

Halton Health Unit

Preventive dental service decreases tooth diseases

By Brian Ward (One of a Series)
In 1957, nearly 35 per cent of the children in Halton County needed urgent dental treatment and that figure has dropped to only two per cent of the county's children needing urgent treatment today says Dr. Samuel Green, director of the Halton County Health Unit's Preventive Dentistry Service.

"Our motto is prevention through education," said Dr. Green, "and during the past decade, it has worked very well."
"Tooth decay is a disease and it is our main job to stop the spread of this disease. At present we have dental teams working in county schools with children from kindergarten to grade four. They will examine the child's teeth at the school and will recommend any needed treatment to the child's parents."

Dr. Green claimed only 45 to 50 per cent of the people in Halton County see a dentist regularly or have their children see a dentist regularly. He said there is a greater problem in the north of the county with tooth decay and other related diseases.
"I think there are three main reasons for people not going to see a dentist regularly," concluded the doctor, "and

these are apathy on their part, fear of the high cost for the treatment and just plain fear of the pain they associate with dental treatment.



DR. SAMUEL GREEN
Chief of Dental Preventive Services for the Halton Health Unit.

"We are educating children in proper dental health procedures by showing them movies and talking to them on their own terms. Early this year, we launched a campaign aimed at children in grade one, using a symbol 'Murphy the Molar' similar to Elmer, the Safety Elephant."

Dr. Green feels people in Halton County have better dental health than in other counties and he and his staff have been using a computer to gather figures to point out this fact. He states that 66 per cent of the five-year-old children in the county have no dental deficiencies and 41 per cent of the county's children between five and 13 have no dental deficiencies, figures which are above those from parts of Metro Toronto.

He feels strongly about fluoride treatment of children's teeth both for the dental health factor and for the cost factor. If the teeth are protected by fluoride, then the dental bills will drop in price. The dental unit in his charge performs "topical fluoride clinics" in the county and these involve the coating of a child's teeth with an eight per cent fluoride solution. At present these clinics are done by appointment only.

One innovation is called a "brush-in" which is a self-application of fluorides by the child on his own teeth. He receives a special fluoride toothpaste from a dental hygienist and after being told the proper way, brushes his teeth for five minutes to coat them with the fluoride.

"Many towns in Halton County don't have fluoridated water at present," said Dr. Green, "although it would only cost 10 cents per person per year

to put a fluoride solution into the town's main water source. The frustrating part about the cost is children spend on the average of \$50 per year for candies and yet many municipalities don't see fit to pay the small cost of fluoridation to prevent tooth decay."

Dr. Green is proud of the work he and his staff are doing. He claimed people in the county spend nearly \$3,000,000 on dental care but through the health unit's preventive dentistry team, tooth decay is being cut by the rate of five per cent a year. He claimed although they are budgeted at approximately \$35,000 a year, the preventive dentistry unit saves Halton County residents nearly \$150,000 a year in dentist bills.

"The people are really getting a return for their tax dollar for the work our service does," he said.
The doctor himself is very busy, although he is still young. After having his own practice for eight years, he got bored with "looking down all those mouths" and decided on public health dentistry as a career. He enjoys the work which includes everything from managing a staff of dental workers to planning computer studies. Besides working for the Halton Health Unit, he works in the health units of the County of Peel and the Boroughs of Etobicoke and York in Toronto.

He came up with one very interesting prediction for the future of dental treatment in the next 10 years which should be good news for many. He claimed dental researchers will soon come up with a vaccine which will effectively prevent tooth decay, which is one good way to fill that hole in the pocketbook!

(Continued Next Week)

Manor residents celebrate several January birthdays

By Miss L. Moore and Mrs. M. Warbanks

On Dec. 14 church service was conducted by Rev. S. Smith of the Presbyterian Church in Boston and Omagh.

Service on Dec. 21 was conducted by Rev. C. A. Hainer of St. Paul's United Church, Milton.

Rev. R. W. Foster of Grace Anglican Church conducted the service on Dec. 28.

