

That time again

In a week's time, young people will be returning to school and that means motorists will have to take extra care once again on the roads.

The "School Crossing" signs that have had little use throughout the summer must again become focal points for drivers' attentions, and they must be ever watchful of school safety patrolers and crossing guards.

Approaching school zones means motorists must be totally alert so they can react at any given time to any given situation. One of the greatest dangers of the road with the increased activity of youngsters is having them run out from between parked cars.

Another situation motorists must refamiliarize themselves with is the way they meet school buses.

Approaching a school bus which has its red lights flashing, a driver of another vehicle must stop at least 20 metres before reaching the bus. It is only safe to proceed again when the bus' lights have stopped flashing or the bus has continued on its way.

Cars travelling in both directions must stop on a two-lane highway or street. Only in the case of a multi-laned highway with a separating median strip are vehicles passing a school bus allowed to proceed. The cars behind must stop when the red lights are flashing.

Failing to abide by these common sense laws can result in serious consequences. On a first offence a driver is assessed six demerit points and a fine that can range from \$100 to \$500. For subsequent offences, drivers are penalized another six demerits, and can face fines of \$250 to \$1,000 or imprisonment of up to six months, or both.

It is also important for parents to take an active role in educating their children on the hazards that can await them in a moment of carelessness.

Youngsters should be made aware of the safety rules, and these should be reviewed on a regular basis.

Everyone has a stake in making the annual ritual of returning to school a happy one.

Honor the best

There's one in every crowd.

In the Halton Hills area these days, good kids aren't hard to come by. They're as abundant as leaves on the trees. But how often do we, as a community, really take notice?

It's a situation The Herald wants to help change, and that's why we're participating in the Ontario Junior Citizens program as a local sponsor. As the theme of the program suggests: "there's one in every crowd," and it's our intention to ensure some long overdue recognition comes their way.

You can help. The program's guidelines suggest we're looking for children between the ages of six and 18 who exhibit the qualities of courage, ingenuity, resourcefulness, initiative, leadership, fortitude and community service. But that doesn't mean we're looking for "Superkid." The qualities of good citizenship could just as easily be embodied in the kid next door who watches your toddlers, who cuts your grass, who runs errands for your elderly neighbor, who coaches little league or is active in the community in a hundred other ways.

As adults, we're all too aware that praise, no matter how well-deserved, is a rare commodity in our lives. Yet its value can never be underestimated. Think about that, and then think about a kid you know, a kid who truly is a good citizen, and about what you can do to steer a little praise in his or her direction.

An Ontario Junior Citizen nomination just might do the trick. We'd like to hear from you.

Poor taste in heroes



Editor's notebook

By Mike Turner
Herald Editor

With all the talk on Free Trade between Canada and the United States, I think it might be a good idea to look at some of the underlying effects to be dealt with when the whole thing goes mainstream.

Mainly, I'm referring to the bad habits we might be inclined to pick up from our neighbors to the south.

Canada can be proud of its justice system, and likewise, I'm sure, the Americans are just as proud of their ways of dispensing swift and fair justice.

But there is a tremendous difference in the aftermath of justice's cutting edge that sets the countries very much apart.

A president is impeached in the early 1970s for betraying the confidence of the country he was elected to serve. He is pardoned by the new president for his transgressions and is allowed to slip into anonymity. But 15 years later, this same former president is the centre of attention whenever he makes a move. If he goes to a baseball game, the cameras are there to catch him candidly enjoying the afternoon at the ball park. He smiles for the cameras and the rest of America smiles back at him.

This same heathen who shocked a nation not so very long ago, is forgiven, it seems, and is no doubt a hot commodity on the university lecture circuit, if that's what he wants.

Then there are his cohorts who share the same prestige wherever they choose to venture.

G. Gordon Liddy served his time in the name of the country he served, and before you know it he's making guest appearances opposite Don Johnson in Miami Vice (how appropriate), he's trading quips with Bert Convy on Super Password, and

he has a movie made about him.

Many of the Watergate consorts came out of the turmoil surrounding the incident with more lucrative careers than they had beforehand.

Now one might look upon this as an isolated series of events. A single moment in history when a "blue moon" brought about strange changes in the way people threw all reason out the window, right?

But then along comes Ollie North. He was able to turn a serious situation into a flag-waving festival. People again forgot the implications of Contragate, and chose instead to herald a hero.

So where does that leave us as Canadians, looking on?

It's true we haven't had much to rival the likes of Watergate and Contragate. But none the less, could Canadians some day take on the same attitude as Americans in dealing with wrongdoers?

