

# THE GEORGETOWN HERALD

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

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## The Editor's Corner

VOTE AS YOU LIKE... BUT VOTE!

In cooperation with the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, the Georgetown Board of Trade is supporting a "Vote as You Like But Vote" campaign for the forthcoming provincial election on June 7th. It is pointed out that in the 1945 Provincial election 704,167 out of 2,469,960 registered voters failed to go to the polls. In a democracy where the right to vote by secret ballot is one of our most cherished privileges, it is a betrayal of our way of life if a person values this privilege so lightly that he does not take the trouble to exercise his franchise.

In Halton County 15,445 of 20,949 registered voters went to the polls in the 1945 election. The percentage of 73 per cent was slightly higher than the provincial percentage of 71 per cent but leaves much to be desired. Making allowances for those in ill health and a few voters who must of necessity be absent on polling day, there is still no reason why this figure should not be at least 90%. Democracy cannot be supported by indifference. Whichever candidate is elected in Halton, be he Liberal, Conservative or C.C.F. should know that he has the certain mandate of the majority of the voters. Do your part on June 7th.

### "SUMMER-IZE" FOR SAFE DRIVING

Cooperating with the Department of Highways' safety program, the Garage Operators Association of Ontario is urging motorists to observe safety rules and to "summerize" their cars for holiday driving ahead. Brakes, steering and lights are all important for safe driving it is pointed out. Uneven braking on different wheels can be dangerous and rough winter roads are particularly hard on wheel alignment and steering. Unless these are checked too much "play" in the steering and perhaps a "shimmy" can develop before fall. Lights are often knocked out of line by winter driving and beam alignments should be checked. Wiring for the lights should be checked for deterioration caused by condensation and freezing of moisture on wire covering.

Other spring cleaning jobs include flushing out the radiator and changing the oil. A less apparent spring need is cleaning the underside of the car. During the winter rock salt and other chemicals are used on icy surfaces and a good deal is picked up by the car. These chemicals have a corroding action and are one of the chief causes of "rot" on the fenders and along the seams.

The Garage Operators' Association points out that for safe driving and longer life for your car, see your motor mechanic twice a year just as you do with your dentist.

### COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE OPEN

With so many important matters coming up in Council this last year or two, we are surprised that more ratepayers do not sit in on the meetings occasionally. While this newspaper does its best to give an accurate news account of each meeting, there are many things which must go by the boards unless the meeting was to be taken down in shorthand and even if this were done space limitations in the Herald would not allow a verbatim report of each meeting.

A ratepayer who quite often attends the meetings as a spectator has remarked that perhaps citizens do not realize that the meetings are open. It is every voter's privilege to attend, either as a spectator or as a deputation of one or more and the courtesy of the meeting is extended to all visitors.

Regular Council meetings are called on the first Monday of the month at 8 p.m. While these are the only official meetings and must be held, as set by by-law at the first meeting each year, special meetings are held at the call of the mayor and for the last three years have been the rule rather than the exception, with a meeting almost every week during the first half of the year. While it is a Council's privilege to meet in camera and exclude the public and the press, such measures have never been taken to our knowledge in Georgetown and Mayor Gibbons has on frequent occasions stated that he is against any limitation of the rights of citizens to attend meetings where public business is being discussed.

All Council meetings are held in the Municipal Office at the rear of the new municipal building. A number of chairs are provided in the room for visitors, and as we have said before, any and all ratepayers are welcome at all meetings, regular or special.

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