

Georgetown Herald

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

Election Postscripts....

Georgetown's elections are now a matter of history and the town has chosen its nine men to be its civic leaders in the new year.

The new council would appear to be a well-balanced one, containing as it does the town's present mayor and seven, an experienced councillor as deputy, two other present councillors, two new men from the western part of town and two from the eastern area.

The ratemayers, it would appear, not only endorsed a ward voting system in future, but distributed their ballots in the same fashion.

There had been much talk about the newer part of Georgetown being able to swing an election.

Last week's results proved a fallacy in this argument. A study of results, discounting Wards 3D to 3G, where newer residents live, shows that two top offices, school board and question votes would not have been disturbed had these areas not existed. There would have been a shuffling of council positions, but only one councillor gives his seat to a preponderance of votes in that area. East Georgetown did give the reeve'ship to Sargent over Gray, the deputy-reeve's position as road chairman undoubtedly doing him no good where roads are so much in the news.

To be sure, the subdivision voted heavily for candidates whose names were

there. So did the older part of town. Neither is a startling revelation, for municipal elections always have an element of personal popularity and people are inclined to vote for the man they know.

One thing which stood out this year was the increasing importance of candidate advertising. We heard a number of people say they didn't know many men personally and their only way of judging was to listen at the nomination meeting and read their platforms in the paper. There was agreement with the Herald proposal that there be an extra week between nominations and elections. The average ratepayer has little time to decide on his choice with the present one week.

Next year's council will miss Deputy Reeve Gray who has given such fine services as road chairman for several years. Another able administrator, who could be counted on to add zest to meetings, will also be missing Councillor Fred Harrison. Choosing voluntary retirement are John Gunn and John D. Kelly, who have both made good contributions as councillors.

Bob Burke, Jim Brown, Don Barrager and Jim Emmerson will take council seats for the first time in January. All seem like level-headed, sensible men who can contribute something to municipal government.

We congratulate the winners and commend those who didn't make the grade for their public spirit in wishing to serve our town.

Santa Parade....

Bigger and better than ever is a hackneyed phrase, yet each year it applies to the Santa Claus parade, a joint effort of Lions Club and Firemen.

For 29 years the parade has been a pre-Christmas feature in Georgetown. It started in a small way, with the Lions Club bringing Santa on a sled or wagon, dependent on the day's weather, and distribution of bags of candies to children at the four corners.

One year there were some hitches in the arrangements, Santa was late in arriving, and there was a long wait on a cold day for hundreds of youngsters and their parents. Erv Hyde, now Georgetown's mayor and at that time works foreman for the town, decided to give a hand and next year he volunteered to represent Santa, produced a costume which was the best yet and did the job in fine style.

It was at this time too that the fire de-

partment, where Mr. Hyde's brother Bill was chief, also volunteered an assist of the Lions by designing a handsome sleigh which, mounted on a float is on a par with any you could find.

The idea of floats came next, and for the past few years there has been growing interest as more and more organizations contribute their talents to make the parade something to remember. Outside entertainment is also part of the show now and this year marked a return of the attractive young Hamilton Flashettes, plus cheerleaders and band of the Hamilton Tiger Cats and the famous Saints band from Port Credit. The local Girls Pipe Band and Citizens Band added their quota of music for a 'really big show' as Ed Sullivan would say.

The Santa parade is now an established tradition in Georgetown.

The community owes a debt of gratitude to the hundreds of people who contribute to its success.

home devised nativity scene, an eye appealing front door.

There is no limit to what can be devised with a little thought and work.

We hope a majority of citizens will decorate, even if they aren't competing for a prize. Nothing makes a town look gaye than a coloured light or two on every home, a sprig of holly in the doorway and a lighted tree in the front window.

Christmas Decorating

The Chamber of Commerce is again promoting outside decorations on Georgetown homes by offering prizes for original and attractive displays.

The idea is not to award prizes to the person who spends the most on decorating. It is rather to encourage ingenuity and artistic arrangements. In past years, just a couple of strings of coloured lights arranged in an attractive way has won a prize; a

THE MAIL BAG

Appreciated Hospitality During Overseas Trip

3 Cleveholm, most interesting visit to Scotland and England as a member of the Canadian Pacific Farmers Tour Party.

Dear Sir: I recently returned from a The members of the group

were greatly impressed of the countryside, the efficiency of farming methods and above all by the generous and gracious hospitality of those who entertained us during visits to the farms.

