

That's My Line



Alice Smith and Eunice Buck Forum on Bill 82

by RON JOHNSON

Guest speakers at Wednesday's Midland Rotary Club luncheon were Eunice Buck of the Huronia Association for the Mentally Retarded, and Alice Smith, a special education representative from the Simcoe County Board of Education.

Topic of their discussion was Bill 82, the controversial amendment to the 1974 Education Act.

Basis of the Bill is the format that after 1985, all school boards in Ontario will be responsible for training all educable special or exceptional students.

To better enlighten people on the Bill, it serves better to delineate exactly what an exceptional student is.

According to Alice Smith, "there are five separate types of exceptional or special students who need attention in our school systems."

First the communicationally handicapped, or those with speech or language learning disabilities. Next there are the physically handicapped, those who have vision, audio, or physical impairments. Thirdly there are the intellectually exceptional students. These include those at both ends of the spectrum, both very gifted, and the slow learners.

Fourth are the behaviourally handicapped, those with emotional problems, and fifth, there are the group of students who are multiply impaired, or those who exhibit impairments under two or more of the other headings.

Identification of the pupils' handicaps is the most important step in fulfilling that student's special education needs. For this purpose, the boards of education have IPRC's or Identification, Placement, and Recognition Committees.

According to Smith, these exception students are individuals, and as such often require different types of special education. For instance, a full-time classroom program might be the answer for some, while a hearing-impaired student may only need a

technical aid like a hearing aid for his or her special education technique.

Eunice Buck works with mentally retarded students in Huronia, and stated that she thought the Ministry of Education was not giving enough direction to the special education of these students in Ontario.

"There are no curricula or specific guidelines for the special education in Ontario. This signifies a large short-coming on the Ministry's behalf," she explained.

All regular students and their education needs are set out in Ministry curricula. Such is not the case for exceptional students.

Before the Bill 82 becomes a permanent fixture in the Education Act, educators have an opportunity to send in updates, revisions, and requirements on a yearly basis.

Parents of affected students are also involved in the setting up of the final draught of the Bill.

Both Buck and Smith agree that the most important facet of special education programs is that they meet and be flexible to the needs of the students. After all, they are the future of our province and our country.

Practical research subject of meeting

Family history is much more than a compilation of names and statistics. The delights, hazards, and possibilities for the family researcher and or local historian were unfolded by Mrs. Gladys Train of Stayner on March 1, at the Blue Flame Room, Barrie.

There, a combined meeting of the Simcoe County Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society and the Simcoe County Historical Association brought a large gathering to hear about the potentialities and difficulties of serious research in Simcoe County.

Whether history or family is the main pursuit of the researcher, the audience learned that each is inextricably intertwined with the other. Thus a family history can be sociology, biography, economics, or history, among other things.

When a family's statistical record is combined successfully with human interest stories, then a book becomes a social history and might even be a best seller. Diaries, too, are a very valuable source of information far beyond the personal life of the writer.

Among many other points for the genealogist and or historian, Mrs. Train mentioned the value of writing memoirs or keeping diaries; of keeping a box for clippings and notices of births, deaths, marriages, ect.; the use of church records, and sometimes even poetry.

For any researcher, secondary sources must be substantiated by primary sources to be considered valid.

When a book is published, privately or otherwise, by law two copies must be sent to

the National Librarian. Unfortunately many local histories have gone out of print, without this law being followed, and valuable resource material is thus lost to the general public.

Mrs. Train made available to anyone who would like a copy, a four-page list of resources for research in Simcoe County.

Mrs. Train's own

experiences in research, both in history and genealogy, in this county have made her personally a valuable asset to both organizations.

The next meeting of the Genealogy Society, also at the Blue Flame Room, on April 5, will have for guest speaker Mr. John Burtiak, president of O.G.S. (Ontario Genealogical Society).

We're glad you asked!



Jim Lynn
Funeral Director

IS IT WRONG TO CRY?

When a friend or loved one dies, it is only natural for you to give way to grief-and for you to cry.

Tears are therapeutic in more ways than many of us realize. They give us an emotional outlet, providing us with specific physical action that we can perform. At the realization that a friend or relative is gone, tears may come easily for both adult and child - and this is good!

Most people do not need encouragement to cry, since it is so natural to weep in sorrow. It is not unmasculine to cry at the death of a loved one or a dear friend. It's a misconception that "big boys shouldn't cry." This is all a part of the "stiff upper lip" and "grin and bear it." If there is an emotional hurt, then the pain should be recognized, acknowledged, and expressed-in this case, through tears.

Your questions and comments on this and other subjects are welcome-in private or publicly through this column.

JL James H. Lynn **OFA**
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SCRSSB ends '82 in the black: report

The 1982 audited financial report of the Simcoe County Roman Catholic Separate School Board was presented Wednesday evening to the board by the firm of Greer, Flemming and Rolland Co.

It shows the school board ended on a plus note to the tune of \$2,039, which isn't bad going since the board's budget last year was nearly \$16 million.

It was noted this week, the RC Board won't bring down its new 1983 budget until the province sorts out a new grant structure for boards such as the SCRSSB.

The Alliance Church

829 Yonge St., Midland

ANNUAL MISSIONARY CONVENTION

It's Exciting!

It's Informative!

It's Inspiring!

It's for YOU-Don't Miss It!

Sunday, March 20, 7:00 p.m.

Rev. David Freeman-District Headquarters.
Topic "HOME MISSIONS"

Wednesday and Thursday, March 23 and 24 7:30 p.m.

Rev. John Hall-Missionary from ECUADOR

Friday, March 25, 7:30 p.m.

Rev. Doug Wiebe-Missionary from HONG KONG

Saturday-Don't miss the exciting MISSIONARY ENCOUNTER!

4:00 to 5:00 p.m. EXPERIENCE Culture Shocks felt by the missionaries.

5:15 to 6:30 p.m. ENJOY an International Pot Luck Dinner

6:45 to 8:00 p.m. ENTER into a panel discussion

Participating Missionaries

Rev. D. Wiebe-Hong Kong / Rev. Ed & Mrs. Vandermeer-Irian Jaya / Miss Marion-Jean Grant-Pakistan / Mr. & Mrs. Ed Webster-Philippines.

SUNDAY MARCH 27

11 a.m. Rev. Wiebe-Hong Kong

7:00 p.m. **A Thrilling Finale**

"REJOICE", a group of Young Singers from Hamilton present
'A MISSIONARY CANTATA'

Visit the display booths-talk to the missionaries test your knowledge on our mission computer.



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