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Controversial Corner

by Ian Cass
 JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

I suppose it is inevitable that any column of opinion and controversy must, at some time or other, come to grips with the difficult subject of juvenile crime and anti-social behaviour. I am one who believes there is more hooliganism, more disrespect for law and order and more cruelty and violence among young people today than was the case twenty years ago. No doubt many will oppose this view but few of them will be teachers or policemen or magistrates. Furthermore, the type of delinquency which exists now is frequently of a more vicious, abandoned nature than before. Another disturbing feature is that more than half of our juvenile delinquents come from middle-income homes, so it is obvious that improved living standards are no answer to this problem.

Before attempting to find a cure, can we put a finger on what causes young people to become delinquents? Many of the reasons are not hard to find and all have one thing in common. The problem exists because of a weakness in our society, and because society is managed by adults, then the complete responsibility for the existence of this condition rests with adults. It is pointless to say that teenagers should do this or that, because it is not action by young people which can cure this problem, it is action by adults that is required.

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Ask Missing Lumber Return to High School

A familiar landmark is rapidly disappearing with wrecking of the old high school which, since the "eighties" has been an impressive part of the highway scene. Lostracco Construction, which has the contract for building the large addition which will replace the old school, is in the midst of demolition operations. Much valuable material will be salvaged by the firm, which reminds the public that the old building is their property. The Lostracco firm is anxious to have it returned and asks the persons responsible to replace it.

Next Wednesday, July 1st is a public holiday.

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

A Teacup Storm

Whether she knew it or not, when television's Joyce Davidson made her now-famous comments about the royal visit, on an American network show, she gave the daily papers one of their choicest sources of news in months.

The Toronto papers have had a field day, getting man-on-the-street opinions, interviews, statements from the mayor down, and the letters to the editor are bulging with comment pro and con. Miss Davidson has been compared to Lord Haw-Haw and Joan of Arc. She is alternately praised for having the courage to speak her mind, condemned as anti-British; upheld as a symbol of free speech; and castigated as a disrespectful host to our royal visitors.

It is laughable for everyone but poor Joyce. The public has entered the fray with gusto. The matter is serious enough to deserve attention... not serious enough to cause any trouble in our empire relations. The question is not technical, and everyone can have an opinion. A perfect

subject for debate and one which has caught the public eye with a bang.

There are elements of truth in most of the opinions being expressed. Our own is that a person who lives in the public eye should be aware that her comments will be quoted. We chastise Miss Davidson not so much for her first remarks as for her foolishness in not making a graceful retreat when she realized how magnified the subject would become.

At the same time, perhaps her comments have sparked even more interest in the Queen's visit than one might have anticipated, and have certainly done no grave harm to our ties with Britain. We hope that, when the smoke has cleared, the public will as soon forget one mis-step on the part of a TV personality who has done her job so well on the Tabloid program and whom we hope to see back in her accustomed chair before too long.

Some Help Needed

Sharp rise in the swimming instruction rates at the community pool this season may have an adverse effect on registration according to initial reaction from parents.

Last year's \$2.00 fee has been replaced with a \$5.00 charge to cover the thirty-odd lessons available. No one can argue that the charge is excessive, nor can the Community Centre board, which has charge of the pool be blamed for setting a fee to balance the budget. The town appointed board, incidentally, gets no tax grant and must operate solely from instruction and swimming charges and any private donations which might be made.

With the town's tax budget already set for this year, we would not suggest that any attempt be made to obtain a town grant at this time. However, we feel that in the interests of having the swimming pool serve its maximum use, some effort should be made to have lessons subsidized to some extent in private. Perhaps one or more service organizations might volunteer a few dollars for lessons, or hold a tag day or other event to reduce the instruction charge to its former figure.

Unless the fee can be so reduced, we fear that many children will not be served by the excellent instruction available, which will be a pity.

Letter Delivery Requirements

Impending introduction of letter carrier service in Georgetown is dependent on the action of at least 90 per cent of residents complying with regulations which the post office department sets as prerequisites.

