

## Education Week

For all the parents who complain they don't know what's going on in education, here's your chance to find out.

Monday marked the beginning of Education Week in Halton. Around the community you'll find a number of opportunities to explore and ask questions about the training of our youngsters and young adults.

Some schools are holding open houses where parents can actually see what it is students learn in the classroom.

Others have special events or meet the teacher nights. Around town, you'll find a wide variety of student displays in store windows or at the library.

The idea is to get parents involved and for that reason alone it's a valuable time.

It may be tempting to just send your child off to school this week, but consider finding the time to learn about our school system.

Parents have a role to play in keeping up with the changes taking place within our educational system.

Their children are learning at an ever-increasing pace. They are starting earlier, through the popularity of nursery schools. Advanced technology available to children has aided in motivating students and has opened up doors never thought possible 30 years ago.

The future of education in Ontario is exciting, but it takes the support of parents and teachers to make it all work. Do your part this week to be a party of the system.

## Delegates bucking nation-wide trend

Although Liberal leadership candidate John Turner is leading the current polls in popularity, local Liberal delegates have bucked the trend.

In both Halton and Brampton-Georgetown riding association meetings, delegates were chosen for their support of either John Roberts or Jean Chretien, but few people have taken up the flag for John Turner.

In a nation-wide poll released by the Globe and Mail Monday the survey found that 39 per cent of the delegates prefer John Turner while Jean Chretien follows with 17 per cent. Remaining are the 34 per cent who are either undecided or who refused to reveal how they would vote.

Delegates interviewed in this area seem to feel Jean Chretien has been a man who has stayed with the Liberal party through thick and thin. He's more capable of speaking for the average Canadian, we've been told.

Not surprisingly, the popularity of John Crosbie in north Halton in the months leading up to last June's Progressive Conservative leadership convention conveyed the same message.

The message seems to indicate that by electing John Turner to the Liberal leadership, the Grifs would find it difficult to differentiate their man and his policies from that of Brian Mulroney.

It's not John Turner's experience in politics they're eyeing, it's his lack of appeal to the common man who values party loyalty and a grass roots touch.

## Good things grow at our expense

Good things grow in Ontario - among them the provincial government's advertising budget.

Although it's growing, we don't think it's one of the good things.

For starters, there's the sheer hypocrisy of a government slamming a five per cent wage ceiling on its employees while increasing its spending on advertising by 17 per cent.

Second there's the enormous bulk of the spending - more than \$27 million in 1983. That figure represents \$3.06 for every Ontario resident.

And what do we get out of it?

We get a furnace talking to a psychiatrist, the little-known fact that Ontario grows fruits and vegetables, a pretty sunset over a Northern Ontario lake, a once in a week time chance to grab at Wintario's brass ring and the nauseating assertion that life is good in Ontario, preserve it, conserve it.

We can hardly wait until the Bicentennial propaganda begins to fly.

-Courtesy Brampton Times



## DOWN BY THE CREEK

Songstress Kim Peasgood, 9, serenades fishermen (left to right) Lara Barry, Katherine Johnson, Laura Blair and Tara Hamilton, 'Down By The Creekbank'. The St. John's United Junior Choir production, directed by choir

master Aden Brown, will show Saturday, May 5, and Sunday, May 6, at the church. Show time is 7 p.m., and tickets for adults are \$2.

(Herald photo)

## Trudeau has a second wind



### Ottawa Report

By Stewart McLeod

Think what you will about Pierre Elliott Trudeau, but you'll never be able to accuse him of going limp during his final weeks in office. If anything, he's acting like an over-enthusiastic apprentice trying to impress a potential employer.

But then, this particular prime minister has never followed a predictable course. And the opposition MPs who understandably expected Trudeau's final days to offer them a tantalizing target practice for a more concerned successor, should have perhaps known better. For reasons best known to himself, the 64-year old Trudeau has decided that his final days will be politically zesty - and those young upstarts across the way, if they are to take him on, had better be prepared.

The same goes for the dreaded media - even more so. There's no way that this soon-to-depart prime minister is going to roll over and tell the press that he has enjoyed its attention over the last 16 years. Just about any other politician would swallow hard and say

something like, "We've had our ups and downs over the years but basically I've enjoyed our jousts." Most departing political leaders toss us some such crumbs.

### FIGHTING MOOD

But I don't think we should hold our breath awaiting Trudeau's media eulogy. Even in pending retirement he flared at the suggestion that he should attend the Parliamentary Press Gallery's "goddam dinner". He didn't either.

"If the man is easing up toward retirement, I wish someone would tell me about it," said a harassed prime ministerial employee. "He seems to be just getting his second wind."

