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THE GEORGETOWN HERALD

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WALTER C. BIEHN, Publisher and Editor
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The Editor's Corner

ANOTHER STEP FORWARD

Georgetown ratepayers, by giving a large majority in the vote for a new public school, have shown that they appreciate the fact that elementary education is of primary concern to the well-being of a town. While it is a sad fact that even a question involving a large sum of public money was of concern to less than fifty percent of the voters, the majority of over three to one indicates that had the vote been larger, there would be no question of the new school being 'defeated.' The school board has been given the confidence of the people to go ahead and build the school as quickly as possible and the town council has at the same time been given authority to issue debentures to cover the \$190,000 expenditure.

There must have been many voters who favoured the school even though they have no children or their children are past school age and will not be in need of the extra facilities. There were many who thought that these people would consider only the selfish aspect of lower taxes. This was far from the fact and it is particularly pleasing to know that a considerable majority of people realize that a growing town demands such things as schools if it is to be progressive.

The present school board, composed as it is of enthusiastic and responsible young men, all of whom have an interest in the welfare of the town and its young people, can be counted on to continue their job. We know they will provide the best possible accommodation and continue to hire the best type of teacher to keep the high standard of education which is enjoyed a present. The new school will be one more step forward in Georgetown's progress.

RAMBLING IN MUSKOKA

Perhaps to most readers a trip through the Muskoka district is no novelty, but it was a "first" for the editor when he knocked off for a long week-end to see this popular vacation country. Anyone would enjoy this 400 mile jaunt which took us as far as Huntsville and a double circle around the Lake of Bays to Bracebridge and then on to Bala.

The scenery, of course, is superb. Hundreds of little lakes and streams dot the country and the evergreens were at their best. And places like Port Carling, Dwight, Milford Bay, Bala, which used to be just dots on the map will now take on added significance for having seen them.

The weather has been unkind to resort operators who count on a certain amount of pre-season business in June. Everywhere it was the same story — too cold, no bookings. The picture will be brighter this week with the advent of warm weather. There was one blight on the landscape which is causing some concern in the northland—the army worm, erroneously referred to as the tent caterpillar. The devastations of this pest are apparent as one drives along the highway. Whole forests have been seared by the advancing hordes which strip each tree bare in their march. Individual resort operators have done some spraying. One man told us he had already spent over \$150 and had managed to save many of his trees. The government, he said, would take no action because there were other insects which did more serious damage to crops and government money is all spent on this. Also, the story is that the blight lasts three years, after which a parasite takes care of the worms.

NEVER TOO FAR FROM HOME

We have always been an admirer of the keen observation of Sinclair Lewis into human nature which he expresses in his novels. So it was that our trip reminded us of the small town doctor and his wife in "Main Street" whose chief memories of a trip from their mid-west city to the coast were mainly the meetings with other people from the home town or with people who knew someone back home.

It was therefore quite natural for us to head for Pete and Marion Hunter's Valleyview Cabins near Huntsville where so many Georgetown people have been overnight guests. We got a royal welcome from the Hunters who in addition to their smaller cabins have a lovely new double cabin built of logs with a kitchen included. Pete also has a workshop where he

turns out attractive lawn chairs made from slabs from a neighbouring sawmill, does the necessary carpentry work to keep the cabins in tip top shape and also produces a folding clothes rack which he is marketing for people who live in small homes and apartments. Mr. and Mrs. Hunter are sold on the northland and hope to eventually build a permanent home there. Incidentally anyone who is heading for their place might be confused for there is another Hunter who has cabins by that name on the southern edge of the town. Valleyview is a mile or two north of Huntsville.

Just to prove that one never gets far from home, we stopped at a Cravenhurst restaurant to phone ahead for reservations and bumped into Mr. and Mrs. George Barber, Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Freddie Masterman who were spending the weekend at Horseshoe Island. And en route home on Sunday as we again drove through Cravenhurst we noticed the Clarence Kennedys, and the Don Bartagers who were attending the Lions Convention there. A call at the office of the Muskoka Herald at Bracebridge produced an old ledger taken there by Mr. Bastedo who was the publisher in Georgetown before the turn of the century which we hope to borrow some-day and write an article on the old days. It was natural too that driving by Mary Lake we should stop for an hour to say hello to the Dave Saxes at their cottage and to have a peek at Muskoka Lodge, a large summer hotel operated by Mr. and Mrs. Sam Ginsberg (she is the former Pearl Saxe). They have built a beautiful new home of their own near the lodge. Notice too the sign leading to the McClure cottage near there and were informed that the Saxe's neighbours are the D. O. Jacksons of Toronto, Mrs. Jackson being a member of the Bradley family.

OVERNIGHT AT BALA

Wishing to patronize an advertiser in our new series of summer vacation advertisements, we made a point of having dinner at Bartwood Manor at Port Carling, where Mr. and Mrs. Bill Henderson run a lovely guest home. They have just taken over the ownership and if their meal is a sample of the accommodation we can heartily recommend it. After watching a pleasure boat go through the locks, we continue on to Bala for the night and were lucky to stumble on a lovely spot, Roselawn Manor where Mr. and Mrs. Fred Nation certainly make one feel at home. They have a number of cabins, as well as a larger guest home, with a separate lounge and dining room and have a beautiful location on the river.

It was interesting to chat with some of the guests — a couple from Toronto who know Miss Staunton in town, a honeymoon couple from Wisconsin who told us they would be paying \$92 a month for an apartment in part of a house in the city where they will live. A young couple from Toronto who were just starting off on a week's vacation and couldn't get enough of the sun and the swimming. Another couple from St. Catharines who lived in the township outside and were commenting on the taxes which their growing area had boosted because of new schools, waterworks, sewerage and roads.

It was a grand trip and we enjoyed every minute of it.

Brother Gets Doctor's Degree in Pedagogy

Allan C. Wilson, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Wilson of Orillia and a brother of Edwin Wilson, chairman of Georgetown Public School Board, received the degree of Doctor of Pedagogy at a recent convocation of the University of Toronto.

Dr. Wilson's thesis was Evaluation of City School Systems which entailed much concentrated research in many cities of Ontario.

Dr. Wilson is a graduate of Woodstock Collegiate Institute, London Normal School, University of Western Ontario and the Ontario College of Education. For thirteen years he was on the staff of Sudbury Technical School, resigning that position in June, 1949, to join the staff of Maesterschaft College, Toronto.

He is married to the former Helen B. Wilson of Ingersoll and has one sister, Mrs. H. E. Taylor of Hearst and one brother, Edwin Wilson, B.A.Sc. of Georgetown. His youngest brother, Flying Officer R. H. Wilson lost his life on Atlantic Patrol in 1943.

PIANO PUPILS PASS MUSIC EXAMINATIONS

Five piano pupils of Kenneth Harrison were successful in passing their mid-summer piano examinations recently at the Royal Conservatory of Toronto. Sisters Gloria and Joan Schultz both received honours in Grade 2 and Lillian Shepherd honours in grade 4. Pat Richardson passed her Grade 3 examinations and Arlene Reeve received honours in this grade.

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