

THE GEORGETOWN HERALD

— serving the communities of —
 GEORGETOWN, GLEN WILLIAMS, NORVAL, LIMESTONE,
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 TERRA COTTA

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The Editor's Corner

HOW ACTON FEELS

In order to give readers an idea of how the publisher of the Acton and Milton newspapers views the High School district question, we reprint an editorial which appeared in those papers last week. Perhaps readers might have a misconception about the feelings which at times would seem to exist between ourselves and our neighbouring publisher. We can assure them that the feeling is not at all personal. We have convictions about the location of a central school which are in opposition to those of Mr. Dills. At the same time, we can appreciate that it is every man's right to speak as he believes and we do not for a moment question the sincerity of our contemporary nor his interest in striving for better education. As in all arguments, someone will win and while we feel that our position is right, the proof will be in the final decision of the central board which in turn must have the endorsement of a majority of municipalities before any action can be taken. Meanwhile from time to time, we shall continue to editorialize on the question and shall keep our readers in touch with other opinions by reprinting them in this column.

Here is Mr. Dills' editorial, headed "The Reasoning Back of Our Stand."

At the risk of becoming monotonous we again inject into our editorial columns that contentious question, "The High School District in North Halton". The news columns give a report elsewhere of a meeting held in Stewarttown and since we have consistently been an advocate of the Central School plan as opposed to other plans we desire to state briefly as possible our reasons for adherence to this plan for one High School in the centre of the district, as opposed to other suggestions that have been put forth.

In the first place a central school, of course, can only mean one established in the centre of the district to be served. Two straight lines drawn from the four corners of the two townships of North Halton show the centre of this district to be just north of Speyside.

At the meeting last week it was argued by members of Council and financial advisers that not one of the urban centres of North Halton was in a financial condition to issue the debentures for the erection of a central school. We agree with that statement. No one at the meeting argued contrary to that opinion. Esqueving Township financially and geographically is the logical location for the school.

Our first reason for a central High School was, of course, better educational facilities and a school of sufficient size to give advantages comparable with those offered by city schools and those schools established in the south end of Halton County. Then there was the consideration for rural pupils in equal balance with town pupils. It is no more hardship for town pupils to travel a few miles than for country pupils to travel equal miles to school. All should have equal advantages regardless of home location.

Our reasoning also was broader than the needs of High School and we viewed with concern the public schools in North Halton particularly in Milton and Acton since these are the only towns in the North Halton District. Both have overcrowded and rather old school buildings. Each must acquire more space almost immediately. Both towns have financial problems including payment and installation of sewers to consider.

For Milton we hoped the Public School would acquire the present High School building at moderate cost. It would give the space necessary for kindergarten classes and the teaching of manual training and household courses in Public School forms that are now being conducted under very unsatisfactory conditions. Our educational outlook was for all Milton children from kindergarten to High School graduation.

For Acton we envisioned the taking over of the present High School building for public-school purposes. This would give the required classrooms of good construction to fill the need until finances allowed an entire new modern Public School. It would provide rooms for the teaching of manual training and household courses in the upper grades. We hoped for improved educational facilities for all the children from 5 years to High School graduation.

We presume Georgetown has had similar growth as in Acton and Milton and is faced with the same problems but since they had chosen to stay out of the district we gave no thought to their problem.

We have travelled the road pretty regularly on which Speyside is located for the past five years. Perhaps more regularly than anyone else; in all kinds of weather and often at night under worse conditions than any school bus would be called upon to operate. We've weighed all the arguments for and against the central school plan and in a give and take spirit, forgetting all

local prejudices, we find the balance largely in favour of the school centrally located on Highway 25 near Speyside. Further argument might be found in the improvement now being done on this road and the fact that it will be in first class condition long before any central school could be completed.

We have no quarrel with those who view the problem in another light. It has been drawn to our attention that we are stubborn and our attitude in not urging construction of another High School at Acton is not understandable. We have endeavoured to present our reasoning as concisely as possible. Our aim has always been for better education of all the children of North Halton and our hope has been that local prejudices would be forgotten to reach this higher goal.

POT POURRI

A visit last week from the Sales Tax inspector made us mad all over again. Not that we have anything against the inspector, for he was a most considerate investigator, but it reminded us that each year we are charged by the Dominion government the sum of two dollars for the privilege of charging 8 per cent sales tax on all printed matter manufactured in our plant, and for collecting this from customers and remitting it to the Department of National Revenue. Not one cent do we receive for this, and in fact we lose money on any bad account for sales tax must be charged and remitted on these as well. By the same token the government could charge a businessman a licence fee for deducting and remitting employee income tax and unemployment insurance. . . . Farmers in Bruce County are considerably more fortunate than those around Georgetown where lack of rain this spring hampered all growth. A relative who farms in the northern county tells us that except for poor hay, the rest of his crops are quite normal. . . . The new pump station located at the foot of Main Street at Georgetown's new source of water supply requires a larger main to carry the water for distribution to the town and this week the street from Church Street down has been torn up at one side while the new pipes are laid. . . . An important decision will be made at a special meeting of county council this evening, when the body will decide whether to continue to maintain a joint House of Refuge with Peel County or establish a separate home in Halton. . . . Reeve Jack Armstrong and Deputy Reeve Jim Goodlet are strong supporters of the latter idea and have been propounding it for some time at Milton. . . . The liquor store question is much in the fore these days. Acton Council has requested one and we understand Milton is also trying to get one in the county town, while Georgetown merchants have petitioned the council to ask for the establishment of a store here. . . . Some time ago we wrote an editorial on the failure of the three Toronto dailies to be "news" papers in any sense of the word. During the recent Federal elections all three went out of their way to distort the news and to colour each page with their editorial opinions. It wasn't even subtle, and a wave of revulsion is noted throughout the weekly press at the tactics adopted. Freedom of the press is, we say again, not licence, and it is time that someone with the proper knowledge and funds starts a newspaper in Toronto which will do a straight job of reporting. . . . It's refreshing to have a feud going on in the paper in which the editor is not involved, but we suggest that Steamboat and Art call off the softball battle before people begin to take it too seriously. Controversy up to a certain point makes life more interesting, but can be carried too far. . . . Robb's Drugs is the latest Main Street business to get a face-lifting, and Jack Cunningham is hard at work installing a complete new store front this week.

MENS SOFTBALL

1, Norval 0, Smith & Stone 19, Legion 3.

League standing to date is:	W	L	T	Pts.
Cheltenham Concrete and Glen Williams still maintain their hold on first place in the men's softball league, each having won 8 games to date. On Monday, Cheltenham Legion	8	1	0	16
battled the Lions to an 8-6 win and Glen walloped Smith & Stone last week 20-8 in their game. Other scores during the week were: Alliance 14, Meadowglen 13, Legion	4	4	1	8
	3	4	1	7
	3	6	0	6
	3	5	0	6
	2	6	0	4
	1	5	1	3

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