

Need is there

Are the police within their rights to be charging those loitering on Acton's Main Street? We think so.

A town's Main Street should be open to everyone and no one should feel afraid about walking past a bunch of youths blocking the sidewalk. In Acton's case, there are grounds to support that some people feel threatened to walk by the vicinity of the Main and Mill Street corner.

The police are acting on complaints from citizens, so their ticketing isn't being initiated from within the force. They're trying to respond to a need to serve the residents of Acton.

We should point out that merchants in the area haven't complained to police, but some of their customers have.

When police give warnings before they charge loiterers, they've been fair with the people charged.

As Deputy chief Bob Middaugh has said, there is an alternative: if you don't want a ticket, don't break the law.

There is cause for concern when we hear about incidents where a police officer's life is threatened and where a citizen is attacked for coming to the aid of a police officer.

If Toronto lawyer Al Bickerton can defuse the situation he will be doing the town a big favor. The last thing we need are bitter feelings between the police and our youth.

Better we solve the problems through meetings with both parties. Otherwise, there will be resentful citizens and police constables who will find it hard to understand the other side of the question and will have a lingering distrust of "the system".

Extra caution!

Students of all ages will be tramping off to school starting today, full of energy and a care-free attitude that lingers from the summer.

As drivers, it's our responsibility to be extra cautious when children are on their way to school.

We teach our children to be safe pedestrians, but oftentimes their impulsive behavior comes in conflict with obeying safety rules.

We must realize our duty to help reduce traffic accidents involving children by being extra cautious.

SENIOR SCENES

WHY WORRY?

There are only two things to worry about.
Either you are well or you are sick.
If you are well, there is nothing to worry about.
But if you are sick, there are too many things to worry about.
Either you will get well, or you will die.
If you get well, there is nothing to worry about.
If you die, there are only two things to worry about.
Either you will go to heaven or hell.
If you go to heaven, there is nothing to worry about.
But if you go to hell, you'll be so darn busy shaking hands with friends, you won't have time to worry.
—Blitoc of St. Petersburg

September is the month when the various clubs and organizations begin their fall activities. It is the time to remind seniors of the groups which interest them.

The "Golden Triangle" meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. in St. Andrew's United Church, Mountainview Rd. The first meeting, Tuesday, Sept. 18, will be a membership meeting.

Plans for the fall include an autumn colour tour in October, a trip to the theatre in November and a Christmas light tour, possibly to Simcoe, in December.

Drivers are urgently needed. If anyone can help in this capacity, call Madge Whitfield at 877-4055 or the Y at 877-6163.

The "Belles and Beaus" meet in the Stewarttown Hall, at 1:30 p.m., the second and fourth Mondays. The first meeting Monday Sept. 10 is a games afternoon.

If you are sixty or over, you might be interested in the "Golden Age" Bowling Club which meets at the Georgetown Bowl, 12 Mountainview Rd. S. every Friday beginning Sept. 7 at 1 p.m.

Last year, over seventy members met for fun and fellowship. The aim of the club is enjoyment, rather than bowling ability. New members are needed, no previous experience necessary. Come and join the fun.

If interested, call Barb Reyce at 877-0474 and she will gladly put your name on a team.

The Halton Helping Hands is presently undergoing some adjustments. The Georgetown office is now open for a limited time on Thursdays.

If you wish, the office can be contacted that day at 873-1177, otherwise you will get a recorded message with instructions. For speedier service, call the Oakville office at 878-6403, toll free from the Georgetown area. The hours are Mon. - Fri. 9 - 4:30 p.m.

This organization also needs volunteers to do odd jobs for the frail elderly and permanently physically disabled. If you can spare a few hours, call the above number.

Kunc recommends self-education (reading about disabilities) and communication. It is essentially the responsibility of the disabled student to integrate himself. By accepting himself, his limitations, and knowing that it's OK to be handicapped puts others at ease.

