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# Reducing our wastes

Halton councillors have been dragged into a debate between the Aluminum Company of Canada and the steel industry of the future of pop cans in Ontario.

The item isn't as superficial as it seems at first glance.

Under current provincial law pop cans have to be 75 per cent steel. Only one end of the can is made of aluminum.

For obvious economic reasons Alcan wants that changed, and there is a certain amount of public benefit to their argument.

According to Tim Porter, a public relations consultant hired by Alcan, aluminum is easier to recycle than steel and has a higher value of the market.

This is really the crux of the entire debate—diverting material away from municipal landfill sites.

Halton is currently in the midst of a long and bitter argument over the siting of a future garbage dump. One of the many aspects of this debate that seems to be overlooked is the need to cut our reliance on landfill in the future.

The only way to do this is to reduce the amount of garbage that has to be dumped and that means developing materials that can be recycled.

Steel pop cans, at the moment cannot be recycled. Aluminum cans can be, judging by the experience in the United States.

To counter the ecological benefits of the aluminum can, steel industry spokesman have argued switching from the current product will mean a massive loss of jobs in their plants.

Halton has given conditional support to the Alcan plan, pending verification of the job figures quoted in the Alcan brief (a loss of only 43 steel jobs and the creation of 1,100 in the recycling industry).

Anything that reduces the amount of waste material produced by our towns and cities should be supported and it seems quite likely the Alcan proposal will have that effect.

It should also spur the economics of other types of recycling by creating a demand for such products, to the benefit of all.

# Sad stats

It was with some pride regional business development director Matt Fischer was able to announce Milton has seen an 11 per cent increase in industrial development, a figure which leads the rest of Halton.

Mayor Gord Krantz went as far as to say the numbers for Milton provide a glimmer of hope for a turnaround in the economic picture of Halton Region with an estimated eight per cent unemployment rate.

However, the rest of the figures for 1982 across the region are far from encouraging.

While Halton had 84 new firms locate in the region, 70 plants closed and another 10 moved out for a net gain of four new firms. Not much, we feel to be cheery about.

To his credit, Mr. Fischer is not going about predicting an end to a sluggish economy based on the fact Milton was able to attract 21 of those 84 new firms with the subsequent creation of 143 jobs.

The most telling statistics is the drastic fall in the number of building permits taken out last year. The number fell 39 per cent in Milton; 49 per cent in Burlington; 70 per cent in Oakville; and a full 72 per cent in neighboring Halton Hills. Across the region that decline was 62 per cent.

With the competition being generated by other municipalities for new industry, Halton needs every

weapon it can muster in order to attract plants and create jobs.

One method we would seriously suggest is a moratorium on or a pay-as-you-go lot levy system. Instead of demanding the money for services up front in a tightly geographic area like an industrial park, let the region put in the services and then take back the levy money at a later date or over a period of time.

Is it so wrong to stop demanding the money now when the region could demand the money at a later date through a binding site development agreement?

Good news travels fast and no where does it move faster than in the industrial-commercial marketplace where presidents and chairmen of the board must look at any fiscal break offered. A small thing like a deferred lot levy could be just enough to make these presidents and chairman look a little further afield from Metro-Mississauga-Durham to job-hungry Halton.

Slick brochures and catchy advertisements in the national press and trade journals is the role of the business development office at the region; but how much more tempting those ads would be if they carried a solid reason for moving to Halton like the chance to build now and pay for the lot levies after the business was established and vibrant.



# viewpoint Kin-folk

WITH JANE MULLER



I am probably not the first woman to break down the barricade, the exclusive masculine bottom line of one of the seemingly secretive all-male service clubs.

I'm hoping I won't be the last either. Before last Wednesday evening, my contact with such groups was limited to promoting certain community projects and fund drives, but never before had I witnessed the regular (?) workings of such an organization.

Although they didn't dub me Kin Jane or slap me with a nickname like Hollywood or Oopsy, the local Kinsmen did make me feel extremely welcome.

To many, service clubs mean little more than the crests seen displayed at highway entrances to cities and towns. Others reap the benefits provided by these groups without even realizing where they come from.

Still others complain all these men do is sell draw tickets.

I really didn't know what to expect from these men who call each other Kin, when I descended the stairs to the Bear Rug Room at the Charles Hotel.

I found the door gave way to my female hands with little resistance, quite unlike the vision I had of bashing down a bastion surrounding club which only men under the age of 40 may join.

