

The Canadian Champion

Merry Christmas

From the Staff and Contributors of The Champion

Vol. 109.—No. 34.

MILTON, ONTARIO, MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1968

Authorized as Second Class Mail by the Post Office Dept., Ottawa, for Postage Paid in Cash at Milton, Ontario

Twenty-Eight Pages.—Ten Cents.

A heartwarming story of Christmas

Boys collect 400 toys for needy

By Roy Downs

It was one of those heart-warming stories you hear only at Christmastime—a story of Christmas spirit and brotherly love and compassion for those less fortunate, a story of sharing in the true spirit of the holy season.

It started out as a sad story, one a reporter feels obligated to print although he'd rather not. I went to the high school Wednesday to check out a story that some students had staged a walkout to protest the extension of the school term.

The story of the walkout was there, but so was another story. Maybe the spirit of Christmas was getting to me, but I liked the second story better than the first.

It concerned a group of grade 11 students who did their Christmas good turn in a tangible way, by collecting over 400 gifts of used toys for needy children in Milton and district.

Their home room in the high school was literally bulging with gaily-wrapped Christmas presents as they completed their task. And teacher Doug Foley was beaming proudly as he watched his 16 boys at work.

"We asked Mr. Foley what he wanted for Christmas this year,

and he said he'd be happy to have the school mascot," said a student spokesman.

The school's mascot is a sacred thing around M.D.H.S. You have to earn it to possess it. You have to be the top class in toy-collecting at Christmas to win it.

The boys in 11G always participate in the school's annual used toy drive, but this year they excelled all previous efforts. "We figured we'd clinch the mascot for Mr. Foley," said the spokesman. "So most of us skipped classes on Tuesday and we went all around town asking people for good used toys."

Needless to say, the people responded willingly to their call for help. "One lady gave us a brand new hockey stick her son had never used," said one

student. "Look at this," chimed in another, "this great big dollhouse looks just like new."

A tricycle and a couple of pedal cars were among the items they scrounged up. The trike needed some repairs and one boy spent two shop periods welding it back together again. Some toys needed paint or minor repairs—they got fixed quickly.

Then the gang rounded up some girls to help with the enormous task of wrapping it all up and labelling each package for whether it suited a boy or girl, and the age group that might get the most use from the free gift. And they spent over \$25 on wrapping paper—from their own pockets.

Although there was a total of 400 parcels on Wednesday, they planned to collect more if time was available. And some of the parcels had as many as five small toys inside them.

At Friday's high school Christmas assembly, there were none more proud than those 16 boys who collected, repaired and wrapped the hundreds of Christmas gifts.

Their gifts, and those collected from other classes in the school, were forwarded to the welfare administrators in Milton, Esquesing and Nassagaweya, to be distributed this week to needy families in the three municipalities.

Some children will be having a happier Christmas this year, thanks to their efforts.

After all, isn't that what Christmas is all about?



IT WILL BE A HAPPIER CHRISTMAS for dozens of needy children in Milton and district this year, thanks to the efforts of students at Milton District High School. Teacher Doug Foley's Class 11G boys went "all out" this year and rounded up over 400 parcels of toys in a house-to-house blitz in Milton and district. Ross McGee, Bruce Sagaskie and Livio Bonin, who headed up the drive, point proudly to their 400 total while teacher Foley looks on at right. (Staff Photo)

Make seven senior appointments to Halton County Board of Education

Seven senior appointments, four from Burlington and three from Oakville, were approved by the Halton County Board of Education in a meeting Thursday at the County Administration Building.

D. S. Lawless was named Assistant Director of Education. Academic superintendents named were W. K. M. Armstrong, O. A. Gilmore and R. K. Self. Trustee Douglas Wood, in presenting the committee report, noted they would be designated later to program, instruction and special services when these areas were defined.

Superintendent of Business and Finance will be B. T. Lindley, presently business administrator of the Burlington Board of Education. He will also be treasurer. Frank Danna and H. F. Lishman will be assistant superintendents of finance and operations.

Named as secretary to the board was Mrs. N. Stewart, formerly secretary to the Director of Education in Oakville and to the Interim School Organization Committee. "I would have been happier to see more of the senior personnel from the Oakville Board of Education but A. E. Robinson has already submitted his resignation", Trustee D. Palmer noted.

Board Chairman Fred Armitage also expressed regret at the loss of two experienced educators A. E. Robinson, and W. L. McNeil. "We felt we could offer senior positions but these choices were theirs following the Saturday meeting", he pointed out. J. W. Singleton was named Director of Education at that meeting.

Interim financing requirements for the new County Board were estimated at \$2,500,000 to \$3,000,000 monthly until grants and taxes are received.

Director of Education Singleton also noted the new board will have sums "just in excess of one million dollars in the form of funds for superannuation purposes and trusts".

