

THE GEORGETOWN HERALD

NEWS OF —
 GEORGETOWN, NORVAL, GLEN WILLIAMS, LIMEHOUSE
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The Editor's Corner

THOUGHTS ON V-E DAY

No community received the news of victory in Europe with more elation than Georgetown. That the happy day was not marked with any unseemly display of rowdiness or vandalism was to be expected, for Georgetown has always enjoyed the reputation of being a law-abiding community of sensible, sober citizens. As expected, the town turned out en masse to the public service of thanksgiving on the High School grounds, and in the evening there were large congregations in attendance at all four churches where services had been announced.

It was a day of mixed feelings, for in the midst of such happiness there was the thought that only one phase of the second Great War was ended—that in the East there was still Japan to bring to her knees, and that there will be anxious hearts still while her sons are in the battle areas.

There were mixed feelings too as one thought of loved ones who would soon be back home, and of others who will never be home again, whose mortal remains have created a little spot which is forever Canada in foreign soil. It was of these fine young men that we thought most on V-E Day and of the pettiness of our small contributions to the defeat of Germany in comparison with their one great and final gift. It is for these more than any other that we must work in the future—to bring about this "better world" that we talk of so much, that their parents, their brothers and wives and children may enjoy the blessing of peace for which men fought and died. And if each of us shall keep this in mind and ensure that their children shall never again have to see a world in flames—their only shall we have started to pay our debt.

HOUSING — OUR NUMBER ONE PROBLEM

In the near future, a public meeting is to be called by Mayor Cleave to investigate the serious housing shortage in Georgetown and to lay plans for a housing program. It has been a cause of concern among all thinking citizens that our men in uniform will soon be coming home to a town in which every available dwelling is occupied, and that potential industrial expansion is being hampered by the lack of homes for new workers. The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss the feasibility of adopting a scheme of wartime housing which would build forty or fifty new homes in town. Our understanding of the scheme is that the town provides the lots and acts as a rent collector for the government, which finances the building costs. All details of the plan, with perhaps a government official in attendance to supply any relevant data, will be presented at the meeting and it will be up to the Council, industrialists, organizations, and citizens generally to decide what action is to be taken.

Our suggestion is that any mass building plan should be looked upon as a temporary solution for housing shortages, and that houses should be erected as cheaply and modestly as possible, rented at reasonable rentals, and torn down when more permanent homes are obtained by the tenants.

We think the possibility of buying wartime houses in some of the boom towns, where cessation of war production may force their abandonment, should be investigated. Certain cities like Windsor have erected whole districts of these wartime houses with the understanding that when they have served their purpose they will be disposed of to be replaced by more permanent buildings. It is possible that Georgetown might be able to get hold of some of these houses and transport them here to tide us over what has become our number one problem.

POLITICS IN THE WIND

With Victory Loan and V-E Day to the fore, we have not had too much opportunity to think of the approaching elections. All political parties have soft-pedalled campaigning until the 8th Victory Loan had successfully concluded, but for the next month we can expect an avalanche of platforms and promises until June 4th and June 11th, when it shall be decided who shall guide the ship of state in Ontario and in the Dominion for the next few years.

It is not an easy matter for the elector to decide where to mark his X this time. National and provincial issues overlap and it is quite possible that many voters will vote one way in the province and another way in the Dominion. While not wishing to pose as a seer or a prophet, our guess is that the Conservatives will come back somewhat stronger in Ontario, based on their achievements in the field of distributing educational and hydro costs more equitably, and that in the Dominion the Liberal government will be returned, al-



John Bracken — The Man

John Bracken, the son of a farmer Ephraim Bracken and his wife, Alberta, was born in a log cabin in Ellisville, Leeds County, Ontario, on the 22nd of June, 1883.

Here, briefly chronicled, are the main events in the life of John Bracken:

- 1898 - Student at Brockville Collegiate, Ontario.
- 1902-5 Student at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph. He won four scholarships, the Governor-General's Medal, was top honours student and class medalist. Here, too, he met Alice Wylie Bruce.
- 1906 - Young Bracken went to Winnipeg as representative of the Seeds Branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture.
- 1907 - In the neighbouring Province of Saskatchewan, John Bracken became Superintendent of Fairs and Farmers' Institutes and Secretary of the Provincial Livestock Association.
- 1910 - John Bracken was appointed Professor of Field Husbandry at the new University of Saskatchewan. He took the first train to Guelph, Ontario, married Alice Wylie Bruce. Four sons were born — three of whom are now on Active Service with the Navy, Army and Air Force.
- 1920 - Already the author of two books on agriculture, John Bracken became President of the Manitoba Agricultural College.
- 1922 - John Bracken accepted the leadership of the Progressive Farmer Government, was sworn in as Prime Minister of Manitoba.
Now began the political life of the most continuously successful political leader the Empire has produced in this century. Since that day — from 1922 to 1942 — John Bracken has never been defeated.
- 1932 - The Liberals joined John Bracken's farmer government.
- 1940 - All the other political parties, including the C.C.F. and Social Creditors, threw in their fortunes with a great leader forming a wartime Coalition Manitoba government.
- 1942 - The year of John Bracken's great decision. John Bracken, the Progressive, accepted the national leadership of a great resurgent people's party — The Progressive Conservatives.

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Published by the Progressive Conservative Association, Ottawa.

Know John Bracken — the Progressive Conservative

though with a reduced majority.

Both Tories and Grits have stolen much of the thunder from the C.C.F. by adopting social reforms and promising others, and this is bound to have its effect on the new challenger. All three parties are making strong bids for the farm-vote and preliminary advertising seems to be directed mainly at the farm community. It is not the intention of this newspaper to take sides in any election issue. The columns of the Herald are open to every party and every candidate to express their views freely. Personally, we should like to see at least one large non-partisan political rally similar to that recently held in Burlington, when all candidates would appear on the public platform and state their views to the citizens. In busy times like these, it is impossible for many residents to attend all the various political meetings and one large rally would give us an opportunity of comparing notes and coming to a decision on our voting.

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**MRS. S. TENNANT HOSTESS TO
 LORNE SCOTS W.A.**

The Lorne Scots W.A. held their meeting at the home of Mrs. Sam Tennant on Thursday evening, May 3, with a good turnout of members. Another shipment of cigarettes has been sent to the Lorne Scots overseas. A letter from the Rehabilitation Committee, asking for a donation to enable them to give each returning soldier a remembrance, was discussed. As the Lorne Scots W.A. have already presented each boy with cigarettes as he returns home from overseas, and will be continuing to do this, it was felt that the organization was already doing its part in this direction. The committee reported that fruit had been sent to the boys in Christie St. Hospital. Lunch was served by the hostess, assisted by Mrs. T. Warnes, Mrs. R. Taylor and Miss Belle Tennant.

**FORMER GEORGETOWN GIRL
 MARRIED IN BELGIUM**

Friends in town will be interested to learn of the recent marriage in Belgium of Lieutenant Naomi Behan and Lieutenant Robert C. Groat, U.S.

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A.A.C. Formerly a resident of Georgetown, the bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Behan of St. Catharines and is a nursing sister attached to the 3rd British General Hospital. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. N. S. Groat, Greenwood, California. Before joining the Army Air Corps he was, appointed junior engineer to the State of California, to which position he hopes return.
 Mrs. Groat's two brothers, Tremay and Felton are both members of the RCAF, the latter being stationed Newfoundland with the RAFTC.

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