

**townships sun** a community newspaper



North End of Massawippi Lake

**LAKE MASSAWIPPI**

PHOTO REPRODUCTION: PERRY BEATON

townships

sun

Vol. 1, No. 2

a community newspaper

Friday, February 22, 1974

## Editorial

Two weeks ago today witnessed the first publication of the SUN. In an atmosphere of apprehended excitement we waited for the response. We didn't have to wait very long.

Since the letters began to arrive and the phone began to jingle we have received an overwhelmingly positive response. Our readers have had one criticism and that has been to say that the mailman missed their box.

On an unofficial level we have received criticism from Bishop's University for the article written by Alex McGregor. We believe that it is in the community's interest to have any and all public institutions continually criticized.

Unless explicitly stated, any opinions expressed in the SUN are not those of the publishers', but those of the person who contributed the article.

I should like to make it absolutely clear that the SUN is indeed a community newspaper. The SUN has many blank pages available to community members who wish to speak their mind. If you have felt that the SUN fulfills a worthwhile community service then let us know by writing to us.

The SUN is not composed of a large staff of reporters. We are

dependent, almost entirely, upon the articles which you send in to us. The quality of the SUN is dependent upon the level of interest which the community has in itself and which is expressed to the SUN.

We immediately require community correspondents in each community served by the SUN. What is going on in your neighbourhood? What isn't going on that you think should be going on?

Write to us so that we may inform the rest of our community. If you absolutely feel that you cannot write then give us a call at 562-7969 and we will take it down.

There is space available for a Community Calendar. If your organization is having a get-together, then drop us a line and 30,000 people will hear about it. We would like to put this service into operation as soon as possible.

The Townships have long been characterized by a sense of isolation. It is our earnest hope that the SUN may bridge this isolation by contributing towards building a strong and viable sense of community spirit. Together, working in unison, we are going to achieve that goal.

BRIAN OLDING  
MANAGING EDITOR

## Who and What is ETSAG?

By RUSSELL POCOCK  
"The Townships Sun" is part of E.T.S.A.G. "Community Contact" heard on CKTS every Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. E.T.S.A.G. has produced a 50 minute videotape program called "Kaleidoscope Townships" which is available to interested groups in the community. People are asking -- who and what is E.T.S.A.G.?

The Eastern Township Social Action Group is made up of people from different parts of the Townships who are interested in the future of the anglophone population here. They have been operating since last May on two consecutive grants received from the Social Action Branch of the Secretary of State in Ottawa. The branch gives money to anglophone minorities in Quebec and francophone minorities in the other provinces.

We each have different interests but all agree that the future of the anglophone population depends on its ability to be culturally strong enough to INTEGRATE into the francophone community. ASSIMILATION of the anglophone community would mean the end of a particular cultural group with a proven history and tradition -- ASSIMILATION is bad.

We believe instead, in

INTEGRATION, which means being secure enough of your own identity to be able to participate in another culture without loss of your own.

### ENGLISH CAN PARTICIPATE

We don't want the 'English' to become 'French' but believe you can be English and still participate in a francophone milieu politically and culturally.

We're anglophone but can still run for political office and enjoy Gilles Vigneault. E.T.S.A.G. wants to help those anglophones interested in becoming more aware of the francophone community and participating in it instead of simply living alongside of it. The newspaper, radio show and videotape will hopefully help with this.

We in the Townships have for many years lived peacefully alongside our francophone neighbour. Now we must learn to live together as one community.

E.T.S.A.G.'s activities are enlarging as our ideas, energy and budget allows. Please call or write or drop in to see us if you are interested in finding out more or have ideas. We are in the large brown and white house on the corner of Queen and College in Lennoxville (Just above the Lion D'or and beside Perrette's) 562-7969; or box 1358, Lennoxville.

## Bilingual Schools

By RUSSELL POCOCK

It's time for all of us who are interested in some kind of alternative school for the area to meet and discuss the possibilities. There are an increasing number of young parents who want something different for their children than what is presently offered.

More and more people would like a more bilingual education for their kids. Together we should number enough to make something possible.

I have the impression that there are groups of parents scattered all over the area like the group existing around Sawyerville where I live. Perhaps we could arrange to all meet together some time in the future. Maybe we can figure out a way to make our wishes come true.

Whether or not you're a parent -- please contact me so I can find out roughly how many are interested in such a school. If there's a good response then we can get something together.

Phone 562-7969 and ask for me or simply leave your name with whoever's there. Or else write a letter c.o. E.T.S.A.G. in Lennoxville. Better still, write an article for this newspaper on why you want something different for your child.

# SUN SWITCHBOARD

## Bishop's Role

I considered the articles on the role of Bishop's in the Townships communities very interesting and most of all timely. Alex McGregor stated the present problems facing the university and came out with some ideas to solve them. Even though I am a Bishop's outsider, I am very much interested in the role a university should play in the community.

As mentioned by Mr. McGregor and reworded here, the present problems facing Bishop's are the following: 1 - getting good students; 2 - providing excellence in the courses given; 3 - coping with the present realities.

### BISHOP CLOSE TO LARGER UNIVERSITY

On the other hand Bishop's is located a few miles away from a

much larger university, providing services to a much larger local francophone population. Due to the aberrant fact that an anglophone here is

not likely either to mix with francophones or, God forbid, to learn even enough French to be able to enunciate "merci beaucoup" without a thick accent, the two universities remain strangers to each other.

Programmes are duplicated; the Universite de Sherbrooke has a larger staff because it gets more money because it gets more students. Still, the two universities continue to proceed on two parallel tracks, seemingly ad infinitum. I do not think that the Universite de Sherbrooke is suffering from it, but Bishop's appears to be.

This is where I rejoin Mr.

McGregor's ideas about setting up new departments and cutting out dead wood. Programmes which are successful at the Universite de Sherbrooke should be either dropped or modified at Bishop's.

Concerning such programmes as Biology and Chemistry, some thought should be given to hiring part-time professors from outside - it could even be from the Universite de Sherbrooke - in order to allow some free time for Bishop's scientific staff to get interested in some research.

### PROFESSORS NEED TIME FOR RESEARCH

Personally, I do not see how a science professor can teach with maximum efficiency without being involved in some research.

Concerning new programmes they should be directed towards

the anglophone reality of the Townships. It would be very realistic, for example, to open a medical school, as proposed by Mr. McGregor. But maybe a paramedical programme dealing with public health and preventive medicine should be developed.

Programs should be offered which would be of interest to both the anglophone and the francophone populations. This could mean Bishop's becoming active in completely untraditional fields. For example, courses which would help the community such as animal husbandry, forestry, etc. could be provided.

It would also be very useful for the anglophones to be provided with a program in which they could learn enough French to become bilingual enough to be

able to attend lectures given in French at the Universite de Sherbrooke. They should be bilingual enough to write an essay which would come up to the standards of the French Studies department at the Universite de Sherbrooke, if they wished to attend lectures there.

In conclusion, it is absolutely necessary that Bishop's realizes now that it cannot survive for long if it remains isolated. Bishop's survival appears to be dependant on its ability to open up to the French population in general and, in particular, to collaborate closely with the Universite de Sherbrooke. This is dictated by the present geographic and sociologic situations of the two populations and the two universities.

DR. RAYMOND PAGEAU

EAST ANGUS

# The Government is at it Again

Dear Sir,

Congratulations! I have thoroughly enjoyed reading the first issue of the Townships Sun and may it go on forever.

One subject that I would like to see something in print on is Route 51. The road is supposed to go from Sherbrooke and area through to Drummondville.

As you are probably aware it is presently being travelled on from Sherbrooke to Bromptonville, work being almost completed, I understand, to Windsor Mills. Work has also been done from Windsor Mills to the outskirts of Melbourne — what we know as Sal non Creek.

We live in the little town of Melbourne. We bought our house six years ago and for at least the last three years all we have heard is "The Road Is Going Through". We have had surveyors around our house, off and on, since early last year.

If the road does go through it may go through our house. A petition has been signed by the

people in Melbourne and presented to the Government by, I believe, the Chamber of Commerce, in order to change the location of the road.

If this road goes through Melbourne it will also destroy the scenery on the \$2.00 bill, for example, which depicts the scenery in Melbourne.

### BOUGHT HOUSE

As for my husband and myself — we bought a small and fairly old house. We made many alterations during our first two years here. For example we had an outside chimney built, we have had aluminum siding put on, new windows installed and shutters put on, all quite costly I might add.

We want to renovate our house until it's the way we want it but for the last two years we have done nothing because what is the use of spending more money if the road is going to go through. Now we are fed up. We want to hear one way or the other on this

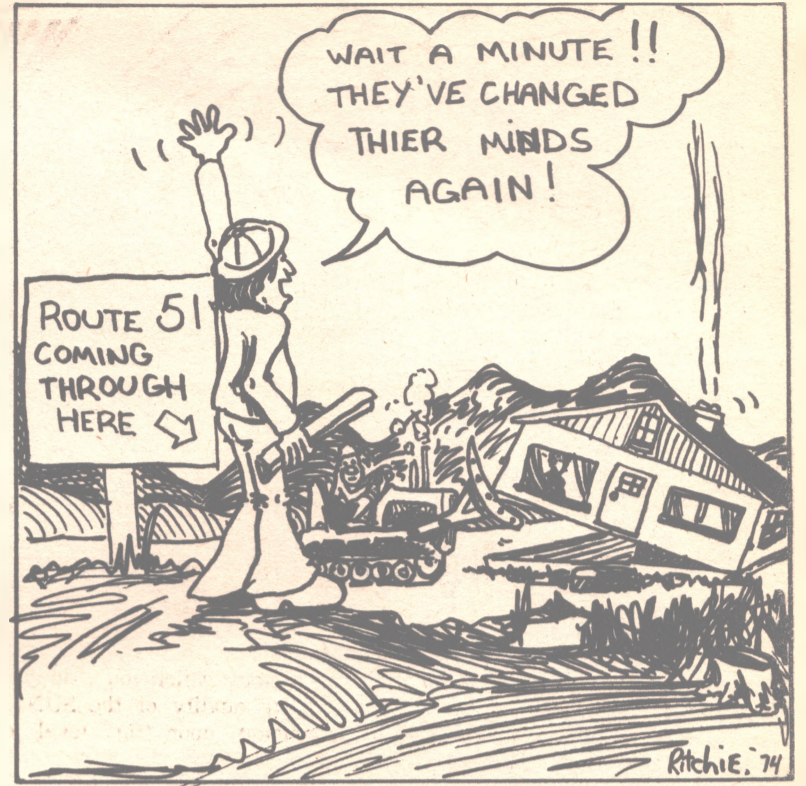
stupid road.