One of the first things I learned is that you can't miss seeing a Kinsman.

Upon entering the room where their twice monthly meetings are held, suit jackets are exchanged for bright red knitted vests.

I guess there must be some significance to these besides differentiating them from Vic, the friendly bartender.

Before the admittedly small membership gets down to business, they mingle and socialize and preview the tunes they'd be playing as the Kinsmen kazoo band.

If myself and Champion editor Jim Robinson had not seen the box of gold colored Kazoos sitting on the floor, chances are we would have missed their performance at Halton Centennial Manor, Saturday afternoon.

Actually, if the Kinsmen had not invited my editor to be a guest speaker at their meeting I wouldn't have seen the kazoo or any other facet of the meeting.

Kinsman president Joe Hoch called the dinner meeting to order and out came a strange looking blue plastic top hat.

The curious hat spied by myself from my position at

the head table soon made its purpose known to me.

These guys who fondly refer to each others as "Kin," began fining each other for offences ranging from points of order to conduct (or should I say misconduct) at a party.

I discovered this process which could net a Kinsman with a maximum fine of 25 cents is a unique and amusing way of breaking the ice.

It is especially helpful in prompting new members to become vocal.

The entertainment factor for the Kinsmen and their guests is a bonus of this exercise which could not be denied by anyone who has witnessed it.

The group does get down to business after the dinner and presentations by guest speakers and this portion of the meeting justifies the Kinsmen's role as a "service club."

The 15-member club works with a projected budget of about \$8,000 a year, finding many ways to spend it in this community. Their major project has been the creation of a Participark on the grounds of St. Peter's and Robert Baldwin schools. It is hoped the park, complete with various exercise stations, will be officially opened by the end of May.

The Kinsmen's major charitable support is directed to cystic fibrosis research. The club has several CF "bubbles" at local retail outlets for the receipt of public donations. To further their cause, once a year the membership dresses like bandits from the old west and "holds up" people for CF donations at Milton Mall.

The sponsorship of the Canada Day soap box derby, Heritage Day essay contest, and Milton Minor Baseball are other measures of the Kinsmen's service.

I would be remiss in my duty if I failed to mention the Kinsmen's female counterpart organization, the Kinettes. The membership is about half that of the Kinsmen but they manage to put together events like the annual afternoon party for residents of Halton Centennial Manor.

I trust the collective noses of this town's many other service clubs won't be thrown out of joint by my support of the Kinsmen. Service clubs in general all contribute to making the community a better place to live.

But first encounters, especially of the nature I experienced last Wednesday, usually strike a certain chord with me. As for the Kinsmen, it was definitely a positive note.

# between the willows

WITH DON BYERS

It's gone



It was a raw, mid-winter morning. A skiffing of fresh snow had settled silently overnight.

With the dawn, a brisk breeze had swept the roof of the house clean, leaving the black shingles sharply outlined.

Inside, inspired by the warmth of the woodstove, I again sorted through the folders on Bermuda for which we had written.

As I looked at the many pictures and maps, I was vividly reminded of the four days, in August 1968 when I visited the colony to produce a TV commercial for Mutual Life.

While busy shooting the film most of the time, we did manage to find the time to explore our surroundings.

Bermuda actually comprises 150 islands, although visitors are more familiar with the larger, more populous land masses. All rest upon the summit of an ancient, burned-out, volcanic mountain that rises some 1500 feet from the floor of the Atlantic ocean.

The broad beaches, washed by the warm waves of the Gulf

Stream, are tinted pink, as are the limestone houses. Deprived of fresh streams or rivers, the islanders must depend on the rain for their water, collecting it on their roofs and draining it into cisterns.

Traffic on the narrow roads is a mixture of bicycles, mopeds, motorcycles, taxis and buses. Private automobiles are not allowed. The speed limit is a sizzling 20 mph except in town where it is 15 mph.

At these speeds you are able to look around at the abundant flora: oleander, hibiscus, bougainvillea, poinciana, poinsetta and many others. Bananas, grapefruit, oranges, lemons and limes grow in profusion.

On the day we were to leave the islands for home we checked out of the Princess Hotel and took a cab to St. George the historical village on the north coast.

It was high noon and the blazing heat was oppressive. We toured the cedarscented interior of St. Peter's Church, the oldest Anglican church

site in the Western Hemisphere. In the walled cemetery we read the weathered headstones, noting the brief lifespans of many of the early colonists.

