

Georgetown Herald

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PAGE 4

Thursday Evening, March 31st, 1960

... EDITORIAL COMMENT ...

Chamber Proves Its Worth

The Chamber of Commerce is one of the most potent public groups in a town and locally Georgetown is no exception.

Leaders of the Chamber and before that the Board of Trade, has had many beneficial effects on the town, and the Chamber, of which is an incorporated society, too, was a group of men, several years back who first started thinking of a Chamber of Commerce, and whose exploratory efforts led to the present organization, and their successors which will see this continuing well into the future.

Town business people are to thank for the Chamber's work, and there is no lack of waste consumers from all other locations.

The Industrial Council is another cooperative effort of Chamber and townsmen.

Merchant Support Lacking

Speaking of Chamber work, one large handicap locally is an apathetic attitude among many merchants.

It is difficult to understand why merchants who cheerfully donate every time an organization applies for a advertising or a program, donating a portion of a lottery draw ticket, will not at least give token support to the Chamber of Commerce by taking a yearly membership.

Merchants are busy men, we agree, and all cannot be expected to throw their energy into active memberships. But, at least that should be expected. That is, every merchant be a member, on his own expense.

Advantages of a University

Indication that York University is looking for a site outside the Metro area has sparked the town council into a campaign to have it locate in or near town.

And we certainly have advantages to offer.

Georgetown is ideally located for a university.

An hour's drive from the city, we can offer an established, growing community with all the advantages of a city, but none of its drawbacks. Rich cultural

activities to reflect the town's interest, story to the world.

Highway 401, shopping guide, Christmas lights, parks and some of the other things which come to mind when the Chamber is mentioned.

The Chamber is up to a fine movement by Jack and Iona on park areas. An excellent idea, last year, and a new many voices will be enterprise enough to encourage us to renew our support.

The time of year is now when we are open and there will always be ways in which a Chamber of Commerce can benefit a community. Every merchant in the trades, a merchant or private citizen benefits from a lottery and is welcome as a member.

Business people, when decisions of major interest are to be made.

We have heard a lot recently on what "What has the Chamber done for me?"

We should hear more on "What have I done for the Chamber?"

This year we suggest that every local merchant do that we do to ensure participation who hasn't already done so. It starts with a small amount of time and work from their homes, as we know the Chamber immediately. It will be the best investment that you can make, pay off directly, lends personalty and to your community.

SIMPLIFIED TAX FORMULA
(A) How much did you earn in 1959?
(B) How much did you have left?
(C) Set up (B).

ECHOES

From the pages of the Herald, April 3rd, 1935

At the annual meeting of the Georgetown Post of the Canadian Legion held last Thursday night the following officers were elected: President, G. O. Brown; vice presidents Dr. C. V. Williams and Dr. R. Learmonth; secretary, A. B. Patterson; treasurer, Wallace Thompson; Committee: G. Cousens, John D. Kelly, J. Smith and S. Groat.

you on one doorstep, and stores would find fine shops on a par with the city, close, swimming pools, golf courses, etc., and not far from town, to mention only a few of the facilities that towns possess.

Vance not meaning to settle on one area above another, the lovely stretch of countryside along the 201 Line between Maple Ave. and the highway would provide a beautiful university campus. And there are often equally lovely locations close to town service facilities which could serve a university's needs.

Twenty - Five Years Ago • On Friday evening relatives and friends from Georgetown, Norval and Burlington paid a surprise visit to the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Farrell on the occasion of their 25th anniversary.

• Georgetown armoury has undergone extensive alterations during the past few weeks. A new roof has been put on, the outer walls sanded and new rooms for the officers have been added.

