

Mississauga The Times

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Hyl, come home!

If a movie was ever made about Peel South's Member of Parliament, it could be called: Mr. Chappell goes To Ottawa . . . And Stays.

The title would, of course, be slightly misleading since Hyliard Chappell has returned intermittently to the constituency he represents. Such visits have, however, been infrequent and short enough to lend support to a theory held in some quarters that he has neither been seen nor heard from since his election in 1968.

The fact is that Chappell has spent very little time in his home riding, relying on type-written releases to stay in touch with his constituents. We are not questioning the honorable member's devotion to his job; he has worked diligently with several government committees and his efforts to secure a Canadian Radio and Television Commission hearing on cable TV for Mississauga have been outstanding.

Nevertheless, we believe Mr. Chappell would do well to pay more attention to the wants of the people in South Peel. An opportunity for a closer liason with the public presents itself immediately — when the House of Commons adjourned on New Year's Eve, it did so for the next seven weeks.

Thus Mr. Chappell has until mid-February to place his ear nearer to the ground and listen to the collective heartbeat of Peel South. Perhaps he could take a hint from area MPP Douglas Kennedy whose strong point is that he is always available and willing to listen to the requests and suggestions of the public.

Not to be overlooked is Mr. Chappell's own political future. With rumors of a summer, federal election floating around, the Liberal Party's local grassroots movement is in need of some extensive patchwork.

With the tattering of Pierre Trudeau's coattails since the last election and Peel South candidate Don Blenkarn hot on the campaign trail since October, the incumbent MP will certainly find the road to Parliament Hill much bumpier this time around.

Come home, Hyliard Chappell! We don't really believe you are the Howard Hughes of Peel South.

Right decision

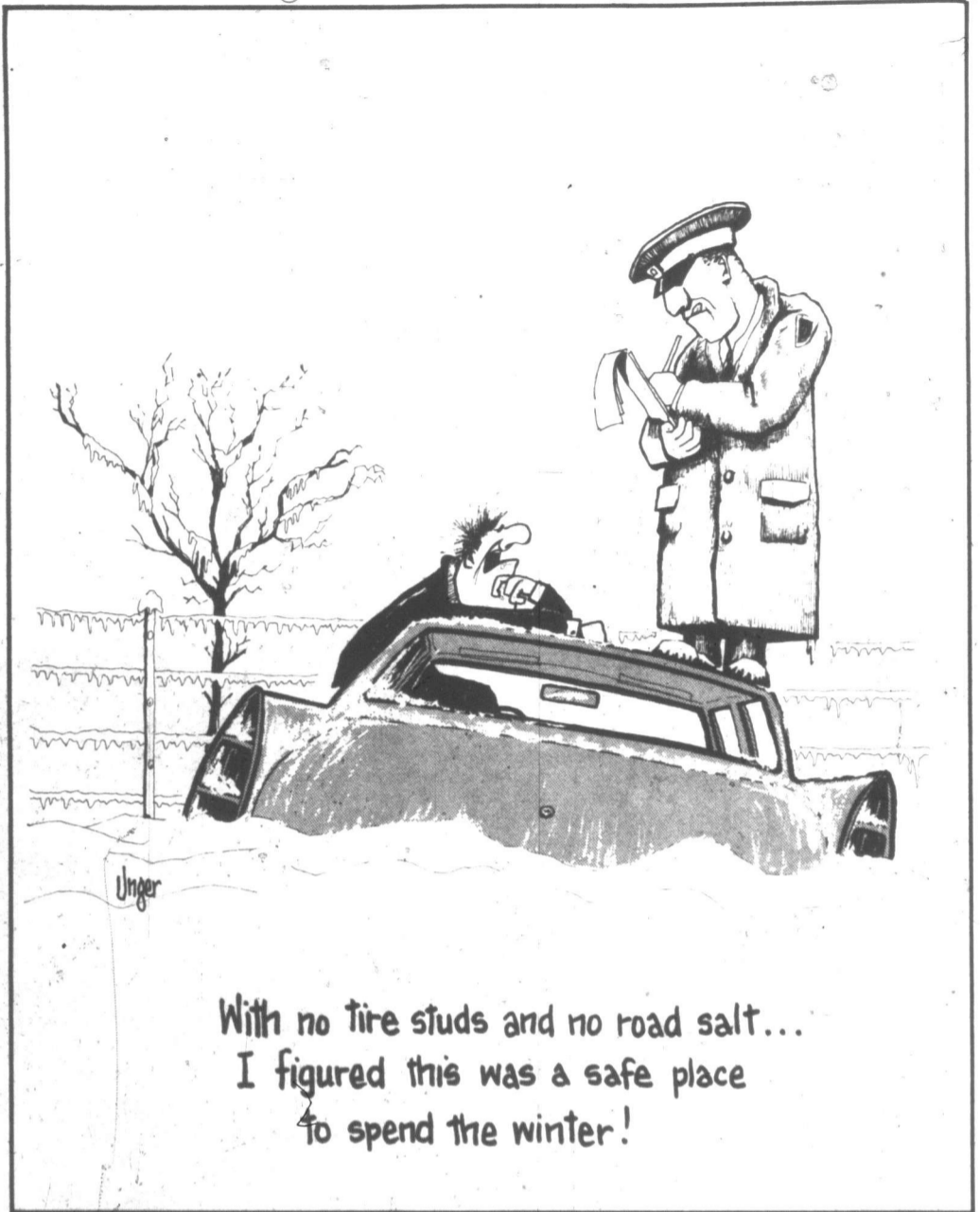
Common sense has triumphed over emotion in the Peel-Dufferin Catholic School Board's decision to delay extension of its curriculum to grades 9 and 10.