Perhaps Tunagate could spawn (pardon the pun) a new Canadian-produced game show. Each week guest celebrities could try and guess which can holds the rancid tuna.

Sounds fishy, maybe, but I've seen worse Canadian television fare.

Politicians drummed out of parliament would certainly have something else to look forward to when they reach the end of their rope. And why shouldn't they be accorded the same possibilities as their counterparts to the south. We'd probably see much more of the graft coming to light in political life than we've experienced in recent years.

The trick is to remain nonapologetic and never - under any circumstances - reveal all the facts. And if you don't know all the facts, act like you do.

Canadians could stand to learn a little from the Americans, in some regards.

But I'm still not altogether sure we should let them take the lead in setting the framework on which heroes are made.

There's something about their selection process that defies understanding.

The continuing push for a Triple-E Senate

Senate reform. Even the topic is enough to put most people to sleep.

Yet, like all similar enduring Canadian political issues - from funding religious and private schools to the place of Quebec in Confederation - it exists because there is a need for it.

Not the Senate itself, mind you, just the talk about reforming it.

At their just-concluded annual meeting, this year held in Saskatoon, Canada's premiers took a halting step forward in the game of reform.

They agreed to allow a committee of Alberta politicians and bureaucrats to canvas the country to see if there is any consensus on what kind of reform is needed.

There isn't, of course, and everybody already knows that. But the committee has a second function.

As Alberta Premier Don Getty said, the objective was to keep the "momentum going" and to promote the idea of the Triple-E Senate.

That's Alberta's pet project, the creation of a Senate that is Elected, Effective and Equal.

It is a goal that has little support outside western Canada, where it is seen as a means of balancing central Canadian political power at the federal level.

If each province elected 10 senators, for example, there'd be



Queen's Park

Derek Nelson
Thomson News Service

100, with 40 from Western Canada and only 20 from Ontario-Quebec. In the House of Commons, western MPs are heavily outnumbered by the central Canadians. Currently, senators are appointed by the government in power.

As might be expected, most Ontario and Quebec politicians oppose the Triple-E concept, although publicly they remain noncommittal.

Diluting central Canadian power has never been the aim of any Ontario or Quebec government, and current premiers David Peterson and Robert Bourassa are no different from their predecessors in that regard.

Officially they're politely interested, partly because both need western support for the Meech Lake accord, and partly because the West has to be thrown a bone once in a while to keep it happy.

And talking about Senate reform, as opposed to actually doing something about it, costs central

Canada nothing. Still, the very existence of the Alberta committee will help push the concept of Senate reform further down the road to some kind of fruition.

For, if the essence of Canada is compromise, then something - no matter how distasteful to central Canadian politicians - must be done to satisfy western aspirations.

The truth is that the current situation can't continue forever.

A non-elected Senate run by and for the federal Liberal Party, as has existed in Ottawa now for at least 50 years, is an anachronism.

The Meech Lake reform proposing that the provinces nominate senators simply shifts the patronage role to a lower level of government.

And Peterson has said such consultation already exists informally anyway.

It leaves unasked and unanswered the fundamental question: Why have a Senate?

Obviously, in the western provinces there is a burning desire to achieve regional balance.

But what is in it for Quebec and Ontario?

There are subsidiary questions here too.

If the Senate is to be "effective," just how much power should it be given, and of what sort?

No one favors it having the almost unlimited power to block legislation

that the existing Senate retains and that it may demonstrate over the free trade issue.

And if the Senate is to be "elected," would its members then become rival spokesmen to the premiers for provincial interests?

And should the method of election be a winner-take-all American-style contest, or perhaps proportional representation based on party vote in federal elections?

There are all kinds of possibilities.

Yet what we have heard so far from Ontario and Quebec is essentially silence about what Senate changes Peterson and Bourassa would be willing to accept in order to make the West as happy as Meech Lake makes Quebec.

Maybe the Alberta committee's visit to Queen's Park will help change that.



30 years ago

Armstrong Brothers, Brampton, was awarded a \$15,565 contract to prime and chip roads in the Delrex Subdivision. The company, the lowest of three tender bids, will proceed with road work when subsidies are approved by the Department of Highways and the work has been approved by the Town Engineer.

With construction on Park Public School delayed by at least a month, staggered classes will be enforced, according to the public school board in town. Work came to a halt on the board's own request when it discovered that supervision was irregular on the site. Pat Foster, who supervised the construction of an Etobicoke school, is the new school construction supervisor, and will be at Park school daily to enforce the "speed-up" schedule.

After a successful first term of operations, Georgetown's most recent club, the Kinmen, will build a children's playground next to the swimming pool. The Kinmen held their first fall meeting at the Jack O' Lantern restaurant.

