

Parents complaining on short school days

Halton Board of Education expressed concern at the meeting Thursday about an increasing reduction of time students are spending in classroom instruction.

The discussion was triggered by a letter from Mrs. J. Vanderlinden of Glen Williams. Mrs. Vanderlinden said she was distressed about the fact that children seem to spend less time in school every year.

She noted her teenage daughter "ad just been home for a week because it was exam time and her son in senior public school was just completing his fourth day off because of professional development days for the teachers."

"So much time is wasted. By the time the first of June comes around all attention is turned to play days, field days, music festivals, trips and the like."

Students watch movies

The writer noted that in addition to this the teachers had planning periods during which the students watched movies. Mrs. Vanderlinden linked her complaint about reducing hours to the allegation that children have trouble reading and writing.

"Seventy five per cent of the teachers I have dealt with should never have been in the profession in the first place. They are in it for the long holidays and the short work days, so it seems."

"I do want you to know that there are many people concerned about the quality of costly education their children are receiving," she wrote.

Director of Education Jim Singleton noted he had personally received seven calls complaining about the same matter. He noted that while only seven or eight spoke out there are generally about 20 others who feel the same way for each one who speaks. "That represents a fairly substantial number of people," he said.

Trustee Ernie Bodnar of Georgetown said he understood that this year exam days were to be included as instruction days.

Elected to stay away

Superintendent of Instruction Orrie Gilmore said the intention was for students to write exams in the morning and attend class in the afternoons. He said in some cases students had elected not to attend the classes and classes had to be cancelled.

He said he was looking into the situation and remarked it won't happen again.

Trustee Fred Armitage said he had been told of students being out of school in high schools early in the afternoon. He said he suspected attendance taking wasn't being watched as it should. "I hear about it in my area and I wonder if I could get the feeling of the administration. Is it a prevailing thing?"

"My feeling is, we should look into it — and soon," said Em Lavender, assistant to the director.

Only middle school

Georgetown Trustee Ernie Bodnar told Halton Board of Education Thursday that many families were moving into a neighborhood near Centennial School in Georgetown. He said they felt they had made a wise buy until they realized the area's school is for grades six, seven and eight.

Bodnar pointed the finger at real estate salesmen but wondered if the school could be renamed to indicate it is a middle school or to indicate which grades it handled.

The question was taken under advisement.

Fun events . . .

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entertainment is expected to include square dancing, folk singing and an accordion performance.

Students from Milton District High School will supervise and organize fun events for children throughout the afternoon.

One of the big attractions during the day will be the snowmobile races. Recreation Director Bob Small said a big crowd of drivers is expected because there are no other sanctioned races in Ontario slated for this weekend.

Two kinds

Rhythmic Five and J. C. and the Squires will provide music at the Scout Hall and Agricultural Hall Saturday night. One ticket will admit guests to one or both dances. Rhythmic Five plays what is described as Oom-Pa-Pa music while J. C. and the Squires play traditional music.

Sunday will be a fun day and all events will be held at the arena. Milton Figure Skating Club will put on a demonstration followed by a hockey game between the University of Guelph Girls and Milton District High

School boys and a broomball game between the town staff and town councillors.

Milton Recreation Committee, assisted by citizen volunteers, is sponsoring the Winterfest.

Annual vestry

St. George's Anglican Church, Lowville, held its annual vestry meeting Sunday, Jan. 24 in the church hall following the 10:30 a.m. service. Hall Parry acted as vestry clerk. Reports were heard from the church organizations.

The following members were installed: People's Warden, Claude Twiss; Lay Delegates, Sol Austen and Chris Beckett; Envelope Secretary, Diana Christenson; Sunday School Superintendent, Wayne Neel; Cemetery Board, Lloyd Stokes, Russel Dales, Naylor Mount and John Richardson; Pessis Reporter, Mrs. Harry Richardson.

Rev. Paul Moore, the new rector, was welcomed to the church.

Receive sewer tender Anti-Rabies clinic planned for Halton Heights . . .