On the afternoon of Jan. 1 a group from Georgetown sponsored a musical concert. Those taking part were, Tom Darcie, M. C., Aury Hunter, saxophone, Ralph Urse, organ, Bernard Shurbole, bass fiddle, George Rowe, drums, Clate Gosling, guitar, singers: Tom Darcie, Tom Trouten, Tris Elliott and singer dancer Patricia Troughten. A light lunch was served after the concert and Mrs. Warbanks thanked the visitors for an enjoyable afternoon.

Church service on Jan. 4 was conducted by Gordon Cox, a student of the Toronto Bible College. The text for the service was from the Old Testament.

A pleasant hour was spent in the auditorium on Jan. 4 when a group from the Christian Reformed Church in Georgetown came to visit the residents. The meeting was opened by Andy DeBoer, the M.C. Albert J. VandenPol minister of the church, delivered his sermon and community hymn singing was enjoyed. Mrs. M. Warbanks thanked the guests and refreshments were served.
Our friends from the Rexdale

Poor start

Milton's 1970 building boom started out as a bust in January. Building inspector Ray Olan reports only one building permit was issued from his office and it was for a garage valued at \$600.

KILBRIDE

Rev. C.R. Wragg to retire from Kilbride United Church

By Mrs. William Watson

The annual congregational meeting of the United Church of Kilbride was held Thursday Jan. 22 in the Sunday School room with a good attendance. Rev. C. R. Wragg was in charge of the meeting.

Ross Harbottle, congregational secretary, read the minutes of the previous meeting.

Printed reports covered the activities of every organization within the church. It showed there were 11 children baptized, a total of seven received by profession of faith and one received by certificate, making a total membership of 107. One member was removed by death, leaving a total membership of 106 on December 31, 1969, as well as 10 non-resident members.

During the year the minister performed two weddings in the church, namely Brian and Heather Smith and Bill and Peggy Parchem. He also married another member Brenda Coulson and Roy Smith in Carlisle. Rev. Wragg officiated at the funerals of two adherents and one member of the congregation during the year including those of Mrs. Minerva Louise McArthur, Norman Smith and Mrs. Margaret Olivia Ayton. The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the families who have been so sadly bereaved.

The following officers were elected to the session for a three year term, Gordon Armstrong, Phil Fisher and Gordon Taylor. Board of Stewards for a three-year period are James Ayton, Stan Corman, Dr. McDonald, William Pickett, organist Mrs. Lynn Heatherington, assistants Mrs. McArthur and Mrs. McDonald. Mrs. McArthur and Charles Hepburn were appointed as auditors.

Rev. Wragg announced at this meeting, he will retire in June.

An interesting meeting of the Kilbride Home and School Associations was held last Monday evening Jan. 19 when Dr. G. H. McMorland was guest speaker.

Dr. McMorland of Henderson General Hospital showed a film entitled "Countdown" and moderated a panel discussion on smoking.

Panel members, non-smokers, smokers and ex-smokers were Norman Howell, Mrs. Carl Geris, Dr. R. Muirhead, Mr. Denton, Willie Van der Voort and Ken Gorter.

The executive members of the Kilbride and District Recreation Association met at the home of John Van der Voort last Monday evening.

Resignations were accepted from Mark Londo and Helen Watson.

Plans for the forthcoming dance will be discussed at next month's meeting.

The Good Neighbor club met last Monday evening, Jan. 26, in Kilbride centre with nine tables of progressive euchre in play.

Prize winners were Mrs. Anna Thompson, Mrs. Gus Parchem, Mrs. Bob Weir, G. Thompson, E. Ellington and James Wetherell.

The door prize was won by Mrs. Jack Robertson.

A pot luck supper will be held at the next party on Monday Feb. 9 at 6.30 p.m. Everyone is asked to bring a hot dish. The committee in charge is Mrs. William Allison and Mrs. Parchem.

Children and teachers at Kilbride school enjoyed hot dogs for lunch last Wednesday.

Twenty-nine dozen were prepared and served by conveners Mrs. Mel Davies and Mrs. Don Coulson assisted by Mrs. Buck Longdo, Mrs. Robin Jones, Mrs. George Robertson, Mrs. T. German and Mrs. Al Shaw.

Mrs. Henry Gorter is a patient in Joseph Brant Memorial Hospital, Burlington.

—Licence plate deadline is Saturday, Feb. 28. Got yours yet?