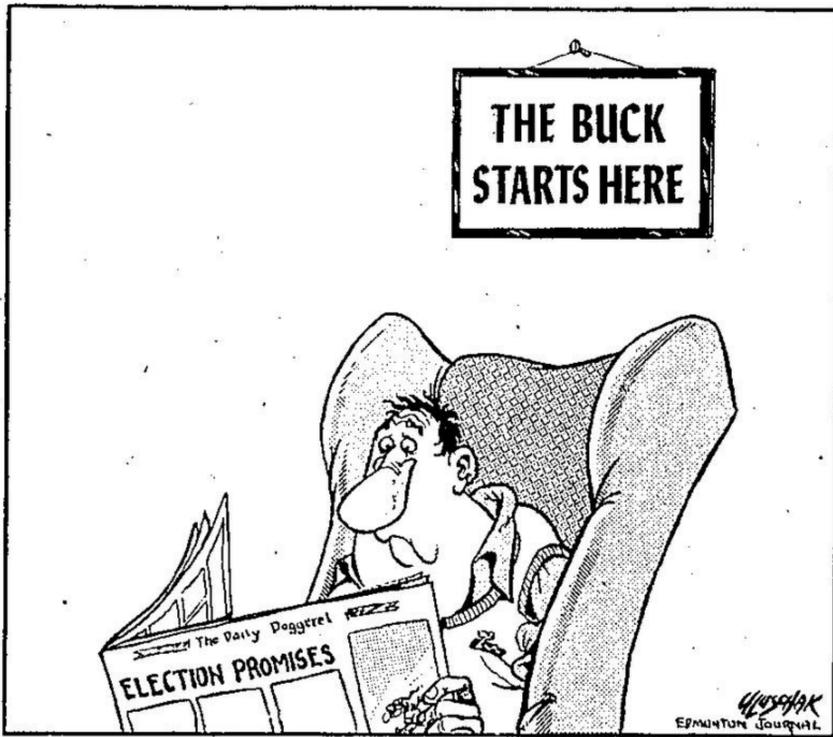
Teachers can, however, set an example for students. If one has a speech impairment, never pretend to understand and never feel guilty about not understanding. Repetition helps improve speech and helps in the integration process.

Mr. Kunc sums up by emphatically stating, "It is no exaggeration to say that any school which refuses to at least try to integrate a disabled student is signing a certificate of personal and social death."

Ready, Willing and Disabled is available at the library. While he does put his point across, he still finds space to point out his own mistakes and writes a book that is easy reading and informative.

At a conference held in Toronto this summer by People United For Self Help it was felt that the disabled must educate the educators. Several panelists indicated the issue was not segregation versus integration but finding the right educational program for the individual child.

One speaker particularly critical of present educational and social services suggested that the "conveyor belt mentality" should be replaced.



Early Esquering settlers

Old fashioned elections didn't prohibit liquor

By REV. RUGGLE
Herald Special

The law which keeps our bars dry on election day until the polls have closed would have been unfamiliar to the early settlers of Esquering, though they would probably have understood the reason behind it.

For in their day a man's vote (and it was only men who had the right to vote) could be bought with a generous helping of rum or whiskey.

That was just one of the evils of demon rum, and as the 19th century reached the half-way point, much of the populace was willing to get rid of alcohol altogether.

The Scott Act allowed for a sort of local option on the question of prohibition, and Halton became the banner county to adopt its provisions. That was one election that was not won by the purchase of support from thirsty voters.

The party agent could assure that his money was well spent, because there was no secret ballot. It sometimes took a brave man to vote in an unpopular way.

When bribery failed, muscular persuasion might become the alternative — either to keep someone away from the polls, or to take vengeance on a person who had voted the wrong way. A man's ethnic background did not determine the way he voted, but racial prejudices could be used as political weapons. At times the heated debates of the hustings simply provided a platform for ethnic tensions.

In the year of confederation, Colonel G.K. Chisholm (1815-74) made a speech in Georgetown in which an intended compliment backfired, when

he said someone 'was a loyal man although he was an Irishman'.