Sewers approved in 1973 for Forest Grove in Milton have hit another block with a recent ruling that the region, now responsible for sewers, must seek new Ontario Municipal Board approval for the project.

Milton Council last year approved the project, called tenders and expected the project to be ready to go in early 1974. Monday night Milton Council of 1974, with a report from their engineers

on the low tender received, pointed out it might have to be re-tendered because of the introduction of regional government.

Mayor Anne MacArthur said the region was doing its best to hasten projects of this kind on which the tenders might expire.

Low tender on the project was Martin Dunn Construction Ltd. at \$66,322.11. Highest of the 13 tenders was \$130,268.00.

Halton Region Health Unit will request Canada Department of Agriculture to set up Anti-Rabies vaccination clinics throughout the rural part of the region.

The action was taken after the Community Services Committee received a letter from the Canada Department of Health offering the service. The letter noted there were 41 diagnosed cases of rabies

in Halton from April 1, 1973 to Dec. 31, 1973 and continuous reports of foxes coming up around barns and houses and being seen in built-up areas. Veterinarian E. R. Earl said it would be several weeks before the program could be instigated but he noted a reasonable degree of dog control should exist in order to help combat the problem.

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Powadiuk noted if the town had not committed itself to a major line, the costs would still have been excessive for Heights residents.

Name executive

Residents gathered at the Italian-Canadian Club meeting room elected an executive with Wareham as president and including Mrs.

May Arpa, Peter Van Wouw, Lucio Marinuzzo, Guido Rigo and Ralph Serafini.

After naming the group they directed a protest letter to council opposing the use of the brick yard for dumping. The executive indicated membership in the association which would also look into the water situation, was open to those in the area.

Johnson agreed to meet with executive to assist in preparing a brief outlining the objections to the dumping operation.

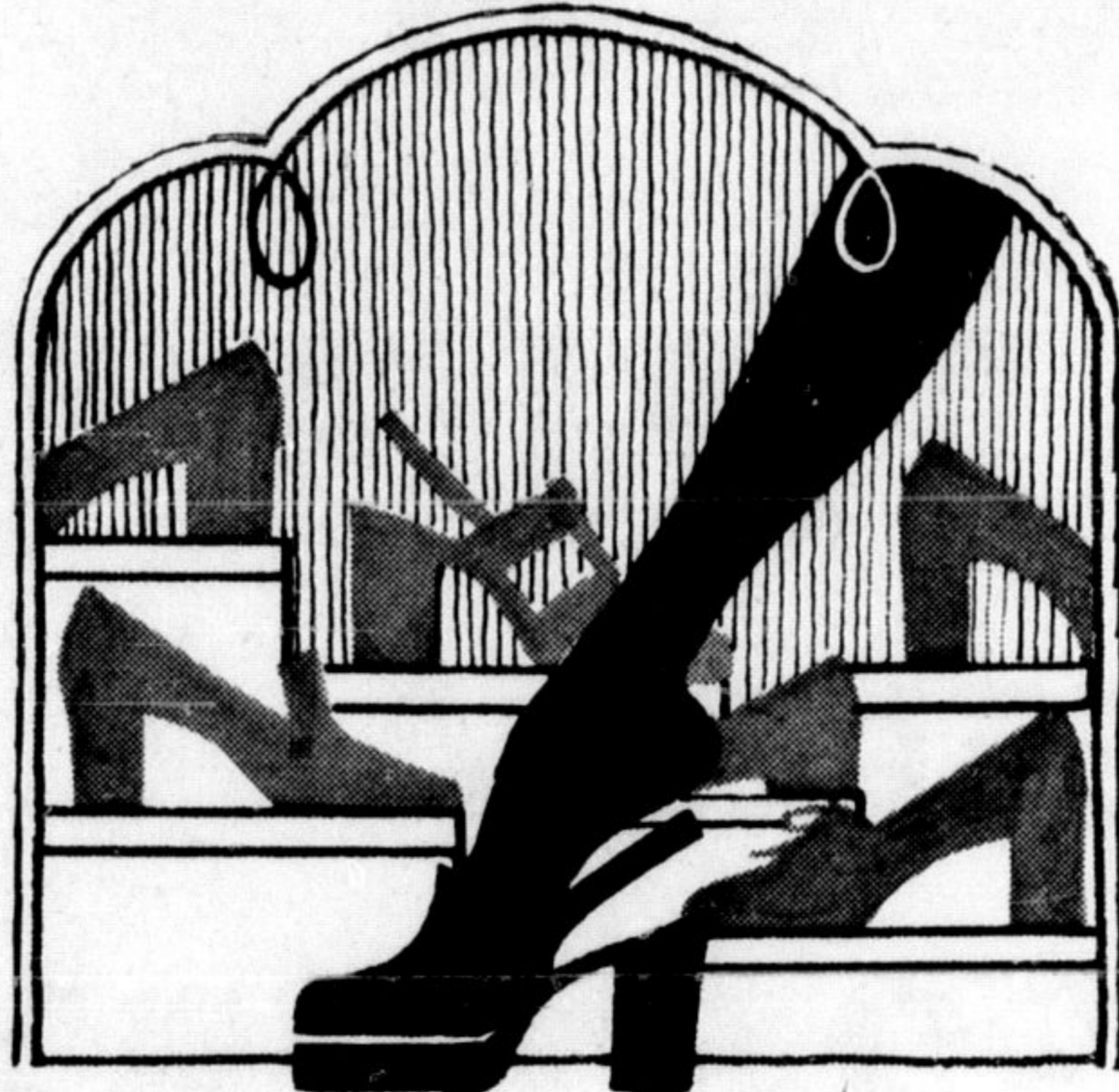
Wareham has pointed out another general meeting is scheduled for Feb. 15 but the location has not yet been determined.