If it is going to go through our house, okay, we realize we would have to move, but if it is not, then we would like to do some more work on the house. Two weeks ago the surveyors were here and planted two stakes on our property and said "You should have a notice of expropriation any day now".

We don't even know whether or not we should plant a garden this year. Should I plant seeds as I usually do? Now is the time.

Then again I hear "Oh the Government has run out of money and are not going to touch it before 1976."

Do you have any idea from whom and how I can get definite information or do we just sit around and wonder and wait as we have been doing for two or three years now. I have even thought of writing to Robert Bourassa but it would probably take another two years to get a reply from him.



Anyway thanks for reading my letter and if you have time let me know what you think of the

whole situation. Good luck with the Townships Sun!

B. Gillis  
Melbourne

## McGregor Rebutted over Bishop's Issue

In the first issue of the Township Sun, readers were offered an assessment of Bishop's University and its role in the Townships by Alex McGregor. Now Alex is often a funny, witty man. But, as to his knowledge of what B.U. is about — like his simplistic solution to the B.U. faculty dead wood, I can only say to him — Cut it out!

Bishop's, like every other university in Canada is a publicly supported institution. It should serve those who pay for it — Quebecers, not just Townshippers (though, of course, Townshippers should reap the most immediate benefits).

Universities, including Bishop's have become predominately training institutions. They serve to train students to become accountants, school teachers, actors (?), or they train them to pass exams for entrance to law schools and grad schools. Only secondarily do universities provide culture, pure intellectual investigation, or social experimentation.

### A LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE

What the people who pay for

Bishop's have asked is that it become the small liberal arts college that it was designed to be. What the student gets from such a university is a coherent education.

He learns connections. He is encouraged to see the ties between economics and art, between literature and religion, between history and geography.

Bishop's is still not what it is meant to be. In a liberal arts college the paper walls between departments and divisions are low.

In such a college most of the students and teachers are more interested in learning for the hell of it rather than in training for the \$ of it. Bishop's problems are not caused by its inability to find a raison d'etre. It has one — given it by its history, its size, its location, and the people of Quebec.

### PROBLEM NOT DEAD WOOD

Bishop's problems do not arise from the dead wood cluttering its faculty as it does in most small faculties in North America. Its problems rest on two factors.

Like all Canadian schools,

Bishop's has found it harder recently to fill classrooms. Not only has the baby-boom passed, but those students who would be in classrooms are learning that while a university can provide job training, there may not be a job waiting at the end of the road.

Secondly, during the 50's and 60's, Bishop's grew rapidly. It got ambitious. It saw itself becoming a real (i.e. big, urban) university.

It expanded existing departments, and added new ones. That dream was unrealistic.

A small liberal arts college cannot function properly with strong and weak departments, with departmental rivalry, with efficiency and cost accounting experts making academic decisions.

### NOTE EASY

Bishop's is becoming a liberal arts college again. It's not an easy thing to do. It takes people with integrity and clarity of purpose to turn and old ship like Bishop's about without capsizing her.

If B.U. can become what it should be, then it can serve the people of Quebec. It can provide McGregor not only with culture, but it can become an oasis of knowledge, an exciting center for intellectual experimentation, a place to read, to talk, to write — in short, a place of learning, with its doors open not only to last years graduates of AGRHS but to the housewives, salesmen, retired people, butchers, and bakers of the Townships.

I suggest that this would be a more lasting and rewarding contribution to Quebec than McGregor's cherished football teams.

McGregor's game of "Pick your favorite three B.U. departments for this week" serves little purpose in helping the Townshiper see what Bishop's is, or should be, about. He would sooner be governed by the first 80 names in the Sherbrooke telephone directory than by the entire Bishop's faculty.

I'm afraid that directory is not much less informative about the problems of Bishop's and the Townships than were McGregor's remarks of last week.

G. ENGLEBRETSSEN  
BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY

## Need for Rural Bus Routes Felt

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you regarding the necessity of extending bus service to the secondary roads.

People without cars or elderly people without any facilities to take them to the nearest shopping centres or bus stops, should have some kind of transportation out of the lonely country roads.

Nothing has apparently been done nor suggested to the government on this matter.

A year ago your group, The Eastern Townships Social Action Committee — ETSAG — phoned me and asked me to get a list of those people who might be interested in such a scheme. I reckoned that as you are receiving a government grant it was your job to seek out the names of people requiring such a service in this and other communities.

I hope, therefore, through your newspaper that you can perhaps get some idea of how necessary, and how appreciative I am sure people would be, if such bus services could be instituted, say even once a week, to take people into Sherbrooke from out-lying areas.

I feel sure that if the Government and the bus companies could get together, some system could be worked out whereby people in isolated

communities could get the transportative services they needed.

P. Betts  
Bishopton

## TOWNSHIPS SUN

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Printed by: Eastern Townships Publishing Co. Ltd.  
Bulk mailing permit no. 84  
Distributed free of charge to all \$200 English households in Administrative Region 5.

Advertising rates: 1 page: 130 dollars

1/2 page: 70 dollars

1/4 page: 37 1/2 dollars

1/8 page: 20 dollars

Cover Photo courtesy of Page Sangster Inc.

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# Concern over Bill 63

By BRIAN OLDING

A plea for individual sovereignty over the choice of language instruction was issued by Commissioner Marguerite Knapp at a public meeting of the Lennoxville District School Board on Feb. 13.

The meeting of concerned community members was held in response to the announced intentions of the Ministry of Education to amend Bill 63 so as to enforce by law French language instruction for the children of immigrants. This would mean, for example, that British immigrants would be forced to send their children to French-speaking schools.

Education Minister Cloutier has publicly stated that minority rights will be protected in the Province of Quebec. Commissioner Knapp however, fears that the proposed legislation may threaten the individual's right to choose his or her language of instruction.

The apparent discrimination works both ways. Francophones would no longer have the right to send their children to English-speaking schools, a fact which is largely unreported in the francophone press.

## BOARD WORKING HARD IN BILINGUAL APPROACH

Commissioner Knapp stated that the school board has been working hard in experimental classes to promote a bilingual approach towards their educational programmes. The proposed legislation appears to be a step away from bilingualism and a step towards a unilingual, francophone Quebec.

The question then arises as to whether or not a child educated in Quebec will have sufficient command of the English language to advance to higher levels of education outside of the province.

The problem, when seen through the eyes of governmental policy-makers, is a serious one. When an immigrant begins English language instruction in Quebec the government is automatically investing money in his or her education.

When the immigrant graduates, and by now has a good command of English, he or she may leave Quebec. The Ministry of Education would naturally wonder why they were paying for someone to learn



Bill 63 discussed in Lennoxville

(Sun photo: Patricia Rola-Pleszczynska)

English and also to gain an education, who would then leave the province.

### DICTATORIAL POLICIES

The reaction to this problem, characterized by dictatorial, bureaucratic policies which would eliminate the freedom of choice of the language of instruction, was strongly contested by the District School Board at their meeting. Prepared petitions, resolutions and stationery were provided at the meeting so as to stimulate a community movement to block the legislation.

A representative from AGRHS stated that the Regional School Board was holding similar meetings and that the movement was province-wide. If the keen

level of interest shown in Lennoxville is indicative of other school boards in the province then we may expect the issue to be hotly debated.

The resolution which was presented to the Lennoxville meeting of the District School Board is printed below.

### LENOXVILLE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD Resolution No. 73-554. Appeal to Retain Choice of Language of Instruction in Bill 63.

It was moved by Commissioner Marguerite Knapp. WHEREAS: Great concern is being expressed by politicians and certain organizations in this Province regarding the preservation of the French language and French

Canadian culture.

WHEREAS: Certain groups are appealing to the Government of Quebec to deny immigrant parents the right to choose the language on instruction for their children

WHEREAS: Instruction in French as a second language has improved considerably in Anglophone schools.

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Lennoxville District School Board insists on the retention of the guarantee of the right for ALL parents to choose the language of instruction, French or English, for their children: such rights to be written into any amended version of, or replacement for Bill 63.

February 13th, 1974.

# Students learn French

By SUSAN MASTINE

The grade six French immersion class at Lennoxville elementary school recently left the classroom environment behind for a few days. The students, under the direction of their teacher, Miss Luce Turgeon, and five counsellors, spent four days and four nights at Camp Jouvence near Bonsecours.

The principal objectives of the trip were to stimulate an increase in the students' exposure to, and participation in, the francophone milieu and to take advantage of the rural atmosphere, not only for sports

activities, but also as a source of geographical and ecological information.

Mornings were generally spent out-of-doors: cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, mountain-climbing, skating, tobogganing, and ice sculpturing, with equipment supplied by the camp. For many of the children, this represented a new and exciting experience, participating in these activities while conversing in French.

During every day, time was allotted for math, French, and science lessons. Science lessons took the form of studying meteorology: measuring



Lennoxville school children enjoy French immersion at Camp Jouvence

(Sun Photo: Patricia Rola-Pleszczynska)

temperatures, wind speeds and directions, precipitation; following the progress of storms; studying the process of the melting of snow, the changing temperatures of snow in different sports at different times during the day.

### CHILDREN INVOLVED IN VARIETY OF EXPERIENCES

The children were also involved in artistic and musical endeavours, playing games - the French versions of monopoly and careers, for example, tobogganing after dark, and having campfires.

