

THE GEORGETOWN HERALD

— serving the communities of —
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 STEWARTTOWN, ASHGROVE, BALEENAFAD, TERRA COTTA

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WALTER C. BIEHN, Publisher and Editor

Garfield L. McGilvray — Staff — Leslie M. Clark
 Reg. Broomhead — Harold Davison

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The Editor's Column

WHEN THOUGHTS DO NOT COINCIDE

(It seems that any reference we make regarding the High School District is to the Acton and Milton editor like waving a red flag in front of a bull and we can be assured of an answering editorial the next week. Hence the following which appeared in last week's issue of the Champion and Free Press. The insinuation that the writer and Mayor Gibbons share a minority opinion in Georgetown is so far from the truth that we should like very much to see a vote taken at the next municipal election. Such a vote might have an important effect not only here but in all north Halton. We had not intended to refer to Reeve Maclaren's position in County Council, but since we have been challenged, we will give our opinion that the reeve was guilty of a tactical error in voting against the motion. As Georgetown's representative, whose Council had expressed by a majority vote their opposition to the District, we feel he was obligated to vote against the County Council by-law forming the district, no matter what his own personal views are.)

"We thought the High School District for North Halton was all settled but apparently the editor of the Georgetown Herald is not comfortable about the position in which Georgetown now finds itself placed and last week took occasion to tell his readers how badly astray all the north of Halton had gone—with the exception of one representative on the County Council from Georgetown. It might be mentioned too, that a Georgetown delegation visited the Department of Education and received rather a vague reception to their proposals.

We haven't space to quote the lament of the Georgetown editor in full and we gave all his arguments our thought a year ago but implications he makes are not fair to the elected representatives of other communities and we cannot let them go unchallenged. Here are the quotations we refer to:

"We had expected there might be more than one dissenting vote, but Deputy-Reeve Jack Armstrong was apparently the only one who realized the implications of the closing of the Acton and Milton High Schools — a sad reflection on the faith of the elected representatives in the future of their towns, when an outsider has more faith than themselves. The rural representatives, of course, could scarcely vote otherwise, as whatever happens they stand to lose nothing and gain something wherever a new school be built."

"We cannot help thinking that the Acton and Milton County Councillors have sold out their towns under the influence of glib paper theorists like School Inspector Stewart, and we are glad that Georgetown's representatives are sufficiently strong in character to stand up for their ideals. Let us hope that public opinion in our neighbouring towns will express itself before the final step is taken and a white elephant is erected Speyside."

The Georgetown editor doesn't mention that Georgetown had two representatives on County Council and that one of them did not vote against the proposal. But because Deputy-Reeve Jack Armstrong voted in accord with his views that representative is the only one with faith in the future of their town and Acton and Milton County Councillors have sold out their towns. As the old lady proudly said when the regiment went marching by "Everyone's out of step but my son John."

The Herald editor says "He can't help thinking" and far it be from anyone to put any impediment in his way, but we would suggest that he accord the same privilege to Milton, Acton, Nassagaweya and Esqueving representatives and one Georgetown representative and not insinuate lack of thought on their part when their views do not coincide with his. It might prove interesting to hear of opinions of other citizens of Georgetown as well as those of Mayor Gibbons and the editor of the Herald. We cannot help thinking — but then perhaps those thoughts would only add fuel to a situation that requires not heated, but clear thinking."

CONDITIONS IN NEW ZEALAND

Mr. James Stewart, Assistant General Manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, and Mr. C. K. Highmore, Supervisor of the Foreign Department, recently made a visit to New Zealand in connection with the Bank's business. The following report is a condensation of that prepared on the return of these officials.

The Dominion of New Zealand has a population of slightly less than two million people, of whom 80 per cent are native born and whose origin is 95 per cent British. The population is well spread throughout the country, with many moderate-sized towns, but no great

cities. The country is proud of the high level of its production from the intense cultivation of its land, and of the position which it attained before 1939 in total foreign trade which was the highest per capita in the world.

As the two main islands comprising the country lie in a latitude comparable to that of Italy, and as no point on either island is very far from the sea, the climate is temperate. Variations in heat and cold are within narrow limits, and the valleys and the plains, which receive plentiful rain, are fertile and eminently suitable for grazing, with 18 million acres available for pasture.

The sheep population is about 34 million, mostly cross-breeds of the Romney type. The annual production of wool of all types averages well over 300 million pounds. Fourteen New Zealand woollen mills use about 8 million pounds each year and manufacture a very fine product.

The cattle population of the country is about 5 million, with a dairy herd (85 per cent Jerseys) of about 2 million head. Specialized beef production rests mainly on Aberdeen Angus, Hereford and Shorthorn breeds. Butter and cheese production is high, with nearly 400 registered factories receiving from approximately 54,000 different suppliers, many of them tenants. There are over eighty rigidly inspected export slaughter-houses and abattoirs throughout New Zealand handling over 17 million animals a year, of which over 14 million are sheep and lambs.

