

Charges Education System Spends More And Gets Less — Places Blame On Experts

A leading Oshawa educator did some plain talking at the annual convention of Associated High School Boards of Ontario held at Niagara Falls. The speaker was A. E. O'Neill, a former High School Principal, a past president and life-member of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation, and now a member of Oshawa Board of Education.

The speaker charged that officials of boards of education are the arch agents in the decline of education. "These people" he said "are late arrivals on the education scene. Since education became big business, the system has proliferated a host of administrators, directors, superintendents, inspectors, supervisors, specialists and experts who, having themselves escaped from the toil and hazards of the classroom, seem bent on climbing

high on the backs of those who have been left behind.

"These officials and former teachers soon lose interest in learning and sharing that learning with pupils.

"Increasingly they become immersed in administration, its techniques and routines, which has little to do with study, intellectual curiosity or, in short, education in the real sense of that term.

"They set up as experts and, not being particularly interested in the learning itself, devote themselves to a ritual of routine, to methods, systems, the expansion of school activities, plant, staff and, too often, themselves.

Mr. O'Neill was received by an audience that laughed, applauded and sat in disapproving silence.

It was a moment such as one

delegate said later, they had waited 20 years to witness.

"We have had too many namby-pamby time-wasting addresses on this subject," said Mr. O'Neill. "It is time to shock somebody, somehow, into a searching look at this Frankenstein monster: Free, compulsory, public education for all.

Denying that "there is nothing wrong with education that a lot of money won't cure," he said: "There is much wrong with education and a scarcity of money will improve it."

He charged the present educational system with continuing to squander more and more money for less and less education.

He said education was big business not because more and more young people were compelled to go to school and remain longer "but because the schools under the drive of ambitious professional, vote-catching politicians and stary-eyed dogooders have undertaken through education much that could come more easily, naturally and effectively from the home, church, occupation, social clubs, recreational groups and so forth.

He said the Ontario Department of Education "is politically based and biased and must keep its eye on the future and its ear to the ground. From the minister to the humblest clerk the unpublicized slogan is: Play it safe and avoid trouble."

"I ask you," he continued "How many teachers and administrative hours are lost without adequate education compensation in attending meetings, going to conferences, making the rounds of conventions, telephoning, programming, arranging extra-curricular activities, in public relations and in pushing paper across desks?

He said trustees were overworked, confused, and harassed lot who found themselves struggling with an already unmanageable camel that had got its head in the tent. Conscientious souls who would like to do something for education, found themselves frustrated, bewildered & helpless.

"The experts take over," he said. "They prevent their failures from catching up with them by keeping the attention centred on innovations designed to be corrective and curative. By pouring water copiously on the duck's back it is hoped enough will get through."

Richildaca News

Last week in this column we told you about our swimming tests and system of awards. Some people have been asking about meals we will be serving on our canoe trips and our camp-outs with the Day Camp. So here are the menus for two days on the canoe trip.

Tuesday - Breakfast - Grapefruit sections, Hot oatmeal, Brown sugar, milk, Toast, Jam, Coffee.

Lunch - Chicken Noodle soup, Prem sandwiches, Chocolate pudding, Lime Punch.

Dinner - Beef Stew, Apple Sauce, Gingerbread, Tea.

Snack - Marshmallows and Hot Chocolate.

Wednesday - Breakfast - Stewed Prunes, Pancakes and Maple Syrup, Coffee.

Lunch - Scrambled Eggs, Toast, Butterscotch Pudding, Chocolate Milk Shake.

Dinner - Onion Soup, Spaghetti and Meat Balls, Lemon Pie, Tea.

Snack - Pop Corn, Hot Chocolate.

The above menus should indicate how well-fed you will be, if you come with us to Algonquin Park this summer. Let me assure you that the other meals along the trip will be equally as exciting, and substantial. Those of you who are nutritionally minded will note how well-balanced the meals are.

