

Cutting red tape

It's nice to know we've cut through some of the red tape.

Having our Halton Hills Official Plan approved by the provincial government should make things easier for developers.

Over 13 years of work went into the plan which serves as a framework for decisions about the town's growth. The document will allow town staff to process applications for construction faster.

If the recession, high interest rates and a search for adequate water supplies hasn't been enough, paperwork was just another burden for developers.

Construction of housing and new industry in Halton Hills over the past five years has slowed considerably. The latest census figures from Statistics Canada proves our population has almost reached a zero growth level.

New industrial growth will provide jobs for more people in town and help ease our tax burdens.

Merchants would get a shot in the arm by the customers they might attract if our population increases.

Halton Hills needs a slow, controlled type of growth to help us reach our potential as a town. We can benefit by increased services, new people and more industry.

Approval of the Official Plan will help.

Acton Chamber

Time for action

A merger with Georgetown isn't the answer for the Acton Chamber of Commerce's woes.

What's needed is a new round of commitment and enthusiasm to make Leathertown prosper. The town needs the leadership of its business community to act as a strong voice for industrial and retail establishments.

Recent meetings held by the Acton Chamber of Commerce had poor turnouts. Already the Chamber has decided it's impossible to help with Ciderfest events in conjunction with the summer outdoor festival called Leathertown Market.

It's a shame dedicated people such as president Steve Dawkins, director Ted Tyler plus a handful of others are left holding the bag.

The Acton Chamber isn't running out of steam, it just needs a chance to throw more coal on the fire.

Acton has the business talent to draw from.

If the Chamber can get a better response from the business community, each member can contribute a little, but, as a whole, many projects will be accomplished.

Nevertheless, maybe it's time to ask for citizen volunteers to help with Chamber projects. The organization lobbies in the interests of all Actonians. One example is the ongoing fight to have a VIA Rail stop in Acton.

The Chamber can hang on in its weakened state. But there's more that can be done before throwing in the towel.

Letters to the Editor

Easter message

Operation Eyesight

Dear Sir,
As a war widow Easter has always had a very special meaning for me.

Like many of your readers who have lost the ones who have meant the most to them the message of Easter - new life, hope and renewal has been a great comfort.

May I share with those readers a way I found to make the message of Easter even more meaningful and at the same time provide a continuing memorial and tribute to a loved one.

I do it by underwriting the cost of sight restoring, cataract operations on destitute blind people in the developing world. It only costs \$25 for the surgery,

medicines, hospital care, cataract glasses, food while in hospital and follow up care.

As you can understand when a blind person receives the gift of sight it is for them the gift of a new life, almost a resurrection - in fact the once blind call it "coming back from that other world."

If any of your readers would like to give someone "new life" for only \$25, I suggest that they send their cheque or money order to a Canadian charity that organizes these sight restorations - Operation Eyesight Universal, P.O. Box 123, Station M, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2H6. This is a registered charity and contributi-

ons are tax deductible. Receipts for income tax purposes are issued right away.

I've been supporting Operation Eyesight for many years and have never ceased to wonder that they can do so much for so little.

Your readers will receive a patient identification card showing the name, age, sex and the town, village or tribal area of the patient. This card is signed by the officiating surgeon.

Knowing that you have given someone "new life" is such a grand way to celebrate Easter.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Margaret Fearn,
Ottawa

Magazines for CF

Dear Sir,
Many of you are already aware that the Georgetown High School students run a magazine campaign at this time each year. The proceeds

from this campaign are used for various school programs and student activities.

This year the students have also voted to designate part of their earnings to Cystic Fibrosis, an inherited disease which claims the lives of more children than any other disease next to cancer.

In 1979 and 1980 GDHS was the top school selling magazines in Canada. At present Paris D.H.S. is champ - Georgetown would like that title back! They are asking the community's support for their teams and clubs so that they can continue to bring honour to their community.

For this reason the students are hoping to reach a greater segment of the town than in other years. The Kinette Club is helping to promote this project in the media and through the use of letters and flyers.

