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Saturday Dec. 10

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ROXY NOW PLAYING. "That Wonderful Urge" Tyrone Power-Gene Tierney. "ESCAPE" Rex Harrison, Peggy Cummins. FRIDAY - SATURDAY - DECEMBER 2 - 3. Matinee - Saturday 2 p.m. Special Children's Stage Show Starting Sat.

THE GREEN PROMISE. "If this picture doesn't tug at your heart... you haven't got one!" ARTHUR GODFREY. PLUS SELECTED SHORTS. MONDAY, TUESDAY - DEC. 5 - 6. Brought back to Thrill You Again!

BRING YOUR HEART ALONG TO GLORIOUS ADVENTURE! State Fair in Technicolor. Dana ANDREWS - Jeanne CRAIG. Dick HAYMES - Vivian BLAINE. WEDNESDAY - THURSDAY - DEC. 7 - 8

BATTLIN' BLUE BLOODS! They've got the social set in a sweat! DICK POWELL LIZABETH SCOTT. MEETS THE WRONG GIRL. PITFALL. LAST COMPLETE SHOW 8.30 P.M. NITELY

In the Mail Bag

November 29th, 1949. To the Editor: In last week's Herald the following appeared in the Council news "could not pay a \$57.00 bill from the Pipe Band for services at the Remembrance service as it is contrary to the municipal act and will ask the town solicitor for an opinion on how it can be done."

To quote a member of the executive of our Canadian Legion upon inquiring if we had been paid "If this is contrary to the municipal act then the council has been violating it for the past 20 years." We would like to ask how can the council pay \$100.00 to entertain the Brass Band? We do not bear any animosity towards the Brass Band but cannot understand the attitude of the council towards matters pertaining to the Pipe Band.

When the town was unable to procure the services of the Brass Band, we, since it was a Remembrance Service made a special effort to help the town out of an awkward predicament. A full band turned out on rather short notice. We were told that we would receive our usual rate as it was the custom to pay the other band for numerous occasions for the town without remuneration with the exception of the annual Fall Fair. Trusting that this casts a clearer light on our attitude and clears up any misunderstanding in the minds of the public, we are, Yours truly, Georgetown Girls' Pipe Band, (Signed) Sgt. Mary Patterson, Jean Dickie, Sec.-Treas.

Dear Editor: Something was said at the Nomination Meeting by a candidate for municipal office about the merits of a low mill rate, paying for work done out of current tax rate, and the avoidance of debenture debt. It is of the essence of sound civic business sense to understand thoroughly what value to put on each of the above principles and when to apply them.

Is a low mill rate necessarily a good thing or the sign of a desirable town to live in? Perhaps it may be low because for years councils did not take care of the necessary repairs and maintenance of vital services. Then again if the assessment is too low a high mill rate is not significant. What we need in Georgetown is a quick re-assessment of properties in the town at a reasonable level and then we can have a low mill rate.

The thing that really matters in tax collection is whether the services for which expenditures are made are really needed and the expenditures sound and the value received commensurate with the expenditure. There are some expenditures that should be met out of current revenue, such as current year expenses of Public School, High School, Police and Fire Protection, repairs and maintenance but when the service to be financed is a long time use service the debenture method is the sound businesslike method.

Why should or how could Georgetown ratepayers pay for such services as have been installed the past year or two out of current revenue. Georgetown folk will enjoy the use of the sewage service, water service, housing, artificial ice, good permanent roads for ten, twenty, or more years - why then should we not spread the payment for these services over as long a period as is wise and see that the people that use these services, ten fifteen or twenty years from now help to pay for them. The Department of Municipal Affairs through its Board is there to protect a community from being overloaded with debt by an imprudent Council. It has also classified Debentures into 10, 15, 20 or 30 year debentures according to the prospects of duration of service that can be expected and so spreads the cost over the greatest number of years possible. By all means let us have a vigorous active Ratepayers' Association and keep alive throughout the year the interest in Municipal affairs but let us get the facts and

then on them build a constructive system of suggestions. It is easy to appeal to people by hinting at lower mill rates but you cannot meet the demands and needs of a modern and progressive town without levying taxes. Some needs have been met out of current revenue, some out of debentures but there is not much difference between the councils of the past twenty years in their use of these methods except that some of them have not used them to the extent that they should and so later councils found it necessary to increase mill rates to make up for the failure. Yours sincerely, A. MACLAREN.

November 20th, 1949. Dear Editor: There seems to be a group of people in Georgetown who wish to further their own interests even at the expense of exceedingly bad publicity for their municipality. I wonder if either individually or collectively this group realized, or is capable of realizing, that publicly to advertise a water famine is not only an exceedingly black mark for the town, but also indicates a decided lack of forethought on the part of the Town Council.

Added to this there seems to be a great deal of mis-information not only as to the attitude of the Ratepayers' Association but also to the reasons for its inception and the length of time it has been in operation. To start with, the Ratepayers' Association has been organized for approximately six weeks so could not very well have been complaining about the manner in which council is spending ratepayers' money for three months. In the second place, whoever happens to be ghost writing for council seems to have very neatly misinterpreted the facts of the matter.

The \$80,000 ratepayer dollar waterworks program was not begun in the face of opposition from the Ratepayers' Association, but was actually passed by Council some months before the Association came into being. The Association are not opposed to the fact that the program was undertaken, but rather to the manner in which it was carried out. There is a feeling throughout town that no effort has been made to increase the supply of water from existing sources. This opinion is very generally held, and is backed up by the independent observations of quite a large number of responsible citizens. These citizens, after a careful inspection of the system, feel that a few hundred dollars spent on repairs to, and a thorough cleaning out of the tiles feeding the reservoir, would result in a very material increase in supply. These citizens are willing to admit the possibility that such action might not produce the supply of water required, but until some such intelligent and inexpensive approach to the problem has been made, they feel that Council were very ill advised to spend \$80,000 of our money on a new system.

To go a little further on this theme: Approximately two months ago a group of Ratepayers visited the Silvercreek reservoir and were, incidentally, advised that they would be prosecuted if they "trespassed" again. Six Ratepayers "trespassed" Sunday, and are trembling in anticipation of the consequences. These men found that virtually all the pipes leading from the springs to the reservoir were plugged with debris, and the surrounding ground was very boggy, while very little water reached the reservoir. One pipe in particular, about 150 feet upstream from the dam, was very thoroughly cleaned out, and immediately started to produce a very fine flow of water. Incidentally, that pipe is the only one that, as of Sunday at 5 p.m., was still producing what could be called a flow of water.

While the writer is aware that from an engineering standpoint it is foolhardy to deduce that because one pipe can be made to produce they all should, it does seem common sense to assume that it is a good indication, and that it would be good business practice to investigate further. The Executive, Georgetown Ratepayers' Assoc.

Farmers. Georgetown Lions Club invites you to hear Prof. G. H. Rahnke speak on "Conservation Challenges Town and Country to Work Together." TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6th. ESQUESING COMMUNITY HALL 8.30 p.m. TECHNICOLOR MOVIES - "LIFE OF THE SOIL" Refreshments No admission charge

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