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Chatting...

with M. H. B.

● A COUPLE of times recently I've had occasion to use the train to go to Toronto, and it seemed to me that this most relaxing mode of transportation is having an upswing in popularity. In fact there are so many boarding the train in Georgetown it reminds me of the stories you read about the New York commuter trains. And I suppose as the boundaries of Toronto and Georgetown push nearer each other there will be more and more people with homes here and business careers in the city.

● I WAS AMUSED to hear about, shall we say, commuters' etiquette, on the seven a.m. train. Mind you this is only hearsay because my infrequent trips to Toronto are made on the one that leaves around nine. There are quite a number of regular commuters from town on that surprise special, however. Its only disadvantage is the earliness of the hour at which one must arise in order to catch it. And it is from this particular fact that the problem in etiquette arises.

The accessory most necessary to these early-bird commuters is a newspaper. It could be last night's

BILL CARR NEW ROTARY PRESIDENT

The Georgetown Rotary Club held their election of officers at their meeting in Fairview Inn on Monday, March 25th. Elected to office for the 1957 term were:

Bill Carr, president; Bill Hamilton, vice-president; Ernie Pearce, secretary; Bob Burns, treasurer; Steamer Emmerson and Ralph Hawes, directors.

It was revealed at the meeting that Georgetown High School student Doug Wrigglesworth will be going to Ottawa May 21st for four days as guest of the Ottawa Rotary Club. Doug was chosen as best all round student between the ages of 16 and 18 by principal J. L. Lambert to qualify for the trip.

While in the capital he will be taken on conducted tours of the Parliament buildings and other places of interest and will reside at a private home until the following Friday. Last year Neil Wallace was picked for the visit.

or two or three weeks old. The news content couldn't matter less. What does matter is that it has a good thick two page spread. Because after a wary "Good morning" (and heaven help the one who ventures into a conversation) the commuters climb into the train and expertly make a bee-line for an unoccupied seat. Overcoats and hats are quickly dispatched, and before the train pulls out of the station our heroes are comfortably relaxed in their seats with heads well back and faces decently covered with afrosid newspapers. Thus they enjoy an hour's snooze before the train pulls into Union Station. Refreshed, they begin their day in good humour. It's a routine they all understand and condone... Can't say I blame them, do you?

● ONE OF the train trips we took into the city was to attend part of the Ontario Weekly Newspapers Convention. Attending one of the luncheons, I was intrigued with the original "Grace" said by an honoured guest, Doctor E. J. Pratt, Professor Emeritus of Victoria University. He is one of the foremost poets in Canada and I felt his choice of words quite rhythmical as well as descriptive. This is the blessing Dr. Pratt asked: "The Lord grant us capacity, elasticity, longevity, avoiding obesity."

● BEFORE I went to the hotel for luncheon I had an hour or so to kill, so went window-shopping in downtown Toronto. Whom should I run into but Fraser Mimms... a former Georgetown I hadn't seen for — could it be possible — nearly twenty years. The Mimms family lived here for many years in the house on Market Street where Mr. and Mrs. Joe McClintock and Mrs. W. H. Long live. Later they lived in the old McLeod house on Main Street South, now the Valleyview Apartments.

Fraser, who married a Montreal girl, now has four children, two boys and two girls. They live in Toronto. His sister Beth, who is Mrs. William Steven lives in Carey, South Carolina, and they have one son Bruce, who is 16. Another sister, Dorothy, Mrs. Tom Bartlett also lives in the States. The Bartlett's have two children and a new baby born just a few weeks ago... Fraser's younger brother, Grant, is married too, and is an officer in the permanent Army... Mrs. Mimms also lives in the U.S.A., and Fraser tells us that at present she is managing a large Y.W.C.A. over there. So you see in just a few minutes we were able to catch up on a lot of news over the years... It was nice meeting Fraser again and I know their friends in town will be interested to hear about the Mimms. The family all attended public and high school here... The late Mr. Mimms was a former bank manager, and also had an insurance business in Georgetown.

● WHILE IN THE mood for reminiscing, chatting with Mr. and Mrs. Paul Barber a couple of weeks ago they happened to mention Mr. Barber's brother Norman, who was a sax player with Ellis McFintock's Band, married radio-singer Frances Cramer and moved to New York some years ago. They are now living near Fairfield, Connecticut, and Norm is in the insurance business. They have two children, Virginia Lynne 13, and Norman 7. Which of course means that Mrs. Barber has to be home a great deal of the time. But she still keeps up her singing. About one day a month, Mrs. Barber goes into New York and records several singing commercials for different products such as Tide, etc. Apparently singers with the right type of voice for this line of work are difficult to find. So difficult in fact, that not long ago Mrs. Barber flew to Toronto to do some singing commercials for a Canadian firm. They had been unable to locate suitable talent here. Norman's other two brothers, Keith and Bob of course live here in town too, as well as his mother who makes her home with

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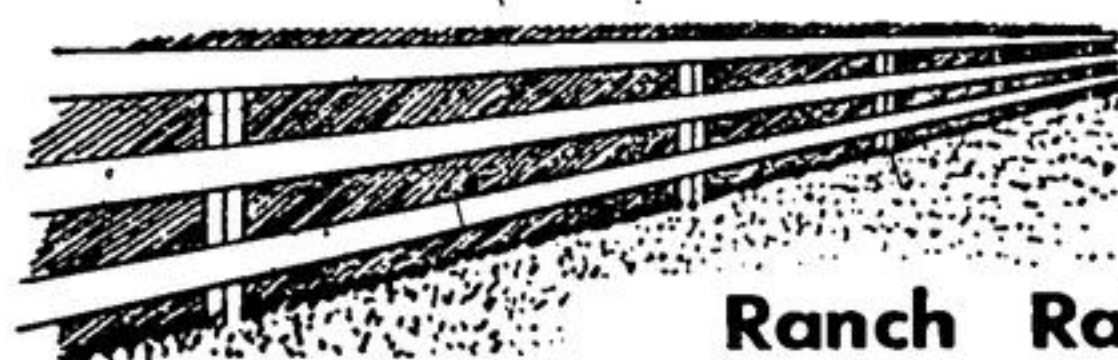
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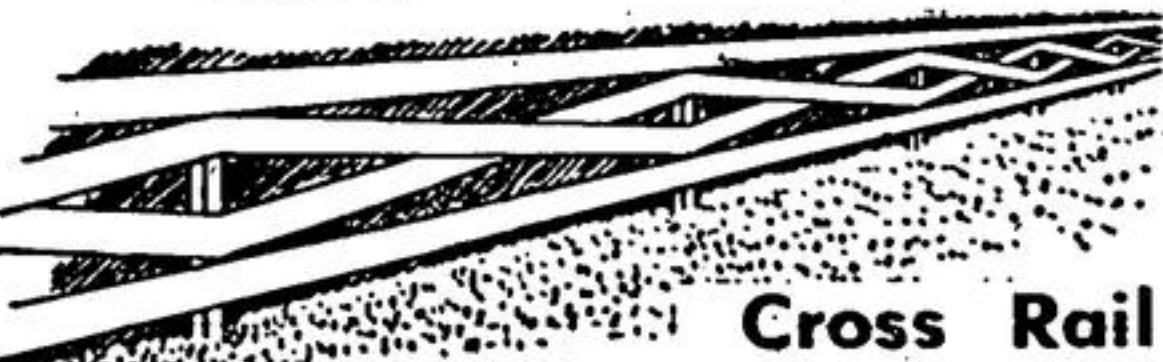
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