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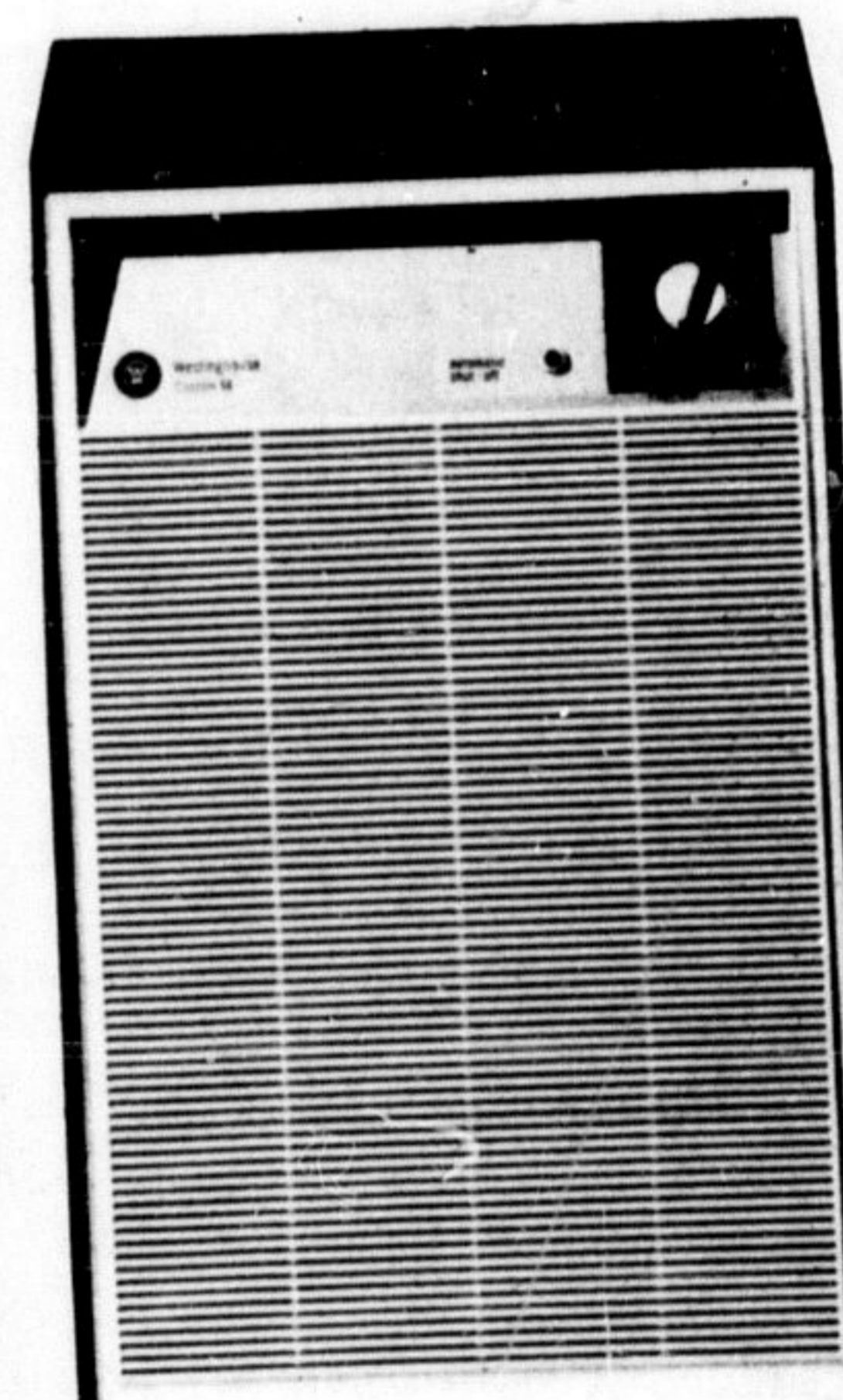
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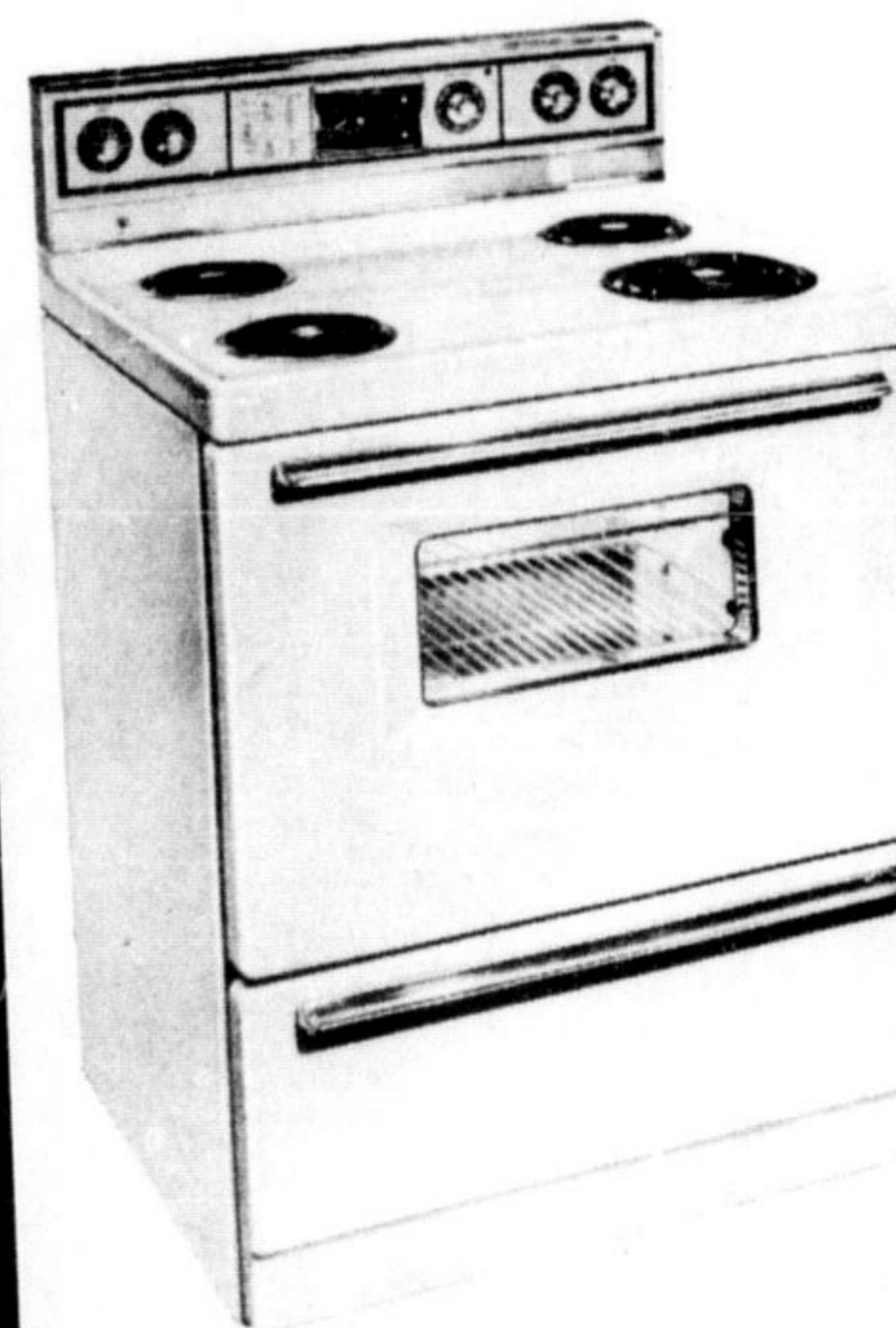


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Women's Institute who sponsored the party. Members of the group who entertained the residents were: Mrs. Lloyd Davison and Mrs. Frank Wilson - piano duet; Mrs. Hector Bird and Mrs. Francis Thompson - singing duet; Mrs. Wilbert Cleave - reading; Mrs. John McNabb, Mrs. Ford Nickson, and Mrs. Ward Brownridge - singing trio; and Mrs. Jim Carney - sing-song leader. Mrs. Francis Thompson also sang a solo.

Convener of the lunch committee were Mrs. John Bird assisted by Mrs. Frank Ruddell. Mrs. Edith Greene, our 101-year-old resident thanked the Institute for the lovely party and a delicious lunch was enjoyed by everyone.

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