

**The Georgetown Herald**  
 A Thomson Newspapers Limited Publication  
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 Serving the Communities of: Georgetown, Glen Williams, Norval, Limehouse, Hornby, Stewarttown, Ballinacres, Ashgrove, Terra Cotta  
 Member of the Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association and the Ontario Division of the C.W.N.A.  
 Authorized as second class mail, Post Office Dept., Ottawa

# EDITORIAL COMMENT

## Some Thoughts on Drinking

Columnist Ian Cass hit the head nail several times last week in his Controversial Corner comment on "Drinking and the Law."  
 Even the most avid temperance advocates would agree that Ontario's liquor laws are so outmoded as to be ridiculous. They are a patchwork of platitudes designed to please many shades of thought, and ending by pleasing none.  
 Temperance people can scarcely be happy with a system which supposedly controls drinking by making it mysteriously wicked, restricting it in most cases to beverages rooms and cocktail lounges.  
 Moderate drinkers can be similarly unhappy when they must buy a dollar permit for the privilege of buying legal whisky which is carefully concealed from their gaze in a government-operated store and chosen by name and number rather than eye-appeal.  
 Distillers and brewers must think it odd that their product advertising must be done with tongue-in-cheek, extolling the virtues of a summer vacation, of fishing and hunting, or telling a man how to choose a new suit.  
 We can never be convinced that our present laws are anything but ridiculous. And the sooner our government does some overhauling, the sooner Ontario will adopt a grown up attitude to the use of alcoholic beverages.  
 A good starting point would be to eliminate the banquet permits so common with clubs and

organizations. The local golf course, for example, can serve beer and wine at any time, but rye or gin only if a two dollar bill changes hands for a special permit. The hotels and Legion have a licence to sell only beer... but the two dollar bill again, for a special permit, allows a club or organization to hold a special party on the same premises. Without such permit, the law provides a heavy fine.  
 Allowing hotels and restaurants to serve all types of alcohol would automatically eliminate any need for the specials which must entail a great deal of bookkeeping for the government department which administers them.  
 Allowing brewers and distillers sensible advertising of their products and free display at their point of sale is a minimum to ask, surely, in a province which accepts legal drinking, and which in fact derives a mammoth tax revenue from alcohol sales.  
 To quote Mr. Cass: Our present legislation does nothing whatever to alleviate the evils of drink. What we have is a multitude of petty restrictions which may inconvenience the average moderate drinker but which have no effect at all on the excessive drinker. If we can produce laws which will provide moderate drinkers with civilized meeting places and at the same time deal with drunks and alcoholics by putting them either in jail or in hospital, then perhaps we can make some progress.

## Boulevards Need Attention

Driving through other towns during a few summer week-ends at the beach, we are struck each year by an unfavourable comparison.  
 Georgetown people, like householders in other towns, take pride in their property, have neatly mowed lawns, lovely flower gardens, keep their homes painted and in good repair. But a large percentage ignore the boulevards which grow rampant with weeds, are left uncut for long periods of time and give a generally untidy air to what is otherwise a neat picture.  
 Granted, the boulevards are town property and are no more than a moral responsibility of adjoining residents to keep in trim. But as a pic-

ture is only as good as its frame, so an attractive property can be spoiled by its frame of weeds and clutter.  
 The older part of town is not alone in its disregard for boulevards.  
 In the subdivisions, where lots have been sodded to the street line, there are many homes fringed with an area of mud and weeds between pavement and property line. A few dollars for grass seed or sodding would well repay the expense for the resultant beauty.  
 Let's all make a resolve to beautify our town by adding this extra touch to our properties.

## Streetsville Centennial Recalls River's Importance

Streetsville, one of the first white settlements in the Credit Valley watershed, last month celebrated its centennial, and the Conservation Authority joins other organizations in neighbourly salute.  
 The 100th birthday party was a gala, four-day affair at Streetsville Park, June 25, 26, 27 and 28th.  
 There was a carnival, games, dancing, a soap box derby, children's parades and bands galore at the centennial parade on June 27.  
 The official Credit Valley Report, published by the Ont. dept. of Planning & Development, contains many interesting accounts and photos concerning Streetsville's colorful pioneer days.  
 The report tells of the beginnings of the village when John Barnhart's store and trading post was opened in 1821. Of course, a never-to-be-forgotten pioneer was Timothy Street, who built a dam and a sawmill in 1822 and went on to establish widespread commercial enterprise down through the years. He had many "firsts" to his name, including the building of the township's first brick house, an attractive residence which still graces the community's Mill Street. Obviously, the village was named after Mr. Street.  
 In 1853, Barber Bros. built their four-storyed stone mill below Streetsville. It was the largest on the Credit for many years, and in its heyday contained eight spinning jacks and 35 power looms. It employed over 100 hands and turned out 1,800 yards of textile a day.  
 Flour mills, lumber mills and woolen mills were important pillars in the pioneer district's economic structure, and it is interesting to note that the Credit remains an important source of milling power to this day.  
 Conservation is a many-sided un-

