

THE GEORGETOWN HERALD

— serving the communities of —
**GEORGETOWN, GLEN WILLIAMS, NORVAL, LIMEHOUSE,
 HORNEY, STEWARTTOWN, RALLINAPAD,
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The Changing Scene

Continuing a series of articles on business changes in Georgetown during the past twelve years, this week we take the Main Street block which starts at the Royal Bank.

Twelve years ago, when we arrived in Georgetown, this was the Bank of Montreal, which was managed by Ab Welk, now manager at Aurora. When the government suggested wartime economies, this was one of many bank branches which closed, and for a few years the town had only one bank. The building was empty for a year, then was bought by the town and outfitted as municipal and police offices. Later on, a generous offer was made by the Royal Bank for its purchase, and the town used some of the money to add to and renovate the old waterworks building at the far end of the block. Frank Benner was manager when the branch opened, and was succeeded when he was transferred to Toronto last spring by Bob Darou, who came here from Pembroke.

Since the sudden death of Wes Robb, his wife has been operating the Rexall Drug Store, with Stewart Young as manager. Mr. Robb had modernized the building, putting in the all-glass front and making many interior alterations before his death. Upstairs the old dental office of the late Dr. B. Gollop, empty for some time, is now occupied by Dr. Clifford Reid, who came here from the city.

In 1946, Ray Thompson bought the Anthony Hardware, where he had worked for many years. W. C. Anthony had operated the business since buying it from Col. W. P. Moore in 1903 until his death in 1943. The adjoining men's clothing store of Perc Blackburn was sold last year to Harry Marcus who in turn sold to Irving Lasser of Toronto. At present Mr. Lasser is disposing of stock and fixtures and plans to close out business here.

The O'Neill Block which takes up the rest of Main Street as far as Wesleyan Street, has seen many tenants in twelve years. Originally Mr. O'Neill used the bulk of the building for his garage and carriage business with the exception of a couple of small stores in front. After his death K. M. Langdon bought the building. Vic Diggins, when he sold his Federal Engineering plant on King Street to Smith & Stone, moved the complete plant to the building and also went briefly into the restaurant business in an empty store where M. Malina had had a small jewellery store. Mr. Diggins named the business Duffy's Restaurant. It was later operated by Bob Caldwell, Doug Wilson and latterly by Mrs. Rogwald-

sen. Carroll's Store next door then created their larger supermarket and took the old restaurant site for added space.

Mr. O'Neill's former Main Street office housed Georgetown's first taxi business, which Russell Thompson, now a Limehouse farmer, established at the close of the war. Doug sold out to Jim Ross, who later moved his office to the Cordaro Building. Now McGowan's Specialty Shop operates on this site. Eaton's Order Office in the corner store was formerly used as a floral store by Walter Rigg. Mr. Rigg now has his greenhouse in Glen Williams and does all his business from there. The factory space is now tenanted by Henry Davis Wood Products, a branch of a Toronto firm which makes children's furniture.

The old Lane Block on the other side of Wesleyan Street, has also seen many changes. Ivan Hay had a beauty shop in the corner of the building until he moved to Mill Street. Don Herrington has a paint and wallpaper store there now. Don Barrager took over I. Rachlin's cleaning and pressing business, built a dry cleaning plant in another part of the business section, but retained this as his business office. This year he increased his space to take in the entrance from Main Street which had been occupied successively by Wright's Meat Market, Phoenix House (started by Jack Thompson, then bought by Paul Barber) and Helen's Gift Shop — Jack Roughley of Limehouse had a watch repair business there when Mr. Thompson, now an Ottawa radio man had his store.

The Georgetown Cafe next door has had a number of proprietors since George Chong, who took a trip home to China after leaving town. The last we heard of George, he was studying to be a radio technician in Toronto. The present Empire Lunch, operated by Jack Hazelwood, has also housed a number of businesses. Twelve years ago, Kirby's Gift Shop was in half the building and Hugh Lindsay had a radio store in the other half. Kirby's took over the whole store, closed down and moved to Brampton to establish a store there. Frank Penson moved his fish and chip business across the road, and later owners of the restaurant were Dave Bowman and Elmer Hutchinson.

Fred Sinclair, still on the job at the White Rose Service Station, is the "old man of Main Street" as far as this block goes and his business is the only one which has seen no changes in a decade. The business district is being extended with the erection of the new Bell Telephone building across James Street on the site of the old Ruston home.

Pot Pourri

A second old coin has been found by Matt Lawr, one of the town men, while employed on a digging project. It is an 1859 penny, bearing the likeness of Queen Victoria. A few weeks ago Mr. Lawr found a curious old coin which was difficult to decipher and he hopes to find out more about it from a coin collector. . . Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Rutter, (she is the former Barbara Cousins of Georgetown) have recently moved from Picton to Brighton. . . Other former Georgetowners who have a new home are Mr. and Mrs. Brant Howell who lived here while F.L. Howell was stationed with the RCAF at Malton. They moved to Wilson Heights, Toronto last year and are now at Rideau View, Ottawa. . . Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Brandford and Mr. Walter Brandford will be moving into the half of Howard Hillock's house on Queen Street recently vacated by Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Godfrey who have bought the Hubert Derrick's house on Chapel East. The Brandfords lived in the same house for many years but have been living with Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Eason for

Weekly Chuckle

An elderly couple from the country were visiting the electrical building at the Canadian National Exhibition and stopped to peer through the glass panel of a demonstration automatic washing machine at a bunch of

laundry being swirled and splashed by the water. "Well," said the lady, "If that's television, they can have it."

LIONS MAY TENDER ON ARENA BOOTH

Georgetown Lions Club is considering submitting a tender for operating the refreshment booth and check room concession at the arena this season.

At a club meeting last Tuesday at the McGibbon House, the matter was discussed and a committee headed by Jack Gunning will investigate the possibility of the club using this as a fund raising activity. It was pointed out that in several other towns service clubs are making good revenue from similar booths.

The club had a lucky number booth at the fair and realized a profit of \$53. Jack Armstrong was put in charge of the Halloween dance which this year will fall on Halloween night, October 31st. Bill Marshall was welcomed as a new club member.

Dick Licata was named chairman of the annual Christmas Tree. There is a possibility that the affair will be held in the arena instead of at the four corners as formerly. Some members felt that this would be more successful as it is usually a cold day and hard for both children and grown-ups to stand outside waiting for Santa to arrive. Through the generosity of Lion Harold McClure, lucky draw prizes will be increased with the addition of a bicycle and tricycle as well as the usual Christmas food and doll.

Five past presidents were at the meeting which was in the charge of the new Lion president, Don Barrager. They were Harold McClure, Dick Licata, Leonard Lambert, Jack Armstrong and Ray Whitnee and these volunteered to put on a past president's night at some future date.

STEWARTTOWN

LEASIDE PREACHER HERE ON SUNDAY

Harvest Thanksgiving services will be held in St. John's Church next Sunday September 28th. At the morning service at 11 a.m. Rev. J. E. Maxwell will be the preacher and at the evening service at 7:30 p.m. Rev. Newman Bracken of St. Augustine Church, Leaside, will be the preacher.

The sympathy of the community is extended to Mrs. J. H. Smith and the family in the death of Mr. Smith last week.

Happy birthday to Ann Humphreys who will be 12 years old on Friday, September 26th. Also happy birthday to Jean Corley for Saturday the 27th.

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Coming to the Roxy



Danny Thomas and Doris Day play leading roles in the technicolor film "I'll See You in My Dreams" which plays at the Roxy October 6 and 7. It is the human story of the late Gus Kahn and the songs he wrote, including the title tune.

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