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### President's Report Shows Active Year for Chamber of Commerce

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce last week in the Public Library, John Gunn, who was re-elected chairman for a second term of office, gave a detailed review of the year's activities. His report was as follows:

During the past year your Chamber of Commerce has made a number of modest contributions to the welfare of Georgetown. Because of a rather late start in 1954 a full program was not undertaken but a foundation has been laid for further work this year. With the development of the Chamber of Commerce in Georgetown the work of the Chamber of Commerce should become increasingly important in this regard more and more support will have to come from the citizens of this community, from business, from industry, from farmers and from citizens. While a Chamber of Commerce exists to get things done it must have support in proportion to its accomplishments.

At this time I wish to thank the mayor, reeve and councillors for the advice and assistance which they have rendered to the Chamber of Commerce in the past year. Without their cooperation the tasks which we undertook would have been difficult, if not impossible. With the same council sitting in 1955, I know we can count on their support in a greater year.

action on the part of the town council. A start has been made and the Chamber of Commerce, if it is felt desirable, will try to gain support in an effort to enlarge and improve the lot. The parking situation, in general, will be kept under surveillance and the Chamber will cooperate in any effort made to improve it from time to time.

2. Playground Swings — In 1954 the Chamber continued its program of providing further playground equipment for children. Several sites were considered including the fair grounds but as swings had been installed there the previous year it was felt that a site in some other part of town should be selected for the benefit of the children (and parents). The site eventually chosen was on lower John Street near the Mill Line. Four playground type swings were installed there with the splendid cooperation of the parents in that area. These swings have been turned over to the town for subsequent care and maintenance. The area where these swings are located could well become a useful park and playground area for that part of town and the Chamber of Commerce may consider further projects there.

3. Park Gates: In line with its policy of making improvements to the park the Chamber of Commerce was instrumental in having park gates erected at the entrance. It was known that the Women's Institute was interested in some project for the park and so a joint meeting of a committee of the ladies with the Chamber of Commerce was held at which it was agreed to erect cut stone pillars. Subsequently the town council was approached for the purpose of putting in a sidewalk from Charles Street to the entrance. The council agreed to this and by the opening day of the fair the stone pillars and new sidewalk were in place. Although the Chamber had planned to share the cost the Women's Institute requested that it be allowed to pay the entire price.

And I personally wish to thank the officers and directors of the Chamber of Commerce who have worked with me in the past year. What was accomplished was through the fine spirit which existed among us. The cooperation and helpful advice which I received made my position most pleasant. Attendance at our directors' meetings was most encouraging as well as at any special project. In the latter respect mention must be made of union members, the town maintenance crew, the hydro crew, and others who rendered assistance when called upon. If the same good spirit continues in 1955, the success of the Chamber's projects is assured.

Specific projects of the Chamber were as follows:

1. Parking Situation. The first effort of the 1954-55 was an investigation of the parking situation in Georgetown in the downtown area. It was generally agreed that at mid year insufficient space was available for custom parking under the situation existing at that time. A number of ideas were considered such as: enforcing the two-hour parking by-law, parking meters, voluntary removal by the merchants of their cars from the main street during business hours, and the feasibility of a parking lot. Since the merchants and business men of Main Street were directly concerned — all were urged to attend a meeting sponsored by the Chamber to discuss the matter. Although fourteen different businesses were represented at the meeting and it was generally agreed that the parking by-law should be enforced, when this was presented to council, the latter felt that a majority of those concerned were not represented and the motion was defeated. From this matter, however, a parking lot was eventually developed as a result of

To commemorate this work the Chamber has ordered a brass plaque to be placed on one of the pillars crediting the ladies for their work assisted by the Chamber of Commerce.

Although plans have not been made for this year's park project it is expected that at the next regular meeting proposals will be considered and some plan adopted. Probably a stone wall will be built from each small stone pillar to the limits of the road right-of-way and perhaps iron gates may be hung from the large pillars. Other suggestions could be the landscaping of the entrance, providing shelters, and so forth.

4. Christmas Activities: This year the campaign to extend the Christmas lighting along Main Street was continued with the cooperation of the merchants, the town maintenance crew, and the hydro crew. A special canvass of the merchants was made for funds from which more lights were purchased as well as Christmas trees which were mounted on the light standards.

