

Home Newspaper of Halton Hills - Established 1866

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Building Blocks

Remember when that nasty bully kept chasing after you on your way home from school, plying you with snowballs and filling your hat, mitts and coat with snow?

That's just one instance where the red and white sign of a Block Parent might have been a welcome view.

In the community since the 1970s, Block Parents has been on the quiet side over the past five years. But it looks as if that will be changing.

Last week, an enthusiastic and energetic group held a meeting to rejuvenate the Block Parents idea.

A group dedicated to protecting children who find themselves being followed, tormented or hurting, before they reach the home stretch, Block Parents is one that can only exist with community support.

For Block Parents depends on volunteers in the community who take the time and trouble to put up the red and white mother and child sign when they're home.

As the new chairperson of the new Halton Hills Block Parent Committee says, it isn't often a disaster will show up on a volunteer's doorstep. Usually, if a child knocks on your door, it's because he wants you to give him a kleenex, blow his nose and check out the knee he scraped. Anything more serious, the police handle.

We're glad for the spirit with which the Block Parents committee is taking on its task, and applaud the move to amalgamate the Georgetown and Acton groups.

Hopefully the townspeople will back these community-minded people and realize what benefits will accrue from living in a Block Parent town. The more signs we have up in town, the more spirit and concern we show for our children, and the greater the deterrent to crime against our youth.

Playoff drive

Playoff hockey.

Players become tense as they hone their skills for the ultimate contest. Fans eagerly await fierce match-ups and end-to-end rushes from normally reticent defencemen.

It's nearing playoff time and the Georgetown Junior B Gemini players are giving fans sound reason to drive on out to the arena on the weekend.

Playoffs are a matter of timing. It's a psychological moment when the team that's "up", that "wants to win", that gives "second effort", often emerges as champs. Number one teams during the season don't always win the game that declares the ultimate champion.

A case in point. First place Barrie Colts were soundly defeated by a determined Gemini squad over the weekend. Barrie has only lost six games this season. Meanwhile, the Gems are playing a fired-up brand of hockey. Their aggressive style is letting other teams know that they're for real; no more easy wins for league opponents.

The local green, gold and white also defeated Nobleton 4-2 on the weekend, allowing them to edge closer towards second place. They're currently tied for third place with Burlington.

We've got the momentum and it's beginning to show in the stands. For Kids Night Saturday evening there was an overwhelming display of fan support. We hope it will continue for the home stretch.

A team with momentum needs an equally committed and enthusiastic base of fan support.

With the town behind the Gemini, the possibilities come playoff time are promising. Help the home team beat the odds.

Angels draft Turner



Editor's notebook

By Dave Rowney



Name: Mike Turner
Position: Sports Editor
Ht: 6'11" Wt: 195
Former Team: Hanover
Stats: 50 w.p.m.
7 stories per day

The Herald Angels are pleased to announce the signing of a new team member, a player that will ensure the team's journalistic prowess for years to come.

Mike Turner takes to the field in his familiar position as sports editor, after being drafted from The Herald's affiliate club, in the northern division, the Hanover Post.

Journeyman utility man Sandy Campbell returns to his more familiar spot as school board and police scribe.

Team management praised Campbell's efforts fielding calls, making playbooks layouts, scoring overtime feature scoops and taking picture-perfect plays filling in before Turner's arrival.

But Turner's background as a solid performer with a batting average unchanged in the northern league convinced management he was the man they wanted.

The latest edition to the Angel lineup started practicing with the team last Wednesday but his first test is today.

Already the new man has made his mark against the competition scoring a tasteful and timely one-third of a hattrick against the fleet-footed independent broomball team Saturday.

"He's got the goods," claims a member of the coaching staff. "Good offensive skills, blanket coverage of team sports, and a column that sizzles like Henke's fastball."

Turner was the first round draft pick of the Hanover Post, coming from Lambton College in Sarnia.

Perhaps the strangest government report to cross Press Gallery desks here in a long time is that from former Ontario Youth Commissioner Ken Dryden.



Queen's Park

By Derek Nelson

Written in the style of a lyrical essay, it lacks the standard dry, self-serving prose of the normal government document.

Its topic was youth unemployment, and there was an emotional tinge - a sadness, some bewilderment, much querying - to it.

It was as though Dryden has put his feelings on paper as much, or even more, than his thoughts.

He wrote: "There is a great temptation to pull back at the brink, to feel apologetic about complications of issue and response, to feel intimidated by jurisdictional realities; to be embarrassed by visionary thought."

"To abandon the big picture of unemployment, almost without knowing it, to find refuge in the small."

"To suggest a routine pattern of policies and programs, in a catalogue of recommendations, which makes impressive sense and seems consistent with the problem

at hand; which leaves the impression and fuels the hope that if everything is enacted exactly as recommended, the result will be full employment."

"Yet when a bottom line is drawn under all the proposals, invariably the outcome is not full employment or anything close to it," he concluded.