Even when allowance is made for the context — for confederation was in part a response to the threat posed by Fenian soldiers who had been disbanded at the end of the American Civil War and thought they should liberate Canadians from the British crown — Chisholm's remark shows the suspicions that rested on those whose roots were drawn from the old soil of the Emerald Isle. Chisholm lost the election.

Religion was another factor. There was a link between Secessionist Presbyterians of the Scotch Block and Mackenzie's patriots at the time of the 1837 rebellion. Methodists were also pushed into the ranks of the Reformers by the actions of the Tory-Anglican establishment.

Chisholm, an Anglican, was constantly getting into hot water with his disparaging remarks about the Methodists. Methodists tended to advocate temperance laws, and Anglicans tended to oppose them.

When the rector of Grace Anglican Church in Milton spoke against temperance, the local paper accused him of practising what he preached. Religion could be a decisive factor. In Upper Canada there were two Houses: an appointed legislative council and an elected House of Assembly.

Anglican clergy had enjoyed an almost exclusive right to preside at marriages; and when the Assembly in 1824 passed a bill that would have extended the privilege to ministers of other denominations, the Council

refused its assent.

Their action so offended Methodists and others that when an election was held the following year, the first Reform majority was elected.

G.K. Chisholm's father, William (1788-1842), had been the member for the East Riding of Halton in the 1820 Assembly (at that time the number of representatives had just risen to 40). Though a Tory, William had reforming sympathies, and had taken part in a meeting in Nelson township which had provided information for Robert Gourlay's famous Statistical Report.

The meeting had attracted the government's anger by criticizing the many clergy, crown and other reserves which hindered the development of the township, and those who took part in it were marked men in the government's eyes.

But though William Chisholm's views won him the seat in 1820, they did not go far enough to keep it after 1824. He lost to Caleb Hopkins (1787-1880), who had been dubbed by the Tory press as the 'saddledbags candidate' because of his Methodist support.

The Tories had not been able to realize their battle-cry, 'Chisholm Forever, Hopkins Never'.

Then as now people had the sublime confidence that the election of their party, whatever it happened to be, would cure all the country's ills. But James Bradley must have had his tongue in his cheek when he described the plight of the grain farmers around Glen Williams in 1876, in a letter to the Milton News, and continued, 'we think however do soon as John A. is in power again both midge and rust will disappear'.

The promises sound nice!

By W.A. WILSON
Herald Special

OTTAWA — The Conservative campaign in this election is beginning to bear some striking resemblances to that of former prime minister Trudeau and the Liberals in 1980.

The guiding principle in both these campaigns is the same: AVOID much discussion of the great issues of the day in case your solutions prove to be controversial. Don't invite the voters to think; jull them. Don't take factual accuracy seriously — exaggeration, hyperbole and half truths are old political staples.

Brian Mulroney has probably strewn more promises about the political landscape this time than Trudeau did in 1980, most of which he will be unable to keep unless he is prepared to ignore the terrible state of the nation's finances. It seems likely that he is extremely reluctant to talk about the financial mess which will be so crippling for whoever forms the next government precisely because to do so would inhibit his promise-mongering.

In a way, it is hard to blame either Trudeau or Mulroney for this type of campaign. Awful as it is, the public swallows this political pap hook, line and sinker. Anyone who doubts that has only to look at the Trudeau promise of 1980 of cheap oil.

In 1980, probably no one really believed the Trudeau line that, if the Liberals were re-elected, the country could go on living in a dream world, insulated from reality. But the promise sounded nice and it was easier to pretend belief than to face the harsh reality that no one could deliver cheap oil. In the event, the price of oil soared during the following Trudeau regime and it would still be soaring except for the semi-collapse of the international market contrary to all the expectations of the Trudeauocrats.

