

# THE GEORGETOWN HERALD

serving the communities of  
 GEORGETOWN, GLEN WILLIAMS, NORVAL, LIMEHOUSE,  
 HORNSBY, STEWARTTOWN, ASHBOURNE, BALLEMAPAD,  
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## The Editor's Corner

### DEAN OF GEORGETOWN MERCHANTS

Death from a heart attack on the eve of the new year severed Main Street's link with the last century and brought an end to the merchandising career of Mr. John McBean. Mr. McBean's record of fifty-five years as a Georgetown merchant, plus the fact that until the day of his death at the age of 89, he was at his usual place of business and actively managing his dry goods store, is one which cannot be equalled here. Indeed, we should not be surprised if he had not established a record for the whole of Canada, for we have certainly never heard of a man of his age who was not on the "retired" list long before. It is destiny's richest blessing that a man can retain his faculties and his health right up to that moment when death must take its toll and the sadness of a missing face in its accustomed place is tempered with the thought that Mr. McBean was spared the distress of a long illness or of losing the keen business insight which had made his store noted for its quality merchandising.

### THE CHANGING SCENE

It is our custom yearly at this time to write of the year's changes along Main Street. As we near the tenth anniversary of editorship of the Herald it is surprising to realize that we are one of the oldest businessmen in this short space of time, so rapid has been the business turnover. It might be interesting to give a short review of these ten years, so here it is.

During the past year, Mr. A. E. Farnell died and his grocery and china store is being operated by his son Graham. After his return from army service overseas, Ken Richardson joined brother Walt and their father James in the hardware store next door. Ross Thompson retired from farming to purchase W. F. Smith's shoe store. Jim Goodlet sold his Budget Groceries to Bob Caldwell who later sold the business to Roy Barker and Charlie Brown. Mr. Goodlet bought the J. P. Reid hardware store next door, built an addition on the back and converted the upstairs into a second floor showroom for furniture which he added to his line of hardware. Gordon McLintock retired as bank manager and was replaced by Bob Ireland who was transferred last year to Brantford and replaced by Fred Chapman.

The Bank of Montreal, managed by A. C. Welk, now in Aurora, was closed early in the war, the building purchased by the town and used as a municipal office and then sold to the Royal Bank where Frank Benner is manager. During his illness, Wes Robb hired Neil McClennan as manager. (Neil now operates his own drug store in Islington) and then hired Stuart Young, a former clerk in the store as manager. After the death of Walter Anthony his hardware business was purchased by Ray Thompson who had been associated with Mr. Anthony for many years. Frank Kentner left his position with MacCormack's and purchased the S. P. Chapman drug store. M. Malina closed his jewellery store and moved to Toronto and Vic Diggins established Duffy's Restaurant in that location. The business has since been operated by Don Wilson, Murray Robertson and at present by Mrs. E. Rognvaldson. Carroll's Store has seen several changes in managers including Lloyd Nault and Jim Bingham and the present manager is Ken Allen of Acton. What was the former office of the late J. N. O'Neill was converted into an office for the Georgetown Taxi, then rented to Maher's for their shoe store which is managed by "Spud" Patterson. Eaton's Order Office, managed by Miss Frances Evans, is another new addition in the past ten years, as is Ivan Hay's beauty parlour across the corner.

Ruth and Paul Barber bought the Phoenix House gift shop from Jack Thompson, who established it in the location of the former A. E. Wright Meat Market. The Georgetown Cafe, owned ten years ago by George Chong has changed hands several times in the last few years. Next door Hugh Lindsay had an electrical shop and Mr. and Mrs. Russell Kirby a specialty clothing store. The Kirbys later expanded to take in both parts of the building, then closed their store here and opened one in Brantford. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Penson moved their fish and chips business from across the road, then sold out and opened a service station and lunch bar at the Limehouse crossroad. David Bowman bought out Harry McMurtry's interest and now conducts the business himself. The waterworks building had a complete face-lifting and is now a handsome municipal office containing offices for town officials and police.

