

# THE GEORGETOWN HERALD

Seventy-Seventh Year of Publication.

Georgetown, Ontario, Wednesday, March 1st, 1944

\$2.00 per Annum; 5c per Copy

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### A. R. Speight and W. E. Nodwell Head Executive Positions on Newly-Formed Board of Trade

Organization Meeting Attended by Large Representation of Merchants, Manufacturers and Interested Citizens—Plan For Meeting With Russell T. Kelley, Advertising Executive As Guest Speaker.

The meeting called last Wednesday evening for the purpose of organizing a Board of Trade in Georgetown, was one of the most enthusiastic and representative yet held by local businessmen. The idea was fostered by a group of public-spirited citizens, who planned the organization and worked up the enthusiasm among the business men. C. R. Muckart, acting as chairman, outlined the purpose of the meeting, and Garfield McGillivray, secretary pro tem, read the minutes of a previous meeting that was held. On motion of W. H. Brown and A. R. Speight, they were adopted as read.

The chairman then called upon some of those present to give their views on forming a Board of Trade. Following are a few of the comments:

Mr. W. F. Bradley—See no reason why we should not have a Board of Trade. As a town we have been lax in many things. Take Central Park, it is a disgrace to the town. If we are going to fix it up, for heavens sake let us get at it.

Mr. W. T. Evans—Hoped that no similar organization would be formed too and that the Board of Trade would be big enough to take in all businessmen.

Mr. W. E. Nodwell—Would like to see the new Board affiliated with Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce across Canada.

Mayor Harold Cleave—Congratulated the men responsible for organization, and believed it would be a good thing for the town.

Mr. J. Goodlett—Attendance was gratifying. Town should be advertised far and wide.

Mr. Ed. McWhirter—A good idea, should be boosted to fullest extent.

Mrs. Wm. Smith—All ladies present are in favor. A good thing for the town. It was then moved by N. H. Brown and seconded by D. Brill that Mr. LeRoy Dale act as chairman for the election of officers.

The following executive was then elected, with committee members to be chosen later:

Honorary President—Rev. Chas. C. Cochran.  
Honorary Vice President—Mayor Harold Cleave.

President—Arthur R. Speight.  
1st. Vice President—George R. Muckart.

2nd Vice President—R. B. Foulis.  
Secretary—W. E. Nodwell.  
Treasurer—H. O. McClure.

Industrial Committee—J. D. Kelly.  
Retail Committee—E. V. MacCormack.

Re-habilitation Committee—John McGibbon.  
Publicity—Roy Bradley.

Finance Committee—James Goodlett.  
Ratepayers Committee—S. W. Orr.

The membership fee was then discussed as some length and left in the hands of the executive to decide.

A motion was also passed inviting Russell T. Kelley, of Hamilton, as guest speaker for a Board of Trade rally to be held shortly.

At a meeting for the executive held on Friday night, Mr. K. C. McMillan was chosen to head an Agricultural Committee.

**F.O. Omar Diggins Home From Overseas**

After being overseas nearly three years, during which time he made seven operational flights over enemy territory in a typhoon bomber, Flying Officer Omar Diggins is home. He made the crossing by boat, and arrived in Georgetown on the seven o'clock train Saturday night. He will spend a thirty-day leave at home.

F. O. Diggins looks very well indeed, and is, needless to say, glad to be home. He got a big thrill out of having two eggs for Sunday morning breakfast, and as for bananas—he hasn't seen any of that commodity for three years. Omar is very reticent about telling of his experiences, but from what he does say, he has seen plenty of action.

Prior to enlisting in June 1941, F. O. Diggins was an employee of Smith & Stone Ltd.

### Charles Burnside Dies Suddenly in 71st Year

Resident of Georgetown for the past 56 years, Charles Burnside died suddenly at his residence on Friday, February 25th. Mr. Burnside had not been in good health for some time, but had been up and around as usual the day of his demise. He was in his 71st year.

The son of the late John Burnside and Jane Sanders, of Ballinacree, Mr. Burnside came to Georgetown in 1887, and almost immediately was employed by the Paper Mill Division of Provincial Paper Ltd. He was a valued employee of that company for nearly fifty-two years. Thirty-eight years ago he married the former Georgina Blondin. Deeply interested in welfare work, Mr. Burnside was a Charter Member of the Georgetown Lions Club, and his faithful work in all Lion activities will be greatly missed. Mr. Burnside was also one of the original members of the Georgetown Curling Club, and always derived great enjoyment from the sport. He was a Conservative in politics, and a member of the Church of England.

The funeral service was held from his residence on Monday, February 28th, at 2 o'clock by Archdeacon W. G. O. Thompson.