Probably no one really believes the Mulroney promises this time either but it is nicer to accept them than face the prospect of very rigorous days ahead. The trouble with this sort of campaign is that people get the sort of government afterwards that they deserve: one that bears no relationship to the campaign dreams.

No one listening to Trudeau in 1980 would ever have dreamed that within months there would be such a concentration of all important federal power in a tiny number of hands that the cabinet system of government was effectively suspended for two years. It was only restored through a succession of accidents. The prime minister's principle adviser, Jim Cootts, left to

contest a Toronto by-election and fell on his face. The finance department saddled Allan MacEachen with a disastrously bad budget which worsened the deepening recession, bitterly angered hundreds of thousands of Canadians and politically destroyed the minister and his once great authority.

No one listening to Trudeau in 1980 would have had any reason to dream that the country would quickly be plunged into not one but two great, fundamental controversies: one over the constitution, the other over a favored youth's scheme to restructure the entire Canadian petroleum industry, to the great detriment of the producing provinces, the industry and the nation's reputation abroad.

Today, no one listening to Brian Mulroney can have any real idea of the sort of government he will provide if, as the polls suggest so strongly, he wins the election. The party has produced a position paper on the oil industry but then, its energy critic reveals, enters into a pact not to discuss the vital topic of energy during the campaign.

Thanks for coverage

Dear Sir,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your paper for all your help throughout the summer. Your extensive coverage of our programs has been an essential part of our publicity campaign. Thanks to your help our registration has improved.

It is through community support such as yours that makes it possible for us to offer quality programs for children in the community.

Yours truly,
Jane Trueman,
Summer Activities Co-ordinator,
Recreation and Parks Department

JETTRAVEL

A Jet takes off, through the air
We trust this craft to get us there
It wouldn't take much for it to crash
It has no legs, and it has no track
Speeds along in a forceful play
No back up, and it goes one way
The it climbs to a very great height
Nothing much to see, but misty white

ALBERT BROOKS

Everyone who watches government knows what the first task of the new administration must be but Mulroney has kept us in the dark about the ways in which he will deal with it. So much government revenue is now sequestered just to keep the interest paid on accumulated debt that something must be done about it and quickly. We should know by now how Mulroney and the Tories view this problem and, in general terms, how they propose to deal with it. We know nothing of the sort and, judging by the way in which the polls favor the Tories, the public could not care less.

This is a very bad way to elect a government. The fault is shared by the public, the media and the politicians.



Queen's Park

By Derek Nelson

TORONTO — Regardless of who wins the federal election, expect a further assault on an individual or organization's right to advertise its views during an election campaign.

If one thing was made clear by the recent controversy over the Election Expenses Act, 1983, it is that there is a substantial body of opinion that favors suppressing as much freedom of speech as it can get away with during an election campaign.

The Election Expenses Act, 1983, put a muzzle on anyone who attempted to argue for the defeat or the election of a particular political candidate without the approval of a registered political party.

In practice, it means special interest groups can't zero in on politicians they consider enemies of their views.

Thanks to the National Citizen's Coalition (NCC), the relevant section of the act was appealed to the courts which threw it out as a curb on freedom of expression.

ALL AGAINST
Somewhat grudgingly, the Liberal government acquiesced to the Alberta trial court decision and didn't appeal it.

But the blame for the Election Expenses Act can't be laid solely on the Liberals' doorstep. After all, the

Halton's History

From our files

THIRTY YEARS AGO — Barbara Lawson, a Smith and Stone employee, won a bridal gown, wedding ring, bouquet, cake, and an album of photographs in a lucky draw sponsored by the Optimists Club in Keswick.

Cpl. Albert Carter, who visited Ireland during a leave from army camp in Belgium, has sent a book "Not an Inch" by Hugh Shearman for the library in Stewarttown Orange Hall.

New residents of Ballinfad are Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Barnes who moved recently into the Matthews farm on the edge of the village.

George Brandford Jr. is \$200 richer, through possessing one of the lucky dollars in a contest being conducted by the Toronto Telegram.