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So 6,700 bravos to you Mr. Cowsill and your staff - Happy Easter!

Sincerely yours,
R. J. Sam Gilmour,
1985 Easter Seal
Chairman, The Rotary
Club of Georgetown

Yours truly,
Marny Malcolmson,
Kinette Club of
Georgetown

Article goes a long way

Dear Sir,
Your front page article dated March 27, 1985 regarding "hubby goes willingly to gruelling marathon" went a long way in helping the Easter Seal drive of 1985 reach our objective in our community.

The enthusiasm of people like the Marchands and the Ortons deserved our whole-hearted support. I know that 6,700 physically disabled children across Ontario were with them all the way. The overwhelming

support of those people who visited the marathon are also to be commended. The article in the Herald was the catalyst for many of our fine citizens to jump on the "bandwagon" and cheer these tremendous contributors for their splendid endeavour.

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"Who do we know that can afford to send a letter?"

Odds favor Conservatives



Queen's Park

By Derek Nelson

Can either of the two major opposition parties, the Liberals or New Democrats, overhaul the Conservatives' commanding lead in the polls and produce the first non-Tory government in Ontario in 42 years?

Or, if neither can achieve that goal, can one pummel the other so badly as to make Ontario, to all intents and purposes, a two-party rather than a three-party province?

The widespread expectation, of course, is that Premier Frank Miller's Progressive Conservatives are headed for an easy majority government victory.

The current standing in the Legislature is 72 Conservatives, 28 Liberals, 22 NDP and three vacant (two Liberals, one NDP). Tory optimists talk of topping 80 this time out.

Both the Liberals and New

Democrats scoff at that. NDP Leader Bob Rae talks of knocking the Conservatives down to a minority and the Liberals are dreaming of forming their own minority.

POLLSSAY

The odds favor the Conservatives. If they didn't have the commanding lead in the polls that they reputedly do (about 50 per cent) they wouldn't be calling the election.

Still, there are a few unanswered questions about this campaign that will make it different from any Ontario has seen for a long time.

For one thing, Premier Frank Miller is relatively unknown to the electorate. People who voted for Bill Davis rather than for the PCs in 1981 are open to having their vote swayed.

Moreover, polling indicates Miller has an image problem among many Third World and southern European immigrants and their descendants.

TAG HIM

Should either Rae or Liberal Leader David Peterson succeed in tagging Miller with unpopular or unrepresentative views and positions - or if he muscues by himself - he could be badly hurt.

In short, this isn't like 1981, where

the sole question was whether Davis would regain his majority or not. The 1985 campaign will be much more fluid.

The Conservatives have tried to defuse one possible source of trouble, that a Miller government will appear too "right-wing" or "small-c-conservative".

For the past couple of weeks they have made a string of announcements designed to shore up their left flank, from lowering the ceiling for rent review to four per cent from six per cent, to funding thousands of new daycare spaces.

NO EXCITEMENT

Meanwhile, the opposition parties are jockeying to stake out terrain as the "real" opposition, both seeking to be the recipient of any "time for a change" mood that might be generated during the campaign.

Both talk of knocking the other into third spot.

But for all of the promises and maneuvering going on at the moment, one suspects the politicians are so far making very little impact on the public in general.

There is a quietude among the populace - except on the issue of separate school funding. The effect of that is a puzzle.

Far reaching implications

MP's privileges breached



Ottawa Report

By Stewart McLeod

Every few days some member of Parliament will rise to complain that one of his or her many privileges as an MP has been breached and the matter should be investigated immediately. And just as often, the Speaker will rule that, while the MP in question may have a complaint of sorts, it doesn't constitute an official breach of parliamentary privileges.

The complaint might involve something as simple as a persistent panhandler on Parliament Hill. Or it might involve being excluded from an official briefing on the budget, or the lack of satisfactory telephone services.

No one, apart from the MP involved and the Speaker who must listen to the complaint, seems to pay much attention to the routine points of privilege that are raised in the Commons.

