

# THE GEORGETOWN HERALD

— serving the communities of —  
 GEORGETOWN, GLEN WILLIAMS, NORVAL, LIMESHOUSE,  
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 TERESA COTTA

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## The Editor's Corner

### WATER MUST BE PAID FOR

The schedule of rate charges for water which appeared in last week's issue will place the Georgetown water system on a sound financial basis and amortize the debt incurred by the location and use of a new source of supply. This is as it should be, for we cannot expect anyone but the people of Georgetown to pay the \$80,000 which will be spent on the system, and it is reasonable to expect those who use the water to pay for it in proportion. The minimum charge which any water user will pay is \$12 a year, which is in many cases double the old charge. This may appear to be a sharp increase, but we must remember that the former system of charges meant that the waterworks operated at a deficit which was made up from the general tax rate, a condition which is overdue for correction.

The average consumer should have no difficulty keeping within the 3000 gallons allowed monthly for the minimum charge and those using more than this amount can have no legitimate complaint if they use more and are asked to pay extra for it. It is the way that hydro is operated, and is an efficient method of operating a public utility. While we are not familiar with water rates in neighbouring towns, we know that Georgetown will still be getting cheaper water than in Oakville where the monthly minimum is \$1.50, and the lowest charge for large consumers is 15¢ compared with Georgetown's 11¢. Even a 10 per cent discount which is allowed on the Oakville bills does not overcome the large difference in rates. Incidentally, the new system of rate charges here is set up permanently and if it is found in future that less money is needed to operate the waterworks system, refunds will be given in the form of discounts on current bills.

### POLICING MAKES THE HEADLINES

Never in our ten years as editor of the Herald have the daily papers taken such an interest in a story as they have in the council-magistrate-police tangle of the past week. All three Toronto newspapers ran large articles about it in their Thursday editions, the Globe & Mail featuring it on page one, and the Star with a headline on page one of the second section. The Telegram had an editorial as well as comment by Thomas Richard Henry. Both Star and Tely had pictures of councillors and of Councillor Herbert shaking hands with Constable Schisler after the meeting.

Ordinarily the Herald comment on the situation would be limited to an account of council's discussion and resolution asking that Magistrate Langdon be replaced by an outside magistrate, but in view of the wide interest created by the daily stories, we are enlarging on it this week to include some of the pictures which appeared in these papers, and a reprint of the Telegram editorial and the Henry comment.

Our purpose in reprinting Toronto newspaper comment is not to influence the subject one way or the other, but to let everyone see what many have read and everyone is talking about. The opinion expressed is that of the Telegram editorial writer whom we quote verbatim. While we have certain opinions as a private individual, there are too many ramifications for editorial comment in the Herald, at least at the present time, and we do not feel quite equal to stating a considered opinion on a matter which has so many angles. Suffice it to say that the daily papers have placed undue emphasis on a matter of fairly local importance and have tinged it with more sensationalism than it deserves.

### THE TELEGRAM SAYS:

(An editorial appearing in the Toronto Evening Telegram last Thursday under the heading "Magistrate's are Not Bound to Accept Police Evidence" is reprinted below.)

Attorney General Porter can scarcely afford to ignore issues that have emerged in the published statements of Georgetown Councillors over the alleged dissatisfaction of the provincial police at Magistrate Kenneth M. Langdon's handling of highway traffic cases. From some recent incidents it seems that both the Magistrate and the police are misinterpreting their responsibilities.

The Magistrate was within his prerogative in accepting the evidence of a citizen who was charged with speeding and obstructing the police, rather than the evidence of the officer. It would be a regrettable state of affairs if magistrates felt they had always to accept the testimony of the police over that of an accused person, as one Georgetown Councillor has implied. If the police think they have a good case they have recourse by appeal to a higher court. On the other hand there seems no reason why the Magistrate in this case should have considered it necessary to prosecute

to the accused motorist because he had been detained in jail all night. If any apology is due it should have been tendered by the police and not the bench.

A more important matter, however, concerns the dual positions held by Mr. Langdon. In addition to being a magistrate he is also Georgetown's solicitor. As discussion in the town council disclosed, a bizarre situation could arise if council decided to appeal some of this magistrate's decisions in highway traffic cases. As a solicitor for the town he might find himself called upon to prosecute an appeal against one of his own judgments. The incongruity of it is apparent.