15 years ago

Georgetown council chose Halton Hills as their first choice and Esquering as their second choice for the name of the new northern area municipality from a list of 35 names submitted to local papers. Esquering and Acton councils will also choose two names. Then, the three heads of council will try to determine the most popular choice.

Former Georgetown councillor John Hole announced his intention to run for candidate in Ward 3 in Halton North's upcoming municipal election. Mr. Hole was a candidate for Ward 2 in the December 1972 elections.

Two Georgetown councillors announced they will run in the Oct. 1 elections. Coun. Roy Booth and Coun. Ern Hyde will run for the town council Ward 3 seat, covering the area from Rexway Drive to the Moore Park area. Both men have been involved in local politics: Coun. Booth is a member of the planning board and the industrial committee, and Coun. Hyde was town mayor in 1960, 1961 and 1963.

10 years ago

Basic service for rural customers in the Georgetown "877" exchange will be approved as of Nov. 7 when Bell Canada's \$800,000 non urban service improvement (NUSI) program in the exchange is completed, said local Bell manager Bill Barnes Thursday.

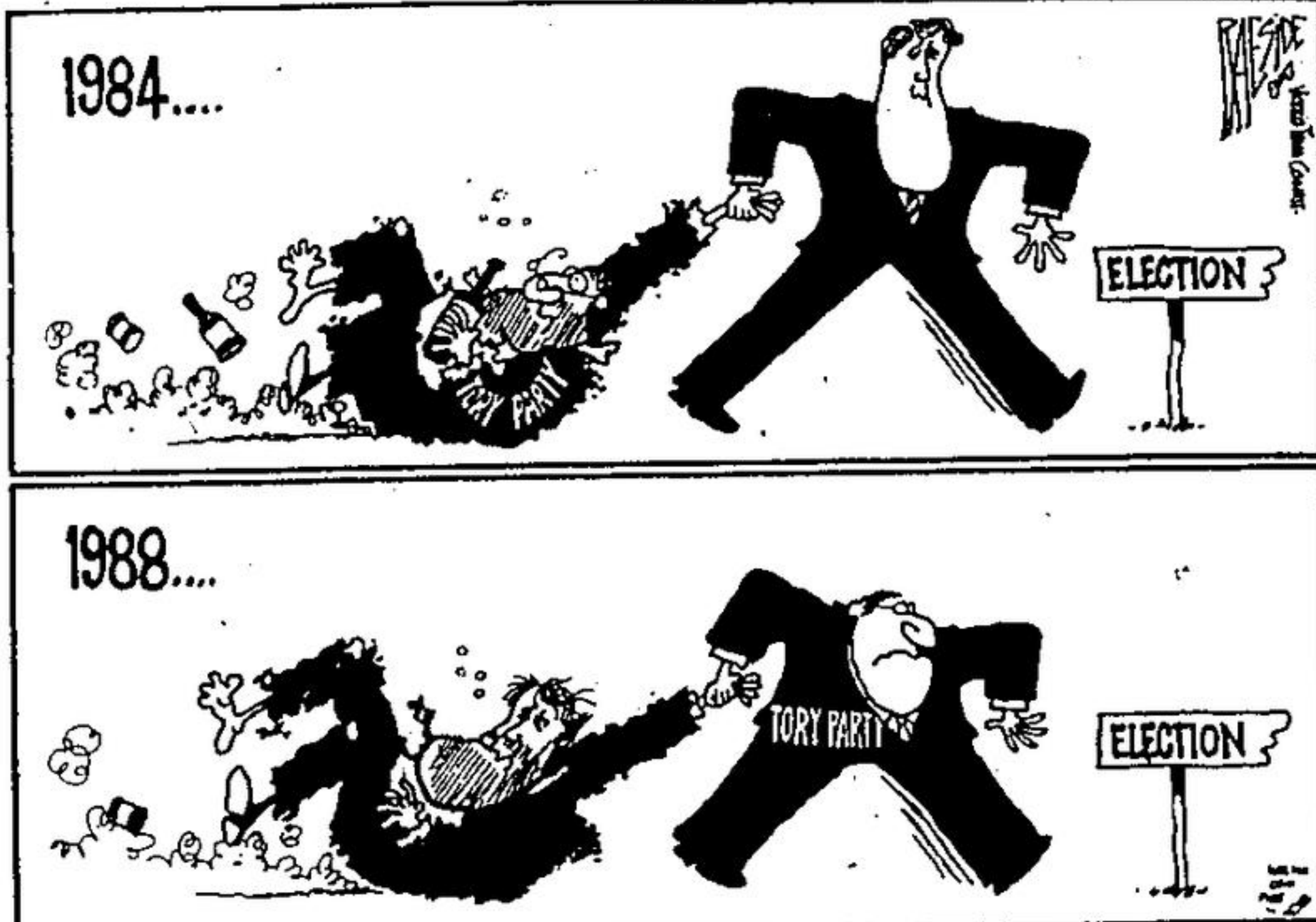
Halton elementary schools will be directed by the board of education to provide a minimum of three 30-minute periods of instruction in physical education. The directive is in response to a brief on physical education from the Georgetown University Women's Club (UWC) which recommended 30-60 minutes of physical education a day. The board executive committee pointed out that while the three 30-minute periods are already mandatory, it is presently not being practised in the school curriculum.