dertaking, and it is hoped that through the efforts of the Authority future generations will continue to enjoy the many tangible and intangible benefits of having the Credit remain a vigorous, healthy river.  
 Streetsville is but one community which owes its origin and much of its early growth to the Credit River.  
**HORNBY**  
**EDUCATION THEME OF HORNBY INSTITUTE MEETING**  
 "What Use is Education," was the heading chosen for a most enlightening paper on Education by Mrs. G. Bussell at the monthly meeting of Hornby Women's Institute. We need education to gain knowledge and attain wisdom; education should be useful. The aim of education is to give students a living fund of knowledge from which they may generate ideas. Education is three-fold, courage, work and discipline. These were just a few of the points brought to mind by Mrs. Bussell. A paper entitled "Good Manners" was given by Mrs. G. Robinson and a contest "Are You a Word Detective" conducted by Mrs. Bussell was won by Mrs. J. Wallace.  
 Mrs. Percy Merry was the hostess for this meeting and the business part was in charge of the president, Mrs. W. Coulton. Mrs. Sampson, the secretary, is to carry on as public relations convener. Arrangements were made for the August meeting when the members of the 44 Home-making clubs will be the guests. Mrs. G. Robinson and Mrs. W. Hamilton assisted the hostess in serving lunch.

## Controversial Corner

by Ian Cass

### THE CASE OF THE ADVOCATE GENERAL

On July 15th a small item was reported from the Ottawa magistrate's court... a seemingly insignificant item. A speeding charge was dismissed on the grounds that the accused had proved a technical error existed on the summons. It seems that the "warning to appear" was not stamped in the correct type, and part of it was illegible. This sort of evasion on a technicality is nothing very new and would not normally have made news.  
 The almost unbelievable aspect of this case was the identity of the accused who was none other than the judge advocate general. Brig. W. J. Lawson, who held this office, is top legal officer of the defense department and is also in supreme control of all courts martial. His position in the legal affairs of this country is a high one; it is a position which requires dignity, integrity, honour and the highest ideals of human justice. The judge advocate general is a well paid appointment and an office of considerable authority. Canadians rightly expect this position to be held by a man who will, through upright example and mature judgment, maintain the highest standards of impartial justice.  
 In view of this, it is horrifying to read that Brig. Lawson should even wish to avoid the penalty for breaking the law. It is even more disturbing to find that he has used his expert legal knowledge to dig up some irrelevant technicality in order to have the charge against him dismissed.  
 Most of us are uneasy about the myriads of escape alleys and legislative evasion routes which exist in our law books. We have seen them exploited by highly paid lawyers and low morals people such as Al Capone and the leaders of Murder Incorporated when the whole country was aware of their guilt. To these unscrupulous manipulators

of the law, any legal quirk or technicality is something to be exploited for the benefit of their clients and for the defeat of justice. Brigadier Lawson's offense was a very minor one. There are very few motorists who do not exceed the speed limit occasionally. Perhaps it is a little more important when the offender is the advocate general, but if the fine had been paid there would have been no news item. It is surprising that the General was not imaginative enough to realize how open to criticism his actions were.  
 The plain fact remains, the accused was charged with speeding. The whole judicial system of this country is set up to determine whether an accused person is guilty or not of the charges made. In this case, the question of being guilty as charged was not even considered. The accused succeeded in obtaining a dismissal on a legal technicality which must be almost unique in its puerile irrelevancy.  
 The accused, in this case, was a high ranking member of the Canadian judicial system. The law was shamefully manipulated for the benefit of a man who, by the very nature of his appointment, should be dedicated to the prevention of such legal hypocrisy. By association and by silent assent many other highly placed legal men must come under suspicion—the judicial system of Canada stands indicted.