We also visited many other places of interest, far too numerous to mention. Everywhere one is struck with the cleanliness and neat appearance of the towns and highways as well as the farmsteads. All arrangements were extremely well looked after by the Canadian Pacific Railway and the services and accommodations which they provided left nothing to be desired.

Yours truly,
— Harold Clave

HOLIDAY CUSTOMS

In Norway, there is always an almond hidden in the Christmas pudding and the finder, according to tradition, will be married during the next year. In Sweden, the Yule table is laden with hams, cakes and leaves of varying shapes and colors. Most people in the holiday menu headline for the Deneb, who stuff the bird with apples and prunes and serve it with cabbage and potatoes.



WHEN STEPPING OUT PUT YOUR BEST FOOT FORWARD

Controversial Corner

by Ian Cass

Controversial Corner Takes a Holiday

This column will not be seen in the Herald again until the middle of January. During recent weeks the pressure of other activities, business trips out of town and the bustle of the approaching festive season have made it increasingly difficult to find time for the considerable research which should support a column of this nature. Furthermore, after a year and a half on non-stop production I feel a certain staleness creeping in which a short recess may help to cure.

The sizeable reader interest in this column, indicated by the many comments I have received from all parts of town, has been most encouraging. During the first few weeks of the 'quiet' I often wondered if my wife was the only one who read it. As she handles all the typing chores around here she had little choice in the matter.

Labelled

During the past year I have been labelled by some readers as anti this or that. I have been accused of being against unionism, of being against the Conservative Government, of being intolerant towards young people, of being anti-American and a few others. I suppose it is inevitable. In broad, general terms the whole lot can be put in one pot for comment. The critical angle of this column is based on one strong belief. I believe that within the framework of our democratic system we have the facilities to create a society which is as close to ideal as the peculiarities of human nature will permit. Democracy can only be successful if the people are responsible, informed and educated. The success of a democratic society is the measure of those who contribute over those who merely take. The critical target of this column is those who back in the benefits of our society; take all they can and give nothing in return.

Here Now

I believe that the final testing time for democracy is not five, ten or fifty years away — it is here now. The battle for freedom may never see a gun fired or a bomb dropped because our so called 'free' society and our democratic way of life may destroy itself from within. Two individually identified and widely separated groups in our society are its most dangerous enemies. On the one hand are those who make most of the noise and most of the news, the violent trade union agitator who would be a rampant capitalist tomorrow if he inherited ten thousand dollars; the senior politician who blandishes glowing promises to his electors knowing, full well, that they are lies; those in control of mass dissemination of information, newspaper moguls, TV and radio executives for example, who deliberately slant, distort and select the material released; those in control of million dollar advertising campaigns which sop the public's mind with a nauseating philosophy of materialism and wanton waste of our resources; the irresponsible parents who begot children who, through parental ignorance and stupidity, pose a threat to society which results in police ac-

tion where police action does not belong. Finally, those responsible for education who, through arrogance and inability, fail to provide the best education for the most children. All these make up the first group.

Quiet People

The second group is more easily identified and is made up of the quiet people, those who have no voice because they accept democracy as a matter of fact. They are the people who are heard to say 'my vote won't make any difference', 'why should I protest, nobody will take any notice of me' or 'often use that current phrase of acute moral sickness, 'if you can't beat them join them'. If democracy is to survive it is the latter group who will be responsible for its survival. It is time for the quiet, submissive, timid man business-law abiding type of citizen to make a little more noise. Democratic ideology is not a passive thing and cannot be when its existence is threatened. It is time for the quiet people to realize this. The tools and weapons of democracy are free elections, free speech, free association and freedom from state persecution. If the quiet people are so inert and apathetic that they will take no part in the progress of democracy they will wake up one morning to find that democracy no longer exists.

Liberal Deals

It is this belief which has made this columnist a critical of the Liberal pipeline deals as he is of the Conservative economic ineptness. It is this belief which produces criticism of the Ontario Hydro land deals and of highly paid public servants who are hit-and-run drivers. It is behind the criticism of our educational system which I believe provides less than seventy-cents worth of education for every dollar spent. This belief has provided condemnation of corrupt labour racketeers alongside employers with sweatshop tactics. And it is this belief which has triggered acid comment on teenage activities which have their origin in the same irresponsible attitude which motivates the greedy adults who prey on this, often uninformed, section of our society.