While the Chamber would have liked to enter a float in this year's Christmas parade the proposal was made too late to insure a thorough job and so this endeavour was held over. This year however, an early start can be made and with the cooperation of other local organizations, as well as the Chambers in Milton and Acton, a real effort could be made to support a large parade on a rotating basis.

5. Special Events: In October a general meeting with a dinner was held in the hall of St. John's United Church. The guest speaker that night was Dr. E. G. Faludi, town planning consultant, who contributed to the location of the Rex Heapel housing project here. At that meeting Dr. Faludi outlined what could be done by town planning and in general terms described the new subdivision here.

6. Forecast: The Chamber of Commerce earnestly solicits your support, both by membership and active participation in our projects. While the common plea is always one of insufficient time in reality, at the most only a few hours a month it would be sufficient. I doubt whether any director felt that he was overburdened last year with Chamber work and yet things were accomplished. With more widespread support the Chamber could do much more.

While the Chamber does have a Retail Merchants' committee, the Chamber has felt that a strong Retail Merchants' Association, separate from the Chamber but represented on it would be beneficial to the merchants themselves. The Chamber of Commerce would be pleased to sponsor a meeting for this purpose.

The Chamber is giving consideration to the possibility of a hospital in Georgetown. While the Chamber does not intend to become a hospital committee it would be pleased to do the preliminary work. Two weeks ago a meeting was held with representatives of various organizations present as well as a panel consisting of two local doctors and the administrator of the Guelph General Hospital. The doctors outlined what they felt the community required and some general figures were quoted as to costs, governmental support, etc. Questions posed at the meeting were answered insofar as possible and it was suggested that the representatives there report to their groups and find how many of their members favour a hospital. The meeting closed on this

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suggestion. Possibly a survey of the citizens of Georgetown will be made in some way to determine more closely the amount of support which could be expected.

—A regrettable error in an auction sale date in last week's Herald listed the Martin Rigo sale as Wednesday, April 30, rather than today, April 13. Sorry!

### J. F. CHOAT VISITOR IN TOWN

A retired employee of Christie, Brown and Co., who had worked for the firm 42 years, J. Frank Choat, 70, died suddenly at his home in Toronto on March 31st.

Mr. Choat was a frequent visitor in Georgetown with Mr. and Mrs. Ern Batkin. Mr. and Mrs. Choat had acted as foster parents to their niece, Mrs. Batkin, whose mother died when she was a baby.

The deceased was born in England, and had lived most of his life in Toronto. Two years ago he received his 50 year jewel from Alpha Masonic Lodge.

Surviving are his wife, two sons, William of Toronto and Everett of Winnipeg; a brother Fred in Everett, Mass. and a sister, Mrs. Liza Flere in England.

The funeral service was held in Toronto on April 4th.

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE ESTATE of John H. Bingham, Gentleman, deceased.

All persons having claims against the estate of John H. Bingham, late of the Township of Esquesing, Gentleman, who died on or about the 8th day of February, A.D. 1955, are hereby notified to send particulars of same to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of May, A.D. 1955, after which date the estate will be distributed with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice, and the undersigned will not be liable to any person of whose claim they shall not then have notice.

DATED at Georgetown, this 5th day of April, A.D. 1955.

Rebecca Bingham, Kathleen Given and Kyle Bingham, executors of the estate of John H. Bingham, by their solicitors, Dale and Bennett, Georgetown, Ontario.

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE ESTATE of William Alexander Lane, Gentleman, Deceased.

All persons having claims against the estate of William Alexander Lane, late of the Township of Esquesing, Gentleman, who died on or about the 4th day of October, A.D. 1954, are hereby notified to send particulars of same to the undersigned on or before the 7th day of May, A.D. 1955, after which date the estate will be distributed with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice, and the undersigned will not be liable to any person of whose claim they shall not then have notice.

DATED at Georgetown, this 5th day of April, A.D. 1955.

Susan Violet Roe and Ernest Latham Miller, Executors of the estate of William Alexander Lane, by their Solicitors, Dale & Bennett, Georgetown, Ontario.

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