Our Day Camp meals are provided for the campers on the over-night to Kettleby, where they receive supper, breakfast, and lunch. Here is a sample menu for the three meals:

Dinner - Beef Stew, Boiled Potatoes, Butterscotch Pudding, Cookies and Milk.

Evening Snack - Hot Chocolate and Marshmallows.

Breakfast - Apple Juice, Porridge, Toast and Jam, Milk.

Lunch - Soup, Hot Dogs, Apple-sauce and Cookies, Milk.

It is important to note that all water used for drinking or cooking on the over-nights will be treated with Halozone pills (Chlorination).

Registration - The warmer weather seems to have made people vacation-minded, because the camp periods have been filling up gradually during the past week. Camp two seems to be the most popular; but there are plenty of vacancies in all three periods of Day Camp. Teen Camp is almost filled now with only seven vacancies left in the three trips together. By the time you read this we may well be filled to capacity. Those who have no registration forms should phone TU. 4-2844 immediately.

Next week I shall tell you about some of the wonderful crafts we have planned for Day Camp this summer.

VICTORIA SQUARE NEWS

CORRESPONDENT: MRS. W. SANDLE
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Couples Club

The Couples Club enjoyed an evening of bowling last week. Following the bowling they returned to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Barry King where a short business meeting was conducted by the president, Mr. John McCague.

Lions

Lions Club President-elect Lawson Mumberson and Mrs. Mumberson, Lions Frank Williams and Donald Boynton are attending the Lions District A Convention being held this week in the Chateau Laurier, in Ottawa.

The Victoria Square and District Lions Club are operating a fast Car-Wash at George Brant B.P. Service Station, Gormley, on Saturday, June 11. It will be on for all day and will provide a chance to get the tedious chore done for a moderate charge and support your local service club at the same time.

Remember that the Lions will be having their Big Annual Auction Sale and Fun Fare in September again. Although it seems a long way off, they are already collecting articles to go on the block. If your spring cleaning turns up anything that can possibly be re-used don't throw it out, instead call any member of the Lions Club and we will arrange to pick it up.

Plans are well under way for the Lions Club participation in the Community Centre Carnival and Field Day and if all the schemes come to fruition it should be a red-letter week-end.

The first All Explorer Rally for the York Presbytery was held in the Aurora United Church on Saturday afternoon, with 150 girls and 20 leaders in attendance.

Those from here who attended were: Mrs. P. Bennett, Kathy Burton, Jean Clarke, Berta Story, Dianne Koning, Barbara Harrison, Barbara Empringham, Sharon Dennie and Ellen Hoadley. Dr. Margaret Arkinstal, president of the York Presbytery gave a talk to the girls.

On Saturday, June 11, at 1 p.m. the Gilmor Clan are holding their 7th Re-Union on the Ratcliffe Youth Centre grounds. All members are invited to come and bring their lunch basket, beverage will be supplied.

The church service on Sunday morning was in charge of our student minister, Mr. Garry McEachern. Next Sunday, June 13, at 11:30 a.m. the service will be in charge of Dr. A. F. Binnington.

The annual Memorial Day Service will be held on Sunday, June 13, at 11:30 a.m. with Dr. Binnington in charge. There will be special music. A Nursery Class will be held at this time for all pre-school children.

The annual Sunday School Anniversary service will be held on Sunday, June 12, at 11:30 a.m. The guest speaker will be Rev. J. H. Bole of the Schomberg United Church. It is hoped that our new Jr. Choir just formed will be providing the special music.

Neighbourhood Notes

Birthday Greetings to: Wallace MacDonald who on June 3 will be eight years old; to Betty Glover for June 4; to Mrs. Neil Morrison for June 4; to Dr. A. F. Binnington for June 5; to Mrs. Carl Walker for June 6; to Bert Moorby for June 6; to Bruce Rummy who will be one year old on June 8.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Buchanan who on June 1st will be celebrating their third wedding anniversary; to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hill who on June 1st will be celebrating their twenty-second wedding anniversary; to Mr. and Mrs. Allan Orr who on June 4 will be celebrating their eleventh wedding anniversary.