But every once in a while one will come along that seems to have far-reaching implications. And such was the case when Sheila Copps, the outspoken Liberal MP from Hamilton East, rose to talk about the fact that her mother, Geraldine Copps, had been informed by the Tory government that she would not be reappointed as a Canadian citizenship court judge. And what specifically upset the MP was a newspaper story which quoted State Secretary Walter McLean as suggest-

ing the dismissal was related to the verbal activities of her daughter.

CONTEXT QUESTIONED

The newspaper reporter apparently asked Mr. McLean whether his decision not to reappoint Mrs. Copps was politically motivated, and he was quoted as saying, "You check the record. What her daughter's had to say about the government."

The Liberal MP, one of the few new ones from that party to enter Parliament in last September's general election, was understandably upset.

"In other words," she said, "the government has decided to punish me for my criticism of it in Parliament and has given this as a reason for me to avoid the same mistake in the future."

Various versions of House rules make it clear that it is a breach of privilege to influence a member's actions through any form of threat.

And Mr. McLean's reported comments, while perhaps not constituting a direct threat, would certainly leave the impression that MPs with close relatives on the government payroll might want to watch what they say.

The state secretary, speaking in his own defence, did little to clear up the matter. He talked about the words being taken in a new context - whatever that means - and that far from threatening, one was affirming the open process around the appointments.

Government House Leader Ray Hnatyshyn did come to the minister's aid and somehow managed to interpret his remarks as a categorical denial of the newspaper report. He said "...it was absolutely incorrect and false."

So far as I know, no one else got that impression.

NO BREACH

Speaker John Bosley said he regarded the complaint as a serious matter and wanted to give it further study before deciding whether it should be referred to the Commons committee on privileges and elections. Two days later he ruled that it came down to a factual conflict between a report in the press and the statement of a member to the effect that he or she had been improperly quoted. In such a case, he said, he must always take the word of the member - in this case the minister. And with that, he closed the matter.

It's my view that this was a bad decision, perhaps the first one committed by this particular Speaker. Apart from talking about a new context the minister did little to disassociate the dismissal of the senior Mrs. Copps from the political comments of her daughter. Anyone who read the newspaper stories, and the parliamentary arguments which followed them, would, it seems to me, be left with the clear impression that the political activities of a duly elected member of Parliament were taken into consideration when a relative lost a job with the federal government.

This impression, or even a faint whiff of it, should not be allowed to continue in any form. And it's even more disagreeable when opposition MPs are so vastly outnumbered by the governing Conservatives.

POETS' CORNER

CHEATURE OF HABIT

Don't sit
in my chair
at my table
during my time
ever

Don't wear
that brown jacket
tuesday
the blue striped tie
friday
the gold shirt
wednesday
ever

I park there
work
eat
sometimes play

here -
It's thus
ever.

—By MARLOWE C. DICKSON,
RR2 Beeton

Behold the Lamb



CLERGY COMMENT

BEHOLD THE LAMB!

John 1:29
Behold the Lamb Who takes away
The sin of all the race.
His life and death the ransom pay
And earn the Father's grace.

Behold the spotless Lamb Who paid
Our else unending debt!
By Him were all the laws obeyed,
That we had never kept.

Behold the Lamb Whose every breath
Was drawn to serve, unreserved!
Upon the cross He died the death
That we had well deserved.

Behold the bloody Lamb Who died
With nails in feet and hands.
A spear has pierced His sacred side.
Fulfilled are God's demands.

Behold the Lamb of God Who took
Our sin and paid the price.
As written in the Savior's Book,
Himself the Sacrifice!

And then the glorious Lamb arose,
Reclaimed the life He gave!
To prove forgiveness, Scripture shows,
He left an empty grave.

The living Lamb is He Who reigns
In glory, grace, and might.
For finished are His dying pains,
And we shall see His light.

—Dr. John M. Drickamer,
Immanuel Lutheran Church



THIRTY YEARS AGO—Sheehey Tost trophy winner this year in the industrial hockey league was the strong Smith and Stone entry after they defeated Burns Transport.

Town clerk John D. Kelly produced 89 letters submitted by men seeking the new position of police chief.

Lawrence Maughan takes the position of product engineer at Provincial Paper Ltd.