Over the weekend, the Brookville Selects travelled to Port Colbourne where they won the Provincial Women's Junior AA championship. After losing their first game 3-0 to Milverton, they came back to defeat Dryden 15-0, St. Catharines 6-2, and the Canadian Championship Oakville team 5-3.

5 years ago

The North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded has shown the only interest in Georgetown's 6 Church St. property after a public tender call was ended last Wednesday. Viewing the property as the possible site for Halton Hills' first group home for mentally handicapped adults, the NHAMR offered the town \$35,000. But the town has two other options besides accepting the NHAMR bid. It can have the house listed through the Peel-Halton Real Estate Board; or, it can proceed with plans to tear the building down, allowing for more downtown Georgetown parking. The NHAMR's countryside residences is presently up for sale. It houses about 16 mentally handicapped adults on Trafalgar Road north of Hornby.

The Georgetown Junior Eagles advanced to the Ontario Baseball Association Championship tournament by defeating Thorold 7-2 at the Fairgrounds Friday night. Andrew Braun took the win on the mound, striking out nine batters while scattering six hits in going the distance. Meanwhile, it was the bats of Gerry Milne and Gord Allen that sparked a 15-hit Eagle attack. Thorold opened the scoring with a single run in the top of the first inning but Larry Deighton's RBI double, scoring Milne, evened the count in the bottom of the inning.



Citizens' forum

Disagrees with candidate's views

Dear Sir,
Re: Front page article on Pat McCarty (The Herald, Aug. 24).

Having read his comments, I for one do not think he speaks for the community as a whole.

How would he like to go on record to the Minister of Housing and all the young prospective first-time home buyers, who cannot afford a home in Toronto, Mississauga, Brampton and tell them we in the friendly town of Halton Hills don't want them here?

Perhaps when the wall around the community is completed he might also like to exempt seniors, pensioners and all earning below a certain level?

That doesn't sound too friendly to me.

Also, we need more planned residential and industrial growth. Our taxes are equal to Oakville, Brampton and Mississauga with fewer services. Our roads are terrible compared to Peel.

Also we need another factory along Highway 7 like a hole in the head. The solution is an industrial park away from the entrance to our town.

Let's try and correct some of the earlier bad planning.

Regarding your sitting-on-the-fence position on Sunday opening, how can you suggest that Canadian Tire and Zellers should not be allowed to open? Do you recall the Bay in Montreal and Toronto were one of the first to challenge this law. What would you say to them if they had a store here? I feel Sunday shopping should be put to a public vote and

abide by wishes of the majority.

I am in full accord with the article written by Glenda Hughes, March 26 in Halton Hills Outlook. This article condemned restricted growth, also.

Darts to everyone in the community who would try and prevent the natural process of planned growth. Wake up and smell the roses. With our close proximity to Toronto, this

can't be prevented.

But let's do it in an orderly manner, preserving the old as well.

Not having been born here Pat McCarty, I chose to live in Halton Hills and I will fight everything, that I feel will damage the community.

Wallace John McLeod,
Georgetown

Praising our finest

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is a letter to Halton Regional Police Chief James Harding, submitted to The Herald for publication.

Dear Chief Harding,
I recently had occasion to meet two members of the Halton Regional Police Force and was impressed by their courtesy and efficiency.

The first officer (named Jones) answered a false alarm at my home. He was very personable and took time to answer many questions from my inquisitive 3- and 4-year-olds. He showed them his police car and siren, much to their delight. This young man has a way with children and I am pleased that my children's first exposure to the police was so positive.

On a less happy note, I received a speeding ticket on Trafalgar Road. Bolstered by his recent experience, 3-year-old Alexander greeted the officer with "Hi there. What's your name?" A very flustered officer (Jeff) gave me a ticket. Giving out tickets is probably not a pleasant task and he really could not have been nicer.