• A Knight of the King's Highway called one morning last week at a Georgetown

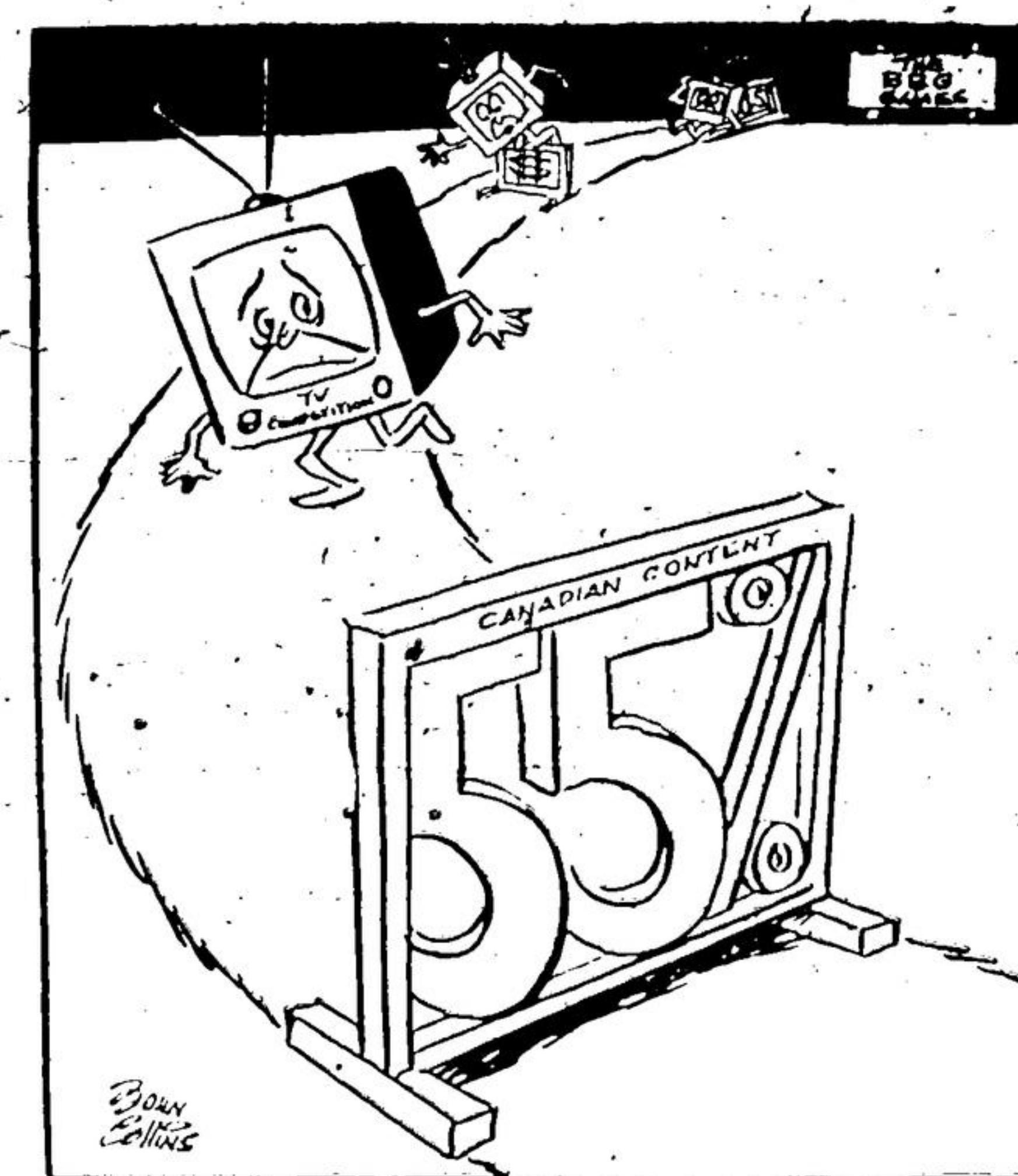
home, and inquiring when dinner would be served was told 12:30. Promptly at 12:30 he and a companion called for dinner.

• Owing to the unsafe condition of the belfry tower on the town hall, the ringing of the town bell will be discontinued until necessary repairs are made.

• Any man who looks up his family tree is apt to get on limb.

• Love is an ocean of emotion surrounded by expanses of

expanses.



THE HURDLE RACE

Promote Book Borrowing With Canadian Library Week Feature

Some 1200 libraries, more than 900 of them bilingual, in the Province of Quebec, will participate in Canadian Library Week, April 3 to 9.

Purpose of the week, according to Dr. J. Rudy Kidd, chairman of the Canadian Library Week Council, is to point up the trips which are made by Canadian librarians and the continuing need of greater book distribution for a better-read better-informed Canada.

Person is Dr. R. H. June G. Dufresne.

"In most areas, libraries are expanding their services rapidly, but demand is growing even faster. We still have a long way to go, however, since only 80 per cent of our population is served by libraries and services available are not always adequate for the unprecedented demand."

"Activity during the first Canadian Library Week in 1959 resulted in substantially increasing borrowing at most libraries, ranging from a few additional volumes to increases of 100 per cent, or more over 1958," he said.

"While some of this is due to the normal annual increase, it indicates a widespread public interest in widespread library Week."

In Kidd said a recent survey shows that more libraries are formed during the months of January, February, March and November. These periods were most often mentioned, but the librarians find April and October periods of great activity.

Libraries also report increasing numbers of foreign books sections. There are now about 100 libraries with books in languages other than French and English, including German, Italian, Spanish, Basque, Dutch, Hungarian, Norwegian and Polish. Toronto public libraries report as many as 23 languages on their shelves.

"Librarians also reported a variety of subjects for which there are frequent requests but on which little or nothing has been published. These include five pin bowling, jockey, curling, care of tropical fish, hypnotism, locate skating, Canadian folklore and stories of heroes for younger readers, and books by Canadian authors of 10 or 20 years ago."

"Some librarians have found a lack of good books on the Canadian political and economic scene which they say are often requested by new Canadians. Most subjects, however, are well represented," Dr. Kidd said.