Starting down this side of the street, the building where Norm Brown had a bake shop is now owned by Marshall who is remodeling it for offices. Marshall

Timbers, manager of the local branch of Personal Tax Services is his first tenant. The Georgetown Dairy was sold by E. B. Tyers, who bought Cedarvale Farm, to Riley Brethour. Riley went to work as a real estate agent in Toronto last year and sold the business to Irwin Noble. A new building was erected for Stew Simpson's taxi office, as well as a new one for Cordaro Candies. This building then housed a gift shop operated by Vi Lough and now run by Mrs. W. A. McGowan. Mrs. John Cordaro (then Mrs. Preston) sold her fish and chip business to her sister, Mrs. Penson, then returned to town and with Mr. Cordaro operates a candy business and restaurant in the basement of the building. The main part of the building is rented by Triplett Instruments of Canada, managed by Ed Wilson. Georgetown Taxi have an office in front and there is a vacant store at present, last tenanted by Ernie Rowson who moved Ernie's Radio to Mill Street. Since Mr. Hyman Silver's retirement, his clothing store has been operated by his son Sidney, and a new addition built onto it. Simpson's Order Office, another newcomer to town moved last year from its original location in McClure's Store to what was Lee Sing's laundry, when we moved to town. After Lee Sing's death, the building was empty for a while, then was used as an electrical store by Cal Clark who sold to Jesse Wardlaw. Miss Margery Evans is manager of the store. After Howard Lillico's death, Mrs. Lillico sold their beauty parlor business to Mrs. Donna Marchment who in turn sold it to the present proprietor, Bruno Scissizzi. After William Long's death, his restaurant and his depot was conducted by the family for some time, then sold to Bob Caldwell who last year sold it to Steamboat Emmerson. Robert Erwin retired from business, his meat market now being conducted by his son-in-law, Harry Godham. When Joseph Gibbons was appointed town assessor, he sold his barber business to Edward Depew. The Dominion Store, too, has seen several managers come and go, including Jack Watson, Miss Ethel Ellis and Roy Barker. Norman Smith is the present manager. The bake shop in the McGibbon block has changed ownership from Norm Brown to J. F. Baird and then to Fred Webb. Since the death of Sam McGibbon the corner hotel has been operated by Jack McGibbon and his sister Gladys.

David Brill sold his clothing store to Jack Cotton and next door Roy Magloughlen sold out to Harold Hutchinson who operates the tobacco store and pool room while Merv Cook runs the barber shop. Mac still lends a hand on Saturdays. William King's meat market is now operated by Roy Bradley, who has been associated with his brother, the late Clayton Bradley and another brother Clifford, who now has a business of his own in Acton. Georgetown Furniture Sales was established by Stan Grabb in a remodelled store beside Ready's and sold last fall to Harold McClure who is operating the two stores at present. Another new store was created from part of the Golden Gate Cafe premises for Simmons Jewellers which is managed by Cecil McNamara. The Golden Gate, formerly operated by Harry Chu, had Sammy Fong as its proprietor before the present man, Fred Lee. The millinery shop of the Misses Claridge above the Herald Office has been converted into an apartment.

