

Plaza potholes

Georgetown merchants and shopping plaza owners must realize the cost of doing business.

By letting many of the parking spaces deteriorate to the point where cars can be potentially damaged, merchants may be losing customers.

Potholes and ruts in plazas and parking spaces along Guelph Street need refurbishing. In some places it is impossible to avoid one pothole without hitting another.

Though we realize they do offer an alternative to speed bumps in slowing traffic, the results prove that our parking lots are not customer-friendly.

The sad ending to this story may be that customers will stop shopping in Georgetown — or anywhere else where proper facilities are not maintained.

We believe the town does have a solid core of "shop locally"-oriented people who feel they are better served in town because of comparable values, better and friendlier service than they may get elsewhere.

But their patience is being tried...

If it's the shopping plaza management that are to be blamed, then individual merchants should try and put pressure on them to make improvements. It may cost more in the short term, but the benefits will be felt in the long run.

In a town without a public transit system, it's necessary to cater to those who depend on cars to do their shopping. It's only fair that loyal customers receive something in return for their patronage.

New men, ideas

Despite calling a summer election when campaigning drives may find residents on holidays, Halton Hills should record a high number of voters on polling Sept. 4.

Recent trends seem to indicate in the federal ridings of Brampton-Georgetown and Halton that the choice of replacements for Joe Clark and Pierre Trudeau have stirred everyone's interest.

A year ago delegate meetings in both ridings were packed with excited Tories as they met to decide who would be their next leader.

A month ago the Grits followed with equal enthusiasm. Then in Brampton-Georgetown last week a contested local leadership race won by Ross Milne brought forth new members in their party in record numbers.

The Progressive Conservatives have been anxiously waiting for their chance to unleash the results of their planning which has been gearing up for more than a year.

Canadians want fresh ideas and new leaders who promise a stable future for our country. That's why the Liberal and Progressive Conservative Parties should do well in gathering supporters for election day in September.

Breathing not easy for the asthmatic

Take a straw, place one end of the straw in your mouth and then run on the spot for a few minutes. Do you notice anything? It's hard to breathe, you say. That's right. And that's the feeling more than half a million asthmatics in Canada experience when they have an asthma attack.

"Being able to breathe normally each day is a function most of us take for granted," says Cindy Curik, Program Consultant with the Ontario Lung Association. "but a person with asthma has no such guarantee."

What exactly is asthma? People with asthma are said to have "witty airways". A special sensitivity causes their lung tissues to react far more than they should to various stimuli. The triggers are many and varied. For instance — grass, pollen, animal dander or even certain foods can cause an asthmatic reaction.

An asthma attack can also be triggered by cold air, a viral infection or exercising a little too hard. And to compound matters, it may be a

combination of these factors that will cause an asthma episode.

When asthma does occur, there is a narrowing of the bronchial tubes or airways to the lungs thus producing a feeling of breathlessness.

Most often, the episodes, although uncomfortable and frightening are relatively mild. Some asthma episodes, however, are very serious. The asthmatic may feel he or she is suffocating — able to take in air, perhaps, but not able to breathe it out.

But all is not gloom and doom for the person with asthma. Today, asthma can be well controlled with medications prescribed by the physician after a thorough assessment of the patient's asthma.

The asthmatic can also help in the control by avoiding those irritants to which he or she is sensitive.

Your Lung Association in the Halton Region can help asthmatics learn more about their asthma. Call the Lung Association at 632-8499 for further information

Letter to the editor

Concerned dentists 'doing their utmost'

Dear Sir:

Concerning the letter entitled "Toothache a big headache", by Mrs. Bettyanne Wellstead (Georgetown Herald — July 4, 1984), I believe several statements require clarification.

The dentists of Georgetown are very concerned about providing expeditious emergency services to their patients. Therefore I took strong exception to Mrs. Wellstead's comment that "in Georgetown if you have a toothache, you had better have it on Monday to Friday, sometimes between nine and five p.m. or be prepared to suffer".

In her letter, Mrs. Wellstead implies that she attempted to contact all 40 dentists listed in the regional telephone directory. When I spoke to her personally, she stated she had telephoned her husband's regular

dentist, who happened to be away, but did not feel comfortable telephoning a dentist who had never treated her husband previously.

Let me assure her that if her regular dentist was unavailable, any dentist in Georgetown would have been more than willing to treat him. On the weekend in question, there were at least four dentists in Georgetown available to handle emergencies.

Many Georgetown residents feel it is wonderful to live in a small town, not excepting when you have a problem like a toothache.

I fully agree with Mrs. Wellstead when she states that there should be a central dental emergency service telephone number such that a patient would not have to make several calls. Hopefully, this is some-

thing that can be implemented in the near future.

