program (CMIP) and the Wage Subsidy Program provide wage assistance and ancillary contributions to employers.

Consultants are available to the private sector to aid employers in Affirmative Action plans with the interest of decreasing and eventually eliminating discrimination.

For a community based project, funds are available through Outreach. This outlines some of the attempts on the part of the government to integrate this minority group into the labour market, however there is still a long way to go. Statistics indicate that the disabled are the highest unemployed group in Canada with approximately 80 per cent out of work.