Branching off Main Street proper we find as many changes in businesses in other parts of town. Up Wesleyan Street Mr. I. Rachlin sold his cleaning and pressing business to Don Barrager who added a plant which he built behind Steamer's Inn. Lincoln Auto Body was established by Al Zeravlev and a building remodelled beside the Oddfellows Hall. (For the benefit of old time readers out of town, the Oddfellows Hall used to be the theatre many years ago). Alex Hume sold his Massey-Harris agency to Jim Taylor who recently sold the business to Doug Swackhamer and is establishing Kelmecott Implements near Milton. Down Mill Street, George Muckart expanded his store space, M. H. Moyer opened his new motor licence bureau in part of Freeman Kersey's office and across the street Tom Hewson occupies the former Ken McMillan building and the new liquor store is to open in part of this premises soon. The Legion expanded their quarters to take in what was once a barber shop operated by the late Frank Golden. The veterinary office of the late Dr. R. Learmonth was later used by Dr. Stewart Magwood and Dr. W. C. Stiles and has now been converted into an apartment, Mrs. C. J. Buck is conducting the meat and grocery business since her husband's death a few years ago. Howard Graff has an insurance and real estate office in what was once Richard Marchment's store and across the road Walter T. Evans built an attractive log cabin for his real estate and insurance business. Ken McMillan has his International Harvester implement business now in what was at one time the Arnold Glove Factory on the highway which stood empty for many years. A new store farther up the highway built by Cal Clark is now operated as a grocery store by Kay Bludd. Norman Hill built a new building across from his former store on King Street where he conducts his grocery business and a new building was also erected by Jack Saunders for his grocery store in College View. Albert Simson has an upstairs photo studio on Main Street above Steamer's Inn. The new Mackenzie building on Mill Street houses the Georgetown 5c to \$1.00 Store operated by Charles Wray and the Georgetown Bakery, established by the Kemshead Brothers, then sold to the Pries Brothers and now operated by Jack Stockton and Ronald Borg. The Lucky Strike Bowling Club is in the basement. Odeon Theatres bought the theatre from R. L. Gregory, and Ernie Crawford replaced Jack Polly last year as manager.

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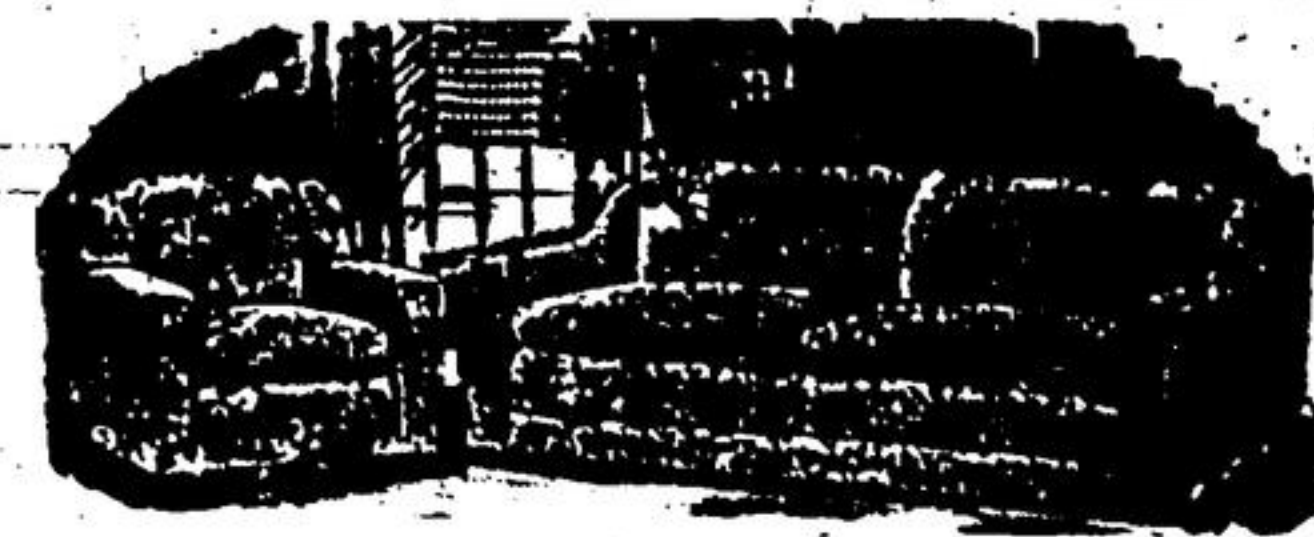
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