With Mrs. Ken Nash and Mrs. Ted Fleming in charge, lady members of the golf club had another afternoon game yesterday. Hidden hole prizes were won by Shirley Mucken and Mrs. Walter Biehn.

Mayor Jack Armstrong may be a competitor in the Mayor's Class at the International Plowing Match in Waterloo County.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO — A wild orange Cougar driven by Walt Dixon of North Halton Motor Sales, and owned by Frank Volk also of town, established a new record at the Canadian-American National meet in Winnipeg, August 3.

A large empty barn on the former Harry Bessey farm on the 7th Line of Esquering just south of Stewarttown became number seven in the steadily growing list of barn razings when it burnt to the ground late Tuesday night.

A 17 year old high school student, Peter Nieuwhof, has just returned from a nine and a half week European trip where he visited with friends and relatives in Holland and Sweden.

The Georgetown Little Theatre has decided to cut its productions from four a season to three, president Ron Hill revealed recently.

Rosslake airport just west of Georgetown came under attack again last Tuesday night at Esquering council. Land owner Joe Ross was on the receiving end.

Warden George Currie welcomed Gordon Agnew, the newly-appointed deputy reeve of Nassagaweya to Halton County Council, Tuesday afternoon.

Brian Beaumont selected a seven iron and belted his tee shot 165 yards to ace the par three 13th hole at North Halton Golf Club, Wednesday, Aug. 20.

TEN YEARS AGO — Regional Coun. Carl Eriksen claims that the Ontario government cannot run assessment offices for the whole province, and the regional administration and finance committee agrees with him.

Minister of Transportation and Communications John R. Rhodes, announced details of the motor vehicle inspection program coming into effect the first of September.

More than 33 Norval residents streamed out of a Halton Board of Education meeting, Thursday, angry and dejected, some of them shouting: "Communism", after the board voted against a motion to have the village school reopened.

Rev. Andre Simard of Sacred Heart parish will be leaving this charge for studies. He is entering Laval University in Montreal where he will work towards his master's degree in theology.

FIVE YEARS AGO — When the Dominion Hotel in Acton burned down a week and a half ago, a number of people who were permanent residents in the hotel suddenly found themselves looking for a new place to live.

The Halton board of education paid tribute Thursday evening to Gary Dawkins, principal of McKenzie-Smith Middle School, who died suddenly.

A Welsh pony, Asgard Mellsande, belonging to Mary Cork of Terra Cotta was chosen the junior champion filly in the Breeding Horse section of the CNE's horse show.

Two players who were on the roster of the Georgetown Raiders last year will be vying for spots in the NHL. Peter Sturgeon will be attending the training camp of the Colorado Rockies and Ron Twiss has been invited to try out for the New York Rangers.

Conservatives and New Democrats also supported it unanimously — and were well aware it infringed freedom of speech when they did so.

The avowed aim of the act was to restrict spending so that every party has about the same chance to "buy" the electorate with television ads, pamphlets and so on.

This "all the horses out of the gate at the same time" theory, of course, actually only applies to the three old-line parties (Conservatives, Liberals and New Democrats) who have the funds to do this kind of "buying" an election. And much of those funds come out of tax dollars...

REAL GOAL
But beyond this proclaimed aim there is what I suspect was the real goal of the politicians. Toronto lawyer Aubrey Golden summed it up nicely in a newspaper article when he said the political parties "viewed with alarm the spectre of their political agendas being altered by outsiders."

There were, and are, issues none of the politicians want to talk about, or more important, want to be identified with.

Golden recounted the case of Canadian Union of Public Employees' official Don Roach who hired a banner to tow an aircraft during wage and price controls that urged people to vote anything but Liberal.

Under the Election Expenses Act of that day his action was legal. It would not have been under the new act and that is exactly what the politicians wanted to accomplish.

But what they don't advocate is spending limits and disclosure rules for these groups like CUPE or the NCC. Such limits and rules would put them under the same kind of rules as political parties.