Fred Wilds of Acton and Cliff Davison of Glen Williams each received \$9 payments from the township of Esqueping for bagging three foxes each.

Mrs. Irwin McPherson won a 24 inch Admiral television in a gift draw at Silver's of Georgetown and Brampton.

Georgetown's Douglas Peck was inducted as president of the Baptist Young People of Guelph.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO—Georgetown District High School principal Mac Baxter reported a bomb threat at the school which led to class suspension.

Gary Johnson won a two minute shopping spree at the EGA Foodliner on Guelph Street in a lucky draw sponsored by the Georgetown Jayceets.

Georgetown's Joe Martin, the most senior local resident, celebrated his 104th birthday April 1.

The law firm of Dodokin and Sopinka has added a third lawyer to their staff, Thomas Graham.

An unusually high water bill of \$80 was sent to Mrs. Marlon Carlson, who can't explain it and who was told by the Water Commission to pay it.

TEN YEARS AGO—William R. Sykes has recently been appointed as second councillor to Bishop Floyd D. Murphy of the Toronto fifth ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints.

Damage to the ball park in the Glen is estimated at \$2,000 following the Credit flooding this year.

The town has approved grants to aid the Georgetown and Acton minor hockey associations in their operations for 1975 with \$980 and \$314 respectively.

An entry form drawn at Georgetown Hobbies and Crafts netted Audrey Williams of Georgetown a set of stainless steel cutlery.

The Georgetown International Bantam Tournament was won by Burlington this year and Dan Gunning of the Burlington team was chosen best goaltender.

FIVE YEARS AGO—Robert Zahorchak, vice president and general manager of Canadian Odeon Theatres, confirmed the sale of Georgetown's Cinemas Three to his company.

Teressa Hutchinson of Acton Seniors Residence celebrated her 80th birthday Sunday.

The Georgetown and District YMCA's annual art auction reported total gross sales of \$20,000 and netted \$2,800, according to chairman Irene Fairles.

EDITOR'S NOTE: An addendum to this week's Halton's History: Harvey Dewhurst from Acton called to mention that last week was the 51st anniversary of when his brother Allan began working at The Herald under the editorship of Mr. Moore. A diabetic, Allan passed away because of his condition at the age of 21 in 1934, having spent less than a year at the newspaper helping to run the press.



By PAT WOODE
Herald Columnist

Many disabled persons have learned that they or someone close to them must become well versed in their medical condition. This is necessary in order to receive proper medical treatment. One can not make sound decisions without enough information.

Too many disabled do not take the same effort when it comes to taxes. If you or a dependent is disabled, you should phone for medical expenses interpretation bulletin IT-225R.

If you are on home dialysis also ask for IT-402 or IT-380 if deaf or mute. If you require a mobility device such as braces, cane, or prosthesis, form T2201 REV. 84 may be worth a \$2480 deduction.

If you are looking for more information that is written in a language very close to English, try some of the CCH guides to taxes. For the dedicated there is paragraphs 110 and subsections of the Income Tax Act and Regulation 5700.

It is unlikely that the person you pay to fill out your taxes is going to be aware of all your expenses as they relate to your condition. You must be prepared to help him with proper questions if he is not an expert in medical deductions.

Except for those on form IT-225, medical information is now on the T1 General form, not the short.

Important changes include allowing expenses for "hearing-ear" dogs, hydraulic wheelchair lifts for vehicles, and cloth diapers and disposable briefs for individuals incontinent due to illness or affliction.

Also the deductions for being confined to a bed or wheelchair have been extended to those not confined for 12 months provided the period was at the end of the year and will continue for at least 12 months.

If treatment is over 25 miles or 40 kilometers away, transportation can be claimed in some cases. Simple items such as eyeglasses and dentures are allowed expenses as are orthopedic shoes if prescribed by a doctor.

Most information is written in simple English and can be obtained free either from the tax office at 1 800 263-8200 or your local library.

You still may wish to pay someone to complete your T1, but you will be assured that the many deductions available to the handicapped will have been considered.