

# RC teachers will not be locked out -- for now

By CAROL BALDWIN

Special to The Champion

Halton's 375 Catholic secondary school teachers will not be locked out. Not this week anyway.

Admitting that the situation was less than ideal, James Sherlock, chair of the Halton Catholic District School Board, announced at Tuesday's board meeting that supervision at the high schools would continue to be provided by non-union faculty members during the teachers' one-period-per-day strike.

Under Bill 160 the secondary school teachers' workload has been increased to 1,250 minutes in the classroom a week. The Halton Catholic board has met this requirement by scheduling teachers into seven out of eight classes, instead of the previous six of eight. Those scheduled for an additional class this semester have refused to teach it, and are being docked 25 per cent of their pay by the board.

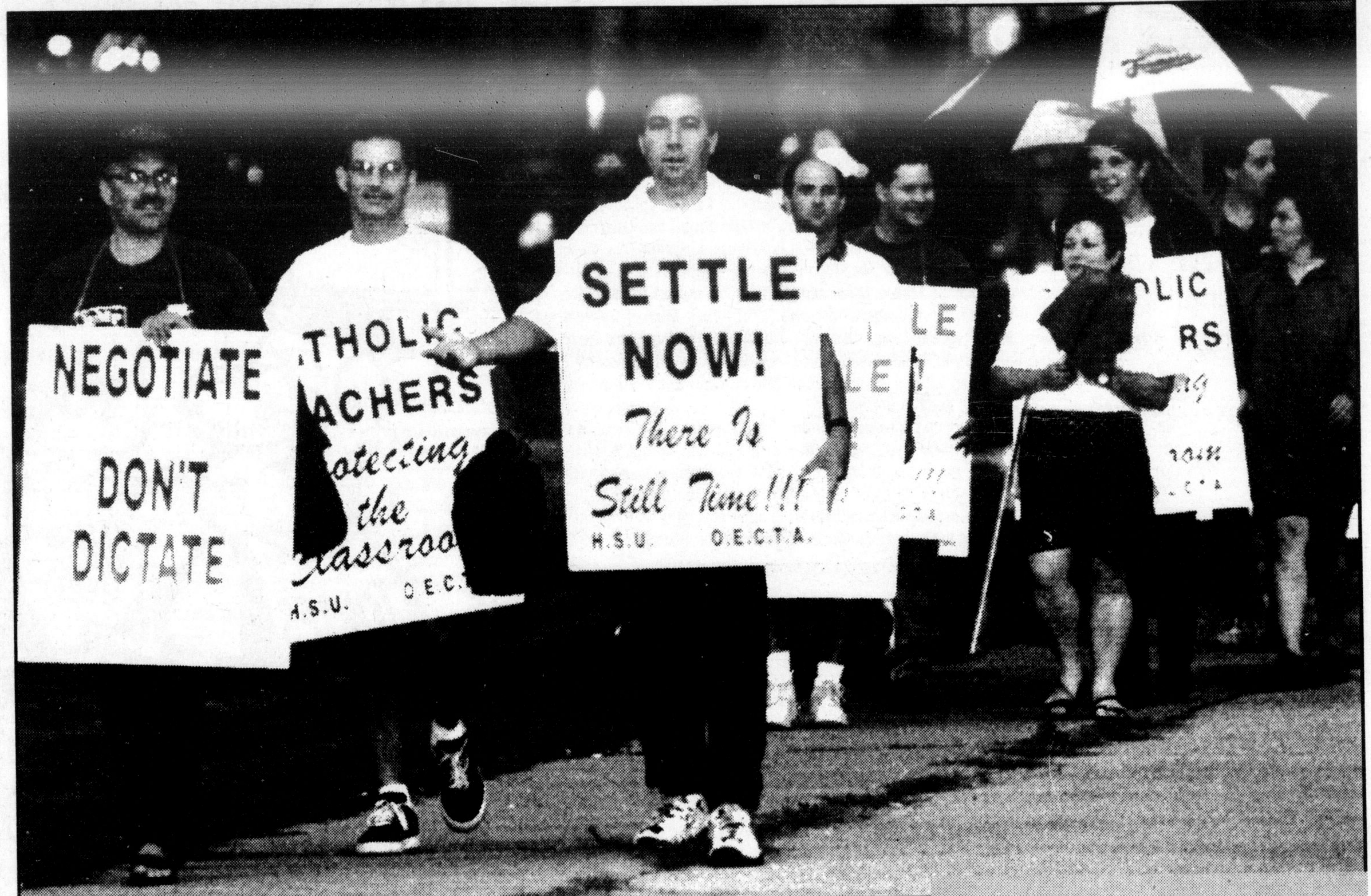
"The principals and vice-principals are providing the best supervision that they can for students who have been abandoned during classes while the teachers are refusing to teach those periods to which they are assigned," Mr. Sherlock said.

He said board members will "teleconference" every night to discuss any new developments.

"We will be getting status reports every night to review the situation. If circumstances change so that there are very significant safety concerns, the board would have to look at considering closing the schools."

Mr. Sherlock said he considered it the province's responsibility to restore some semblance of stability to Ontario schools.

"It's my opinion that the province has tried to do too much too fast and that's part of the problem," he said in an interview before the public portion of the board meeting. "We deeply regret that our students are not receiving the full program to which they are entitled."



The Halton Catholic District School Board has joined six other large Catholic school boards in asking Minister of Education Dave Johnson intervene immediately to resolve the province-wide labour dispute with teachers.

In a letter sent to Mr. Johnson on September 16, the chairs of the seven Catholic School boards say they have complied with Bill 160 and its requirement to reduce the average class size

in secondary schools to 22 pupils.

The letter to the minister states, "The teachers' provincial union leaders are unwilling to allow local teacher units to negotiate collective agreements in ways which meet the spirit of the Education Act."

The six other Catholic school boards are those in Toronto, Dufferin-Peel, Durham, Hamilton-Wentworth, Simcoe-Muskoka and York.

Photo by BARRY ERSKINE

Halton Roman Catholic teachers march in protest outside the school board offices in Burlington Tuesday night.

## Distemper vaccination

A distemper vaccine has been approved by the federal government to protect dogs from the disease.

The vaccination has been tested and is on the market in the United States. It is available in Canada now that national testing here has been completed.

The vaccine is under the trade name Recombitek and is produced by Merial Canada.

## INSERTS

Friday Sept. 18, 1998

- Bounty
- Canadian Tire
- China House
- Garden Gallery
- Radio Shack
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- Vito's Pizza

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<b>RE/MAX</b>	<b>SUNDAY 2-4 PM</b> 235 Bronte, Unit 22 \$135,900 Gladys Cranford in attendance <b>RE/MAX BLUE SPRINGS REALTY CORP. 878-7777</b>
<b>RE/MAX</b>	<b>SUNDAY 2-4 PM</b> 742 Syer Drive \$239,900 Glen Thomas in attendance <b>RE/MAX BLUE SPRINGS REALTY CORP. 878-7777</b>
<b>RE/MAX</b>	<b>SUNDAY 1-4 PM</b> 1 Palomino Drive (Carlisle) \$345,900 Gary Thomas in attendance <b>RE/MAX BLUE SPRINGS REALTY CORP. 878-7777</b>
<b>Better Homes &amp; Gardens</b>	<b>SUNDAY 2-4 PM</b> 465 Woodlawn Cres. \$189,900 Chris Newell in attendance <b>MAIN ST. BETTER HOMES &amp; GARDENS 878-4444</b>

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