

THE MAIL BAG

GRC DIRECTOR EXPRESSES HIS VIEWS ON RECREATION

Norval, Ontario, December 4th, 1950

Dear Editor: There are some towns in Ontario where the people think of only one thing and that is how to save money. In these towns the people are called hoarders and because they love money more than themselves or others, there is a real hatred for churches, missions, education, recreation and town improvements because these worthwhile things cost. These people are the Scrooges of Dickens' famous Christmas story and unless they are changed by the Grace of God through the coming

of Christ they will continue to live most miserable and discontented lives in the tomb of their wealthy abodes.

The sad part of these towns is that there is no community fellowship. Everyone is a stranger. The reason for this lack of fellowship is the abuse or evil use of money. Money is meant to be used. It is created by our government for trade and business. To have money is not a sin, the Bible says, but to "love" it so that we hoard and hate to give to others is the root of all evil.

There are other towns, and I have reason to believe that Georgetown is one, where everyone wants to live together as friends and neighbours, and make the necessary sacrifices involved for churches, and schools and recreation. In such towns people act as stewards under God and they are not afraid to give their fair tax and gift to the welfare of others.

I firmly believe, first that all men need to know God through Christ — this is the most important fact of our life; two, that man is a moral being and that this phase of life needs proper education and recreation in order that he may enjoy and use the blessings that God has given.

I don't need to stress the importance of education as we all know what it has done in the democratic countries of the world to raise the standard of life. However, I must stress recreation which is just as

important as education.

Today we are living in a world of machines. Things that used to take weeks to make are made in a few moments. As a result everyone has more leisure time. If this leisure time is wasted running after entertainment for which we would pay huge sums, we have indeed lost much of life. The need of this moment in the history of Georgetown, our town is not entertainment to amuse and fill our empty moments, and incidentally rob our pockets, but recreation.

By recreation, I mean given certain basic necessities and materials, we seek to entertain ourselves. For example, instead of going to a show to see drama, we become actors ourselves in a drama. Instead of watching others at sport, we become participants in sports ourselves. Instead of sending our children to others to be kept busy, we find enjoyment in playing with them.

By recreation, we seek not to amuse people, but to get people to amuse themselves. Not to take children off the streets and from their parents, but to get parents interested in kiddies as they participate in games. A child's hockey game is recreation not only for the kiddies but also for the parents as they skate again in the life of their own child.

The recreation program of Georgetown is not all it should be because the \$600 our council gave us to operate placed great limitations on us. We feel confident that on election day you will change this for us.

We have laid great plans for 1951 that include all our former activities, figure skating, ballet dancing, hobby show, Stay-at-Home

Camp, swimming at Norval, Hal-lowe'en parties, teen town and the many sports, hockey, lacrosse, basketball, baseball, softball, soccer, volleyball, rugby, horseshoes, track and field, tennis and badminton, but also such new activities as square dancing, tap dancing, drag-making classes, leather making, art, a boys' and girls' band and a drama club.

I have only one regret — that I will not be with you in 1951 to help in your program of recreation. But GRC has made plans to engage another director who will carry on. Thank you for all your kindness and cooperation in the past two years. My prayer for you all is that under God's guidance and blessing, Georgetown will enjoy real peace and prosperity in the new and coming years.

"Rev." Leonard Self, Recreational Director.

P.S. Don't you be a "Scrooge" on election day. Vote "yes" for the GRC grant.

THE MAIL BAG

SMITH & STONE UNION SUPPORTS G.R.C. VOTE

Editor Georgetown Herald: Georgetown

Mr. Editor:

The Executive of Local 788, IBEW, through your paper, wish to go on record as supporting, wholeheartedly, a grant of \$2500.00 to the Recreation Commission to carry on the valuable work they have been doing in our community and recommend that all ratepayers give the support this hard-working body deserves.

Executive of Local 788 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

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SCOUT NEWS
 The Leaping Wolf Cub Pack is making progress on 1st Star and 2nd Star work under the leadership of Don Hutchinson and his assistant Jim Buck.
 The Little Beavers Cub Pack are carrying on under the point system. The blues were the good hunters last week and will have their colour pinned to the totem.
 A fine meeting was held by the Scout Troop under the leadership of Scouter R. J. Smith on Thursday evening. In addition to games and study periods there was time for gymnastics.
 Halton Scouter meeting is to be held in Burlington on Thursday evening.
 The Ladies Auxiliary of the Boy Scouts met in St. John's Sunday School room on Monday evening. Among other things there was discussion about the setting up of a Scout and Cub library.
 Thanks to the Cubs who rendered service last week in connection with the play "The Absent-Minded Professor."
 Scout Committee meeting this Thursday evening at the home of E. Forgrave.
 It is a good thing to do something worthwhile without holding a glass of port.

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