A fig for your labels. The rattling empty noise of Conservative, Liberal, Union man, Capitalist, Teenage Anti-American, Colonialist, Communist, Intellectual, Catholic, Protestant — these mean nothing to me and arouse neither support nor

condemnation. My support is for freedom and truth, logic and charity.

And now, au revoir until January.

10 and 25 YEARS AGO ECHOES

From the Pages of The Herald Dec. 13, 1950, and Dec. 18, 1935

10 YEARS AGO

A former resident of Norval Miss Olive Rankine, appeared on the Singing Stars of Tomorrow radio program broadcast over the CBE network Sunday evening. Miss Rankine is studying voice in the city.

Georgetown has a new garage man, Sid Carson, who last week took over ownership of the former Hewson Motors on Mill St. Mr. Carson has purchased the business from Tom Hewson who established it several years ago.

Officers of the Provincial Paper Quarter Century Club were elected at their annual dinner last week. Arthur Herbert is president, succeeding Hugh Dickie. Leonard Marchmont is vice-president; Anne Hickey secretary-treasurer; and Fred McCartney executive member.

The Sold Out sign was hung out at St. John's Auditorium when the 50-50 club presented their comedy play "The Absent Minded Professor." Rev. John M. Smith directed the play with the assistance of Mrs. Jas. Evans, and Frank Whittier was property man. Supporting Graham Farnell as the professor was a cast including Jim Evans, Mr. and Mrs. Vern Mcumber, Mr. and Mrs. Erv Hyde, Mrs. Robert Wyatt, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Lee, Mrs. A. Zeravsky, Geo. Taylor, and Mrs. Alan Frouse.

25 YEARS AGO

The three year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. Doyle was knocked down on Main St. by an auto last Thursday but fortunately escaped serious injury.

The high school basketball team defeated Lorne Riffes at the Armory Tuesday night by 18 to 10. High school: Marchmont, Foullis, Lunan, Barber, Duncan, Beaumont, MacLaren, McNally, Lorne Riffes; Davidson, Wiley, Brunton, Cochran, Collier, R. Lorusso and F. Lorusso.

The suggestion was made to the council that since there is no striker on the clock in the new post office, the bell might be taken down off the town hall and used for that purpose. The property committee was instructed to look into the feasibility of having the bell moved.

At the Georgy Theatre: The Wanderer of the Wasteland starring Dean Jagger and Buster Crabbe; Here Comes the Band starring Ted Lewis and his band and Virginia Brundy; Curly Top starring Shirley Temple.

Tree Trimming

In most things, one has to start at the bottom and work up. This is not the best approach when decorating a Christmas tree. Trees are much easier to trim from the top down. The tree trimmer who starts elsewhere runs not only the risk of knocking off some of the ornaments but as well the danger of knocking over the tree.

A VISIT TO SUNSHINE SCHOOL

By Anne Currie

I went to a Ladies' Auxiliary meeting the other night, and came away with a feeling of guilt and shame. Why? This was the Auxiliary for the Milton Sunshine School for the retarded, and my shame was for the lack of patience shown by normal children in the face of the calm matter of fact patience of these mothers of retarded children.

The meeting was much the same as most meetings of fund raising organizations, but the atmosphere was more dedicated and more unselfish, with the mothers discussing the progress of their children.

Progress to them, meant things like combing their hair slowly, the dumbest in the speaking a little more clearly, and learning to read a little. Some can read quite well, due to the infinite patience and love of their teachers Mr. R. Jeff and Mrs. Y. Mitchell. Mrs. English of Weber Drive gives speech therapy classes — an impersonal name for a most loved up to its name and important work. To us, who take speech for granted, the long hours, even years of painstaking effort in teaching these children to talk clearly, can scarcely be understood.

Most mothers at some time have said, "Oh, stop talking for a little while," but to these mothers it is a great joy just to hear a simple coherent phrase from a child who has just kept pushing the thought away. How much heartbreak. The school is a tiny two roomed affair, with a small kitchen. At one time it was an office. Despite the drab setting it is bright and homey inside with children's drawings on the walls, much like any kindergarten. Although they told me, for myself, I don't draw and handwork are a much higher calibre than any I've seen in most schools.

