

# Georgetown Herald

A THOMSON NEWSPAPERS LIMITED PUBLICATION

Serving the communities of Georgetown, Glen Williams, Norval, Limehouse, Hornby, Stewarttown, Ballinafad, Ashgrove, Terra Cotta.

PAGE 4

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1st, 1960

## EDITORIAL COMMENT

### Changing Scene in Elections

In two decades of reporting nomination meetings and elections, this writer has seen some decided shifts in procedure.

Not the least was on Thursday, when for the first time in these twenty years, someone other than the town clerk was nominated as chairman for the meeting which is held after nominations, and a vote taken for choice of position.

Another first was registered when, after a series of motions from the floor aimed at having candidates, including council members, draw from a hat for speaking order, the present nine councillors declined to speak at all, and the mayor announced a meeting this week to present reports of the year's business.

Add to this advertising balloons, a plenitude of posters, and a campaign headquarters set up by some of the candidates, and one realizes that we are getting into big town election procedure, with some of the razzle-dazzle which has been absent in past years.

There was a day, not too many years ago, when Thursday's excitement could not have happened.

Years back, councillors always gave a report of their committee work for the year, and rarely, if ever, did they announce themselves as candidates, preferring to "think it over" for the 24 hour period allowed for qualifying.

Rarely too, did a new candidate go farther than having his name placed on the board. When speaking time came, he had slipped out of the meeting place some time before, and old and new candidates played a cat-and-mouse game the next day.

Election advertising in the Herald has also seen a startling change.

In those days, the usual election ad simply said "vote for Joe Doakes..." compliments of the season.

Today we see platforms announced, and two candidates even announced their plans in an advertisement prior to nomination meeting — certainly a "first" in our time with the newspaper.

### Period Not Long Enough

One thing which the old election system had to which a return might well be made, was an extra week between nominations and elections.

At present, by the time the candidates get their campaign literature, there is less than a week for them to carry on an active campaign. And with only one issue of the Herald between nomination and election time, there is opportunity for only one advertising message.

More important, when public meetings, such as the one council called on Tuesday occur, it gives little opportunity for news coverage by a Herald reporter. For instance, should that meeting have been held any later than Tuesday, no report would have been possible in the Herald at all before the elections occurred.

Next year's council might think over the question of expanding elections to the second Monday following nominations, and weigh the pros and cons.

### Good Things in Future

News that Georgetown may have a technical division of its high school a few years from now, will be a forward step in the town's education set-up.

One of the few disadvantages of small town life is the impossibility of having more than a formal education available.

At Georgetown has grown, we have seen home economics and shopwork added, as well as commercial training, but nothing approaching the full trade courses which a technical school can offer.

It will be wonderful when young men, particularly, can study as tradesmen without leaving town, and combine this with

academic subjects which a straight trades college does not always offer.

While emphasis on university must be of paramount importance in our high school courses, it is a fact that not all young people's abilities or desires head towards this. A technical school will encourage many who otherwise leave high school in the mid-grades, to take trade training at school.

A technical school should raise by several degrees the education level in a town which, all too often, sees young people leave school ill-prepared for a world where competition for the better jobs is becoming keener and keener.

### THE MAIL BAG

#### Says Clique Control When Council Declines

23 Hale Drive  
26th November, 1960

Dear Sir:

In my humble opinion, Mayor Hyde and present members of Town Council gave a classic example of clique control in declining to abide by the wishes of the majority of ratepayers at the Nomination Meeting Thursday night.

I am referring to the motion which suggested that the names of all candidates be placed

in a hat and that candidates speak in the order in which their names were drawn. This motion was carried by a substantial majority yet the Mayor and sitting members of Council preferred not to abide by the views of the majority.

Last year's Nomination meeting dragged on until after midnight as the sitting members strove to prevent new candidates from being heard. In consequence the Mayor was presented with the office on a platter.

At a time when Democracy is again facing one crisis after another surely members of Council should proceed in the "best traditions" of parliamentary

procedure. Instead at the Nomination meeting, Council members attempted but failed to make their own rules to suit their own political aspirations.

Yours truly,  
Alex Marshment

#### ALL TICKETS GOOD

Ticket holders in the lucky draw at downtown stores are reminded that all tickets are kept in the drum for the draw each week.

Check all your numbers each week to see if you have a winner.



THE WHITE HOUSE RELAY

## Controversial Corner

by Ian Cass

### What Makes a Good Town?

Most people can recognize a good town, frequently without being able to define what makes it so. Superficially, a good town is clearly indicated merely by driving through it. Tidy, lit streets, well kept, well painted houses and lawns, prosperous, inviting shopping areas, imposing churches and public buildings, mixing schools with ample playgrounds, well planned industrial areas with busy factories, availability of swimming pools, skating arenas, parks and playing fields, all these and many others are evidence of a good town but, by themselves, are just a small part of the story.