### THOMAS RICHARD HENRY SAYS:

(In Thomas Richard Henry's popular column in last Thursday's Telegram, Mr. Henry comments on the Georgetown scene as follows.)

The councillors of Georgetown want to fire the local magistrate.

"We might as well have Boy Scouts on duty in this town if the police department fails to have the backing of a magistrate." One councillor declares.

A statement like that will confirm the suspicions many motorists have that some localities retain revenue officers under the guise of police constables and magistrates.

We would like to declare that 'backing the police' is no part of a magistrate's job.

His job is to deal out even-handed justice when the police make charges and he should not be one whit more prejudiced in favor of the police than in favour of the public — and it will be a sorry day for our freedom when magistrates become rubber stamps for the police department.

We don't know anything about the case in question — we are just quarreling with the suggestion that the magistrate should necessarily side in with the police.

Some of these municipal councillors do say the darndest things.

### PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWS

On Friday afternoon, October 28th, the intermediate and senior pupils were shown films on Fire Prevention, and Fire Hazards. The Town Hall was again used for this purpose.

Monday afternoon, Oct. 31, was the time for several little classroom parties with Halloween games, songs, contests and treats. The Kindergarten; Grade One and Two children sallied forth in masquerade and paraded in costume through some of the Senior grades. Barbara Whitmee, dressed as a rabbit, was prizewinner in the K-P morning group, and James Swackhamer, as a Chinese boy, carried off this honour in the afternoon group, although all costumes were worthy of praise. In Miss Hume's room, Mary Ostrow, as a clown and John Benham (as a leopard) pleased everyone. In Miss Lindsay's class, Patricia Sykes, dressed as an old-fashioned lady, and Betty Davey, also as an old lady with white (cotton-wool) curls captured everyone's attention. These youngsters will long remember their pleasant afternoon.

A soccer game took place in the school grounds after four on Wednesday afternoon, November 2nd, with Fred Dickenson's team scoring a victory of 2 to 0 over Lawrence Rayner's team. The game was refereed by Rev. J. L. Self.

The October attendance was very gratifying. A summary follows:

Grade	Attendance
K-P. (Mrs. J. Dwyer)	98.11
I. (Miss B. Hume)	95.02
I and II. (Miss M. Lindsay)	97.89
II and III. (Miss M. Eason)	96.53
III. (Miss L. Scott)	98.09
IV. (Miss H. Harrison)	98.22
V. (Miss M. Langdon)	98.21
VI. (Miss N. Wetherhead)	99.10
VI. (Miss W. Stull)	97.73
VII. (Mrs. James Evans)	97.52
VIII. (H. C. Wrigglesworth)	97.88

The average percentage attendance for the school was 97.70, and the average daily attendance for October 398.32 from a total enrollment of 432. Both pupils and parents are to be congratulated on the fine co-operation that made this splendid result possible.

The survey of town children of pre-school age, who will be commencing school within the next five years resulted approximately as follows:

Beginners in 1950	52
Beginners in 1951	60
Beginners in 1952	105
Beginners in 1953	72
Beginners in 1954	76

This will require adequate planning to take care of the ever-increasing enrolment.

Remembrance Day will be duly recognized in each classroom, and its great significance impressed upon the children. Several classes will try to find it possible to listen to the special Remembrance Day broadcast on Thursday, Nov. 10th, from 9:45 to 10:15 a.m. The broadcast will be under the direction of Mr. G. R. Fenwick, L.M.T., Mus. Br., the Provincial Director of Music.

The Board of Education again has made it possible for every school child to wear a poppy for this occasion, through their generous donation to the Local Branch of the Canadian Legion. Their generosity is greatly appreciated.

### AYVA CONFERENCE WILL MEET AT NORVAL

A conference of Anglican Young People's Associations in Halton Denery is planned for Sunday afternoon, November 13th, in St. Paul's Parish Hall, Norval. Several outstanding AYVA leaders will conduct the meeting and after supper those present will attend church service at 7:30 p.m. After the service panel discussions will be held in the Hall and refreshments served.

### Eyes Examined

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## Remembrance Service

Friday, November 11th

AT 11 A.M.

at the Cenotaph

All ex-servicemen and women, whether Legion members or not, and any organizations which wish to march in a group, are asked to turn out for the parade which will form at the Legion Hall at 10.45.

Everyone in Georgetown is asked to attend this solemn service in memory of those who gave their lives in two World Wars.

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