

THE GEORGETOWN HERALD

serving the communities of
 GEORGETOWN, GLEN WILLIAMS, NORVAL, LIMEHOUSE,
 HORNBY, STEWARTTOWN, ASHGROVE, BALLINAFAD

TERRA COTTA
 Subscription Rate \$2.00 a year Single Copies 5c each

Advertising Rates quoted on application
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The Herald is printed each Wednesday afternoon at the office on Main St., Georgetown. Authorized as second class mail, Post Office Dept., Ottawa.

Member of the Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association and the Ontario - Quebec Division of the C.W.N.A.

The Editor's Column

THE MAIL BAG

Two extremely interesting letters to the editor were printed in a recent Herald, which is an indication that some readers are answering an earlier appeal to make use of the Herald to express their views on topical questions. While we prefer that names be included in the printed letter we do not require this. For instance, a week previously a letter concerning sporting readers was printed under a nom-de-plume, as was one last week. Many times, however, when letters are submitted of a highly controversial nature we insist that the writer publicly reveal himself, for an anonymous letter tends to create the impression that the views expressed are those of the editor, while they might quite well be entirely the opposite. We do not, in any case, publish a letter whose author has not revealed himself to us as evidence of his good faith.

Last week's letters both asked questions which deserve further comment. We do not feel qualified to deal too deeply with Mr. Bruyn's pertinent observations on land and housing wastes being created by urban ownership of farming properties. We are assured that he knows whereof he speaks and that as an ex-farmer and an agricultural economist he is seriously concerned with a problem which is most apparent in our rural communities so close to the Toronto and Hamilton metropolises. At the same time, there is the point that many city men with funds to treat their farms as a hobby, have actually done more for land and houses than any bona-fide farmer could hope to do with his limited capital, and this tends to offset to some extent the harm done by the unmindful.

Mr. Todd has asked us specifically to deal with the pros and cons of sex education in our schools and

on this we should like to take a rain check for awhile, for there are many angles to the subject which require more thought and research than time permits at present.

A CITIZEN'S FORUM

It is to be hoped that Reeve Maclaren's idea of a ratepayers' association expressed at the nomination meeting will not be allowed to die out and that an interested group of citizens will promote the idea. There are many apparent advantages to the formation of such a group, the main one being that Council would have the benefit of intelligent, organized assistance in dealing with municipal problems. The Gray Coach fiasco, for instance might never have come about last year, had Council been able to feel the public pulse before, rather than after, they decided to chase the bus company off Main Street.

Ratepayers are too prone to criticize actions of the town fathers without realizing that these elected men are doing their best to interpret the desires of the electorate while having no yardstick by which to judge (this opinion except casual conversations with their own circle of friends. If such criticism were publicly aired at meetings of a recognized Ratepayers Association, the dross could be weeded out and the worth-while presented to Council with some teeth in it. The Council, the voters and the town in general would derive considerable benefit from the process.



FOR YOUNG READERS THIS CHRISTMAS

Here in a Toronto department store autographing copies of two popular books for children, many of which will not doubt turn up under the Christmas tree next week, are radio actress Beryl Braithwaite

(left) and Mary Grannan, well-known children's story teller of the 'B'. The books are "Maggie Muggins" and "Just Mary", both by Miss Grannan. Beryl Braithwaite is the juvenile star of a weekly CBC drama series based on the "Maggie Muggins" stories. On Dec. 25th, Miss Grannan is to broadcast her own version of the Christmas story, at 3.15 p.m. EST, over a special network.

COST OF CHRISTMAS

"It costs too much," the miser said "At Christmas people lose their head They buy the things they do not need.

And to their purses give no heed; 'Tis madness of the sheerest kind, A custom we should leave behind."

I heard the shouts of happy glee From children round a Christmas tree.

Its magic fruitage they behold, More precious far than miser's gold, Then every heart of girl and boy Declared great dividends of joy.

I saw the mother at the door To welcome to the home once more The children scattered wide and near

Who homeward turn for Christmas cheer. A happy tear dropped once or twice Each was a pearl without a price.

A home where poverty held sway Was happy for a whole long day; Kind friends provided ample store, The wolf was banished from the door.

What is the worth of pity's touch? The value of an "inasmuch?"

I heard the sweet angelic strain Which echoed over Bethlehem's plain, Because God gave a poor world lost A Saviour, counting not the cost; And then I knew that Christmas brings To everyone the priceless things.

BENEFIT DANCE RAISES \$136 FOR RELIEF FUND

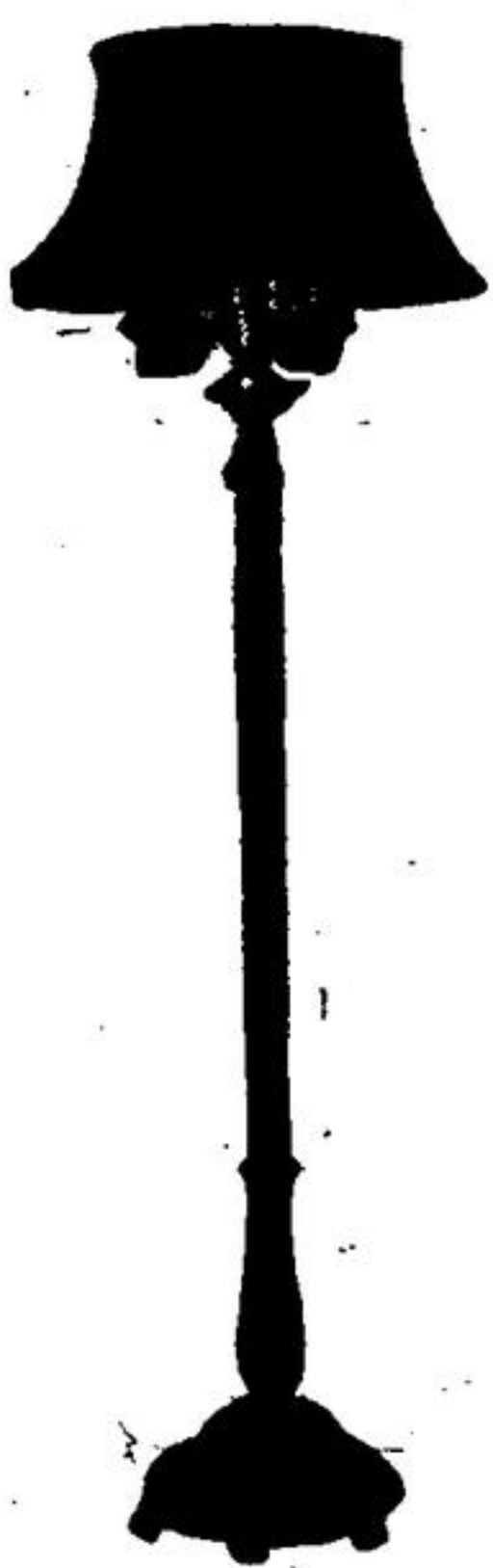
A benefit dance in the Rose Room last Wednesday raised \$136 which will be sent to the Save The Children Fund in Toronto. The dance was jointly sponsored by the Modern Aires Orchestra, which donated its services, and the Board of Parks Management, which provided the hall at no charge. The Save the Children Fund sends donations overseas to help European children orphaned by the war and this fine donation from Georgetown will make it a merrier Christmas for some of these children.

"You used to say that there was something about me you loved." "Yes, Tom, but that's all spent now."

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