Trustees had decided earlier (Oct. 26) to open St. Paul's Elementary School next September with grades 9 and 10 included. The only condition was that the cost of educating students in the new program not exceed 10 per cent more than the cost to educate a Grade 8 pupil.

Two weeks ago trustees learned this limit could not be met and voted to accept trustee Bob Wood's proposal which will send the issue to a special financial advisory committee.

Len McNiece, a father of four school age children, asked the board if a pupil starting the proposed Grade 9 program at St. Paul's could move smoothly into a regular public high school curriculum. "I don't know the answer," he said, "and I suggest that if the board doesn't know, the system is not ready to be extended." Trustees agreed.

The Times does not oppose an expanded separate school curriculum — that right is guaranteed under legislation brought in by former education minister Bill Davis. We do, however, applaud the Peel-Dufferin board for its responsible approach in guarding the quality of education.



Observations

... Times music critic Peter Donato comes in for some kind words from Canada's newest pop magazine, *Grapevine* (Jan. 16): "Peter ... is another emerging artist who has abundant talent and even more ambition. A 21-year-old lively spirit, Peter puts all his vitality into writing songs for piano and when he plays, you can't help catch some of his exuberance. Although Donato has the appearance and style of Elton John, he doesn't seem to be in it for the money ... Donato's diligence will soon reap rewards according to Eric Anderson who raved about him after hearing him do guest sets at the Riverboat."

... Why is it that Toronto media sports departments consider any athlete who lives within a 50-mile radius of the city a Metro resident? Radio Station CFRB is the latest outlet to assimilate track and field star Debbie Van Kiebel as a Toronto product. True Debbie trains in "Trawn" but she lives and attends school in Mississauga. Sportswriters and announcers don't seem to have any difficulties with geography when individuals and teams do not win.

... Fresh water enthusiasts take note. The northern section of Mississauga Road just south of Dundas Street will be closed for construction Friday and Saturday. That stretch

houses the town's only spring water outlet.

... A group of residents in neighboring Brampton are upset about a sign erected by the Peel County Board of Education on a McLaughlin Road, N. vacant lot. The sign prohibits the exercising of dogs, golf practice and snowmobiling on the land which will eventually house a new school.

... Do not touch department. A stand-up ashtray in Sheridan Mall's Toniari displays a bold sign saying "Please Use" but perhaps it is a psychological tactic to keep merchandise in tact. The ashtray holds nothing but a six month's supply of dust.

... New Year's resolutions we would like to see others make: that Mississauga and the provincial government resolve to do something

about the intersection of Cawthra Road and Dundas Street and the Southdown Road — Queen Elizabeth Way interchange. They are probably the two most dangerous crossroads in the town.

... Speaking of safety, we doff our caps to the government of Australia who have passed a law making the use of car seat belts compulsory. Such a measure would be a most welcome addition to the Ontario Highway Traffic Act.

... After hearing members of Port Credit council sing the praises of road maintenance within the town at their November nomination meeting, we expected quick snow removal following Thursday's blizzard. But main streets, including Lakeshore Road, were still clogged Friday and many side streets received no attention until warmer temperatures and the sun did the job Saturday and Sunday. The best clearing job was done on the sidewalks (left) which were ploughed by Thursday night.



But not the roads . . .

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