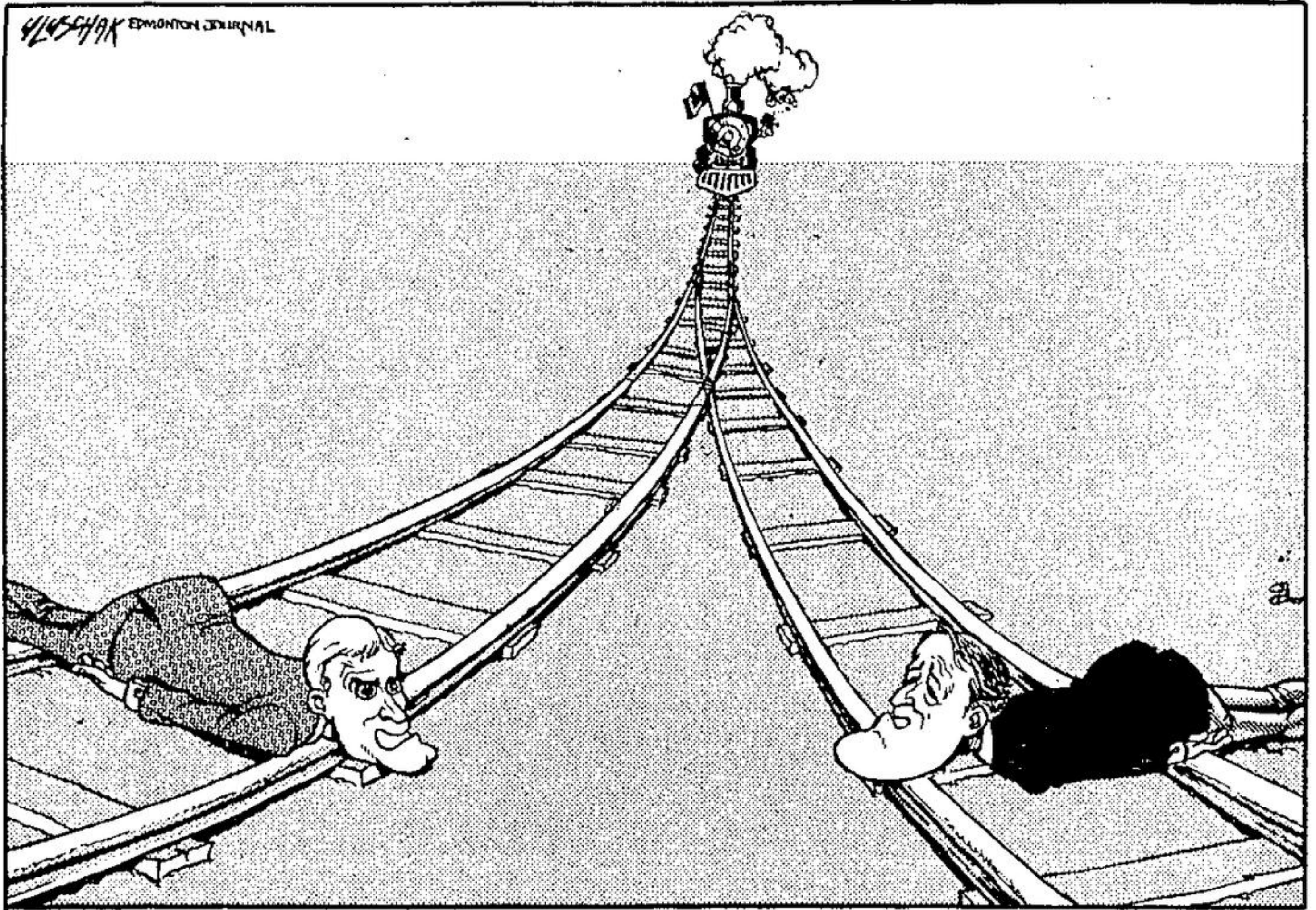
In the interim, I disagree with her comment that "it is better to live in the city where they at least realize that there is need for emergency service". The dentists in Georgetown do their utmost to provide just such a service to the community.

I appreciate how frustrating it is when a family member is in pain and it seems that help is unavailable. With a little better communication, this problem could have been resolved in Georgetown, without Mrs. Wellstead having to battle the traffic for an hour driving to Toronto.

Her final comment that "you will certainly be out-of-luck if you are depending on help from the dentists of Georgetown", is unfounded, unfair and untrue.

Dr. F. Beauchesne

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Davis has ...

