

# THE GEORGETOWN HERALD

Wednesday Evening, January 14th, 1948

## Mayor Forecasts 50 Per Cent Tax Increase for Georgetown

### Austerity Program Necessary Here For European Recovery: Cleaver

M.P. Explains Dollar Crisis at Mayor's Dinner — Will Be Boon for Canadian Industry Eventually.

"I was shocked when Hon. Douglas Abbott said we had no trade balance anywhere. That we had consumed all our own production, plus all our imports last year. That we had done nothing to aid in international recovery."

So said Hughes Cleaver of Burlington, Halton's Federal Member, speaking to a group of civic dignitaries gathered in the Legion Hall on Monday evening for Mayor Joseph Gibbons' inaugural dinner. Mr. Cleaver said that a national campaign was necessary to ask the public not to buy or do anything unnecessary, to restrict erecting new buildings, and buying large quantities of semi-luxuries so that European industry could have a better chance at recovery.

"I am as guilty as anyone," he said, pointing out that he had traded his old model 1936 car on a new one last year and put improvements on his home which could well have been postponed another year or two.

Mr. Cleaver, as guest speaker at the dinner, explained concisely the embargoes caused by the American dollar shortage and blamed the situation on the failure of some signatories of the Bretton Woods agreement to live up to their obligations. At Bretton Woods it was decided to set up an international monetary fund to settle trade balances. All trade balances between member countries would be pooled in this central fund to equalize situations where a country might have a favorable trade balance with some countries and the reverse with others. The plan was excellent in theory but it is not functioning as it should because some nations have not been able to live up to the agreement.

The present austerity program in Canada, whereby many American imports have been banned and others restricted by quota, has been caused simply because we have been buying much larger quantities of goods from the States than we have been selling to her. Through strict control of exchange by the Foreign Exchange Control Board throughout the war and such measures as the Hyde Park agreement whereby Canada sold munitions, etc., to the States, Canada had a fifteen hundred-million dollar U.S. fund surplus at war's end. In 1946 the situation was reversed by five hundred million and it is predicted the 1947 unfavorable balance will be nine hundred million which will exhaust this surplus and we will be on a 'pay as we buy' policy from now on.

The government's program to remedy this is two-point, negative in banning importation of many classes of luxury and semi-luxury goods and positive in taking steps to promote manufacture of new goods that can be sold to the States. Where we are now exporting pulp, we hope to export paper, he said, to give an example. Such measures will be an eventual boon to Canadian industry although present restrictions are admittedly hard on a country whose purchasing power was never before at such a peak.

**First Mayor Is Chairman**  
Le Roy Dale, K.C., who was the first mayor of Georgetown when the town was incorporated twenty-six years ago, was chairman at the dinner for which the ladies of the Legion WA catered, with Mrs. Mary Morrow providing music at the piano. Then as now, said Mr. Dale, the town was faced with major improvements and he recalled that waterworks and pavements had been the big issues then. He spoke humorously of a strike among men laying pavement on Main Street and that members of the Council had pitched in to work on it. "Every time I pass in front of the O'Neill Building I look at the pavement I laid there to see how it is standing up," he said.

**Reeve Favors Citizens Forum**  
Reeve Alex MacIver spoke, as he has done in the past, on the need for a better-informed electorate and said a citizens' forum is the answer. He spoke of the value of education and the isolation of Georgetown from the North Halton High School District should not make us stop thinking of new ways of bringing the best in education to our young people.

Deputy-Reeve Jack Armstrong said he had been proud to be Georgetown's first deputy-reeve, and Cr. James Goodlet, speaking as the senior Council member paid tribute to the Mayor's guidance in his education as a municipal servant.

Several Guests Speak  
Mr. Dale called on several other guests for a few words, including Reeve George Cleaver of Esqueping who said he would do all that he could to see that the door was kept open should Georgetown change its mind and decide to join the High School District. Town Clerk P. B. Harrison said he thought there was some lack of community spirit in town, that the town was inclined to support a project for awhile, then lose interest in favour of a different project. Rev. R. C. Todd advocated adopting a Citizenship Sunday when civic officials would attend public worship in a body and possibly a community religious service could be held. Archdeacon W. G. O. Thompson asked Mr. Cleaver if it would not be possible to place an embargo on one export — that of so many good citizens attracted across the border by better salaries and more opportunity. Harold McClure, president of the Lions Club commended Council on adopting sewerage. The waterworks, called "Dale's Folly" at the time had justified itself and he was sure "Gibbons' Folly" as some might be calling this, would gain equal stature in years to come. Arthur Spight, president of the Board of Trade and himself a former councillor, said he hoped the 1948 Council would have the courage, which past councils sometimes lacked, to put the tax rate where it should be.