The students always talked in French when with their teacher or the counsellors. However, when among themselves, they tended to speak English most of the time, or sometimes a mixture of the two.

The urban way of life did not seem to be missed; outdoor sports and creative activities replaced our ingenious mechanical inventions, the radio, television and skidoo. Peace and tranquillity and clean country air took the place of the more hectic, more noisy, more polluted air that is a part of the everyday life of many of us.

The students really seemed to

enjoy themselves and were proud of the things they had learned - how to make fires when in the woods, the best kinds of food to take on a hike, etc.

This venture was paid for entirely by money raised by the students during the year, through sales, a walk-a-thon, and showing a movie.

Congratulations to all of those involved, the students and their teacher. You all worked hard to be able to have this experience and you all seem to have benefited from it. On espere qu'on parle le francais mieux que jamais!

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# It's up to Quebec City Now

By ROBERT WINTERS

Will Sherbrooke be a special zone giving larger subsidies for industries coming here? According to Irene Pelletier, MP for Sherbrooke riding, it is up to the Provincial Government.

Pelletier, in an interview last week, hopes that Sherbrooke will be on top. The Federal Government, of whom Pelletier is a member of the Liberal Party, made a strong point of recommending that the Eastern Townships be a primary zone for subsidies.

The responsibility for final decisions concerning the areas designated as special zones has been given to the provincial governments. The Quebec departments of Industry and Commerce, Finance, Agriculture and Municipal Affairs are probably the ones that will make this decision, Pelletier stated.

Pelletier helped sit on the committee that made recommendations on this most important concern of the region. He says that he was the only one of the nine members from this area that came to the Committee to voice the case for the Townships. The six Creditistes and the two Conservatives said nothing about this, according to Pelletier.

"Regardless of parties, we need a concerted effort to make

governments aware of how pressing a need is the economic situation here, he says. If all nine of us members said, "We want this!", it would have had more impact, he thinks.

### GRANTS HAVE BEEN GIVEN

Already, grants have been given to ten companies and most of them have settled in the Sherbrooke Industrial Park. Five out of these were not here before. Grants are already being given, but the amounts are not as great as they will be if this is declared a particular needy area.

The companies that have received grants that are new to the area are: Croydon Manufacturing: \$151,000, Renovation Doco: \$44,000, Carlan Plastics: \$201,000, Chaussures Santana: \$109,000 and Veracon Inc.: \$43,000.

The old companies that have received grants are: Manganese Steel: \$102,000, S.W. Hooper: \$30,600, Lionel Products: \$121,000 and others.

### GRANTS RECOMMENDED

Mr. Pelletier recommended each of these grants, and says he is willing to help any manufacturers to get grants, because of the high rate of unemployment.

He would like to see two or three large manufacturers come to the area; companies that would pay higher wages, because the area has a great many

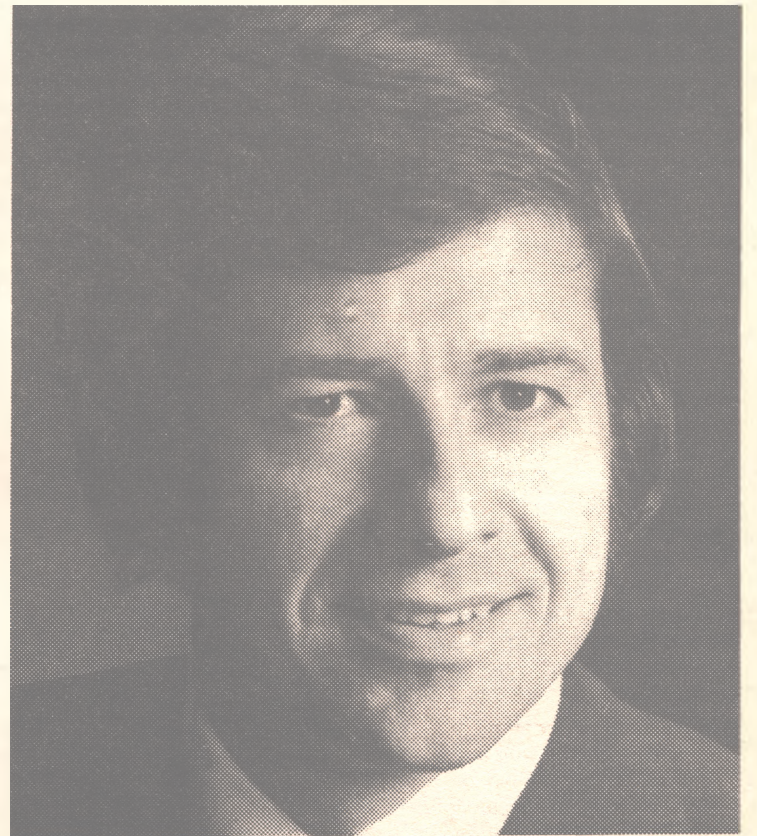
qualified people from the CEGEP's and universities who have to leave to find good jobs. When a graduate leaves Sherbrooke for a good job elsewhere, we can be sure that he will not return, he feels. We are paying for the education of these students and then we cannot offer them jobs, resulting in a brain drain.

### TOURISM SHOULD BE PROMOTED

Tourism is another aspect that interests him. More and more people are looking towards the country when they are in the city. This region has abundant advantages. There has been no concerted effort to promote the region in terms of a tourist industry. We need to clean up pollution, he feels, and press on all levels of government at once. Many of our lakes and rivers are 'overpolluted' in his opinion.

As well, the question must be answered, he feels, as to whether we need development, and to what extent. Is that what people want, or do people want a clean environment with few industries, and make a subsistence living?

In his opinion, we need secondary industry because it will breed development. Then, the region could have prosperity.



Irene Pelletier: MP for Sherbrooke (Sun photo: Newton)

## OMISSIONS AND CORRECTIONS

### OMISSIONS AND CORRECTIONS

Omissions from the last edition of the Townships Sun: Photo credits: Perry Beaton, p. 1, p. 3; Bruce Porter, p. 4, bottom.

Story credits: Dudswell: Past to

Present by Mrs. Elaine Pepin.

I would like to bring to the attention of our readers an error which was made in the article about me. It was stated that the Mayor telephoned me to try to discourage me from running in the municipal elections.

In fact, I called him in order to inform him of my intention to contest a seat on the town council. The rest of the information as to what he said to me was correct.

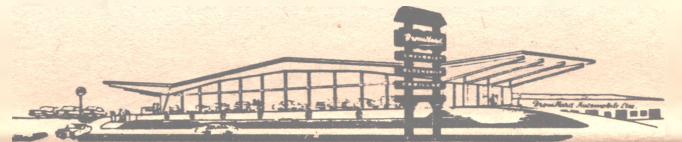
Norma Siddiqui  
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# The English Ghosts are everywhere

By ALEX MCGREGOR

The English ghosts are everywhere. Their names are seen in streets and place names.

Take a walk along the St. Francis River - listen carefully, you may hear the ghost of Major Robert Rogers as he goes down river to attack the St. Francis Indians (Abenakis). Later the same Major Roberts was to become an ardent defender of Canada against the rebels from the U.S.

Yes, the muddy old St. Francis was the river of destiny to our ancestors. On its banks the English ghosts lived, loved, fought and went to their ancestral homes underneath the fertile sod.

The English - oh yes, the Scots, the Irish and the French too. Here is a cemetery but the tombstones let us know that the language of these ghosts was neither English nor French, the words of the gods - Gaelic.

Listen and you might hear the sound of the Megantic outlaw Morrison. Do his descendants still love justice with Morrison's unquenchable thirst for decency? The C.B.C. didn't think so and produced one of the worst historical travesties, namely, "The Megantic Outlaw", ever to disgrace the T.V. screen.

## PEACEFUL BORDER

There is the border. At the moment peaceful, yet a few years ago the young Americans who refused to fight in a war not of their own choosing crossed the line.

In this act they were followers of a long tradition. Young Americans who have refused to fight in foreign wars have been crossing the border since 1812.

Many a young Yankee in the 1860's crossed the line. There were many fine young Southerners who sought refuge in Canada during that war too.

Some of the bolder Southerners got together and raced across the border to St. Albans, Vermont and raided the place. Their act almost plunged the U.S. into war with Canada. Their spirits too haunt the Townships.

## LENNOXVILLE

### SUPPORTED THE SOUTH

The people of Lennoxville, you see, were strong supporters of

the South in the Civil War. The Southerners who summered in Canada were gentlemen, who always stepped off the sidewalk to let the ladies pass.

True, they had their black slaves with them, but to the gentlefolk of Lennoxville black slaves were rather similar to servants. Besides blacks were simple people who we were doing a favour by providing with jobs.

The manners, conversation and culture of the Southern gentlemen stood in strong contrast to the curde ways of the Yankee pedlars. Besides, the Southern gentlemen and ladies were Anglican - and not like the Yankees of Vermont - Methodists.

Stanstead on the other hand, the home of the Methodists, was fiercely Pro-Northern in the War. The North stood for freedom, liberation of the poor oppressed men of the South against the planter aristocrats with their "High Falutin' manners an' uppity ways."

In Stanstead, the spirit of Cromwell and his Roundheads rose high against the spirit of Charles I and his Cavaliers at Lennoxville. Perhaps the ghosts of the past walk when B.C.S. plays Stanstead at football on a fine fall day - the B.C.S. Cavaliers attempt to crust the Stanstead Roundheads on the gridiron where their ancestors once attempted the job in battle.

## GHOSTS WALK ON WINDY NIGHTS

These ghosts too walk. Perhaps on a windy night the ghost of Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America, walks Lennoxville streets, tormented by the thoughts of lost battles, over to Bishop's to play chess and refight Gettysburg.

B.C.S. to hear once more the ghostly song of Southern boys singing "Dixie" and "Along the Southern Shore". The house where President Davis lived stands unmarked by plaque or memento of this great, and gentle man.

