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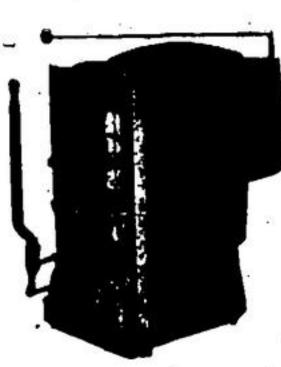
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IN THE MAIL BAG

Georgetown, April 20, 1948 Georgetown Herald.

Dear Editor: After reading in your editorial columns in recent issues of the paper regarding church-going-I was tempted to send you the enclosed article clipped from a New York newspaper, some time ugo. I thought it was fairly typical of most of us. I read about three months after this was published the author died suddenly at his desk from a heart

Hope you can find time to read

A WELL WISHER

Yours Sincerely, ...

by O. O. McIntyre We set off on one of those uimhurrying to the movies and "cafes. Club. The sleepy mob (effects of bell tolling so sadly, appeared a

to the dim-lit quiet. Soft notes from championships . . . and lost. church-going in months.

sudden symbol of neglect

tinually assailed, once inside a reli- poctively. A little more practice gious edifice, for my neglect in at- would have helped a great deal, but tendance. It requires only an hour it's too late now. out of the week and there is no other place where one may so sat- teresting with all the sights to be isfyingly relax into surprising and seen inside as well as outside the almost unbelievable calm.

Frequently many pay \$6.60 per had a flat tire and was forced to seat to be bored at plays that of- stay at Mt. Pleasant until the other fend taste and yet waver between hus could come back to the rescue. a 50-cent piece and a dollar bill at The rain didn't improve the trip the church offertory. I had a far any. We noticed that everybody more comfortable seat than at most seemed to be having a good time. theatres and was not annoyed by (wow). attitude-striking pests.

There was a serene carnestness about thep astor, a Bert Lytell-looking gentleman slightly gray and in his 40's, I should say that was convincing he believed what he preached. His text was, as I remember, from Isaiah: "Thou wilt keep in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee, etc." An old and familiar theme, of course. Stripped of verbiage, just another version of the aged simplicity: Trust in the Lord. Yet it had a consoling warmth that sparked an inner glow.

I was interested in the scattery congregation. Probably 100 in a church that might easily seat 500. About six young folk in their teens. Probably 25 middle-aged, and the remainder oldish, in their 60's. All -. well but quietly dressed. The complacency was marked in contrast to the usual metropolitan crowd. No fidgeting, coughing or glancing

Not since my courting days had I joined in a hymn. I glanced about and there did not seem to be a person not trying to lift voice in song. My grandmother used to sing hymns when dispirited, and often remarked she felt happier. "They roll the gloom away," she declared. Indeed, every face did seem brighter, the atmosphere rain-washed.

The sermon over, the preacher was at the door to meet members of his slim congregation. He saw my wife and I were strangers, inquired if we lived in the city, and introduced us to a couple near by. We were invited to come often, also to attend a little social event in the basement an evening hence. It was quite folksey and alien to the usual New York manner. Most of his congregation, he said, were regulars. So far is he could observe, we were the only strangers there that evening. His church had full membership of 700, but his congregation, he said a bit sadly, rarely averaged more than 300, and that at the Sunday morning service. He took our address and hoped some day he might be permitted to call.

Moandering northward into the buzz-fuzz of the evening roar, we could not help but reflect on thousands of churches similary struggling -- veritable vortexes in the gathering storms. Each trying valiantly and often pathetically to establish a meed of hope, peace and comfort in a hungering world of vanishing faith. And how little most of us aid in such worthy endeavour, morally, financially or otherwise. There is no place in a vast city where the lonely are so pleasantly and sincerely welcomed as the average church. For this reason alone one would think they would be fil-

This, too. I had had a troubling week. Yet I felt markedly reposed leaving the church. There was a tranquility and a fresh clarity of thought and vision about the week to come. Also I slept like the proverblal log that night. Yet like so many laggards it will probably be some time before I go to church again. Too many are that way about matters of the spirit - at a time when as never before have we needed bolstering of cherished bellefs.

The Cadet Formal, held last year and those who attended had a good time. What happened to evnight (ah-h-h-h), with Bob Martin's orchestra providing scrumptious music, the Rose Room looked wonderful (with a little help), and there was eats but where, on where was the crowd? Was Goorgetown ull sick at onco? No excuses please. 'enjoyed a couple of specialty numhers by the band consisting of May pana and Too Fut Polka (SHE was pictures of themselves were won by Thorosa Curtis, Clare Burns and Mo Kelly, Roy Laidlaw.

The trip back home was very inbuses. On the way back one bus

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HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Thursday night is over for another erybody else? It was a beautiful Well anyhow those who were there there in person), " Also the "pot dance brizes of checolates and free

On Friday evening two of Scott's less Sunday evening strolls without buses provided transportation for objective. The city generally was the school's "was famous" Glee! And that is why a shadowy brick thed ance, you know) gently, cramchurch on the fringe of things, its med themselves on the buses (ladies first) and were carried away to the mighty metropolis of Brampton. At Only an occasional straggler the l'eel Musical Festival the Glee mounted the steps and vanished in- Club fought vigorously for music the organ came trembling down the The only first was won by the Boy's have in a sort of gentle ballyhoo. Choir with the Girl's Choir secur-And on the impulse of the moment, | ing a second. The Mixed Choir | we too, climbed the steps, the first struggled in fourth with the Senior Double Trio and Junior Double Like many reluctants I am con- Trio coming fifth and fourth res-

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