

OUR READERS WRITE

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

• from **WHAT IS** on page 6
with this power. What however, would a New Democrat or a Liberal government do?

Is this the kind of power we want any individual to have? Do we want any government to be able to change important items without checks and balances and without consultation or accountability? Is this the kind of province you wish to live in and raise your children? I for one do not.

Bill 160 even allows the minister to dismiss any employee who does not comply fully with orders from the Ministry of Education. This includes teachers, but could also include trustees in boards of educa-

Editorial tows line

Dear Editor:

Your editorial of Tuesday, Oct. 28 and the letter you chose to print in that issue of The Champion managed to obediently toe the Tory line without yielding a single measure of justification for the teachers of Halton and their current strike.

This is a sad situation, as you said. By lip-synching Mike Harris's message, you neglected to make the underlying rationale for Bill 160 evident to your readers. Bill 160 has nothing to do with improving the quality of education. The education system is not broken. Bill 160 has everything to do with cutting funds out of essential government programs to fund tax cuts. The cuts stemming from Bill 160 will do long-term, systemic damage to the education of every child in Halton and ultimately, to Ontario's competitiveness in the global economy.

True, parents will be saving money through these tax cuts. But in Alberta, where this type of legislation already exists, parents are having to raise money to buy pencils and textbooks so their children can do homework. This downloading will ultimately take cash out of the wallets of every parent who has school-aged kids. Bill 160 will also hasten the evolution of a two-tiered education system: a private system for those who can afford it, and a degraded, underfunded and short-staffed system for the rest of us. This will be the legacy of Bill 160 and the Harris government. A very sad situation indeed. Halton's teachers are to be applauded and supported.

Bill Templeman
Milton

Bill 160 damaging

Dear Editor:

Recent letters and editorials in your newspaper have only reinforced the damage the Tory government is doing to education. Instead of dealing with real issues and meaningful change, this government has been on a public relations campaign to serve its own agenda.

The strength of public education has always been cooperation and trust between government, local boards, teachers, parents and students. The current government has only served to destroy that cooperation and trust.

If this government has its way, the future of education will be decided in the back rooms of Queen's Park with elected trustees, parents, students and educators left out of the process. I can only hope that the students of Ontario will not suffer the consequences of its actions.

Larry Jaroslowski, teacher
E.C. Drury High School

tion, and these are elected officials. If you elect them to represent you, the minister can fire them. Is this democracy?

Some have stated that we have a democracy because Mr. Harris was elected, and we can choose to vote him out in two years. By then, without public pressure to the contrary, Bill 160 will be law and we will have no more say in the matters of education. It is for that reason that we have to act now.

It is also important to remember Adolf Hitler was also elected to office and went about the process of consolidating his power.

It is up to the public to keep an eye on their elected officials, voice

their opinions and exercise their democratic rights to speak out against a corrupt government. This is democracy.

Teachers and the public should no longer be focusing attention on the other issues, important as they may be, until these sections of the bill are eliminated. That is what I am fighting for.

That is why I am on the picket line and giving up my income, and that is why the media, the legislature and the public at large should stand with teachers in protest of this unjust and despicable law.

Tom Martin
Milton

"So, when is this Fuller O'Brien coming to Milton?"
"Don't know, but it's soon I hear."
"Can't wait"

MILTON THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MILTON MILTON IS NOW ON-LINE
<http://www.town.milton.on.ca>

Writing Contest!

YOU COULD WIN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING PRIZES:

1. Two tickets to the Milton Players Theatre Group Winter performance - "Opening Night", courtesy of Milton Players
2. A "FREE" program of your choice at the Seniors' Activity Centre
3. Book - title to be determined, courtesy of Smithbooks, Milton Mall
4. "Biographies" Volume 2, courtesy of Milton Historical Society

TO ENTER:

The Milton Seniors' Activity Centre & the Milton Public Library invite members of the Milton Community to submit a short story (500 words or less) highlighting -

"What does it mean to be a Senior Citizen today?"

- Entries must be submitted on 8 1/2 by 11 inch paper. Print neatly or type on one side of page only and include your name, address, and telephone number.
- Submit your story to one of the following locations:
1-Milton Seniors' Activity Centre, 500 Childs Drive
2-Milton Public Library, 45 Bruce Street
- Deadline for entries is: November 14th, 1997
- Entries will be judged based on clarity, style, content, and creativity.
- Winners will be notified in writing and/or by telephone by December 15th, 1997
- Winning entries will be published in local newspaper.

Durante's

AUTO SERVICE AND TOWING INC.

GEAR UP FOR WINTER!

LUBE, OIL & FILTER INCLUDES 21 POINT INSPECTION & FREE TIRE ROTATION \$21.95
Large selection of used tires available

In-town Towing \$20.00

878-7200 SERVICE HOURS:
MONDAY - FRIDAY: 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
SATURDAY: 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.
Located on Hwy 25, just north of 401

Derry Auto Wash
and
The Salvation Army's CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

Derry Auto Wash and the Salvation Army have joined together to collect food for the needy for this Christmas Season.

With any donations of the following:

- Pasta
- Rice
- Baby Formula
- Dried Potatoes
- Dried Milk
- Tuna
- Canned Goods

50¢ WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM OUR REGULAR WASH PRICE OF \$4.00.

DERRY AUTO WASH
575 ONTARIO ST. S.
876-0408

MILTON THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MILTON MILTON IS NOW ON-LINE
<http://www.town.milton.on.ca>

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Applications are now being accepted by the Acting Town Clerk for appointment to the following Committees:

- Downtown Business Improvement Area (5 members required)
- Milton District Hospital Board (1 member required)
- Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (2 members required)
- Leisure Services Advisory Committee (1 member required)

For Committee appointments, the successful applicant must be a resident of Milton, or an owner or tenant of land in the municipality, or the spouse of an owner or tenant, and be a minimum of eighteen years of age on the date of appointment.

Please apply in writing, stating your qualifications. Applications will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. on November 14th, 1997. Further details may be obtained by contacting the Clerk's Office at 878-7211, extension 131.

Mrs. Helen Lisi, Acting Town Clerk
The Corporation of the Town of Milton
Victoria Park Square, P.O. Box 1005, Milton, Ontario, L9T 4B6

Congratulations Mike!

10 YEARS OF EXCELLENT SERVICE TO ALL YOUR MANY TRAVEL CLIENTS!
COME SEE MIKE TO BOOK YOUR NEXT CRUISE
WE HAVE —
"Cruise Into the Millenium space available. Call Now!"

The way to go!
Bruce Hood
Travel

16 Martin Street
878-2886