Maybe the ghosts of Jefferson Davis stops at Bishop's University. Here is the home of numerous ghosts and lost causes.

There is the ghost of

Professor Boothroyd, perhaps the finest teacher of History that Canada has ever known. There is the ghost of Reverend Hamilton, author of a world renowned book, which even a Pope made reference. The book, 'The People of God, is forgotten in the cloistered halls where it was written.

The ghost of the great Principal McGreer may haunt Bishop's to remind them of their glorious past. Some of the more recent ghosts we knew, loved and admired.

To be with Sydney Jellicoe was to be in the presence of greatness. The gentle scholarly man who was the superior to any of the world's great scholars, walked with such humility that few were aware of his world-wide greatness.

Other ghosts we knew too - gentle, great and kind - Roderick Thaler and Laurie Allison. Their immense contributions were scarcely comprehended, let alone appreciated, by their contemporaries - now they too have gone with the great ghosts of the past whom they respected and loved.

The ghosts of the great at Bishop's have gone to join the ghosts of the great at Lennoxville United Church. Would the ancestors of the present generation of members have sat idly by and watched the proliferation of the booze trade in the Township's?

No, the old Methodist tradition was death on the demon rum. The Woman's Christian Temperance Union was the most outstanding example of women's lib that Canada has ever seen.

Women of Canada asserted themselves once and proclaimed exactly the kind of society they wanted. Backed by the Church and their own unquenchable vigour, they made politicians come to heel and they closed down the bars and improved the general prosperity of the country.

Their ghosts too are gone. No one now expresses an opinion on anything in the Townships - it could upset someone.

## GHOSTS ARE GONE

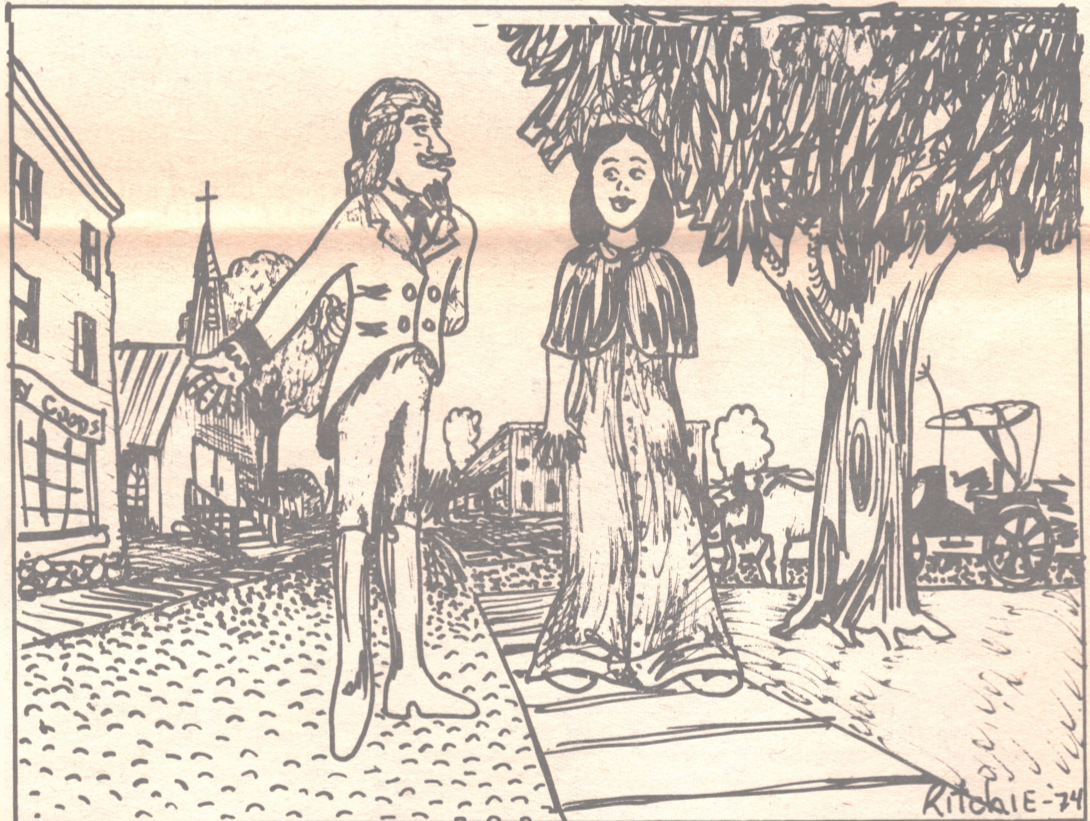
Yes, the ghosts are gone - where is that old entrepreneur Alexander Tilloch Galt? Where is the spirit of enterprise that is needed to awaken the Townships from their torpor? That too is

gone.

The Townships stand with their past which is so incredible as to be mind boggling. Giants walked our lanes and lived in their historic mansions.

Eastern Township writers have spun their tales and created their works in this area. With a past as great as the one that we have and a memory of it alive and green, it is fairly unlikely that the English of the Townships will forget and go quietly to their graves, silently, stealthily uttering no word in English, French or Gaelic.

In the long run it is rather more likely that the English will realize that just as their ancestors were good Townshippers, Quebecers and Canadians in that order, so will the present inhabitants take pride and spirit from the past greatness of their ghostly ancestors and go and do as their ancestors did - build a township so great that the future generations will be convinced that the streets of Coaticook, Stanstead, Sherbrooke, Magog, Megantic were indeed, peopled by giants in the 1970's.



# The town they called Victoria

By BERNARD EPPS

One mile and a half west of the present village of Scotstown, on the banks of the Salmon River, lie the ghosts of the town called Victoria. On a cold winter's night, it is said, when the air is still and the sky shimmers with the green and yellow lights of the aurora, one can hear the sound of axes near the river and a murmur of the Gaelic of these pioneers.

The village was built in 1836 by the British American Land Company. The Company's intention was to lure English-speaking settlers into those areas of the Eastern Townships that had always been considered a wasteland, untrodden even by the Indians.

The French Regime had kept

the country wild and empty as a buffer-zone between their settlements along the St. Lawrence and their enemies in New England. The British Regime had attempted to entice Loyalists here to secure the borders against Republicanism and, later, to colonize the area with New Englanders to help offset the French majority in Lower Canada.

But no real progress was made until 1833 when an agreement was made between the government and the British American Land Company for the sale of 847,661 acres at L120,000 - about sixty cents an acre. One tenth of this sum was to be paid within the year, the balance within ten years but by March of 1837, the government had

realized just L19,200.

## BRIDGE ACROSS EATON RIVER

The Company built a bridge across the Eaton River and constructed Victoria on the falls of the Salmon. It erected a sawmill, a church, a school, a store and homes for a hundred people and it brought out the first settlers the following year - John the Horse, John the Weaver, Donald McKay, Murdo MacLean, Donald McDonald and many others, all from the Isle of Lewis.

The Company paid their passage out and gave each family a sap-kettle in which to make potash or maple syrup, boil the laundry or simmer the soup, kitchen utensils and clothing, grub hoes and axes and

almost unlimited credit at the company store. It was said they had so much flour that they mixed it into dough and plastered the walls of their houses.

But the winter of 1837 was extremely cold. The country was in the grip of one of the worst depressions it has ever known. Wheat crops of the previous year had been a failure, cholera periodically decimated the population and the country was in rebellion - with the formation and operation of the British American Land Company as one of the rebels' chief grievances.

By the end of 1838, the town they called Victoria was all but deserted. When Christopher

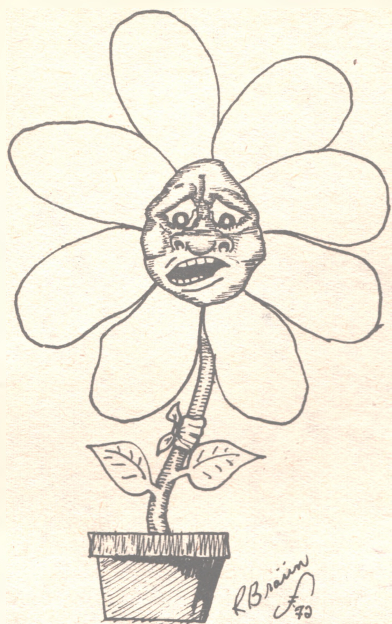
Rochart, a Dutchman, and his eldest son were drowned on the Salmon River falls a few years later, the settlement became a ghost town.

## BURNED BUILDINGS FOR THE NAILS

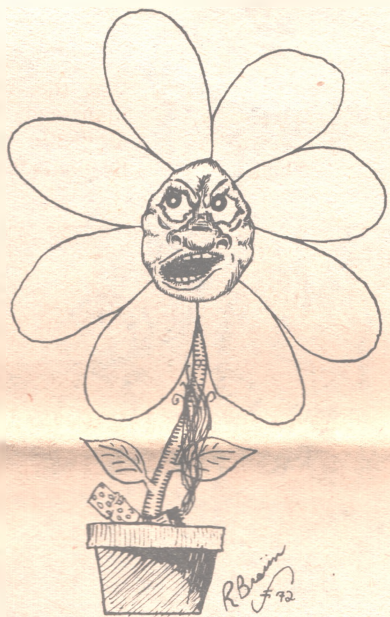
Settlers from Gould Lingwick, it is said, sometimes came to the site and burned down a building or two for the nails they contained. Today there is no trace among the maples and birches on the river bank but the remains of an old road and stones arranged as the abutments of a bridge.

And the ring of axes on a cold winter's night.

And the murmur of Gaelic ghosts.



"DARNED FOOL WITH THE CLIPPERS AGAIN..."



"HEY WISE GUY, IT'S CALLED AN ASH-TRAY!!"



"AW FOR CRYING OUT LOUD!!"

(Cartoons by Richard Brown)



(Photograph by Jamie Shein)

## ART PAGE

ARE YOU THE SORT OF PERSON WHO WOULD DRAW UPROARIOUSLY FUNNY CARTOONS IN THE WEE HOURS OF THE NIGHT? PERHAPS YOU ARE AMONG THE ARTISTS WE OFTEN SEE SKETCHING OUR LOVELY

COUNTRYSIDE. OR A FACT OR SHORT-STORY WRITER EAGER FOR PUBLICATION.