So what he chose to write about for 52 pages was the alternative: what journalists often call the big picture, more a framework for capturing the outlines of youth unemployment than the details where one can lose one's bearings.

And what Dryden sees as necessary, more than anything else, is a change in social and government attitudes to youth unemployment.

Most important, it is the need to understand that such high youth unemployment isn't temporary. It is

permanent. Youth unemployment runs roughly twice the provincial unemployment average, about 21 per cent for those aged 15-19 and 12 per cent among those 20-24.

Accepting that such figures will remain for years, what do we do about it?

Dryden says there has to be a shift in perspective.

He used Sweden and West Germany as examples, noting that by "recognizing unemployment and training as important and permanent problems, they have built permanent responses into their systems."

Then he points out: "There is little noteworthy about how they have done it."

The Swedes and West Germans have tinkered with and changed their programs.

But the principles and goals remain. "Everything takes time, but with a stated goal, there is a clear, understood direction."

"A program targeted at a specific but limited problem may solve that problem, but there its impact will stop."

"It has no coat-tails. "A big problem, like unemployment, needs coat-tails, for there is never enough money."

So Dryden answers his own question.

Basically, there should be a guarantee of employment for youth, a made-in-Canada version tailored to our own peculiar needs of what Sweden and West Germany do for their youth.

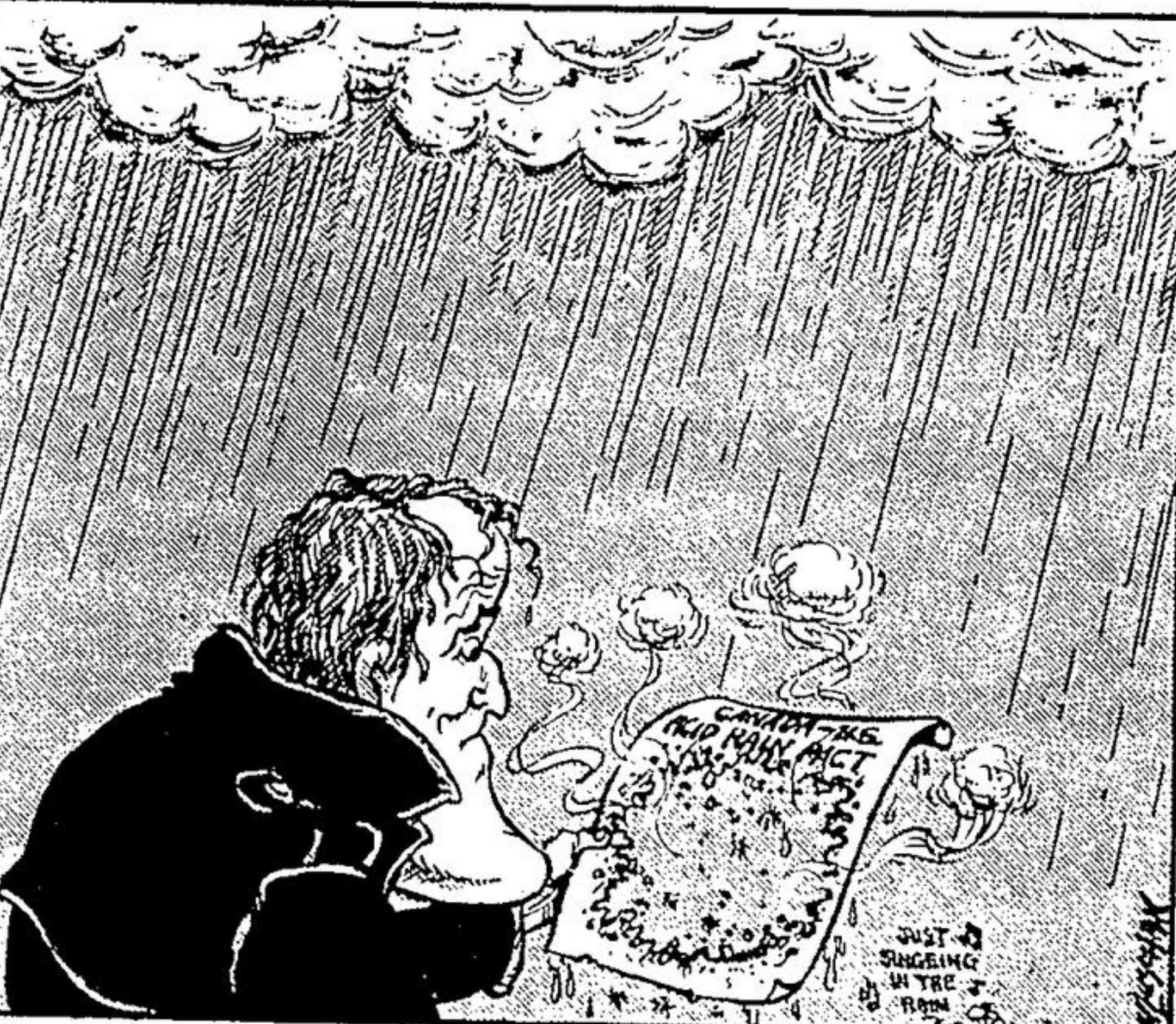
It is a combination of education, of job training as part of the education system and of make-work programs.