The signing officers were authorized to arrange temporary borrowing from any chartered bank on the best terms available until current revenue is received.

Board members approved a recommendation of the Director that the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce be used for banking and in January 1970 a statement of the Board's requirements will be circulated to all banks to be decided on the location of future banking.

Mr. Singleton indicated his

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Regional government "imminent"

Regional government, and probably a merger of Halton and Peel Counties into one form of administration seems imminent. A group of mayors, reeves and deputy-reeves who met in Toronto Friday with Ontario's Minister of Municipal Affairs D'Arcy McKeough for an informal discussion of the subject came away with that feeling, anyway.

At McKeough's suggestion, representatives of Halton's seven municipal governments sat down with the minister and several top department of municipal affairs officials at the Friday meeting. Although the meeting was closed to the press, delegates later reported the minister is eyeing Halton for an early start on regional government. Two months ago Halton County Council declared it was ready for the change and invited the minister to discuss it with county officials.

Mr. McKeough expects to present a regionalization proposal to Peel County Council on Jan. 22, 1969, and the mayors, reeves and deputy-reeves of Halton were invited as spectators to the meeting in Brampton.

Milton Mayor Brian Best said it looked like Peel would become a regional government first, with Halton following, and an eventual merger of the two counties. Legislation covering the regionalization of Peel County is expected to take effect in 1971.

The minister told Friday's conference some form of buffer was needed to separate Metro Toronto and the Hamilton region.

All of Halton's seven municipalities except Esquesing were represented at the Friday meeting.



DRESSED UP IN MUU MUUS and a grass skirt at Thursday's Hawaiian Dinner Party staged by Halton 4-H clubbers, are Anne Rhul of Hornby South club, Marilyn Barber, Laurene Rennick, Cathy Lasby and Karyn Manes of the Dublin club. The costumes, the dinner of exotic foods and the program featuring pictures of Hawaii carried out the theme of the evening. (Staff Photo)

Control cost up

Rover's tag will cost more

Dog tags, like just about everything else, will be more expensive the next time you go to buy one in Milton. Milton council announced the hike at a recent meeting as a result in higher costs of dog control to the town.

The town has a contract with the Oakville Humane Society to handle dog control in town. The society patrols Milton for an average of 20 hours a month.

Deputy Clerk Mrs. Audrey Brush said the cost had gone up every year and the price had not been raised for several years.

The price for a male or spayed female dog will go up from \$2 to \$5 and from \$4 to \$10 for a female dog. The tag fee is due on or before Feb. 15 and delinquent owners are subject to a fine not exceeding \$50. There were 336 tags sold in Milton last year and this is down from previous years.

"A little unrest"

Student walkout fizzles

What was planned to be a mass walkout of students at Milton District High School Wednesday fizzled out to what was termed by principal R. C. Hunter as "a little unrest that never materialized."

The students were annoyed by a directive issued by Minister of Education William Davis instructing Ontario high schools to hold classes until June 13.

The directive from the Minister is an annual affair but it has become customary to end the school year in the first week of June, although the official school year doesn't reach its conclusion until the end of June.

Reports on the number who actually walked out ranged from six to 30 students. Rumors spread quickly around the school about six who were on their way to Queen's Park to demonstrate. There were reports someone tried to ring the fire alarm.

Some students objected to the extra stay in school because of the money they would lose as a result of being absent from work. "It means \$160 to me," one boy said.

Vice-Principal William Tom said 14 or 15 students stayed outside the school for a period but he thought it was just a method of staying out of school, rather than a sincere demonstration.

He suggested their were misconceptions at the root of the unrest and said the year would not be lengthened by two weeks as indicated in Toronto newspapers.

There was also some confusion about one week at the end of the year that used to be allotted for studying for departmental exams. There are no departmentals now and the time will be used for classroom instruction.

School officials pointed out to the students the benefits of the new system with reference to the abolition of the grade system and the innovation of the subject promotion in which students are promoted by subject rather than grade.

School officials also pointed out grade 13's will be eligible for exam exemption this year.

Milton District High School is one of several across the

province protesting the directive in one way or the other.

Christmas dinners at manor, jail, hosp.

Special Christmas dinners will be served to residents and patients at the various institutions in town again this year...with turkey on all the menus.

Dieticians at Milton District Hospital, Halton Centennial Manor and Halton County Jail will each serve hot roast turkey dinners with all the traditional trimmings.

Jail Governor William Barber said he expected to have some inmates there for the supper and noted some who are now in jail may have their term expired by then. "But this is all up to the court", he said.

Some people at the Manor and the Hospital will be allowed home for the day and others at the hospital who cannot go home will be able to invite close relatives to join them for Christmas supper in the hospital.