A circular, issued this week, outlines action which must be taken before the new system comes to Georgetown. A householder must have his house number clearly visible from the street, and must supply a proper receptacle for mail... either a slot in the front door, or a suitable receptacle installed.

When the system comes this fall, householders will receive one daily delivery. Letter carriers will begin at approximately 8.30 a.m. and

finish at 4.00 p.m. While it is still possible to retain a lock box at the post office, one must have "special and justifiable" reasons, according to the circular, and cost of such boxes is sharply increased (in most cases 100%).

Postmaster Harold Marshall is urging residents to take immediate action in installing receptacles in order that no delays may occur when the government is ready to move. Applications for mailmen are already being received, and it is probable that the post office department will be ready to start the system in the early fall. When this time comes, it would be too bad if it is found that the majority of houses do not fulfill the regulations established.

Horticulture Members Tour Flower Gardens

A tour of local flower gardens sponsored by the Georgetown Horticultural Society last Wednesday evening was enjoyed by a large turnout of members and their friends.

Starting from the Maple Avenue home of Miss A. L. Miller, with its spacious lawns and beautiful perennial borders, the group, traveling in cars, made their way to Scotsdale Farm, passing through the lovely woodland driveway of the secluded and beautifully landscaped home of the Bennetts. From here the tour returned to Georgetown passing by the burst of bloom in front of the home of the Nortons at Silvercreek.

In town again, stops were made to view the interesting garden of Mrs. W. Wilson on Durham St., also at the Harrison public school

Gladys McGibbon Wins Lions Freezer Draw

Miss Gladys McGibbon of McGibbon's Hotel, Main St., was the winner of a freezer full of frozen foods in a draw sponsored by the local Lions to raise money for their public welfare fund. Cpl Jim Bilsborrow of the Georgetown Police Dept. drew the winning ticket for the Lions who closed the ticket selling at 9 o'clock Friday night. The draw was made at the four corners on Main Street. The Lions themselves and the Georgetown Hospital Association were also winners in that most of the \$671.80 cleared on the draw is earmarked for the hospital fund. The Lions have pledged \$25,000 for the fund.

The lucky draw for the freezer was the initial project put forth by the Lions to fulfill the pledge

Brother Was Teacher City Vocational School

Charles R. Prust, brother of Richard Prust, 14 James St., died at his home, 312 Wilton Avenue, on Tuesday, June 16th. Mr. Prust had been suffering a heart condition for the past three or four years but was able to continue his work until the time of his death. He was fifty-seven years of age.

Born in England, the son of Alice Margaret and William Henry Prust, he came over thirty years ago to Toronto. He was a member of the Jarvis Street Junior Vocational School staff where he was a woodwork instructor for twenty-nine years. Mr. Prust was very interested in the boys of his classes and spent a lot of his time working with them.

His wife, the former Doris May survives him as does their daughter Lynn who attends school in Toronto. Also left are his brother Richard of Georgetown, two brothers and five sisters in England. A funeral service was conducted at the Trull Funeral Home, 2704 Yonge St., on Thursday, June 18th where six fellow school teachers were the pallbearers. Interment was in Orono Cemetery after a short service in the Laing Memorial Chapel, Orono. Rev. Marshall conducted the funeral services.

Four teenagers, two of them Terra Cotta youths, were apprehended by police early Saturday morning for stealing gasoline from a Beaver Ready-Mix truck at the company's office on Main St. S. (Cst. Dan Whitson and Ron Rankine who made the arrests) were making a routine check of the property at about 2:20 a.m. when they caught the four redhanded. The company is operated by Bob Lane, George Street.

CHARGE TEEN-AGERS WITH GAS STEALING

Two teenagers, two of them Terra Cotta youths, were apprehended by police early Saturday morning for stealing gasoline from a Beaver Ready-Mix truck at the company's office on Main St. S. (Cst. Dan Whitson and Ron Rankine who made the arrests) were making a routine check of the property at about 2:20 a.m. when they caught the four redhanded. The company is operated by Bob Lane, George Street.

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