

THE GEORGETOWN HERALD

— serving the communities of —
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The Editor's Column

JOIN THE G.R.C.

For the double purpose of financing next year's recreational program and encouraging more grown-ups to active participation in that program, the Recreational Council is busy selling \$1 memberships. The plan was announced at the Father and Son Evening last Friday, and several of the parents present dug down to get the new plan off to a start. Several of those present also took a number of tickets to sell to their friends.

We are all in favour of this method of fund-raising. If every father has a dollar share in a program which will so vitally affect the future of his children, he is bound to be more actively associated with the various projects of the G.R.C. To date the organization has been constantly struggling against an empty treasury, and were it not for the generous donations of a few organizations and individuals would long ago have been bankrupt. The mistaken impression was widespread at first that the town treasury was footing all the bills and we have done our best from time to time to dispel this belief by referring to the fact that the town paid only the salary of the director.

Will every reader help by contributing a dollar toward this work? We can't think of anything which will bring a greater return to the community than a comprehensive recreational program.

A "LITTLE THEATRE"

Tomorrow night the public will have its first chance to see the results of months of practice on the part of a group of "dramatic-minded" citizens, when Apprentice Productions present their first entertainment in the Old Town Hall. Inaugurated last spring, under the guidance of Jack Thompson, we sincerely hope that Apprentice Productions will be a permanent "little theatre" in Georgetown and will eventually associate itself with the dozens of similar groups in Canada which foster this most interesting of hobbies. We have in our time been privileged to see some excellent amateur plays which by every standard measured up to the professional stage. We have seen "The Torch Bearers" performed in Windsor (a play which we have been promoting as a 1947 project for Apprentice Productions); "Dark Eyes," by the Ottawa Civic Theatre; "French Without Tears," by the London Little Theatre; "Martine" by a French-speaking group from Montreal. Each one of these was in its own way a masterpiece of costuming, staging and acting.

Tomorrow night's show, billed as "The Laff Revue" makes no pretense of being on the serious side. It consists of two one-act plays, knit together with a running patter from master-of-ceremonies and comedian. It will provide an opportunity for the members of the cast to get accustomed to playing before an audience and to test the acting ability of the cast for some heavier dramatic assignments in the future. For our part, we have been asked to become a theatre critic for the evening — to report honestly our interpretation of the quality of acting, rather than the usual pat on the back accorded to every member of the cast of an amateur production. This will be something new for us, as we do not pretend to be a dramatic critic, but we feel that a straight review will have a good effect on the future of the little theatre in Georgetown.

PUBLIC SCHOOL SUITS US

Speaking at the prize-giving ceremony at a Toronto private school, Hon. Vincent Massey is quoted as saying: "Here the boy has a well-rounded life and the greatest opportunity to learn the basic ideals of citizenship through military training, religious instructions and competitive sports. This is an important factor in acquiring an education, because it isn't just what a student learns in the classroom that counts."

How true is this latter statement, but how much more adaptable it is to the children who attend our public and high schools, and in addition to their formal education have the benefit of home training and a normal childhood spent with their parents, brothers and sisters. School education to us will always be secondary to home training, and it is a great pity that some parents deprive their children of home life in their formative years. It is often caused by selfishness — an unwillingness to devote the necessary time to their families and a belief that an expensive private school can act as a foster parent.

No, Mr. Massey, we think you're on the wrong track when you rank the private school above the hundreds of town and country schools and the high schools like G.H.S. It is here that one finds the "well-rounded life" you speak of to make healthy, happy Canadians.

E. V. MacCormack Ag in President Georgetown of Recreational Council

The annual meeting of Georgetown Recreational Council took the form of a Father and Son Evening in the Odd-fellows Hall on Friday evening. An executive for 1947 was presented on behalf of the nominating committee by Harold McClure and additions asked for from the floor. The new slate of officers is:

President — E. V. MacCormack
 Vice-Pres. — Harold McClure
 Secretary — D. W. Barrager
 Treasurer — Elmer Dron
 Committee: Howard Wrigglesworth, Mervin Robb, Jack Brill, Alf Sykes, Sid Silver, C. E. Stacey, R. H. Ireland, Walter Biehn, Lorne Peters, Leslie M. Clark, Harold Burrows, A. C. McBride, Roy Ward, Eric Londeboro, E. L. Arnold, Ed Johnston, Bruce Mackenzie, and A. E. Betke.

