

THE GEORGETOWN HERALD

Serving the communities of
**GEORGETOWN, GLEN WILLIAMS, NORVAL, LIMEHOUSE,
 HORNBY, STEWARTTOWN, BALLINAFAD
 ASHROVE, TERRA COTTA**

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WALTER C. BIKHN
 Publisher and Editor

STAFF
 Garfield L. McGillivray Bob Baskerville
 Leslie M. Clark Dave Hastings
 Conroy Harrington, Jr. Ken Cowell
 Mrs. Aileen Bradley Terry Harley

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From Our Standpoint

Sharp criticism of Herald reporting of council meetings expressed at Monday's meeting by Councillor Sykes was unexpected and, we hope, undeserved.

For some eighteen years we have taken pride in our job of purveying what we consider important news to residents. We started in the days when council met once a month for a couple of hours and when a major item might be discussion of painting the fence at the park or replacing some broken sidewalk. Back in the "forties" it was not unusual for council to recess for the two summer months, and the year's meetings would total a bare dozen.

We have passed through changing times to a day when a growing town demands a large share of a councillor's time, with an average of over one meeting a week plus numerous committee meetings, and when as a reporter we count every Monday a work-night. It is a difficult job to spend three or four hours listening to council business, then spending a couple of hours in our Tuesday working day interpreting the news for public consumption. Difficult, particularly, because we are extremely conscious of the power of the printed word and realize that public opinion can be influenced by the news as it appears in its final form.

We strive for perfection but never attain it. And in our sadder moments we resent the fact that it never can be attained.

The combined efforts of a Solomon and a Methuselah could never compact three solid hours of motions, debate and public business into a few columns of type which would be letter perfect, or equally pleasing to nine council members who do not always agree on every question, and who sometimes change their stand on controversial questions after a debate.

We know, too, that a man in public life is sometimes the target for unjustified criticism by a ratepayer who distorts something he has said, takes it out of its context or, in an angry moment, misinterprets a statement and adds his own views to it. Perhaps Monday caught us in the

backwash of such an incident, although Cr. Sykes' statements were general and indicated no specific report with which he disagreed.

One accusation we would like to answer is that council reports in the Herald are not factual, but rather the editor's interpretation of the news. That was the point that hurt, for it has been our firm policy that a news item is impersonal writing and anything personal we have to say appears in the editorial column, and in eighteen years we have never knowingly deviated from that policy.

We do at times, interpret a councillor's remarks in the light of what we think he wishes to say. Local government is not like parliament, where members speak from prepared texts or are so skilled in debate that they have developed the faculty of extemporaneous lucidity. To quote directly any lengthy statement of any councillor, unless it has been pre-rehearsed, would most certainly make confusing reading in a newspaper. Many times discussions are left hanging in the air, sentences are not finished, and a man, in the heat of debate, will omit a word or insert another which gives his statement the exactly opposite meaning to what he intends. If compiling a debate into readable form, with events in their proper sequence, to give readers a finished news report is wrong, then we plead guilty on this count. But the report is still that of council, and has no bearing on our own opinions of public affairs.

We have no present intention of turning over council reporting to anyone else, save on occasions when we cannot attend a meeting. We will continue to strive for a high degree of accuracy, to improve our news coverage and give readers the information they want.

If at any time a councillor wishes to criticize, that is his prerogative. The Mail Bag column is always at his disposal if he disagrees with any items and we are always ready to accept constructive criticism. We prefer, however, that it be more specific. Just to say we are a poor reporter leaves no starting point for improvement.

Talking Us Into It!

The political parties, in their efforts to make election capital, will talk Canada into a recession if they aren't careful.

There is so much arguing at present about who caused unemployment that we're soon going to start believing there is something wrong. Recession talk is a dangerous thing at any time, and when it comes at a time of peak seasonal unemployment, it could easily have a chain reaction. Business might hold off projected machinery purchases; a man planning to build a house might decide to wait another year; and there could be a general tightening of purse strings by corporations and individuals which could be disastrous to the country's economy.

Another bad thing is the talk about why

cars aren't selling. On a couple of occasions, auto executives have appeared on television to air their views on what is a serious problem for their companies. They might better spend their time in the office figuring ways of overcoming a business slump. Publicity of this nature can only aggravate a situation. A prospective purchaser might figure that prices are bound to come down, that new models will depreciate this year's cars more than expected... and he might decide to wait another year before buying or trading.

It's time we heard some optimism from those we look to as leaders of business and government.

Practice Practical Patriotism

Celebrating Founder's Day last week, members of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire can look with pride on 57 years of practical patriotism which makes it one of the top ladies organizations in Canada. The local Countess of Strathmore Chapter, established in April, 1937, is one of many such groups across Canada which aims to stimulate patriotism and to support good works for the betterment of Canada, while assisting the British Commonwealth and the needy people of the world.

In a national way, a total of \$250,000 is given in assistance each year to Canadian students and schools. Last year half a million dollars was spent on local projects, such as, in Georgetown, the baby clinic, high school prizes, a fund-

raising campaign for the Institute for the Blind, assistance to Cedarvale School, and many more such activities. The ladies have done such things as welcoming new Canadian residents at a party, aiding an "adopted" school in one of the poorer sections of Ontario, selling Blindcraft products at the fall fair. The chapter's philanthropy and educational work is a desirable addition to the community in which we live.

Founder's Day is a time in which we can congratulate the 970 chapters and 32,000 members who help make Canada a better place in which to live, and particularly the Georgetown ladies who established the IODE here and who have kept it thriving for twenty years.

J. A. GOUDY

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The Life of Smiley's Wife

(By Daris Humphries in the Rainbow Advance)

There's one thing I would never want...
 The life of Smiley's wife,
 For "Sugar and Spice" is fun to read
 If YOU'RE not the "Battle and Strife."