## HAMILTON FIVE-YEAR-OLD ON PICNIC DROWNS AT ACTON

While picnickers stood in a quiet semi circle, doctors and firemen worked over the limp body of a five year old lad at Acton Park a week ago Sunday afternoon. The boy, missing for hours, was discovered in six feet of water. Artificial respiration was begun at once and continued for an hour and a half, when the boy was pronounced dead shortly after 7:00 o'clock.  
 Henry Labelle, son of Mr. and Mrs. Aldos Labelle, Hamilton, had just arrived for a picnic when he became lost. He was with a group of relatives and other children, including four brothers and sisters. It was the first time the youngsters had been to Fairy Lake and they ran excitedly into the water right away. They were accustomed to the shallow water of a wading pool.  
 After relatives searched the park area for the lad in vain, they informed gate superintendent Herb Fryer who searched buildings. Mr. and Mrs. George Hargrave called the police. St. John Ambulance volunteers and picnickers joined in the search which extended into the town as well as out into the water. OPP Constable Bob Moreau patrolled the lake in a motor boat. Firemen were summoned and the

sirens alerted many others who followed the truck to the park.  
 A human chain was formed to sweep through the water. Finally, equipped with skin divers' equipment, Fred Fuchs of Toronto searched near the dock, and located the body 20 feet from shore, near the diving pier.  
 Artificial respiration was begun immediately on the shore. Firemen with their resuscitator, the St. John Ambulance volunteers, Dr. W. G. C. Kenney of Acton, Dr. George Syer, Milton, knelt over the small body in an effort to revive the lad. Volunteers had a screen of blankets as their work continued for 90 minutes, with the ambulance ready to rush him to hospital if he responded.  
 Shortly after the arrival of the coroner, Dr. Syer, the boy was pronounced dead.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Labelle have four other children, Michael, 10, Carmelle 9, Denise 4 and Daniel 2. Mrs. Labelle's brother, A. St. Pierre and his six motherless children also live with them. Another Labelle child died at the age of five as a result of food poisoning.  
 Henry Labelle had suffered head injuries in a car accident about two months ago, and was to return to hospital.  
 Another Hamilton family accompanied the Labelles, Mr. St. Pierre and their children to Acton on their tragic outing.  
 —Next Public Holiday is Civic Holiday, a week from next Monday.

**HALTON COUNTY WEED CONTROL NEWS**  
 by V. E. McArthur  
 County Weed Inspector

**WEED CONTROL IN SUBDIVISIONS**  
 Subdivisions in our county are increasing rapidly in size and number. The population of Halton has almost doubled in the past few years and the major portion of this increase are residents of new subdivisions in or adjacent to towns. While they are being developed and built up weeds are a problem, but once well established of course public pride tends to keep them in a tidy condition.  
 Spraying with chemical is not too practical for most weeds even on vacant lots as it endangers the shrubs and flowers of established homes. Cutting seems to be the best answer yet as the seeding of weeds can be prevented and it greatly improves the appearance of the area. Sodding the roadside to the edge of the road surface is another excellent weed control practice. When all the lawns are mowed and cared for to the edge of the street by the homeowners the weed problem will be at a minimum in the subdivision. Here is a little bit of advice to us all in the form of a poem written by one of the public school children in last year's essay competition.

**NORVAL Presbyterian Church**  
 Minister  
 The Rev. G. L. Royal, B.A.  
 SUNDAY, JULY 26th  
 Summer Service - 10 a.m.  
**THE CHRISTIAN LIFE**  
 (4) "Death & Resurrection"

**Norval United Church**  
 Rev. R. Freal, B.A., B.D.  
 SUNDAYS  
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
 11:15 a.m. Morning Worship

**St. George's CHURCH (ANGLICAN)**  
 Festival of St. James A & M  
 SATURDAY, JULY 25th  
 10:00 a.m.—Holy Communion  
 JULY 26th—TRINITY IX  
 8:00 a.m.—Holy Communion  
 9:30 a.m.—Holy Eucharist Family Service and Church School  
 11:00 a.m.—Mattins. Mr. J. L. Lambert  
 7:00 p.m.—Evening Prayer

When Burdocks grow in my backyard,  
 I feel so awfully sad.  
 I take my little hoe and spade  
 And work to help my Dad.  
 He says that weeds are terrible things,  
 They break the heart of man.  
 My advice then to everyone,  
 Go kill them while you can.

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