

**THE GEORGETOWN HERALD**  
 - NEWS OF -  
 GEORGETOWN, NORVAL, GLEN WILLIAMS, LIMEHOUSE  
 STEWARTTOWN, ASHGROVE, BALLINAFAD, HORNEY,  
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**The Editor's Corner**

**A STEP TOWARDS A BETTER COMMUNITY**

A Board of Trade was organized in Georgetown last week, and judging from the number of businessmen and industrialists who attended the meeting we could say that the importance of forming such an administrative body in the town at this time, particularly, has been fully realized.

So many of us are guilty of sitting back and wondering why something isn't done about this, that and the other thing. Yet, much as we'd like to see such problems as postwar rehabilitation, civic improvement, industrial expansion, dealt with effectively, up to the present there has been no group organized so that just such problems could be solved. And none will gainsay the truth in the old adage that "Two heads are better than one". Knowing that nothing could be done without planned organization and group cooperation, a few public spirited citizens fomented the idea of a Board of Trade, and it has certainly caught fire.

Perhaps we might gain the best idea of just what the aims and aspirations of the Board are by pointing out the objects of some of the committees formed. One of the most important and pressing matters facing the whole country is that of post war rehabilitation. A very capable committee has been already appointed to plan for the return of Georgetown's boys in service, to see that they have jobs to go to and homes in which to establish their families. This particular committee will cooperate with the British Empire service and Federal and Provincial boards set up to deal with this problem also. There's a mighty big job ahead of this committee, a job with which the whole Board of Trade and citizens of Georgetown will cooperate. Dovetailing in with this committee, is the group of men appointed to cooperate with industry, with the object of bringing more industry to Georgetown. Our town will be able to advertise its advantages through Ontario House, recently established in London England, and steps will definitely be taken to interest British investors, as well as Canadian. A committee has also been appointed to cooperate with the Horticultural Society in making civic improvements. An agricultural committee has been set up with the prime purpose of contacting farmers, and gaining better mutual understanding of viewpoints and needs. A representative body of the retail merchants and business men of the community will fulfill a role long needed to bring unity of action on many issues which crop up from time to time. Parents and young people alike will be glad to hear that a sports committee for organized recreation has been formed. In addition to providing a healthful and supervised outlet for youthful energies, there is no doubt that a good town team in any sport, is one of the best advertising mediums that a town can have.

Another very important part of the Board of Trade organization was the formation of a Ratepayers' committee. This committee hopes to get the viewpoint of the citizens of town on municipal affairs, and as a means to this end will sponsor open-forum meetings for the ratepayers. Through this committee, too, will come your ideas on what problems the Board of Trade could handle, your constructive suggestions, and criticisms. In this connection the Herald will sponsor a "Question Corner", to which we invite all citizens aware of the problems to be faced today, to submit their questions or suggestions. Just address it to the "Question Corner, The Georgetown Herald", state your question or idea, and sign your name. Your name won't be published of course, but it is necessary for our records. The Board of Trade will give their consideration to all such indications of the trend of thought of the people of Georgetown.

By having a local Board of Trade, it will be able to derive benefit from the co-operative ideas and experiences of all affiliated Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce throughout Canada. Such a fusion of the interests of business and industry, which receives the whole hearted backing of the community, cannot fail to succeed in its aim of making of Georgetown a better and happier community.

**CANADIAN INDEPENDENCE — AN OPINION**

The recent speech of Lord Halifax in Toronto has brought the question of Canada's relation to the British Commonwealth of Nations to the forefront of national consciousness. The matter has been discussed at great length in leading editorials throughout the country, and it has been predicted that the issue will become one of the foremost in the next Canadian election.

Consequently it is essential that all Canadians try to clarify their thinking on this vital question, before the pre-election bally-hoo muddies the issue.

The Family Herald & Weekly Star summed up our way of thinking when it stated editorially that "The word 'independence' is the hinge on which discussions turn when Canada's nationhood is in question. And what is 'independence?' It is two things. It is a condition which in practice we all visualize clearly and understand, both in ourselves and our neighbors. We recognize without difficulty all the practical results and appearances of independence—or dependence, among individuals.

But the word "independence" has a second meaning in certain minds, or under certain circumstances. It is a legal or technical term commonly used to describe a certain type of nationhood. The United States gained its "independence" from Great Britain by the Revolutionary War. The Southern Confederate states failed to gain their "independence" from the United States of America in their Civil War. The French Revolution did not affect France's "independence", but it did bring her "freedom".

Such examples are clear and obvious. The problem on its technical side only shows itself as such when we ask, "Is France independent today?" We will not try and answer that question. Whatever answer we gave, some technicality-loving lawyer could prove us wrong! On its practical side there is a problem when we ask ourselves whether our community pride would be higher if we were Texans,—who won "independence" from Mexico, voluntarily surrendered it to the United States, and failed to regain it in the Civil War, or if we were Mexicans who still have it.

Hungary, under the Austro-Hungarian dual monarchy before the last war, was labelled "not independent." Yet Austria was "independent." Hungary became "independent" following the war, and today is—what? A lawyer would answer, "Independent." Ordinary, non-legal folk would say, "Helpless under the heel of Germany." And both would be right,—because the word "independence" can mean two extremely different things,—and can also mean every shade between the extremes!

In our everyday lives we find difficulty in certain cases in judging the reality of "independence" even in its non-technical sense. A young man who works for his farmer father, living at home and not getting regular fixed wages, would not be called "independent." When he marries, takes the neighboring farm, and works for himself, we call him "independent." And if he goes broke or gets sick and his father has to help support him, we could not say whether he was "independent" or not!