WE WOULD LIKE TO RESERVE THIS PAGE AS A NON-PROFESSIONAL, COMMUNITY-ORIENTED SPACE FOR YOUR

ARTISTIC CONTRIBUTIONS. DON'T BE SHY. IF YOU DON'T WANT TO BECOME FAMOUS WE'LL RESPECT YOUR MODESTY AND LEAVE OUT YOUR NAME. LET'S SEE WHAT OUR COMMUNITY CAN DO!



(Photograph by Doug Gerrish)

# It's not easy to become a farmer

By ANGUS CURRY

Nor is it easy to be one these days. But that's another story of government indifference to a very real problem. However, my immediate concern is that I want to become a farmer and am confronted with obstacles that I feel are unwarranted.

Until this past year I have been living in the city. Thus my schooling was directed towards making a professional career in a field that would bring me "success" money.

There was much encouragement on the part of parents, teachers and friends to settle down in a secure job, nine to five, and a good salary. There was no mention of farming — but then farming is not a "career" — rather a way of life. And you don't usually get rich.

Now with the hassles of city life behind me, I want to farm a piece of land: to provide my own food and food for others. After having lived on a farm for the last year, worked and talked with farmers, I have a few ideas of what kind of farming I want to do. Now to turn these ideas into reality.

## NEED LAND

Well I can't do much without some land. Looking around for farmland that will meet my needs (flexible) and my pocketbook (fixed). I find that the price of land has doubled and tripled in the last few years.

No longer is farmland sold for its worth as just that — farmland. Now we have "leisure land"! Hundreds of acres of farmland that is no longer worked and provides weekend relief for hassled urbanities.

Or land that has become a speculative investment — a hedge against a recession (depression) — and a way to double your money. They should make a child's game out of it. Call it "Double your money, double your fun — buy a farm."

If I still want to buy some land (which I do) I am going to need some financial help. The kind of money it now takes to buy a farm — I don't have.

I could go back to the city, work for the next couple of years and save like hell. But I want to farm — not go insane in the city. And even if I did go back, I might return to find that the price of land had doubled again.

## BACK WHERE I STARTED

I'd be back where I started. But wait a minute! Isn't there a service offered farmers through "The Farm Credit Association"? They should be able to help me — me wanting to be a farmer and needing financial help.

But to my amazement, I am told that they only help "established" farmers. If I have a gross farm income of over \$5,000.00, then I am eligible. No help for me who is still trying to buy a farm and a long way off from turning over \$5,000.00 worth of produce.

Not to be daunted, I plan to take some Manpower sponsored farm courses during the winter. There is still lots for me to learn about farming, so these courses should be a big help.

Guess what? These courses are restricted to established farmers. There are no courses or a special program for the new farmer or for someone who wants to start farming.

## GETTING UPSET

Now this is ridiculous! I'm getting upset! If these services are being offered to help farming — why are there no services for the new farmer?

Especially these days. What with farmers giving up and their children gone to the money and bright lights of the city. Who is going to be the next generation of farmers?

There is almost a food crisis upon us. Oil is not the only energy we need. No oats in Quebec, Canada now importing butter, famine in parts of Africa and the East, sky-rocketing food prices — the writing is on the wall.

But you know politicians. Just from a political point of view it would seem wise for the government to try and encourage farming — what with high unemployment and the growing need for food. But they seem to be doing the exact opposite — discouraging new farmers as manifested by the services offered.

And I guess politicians can afford to pay rising costs and wouldn't want to restrict their recreational activities by passing some form of land control act.

## RETHINK POLICIES

This isn't right! The government is going to have to open its eyes to what is happening to the farm scene, and rethink its policies. Why restricted financial help for farmers, why restricted academic up-grading, why no specific program to encourage and help new farmers, and why no land control act.

Farms that are being sold should be available to prospective farmers on a priority basis and at reasonable prices. "Reasonable", depending upon the productivity of the land and the value of buildings and equipment.

Value to a farmer that is. Not a value of \$200.00 an acre because land is selling in Vermont for \$500.00 and Americans generally can afford to pay more than Canadians.

Why is there no control over the farm rip-offs perpetrated by these people, like Jules Cote, "Auctioneer", and friends, who buy a farm, auction off the livestock and equipment, and resell the bare farm at a speculative price.

How come the government, ever faithful watchdog of the people, isn't putting a halt to this kind of profiteering and exploitation. The spirit of Duplessis is still with us.

## NOT ANTI-FRENCH

I know the provincial government is French — except for a few English representatives that have token cabinet positions. But don't get me wrong by thinking I'm anti-French.

The English government around this part of the world are just as bad and certainly, in one case, obviously corrupt. Actually I'm anti-English for their paranoid attitude towards the French.

I find French people generally much warmer and more open to us English than we to them. Must be our colonialistic heritage.

I think this "problem" of English-French will work itself out. Those English who want to leave Quebec because they feel threatened will go and those who



(Sun cartoon: P. Rola-Pleszczynska)

feel at home will stay. Sounds simplistic — and I'm side-tracked.

## FARMERS ARE IMPORTANT NATURAL RESOURCE

Now you know why I think it is hard to become a farmer. Farmers are an extremely important natural resource, and the food they provide a priceless commodity.

When you can't get gas for your car — you can walk or use horses. When you can't get food

there is no alternative. We all suffer.

No longer can we isolate ourselves from the needs and cries of pain around the world. It is all brought home through the media.

It would be comforting to see the government (provincial and federal) redirect some of our tax money and initiate some viable farm programs to meet the needs of the people. Before it is too late.

## Open letter to all maple syrup producers

### TO ALL MAPLE SYRUP PRODUCERS

It's my turn to take the floor on the subject of maple syrup. I would like to inform all producers in this province that more than one million pounds of maple syrup from the '73 harvest are still unsold in Beauce-Sud.

A far cry from other years. Then companies sent buyers right into our sugar houses — they waited for the sap to boil down and left immediately with the syrup.

Last year, seeing that the harvest was better than average,

the companies stopped buying, hoping thus to lower prices because they knew that sooner or later the producers would sell anyway. I therefore ask all producers of maple syrup to tap less or not at all if buyers are not interested in buying our syrup at a price that more than covers our cost of production.

And I would especially like to remind Eastern Townships producers that we here in Beauce counties have done our part to help raise prices. I would like to see us co-operate now to improve our lot. Prices of all

foods are going up - look at white sugar - as are the prices for wood, steel and fuel.

There are some who would like us to believe that maple products are on a downswing. Personally I think they have chosen the wrong year to convince us.

In closing I repeat what I suggested above - tap less or not at all.

— A maple syrup producer, Dominique Grondin, from St. Ephrem de Beauce

— Translation by Doug Menzies, QFA fieldman

R.R. 2, Lennoxville, P.Q.

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## Seniors urged to act now

By DOUG MENZIES

The Eastern Townships, like other non-urban areas of Quebec with a significant percentage of English, has a higher proportion of old people than normal for the country or the province.

It's not difficult to figure out why: a lot of young people leave to study or work in Montreal or outside the province; many not so young leave to join relatives when their spouse dies, or are transferred or get tired of bucking the French tide and opt for English Canada or the States. And some who spend their working lives outside the Townships return to retirement homes, to rejoin old friends and relatives.

All this has been said a thousand times; everyone knows it, everyone accepts the high percentage of old people and no one does anything about it.

In short, how much access do they have at any level in areas that vitally affect their income, health, housing, and the areas in which they have lived their lives?

### SHOULD THEY BE CONSULTED?

If the answer on the English side is little or none, the logical next step is to figure out why they are not consulted.

The attitude of the government seems to suggest that they shouldn't be. Little encouragement is given to local groups either to help finance their operations or help them provide transportation for shut-ins or a place to meet.

Little encouragement is given to those local groups that flourish despite this benign neglect to send representatives to regular or special meetings of provincial or regional planning committees, even when the topic is directly related to their needs.

And no effort has been made to aid local clubs to form regional or provincial federations, or to help them finance or print or distribute a newsletter than would serve to focus their attention and energies on issues common to all the elderly.

### CALLOUS INDIFFERENCE

The attitude of the majority of North Americans to the elderly is callous indifference and happy ignorance of their special needs and problems. They have contributed all they can during their working life, they have served their turn as the movers and doers, as parents, and Church and Community Leaders.

All they have left to do now is grow older gracefully, enjoying their memories and whatever nest-egg they have individually amassed towards their retirement. All we in society ask is that they not become too much of a burden on us, that they die as unobtrusively as they can decently manage.

And the golden-agers themselves must take a large share of the credit or blame for their isolation. Descendants of a long English tradition of self-reliance and reluctance to seek help from government or any source outside their immediate community, they are far more set in their ways, and unaware of how modern society functions than younger people.

A few are well enough off that they don't feel the pinch of inflation as much as those on fixed incomes like pensioners. Then too, there is the feeling of helplessness that paralyzes action: the greatest enemies of this class of society — disease, senility, and death — are implacable: they cannot be consulted, petitioned, or negotiated with.

And there's the attitude, "you can't teach an old dog new tricks" — the age-old inertia that keeps old organizations going and makes it an uphill battle to start new ones. To top it all off, there's the French-English thing.

Most of the older English in the Townships, as in other rural areas of Quebec, like the Chateauguay Valley and Laurentians and Ottawa Valley, are unilingual and don't want to learn French this late in life.

### QUESTION OF INVOLVING SENIOR CITIZENS

Assuming that everyone who has read this far now has a sketchy idea of why the senior citizens are not involved in making the decisions that affect their lives, the next logical question is should they be. After all, they've worked and saved all their life, they own their homes and cars, they're out of debt, with no children or mortgages to support; they're on top of the world, right?