Mrs. Olive Williams spent a few days last week with Miss Mabel Sanderson.

Master David Night spent the week-end with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. A. Tatton.

Mrs. W. Bruce, Mrs. S. Young, Mrs. John Bruce and Miss Genevieve Bruce called on Mrs. R. Perkins on Saturday evening.

Mrs. Olive Williams, Miss Mabel Sanderson, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Barber, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Collard, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Empringham and Margaret, Mr. and Mrs. John Empringham, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Orr, Mr. and Mrs. Allan Orr, Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Jarvis, Mr. Fraser Gee, Mr. Heber McCague attended the celebration for Mr. Moff Cockburn at the Fraserdale Farm on Wednesday afternoon of last week.

Mrs. Douglas Fry of Toronto, Mrs. Arthur Fry, Sr. of Caledon East visited with Dr. and Mrs. A. F. Binnington on Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Orr, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Orr and family, Mr. and Mrs. Allan Orr and family, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Johnston and family attended the Sunday School Anniversary service at the Hope United Church on Sunday morning. Mrs. Gordon Orr and Mrs. Allan Orr sang a duet.

The many friends of Mrs. H. Attwood (Mrs. Willow's sister), are sorry to hear of her illness.

Mrs. H. McCague attended the conferring of degrees of the Toronto University last week when Jean Sisler received her B.A. having taken Modern Languages and Literatures 4 year honour course. Miss Sisler is Mrs. McCague's niece.

Mrs. R. Perkins had Sunday evening dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Albert Naylor at Richmond Hill. Masters Gordon Berta and Terry Hart spent the week-end at Haliburton.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Wilson and family spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. John Empringham.

Mrs. C. Story entertained several of her neighbours to "Afternoon Tea" on Tuesday of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hodgson of Hamilton, Mrs. Margaret Sanderson, of Toronto, Mrs. Knappman of Toronto called on Miss Mabel Sanderson on Sunday evening.

Will the W.M.S. members remember that the W.M.S. will not meet on its regular date, but on Saturday, June 18th, when the Baby Band Graduation will take place.

Mr. and Mrs. Abram Lehman, of Carlisle, Penn., called on Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Steckley on Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Steckley and their grandchildren, the MacDonalds, attended the annual military church service held in the University Campus, on Sunday, they had Sunday evening dinner with Mrs. John MacDonald in her apartment.

A meeting of the Vacation School committee of the Victoria Square church has been called for Monday evening, June 6th at 8 p.m. in the Headford United Church.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Avison and Miss Ruby Avison of Lansing called on Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Morrison and family on Sunday evening. Mr. Avison stayed overnight and called on friends in the community on Monday.

On Saturday morning, Brown Owl, Mrs. G. Hardie and Lanny Owl, Mrs. H. Varden took the Brownies on a hike to Heise's bush. The Brownies enjoyed themselves very much.

The May meeting of the W.M.S. was held on Wednesday afternoon of last week at the home of Mrs. John Empringham with a large attendance. The Supply Secretary, Mrs. G. Brands took charge of the worship service. Mrs. N. Brodie read the Scripture. Mrs. H. Deverell gave a very inspiring message on Christian Citizenship. Mrs. H. Acre gave a talk on Temperance, she also gave a report on the World Mission Night which she attended on April 7. A card was signed by all present to be sent to Miss Mary Thomas, congratulating her on her recent graduation from the United Church Training School. Miss Thomas was the guest speaker at the W. M. S. church service held on April 24.

As this was the meeting for the annual clothing drive for the bale a considerable amount was received. Mrs. McCague conducted the business portion. Dainty refreshments were served at the close by the hostess.

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