

THE GEORGETOWN HERALD

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The Editor's Corner

MORE THAN A HOCKEY TRIP

A few blocks in the foundation of good relations between Ontario and her eastern neighbour, Quebec, were laid by the visit of the Georgetown hockey team to St. Joseph d'Alma. There could be no better good will ambassador for Georgetown and Ontario than our own Ken McMillan and from all reports he met his equal in Mr. Demers, manager of the Bank of Montreal and president of the Board of Trade in the thriving Quebec town. That Ken was sold on St. Joseph was evidenced in his interesting account of the trip which appeared in the last issue of the Herald. That he himself did a good job of selling the merits of Georgetown, we have his word that both Mr. Demers and the mayor of St. Joseph are planning a trip to Georgetown this summer. And it is even rumoured that next winter St. Joseph might be agreeable to footing the travel bill of the Raiders for another go with Dolbeau.

The hockey players, who acted as gentlemen both on and off the ice left a most pleasant impression on the Quebecois, an impression which Dolbeau equalled when they visited Oshawa. Both teams were possibly looking for some belligerence in the opposition and when each found the other more than willing to play the game, the result was three games of as near-perfect hockey as one could imagine. The same spirit carried into all inter-provincial affairs would have a salutary effect on solving the differences between two great provinces.

SOMETHING COULD BE DONE

Ever since we first set foot in Georgetown over eight years ago, we have been bothered by the eyesore called Central Park. This large block of land, deeded to Georgetown some years back by the Lawson estate to be used as a public park has never been fully utilized and today stands idle—a blot on the landscape. A prerequisite to any improvements in the land would be to have the paper mills stop dumping odorous waste materials into the stream which meanders through the property. This, up to now, has been a stumbling block, but with sewerage coming, it is to be hoped this will be taken care of. It is, then, possible to make some initial plans for a long-term improvement project.

Looking over the property, as we did one day recently, we vision a scheme somewhat as follows:

(a) Dredging the stream from the John Street bridge to the highway to remove the accumulated filth of the years and to provide banks for the stream which would help to avoid spring flooding.

(b) Clearing the land, seeding it down, and later planting trees and shrubs.

(c) Providing swings, slides, etc. for children. The remnants of these are still to be found at the far end of the park, but have not been used for many years.

(d) Investigating the possibility of acquiring waste land on the far side of the John Street bridge, dredging the creek and damming it to form a natural swimming pool, the one outstanding recreational need which is lacking in town.

(e) Building of a band shell and concert stage such as the Lions Club is discussing, in a suitable location in the park.

A program such as we have briefly outlined above is no small undertaking. We should not even hazard a guess as to its cost, either in total or part. It would first be necessary for some qualified person to make a survey of what could be done and draw up a master plan. It would then be possible for one or several groups of citizens to take on the job. The possibilities are limitless — the results incalculable.

A PROVINCIAL ELECTION

It was no particular surprise when Col. Drew announced that he was calling a provincial election in June. The publicity given to the government's decision to convert all Ontario to 60-cycle hydro, the concentration on the formation of high school districts, and the series of Friday night radio speeches made by the premier, were evidence that an election was in the offing.

The results should be no more surprising, for we can think of no good reason why any substantial majority of Ontario electors will change their minds since 1945. The Liberal Party, which is the only substantial opposition in the House, has not been able to find a successor to Mitch Hepburn with the same fire and dash and the "damn me up or damn me down, but say something" philosophy which made headlines for Hepburn and the Liberals whenever he spoke. We venture to say that Farquhar Oliver, present Liberal leader, is not one-tenth so well known as is Mitch, even in his decline. The C.C.F.'s and Labor-Progressives are dead ducks before they start, with the present fear of Communism and extreme radicalism.

It is our guess that the great majority of Ontario constituencies will maintain the status quo and that the Progressive-Conservatives will retain a substantial majority in the next House. Halton, which is in the unique position of supporting a Conservative member in Ontario and a Liberal member at Ottawa, might be one of the question marks. The present member, Stan Hall, had no trouble winning against the opposition of Mrs. Mary Pettit, whose qualifications as a county councillor rated much higher than her weak remarks on the public platform in her campaign speeches. Dr. Deans of Oakville, this year's Liberal nominee, should provide a much more interesting race, and may narrow Mr. Hall's majority considerably.

GREAT MOMENTS IN THE MOVIES

From time to time we ready somebody or other's selections of the ten best movies they have seen and we have always wanted to take a try at it ourselves. It is our thought that it is much more satisfactory to choose a scene from a movie, rather than a complete picture. Those which stick in our memory include:

(1) The boat scene in "Dodsworth" when Walter Huston told Ruth Chatterton he was not going home to America with her.

(2) A later scene in the same picture when Dodsworth returned to Mary Astor in Italy, and their reunion was expressed in her face, looming larger and larger on the screen as his boat neared the dock.

(3) The technicolor "Wedding of the Painted Doll" sequence in "Broadway Melody," in the days when it was still a novelty to bill a movie as "all-talking." This backstage story with Bessie Love, Anita Page and Charles King has never been surpassed.

(4) Garbo's suicide scene in Anna Karenina, light and shadow from a moving train reflecting on her face before she jumped. A close runner-up, the suicide in a Tallulah Bankhead picture expressed by a screaming of seagulls and a fade-out of her husband or lover (forget which) several miles away, saying "Something must be disturbing the gulls today."

(5) Practically any scene in Danny Kaye's first picture "Up In Arms", particularly where he reads his draft call and President Roosevelt recites the formal words.

(6) A scene in a Marx Brothers picture where the brothers refuel a train by tearing it apart; Groucho-hollering "Timber." And any scene in the several Marx Brothers shows involving Groucho and the stately Margaret Dumont.

(7) The situations in the recent "Dear Ruth" a comedy so generally excellent and well-cast that no individual part stands out above another.

(8) The dramatic end of Mae Clarke in "Waterloo Bridge" when her white fox fur is a target for German bombers and is all that is left on the shattered bridge. This did not appear in a later re-make with Robert Taylor and Vivien Leigh.

(9) The general excellence of "All Quiet on the Western Front", still the best war picture ever made, with a stand-out performance by Lew Ayres.

(10) Bette Davis in "Dark Victory" when she bids good-bye to George Brent, knowing it is the last time she will see him.

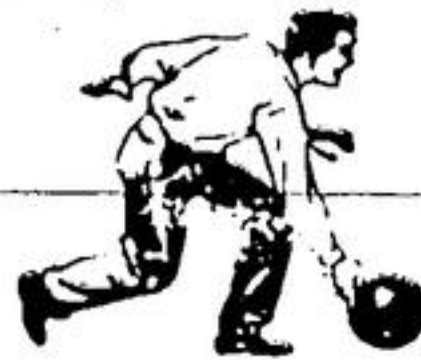
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