If the hunter's not husband or kin,
 It's amusing to read of his hunting event
 But if you're his wife and not sure where he went
 You wonder what lake he is in.

Bill Smiley could hunt for a fortnight, oh yes!
 But ask him at home for a hand,
 And his wife gets the label "Old Lady" or worse,
 All husbands like him should be banned.

He won't put on windows till winter's near past,
 There are ashes all over his cellar,
 It provides him with "writ", but his wife oughta quit,
 Beyond me, how she stomachs the feller!

He won't say, "I love you," (groud of the fact)
 But still she must comfort and feed him.
 The next time he called ME "The Old Battleaxe,"
 I'd up with my fist and I'd bleed him.

When it comes to the children, he likes them I guess,
 But Kim and young Hugh have it rough,
 Their mother is trying to bring them up well,
 But with Bill for a dad, well it's tough.

He's got time to be councillor shootin' his gab,
 With his wife and kids forced to listen,
 While he practices eloquent phrases and drab,
 But no time for lovin' and kissin'!

Bill Smiley the joker, is good for a laugh,
 In his column called "Sugar and Spice,"
 But for once in his life when he mentions his wife
 I DO wish he'd say something nice.

THE MAIL BAG

SUPPORT URGED FOR ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Georgetown, Ontario,
 31 Byron Street,
 February 4th, 1958

Dear Mr. Editor:
 The suggested forming of a recreational association in Georgetown is a very worthwhile project which is worthy of endorsement. It may have been forgotten though that we already have a Georgetown Athletic Association which was formed over a year ago and into which a lot of effort and time has been given unselfishly by members of the police department.

At the time of mentioning a possibility of forming a recreation association since the Athletic Association came into being, the present president, Constable Harley Lowe was mentioned as the possible president of such a recreational association.

At the present time the athletic association is doing a good work and has acquired suitable quarters in the building on King St. which housed the now defunct boat works. All that is needed is some willing personnel who will be willing to devote time to this very worthwhile program.

The Athletic Association could well be the nucleus to become the recreational association of the future, thus eliminating the creation of another organization, both of which would be constituted for similar purposes. What is needed now is some help to get the place ready for activity so that the program of training can be entered into. Had this help been available since the building was acquired a month ago, much could have been accomplished in carrying out the program.

It is to be hoped that consideration will be given this organization for what it has sought to do in the interests of all the citizens of Georgetown.

Yours truly,
 Ed. A. Peters.

OAKVILLE SPORT STAR'S SON DROWNING VICTIM

Michael Bailey, 4 year old son of Rex Bailey, a hockey star for the Oakville Meteors, who is well known by local fans, drowned while playing in front of his home near Cedar Spring Creek on Friday.

Michael was playing with his younger brother David on the bank of the creek when he slid down the steep bank into the fast moving current which carried him under a sheet of ice farther downstream.

The boy's body was recovered after a two hour search by firemen and police who had to chop holes in the 12" thick ice.

Watch for hockey playoff schedules.

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8:00 a.m. - Holy Communion Corporate for Men's Club, BAC
 9:45 a.m. - Church School - 19 years and up
 11:00 a.m. - Church School and Nursery Care (Infants 8 yrs.)
 11:00 a.m. - Mattins "An Anglican Understanding of the Christian Way"
 7:00 p.m. - Penitential Service, adult confirmation instruction (film strip - "The Anglican Way")

MONDAY, FEB. 24th St. Matthias Day
 10:00 a.m. - Holy Communion

WED., FEB. 26th
 7:45 a.m. - Holy Communion (Business employees, High School students, breakfast in parish hall)
THURS., FEB. 27th
 10:00 a.m. - Holy Communion (Intercessions)

St. Alban's GLEN WILLIAMS
 SUNDAY, FEB. 23

9:30 a.m. - Mattins Guide, Brownie, Scout, Cub church parade
 10:45 a.m. - Church School

MONDAY, FEB. 24th
 11:00 a.m. - Holy Communion

WED., FEB. 26th
 4:00 p.m. - Holy Confirmation Instruction (students)
 7:30 p.m. - Penitential Service, Adult Confirmation Instruction.

HOW'S YOUR I.Q.?
 TODAY'S INSURANCE PROBLEMS ANSWERED

Question: I own a house that cost \$20,000 to build. I carry \$15,000 fire insurance. If 50% of the house is destroyed by fire, will they pay me 50% of the insurance or would they repair the damage of \$10,000? Should I carry the full value of the house, or replacement value on today's market?

Answer: You would be entitled to recover your actual loss sustained, up to the face of your \$15,000 policy. It is advisable to carry insurance up to the full fair value of your house so that you'll be adequately indemnified in the event of total destruction.

Contributed in the interest of sound insurance by
**JOHN R. BARBER
 JAMES F. EVANS
 JOHN T. ARMSTRONG**

THE MAIL BAG

GEORGETOWN BAND WILL RETAIN ITS IDENTITY

Georgetown, Feb. 17, 1958
 Dear Mr. Editor:
 Due to some unfortunate wording in a "Bandmen Wanted" advertisement last week the impression was given that the Georgetown Brass & Reed Band, Intends to again affiliate itself with the Lorne Scots Regiment.
 I would like to make it clear

to the public that our band is and intends to remain a civilian organization for the use and pleasure of the people of this district.

If there are any new citizens in this area who like ourselves enjoy music as a hobby we would be pleased to welcome them into the band any Tuesday night at 8.00 p.m. in Chapel Street school.

Yours very truly,
 David Hastings, President
 Georgetown Brass & Reed Band.

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