Wrong. The majority have worked and saved to get out of debt, and accumulated enough to buy an annuity paying a fixed amount per year. Trouble is they earned and saved when a dollar was worth more than now, and inflation has eaten big holes in the buying power of all but the most affluent among them.

They have no children, but are still paying school tax; they own their car, but must buy maintenance and replace it now and then; they own their house but property taxes go up every year, and heating and maintenance costs drive many to sell a house too large for just the two of them, and move closer to the services they depend on more and more.

They move to the city or town and watch their rents climb yearly. They get free medical care, but pay dearly for medication of which many of them need more and more.

As their health or facilities fail, they need care and nursing attention: for all but the very rich, this means going into a nursing home or hospital and becoming, for all their careful plans and life-long pride, wards of the state.

And what happens to them in homes? Some adapt well: the Wales Home seems a model of the best of such institutions. But many sicken and die of nothing more than loneliness, or alienation, or heartsickness, and they just give-up.

### GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION NOT THE ANSWER

The answer to these problems is not massive government intervention. We have seen the results of their well-meaning bungling in the regional high schools and giant hospitals.

Nobody denies you can get the



(Sun photo: Jamie Shein)

best treatment for the most unlikely ailment; but it's no place for the average guy with a broken toe or a head cold.

Especially for the old people. What gives them a reason for living? For many it's their friends and relatives and community; cut them off from these and with the best care in the world, they wither away.

Possibly the answer is smaller centers wherein the senior citizens have a say concerning the administering and help staff, that would provide medication and treatment for those needing daily care but not hospitalization.

If the elderly cannot depend on the charitable concern of a society that has largely forgotten them, nor on government master plans, where can they turn for help in solving their very real and very urgent problems?

Where else but themselves? Who else in the final analysis, cares as much?

### TWO CHOICES AVAILABLE

They've two choices of means to their ends. They can fight for recognition of their rights and needs individually or through organizations, in groups, in associations, federations, whatever.

The first is haphazard: success may crown the efforts of the most capable, best organized, wealthiest or best connected, but the vast majority will get nowhere with businesses and landlords and governments used to dealing with far more powerful forces.

So group action. Groups have two fundamental advantages: division of labour and the leverage of numbers.

Senior citizens groups might include a retired accountant or lawyer who could contribute to figuring out how to take advantage of tax laws, group annuities, special group rates on car or house insurance or co-operative buying of food, medication or nursing services.

They might include gardeners, nurses, doctors, government workers, teachers, historians, community workers, all with years of experience which could be tapped for the benefit of all members. And the problems of a few, if backed by the full weight of the whole group (and that means work, not merely signing petitions) have that much better chance of solution.

### PROBLEMS ARE LOCALIZED

Some of the problems that afflict other voluntary organizations don't affect senior citizens: lack of experience in working in groups, no time, fragmentation of interest groups, inability to attract young members (everyone wants to live past 65).

I'm not really trying to convince anyone to rush out and form a senior citizens club, because they exist, formally or informally, already and fill a genuine social need.

I'm aiming this long-winded argument at the general attitude on the part of everyone — government, the elderly, you and I — that these clubs can be nothing more than a social get together, that the old have nothing more to give to society at large, or their communities.

I strongly suggest that they have the motivation, the experience, the knowledge, the capacity to at the least contribute to the solution of their own problems and their communities.

### ENCOURAGE THEM TO DO MORE

One means of working out their problems is to encourage them to do more with their social organizations: inform members of new developments in pensions, housing, health care or coping with the cost of living escalation; debating and deciding on what the club can do about them; making and using contacts with other local organizations, voluntary, political, professional or social, and with regional, provincial and federal agencies, M.P.s, royal commissions, organizers and planners.

Here again, the local clubs can either operate independently with the same chances of success as individuals, or through regional, provincial and national organizations. Happily such a national association already exists, the National Pensioners and Senior Citizens Federation, and there are provincial federations in most provinces except Quebec.

Unhappily, only some eight clubs in all Quebec are affiliated with the National Federation, although the costs are minimal,

and the National Pensioners and Senior Citizens Federation is the only lobbying group they do have at the federal parliament.

For clubs with less than 50 members, cost is \$10.00 a year, and for those with 50-100, \$20.00. A quarterly newsletter goes to the president and secretary of member clubs; subscriptions for others, members or not, is 60 cents a year. Hardly excessive.

Sound sensible? Robert Hamilton, founding father of the Magog senior citizens club, publicity director for years, and author of a widely-read column in the Sherbrooke Record, has been regularly extolling the benefits of affiliation with the National Federation and forming a provincial federation to lobby the Quebec government and exchange ideas, problems, solutions.

And the results of all this? Ringing silence, not even a glimmer of interest. Just before Christmas, Mr. Hamilton sent a letter to the secretaries, presidents or members of approximately twenty clubs he knew of in the Townships, urging that they consider some kind of loose association, if not the N.P.S.C.F.

The last time I talked to him, he had heard nothing, and was considering sending another letter.

To all members of any kind of senior citizens group, or anyone connected with such a group or wishing to form one: Robert Hamilton or myself or both would like to hear from you, would like to talk to your group, would like to offer our help in organizing, program planning, supplying information or whatever services you need.

Contact us through this newspaper or directly — Mr. Hamilton lives in Magog, and I live in Sawyerville.

Help us help you help yourselves.

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# Eat better for less

By FRANCIS ELLIOT

This article is about breakfast foods. What is the best buy and is it really worthwhile to eat a bowl of cereal every morning? To answer these questions I have referred again to **Healthful Eating**, the Canadian government pamphlet on nutrition (50 cents from the Queen's Printer, Ottawa).

A comparison of the nutrients in the many different breakfast foods shows that the nutrients are the same in amount and kind to the grain from which they were made, usually wheat, oats, rice or corn. The pattern of the nutrient content of the four grains is also similar:

One ounce of each of these whole grains provide:

- 100 calories..... 4 per cent daily requirement
- approx. 20 grams ..... 7 per cent daily requirement
- carbohydrate
- insignificant amounts of fat
- insignificant amounts calcium
- no Vitamin
- no Vitamin C

They do differ in other nutrients:

	Protein grams	Iron milli grams	Thiamin milli grams	Riboflavin milligrams	Niacin milligrams
Wheat	3.8	.9	.17	.05	1.7
Oats	3.6	1.1	.18	.04	.2
Corn	3.2	.4	.13	.10	.4
Rice	2.2	.6	.09	.01	1.3
(brown)					
per cent of daily require ment	4-8	3-11	11-25	1-4	3-24

Some breakfast foods are prepared from the whole grain but many from refined grain and these latter would contain much less of all nutrients except carbohydrate.

The prices of the foods given below are for one ounce which is the weight of a normal serving except for the puffed cereals, usually 1/2 to 3/4 ounce.

- + Puffed Wheat — 9.5 cents per oz.
- + Puffed Rice — 6.3 cents per oz.
- + Corn flakes — 4.2 cents per oz.
- Bran flakes — 3.7 cents per oz.
- Shredded Wheat — 4.1 cents per oz.
- + Corn Meal — 1.37 cents per oz.
- Vita B — 1.4 cents per oz.
- Rolled oats — 1.4 cents per oz.
- Flaked oats — 1.86 cents per oz.
- Brown rice — 3.1 cents per oz.

+ These are prepared from refined grain.

So it is obvious that all the cereals that need cooking are the cheapest and the Vita B and oats are the most nutritious of all.

### PUFFED CEREALS OUTRAGEOUS BUYS

Of the ready-to-eat cereals, the puffed cereals are outrageous buys. Bran and Shredded Wheat, though expensive, are at least as

nutritious as a cereal can be (except for wheat germ).

Wheat Germ being the most nutritious part of the wheat grain is truly superior even though expensive, 6.2 cents per oz. 1 oz. contains:

- Protein 4.5 g.
- Iron 1.4 mg.
- Thiamin .35 mg.
- Riboflavin .135 mg.
- Niacin .78 mg.

Many people find it unpleasant to eat wheat germ alone as a cereal. Since it is so nutritious and 1 tablespoon of it weighs about 1-3 oz. it is worthwhile to add a tablespoon of it to other cereals and to other foods.

There are many other brands of cereals on the market. It would be possible to judge their value by considering the grain from which they are prepared. Some new cereals that should be avoided are the ones which are over-sweetened. Children tend to eat them as candy and without milk on them, a real shame.

### OATMEAL PORRIDGE AS NUTRITIOUS AS GRANOLA

Another very new and popular breakfast food is the granola-type with added nuts, wheat germ, seeds, dried milk, dried fruit, sugar, honey. They are no doubt tasty and satisfying but my calculations and deductions indicate that they are no more nutritious than oatmeal porridge. The reason is - that so much of their weight comes from added sugar, honey, oil or coconut, which do not contribute minerals or vitamins, that the nuts, wheat germ etc. (added in small amounts) cannot make up for the naked calories of the sweets and oil.

The following is an analysis of the nutrients in such a nutty breakfast food, containing Quaker oats, wheat germ, brown sugar, sesame seed, vegetable oil, coconut, honey and vanilla, (recipe on a Quaker Oats package). One ounce contains the following nutrients, according to my calculation of the amounts of nutrients in each item of the mixture: Calories, 117; Protein, 2.6 g.; Fat, 4.7 g.; Carbohydrate, 17.2; Calcium, .011 g.; Iron, .78 mg.; Thiamin, .13 mg.; Riboflavin, .04 mg.; Niacin, 1 mg.

One can see that the nutrient pattern is very similar to that of the four whole grains; wheat, oats, corn, and rice. In fact, the protein content is less than that of the first three. Of course, it has more fat, but that is no virtue. The ingredients in the above mixture are almost identical with those listed on the packages of Alpen and Quaker Harvard Crunch. Besides, the latter Crunch package gives the protein, carbohydrate, fat and calorie content. Again a low protein value and high fat value.

### HIGH PRICES

And consider the prices: Harvard Crunch, 5.26 cents per oz., Alpen, 6.6 cents per oz. and the home-made mixture, 3.25 cents per oz. My conclusion is that if you can't afford to buy these Nature foods, you are not missing much.

