

Letters

Teacher responds to Hohener letter

I have been a teacher for more than 20 years and a parent for only slightly fewer.

More often than not, the contacts that I have had with teachers (as a parent) and with parents (as a teacher) have been very rewarding experiences.

It has often occurred to me that a closer relationship between parents and teachers through a Home and School Association might have some benefits for the education of our children.

I never understood why I (along with most school principals apparently)

was loath (or loth, but not both and certainly not loathe) to join such an association, until I read the letter from Marion Hohener that you published in last week's Liberal.

I WAS averse, I suppose, and after reading that letter AM even more averse, to joining a group, several members of which might be in it, not because they have a disinterested interest in education and the well-being of students, but because such a group offers them a heaven-sent opportunity to promote themselves, their own

children or some political power group that needs a convenient place to meet (like a school gym) or a convenient issue (teachers' salaries) or a convenient whipping-boy (teachers?) to keep its ball rolling.

There was, too, my conviction that no Home and School Association could be guaranteed to do more for the benefit of education than is already being done by parents and teachers co-operating with one another in all sorts of activities ranging from formal meetings to discuss individual problems of individual students and teachers, to active participation on both sides in activities designed to make school plays, students exchanges, dances, field trips, commencements and many other aspects of school life successful.

Admittedly, in many of these activities the teachers play a visible role, while parents make their contributions from behind the scenes (a position it is hard to imagine Marion Hohener getting caught in).

Mrs. Hohener likes to be up front, with a collection of disgruntled people (and guess who disgruntled them) behind her, without much knowledge, experience or thought, she can play on the ignorance, fears and prejudices of her followers to blast the

teaching profession with (not lies but) untruths. Unless Mrs. Hohener had bothered to participate in a P.A. day, she might have been able to enlighten readers as to what such a day really is, presuming, rather naively, that her purpose WAS enlightenment.

Professional Activity (sometimes known as P.D. or Professional Development days) are days on which teachers are released from the classroom so that they can get together with each other, senior administrators, Ministry of Education officials, inside and outside experts, doctors, psychologists, (anyone who can help) and participate in activities designed to broaden their knowledge of education or improve their skills.

They are NOT holy days on which the faithful are forbidden to ski, frequent taverns or go shopping.

In my experience, they have varied in quality. Sometimes they are illuminating experiences and sometimes they are pure boredom.

Sometimes, of course, they are a mixture of the two.

Imagine listening to and talking to a foremost expert in your educational field, then bumping into Mrs. Hohener when you went to lunch at the nearest

tavern! Such a forum exists and, in writing to The Liberal, she and I are using it.

The CAG (Citizens Advisory Group) should use it more often, thereby reaching a wider possible audience than can be squeezed into the Town's Council Chambers.

Perhaps Jim Monkman, Stewart Roberts and Tony Voutsinos, presumably high-ranking officials in the CAG-sponsored "Richmond

Hill Education Committee", might care to write to The Liberal letters which would persuade readers that the CAG and its committees are something more—and better—than Marion Hohener's letter has led anyone to suspect.

P. M. Kelly
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Richmond Hill

EDITOR'S NOTE: Indeed, the Letters to the Editor section is open to anyone in the community. Letters are not changed, although we do insist on a signature that we may print, and we ask that you keep your submissions as tight as possible. Needless to say, potentially dangerous or libellous letters will not be printed.

Ball president says thanks to participants

As President of the Oak Ridges Minor Ball Association for the 1978 and 1979 seasons, I would like to thank the following people:

EXECUTIVES: Vice-president Barry Bingham; Secretary Nancy Lusk; Treasurer Francis Warner; Head Convener Bud Deering; Diamond Convener Norma Ritza; Umpire in Chief Jim Birnie; Equipment Manager and Grounds Keeper Norm Heintzman.

SPONSORS: Carcone's Esso and Aurora Vehicle Recycling; Richmond Heights Plaza's Stop 'N Shop, Stereo Factory and Record Shop; Ziebart — Richmond Hill; Gormley Well Drilling; Richmond Hill Kinsmen Club; Linear Sound and Video Centre; Oak Ridges Shoe Store; Purdy Auto Body; Doane Hall Pharmacy; Gallacher's Food Market; Sisman's of Canada; Alex Brockton Construction.

