

THE GEORGETOWN HERALD

Georgetown, Glen Williams, Norval, Limehouse, Romney
Stewarttown, Sherbrooke, Balmain, Terra Cotta

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The Editor's Column

A JOB WELL DONE

Last Wednesday evening marked the formal disbandment of the Georgetown Soldiers' Comforts Committee, a community group which served well during the war years in sending cigarettes and parcels to district servicemen and women overseas. It has been our pleasure to help in a small way towards raising money for these parcels by sponsoring a fund in the Herald and turning the money over to the Committee.

For this, we need or expect no thanks. Rather should those be thanked whose free-will donations were so generous, for at the same time we were also receiving donations for the British War Victims Fund and it was truly remarkable how the free-will offerings poured in.

The ladies of the Committee have done a grand job, and we know that they have already been amply repaid for their efforts by the personal "thank you" of scores of returned men. We have asked one of the ladies, Mrs. W. V. Grant, who took over Mrs. Roger Guyot's duties as secretary when the latter moved to Toronto, to write a history of the Comforts Committee, and it gives an excellent synopsis of the work accomplished. Here is what she says:

GEORGETOWN SOLDIERS' COMFORTS COMMITTEE — APRIL, 1940 — MARCH, 1946

"There, too, by the grace of God, go I!" When our local Red Cross Branch was organized early in 1940, and the first canvass was made, some of our generous citizens stipulated that part of their donations be used to send comforts to our home-town boys already in His Majesty's forces overseas. It was soon found out that a portion of the proceeds of any of our activities on behalf of this part of our war-work would have to be sent to RED CROSS headquarters, so it was suggested and thought advisable that a separate committee be formed to take care of this work — the sending of comforts to our men in the Service overseas.

Mr. John D. Kelly, a member of the RED CROSS executive, was asked to form such a committee and he called a number of representative ladies together and so was born "THE GEORGETOWN SOLDIERS' COMFORTS COMMITTEE," holding its first meeting on April 15th, 1940, and electing as its officers — as president; Mrs. Arthur Reeve, as Secretary; Mrs. Roger Guyot (Glen Williams), and as Treasurer: Mrs. Syd MacKenzie, and as a Committee: appointed members of the various organizations in the town, four of which have remained with the committee during its six years of operation, namely Miss Mary Lawson from the Local Council, Mrs. Dan Livingstone from the Women's Institute, Mrs. Arthur Beaumont from the IODE and Mrs. Nelson Robinson from Norval. Their War Charities charter was obtained on May 10th, 1940.

The first shipment consisting of fifteen parcels went forward in May, 1940, and the last shipment consisting of three hundred and eighteen parcels went forward in January, 1945, although sixty-six parcels were sent for Christmas, 1945, to those servicemen and women still remaining overseas. There were about three shipments a year during the Committee's existence.

During the six years this Committee existed they received over \$2,800. in donations, \$1255.01 of this amount being subscribed through the fund sponsored by the Georgetown Herald. These donations were voluntary, the only appeals made to the public were the tag-days held annually at the Georgetown Fair.

Many people, many groups of people, and organizations from Georgetown, Norval, Glen Williams, Limehouse, Stewarttown, Terra Cotta and the surrounding countryside have sent in donations from time to time, many periodically, and to these people — go the thanks of this Committee, and the boys returning have made known their thanks verbally to the members of this committee; the boys returning have made known their thanks verbally to the members of the Committee and through the columns of the Herald. Also a "thank you" to the ladies who helped in various ways with the shipments, parcelling, addressing, etc. And a very special "THANK YOU" to the Georgetown Herald for sponsoring the Fund and for keeping it before the public.

Many human interest stories could be told of the boys receiving the parcels — just at the right time — the boys who hoped that when his time came to do his bit that he would be worthy of the kindness shown — that the home folks were thinking of — how Ken Richardson was able to give the boys' Comforts cigarettes to the Canadian front Dieppe — how the first thing

the great Jack Watson reached Norval...
the cartoon of cigarettes from the Georgetown Soldiers' Comforts Committee.
This peace for which we prayed has come at last and God grant it may be a lasting peace and may we be worthy of it. The work of the Committee is over, a Committee which consisted of the following members during these last few years — Mrs. Arthur Reeve, Mrs. Syd MacKenzie, Mrs. W. V. Grant, Miss Mary Lawson, Mrs. Dan Livingstone, Mrs. Nelson Robinson (Norval), Mrs. Arthur Beaumont (Glen Williams), and Mrs. Wm. Mitchell (Limehouse); and they have turned over the amount of money they had on hand to the Georgetown Rehabilitation Council, who are carrying on the work with the returning men for which the money was originally intended — the comforts of our fighting men.