Guaranteed the pressures



Queen's Park

By Derek Nelson

TORONTO—If government funds the schools of one religious denomination, can it refuse to do the same for others?

Here's the answer to this question from new Ontario Progressive Conservative leader and premier Bill Davis in 1971:

"To embark upon such a policy (of funding Roman Catholic secondary schools) could not be, in reason or in justice, limited to some faiths and denied to others.

"Nor could it, in logic, be limited to the elementary and secondary school systems alone. We would inevitably be obliged to proceed throughout all our educational institutions to fragment and divide both our young people and our resources."

And — logically if nothing else — nothing has changed.

By fully funding the Roman Cath-

olic school system, by treating it simply as a separate part of the over-all public education network, Davis has guaranteed the pressures he spoke of in 1971.

OTHER SCHOOLS

And there are many of them. In the elementary "public" or nonsectarian school system there are 772,000 pupils. There are 393,000 in the Roman Catholic. But there are another 35,000 in various private schools, many denominational in character.

In addition, the secondary "public" or nonsectarian system has another 552,000. The Roman Catholic system 68,000 (38,000 of whom are funded at elementary rates by the taxpayer), and the remaining private schools 16,000.

In short, the parents of 51,000 students pay school taxes and receive no benefits from them. Until Davis' announcement of full funding for Roman Catholic schools, another 30,000 in the RC secondary system had parents laboring under the same burden.

WANT CHANGE

The irony is that some of those in the Roman Catholic system and an even larger number in the nonsectarian system would be in the totally private sector if they could afford it.

These are Protestant, Jewish, or similar denominational schools where

discipline and hard work are held in greater esteem.

It is noticeable how many petitions the Legislature has received this session from various private schools lobbying for government aid.

For example, Rockway Mennonite Collegiate wrote: "In a democratic, multicultural society, choice in education should not provide some schools of choice funding while denying the same rights to others."

NEW COMMISSION

That kind of demand will likely now escalate, although Davis may have temporarily defused the issue by setting up a commission to look at the whole question of funding what are known as "alternative and independent schools."

But the politics of the matter aside, the funding question comes back to the principles enunciated by Davis more than a decade ago. Calling the Roman Catholic system a "part of the public system doesn't change the reality of its denominational character.

Henry VIII is not a sympathetic figure in its history books.

Where is the right in denying Anglicans, Protestants, Jews and others a state-supported school system when it is considered legitimate for Roman Catholics?

Halton's History

THIRTY YEARS AGO—Lack of public rest rooms, slack enforcement of two-hour parking, failure to stop dogs running at large, and raids on his vegetable garden were some of the things on W.O. Brownridge's mind when he staged a one-man "What's Your Beef?" session with council Monday.

A large barn owned by Bob Lane was destroyed in a spectacular fire Monday afternoon, one of three which occurred within an hour period. The barn housed farm equipment as well as trucks and other equipment used by Mr. Lane in his haulage business. The only major item saved was a tractor.

Georgetown's newest doctor is Alistair Macintosh MB, MRCP (London) who succeeds his friend Dr. Hamish Raffan in the practice which Dr. Raffan established here a year ago.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO—The running battle between Esqueving council and Halton Region Conservation Authority took another turn Monday night when a letter from the Authority asked council for a resolution approving the Crawford Lake project.

The maximum temperature of 94 on July 15th established a new record for the date, breaking the former mark of 92, set only last year (1968).

Zorge Construction, a local contracting firm operated by Fred Zorge, will be building the town's new senior citizens apartment. The building, which will be erected on Hyde Park Drive near the Hospital, will cost \$193,902.

TEN YEARS AGO—Some downtown merchants in Georgetown scheduled a meeting for Tuesday evening to seek a new executive body for the Georgetown Merchants Association.

The meeting was called as a result of a sidewalk sale held last Thursday through Saturday on Main Street. A number of merchants have complained that there was a lack of organization, co-operation and participation shown by the association for the sale.

Proposed Ontario Hydro routes through the town of Halton Hills has Mayor Tom Hill upset, and he claims that Hydro wasted the tax payers' money by holding public meetings.

FIVE YEARS AGO—A Norval woman who lay unconscious for 36 hours with a broken arm was rescued Thursday morning by her Acton cleaning lady, Isabel Hughes, 66, of Winston Churchill Boulevard, was alone in her home when she fell Tuesday evening and was unable to reach the telephone to summon help.

An American firm has purchased the Disston Canada Inc. plant in Acton and more than 80 hourly workers will lose their jobs, at least temporarily as a result of the sale.

Officials of Halton region are considering extending the life of the Georgetown landfill site so public health will not be further endangered by pollutants seeping from the site into the Credit River.