Participants were: Messrs. G. W. McLintock, Edward McWhirter, J. D. Kelly, Robert Erwin, Howard Kentner, Clarence Armstrong. Interment was in Greenwood Cemetery.

Surviving are his wife, one son, Claude, Bowmanville, and two grandchildren, Johnny and Sally also of Bowmanville, one niece, Miss Doris Greene, Toronto.

Mr. Burnside will be greatly missed by his many friends in town. Among the floral tributes were the following from: Lions Club; Curling Club; Employees of Paper Mill; Provincial Union No. 476; Paper Mill; Mr. McWhirter; Erwin & Goldham; Mr. Robinson, Owen Sound; Tina & Dick; Jack and Julia Watson; the Blackburn family; J. D. Kelly; Mr. W. Kasser, London; spray from grandchildren Johnny and Sally; cushion from the family.

Friends from a distance who came to pay their last respects were: Mr. W. Thurston, Toronto; Mr. Will Kaiser, London; Mr. Frank Cook, Collingwood; Mrs. Inga, Agton; Mrs. Sparling, Toronto; Mr. Robinson, Owen Sound; Mrs. J. T. Ferns, Goderich; Mr. and Mrs. Claude Burnside, Bowmanville; Miss Doris Greene, Toronto.

**Father of Mrs. Maynard Dies in 79th Year**

Robert Lovell, 79, father of Mrs. E. Maynard, Georgetown, died on Feb. 24th, at the Lord Dufferin Hospital, Orangeville, where he had been confined following a stroke.

As a young man Mr. Lovell learned blacksmithing and came to Erin almost 50 years ago, at that time a thriving village. He worked for the local stone quarries which at that time were supplying the stone for the Ontario Parliament Buildings and the Toronto City Hall.

Surviving are his widow, three sons: John of Acton, Fred of Toronto and James of the Swansea police force, and three daughters: Mrs. William Perrol, Mrs. Arthur Harrington, both of Toronto, and Mrs. E. Maynard, Georgetown.

**M.O.H. MONTHLY REPORT**

The M.O.H. reports the following communicable diseases for the month of February, 1944.

Scarlet Fever	1
Chickenspox	0
Measles	0
German Measles	0
Mumps	0
Infant's Paralysis	0
Typhoid Fever	0
Whooping Cough	0
Tuberculosis	0
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis (Epidemic)	0



### Hughes Cleaver, M.P. Discusses War Expenditures in House

The following letter was received last week from Hughes Cleaver, M. P. for Halton.

Ottawa, Ont.,  
Feb. 25th, 1944

Dear Mrs. Blehn:

The Conservative Opposition put on a real attack this week on War Expenditures Committee. The new committee has been set up and I am once again its chairman. I would like my friends in the County to have the story of what the committee is doing. The full speech is much too long on account of interruptions but the enclosed is the main body of the story.

Yours Sincerely,  
HUGHES CLEAVER

Mr. Hughes Cleaver (Halton): The committee on war expenditures, as the house will recall, was not set up until July 17 of last year. The committee was immediately convened. We held three meetings of the main committee between the 17 and 24th of July when the house adjourned. The committee did not meet in August. Most members had been away from their ridings for many months and required to return to them. The committee, however, reconvened in September and worked continuously through the fall until the middle of November, and it reconvened again a week before the meeting of the house. During this period the main committee and its various sub-committees held ninety-seven meetings at Ottawa in addition to many visits to war plants across Canada.

During the recess our meetings were exceptionally well attended this time, and I think it is only fitting that I should now pay a well deserved tribute to the members of the committee and to the committee staff for the loyal and efficient way in which they carried on their duties, and for the substantial results achieved.

Members of the house will have noticed from our reports that subcommittee No. 1 reported on shipbuilding, both as to cargo and the shipbuilding programme and as to naval vessels. Subcommittees Nos. 2 and 3 were grouped together for the aluminum inquiry. That was an exceptionally heavy inquiry and the committee thought it wise to assign that work jointly to these two subcommittees. Sub-committee No. 4 made the inquiry into the supply of agricultural implements and brought in a report with respect to that subject.

While the committee worked very diligently and lost no time from the time it was appointed, and worked continuously throughout the fall, much of the work we should have done has not yet been completed, and we are consequently much pleased that the house has taken notice of our fifth report, which was a recommendation that the committee this year should be set up as promptly as possible on the opening of the session.