Apparently the prime minister now is putting in longer hours, working on more projects, than he did a year ago. And his performance in the Commons has been startling his detractors. Not only does he continue to be highly briefed on every issue that arises, he seems to be going out of his way to needle the Opposition, and particularly Tory Leader Brian Mulroney, into a fight.

If he has been bettered in debate over the last month, it hasn't been by much. Furthermore, his attendance record in Parliament - an institution that he has never overly complimented - is quite remarkable. He is there more often than Mulroney.

"So far," says an associate, "I've never heard him say that 'this is something I can leave to my successor.'" Another employee offered the

view that "he seems to have devoted just one day to his retirement, and after making his decision and writing his letter of resignation, he has put the whole issue out of his mind."

### TRADITION BREAK

This employee said that Trudeau is devoting unusual attention to laying groundwork for events that will occur long after he is gone. "His successor is certainly not going to inherit any mess of unfinished business in the prime minister's office," he said.

One example of Trudeau's continued dedication to the tasks at hand is his appointment of Mr. Justice Brian Dickson as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada. It would have been so much easier for the prime minister, who will soon move back to Montreal, to maintain the tradition of appointing a French-speaking judge to succeed the English-speaking Bora Laskin. He could even have left the chore to his successor.

But with the Supreme Court facing so many crucial decisions relating to the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and with Trudeau feeling strongly that Mr. Justice Dickson was best suited to undertake the tasks, he didn't hesitate to break the tradition.

"And don't be surprised if there are other traditions broken before the middle of June," says an aide. "The man has fire in his belly."

If the whole idea wasn't so preposterous, you should almost think that Trudeau is running again.

## Plight of shutdowns



### Queen's Park

By Derek Nelson

TORONTO - Of all the human tragedies verbally replayed within the walls of the Legislature, perhaps the most compelling is the plight of employees in companies that shut their doors.

According to Liberal Leader David Peterson, in 1983 Ontario lost 76 facilities with 6,281 jobs. This year there have been a string more, including almost 1,000 jobs affected by Shell Canada's decision to move its head office to Calgary from Toronto, and almost another 500 lost by Inco's decision to close part of its Port Colborne refinery.

But that doesn't tell the whole story.

NDP critic Richard Johnston noted that the Swedish-owned SKF plant in this area closed almost three years ago, and 36 per cent of those laid-off are still without jobs. About eight per

cent are on welfare.

"They are losing all hope. They are losing their homes. Their health is deteriorating," he said.

### MANY VIEWS

In many cases these are older males - 50 years-of-age and up - who lack the mobility of the young and who often have trouble acquiring a new skill.

And it is the pair, suffering - and yes, waste - inherent in these statistics that make the question of plant closings such a touch one.

True, there are simplistic answers. New Democratic Party policy, for example, is to force "public hearings" where a company would have to justify closing or moving. And if the firm was deemed to be "economically viable" it wouldn't be allowed to shut or leave. The government would expropriate.

Anyone who really believes that in the charged atmosphere of such "hearings" bureaucrats and politicians would make decisions in the best interest of the company rather than of themselves, is dreaming.

### GRIT IDEA

An even worse solution was implied in questions by Peterson about Shell's move, where he asked "what offer" the government made "to protect those jobs in Ontario".

Premier Bill Davis quickly snapped back, "what did you want us to do, bribe them?"

Times change. The business environment changes. It makes sense that a company's owners (rather than politicians) know what is best for its future (and thus its employees) - if they don't, it soon goes under.

Still, that doesn't address the human tragedy of those left behind, those who for one reason or another don't adjust to their new and unenviable status.

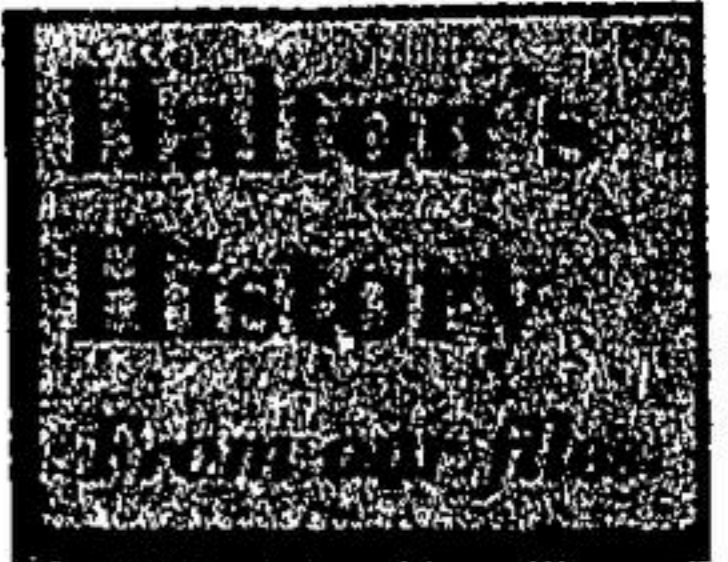
### NDP ATTACK

NDP members have been hammering at government ministers along that line in past days, noting, for instance, the average age of workers at Inco's Port Colborne works was 53 and suggesting early retirement pensions.