... HEY KIDS !!!



... TELL MOM !!!

Most breakfast cereals have little nutritional value.

(Sun cartoon: R. Pocock)

One of the best features of morning cereals is the milk that goes on them. One usually adds 3 ounces of milk to an un-cooked cereal and 1 to 2 ounces to a cooked one. But one can add 1/2 cup of dried skimmed milk to a pot of porridge, thus giving the equivalent of 8 ounces of liquid milk to a serving plus the 1 to 2 ounces of liquid milk.

Finally, I should mention that 2 slices of whole wheat bread supply the same nutrients and in some items, (protein and niacin), more than a dish of porridge. So why bother with cereal especially if you like bread and you're late getting up in the morning.

Ed. Note: Grains should be combined with dairy products or legumes for best utilization of their proteins.

## The high cost of dying

By L. POCOCK

When will we, the public, demand a decrease in the cost of dying? If you take time to think a minute you will agree with me - that you cannot afford to die.

Ignore a lengthy sickness, and just think about a funeral. You need the well-polished casket for \$1,000 to \$2,000, plus flowers, plus a lot at the cemetery, plus a fee for the preacher.

Let us suppose we can have an acceptable funeral for \$1,400. I use the word "acceptable" because we and no one else has

declared that we use these high priced boxes, when a well-made box of pine boards would suffice.

Flowers that are much too expensive must be sent as a sign you care. Well the best way to care is to visit this person before he or she died. The cemetery lot needs to be maintained so this is essential along with the fee for the poor preacher.

### GOVERNMENT SHOULD SUBSIDIZE FUNERALS

Failing this the government should provide a complete

funeral for all people regardless of color, or religion, for we'll say \$200 and subsidize the rest. By buying standard caskets in large volume they could save many dollars along with one standard wreath of flowers.

I think there is a great need for us as public citizens to review our policies on funerals and their expenses. Let us do more to see that we can all expect to die in dignity knowing our expenses will not disgrace us or our loved ones.

## Are hospitals understaffed?

By L. POCOCK

Recently the provincial government decreed to the hospitals of the province that they must cut back their staffs for financial reasons. Anyone having recently visited the outclinic at our Sherbrooke Hospital would wonder after waiting two or three hours if more staff would be more appropriate instead of less.

The ones to suffer are the elderly, in many cases whose families cannot afford a sitter throughout the night. I think that an elderly person going to the hospital should do so with the knowledge that everything will be done for their comfort, even a sitter if necessary paid for the

government.

To me this is dignity earned by the elderly who have contributed a lifetime of hard work for the government, and probably contributed to many campaigns of the local Sherbrooke Hospital. Can someone in government really declare this unnecessary?

### STAFF CUTBACK

Secondly, they must cut over forty people from their staff of employees. This will certainly mean a cutback in services all along the line with the result that the public will feel disgraced, instead of seeing a hospital well-run with pride and dignity.

In the last few years our provincial budget has seen

education get the largest piece of pie. Now with Medi-Care costing much more than expected, cutbacks must be made in this area.

I am of the opinion that the government could save money in many other ways without cutting staffs in local hospitals. If the local taxpayer who pays for all the government services was asked where it should go, maybe the hospitals would be fully staffed.

We have excellent doctors and nurses doing their job six or seven days a week, so let us see to it that they have the necessary staff to run a hospital for all to be proud of.

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# Roman Catholicism: A change

## From palace viewpoint to street reality

By NORMAN MARTIN

People used to say, not too long ago, that all French speaking Quebecers were all Roman Catholics. Quebec was even said to be a "priest ridden province", meaning that, among the major influences, stood the priest who, with a few other learned persons, ruled over a docile population.

This situation lasted until about 1960, up to the election of Jean Lesage: a period called "la revolution tranquille". At this point of Quebec's history, one witnessed a radical change: a breed of new leaders, whose characteristics were to be lay people, young, well learned, socialists who took the task of pulling away people from the two main streams of traditional influence: the down to earth partisan politician and the Church. To get more influence, the state had to hurt and to oppose an old ally: so the church bled.

### THE TRADITIONAL CHURCH

The traditional Church, in Quebec, because of historical causes, had to fight for her survival as the French state also had to. A fight for survival always puts the accent on law, declarations, written guarantees. Not sure of the intentions or of the sincerity of the English ruler, the state and the Church linked themselves into a partnership that lasted up to ten years ago.

She ruled over public organizations such as schools, hospitals and welfare groups. Dependent on the political power for recognition and funds, she supported political power.

In a way, she was more interested in a well adjusted structure, kept in place through a stern law of obedience, than in the sole pursuit of a christian identity. In this closed atmosphere, religion often became a social label rather than a spiritual path: catholicism, by French speaking people, was taken for granted by the mere fact of baptism and church attendance.

It would be unjust to picture French speaking Catholics only as a people interested in their faith solely because of the social security it gave them. But the fact remains of a lack of religious purity due to historical circumstances.

### NEW PATHS FOR TODAY

The growing influence of the new leaders and the decisive one

of the Vatican council, ended in 1965 and painted a new picture of the Church in French Canada.

A wind of liberty blew in all minds and permitted many "nominal" catholics to drop away from the Church without suffering too much from the social stigma linked to this abandon.

Research and polls revealed (and still reveal) that many catholics, believed to have lost their faith, in fact had lost nothing: they had no deep faith and their church attendance was merely a weekly act congruent with a social imperative.

These abandons are now accepted because of the "liberty of conscience" recognized to all people: liberty to believe in God or not, and the liberty to choose another christian faith apart from the catholic faith. In fact, since a decade, many French speaking people, formerly Romand Catholics, now attend non-catholic French services in totally French congregations.

This social and religious situation is quite new in this province, especially in the Sherbrooke area. So, church attendance that could have been up to 100 per cent, ten or fifteen years ago, has dropped: in city parishes it has dropped dramatically, maybe between 40 and 50 percent.

Parish life is less active and is no more the center of all activities. They are less active because the government has taken its place in matters of organized welfare; moreover, the activities proposed by parishes do not meet with the expectations of catholics anymore.

People still believe that an activity proposed by a parish can only be dealing with spirituality and, therefore, is less attractive in days when the material aspects of life take so much importance and when their social needs can be fulfilled otherwise.

### A CRISIS OF THE PRIESTHOOD

In the Sherbrooke area, almost 10 per cent of the clergy has left the priesthood. Most of those priests rocked away the old rule of celibacy and are now employed in regular jobs as anyone else.

On the other hand, young people are not attracted anymore by the traditional image of the priest, and the diocesan Church has not yet

levelled with them in giving them "carte blanche" in exploring new avenues of priestly work. Where young men would like to innovate in social work, they are still encouraged to stick with traditional tasks.

This shortage of priests bring people to wish the presence of ordained married priests among them as they see it in so many other Christian faiths. This solution is merely contemplated as a possibility with no reference to an immediate future.

### FOR THOSE WHO REMAIN

If the crisis has brought trouble it is also shaping a renewal. Parting from tradition has fostered a new life style for the faithful.

The bible has found its right place again. Preachers preach more the Word of God without insisting too much on the principles of theology. The celebration of the Lord's supper (the mass) integrates more bible reading. Catechism, instead of delivering rules, interdictions, and tracing a line between what is permitted to a catholic and what is forbidden, has the young children discovering the Word of God.

The whole first step of catholic education, in grammar school, stands on the personal relationship of the child with his God. He discovers what God asks and how he can answer.

### SPIRITUAL SERVICE STATIONS

Especially in cities, parishes had become "spiritual service stations" where, once a week, a catholic would attend mass and hear a sermon. For many, the religious life stopped on the church steps after mass: religion was a Sunday affair with no implication in the six other days of the week.

Actually, in large parishes, an effort is made to create smaller groups within the parish itself in order to have catholics live christian brotherhood; the anonymity of city life is broken down so people may know and help one another, and share with one another.

Share not only material belongings, but their problems, their faith, hope and love. From a large group of people unknown to one another, the parish is splitting itself into smaller groups where the stress will be on knowing people, recognizing other christians as such and

living the specifics of christianity.

Not too long ago, the only official active member of the parish was the priest: he usually took all the decisions, shaping parish life to his personality and his view of life. The vast majority of catholic, save a few, was passive: people waited for instructions on what to do, what to avoid, how to pray, etc.

### EXPRESSING THEIR VIEWS

Now the capacity to think and to express ideas and desires is put to profit: catholics who have remained attached to their faith are expressing their views on parish life, and the parish priest, once an undisputed leader, becomes more a coordinator of parish activities, serving needs expressed by the people instead of imposing often artificial ones.

This involvement of lay people

touches many aspects: involvement in financial affairs; in welfare, needs not yet fulfilled by government agencies; in social consciousness among the poor; in the strengthening of family life; in liturgical celebrations of the eucharist, baptism, and confession.

Many problems still lie ahead: the Church will have to face a greater shortage of priests, and money problems brought up by a declining number of churchgoers. From a super power in Quebec, she is rapidly becoming poor; from a structure enjoying political power, she is becoming a community of people, brothers and sisters.

After living many years in palaces, enjoying wealth and consideration, she is moving into the desert where she will have to reconsider the main purposes of her existence: purposes she was perhaps forgetting.