About 30 people attended Friday's meeting.

Smoking

Industries seem to find it as hard to give up smoking as people do.

ROBERT NEWMAN'S ANNUAL



FINAL 3 BIG DAYS

DON'T MISS IT! THURS. FRI. AND SAT.

THIS SALE ENDS SATURDAY FEBRUARY 9th at 6 p.m.

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20% TO 50% SAVINGS

Kids Shoes
by **savage**
REG. TO \$12.98
Sale \$ 6.99

LADIES' SHOES
REG. TO \$17.98
\$ 7.00
SPECIAL
\$ 1.00

BARGAIN TABLES

SNOW BOOTS \$ 3.00
LADIES'

ALL SALES FINAL
• NO EXCHANGES
OR REFUNDS
SOME SALE SPECIALS
INCLUDE BROKEN LINES

PACKARD LADIES' SLIPPERS \$ 3.99
REG. TO \$9.00

MEN'S SNOWBOOTS LEATHER
REG. TO \$24.98

LARGE SELECTION LADIES' SHOES
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SAVE ON THESE
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THUR. & FRI. 9-9
SAT. 9-6

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Shoes LTD

OUR READERS WRITE:

RESERVED PARKING FOR MAYOR "AN INSULT"

Dear Mr. Downs:

To me the "reserved" parking sign for our new mayor is not only an insult to our former mayors, but also it is showing favoritism. Talk about being unkind, that is a very nasty, mean thing to do in my estimation. There was no such consideration for Brian Best in six years or for anyone else, to my knowledge.

Now all of a sudden a parking space is available to our mayor. Talk about prejudice, this is only one example of it in our town, it is also rearing its ugly head in many other areas. But why bother to bring it up now?

The town also might better delve into why we taxpayers helped foot the bill for lunches eaten by members of council after their meetings. Fifty-two dollars might not seem like much to an ordinary Joe but to an old age pensioner who pays taxes, it's a lot of money. It would be nice if we all could eat out and send the town the bill for it.

Yours truly,
Edith Sharpe,
429 Pearl St., Milton.

Pistol missing

A Spanish flintlock pistol is missing from the Mohawk Inn, reported in management Thursday. The pistol has been missing since Jan. 21.

The pistol, made in 1840, is valued at about \$200 reports Milton OPP detachment.

The theft is still under investigation.