Mr. MacCormack was chairman for the evening and speakers included Recreational Director H. J. Newman and Gus Bodnar, Maple Leaf hockey star. During the evening a number of cups and trophies were presented. Jim Ford received the medals won by the

Alliance softball team at the Civic Holiday tournament. E. C. Wrigglesworth presented the Industrial Softball trophy, and Sid Silver received it on behalf of the Businessmen's team. In his remarks, Mr. Wrigglesworth spoke of how much the late Howard Lillio was missed, not only as manager of team, but in all the several organizations he had worked for in town.

Mayor-Elect Joseph Gibbons, presenting the McIntock trophy to George Webster, captain of the Bears, who won the bantam softball championship, said that as mayor next year he would see that all that was humanly and financially possible would be done to carry on the good work of the G.R.C.

(It was later learned that by error the captain of the Bears had been called forward rather than the Bisons, who were winners of the league.) William Hillier received the MacCormack tug-of-war trophy won by a Legion team, and cups and medals for individual events at the Civic Holiday

THE HUCKSTERS

We are often annoyed at the poor quality of this season's comedy radio programs, but we were reduced to downright pity a few Sunday nights ago, when Phil Harris and his wife Alice Faye stumbled through the worst collection of unfunny gags and off-key singing that we have ever heard on a national radio program. Having heard the male member of the family on the Jack Benny show, we were not unprepared for his feeble attempts at humour, but our pity was aroused at the degeneration of a voice which once was rated tops among popular singers. Miss Faye, since marriage and a family brought semi-retirement from the entertainment world should have let well enough alone, and left singing to the new crop of vocalists who have gained prominence in her absence.

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day track and field meet were handed to the winners by D. W. Barrager. During the evening, excellent accordion music by Joe Nova of Milton

was interspersed between speeches and a lunch break was particularly enjoyed by the younger members of the crowd, when everyone adjourned to the basement for coffee, milk, sandwiches, cookies and apples provided by the ladies of Verdun Rebekah Lodge.

In his opening remarks, Mr. MacCormack said it was discouraging to see such a small attendance of fathers at a meeting for which no hall should be large enough to hold the crowd. However, he said the Council was not discouraged and felt that its activities this year had justified its existence. He gave a summary of the year starting with midget and juvenile hockey last winter, the hiring of the director in April, with the town paying his salary, the bantam, midget and juvenile softball during the summer and the Track and Field Meet on Civic Holiday.

Affiliated groups such as the Industrial Softball League, Bridge and Cribbage Club and Apprentice Productions were broadening the scope of the G.R.C. While a complete recreational program is only in its infancy, Mr. MacCormack said the policy had been to go slowly and consolidate, rather than open with a great flourish, spend a lot of money and fold up completely in a year or two. In time he thought every citizen would be convinced that the Council had a worthwhile objective and they would come to the Council rather than have it go to them.

One of the best projects had been the renovation of the auditorium in the Old Town Hall where the boys and girls of Teen Town had pitched in with mops and paint brushes and donations of furniture, including tables and chairs bought by two industrialists would make it possible to introduce hobbies and crafts along with a sports program.

At present the greatest need of the Council is for a smaller room somewhere, where small groups can meet, and a liaison with the Lorne Scots to make the armoured available for basketball and physical culture. He stressed the fact that it is impossible for the Council and director to completely manage a program for 600 young people and recruits are needed to devote some of their time to managing teams, giving instruction and lending a hand wherever necessary.

Mr. Newman spoke briefly on his plans for adding hobbies and crafts to the program already underway. Activities so far had been hampered by lack of funds and equipment. He said he was still fighting a general disinterest on the part of the grown-ups to take a more active part in things which would have lasting benefits for their children.

Harold McClure explained a new plan by which the GRC through sale of \$1 yearly membership tickets hoped to achieve the double aim of raising necessary funds and creating a more general interest in recreational activities. Tickets were on sale at the meeting and a good response was noted in their sale.

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