Rev. R. C. Gower said that as a newcomer to town he was impressed with the religious aspect of the inaugural meeting and hoped Council would not forget as they transacted public business that they were working for a higher power. The Herald editor, Walter Biehn, paid tribute to Mr. Harrison, who is retiring this year as clerk-treasurer. Graham Farnell, chairman of the Hydro Commission thanked the mayor for including members of that group as guests at the dinner. J. L. Lambert High School principal said he was glad to hear so much emphasis placed on education by different speakers. The chairman remarked on the faithful service rendered the town by Henry Marchmont, who was the oldest town employee in point of service.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Patterson, Young Street, Acton, will be at home on Sunday, January 18th, from two-thirty to five and on Monday, January 19th from two to five and seven-thirty to nine-thirty on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage.

Mrs. Al Cameron and son John of Peterborough are spending a few days in town with her aunts, the Misses Brown, Charles Street.

### Mayor Gibbons' Inaugural Address

We are assembled here tonight for the purpose of attending the first meeting of the Municipal Council for the year 1948 and coupled with my pleasure to be associated with five of the 1947 members, I am taking advantage of this opportunity to publicly welcome and congratulate Mr. Whitmore, Mr. McCumber, and Mr. Davidson whom I am convinced will be worthy representatives of the people in the Wards in which they have been elected.

It is my desire to remind the people of the Corporation of the town of Georgetown that in my opinion seldom if ever in the history of this Municipality has a Municipal Council been obliged to make so many important decisions as the Council of the past year.

We have carried out what we interpreted to be the will of the people — the installation of a complete sewerage system, the erection of veterans' homes, the installation of an artificial-ice plant in the Georgetown Memorial Arena, the purchasing of equipment for better road maintenance and snow-ploughing, expenditure on the Town Hall to provide an opportunity to carry out a recreational and youth program. Two of these major projects will produce some revenue but the sewerage system and improved civic services is a direct charge against the Corporation and this year there will be a considerable increase in the tax rate, and after recently giving the matter some time and thought it is my opinion that there will be approximately a 50 per cent increase.

The amount to be raised annual-

ly for repayment of principal and interest on sewage debenture is \$25205.89 representing advanced mills. Of this amount an amount equal to about six mills will be paid by local improvement levies. The amount required to be raised to pay the cost of the project to provide homes for veterans will be an amount equal to about four mills. The members of the 1947 Council realized that it apparently was the unanimous opinion of the citizens that a sewerage system should be completed without delay, and it was the opinion of the Council that young men who missed opportunities in civil life for a period of time, offered their services and fought for their country and this community were at least entitled to our efforts to provide a place for them to live.

Granting that it is not only the privilege but the duty of each and every member of the Council to vote fearlessly and independently on all matters presented to them for their decision, I am nevertheless assuming it is my duty to call to their attention that the taxpayers of this Municipality are committed to an unprecedented debt and therefore only necessary expenditures consistent with necessary civic services should be considered in the immediate future. Being prepared to share to a considerable extent the responsibility of a legal error in presenting the question involving the payment of \$1200.00 to the Georgetown Band, I regret to have to inform the Council and citizens generally that unless and until a by-law is prepared under Section 405, Subsection 65 of the Municipal Act and submitted to the electors qualified to vote on money bylaws, this Council is powerless to make this grant.

With no hesitation in having

### Rigid Economy Necessary to Pay for Civic Improvements

Band Grant Illegal, New Vote Necessary — Council Will Pick New Clerk-Treasurer-Tax Collector Tonight.

Confidence in the future progress of this community, with the satisfaction of knowing I shall be associated with members of Council, Boards and Commissions whom I am convinced have the interests of the community at heart, I shall continue my efforts in the best interests of civic welfare and community betterment.

