

"Retirement" THE FOURTH QUARTER

By LESLIE HOLBROOK

"The elderly will no longer be second-class citizens; that role will be visited upon the young." This was a 1970 prophecy by writer Harvey Wheeler ("The Rise of the Elders" - Saturday Review). It may be coming true. Quoting such authorities as Dr. Alex

Comfort (author of best-selling "The Joy of Sex") he said that we will be able to slow down the rate of aging. Aging would not necessarily be lengthened; the extra years would be added to the "prime of life" period. Since then, Dr. Comfort has written

another influential book "The Good Age" - meaning the senior years. He now is even more fascinated by the potential for retarding the aging process and extending the good years. An old genetical joke is that the best way to live in health to a high age is

to choose four long-lived grandparents. Our genes are an important factor in longevity but we must make do with the ones we inherited. However, we can watch for warnings in our genetic history (a family pattern of heart attacks, for example) and take precautions (not

smoking, weight control, regular exercise). Other experts agree that the "rise of the elders" is less likely to come from adding much more to the maximum life span than from controlling the aging process itself. We may have many more years of "middle age" for active leadership and participation in the world's affairs.

Editor's mail

Alternatives to 'Big Pipe'

Letter to the Editor: The sewage story published in the Markham Economist and Sun dated February 9, 1978, was read with great interest. It gives an interesting description of the principles of sewage treatment. There are yet a number of things which should be said about the York - Durham Trunk

Sewer which are not mentioned in the article and perhaps are even more important than the principles of the treatment process itself. First, the planning implications: It has been the tradition in Ontario that, where sewer and water services are provided, development follows. The "Toronto Centered Region Plan"

provides for maintenance of various communities north of Toronto and the prevention of one community growing into another by provision of the various municipalities. However, the provision of a sewerage system along the line from Lake Ontario through to Newmarket will encourage the development of homes, commercial operations, and industries all the way up the route from the mouth of the Duffin, along the Rouge, to the headwaters of the Holland River - a frightening spectre.

Another issue at stake here: If in fact the technology for water pollution control is not sufficiently refined to maintain that level of protection, then presumably what the York - Durham sewer actually does is it concentrates the risk of a very large population at one location. Clearly, in the event of failure of such a large sewage treatment plant as the one proposed for Duffin Creek, the effects on Lake Ontario would be quite disastrous. Thus, those wastes which were previously dispersed throughout a large environment become concentrated in one location and magnify the problem.

Therefore, Save the Rouge Valley System conservation group has concluded that, while the technology of the York - Durham sewer proposal might be entirely reasonable, there are alternatives which can be considered better from the standpoint of conservation of water resources and waste nutrients and at the same time reduce the magnitude of the environmental impact and reduce the pressures on our future political leaders for a dense corridor of development from Lake Ontario to Lake Simcoe. These alternatives we believe have not been explored sufficiently and should be carefully examined by the political leaders of the municipalities concerned before the capital investment becomes so great that decisions to continue building Phases 2, 3 and 4 become irreversible, and future generations are left locked in to a rigid system, costly, wasteful.

Durham board hiring 'asinine'

Dear Sir: As a parent, former teacher and taxpayer, I object strenuously to Durham Region's stated policy concerning hiring of new teachers.

perfect" is especially true for teaching. Ways of handling and preventing discipline problems, different teaching methods and relationships with students are all improved through actual teaching experience.

All new teachers need substantial support from more experienced staff. The long term results of Durham's policy will be to deplete this human resource bank and no doubt significantly reduce the quality of education.

I readily admit that we must look for means to decrease expenditure in the region but to attempt to do this by hiring new teachers on the basis of lack of experience is asinine.

I am a taxpayer in Durham and my taxes have increased considerably in the past five years. As a rural taxpayer I don't have a lot of services provided; the main ones being roads and education.

It distresses me that for higher taxes our children should be getting lower quality instruction. And it should distress you too.

Certainly it costs less in terms of money to hire teachers straight from the Faculty of Education and some jobs should be made available to this group.

Sincerely
BARBARA OLIVELLA

We should be asking what are the alternatives: Clearly, one alternative is to develop a series of upstream wastewater treatment facilities, each one designed to the maximum of modern day technology to protect the receiving stream, some of which are "dry" during several months of the year. By providing wastewater treatment facilities at the downstream end of each municipality, there is a much better chance of protecting the green belt between that municipality and the next one. Certainly much greater protection than would be the case if a full size trunk sewer were to pass through that green belt.

However, to make a blanket policy that all teachers hired should be inexperienced could lead to far greater social costs. Any person, no matter how well qualified on paper, needs actual classroom experience to become a good teacher.

There is no substitute for practise and the old adage "practise makes

Sincerely
BRUCE SEARLE
Chairman, "Save the Rouge Valley System" Markham.

Send your questions and comments to The Tribune, c/o P.O. Box 1506 Guelph, Ontario, N1H 6N9.

New Liskeard 75th

Dear Sir: This year, the Town of New Liskeard, Ontario is planning its 75th birthday, and in conjunction with these festivities, a school homecoming event.

other former New Liskeard students and staff.
Yours sincerely,
JACK WILLIAMS,
Chairman,
N.L. School Homecomings.

All former students and staff who attended any school in New Liskeard, at any time, invited. The New Liskeard Secondary School will be open for hosting visitations on Saturday, July 1st. A mammoth dance and reunion is planned in the town arena that evening.

To have your name put on our attendance list, please contact the New Liskeard School Homecoming, P.O. Box 730, NEW LISKEARD, Ontario, P0J 1P0.

Please forward the names and addresses of



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