Since most of our meetings have been in camera, the work of the committee has received little publicity and I think it is only fair to say that I should say that the war expenditures committee, much maligned as it is by some of our daily press, has saved many millions for Canada's war effort. This saving has been effected both directly and indirectly. A reference to the reports will disclose many of the direct savings that have been brought about, but in addition to the direct savings the indirect influence, I am convinced, is quite as important. I believe it is commonly agreed now that the very fact that a war expenditure committee is sitting and is vigilantly watching government expenditures has a most salutary effect. While no major scandal has occurred in connection with Canada's war effort, and we are all very proud of that fact, yet many mistakes have been made—honest mistakes. War is wasteful. I will say this, however, that whenever mistakes have been made and whenever waste has occurred the mistakes have been remedied and the waste checked as soon as it was brought to the attention of the minister in question; and in the few instances where actual wrongdoing has occurred the wrongdoers have been punished.

Quite recently one of the Toronto dailies criticized the war expenditures committee for referring, through the minister, to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, criminal charges for investigation and for the prosecution if prosecution proved to be justified. I was amazed to read that editorial because, speaking for myself and, I believe, for every member of the house, I do not know of any other way in which a crime, even though connected with the war effort, should be treated than by reference to the R.C.M.P. for investigation and to our criminal courts for punishment if crime actually was committed.

During the last year the committee followed its established practice of holding most of its meetings in camera. We have already had debates in three previous sessions of this house with reference to the practice of holding most of the meetings in camera, and the merits both for and against such meetings have been fully discussed in these debates. In Great Britain, as hon. members know, all meetings of the war expenditures committee are held in camera. In Great Britain also the subcommittees have not even the power to hold any of their meetings otherwise than in camera. In Canada, while the committee has full power

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### Active Service Notes

2nd. Lieut. Bruce Zimmerman paid a friendly visit to the Herald Office on Tuesday. Bruce, a former Georgetown boy, graduated last Friday from the Officers Training Course at Brockville, and at the termination of his leave, will be posted at Ipperwash Camp. His sister, L.A.W. Betty Zimmerman is stationed at Moncton, and his father, a member of the Veteran Guard, is stationed at Kingston. Prior to taking his O.T.C. at Brockville, Bruce was overseas for 2 years.

AC2 Ronald Latimer of Toronto was home on week end leave. His brother, Pte. G. S. Latimer who is in Italy with the Irish Regiment of Canada, wrote home to say he had just received his Christmas parcel, with everything apparently in an edible condition. So there's hope for some of the other boys who have been disappointed at not having yet received their Christmas parcels.

Cpl. Walter Blehn, North Bay, was home on Sunday and Monday.

Lieut. John E. Bowman, who has been serving for several months on the instructional staff at Brockville, has volunteered for service in the British Army overseas. He is one of the first group of Canadian officers to serve in the British Army. He is now on a short leave before proceeding to the coast.

WO2 H. Hurley from Lachine, Quebec, spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Hurley.

### Man, Wife and Two Children Fatally Burned in Acton Fire

**THE WEATHER**  
By H. L. Hutt

Well here we are at the last day of the last month of winter, and all our worries about a shortage of coal and other fuel will soon be forgotten. In fact the winter has been so mild much less fuel than usual was needed.

The chief shortage has been of moisture, and many wells and cisterns are dry. That has not worried citizens with a good water works system to supply them, but it has been tough on those farmers who had to haul water for home use and live stock.

We may now cheerfully greet the first month of Spring, and already the first Spring birds—the crows are back in noisy flocks. They seldom go much farther South than the Niagara District, consequently have not far to come.

March may be the first month of Spring but we had better wait to see what she has up her sleeve before we take 'em off or start gardening.

Following are last week's records.

Date	H. and L. Temp.	Precipitation
Tues. Feb. 22	37 26	1" snow
Wed. Feb. 23	36 31	3" snow
Thurs. Feb. 24	38 25	
Fri. Feb. 25	37 10	
Sat. Feb. 26	34 10	20" rain
Sun. Feb. 27	36 31	
Mon. Feb. 28	32 25	

### Mills' Family Resided Here Until Recently

Mr. and Mrs. George Mills, and the two Mills children, Garry 4 and Patsy, 2, were fatally burned early last Friday morning when their home on Hillcrest Avenue, Acton, was completely destroyed by fire. The Mills family had moved to Acton only a few months ago, from Georgetown. Mr. Mills had obtained employment in the tannery plant and had brought his wife and two children from here to be near his work.

The fire, originating from an overheated stove, rapidly spread through their five-room bungalow and blocked the escape of the family. Only survivor was Robert McLeod, a boarder in the Mills home, who leaped through his bedroom window to safety when he was awakened by a loud crackling noise. He was taken to Guelph General Hospital where he was treated for severe burns, cuts and shock.

At the hospital, McLeod gave firemen a brief account of the tragedy. He said that the victims could not have possibly made their escape as the interior of the small frame building became a blazing inferno in a matter of minutes. He said that both he and the other occupants had been asleep for over an hour before the fire broke out.