### THE WEATHER

Mr. Editor:  
There are no below zero readings to report this week. The first thaw last year was on January 11th, so now we will be expecting.

DATE	MAX.	MIN.	SNOW
Jan. 5	30	4	
Jan. 6	32	18	1"
Jan. 7	34	16	
Jan. 8	34	6	1/2"
Jan. 9	32	22	
Jan. 10	22	3	
Jan. 11	33	8	
Average	31	11	1 1/4"

### MILITARY FUNERAL FOR DISTINGUISHED SOLDIER - CITIZEN

—Lt.-Col. James M. Ballantine, DSO, was buried with full military honours in Greenwood Cemetery on Saturday afternoon. This distinguished citizen who had resided for the past fifteen years at his farm near Georgetown, succumbed on Wednesday, January 7th to a stroke which he suffered the previous Sunday.

The son of the late John Ballantine and Margaret McNab, he was born near Ashgrove on September 3rd 1876, and attended public and high schools in Georgetown. A veteran of two wars, he received the Queen's Medal and three clasps for service in the Boer War in 1899-1900, where he saw action in the Transvaal at Belfast and Lydenburg, in Orange River Colony and in Cape Colony. He was an NCO in a unit whose platoon lieutenant was John McCrae, celebrated author of "In Flanders Fields."

Col. Ballantine took military courses at Toronto, Hayling Island, Hythe and Aldershot, England. He rose from the ranks of the Halton Regiment to be Commanding Officer and was adjutant of the regiment for seven years. In the Great War he was acting commander of the 4th Batt., C.E.F., until severely wounded in action. Mentioned in despatches, he was invested with the Distinguished Service Order. He organized and commanded the 76th Batt., commanded the 109th Victoria and Haliburton Batt., C.E.F., in England and was Officer Commanding troops on the Empress of Britain in 1916.

A former university professor, he was appointed Director of Military Science at Colgate (N.Y.) University in 1917, and was on the teaching staff of that university for sixteen years. An active sportsman, he was coach of lacrosse, soccer, hockey and boxing teams at Colgate. He was a member of New York Zeta of Phi Delta Theta and of an American chapter of the Masonic Lodge. He was author of "A History of the Halton Regiment."

Col. Ballantine took a keen interest in Georgetown affairs, where though not a resident, he was a property owner. He was a past president of Georgetown Lions Club and during his term of office in 1942 promoted the club's war work and the Lions War Fund for British Children. He took an active role in reserve army work during World War 2, and lectured to classes at the armories while advocating that civilians should be prepared for any emergency during the dark days of the early war years. A member of Georgetown United Church and of Branch 120, Canadian Legion, he was at the time of his death president of the Georgetown Red Cross Society.

Surviving are his wife, the former Minnie K. Barber, one son, Fred T. and two sisters, Mrs. William Rogers (Catherine) of Montreal, Quebec and Mrs. William Edmiston (Pauline) of Disley, Saskatchewan.

A private funeral service was held at his late home on Saturday at one o'clock, where members of the family and close friends gathered to pay their respects. Pall-

Georgetown will have an austerity program for the next few years if predictions of Mayor Joseph Gibbons in his inaugural address to council are correct. Major projects undertaken in 1947 will boost the tax rate by 50 per cent this year, the mayor estimates, and he recommends that only necessary expenditures consistent with essential civic services be contemplated in the immediate future.

Sharing responsibility for a legal error, Mayor Gibbons said he regretted to announce that the band grant of \$1200, voted by the citizens in the December election, is illegal and that a new vote will be necessary before the money can be granted. Complete text of the mayor's address appears in another section of this edition.

Town Clerk P. B. Harrison administered the oath of office to council and Rev. C. K. Gower read portions of the 2nd Psalm and offered prayer in the religious portion of the meeting.

Only item of business was the presentation of nine names of applicants for the position of clerk-treasurer-tax collector for council's consideration and a meeting is being held tonight to discuss hiring a man for the position created through resignation of the clerk-treasurer, P. B. Harrison and the tax collector, K. M. Langdon.