THE YOUNG AIRMAN TO HIS MOTHER

When I come home again to you,
(If God thus wills it so)
I will not be the carefree lad
That once you used to know.

Strange sights I've seen that wound
the heart
And sear the soul within;
Man's inhumanity to man,
The greed, and lust, and sin.

These things I've oftentimes pondered o'er
When in that mystic sphere,
Beyond the clouds, whence Angels
once
Proclaimed "Goodwill and Cheer."

Yet nobler things I've witnessed, too,
That bid me to be strong,
The dauntless faith in human right
That will not yield to wrong.

The sacrificial love that spurns
All thought of self to save
A fellow-creature in distress
Mid dangers great and grave.

And so, if Fate decree that I
Must die, as others do,
My faith, undimmed, will be in Him
Who died for sinners, too.

GHOSTS AT DIEPPE

Here on the shore beside the Channel
waves
Where we have lain these two long,
lonely years,
Within the confines of our troubled
graves,
Faintly we hear a sound of ringing
cheers.

Unseen, we rose, saw soldiers, dusty-
brown,
Led by the very men who saw us die,
The Essex Scottish, marching into
town.

With battle-flags of Canada on high,
The Royals of Toronto, tried and true,
With pride and confidence in every
stride,

The boys who knew the hell that we
went through
In battle-swept Dieppe, that day we
died.

The Hamilton Light Infantry went by
The South Saskatchewan, erect and
tall,
The men from Winnipeg and Calgary,
The Scottish, and Black Watch from
Montreal.

Now we can sleep. Now we can dream
of this,
No love of base revenge or foolish
pride,
But just to know our boys came back
to us,

To know they saved the cause for
which we died.

— Michael Foran

RENEWAL OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BOOKS

To All Employers:

All Unemployment Insurance Books for the year ending March 31st, 1946, must be exchanged for new books.

New Insurance Books for the fiscal year 1946-47 will be exchanged by the Local National Employment Office in your area for expired Insurance Books.

Protect the benefit rights of your employees by sending in their expired books properly completed on March 31st.

There are severe penalties for failing to make Unemployment Insurance contributions for your insured employees and for failure to renew the Insurance Books as required.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION

BROTHER OF LOCAL MAN DIES IN TORONTO HOSPITAL

Ernest Tennant, a resident of Brampton for the past 35 years and a brother of Mr. Sam Tennant of Georgetown, passed away last Saturday morning, March 23rd, in St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto, where he had been a patient for several weeks.

Born in London, England, 72 years ago, he came to Canada in 1908 and lived in Streetsville and Churchville before moving to Brampton. He was employed as a carpenter with the Dale Estate. A veteran of the first war, he served overseas with the 2nd Pioneer Battalion. He was one of the original members of the Old Countrymen's Club in Brampton.

Funeral services were held on Monday from the Church of England, and were conducted by Rev. Allan Johnston. Interment followed in Brampton Cemetery.

Surviving are his wife, formerly Florence Goldby, and a son, Ernest in Brampton, his brother, Sam of Georgetown, and 4 brothers and 5 sisters in England. A grandson, Bert, is a veteran of World War 2 and was wounded while serving in Italy.

BANK MANAGER'S MOTHER DIES IN GRAND BEND

Mrs. Emma Ireland passed away suddenly last Wednesday, March 20th, at her home in Grand Bend. Mrs. Ireland, who was in her 72nd year, was

the mother of Robert H. Ireland, who just recently came to Georgetown as manager of the Bank of Commerce branch here.

Mrs. Ireland leaves a family of three sons and a daughter, Sam of London, Leslie, Hyde Park, Robert, Georgetown and Mrs. Fergus Turnbull, Grand Bend.

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