Wheat and other field crops, linen, flax, fruit, honey, hops and tobacco are all products of importance, wheat averaging about 10 million bushels a year. Under legislation designed to protect primary producers from sharp fluctuations in market values, guaranteed prices are in effect, varying if necessary from season to season and are worked out quite scientifically. Butterfat, meat and wool are the three pillars of New Zealand's primary industry, and production of all three was intensified during the last war. Exports of pastoral-products have grown through the years and the economic future of the country depends on the continuation of their export, as well as on the prices obtained, since in the past most manufactured goods have been imported, largely from the United Kingdom. The present economic policy is evidently toward greater self-sufficiency; but while appreciable progress has been made, New Zealand remains dominantly a pastoral country.

Price control has been in force for some time and has been most successful in keeping the cost of living down. Wholesale prices of items made in New Zealand

land have risen only slightly, but those of imported items have almost doubled. Very few steps have yet been taken in the direction of decontrol.

The present Labour Government in New Zealand with 42 seats has a slight majority in the 80-seat House of Representatives. The Opposition, the National Party, with 38 seats, subjects it to intense criticism. The country is very heavily unionized and Labour's greatest difficulty will be with militant unions, who in the last six months have called numerous strikes. Taxation, direct and indirect, is severe; almost 80 million pound out of total receipts of 100 million pound are provided by income tax, sales tax, national security tax and customs duties, etc. On the expenditure side on current account the largest single item is about 35 million pound for the unusually widely provided social services.

In the past New Zealand's foreign trade has been, in essence, an exchange of primary produce for manufactured articles and materials required for home consumption, with total exports averaging about 70 million pound and total imports slightly less, the difference being required to discharge overseas debts. Foreign Exchange Control, has, therefore, been essential and the regulations are still quite strict, all imports of goods being subject to licence.

Trade with Canada is important, our exports to New Zealand in normal times being quite varied in type, with paper and paper products, motor vehicles and parts (including tires), fish, fabrics, and many manufactured articles predominating. Our imports from New Zealand, usually running at lower figures, are mainly wool, skins, casings, tallow and seeds. Our future trade with New Zealand is uncertain, as due to the shortage of dollars, needed imports must be restrained, although inventories are relatively low. Then, too, the trend toward self-sufficiency in New Zealand which was mentioned earlier must be kept clearly in mind.

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FISH 'N' CHIPS

"Fried fish is regarded as a good music-hall joke, but the medical profession and those of us who take a special interest in nutrition know that in fried fish and chips you have all the constituents of a balanced meal." — Dr. Edith Summerskill, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Food, addressing National Federation of Fish Friers at Blackpool.

Oh, humble meal of fish and chips
 Too long the butt of wit and bard,
 Enduring undeserved eclipse
 In gastronomic regard,
 Because, forsooth, thou toothsome pair
 From rural or marine mileau,
 The sizzling bath of lard would share
 (And oft deserve the cordon bleu
 Of cookery's art) — but then alas,
 Would o'er the counter porcelled pass

The humble street and modest store
 Were frequently thy habitat,
 Where watchers turned thee o'er and
 o'er

To brown thee off in boiling fat.
 "Too pale," implied not cooked enough
 Engendering soom in hungry patron,
 But golden-hued thou were the stuff
 To please impatient maid and matron,
 Yet on this fish and chip shop scene
 The snob looked down with scornful
 mien.

No breached convention had he
 brooked,
 Nor lifted dainty knife and fork
 To fish-and-chips that were not
 cooked

At home or at the Royal York
 But now comes one with rating high
 Where health and food are under-
 stood.

Informing Britons far and nigh:
 That fish and chips are finest food,
 Having between them all the real
 constituents of a balanced meal.

—DODD in the Toronto Daily Star

STONE SCHOOL FARM FORUM

Strawberry season inspired the Stone School Farm Forum to entertain the summer cottage folk in their midst over last holiday week-end; Ern Batkin being master of ceremonies. There were six tables of cure, the winners being Miss Redmond and Mr. Harold Campbell, and four tables of crokinole. The winners of this game were Mrs. Jim Kingsburgh and Mr. Tom Appleyard, with little Ann Campbell and Barbara Lindsay winning at the children's table. Strawberries and cream were the feature of the refreshments; Miss Charlotte McCullough and Mrs. Ern Batkin being hostesses for the evening.

Magistrate (sympathetically) —
 "Could the motorist have avoided you?"

Henpecked Victim (sadly) — "He could that, your worship. 'E 'ad the choice of 'ittin me or the missus, and 'e picked on me."