### GRC HOCKEY THIS SATURDAY

Opening the hockey season at the Arena this Saturday morning, the bantam hockey league organized by the GRC will play three games. The GRC has been given ice from 8 to 11 a.m. for the games and the games will be between the Bears, Hornets, Lions and Red Wings - Barons. The drawing up of a schedule awaits the outcome of a meeting this week-end between the Board of Parks Management and the G.R.C. hockey committee represented by chairman Alf Sykes.

### BREAKS KNEE CAP IN LADDER FALL

William Hyde suffered a painful accident last Friday morning when he fell twelve feet from a ladder while working with G. R. Muckart at the Thompson Motors in Acton. He was taken to St. Joseph's Hospital, Guelph, where it was found that his knee cap had been broken in nine places and it was necessary to remove it. He also sustained a badly bruised arm.

bearers were six nephews, Harold Barber, Charles Barber, Merwin Barber, William Barber, Jack Ballantine and Albert Ballantine. Among the numerous floral tributes from organizations and friends were those from the 4th Batt., 76th Batt., Lorne Scots Officers' Mess, Lorne Scots Officers' Association, Legion branches of Georgetown and Acton and the faculty and staff of Colgate University.

A military service was conducted in Georgetown United Church and at the graveside following the family service. A number of men who had served in World War I under his command attended from many out-of-town points including Toronto, Hamilton and St. Catharines. Members of Branch 120, Canadian Legion, marched to the church in a body and six members of the Lorne Scots Regiment were pall-bearers. A number of former army officers attended in uniform, including Col. R. V. Conover, Lt.-Col. Herbert Chisholm, officer commanding the Lorne Scots Regiment, Lt. Col. G. B. S. Cousins, Lt.-Col. Jack Barber, Lieut. Paul Barber and Capt. Donald Gallagher, Lorne Scots Adjutant. A number of members of the Lions Club also attended the service as a group. Rev. W. G. Brook of Lorne Park, who served overseas as a padre in this war and Rev. R. C. Todd, minister of the church were in charge of the service.

At the graveside, Archdeacon W. G. O. Thompson, Legion padre, read the prayers and members of Col. Ballantine's regiments each placed a poppy on his casket. A firing party of Lorne Scots fired three volleys, a Lorne Scots piper played the lament and woeville was sounded by bugler Charles Landborough of the Lorne Scots Band.

### Crowd of 1600 on Hand for Artificial Ice Opening

Intermediates Hard Pressed but Win Opener 3-2 from Milton — Orangeville Here Friday Night.

Sixteen hundred and twenty-two persons were admitted to the Georgetown Memorial Arena on Friday night with Milton, and the dedication of the new artificial ice plant which was recently installed.

Deputy-Reeve Jack Armstrong, who is also president of the Georgetown Hockey Club, acted as master of ceremonies, and first called chairman W. G. Bell to the P.A. system, who in turn asked Mayor Gibbons to accept on behalf of the town and dedicate the new artificial-ice plant and memorial arena to the men who had given their all in the Second World War. Tiny McFadyen, 1st vice-president of the OHA was also present and gave a brief address, after which Mayor Gibbons faced off the puck to start the game. Prior to this two minutes' silence was observed in memory of the men killed in the war. The Lorne Scots Band were present at the game.

Although the local team was hard pressed by the visiting Milton Club nearly all the way, they managed to eke out a 3-2 win, to continue on Back Page)

### BALLINAFAD

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Irvine have returned from a pleasant Christmas and New Year's holiday visit in Detroit, Michigan, with their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Irvine.

The Mission Circle meeting was held at the Mansie, opening with the call to worship by Mrs. Elwood Snow. The prayer and devotional was taken by Mrs. Ernie McEnery. A piano solo was contributed by Miss Betty Ann Korn. The topic was given by Miss Dorothy Warno. The annual report was filled out for 1947. The installation of officers was conducted by Rev. O. R. Flindall.

Some sewing was distributed among the members, and also the programmes for 1948. The meeting came to a close with the Circle Prayer.

After the meeting Miss Lydia Snow held an interesting contest. Mrs. Flindall then served a delightful lunch, which was enjoyed by all.



Officiating at the dedication of the new artificial ice plant in the Georgetown Memorial Arena were (left to right) W. G. Bell, chairman of the Board of Parks Management, J. J. (Tiny) McFadyen of Galt, O.H.A. vice-president, and Mayor Joseph Gibbons. Tiny is looking over the season's schedule of games to be played.