



In search of a basketball, the Bishop Reding Royals and members of the Toronto Argonauts football team played an exhibition game Tuesday. The Argos and Royals played to

a 56-56 tie to celebrate the official opening of the school's gymnasium. Above is, left to right, Glen Kulka, Jim Kardesh, Mitch Milsus, Jay Kerlake, and Mark Hopkins.

A visit into the past part of Halton CAS anniversary

A re-enactment of the historic inaugural meeting of Halton's Children's Aid Society and a keynote address by one of the province's early child welfare leaders will highlight the agency's 75th annual meeting February 15.

The event will take place at Knox Presbyterian Church on Milton's Main Street—where the seeds for the region's present child care system were planted on the night of February 15, 1914.

Costumed volunteers will play the roles of J.M. Denyes, who served as president of the Halton CAS board of directors from 1914 to 1937, and other officers elected to serve on the inaugural board. The brief dramatic presentation will high-light the agency's early objectives in the days when abused and neglected children had no place to turn for help.

Indeed, prior to the founding of a CAS in Halton, it was not uncommon for ragged, hungry "gutter children" to roam downtown alleys—sometimes being housed among tramps and vagrants in the County Jail when space was unavailable in area orphan asylums.

The keynote address will be delivered by H.H. ("Scotty") Dymond whose service to children in need of protection spanned over three decades commencing with his 1946 appointment as superintendent of the Renfrew County CAS. He subsequently served as Executive Director of Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies (OACAS) from 1962-78.

The Scottish-born Dymond acknowledges his introduction to the plight of the abused and neglected children entailed a kind of "baptism by fire." His early years in Canada were devoted to a busy career in the retail food industry in Peterborough and Renfrew. Were it not for a post-war twist of fate, Dymond might well have lived his life oblivious to the needs of the province's hurting children.

"I happened to be with the federal government's War Time Prices and Trade Board when I was approached by Canon William Henry Matthew Quartermaine, an Anglican priest who was one of the founders of the child welfare system in Ontario. Renfrew County was looking for a good administrator to run its fledgling CAS, and they thought I might be up to the challenge."

One of Dymond's earliest assignments was to find homes for 13 siblings under the age of 14—including two sets of twins! This was at a time when foster homes were at a premium and CAS officials had to go searching, often literally door-to-door, on a mo-

HALTON CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY



ment's notice. Fortunately, the amicable and forthright Dymond had soon persuaded a number of families to open their doors to one or more of the homeless youngsters.

It still bothers Dymond that some of the siblings had to be separated, and he subsequently became a strong advocate of foster care and adoption

policies that promoted keeping sibling groups together.

By today's standards, the obstacles that confronted early child welfare workers seem insurmountable. Those early challenges and the child welfare reforms and strides they prompted will be highlighted in Dymond's keynote address at the Halton CAS's 75th annual meeting.

The meeting will be preceded by a Past President's Dinner in Milton at which former Halton CAS board presidents and executive directors will be honored.

The annual meeting, which is open to the public, will begin at Knox Presbyterian Church on Main Street, Milton at 7:30 p.m. and will be followed by a reception at 9 p.m. Those attending are encouraged to add to the flavor of the 75th anniversary celebration by coming dressed in period costume. There is no admission charge. Further information from Heather Smith, 844-8211 or 878-2375.

Toyota Corolla is pick of used cars

The 2.8 million member Canadian Automobile Association today presented the CAA Used Car Performance Award for 1989 to Toyota Canada Inc. Toyota earned the award this year for its popular Corolla model, years 1986 to 1988.

This is the fourth award earned by the Corolla. Toyota's Celica and Camry (last year's winner) have also won the coveted award, as did Honda Canada Inc. in 1986 for its Prelude model.

The CAA award, a solid bronze pyramid symbolizing engineering excellence and durability, has become a symbol of achievement to automobile manufacturers because it recognizes the overall satisfaction of owners.

The award is based on three main criteria: the level of owner satisfaction; mechanical reliability based on actual repair experience; and the number of owners who would choose the same car again if given the opportunity to go back in time to when they bought the vehicle.

Qualifying cars must have been produced in the 1986, 1987 and 1988 model years.

The top 15 contenders for this year's award were as follows:

2. Honda Accord
3. Toyota Camry
4. Nissan Sentra
5. Ford Crown Victoria/Mercury Grand Marquis
6. Mazda 626
7. Honda Civic
8. Toyota Tercel
9. Dodge Caravan/Plymouth Voyager
10. Mazda 323
11. Volkswagen Jetta
12. Ford Taurus/Mercury Sable
13. Dodge Aries/Plymouth Reliant
14. Chevrolet Celebrity
15. Chrysler New Yorker

The award is the result of information provided by respondents to CAA's Vehicle Durability Survey. In 1988-89, over 23,000 Canadian motorists including 1,300 members of the Hamilton Automobile Club filled out and returned questionnaires.

Survey results are revealed in CAA's Autopinion Annual '89 publication, a complete car buyer's guide.