Sugar and Spice

Dispensed by MILDRED SMITH of the Wharton Echo

Man, were a bloodthirsty lot, we Canadians. Here I've been going around for years, thinking we were a mild, gentle civilized people, the milk of human kindness fairly dribbling out the corners of our mouths.

We're not like that at all. We are a real Old Testament, fang and claw, eye for an eye, blood and guts gang. Behind those good, grey exteriors lurks a red-eyed avenger who would strike Attila the Hun look like a divinity student.

I didn't realize what a snarling tiger lay within the bosom of my fellow Canadians until I mentioned casually, in an editorial a couple of weeks ago, that I didn't believe in capital punishment, and asked for the opinion of readers.

What a Pandora's box that opened! I received only one reasonable response — that is, one opinion that agreed with mine. The rest of them howled for blood. They ranged from curt suggestions that "rapes, rifle, or gas will do" to inferminable epithets that dragged in everybody from Moses to my small daughter.

I was labouring by Scripture, torn from context. I was buried under hales of newspaper clippings about the latest murder cases. Many assured me that all murderers serving prison terms were just busting to get out so they could go and knock off somebody else. Others tried to sell me on capital punishment because it's cheaper than feeding a murderer.

Now the fact is that I never mentioned murder in the first

place.

I just stated that I didn't think society had the right to take a human life in cold blood.

As a result, none of the arguments affected my opinion at all, because everybody went haring off after murderers, deterrents, paroles, sex fiends, insanity, liquor and the cost of jail meals.

Besides which, as my wife has pointed out on innumerable occasions, and again when we discussed the subject, "Nobody can tell you anything. You think you're so damn smart and you're not. You're just pig-headed."

Just to prove she's wrong, and that I'm a reasonable fellow, a true democrat when outnumbered 50 to 1, I'll reverse my stand. Let's have capital punishment, and lots of it. But for pity's sake let's get a little variety, a touch of colour, a strong vein of tradition, and a dash of imagination into it.

Only primitive people would stick to such a crude, drab coup de grace as secret hanging. I would also abolish those other pedestrian death penalties of today's society — the chair and the gas chamber.

Ordinary murderers must die, but I think the condemned man should have a sporting chance to pick the manner of his demise. In this age of bingo, draws and raffles, the least we could do is shake the choices up in the warden's hat and let the murderer pull one.

He'd have a chance at the headman's axe, being torn to pieces by four wild horses; the guillotine; a bullet through the back of the head; being pushed

in front of a train or over a ducking stool and held under water for three minutes, every time they got into

trouble.

Of course, under a wide open capital punishment system, with some life to it, we'd need more candidates. These could be acquired by returning to the more virile fashions of former times. For example, blasphemers would be stoned to death, though there'd soon be a shortage of stones. Heretics would be burned at the stake, preferably at Hallowe'en. Rapists would be tossed into a pit of rattlesnakes. Treitors would have their entrails removed and burned before their eyes.

Now that we're getting into the swing of things, I must admit I'm growing enthusiastic. While we're at it, we could tighten up our entire code of punishment. No more of these 10-year sentences for bank robbers. Cut off their gun hands at the wrist. It would be a real shot in the arm for the artificial limbs industry.

People taking trout and deer out of season, would be transported with their families to Canada's arctic wastes. We'd soon have some thriving settlements in the tundra. People trying to beat the income tax would not be fined, but given hard labour on bread and water.

Shrewish women would have a foot inch nipped off the end of their tongues. Wife beaters would get a going over from a professional purist. Businessmen caught padding their expense account would get the lash. Known alcoholics would

have their names printed on a

list of offenders.

Plant Staff

E. M. Clark Dave Hastings

B. Baskerville Myles Gibson

Member of the Canadian

Weekly Newspapers Association and the Ontario

Division of the CWNA.



CHILDREN GOOD CUSTOMERS

CHILDREN ARE ALWAYS good customers of a public library and Georgetown is no exception. A typical Saturday sees this scene duplicated dozens of times as youngsters choose their week's reading. Frances Bauer is looking after the young reader.

— Photo by Jay's Studio, Georgetown.



AND TEENAGERS TOO!

HIGH SCHOOLER Trudy Belligham follows the signs' advice as she receives a group of books from Margaret Eason in a Saturday visit to the public library. This fine service is constantly being improved by an active library board and trained staff. In what was once a Congregational Church.

— Photo by Jay's Studio, Georgetown.

MEET THE STAFF

GEORGETOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY has grown tremendously in use these past few years, and now employs, besides a librarian and assistant, four high school girls as part-time employees. Posing for a picture to mark Canadian Library Week are, left to right, Frances Bauer, Mrs. John Gibson, Sylvia Ellis, librarian, Rosamary Jordan, Margaret Eason and Elizabeth Sloan. — Photo by Jay's Studio, Georgetown.

Photo by Jay's Studio, Georgetown.