But Dryden makes clear that the key is really attitude rather than the individual programs.

He suggests, for example, that most jobs filled as a result of job creation programs would have been filled anyway.

And he understands well that many youth just aren't prepared for the world - lessons that should have been learned at home, were never taught, or never learned.

As a blueprint the report is useless. As an eloquent guidepost it is more than worthwhile, it deserves further consideration.



Citizens' forum CAA supports "no fault"

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following was sent to The Herald for publication. We in the CAA Ontario (formerly Ontario Motor League), support the principle of a modified No Fault Auto Insurance Plan for the province of Ontario.

A detailed examination of the findings of the Slater Task Force on insurance and the conclusions of Dr. Slater and his colleagues candidly addresses the issue that the tort system for all claims is no longer viable or valid for the citizens of Ontario.

We propose a modified No Fault Plan and our preferred plan is the Michigan version, for example, the Quebec plan. The Michigan plan has a number of benefits that are not currently available under the Quebec plan, not the least of which is the opportunity to establish thresholds and classifications, payable under the plan, for all except serious injury or fatality. This maintains the right to sue for serious permanent injury and death. Obviously a formula would have to be drafted to define serious permanent injury. Failing that, there could be recourse to an appeal board if there is a disagreement in a decision regarding permanent injury.

In supporting an approved No Fault Plan for Ontario, we do so with a strong recognition that the In-

surance Bureau of Canada did make a submission to the Slater task force and outlined a number of benefits and savings, including the following:

- Quicker loss settlement.
- Payments to at-fault victims as well as innocent victims.
- More premium dollars returned in benefits.
- Lower administrative costs.
- Greater emphasis on rehabilitation.
- Greater predictability than under the present system.
- Containment of costs.

The IBC also proposed the possibility that tort be allowed to remain in place for any excess wage loss beyond the no tort benefits. We think this would abort the purpose of the No Fault Plan. We believe this could be better handled by an extended first party coverage, basis, available on an option for the insured. We do strongly support the proposal for tort action on death and serious permanent injury.

The No Fault Plan as established in Michigan proves that such a plan provides impressive savings.

Our support is qualified and must be based on the assurance from the insurance industry that savings and benefits would flow through to the benefit of Ontario motorists, thus reducing the extremely high level of premiums paid by Ontario motorists. Otherwise, the entire exercise would have no purpose or value in correcting many of the deficiencies that currently exist.

We in CAA Ontario represent over one million motorists in Ontario, a very sizeable percentage of the total auto insured body in the province.

Support for such action is evidenced in a recent survey conducted by one of our Member Clubs. 68 per cent favored the implementation of a No Fault Insurance Plan in the Province of Ontario. For this reason, we sincerely hope that you will be able to bring down a plan, operated through the insurance companies but regulated and controlled by the provincial government that will ameliorate the very high cost to the insured in Ontario.

Our special appreciation to you for taking on this important task. We wish you well in your deliberations.

Sincerely,
CAA Ontario,
Frank Cauley,
President

Town reunion

Dear Sir,

1987 will mark the 75th anniversary of the town of Matheson which is situated in Northern Ontario. To honour this occasion the town's community groups have joined together to plan a gigantic celebration from June 28 to July 1. Many events are planned: reunions, native celebrations, parade, fireworks, street dances, fashion shows, firefighter tournaments, heritage displays and many more are in the planning stage. For more information, please contact the Anniversary Committee, Box 457, Matheson, Ontario, P0K 1N0. We're looking forward to hearing from you!

Thank you,
75th Anniversary Committee

In your opinion

The second annual Bridal Show should have the final say in planning Saturday at Holy Cross Auditorium, a wedding, provided the opportunity to ask who

Who has the final say



MAYNARD YOUNG: "I'd say it should be split. The wedding dress is usually left up to the bride. Actually, the man has very little say about much of it anyway."

JOHN BURKE: "It should be a mutual decision. The bride and groom should work it out."

JIM KENNEDY: "The couple being married. I think for it. But the parents should stay out of it. That should mutually be as long as they agree on things don't get too like the colors of financially the outfits."

ANGIE BELL: "The bride, because it's her day, so she should have the final say."

CHERYL DONOGHUE: "The bride, because it's her day, so she should have the final say."

CRICHTON: "The bride, because it's her day, so she should have the final say."

POETS CORNER

OLD TIMER
When a lad, didn't get much pay,
had to work a 10 hour day
You would save all you could, for
self support, so you should
As that bank roll did accumulate,
your opportunity they were great
Then some scheme, of oil and gold,
this great story I was told
All my nest egg I did part, lost in a
racket, a broken heart
There are crooks, and there are the
Just, watch your step or go bust
Now I'm old, I've grown lean, only
trust what I have seen.
-By ALBERT BROOKS