A short walk and we were in the square, staring bemused at the Stocks, Pillary and Whipping Post.

But sun and humidity were taking their toll. We fled to the air-conditioned comfort of a nearby pub where we relaxed and had lunch.

A couple of hours before flight time, we phoned for a cab, no dice. It would be the bus to the airport.

The sky had clouded over while we were in the pub. It threatened rain as we hurried to the nearest bus stop.

On the way, we managed to flag down the only cab in St. George that afternoon. It was the first stage of our return trip to Toronto.

The memory-trip, I have just shared with you, brought about by the colourful folders, is as close as we'll get to Bermuda this year, unfortunately.

As daydreams go... it's gone.

# pages of the past

## One Year Ago

From the February 17, 1982 issue

A decision is expected in the next two or three weeks on a request by a former town councillor for a provincial inquiry into a recent Milton land sale. Former regional councillor Gus Goutouski presented a petition Monday to provincial housing minister Claude Bennett asking for the investigation. Mr. Goutouski has suggested that delays by town officials resulted in taxpayers paying \$45,000 more than was necessary for the former Bill's Auto Body site, next to Town Hall.

With sights set on a spring fundraising campaign, Milton District Hospital Foundation has named Bruce Dolson campaign chairman.

A lengthy quarantine on 22 prize Hanoverian horses at a Milton horse farm may have been all for nothing. The final results of three tests conducted on the horses, owned by K.W. Hermanns of Barcrest Farms, show absolutely no trace of an equine venereal type disease, according to David Buchanan, counsel for Mr. Hermanns.

## 20 Years Ago

From the February 14, 1963 issue

Firemen and company officials are today sifting through the ruins of the 100-year-old Robin Hood Flour Mills on Martin St. trying to find the cause of the fire that gutted the four storey structure early Tuesday morning. The fire that ravaged the interior of the building caused damages in excess of \$100,000. Although the fire was believed to be out at 8:00 p.m. Tuesday when the firemen left it, the fire in the stone mill broke out again early Wednesday morning and firemen had to pour more water on the smouldering embers.

The Milton Council delayed any action on hiring a full-time recreational director. It was suggested a proposed program and the possibility of cooperation between the arena and recreational groups should be considered.

William T. Randell, a veteran of 38 years in Milton Post Office is retiring on Feb. 28. Named to replace him is Walter Bell, presently the senior postal officer at the Milton Post Office.

## 50 Years Ago

From the February 16, 1933 issue

Alexander MacLaren, Superintendent of the United Church Hostel at Norval, was elected on Saturday by acclamation to fill the vacancy on the Georgetown town council, the other nominee, L.E. Fleck, announcing his withdrawal. At the annual election there were an insufficient number of candidates nominated, necessitating the present by-election.

At a meeting of trustees of school section No. 17, Trafalgar, held Tuesday, John Ware, of Campbellville, was awarded the contract for building a new school to replace the one destroyed by fire on Dec. 18 last. The price is \$4,000.

Built more than 100 years ago, the old log house on the farm of A.A. Speers at Bronte has been torn down to make way for a more modern structure. It was built in what was then bush country by George Husband. Several generations occupied the house until the property was purchased by Mr. Speers in 1895.

About 9 o'clock Saturday night, fire of unknown origin completely destroyed the two-storey frame residence of Geo. Miller, Glen Williams.

## 75 Years Ago

From the Feb 13, 1908 issue

The residence of Wm. B. Gunby, was destroyed by fire, last Thursday afternoon. The fire was believed to have originated from a defective chimney, causing an estimated \$1000 damage.

Contributions for the relief of the needy have been freely made. Now the adults are fairly well clothed, and a considerable quantity of bed clothing has been distributed. There is still need of some children's clothing and a few blankets and quilts, and fuel and food are being sent where needed.

Murray H. Williams has retired from the hotel business after being landlord of the Murray House for ten years.

The skating party given by the A.Y.P.A. of Grace Church in the rink last evening was very enjoyable to the skaters. The rain outside made it unpromising outdoors, but a bright rink, good ice, and a happy crowd made it pleasant inside.

The annual meeting of the Farmers Bank of Canada will be held at the head office, Toronto, next Wednesday, the 19th, at 2 p.m.

At a Farmers club meeting last week, all executive positions were elected and filled, with W.J. Stinson taking the president's seat.