And in fact Inco and the United Steel Workers did conclude an early retirement package (although not as rich as the NDP wanted) without government intervention.

But what happens, as the NDP's Bob Mackenzie charged here, when a company like Allen Industries in Hamilton closes and "flatly refuses" to even sit down and talk with its union?

Labor Minister Russ Ramsay has invited Allen officials in for a chat. The NDP may be right that isn't enough.



THIRTY YEARS AGO—One of Georgetown's oldest businesses changed hands this week when Norman Snyder sold his transport business to Scoble Transport Ltd.

A unique event took place in Holy Cross Church Sunday morning when a Ukrainian mass was celebrated here for the first time by a Guelph priest.

Horace Barnes, an Ashgrove district farmer has opened a welding shop and Otaco dealership in the village, just off the Seventh Line.

Prizewinners at a euchre party in the fire hall clubrooms last week included Mrs. Jack Tost, 92, Floria Alcott, 89, Mrs. K. Graham, 85, and William Hyde, 85.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO—Hydro Commission members raised their pay to equal the per meeting rate of councillors, which is \$30 a meeting. Previously they received \$20 a meeting.

Forty cattle, 27 of them registered Guernseys, perished Monday afternoon when a barn owned by Dr. R.D. Kunica was burned to the ground. Known as Falgarbrook Farm, it's located just north of the new Hornby cutoff.

Three ratepayers, W. Beach, 18 Jessop Court, R.C. Sparks, 69 Pennington and W. Morrow, 21 Jessop Court, were paid \$72, \$58, and \$55 respectively as the town's share of the cost of fencing easements. Each fence must be 11 gauge link fencing.

TEN YEARS AGO—Postal workers are on strike and most businesses like Abilibi Provincial Paper Company are using their own courier service. Gene Morden of Georgetown's Gage Stationery said his company is using telex and telephones much more.

Hayley Quinn came in first in her flight and second over-all in the Palestine National Invitational Skating Tournament in Montreal. Competing in the North Bay Invitational, she once again finished first in her flight and third overall. Her coach is Rick Dowding.

The fate of the Georgetown swimming pool depends on the results of a special committee of the whole meeting tonight to discuss the town's budget. Canadian Swimming Pool Design Ltd. rep John Loring said drawings for the pool addition to the high school are nearly completed.

FIVE YEARS AGO—Limehouse Women's Association ladies catered a cold plate dinner to over 130 members of Knox Presbyterian Georgetown Women when they held their 59th anniversary reunion.

There are three new cubs, Billy Shoebridge, Wally Clark and Ernie Hollis in Limehouse scouting.

Win Cuthbertson and Peggy Corrigan find their children quite happily accepting the fact that their mothers are back in school. Mrs. Cuthbertson has a son in Grade 9 and Mrs. Corrigan has six children aged 13 to 20.



By PAT WOOD  
Herald Columnist

A physical handicap does not exclude one from attending university if ways are discovered to overcome the obstacles. McMaster has had students with differing disabilities complete a variety of programs and encourages others to apply offering to make special arrangements to assist in their education endeavors.

Facilities on campus are being improved under the guidance of the President's Advisory and Co-ordinating Committee on the Disabled. An access route ensures that all main buildings are accessible. A number of new ramps are being installed as well as a vertical chairlift in the science building.

A volunteer bureau has been set up to assist with note taking, reading, research, brief errands, getting to and from classes and other similar services. Special permits are available for anyone needing handicapped parking.

The university library offers two guides providing pertinent information for visually impaired and physically disabled persons. They are available in braille and tape format. A Visualtek is located in the Mills library reference area.

Also a voice output calculator and a cassette tape recorder with microphone are available upon request. Special arrangements can be made for anyone needing audiocassettes, braille, or large print books.

If handicapped students have concerns either personal, social, or career related, they are invited to discuss them with the staff in the student counselling service.

Currently DelCan Consultants is studying the need for a paratransit system for the region of Halton. If you are physically handicapped and wish input into this study, fill out your questionnaire and return it as directed. If you did not receive one, they are available from Jake Kuiken and Marilyn Serjeantson.

## POETS' CORNER

The sunlight nudges, squeezes, and filters through the forbidding ominous, grey cloud sending a ray of hope

-Teresa V.

## THE WAY WE WERE

In co-operation with the Esqueping Historical Society, The Herald will be periodically running a number of historical photos in celebration of Ontario's bicentennial and the part Halton Hills played in the development of our province over the past 120 years. Most of the photos require dates and names for the Society's collection. If you can help, call us at 877-2281.