The difference between a good town and a poor one is determined by only one ingredient — the people. This ingredient cannot be assessed by driving through it, can only be found by those who have become one of the people. Only then can the true measure be made of that driving force which may variously be called civic pride, civic responsibility or civic awareness — but call it what you will, it means the willingness and determination to contribute to the community over and above the amount stated on the tax bill.

**Essential Ingredient**

This one essential ingredient may manifest itself in many forms and guises. It can be seen in a town's police force, from the polished boots and well-pressed uniforms to the men's bearing which is proud instead of furtive. It can be seen in a volunteer fire service, in the turnout of the equipment and the appearance of the fire hall. It may even appear in such unlikely places as the pumping station which may be surrounded by well-tended flower beds instead of weeds and garbage.

In a different manner, the same ingredient will be strongly in evidence in service organizations such as The Lions, The Rotarians, The Kinsmen and

### Civic Pride

This civic pride or responsibility is the driving force which provides dedicated men and women willing to serve in the many unpaid and often thankless positions of the many boards, commissions and associations which are an essential part of a thriving town — which in fact, are its very life blood.

In a good town, able people are always available for these important positions — in a poor town, people are too busy.

It is civic maturity and community spirit which enables a town to raise vast sums of money for essential large scale projects such as a hospital and to contribute largely by voluntary contributions. Sometimes this willingness to be of service will result in some unique example of community endeavour such as a volunteer ambulance service.

**Intangible Something**

In a good town, a certain intangible something, is there which is lacking in other towns. There are men and women available to encourage and supervise all sorts of juvenile activities and recreation. There are hockey teams, lacrosse teams, baseball teams, football teams; there are guides and brownies, scouts and cubs; there are choirs and bands drama groups and debating contests. This activity stands largely by voluntary contributions. Some times this willingness to be of service will result in some unique example of community endeavour such as a volunteer ambulance service.

### Abandoned Building May Shelter Rats

112 McIntyre Crescent  
Nov. 22, 1960

Dear Sir:

I have read with horror, your article referring to the rat infestation in this neighbourhood and I'm sure this feeling is shared by other McIntyre and Prince Charles residents, but I can't help but wonder why members of council have not taken into consideration the possibility that an abandoned city office that is disintegrating before our eyes is certainly an attraction, if not a breeding place for rodents and vermin of all types.

When we purchased homes in this area we were led to believe that a new sales office would be built in the near future (which has been done) and the old sales office would be razed and some suitable structure built in its place.

Most of our bought homes in order that our children would have some place to play with out parents continually policing them. However, we now find that for any peace of mind we must be constantly watching that they don't go near this decaying ruin for fear of loose bricks and mortar falling on them. Indeed, the front porch is literally suspended in space with its bottom supports gone — windows are smashed and the area littered with broken glass and those of us who fail to watch our children for five minutes are just as liable to find them straddling the windmill that still stands.

People who wish to sell their homes can find no buyers, for who may pay in order that they may have an uninhabited view of this eyesore.

We endeavour to beautify our homes so that they will be a credit to the community but as long as this building remains, our efforts are futile and now with winter approaching we know that the old farm house offers sanctuary for rats.

For the health and safety of our children and in order that our subdivision may be a credit to Georgetown, I sincerely hope some action will be taken to condemn and destroy this building.

Sincerely,  
(Mrs.) Wm. Barratt

### Georgetown Herald

Published by Thomson Newspapers Limited  
Georgetown, Ontario.

Walter C. Blake,  
Managing Editor

Garfield L. McGillivray  
Production Superintendent

Office Staff:  
Aileen Bradley, Terry Harley  
John Ollivier, Advertising

Plant Staff:  
L. M. Clark, Dave Hastings  
B. Bakerville, Myles Gilson  
Bob MacArthur

Member of the Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association and the Ontario Division of the C.W.N.A.

## Says Meeting Action Justified "Walk-Out"

34 Edward St.  
November 29th, 1960

Dear Sir:

May I, through your valuable columns, speak to the citizens of our Town, the Town we are all proud to be a part of?

Your Council met your report the honour and responsibility of conducting the business of the Municipality in a businesslike and dignified manner.

As to the business, I can only say that we have every reason to be proud of the way the business was conducted.

It is not the intent to suggest that this (the business) to show respect. That is why each year we have an election, so that each and every citizen may express their opinion on the pleasure of the way the business has been conducted.

However, your letting some members of Council for the present, represent every citizen of Georgetown and I, as Mayor, represent the kind of the Municipality, as I believe I hope I may have again next year, and so long as I hold this position I shall most certainly do my utmost to maintain the dignity and respect that the Office commands.

The actions of myself and members of Council last Thursday night, following Nominations, justify themselves. When a public meeting is held in a parliamentary and ends up in a circus lottery, I can feel proud that Council was unanimous in their decision, and although these actions will probably receive criticism, I can only say they are the actions I hope would be taken by all the aspiring candidates under similar circumstances.