I congratulate you on the exemplary behavior of these fine officers. I am sure you have many more like them on staff.

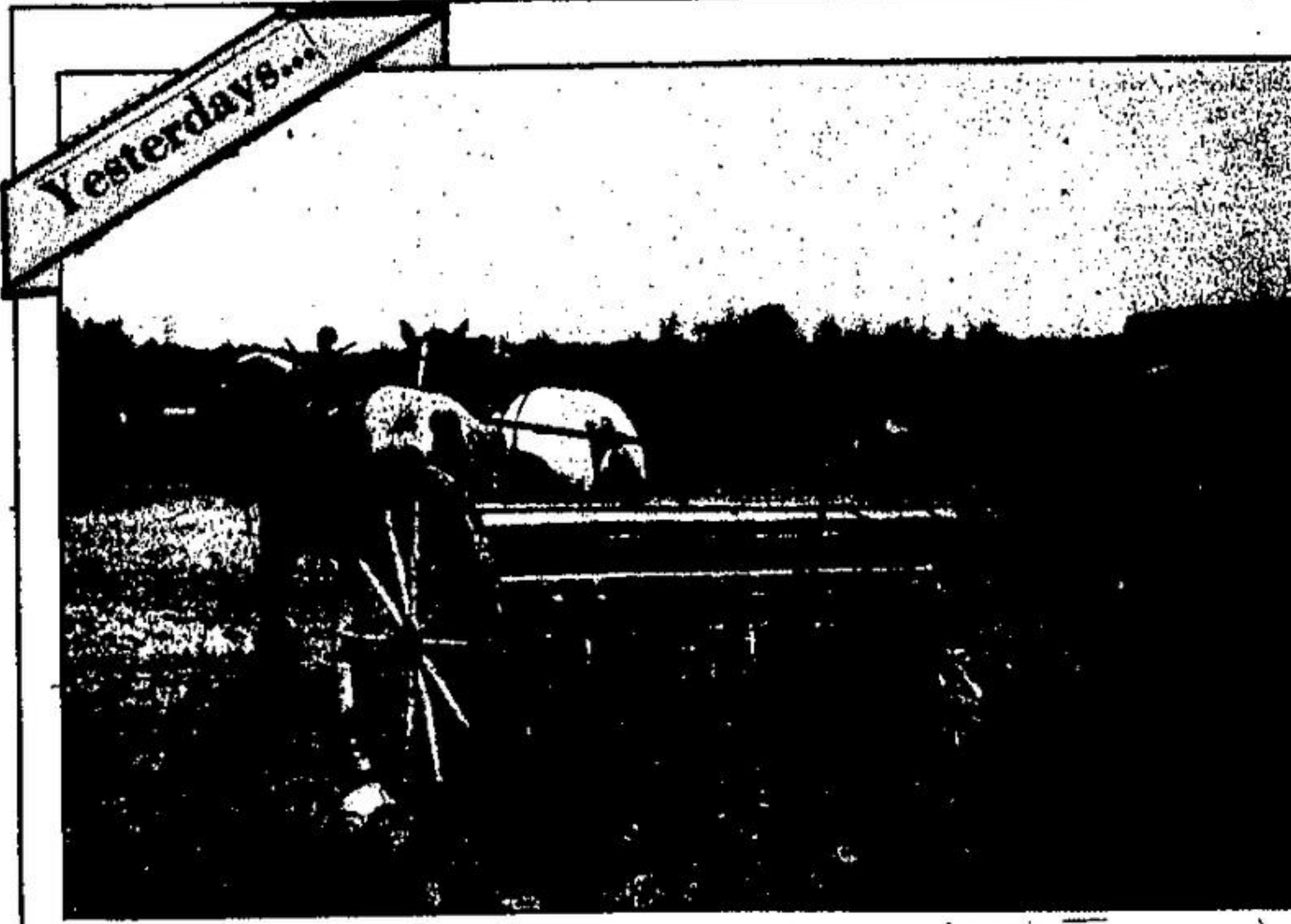
Sincerely,
Mrs. Lois Fraser

How solid can it be?

Dear Sir,
Re: Acton Quarry Dump.

I am pleased to note (The Herald, 24.8.80), that our MPP, Mr. Wall Elliot, raises the question concerning regulations for a dump site, and especially their enforcement. Also noting the remarks of Mr. Burkart of United Aggregates, that they know nothing about rehabilitation plans as a commitment made by the previous quarry owner, Indusmin, one cannot help but wonder how solid any commitments concerning the proposed quarry dump in actual fact will be (after the files are burnt!).

H. Linck,
Glen Williams



Drill Seeding - Circa 1910