HAC President A.U. Oakie stated, "CAA's Vehicle Durability Survey provides an accurate gauge of motorists' satisfaction with their cars. The survey results show a truly convincing 94 per cent of Toyota Corolla owners would repeat their original purchase."

Halton sizes up its responsibility to Africa

By PAUL DORSEY

Halton councillors have justified the Region's talent exchange with an African city both in terms of global altruism and as a defensive move lest "the have-nots come after the haves".

Milton Mayor Gord Krantz used that phrase last Wednesday as Regional council's administration and finance committee pondered the next phase of its participation in Africa 2000.

Though the mayor's words sounded a little defensive and parochial, they were supported by Oakville Councillor John Graham, who quoted a World Health Organization director as saying, "Share now, or they'll take away from our grandchildren".

A program launched by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in response to a challenge last year from External Affairs Minister Joe Clark, Africa 2000 links Canadian towns and cities with African communities.

Where the west has seen little improvement resulting from the billions of dollars in aid sent to Africa, Canadian officials now hope that by sending experts in municipal affairs and urban management, African centres can develop the expertise to capitalize on their own resources.

Halton Chairman Pete Pomeroy, Regional Chief Administrative Officer John Fleming and Burlington Councillor Barry Quinn, who represented the public of Halton, visited Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, over five days last fall under the auspices of the Canadian International Development Agency.

It was a reconnaissance mission for Halton's involvement with Africa 2000, which, like the trio's visit, is supposed to cost Halton taxpayers nothing. Municipal employees from Dar Es Salaam will visit Halton this spring.

Though the trio's videotape diary of the trip was stolen at knife-point, councillors were able last week to view slides they took in Nairobi and Dar Es Salaam. Alongside occasional touristy snapshots showing Pomeroy in safari shorts and Quinn in sunburn were telling photos indicative of Tanzania's problems.

For a community of two million people, Dar Es Salaam's city hall is distressingly decrepit, its official files loosely strung along dusty shelves in a dimly-lit basement. The fire department has a number of vehicles, but only two function, and the works department isn't much better off, replacement auto parts being very scarce there.

The roads gape in places with enormous potholes, and public transit is run by private entrepreneurs often utilizing buses that are far from road-worthy. At one open air retail market shown, freshly butchered meat was sold from atop a dirty window sill, and onions were piled on the ground next to a stack of garbage.

Everywhere around the city, squatters' homes spring up in ever-expanding shanty towns, and the city dump is a round-the-clock nightmare of smoldering trash fires, litter pickers and toxic run-offs. Homes line the banks of a sewage settling pond that

handles whatever effluent is not pumped directly into the ocean.

Fleming took a lovely picture of Pomeroy visiting children at an orphanage. Though the trio's plans to give the kids souvenir T-shirts went awry, the chairman played a little football with the youngsters - using a soccer ball made of scraps of plastic tied together with string.

Fish from the Indian Ocean might bring some revenue, if Tanzania hadn't been victimized by an unnamed European supplier who sold it obsolete machinery for a refrigeration plant. Coffee, cashews and sisal products are the chief sources of income.

Dar Es Salaam's window on the ocean may prove to be a big part of its salvation. As Fleming noted, the city has a "beautiful" harbor that represents "an investment opportunity (since it) could become the hub of something much bigger and better".

Tourism potential also lies in the colorful presentations of the Masai people and other local craftsmen, and in Mikumi National Park nearby, with its classic African wildlife.

But the problems far outweigh the assets, and the city's council of 52 people "are really looking for advice," Fleming said.

Should Halton press on with its commitment? Only one councillor said "no" at last week's meeting. Burlington's Tony Whitworth admitted he's "swimming against the tide", but he doesn't see Africa 2000 as part of the Region's mandate.

Pomeroy contended that the Regional Municipality of Halton Act places "no restrictions on our involvement in humanitarian functions".

"If you're not prepared to contribute to their wellbeing now, you're going to do it in the future anyway," Pomeroy said, calling his visit "an experience I'll take to my grave".

Pomeroy said his seatmate on the return flight was a Dutch official who'd visited Tanzania not to help the people there, but to learn how his countrymen can best deal with them when they eventually emigrate to the Netherlands.

"The greatest gift you can give someone is the gift of independence," Oakville Councillor Janet Mitchell said.

Councillor Graham expressed hope that Halton can help "turn around a very selfish society".

Fleming assured Mayor Russ Miller than any aid sent from Canada will reach its intended destinations.

Council has yet to determine its next move. Most likely, a follow-up visit to Dar Es Salaam will be arranged for officials of Halton's public works and planning departments, following the Tanzanian delegation's visit here this spring.

For his part, Quinn is taking the slide show to area Rotary Clubs in the hope they'll jointly sponsor the creation of a second "agricultural village" on the city's outskirts, where young people learn farming skills.



St. John's parish at Stewarttown celebrated on Shrove Tuesday, the prelude to Lent, with a pancake feast. Tom Clapham dishes up the pancakes for a hungry crowd including the Thoms family. Proceeds of the popular annual event go to support the church.