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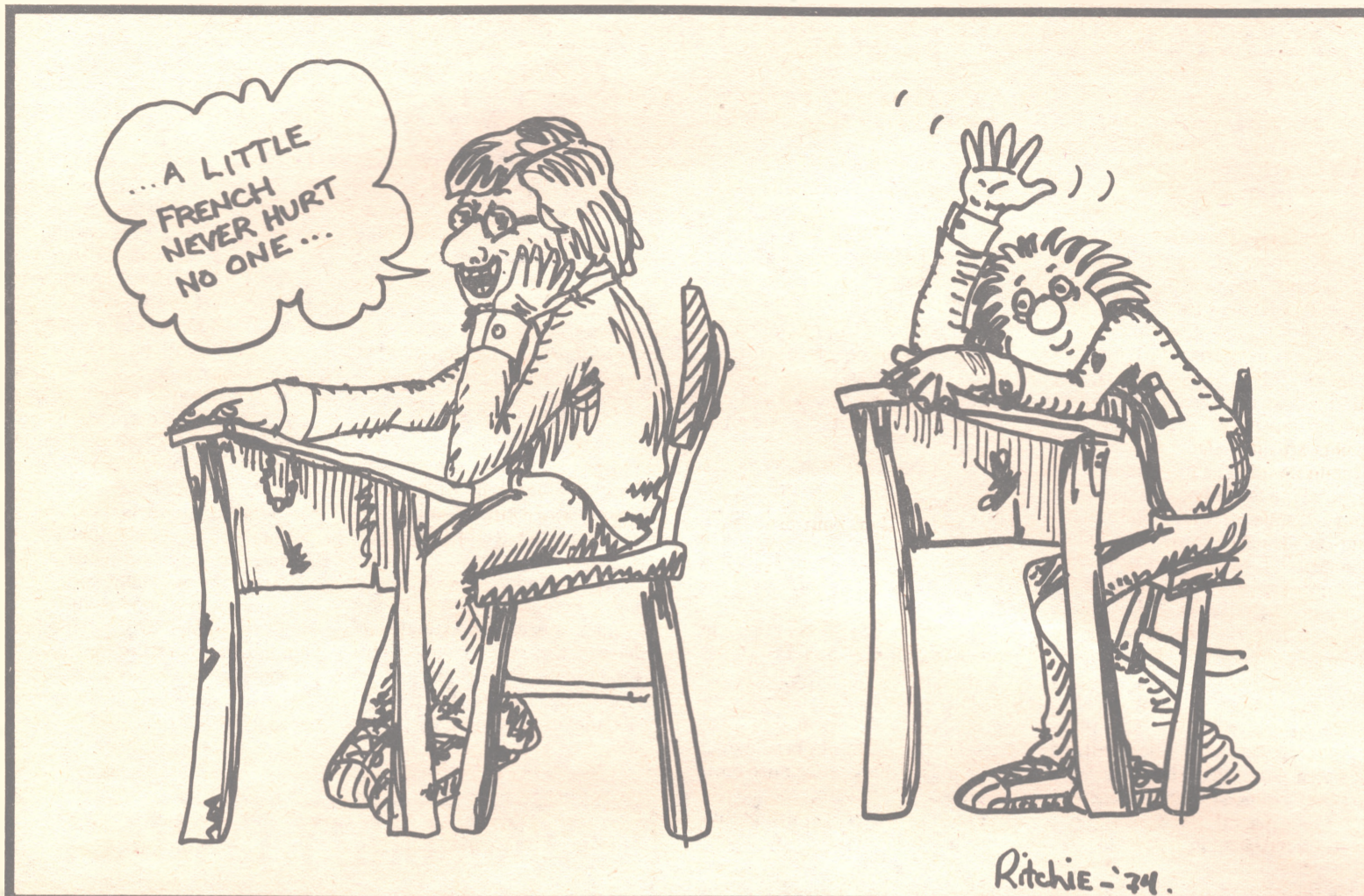
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# Area offers French language instruction



By SUSAN MASTINE

Voulez-vous apprendre le français toute de suite sans trop de difficulté. Alors, mes amis, suivez-moi dans mon voyage à travers de l'Estrie en cherchant les meilleurs moyens d'apprendre la belle langue de nos voisins!

The Commission Scolaire Regionale de l'Estrie (CSRE) and the Eastern Townships Regional School Board (ETRSB) are among several institutions offering courses in French as a second language.

Both the CSRE and the ETRSB give intensive ninety-hour courses with emphasis on conversation. The intensity of the courses and the methods used are not the same however.

The CSRE courses are offered over a period of ten weeks, three nights a week, three hours a night at a cost of \$12 plus textbook. There are three ninety-hour sessions a year: one in the fall, one in the winter, and one in the spring.

The sole criteria for entry into the course is that the person be eighteen years of age or over. Thus, no matter what your highest level of schooling is, you are eligible to enroll if you meet the minimum age requirement.

#### STUDENT WRITES CLASSMENT TEST

At registration, each individual writes a classment test to determine the level in which he should be placed. The minimum number of students required to have a class is twelve, with a maximum of twenty, all of whom must be at the same level.

At present, courses are being given at Ecole Montcalm in Sherbrooke. It is probable that courses will soon be given in Coaticook, Valcourt, and Weedon.

Mr. Arthur Desgagnes, director of the CSRE adult language courses, pointed out that the CSRE will give French courses in any locality where

there are at least seven or eight students at the same level. There may, however, be a waiting period of two to three months in such a case before classes begin if no trained teacher is available, one will be trained.

Instructors giving the courses are French Canadians who also teach during the day and who have had special instruction in the teaching of French as a second language.

#### NEW ORAL METHOD

The teaching method used is called "français international", a method devised by Quebecers to teach French as it is spoken in Quebec today - the everyday, practical form as opposed to the literary form. This method is, Mr. Desgagnes pointed out, "à la pointe de l'actualité".

Conversation is of prime importance in the français international method. The theory is that learning a second language is easier and more efficient if one is first intensively exposed to the spoken language. Thus, beginners are exposed to oral French only.

The student first learns to understand what others are saying: - he becomes more and more capable of expressing himself in the language and then he learns to write and read the language.

The higher the level of achievement, the less the emphasis on conversation. The maximum amount of conversation is ninety per cent at level 1, the beginner's level; the minimum is fifty per cent at levels 5, 6, 7 the most advanced levels.

#### ADDITIONAL TESTS AFTER 30 HOURS

In addition to placement tests given at the beginning of the course, each student writes a test after each thirty hours of classes. After successful completion of the tests, and providing the student has

attended the classes regularly, the provincial government presents him with a certificate attesting that he has completed ninety hours of intensive French study.

Last fall there were approximately sixty students at five different levels, some coming from as far as Asbestos, East Angus and South Stukely. The enrollment is considerably lower this session. The weather is probably an important factor: The same decrease occurred in the enrollment in English courses given by the CSRE.

There are presently sixteen students enrolled at Montcalm - all of them at the same level. The ages and occupational backgrounds of the students vary; the average student is "middle-aged" and either a professional person or a housewife from the Lennoxville or Sherbrooke area.

Mr. Desgagnes does not understand why there are so few young people registering - is it because they do not know about the course or is it because they feel that they do not need it?

#### STUDENTS REALIZE NECESSITY OF FRENCH

Those who are presently taking the course have come to realize that they have to be able to function in the French language. They are intent upon improving their French and thus the attendance rate is generally quite high.

The ETRSB is presently offering French courses in four different areas: Cookshire, Lennoxville, Magog and Sawyerville, which is just getting under way, the courses started in November and will finish in March.

Classes are held two nights a week, two and a half hours each night over a period of eighteen

weeks. The course costs \$12 plus the cost of the textbook.

The only qualification for enrollment in the course is that the person has been out of school for one year; a high school diploma is not a requirement.

The course is available to any group of people of sufficient size, anywhere in the Townships, provided available space and a teacher can be found. The minimum number of people required is seventeen, the maximum, twenty.

#### FRENCH CANADIAN INSTRUCTORS

Instructors are usually of French Canadian background and have had experience in teaching. The teaching methods vary from class to class, depending on the teacher.

Mr. Douglas Grant, director of adult education for the ETRSB, feels that it is important that the teacher choose his own method of instruction and incorporate his own ideas. There is one common theory, however, - that the class be 100 per cent oral.

Only one class is given in each town; thus, there is no division of students into separate classes according to level of achievement. A test is usually given at the beginning of each course to determine how advanced the students are and to divide them into sub-groups within the class if necessary.

Class attendance fluctuates quite a bit and there is a fair amount of turnover. About twenty per cent of the total enrollment in ETRSB French courses have dropped out since November, either because they felt they were too above or too below the level of the rest of the group, or because of other commitments.

#### MORE INTENSIVE COURSES BENEFICIAL

Mr. Grant feels that more intensive courses than those

given by the ETRSB are beneficial. However, not everyone can commit themselves to the type of schedule required by more intensive courses. The ETRSB is attempting to meet the needs of those who cannot afford a more hectic schedule.

Because teaching methods vary, there are no standardized tests given at the end of the course. The students completing the course do not, therefore, receive a certificate. The ETRSB is more concerned about providing a service for the community as there is an increasing realization among English-speaking people that they can no longer manage if they can speak English only.

People enrolled in the ETRSB courses vary in age from twenty to seventy-nine, most of them being in their thirties with a high school education or more. Although many of the students are native to the Townships, a substantial number are "outsiders" who have recently moved into the area.

I recently sat in on the class given at Lennoxville elementary school by the ETRSB and on that given at Ecole Montcalm by the CSRE to get student reaction to the two courses.

#### MONTCALM STUDENTS ENJOY DISCUSSION

The Montcalm students would all like to have more open discussion in their classes, whereas those at Lennoxville elementary seem to be more appreciative of the groundwork they are receiving and do not feel the same need, perhaps because they are not ready to delve into the depths of extended dialogue.

On the whole, though, the general impression given by both classes was a very favourable one. The students are pleased with their progress and are aware that some of their problems would be solved if, in the case of ETRSB students, the classes were divided into different levels.

If you are interested in enrolling in one of these courses, call Mr. Desgagnes of the CSRE at 565-3888 between 7:30 and 10:30 Monday to Wednesday evenings or Mr. Grant of the ETRSB at 569-9466 weekdays between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. for further information.

The next ninety-hour session to be offered by the CSRE will begin March 18 and go until May 22; courses will be held Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings from 7:30 until 10:30. Registration will be held March 13-15.

The ETRSB will be giving its next ninety-hour session of courses in September. At this point, however, the ETRSB could organize a forty-five hour course to begin in early spring if sufficient interest is shown.