A piano and rhythm mats are an integral part of their training. Mrs. Bunker, wife of an Acton psychiatrist, teaches eurythmics, that is dancing and their parents

cing and moving to music freely, with no set pattern. This is not only great fun, but helps the co-ordination of the muscles.

As in other schools, the children's times were on the blackboard with varying numbers of stars beside them. If ever, some of these children who look and act quite normal have been in ordinary public schools before coming here, some in kindergarten, some in Grade I, and some as far as Grade II. The extent of this or that may be imagined, when you realize to them every day was an agony of frustration, trying to cope with problems completely beyond their capabilities. Always being the slowest, the dumbest in the class, the blackboard for achievement are not chalk stars but very precious jewels. Little wonder the mothers, who have suffered every hurt with the child, are enthusiastic about the Sunshine School, for it has lived up to its name and brought a little sunshine into lives that were dreary indeed.

After the meeting when groups were standing around, I thought there was something wrong with the mothers, who have just kept pushing the thought away. How much heartbreak. This is not a plea for money, although it will be needed before the new school on the 7th avenue is above hurriedly started, this is a plea for understanding of both the retarded child and their parents.

Suggestions for Starting Museum...

Note: If other places in Ontario can establish museums and conservation authorities can mark historical sites, what is wrong with a county museum in Milton? In this, the concluding article of three, a man with a complete collection of Indian artifacts from right here in Milton county gives his ideas on the project.

By Roy Downs... in the Milton Champlain

In presenting this story to the reader, I have tried to answer the four W's that a writer must answer in writing a story — Who? What? When? Why? — and the fifth question — How? So far, only one question has been answered, Why a County Museum? The question of Who? presents the first problem. County Council would seem to be the logical answer, as the history included in a proposed museum would cover the whole county. A committee should be named to study the matter.

Valuable Articles Lost. When? We can answer easily. — right now. Why wait any longer for this necessity, which should have been started years ago? The longer the museum is held in abeyance, the more valuable articles will be lost. Every day antique dealers are gobbling up many priceless objects and selling them, mostly to American tourists who pay fantastic prices for such things. And auction sales on some of the county's older farms are turning over many more good treasures which belong inside the walls of a museum. These articles include old glassware, kitchenware, guns, implements and so on — not Indian relics, but story-telling parts of life from our early white settlers.

Study Founding. Then comes the question, how? A committee appointed by county council to study the founding of a museum could be a sure step in the right direction. The committee might work in conjunction with the Women's Institutes of the county which are presently gathering historical data for a Tweeddale History. It could all be started so easily! Help is unlimited! John Michie of Limahouse, whose collection of Indian artifacts awaits the opening of the doors of the museum, has an idea which might be worth considering. He suggests a building in Milton to contain an excellent museum coupled with a library!

Joint Museum — Library. The amalgamation of the two important fields of thought would combine sight with thought and mental stimulation of books," he said. "This could be the answer to our neglected libraries. I firmly believe that a librarian with suitable assistance could look after both aspects of a joint museum and library." "Today too much emphasis is placed on better living instead of better thinking. Obviously, living better is only raising the death rate, and lowering our standard of morals. Better thinkers are more apt to be equipped against heart disease, drinking diseases and driving diseases," he adds.

Good Location. A good location would draw good crowds and even with a nominal admission charge, it would keep itself going, he explains. Milton's Huronia Museum and Indian Village are self-supporting while in the States all museums are commercially run and making money hand over fist.

Perhaps Milton is not the best location for the museum, he says but its central location would be helpful. And John's collection of Indian artifacts isn't all that could be included in the museum right now. There are many collections of antiques across the county which the owners would be glad to donate free of charge.

It's not an impossibility... it just needs a bit of leadership and a little work to get started. Readers are invited to submit their ideas on this project to this newspaper. Whatever help is received will be greatly appreciated.

THE END

WINTER RECREATED: One of the most popular of all winter recreations is the Nativity scene. In settings such as this above at the New York Botanical Gardens, the Nativity is presented with life-size figures. In the arrangement above, the shepherds are shown approaching the holy birthplace.

SOUTHERN GREETINGS: Fans in other parts of the country are showing more and more interest in holiday greetings in this fashion. These pretty scenes are especially desired for the season, when the