POETS' CORNER

To My Dad

It's been a real fast year,
One that hasn't been without fear
That we wouldn't make it through the day
Without you here to stay.

We miss you very much, Dad,
The first few months were really bad,
But you are slowly coming to see,
That you are in a much better place than we.

We wish you could have stayed longer
But your leaving has made us stronger,
No one could ever take your place,
Your memory time can't erase.

We are learning to cope with the fear,
Because we know you are near,
Looking down on us from above,
Looking down on the ones you love.

Dedicated to the memory of Nick Bos.

Do you ever feel lonely?

Do you ever feel lonely? Do you often despair?
Do you feel that there's no one in the world who cares?
Are you facing a problem without any hope?
Are you desperate? Depressed? Unable to cope?
Are you feeling a sadness that won't go away?
Is it difficult for you to get through a day —

Uncertain, helpless, hurt, or afraid?

Just give it a chance and pick up the phone,
For you do have a friend and you are not alone.

Please call us - The North Halton Distress (Contact) Centre (416) 877-1211 — A concerned and friendly 24 hr. listening and information service where all calls are confidential.

WILLIAM McLEOD

... and the Mammoth House

EDITOR'S NOTE: Noted local historian Rev. Rick Ruggle will be writing a series of articles for The Herald each week about the history of Halton Hills and the people who have helped the town develop.

By REV. RICK RUGGLE
Herald Special

William McLeod (1838-1913) was to become Francis Barclay's successor in the dry goods business in Georgetown. Born and educated in Caithnesshire, he decided early in life to enter the merchant trade. At the beginning of the century, according to Lord Cockburn, merchants in Scotland were a despised class; but by the time McLeod tried his vocation, first in Wick and then in Glasgow, they had gained acceptance and respectability.

Opportunities seemed more promising across the Atlantic, and in 1857 he emigrated to Canada. For about three years he clerked in Oakville; then removed for a while to the United States; returned for a short while to Rockwood; and finally in 1863 came to Georgetown to work for Francis Barclay. Barclay recognized the ability of two of his clerks — McLeod and James

McLeann — and that year took them into partnership. The firm was known as McLeann, McLeod and Company, with Barclay remaining a silent partner. During the sixties, the firm built up the largest retail business in the county. When McLeann died in 1865, McLeod continued in charge. Barclay sold out his interest in 1871; the business went through a series of partnerships until 1891, when McLeod took over full control.

The brick store, two stories high, employed 24-30 hands and boasted an annual business of \$90,000 in the mid-seventies. Known as the Mammoth House, an engraving of the prehistoric beast of that name graced its ads. The logo, the vast choice available, and the claim "All Goods Sold at Remarkably Low Prices" gave the firm an instant and favorable identification in its customers' minds.

McLeod's business and other interest paralleled those of Barclay in many ways: both were Justices of the Peace; both were Presbyterians (for several years McLeod was chairman of the Board of Management of Knox Church); both were active in munic-

Research for spinal victims



By PAT WOODE
Herald Columnist

A loss of bladder control and resulting urinary infection is common among those with spinal cord injuries.

At the Spinal Cord Conference, Dr. Talalla explained how the bladder is controlled by different nerves and muscles performing related functions in sequence at varying speeds. Artificial electronic stimulation is hard pressed to co-ordinate this activity so many of us take for granted.

Yet positive results have been achieved by 36 patients with radio

controlled implants programmed to aid sphincter and bladder muscles.

Six or seven years ago, dogma was believed without question that nerve cells could not regenerate. Now doctors realize that we can eliminate a large per cent of the nervous system and still function.

Since regeneration occurs in arms and legs, why not in the spinal column? Dr. Diamond explained that nerve cells must be given instructions from supporting cells in order to regenerate. Such cells do not exist in the spinal column. Research is now seeking growth factors which will stimulate as well as inhibit growth.

Growth surfaces, available genetic information and supporting cells are also under investigation.

Research with salamanders indicates that it is the electric current flowing out and back within a stump that appears to stimulate orderly

regeneration of a leg. Any manipulation of the current prevents growth. The salamander, in contrast to the frog, has an even distribution of electron flow. When an electric battery altering the current was implanted in a frog, some new growth took place.

In humans, fingers have grown back normally when there has been no interference to the flow of current from skin grafts, disinfectant, bandaging, etc. Tissue and nerve cells reproduce most rapidly in the young making such regeneration possible. Electronic stimulation has also been used in the healing of fractures and infection.

In the third and last article on the Spinal Cord Society National Convention, I will deal with artificial walking. Please bear in mind that this report is presented in a highly condensed form at the risk of over simplification and dealing with a subject that is at best, experimental.