Council in recent weeks have indicated their intention to operate and comply with suggestions to improve the Public Meeting. However, your present Council, who carried on the business and management for this year, and at the present I must include all members of various Boards and Commissions, who help to carry on the business of the Corporation, in a quiet behind the scenes manner, should have been extended the courtesy and respect their position demands.

Any aspiring Candidate, who may be chosen as a Progressive Conservative of the People of Georgetown, should include these responsibilities in his qualifications so that Georgetown as a Municipality can demand the respect of the Province of Ontario.

## ECHOES

From the Pages of the Herald  
November 27, 1960, and  
December 4, 1960

10 YEARS AGO  
Clarence Bain, manager of Ruddy's Ice to \$100 store for 10 years has completed negotiations for the purchase of the Mals St. business.

Frederic Cotton of Toronto has joined his brother Jack as an associate in Bill's Department Store here. Mr. Cotton is taking over the ladies section of the store while his brother will continue to operate the men's wear section.

Bottles that bounce without breaking are the newest contribution to the household front and they'll be manufactured at Smith and Stone's associate plant, Max Stone Limited.

15 YEARS AGO  
A disastrous fire broke place last Friday evening about 7 o'clock when the fine bank barn of Mr. W. H. McCullough was totally destroyed, together with the grain's crop 2000 bushels of straw, 8 calves and 3 pigs.

Mr. Ralph Tripp who has been the courteous and obliging manager of Dominion Stores in Georgetown for the past several years has resigned and accepted a position with Prudential Insurance Co.

At the Gregory Theatre this week, The Man They Could Not Hang, the story of John Lee: In Old Santa Yvonne starring Ken Maynard; Dr. Bell's Musical Wonders on Stage; Pursuit starring Chester Morris and Sally Eilers and Chapter nine of Burn 'Em Up Barnes.

## Town Resident John Michie Indian Relic Collector

by Ray Dennis of the Milton Champion

The third of a series of articles tracing some of the interesting history that could well form the foundation of a new history of Ontario's fastest growing county may be properly displayed, described and shown to local residents.

This is the story of John Michie, the only local archaeologist whose hobby to our knowledge has reached so far into the lives of those early Indians who inhabited Halton before the arrival of the white man in the 1600s.

**Ten Years Ago**

In his home at 15 John St. E. Georgetown, lies a comprehensive picture of those men and women who carved a living out of virgin forests, quiet valleys and rushing streams. His collection, unlike other collections of arrowheads, pottery and so on, is complete because it includes the complete gathering of relics from one Indian village in Halton which John dug himself.

It took him five years of his spare time to complete the "dig" and anyone seeing the collection would appreciate the work which has gone into his findings. It's a perfect start to a county museum.

I feel proud to tell this story, because John has never made public his findings before.

**Government's Own Findings**

His reason, he explains, is because the Government some time ago declared that any findings from Indian villages are the property of the Government. They gather the articles, send them to Toronto, the best few relics are chosen and displayed at the Royal Ontario Museum.

This according to John is unfair. To tell a story you must tell the whole story; to give a picture of an Indian village with a few choice pieces of relic is useless. It's like buying a car after you've looked at the steering wheel, one hub cap and the rear bumper. "I'd check the whole works in the lake before I'd let them have it," he declares.

His idea, then, is to put the whole collection on display, properly labelled with someone in charge who understands the collection to tell its story to visitors. A properly trained museum curator, a good museum in a choice location, and a large collection of all facets of Halton's early days would be ideal.

How does one get interested in this fascinating hobby. I wondered as I talked to the collection owner on four occasions.

**First Find is Perfect**

Well, John was born in Equeusing, son of the late Harold Michie and Mrs. Michie, and brought up on the Third Line. His uncle George Bailey of Harby showed him an Indian arrowhead when he was 12 years of age, and it impressed John so much he wanted to know where he might find more. His uncle told him of two places to go, and his search unearthed the most geometrically perfect arrowhead he has ever found.

**Only Fair Curiosity**

This gave him a good start, and although his interest was only for curiosity at that age, he started into archaeology in earnest. He felt that instead of hunting for treasure, he would be much more interested to piece together the history of each campaign as he came to it.

"I wanted to compare their living with mine," he explained. He read books, drew maps, and studied every possible site he could find. The collection grew and grew, and his studies increased and he began to write a book on his findings. He unearthed 14 campaigns, within a five mile radius right in Halton, and says there are more.

**Collection Lost in Fire**

Then in March of 1953 a terrible fire razed his house and the collection, books, maps and everything were lost. He sifted the ashes of the house and managed to recover many of his articles, but some of his most perfect pottery and Indian pipes were lost. Also lost was his prize arrowhead to which he credits his hobby's start.

He had found only one village on which it was possible to make an accurate study. All the others have been ploughed and disturbed by some modern machine. He started to dig into this village in 1957, and had lost some sketches and some relics from it in the fire. He waited a year after the fire, then began again to rummage through the ruins. His dig was completed in 1958.

(From About 100. Find Next Week)



"YOU CAN'T INSULT ME I'M LEAVING I--AREN'T WE, JACK?"