All this has a bearing on Canada. We are a common sense people, more interested in practice than theory. It is the present opinion of the majority of Canadians,—and of the Family Herald and Weekly Star, that in the technical sense Canada is only separated from the theoretical "independence" of the United States,—and Mexico, Hungary and Poland, by a thread. That thread is our voluntary allegiance to King George VI, who is also King of the United Kingdom, Australia and the other Dominions.

It is the present opinion of most Canadians that this thread holds us to many things infinitely more valuable than anything we could gain by breaking it.

We feel that our national pride is far healthier and less spurious, as a free member of the British Commonwealth than it would be if we were in the position of Mexico, Panama, Poland, Hungary, Belgium, Roumania, Denmark,—in theory "independence" in practice dependent on the actions of a neighbor.

We do not feel that Canada's present position is any less proud or honorable or free, than that of a young married man with his own farm who is lucky enough to have some sturdy grown up brothers and a fine old father, all well established in his neighborhood.

**CONTEST FOR OLD TIMERS?**

We always like to receive letters from our readers, for they show above all else, that an interest is being taken in the paper. Some of these communications are signed, and some are not. The particular letter we have in mind at the moment was anonymous, and the writer seemed most anxious to remain so.

Evidently the poem published a few weeks ago about "oldtime" Ashgrove people brought back fond memories to the writer, who, we may assume, is also an "oldtimer". In discussing the publicity given men and women in the over-eighty honour group, he says he often thinks of the time, about ten years ago, when an old (but nevertheless vigorous) male resident of the Georgetown vicinity wrote in to the Georgetown Herald stating that he could "step higher, punch harder, smoke faster, yell louder, spit farther than anyone his age." The writer said he thought sure his bluff would be called but it wasn't. He believed the challenge was still open, and the old timer in question still willing, even anxious for a "try out."

Following up this train of thought, our correspondent thought it would be a good publicity idea for some Georgetown organization to put on a competition for old people, men and women over 75, allowing 5 points per year for age. While we don't think he meant a competition along the lines of the "step higher, punch harder" variety, one which turned to a competition in songs, stories, recitations, etc., would probably create a good deal of interest, and give the old-timers another story to add to their repertoire.

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**C. N. R.**  
**TIME TABLE**  
 Daylight Saving Time  
 GOING EAST  
 Passenger 7:01 a.m.  
 Passenger and Mail 10:10 a.m.  
 Passenger and Mail 7:02 p.m.  
 Passenger, Sunday only 8:31 p.m.  
 Passenger, daily 9:25 p.m.  
 This train was formerly the  
 flyer but now stops.  
 GOING WEST  
 Passenger and Mail 8:40 a.m.  
 Passenger, Sat. only 2:23 p.m.  
 Passenger daily except  
 Saturday and Sunday 6:35 p.m.  
 Daily except Sunday 7:33 p.m.  
 Passenger, Sundays  
 only 11:53 p.m.  
 Daily Except Sunday 12:59 a.m.  
 GOING NORTH  
 Passenger and Mail 8:50 a.m.  
 GOING SOUTH  
 Passenger and Mail 7:08 p.m.  
 Depot Ticket Office—Phone 20w

**TERRA COTTA**  
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Duncan of Toronto, spent Sunday with Terra Cotta friends.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph McBride celebrated their 44th wedding anniversary recently. Congratulations.  
 We are pleased to learn that Miss Frances Rutledge is now able to be around again after her recent accident.  
 Cutting cedar posts seems to be the general order of the day.  
 Mrs. Orr, of Toronto, arrived here last week and expects to take up her residence here again. We kindly welcome Mrs. Orr back to our Burgh once more.  
 We are sorry to learn that Mr. W. F. Hunter, of the 5th line is laid up with an abscess on his eye at present and we sincerely hope that his right will soon be restored again as usual.  
 Quite a number of real estate transactions are the topics of the day a.

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**TIME TABLE**  
 NOW IN EFFECT  
 Daylight Saving Time  
 LEAVE GEORGETOWN  
 FOR TORONTO  
 7:04 a.m. 8:44 p.m.  
 9:34 a.m. 9:34 p.m.  
 2:24 p.m. b 10:00 p.m.  
 FOR LONDON  
 y 10:35 a.m. z 7:15 p.m.  
 y 2:20 p.m. b 8:20 p.m.  
 4:50 p.m. x b 11:10 p.m.  
 b—Sun. and Holidays only.  
 x—To Guelph daily, to Kit-  
 chener Sun. and Hol.  
 y—To Kitchener.  
 z—To Stratford.  
 Bus Depot — Phone 89

present. Further particulars later.  
 Mr. and Mrs. C. Higgins and family intend moving into Mr. Davidge's residence on Main Street shortly.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Kidd and family of Inglewood, were pleasant visitors in our Hamlet last week.  
 Master Stuart Puckering of Toronto, spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. C. Ieam and family. Stuart says that Terra Cotta is good enough for him.  
 A number of crows have been seen in our Hamlet during the past week. Well just another harbinger of spring.  
 Mr. J. Eaves has been on the sick list during the past week and we hope soon to hear of his complete recovery.  
 The wedding bells are ringing loudly in our Hamlet again. May the good work continue.  
 Mr. J. Edge is on the sick list at present, we also hope soon to hear of his complete recovery.  
 Our general merchant, Mrs. K. Ross reports trade quite brisk at present with fresh goods arriving daily.