The alarm was turned in by Stanley McHugh, 17, who was walking by the Mills home at about 12:30 a.m. Running to a neighboring home, he telephoned the fire department, while residents in the vicinity hastened to the scene. When firefighters arrived, the fire was beyond control and attempts to enter the blazing house were found impossible.

It is believed the victims died soon after the fire broke out as no screams were heard by McLeod or nearby residents.

So intense was the blaze that firemen were unable to search amid the debris until three hours later for the charred remains. A pet dog of the Mills' children was believed to have been outside the house when fire broke out.

Fire Chief E. Gamble said the fire probably started from overheating in one of the two heating stoves. It was also thought the stovepipes may have been clogged with soot from soft coal the family had been using. Owing to the absence of wind, firemen were able to confine the blaze to the one building. Other nearby houses, however, were threatened for a time.

The Mills family were buried on Monday, in Acton.

Only immediate relative of Mrs. Mills residing in the Georgetown district, George Edgar Blanchard, a son by a previous marriage, heard of the tragedy when he overheard several fellow workmen discussing it at a Georgetown war plant.

Mr. Blanchard said he hoped other relatives may be informed of the tragedy through the newspapers. He said several members of Mr. Mills family were recently reunited after 18 years through a radio newscast.

Officials at Guelph General Hospital reported that the condition of Robert McLeod, only survivor, is considerably improved. An inquest will be held as soon as he is sufficiently recovered to testify.

### "Tourists Taken In" Well Received Here

"Tourists Taken In", a three act comedy by the Woodbridge District Dramatic Club, was presented under the auspices of the United Church Women's Association and C.G.I.T. last Thursday night in Gregory Theatre. Every seat was filled, and the play, written and produced by Mr. George H. Troyer of Woodbridge, and the assisting artists who performed between acts, were greatly enjoyed. Over \$140.00 was taken in for the funds of the church organizations.

Mayor Cleave was chairman for the evening. The play concerned the Palmer family, mainly, and their joys and sorrows when they decide to sell the old cow and her pasture in order to furnish their home attractively for taking in tourists. Dear old "Pappy" Palmer contributes a considerable amount of wit and wisdom whenever he is spoken to by his two daughters throughout the play. Both daughters are maiden ladies, and both have entirely different ideas in mind when they start the "tourist home".

Kathryn's idea is to get a man, and Ruth's idea is to get their money. Much fun is derived from the consequent entanglements, and the play rolls along to a happy conclusion.

Outstanding on the program was the elocutionist, George LeGard. Her interpretation of a little boy inventing a story of a "Great Big Bear" was very good indeed. The artists did not stint on their talents, and several numbers were given by all of them in between acts. Excellent too were Margaret Banks, soloist, Don McGowan, violinist, Bob Huson, soloist, and the pianist for the evening, Margaret Greer.

The committee in charge of arrangements for the event: Mrs. Fred Sinclair, Mrs. Howard Kentner, Mrs. A. R. Speight, Mrs. Harold Cleave and Miss Margaret Evans, entertained the cast and assisting artists at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Evans after the performance.

### Full House for Scottish Concert Party Monday

A full house once again greeted the performers of the Scottish Concert Party sponsored by the Girls' Pipe Band in Gregory Theatre.

With Mr. G. W. McLintock as master-of-ceremonies, the program rolled along with never a dull moment. The pipers, under the direction of E. R. Magloughlin, turned in an excellent performance. Their guest artists, Dena Carlo, Guelph, an acrobatic and tap dancer, Scotty Burton, Acton, with his Scotch songs, accompanied on the piano by Miss Jessie Leavitt, and Joey Carlo, Guelph, piano-accompanist, were all greatly enjoyed by the audience.

Bill McDonald and his Rhythm Rites provided a complete new act, even bigger and better than the last one, and the applause was long and loud.

The girls and their leader deserve credit for putting on these fine concerts which seem ever-gaining in popularity.

### ST. ALBAN'S LADIES RAISE OVER \$200.00 AT BAZAAR

The Ladies of St. Alban's Church of England, Glen Williams, held their annual bazaar and chicken patty supper on Tuesday, February 22nd, when they realized over \$200.00 for their funds.

It is estimated that a record number of supper were served at the event, and the sewing table, home made baking table, and "shopp" were exceedingly well patronized. Mrs. Sam Tennant, Georgetown, read tea cups. A one-cent raffle on a doll was won by Mrs. J. Hepburn, and a draw for a fruit cake by Bud Haines.

The committee in charge were: Mrs. William Hadley, Mrs. Thomas Haines, Mrs. J. Hepburn, Jr., Mrs. Arthur Beaumont, Mrs. Mary Cooper, Mrs. Herbert Preston, Miss S. Pugh.