COACHES, MANAGERS & TRAINERS: Caroline Lusk, Mike Crolla, Gary Philpott, Pete Lacey, Scott Richardson, John Sayers, Barb Lusk, Warren Lusk, Phil Lusk, Peter Kanitz, Kirk Miller, Jim Birnie, Mike Deering, Fred Rawding, Frank

Mashinter, Ed Leary, Ray Fletcher, Barry Bingham, Larry Ritza, Pat Lusk, Chris O'Grady, Karen Anderson, Mike O'Flaherty, Celine Cowen and Dave Oakley.

The umpires who gave of their time for the games in Oak Ridges and a special thanks to Brenda Birnie for her assistance throughout the season.

Richmond Hill Parks and Recreation for their help, and the Ministry of Culture and Recreation for a Wintario grant.

Jack Ward
Oak Ridges

THORNHILL LODGE
BINGO
EVERY MONDAY NIGHT
7:30 P.M. EARLYBIRDS 8:00 P.M. REGULAR GAMES
THORNHILL COMMUNITY CENTRE
JOHN ST. AND BAYVIEW AVE., THORNHILL
JACKPOT \$1,000.00
MONDAY, DEC. 1st, 1979 CONSOLATION JACKPOT \$500.00 MUST GO

RICHMOND HILL HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMMISSION 1980 RATE SCHEDULE

During the month of October 1979, the Commission was informed by Ontario Hydro that the wholesale cost of power was being increased January 1, 1980, by an average of 16.4% to the Municipal Hydro Commissions in Ontario. The wholesale cost of power represents 80% of the Commission's operating expenses in any one year. It was therefore necessary for the Commission to launch studies into their own retail rates for 1980. As a result of these studies, the Commission adopted the rate schedule as listed below, and applied to Ontario Hydro for approval of that schedule. The new rates reflect an average increase of 12.1% for Residential customers, and 12.7% for the Commission's General Service customers. As was done last year, any consumption used prior to January 1, 1980 will be prorated using the 1979 rate schedule. It is also the Commission's intention to introduce a monthly billing plan in 1980 in order to assist the residential customers who are possibly experiencing budgeting problems with the present bi-monthly system.

If you have any questions regarding your account or the rates listed below, please contact our Customer Service Department at 884-4466.

RATE SCHEDULE PER MONTH	
RESIDENTIAL	
Minimum Bill	\$4.00
First 250 KWH	5.2 Cents per KWH
Balance	3.05 Cents per KWH
Late Payment Charge	5%
GENERAL SERVICE	
Demand Charge	
0-50 KW	No Charge
Over 50 KW	\$2.60 per KW
Energy Charge	
First 250 KWH	5.2 Cents per KWH
Next 9750 KWH	3.55 Cents per KWH
Balance	2.25 Cents per KWH
Late Payment Charge	5%
Minimum Bill	
Under 50 KW-Single Phase	\$4.00
Under 50 KW-Poly Phase	5.00
Over 50 KW-25¢ per KW for all KW applicable to the maximum billing demand during the previous eleven months, or the contracted amount, whichever is the greater.	
Customer Owned Transformer Allowance	
-Distribution	.15 Cents per KW
-Sub-Transmission	.25 Cents per KW
MISCELLANEOUS	
Transfer charge Re: Occupancy Change	\$6.00
Flat Rate Water Heating-Schedule 145 e.g. 3000/1000	\$12.33 per month
Water Heater Rental	
40 Gallon	\$2.50 per month
60 Gallon	\$3.25 per month
100 Gallon	\$6.00 per month

THE RICHMOND HILL HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMMISSION
CHAIRMAN W.S. (SAM) COOK
VICE-CHAIRMAN W.M. LAZENBY
MAYOR DAVID SCHILLER
REGIONAL COUNCILLOR LOU WAINWRIGHT
COMMISSIONER ROSS FARQUHARSON
GENERAL MANAGER DAVID McVIE

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