Georgetown Herald

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

Twelve Busy Years

General regret is felt by townspeople in the departure this week of Rev. Alex Calder, his wife and family for their new home in Peterborough. Tinged also, of course, with good wishes in his new post as minister of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church there.

Mr. Calder is the dean of ideal ministers, having been in town longer than any of his confreres in the other churches. And like most ministers, he has contributed much more to town than his duties would call for to his own church people.

He was particularly active in the fund campaign for Georgetown Hospital, heading the important residential canvass. He is a past president of the figure skating club, was vice president of the Chamber of Commerce, and has been padre of the Lorne Scots Regiment. At county level, he served on the executive of the Children's Aid Society, and has been associated with the school for retarded children.

In church affairs, he is a past president of Georgetown Ministerial Association, has served as moderator of West Toronto Presbytery and is a member of the board of Knox College.

Despite his busy life as minister at Knox and Limehouse, and these many private activities, he has been outstanding in social service work. Things which, of necessity, must be done privately and receive no publicity, exemplify his true religious spirit and there are dozens of residents who have been helped in a concrete way by his interest in them.

Hockey teams of all age groups will miss an avid supporter too in Mr. Calder, and those who have heard him sing will miss this fine voice which has graced many public gatherings.

His contributions to Georgetown have been many, and our Peterborough neighbours can consider themselves fortunate that his activities will now be centred in that community.

An Old Friend

The Herald is saddened this week to report the death of an old friend, Mrs. Mary Baily, whose news contributions from Stewarttown have been missing for the past few years from the paper.

Mrs. Baily was one of several community minded citizens of our neighbouring communities who took the trouble each week to report the little happenings which contribute to a municipality's history.

She reported personals, church meetings and bits of local love. Weddings, deaths and births. Accidents, illnesses and school awards. Whatever happened in Stewarttown did not escape her eye, and she used the good judgment of a weekly reporter in suppressing news which might hurt someone, in selecting news items with care and reporting them with tact.

We have missed her column of news and it is a sincere regret that we know she will not be able again to share her cheery personality through the weekly pages.

Man's Inhumanity

In these days when man's inhumanity to man is constantly reflected in world news, Kingsblood Royal, the last novel of Sinclair Lewis should be recommended reading for everyone.

We picked up a copy last weekend for one of the infrequent reading binges which eyes, tired by constant daily use, cannot indulge in too often.

A Lewis fan for many years, we were expecting a book like Main Street or Cass Timberlane. Aim he no sure he dissected human beings in the same way ... but is subtle and also powerful but once read, Kingsblood Royal will leave an indelible impression on one's mind.

We lived with Neil Kingsblood's story, and felt a lasting trouble to his literary powers, as well as one of the most powerful documents against bigotry which could ever be devised.

It's available at the local library and we strongly recommend it.

IT'S JUNE IN JANUARY

Sugar and Spice

Dispensed by BILL SMILEY

One of my Grade 11 students is intensely interested in unidentified flying objects, and visitors from outer space. I think he expected me to scoff when he told me about it. On the contrary, I assured him there was nothing ridiculous about such stories, and mentioned one such visitor I'd had myself. He spread the word, and next thing I knew, all the kids in the class were clamoring to hear the story.

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There was no choice but to read it to them, just as I had put it down two years ago. Most of you will remember it, but I think it bears retelling, if only to prove that you can't tangle with the flue, eleventy seven exam papers, and the January blues and turn out a scintillating column. So here it is:

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It was about 10 p.m. My wife was out to a meeting. The kids were off to sleep. I was looking at a picture in the paper, conclusive evidence that the human race is mammalian, of Miss Jayne Mansfield, modelling a dress cut to prove that the young lady's bust is indeed bigger than her butt, or whichever it's supposed to be. I must admit I was enjoying myself, in a disgusted sort of way.

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Suddenly I had a nasty feeling that someone was reading over my shoulder. I whirled around and there he was. Next thing I know, I was up on top of the mantel, quavering, "How you?"

It wasn't the fact that he was stark naked and four feet high that startled me. Nor that he was a peculiar pea-green all over. Nor that he had only one eye, and that of deep purple set right at the end of his short, square nose.

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What really shook me, and continued to alarm me throughout the ensuing exchange, was that he had something that mightily resembled a stalk of celery growing out of his navel, and that every few minutes he'd snap off a piece, sprinkle some salt on it, and shoving it into his mouth, which was, of course located in his left armpit, crunch happily on it.

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Then he spoke. At least, I'm not sure whether he spoke. He may have used some type of mental telepathy or thought transference. At any rate, we carried on a conversation.

"Don't be alarmed," he soothed. "They told me to find an average Earthman and you're about as average as they come." Crunch, crunch. "Well thanks," I retorted, trying to get some sarcasm into my shaky tremolo. "Thanks very much. I'm sure."

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"They wondered," he went on rather indifferently, snapping off another piece, crunch, crunch, "if there was any point in taking over this third-rate planet, as planned, and trying to do something with the natives. Far as I'm concerned, you're not worth the trouble we'd have with you. But I'm only the chairman of the investigating committee." Crunch, crunch.

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"Hey, wait a minute!" I protested, albeit faintly. "We're not so bad as all that. We may have our little faults, but after all, we're all human and . . ." **But I stopped talking and shook** in my boots when his purple eye turned red and angry-looking.

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"Human, eh?" he snorted. "Oh, you're a grand lot, you humans. You preach brotherly love, and every 20 or 30 years you murder each other by millions. You boast of human kindness, but you hold your grain for the right price while millions of humans starve. Your best brains are totally engrossed in making two things — more horrible weapons and more money. Your churches are monuments to a lost cause. Your women are greedy shrews. You wallow in poisons — liquor, nicotine, coffee. Your heroes are adulterous actresses and thick-headed athletes . . ."

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Laziness he was getting pretty worked up, because just then the top flew off his little pointed head and smoke poured out. I must have fainted in terror, because my wife came in and found me in front of the fireplace in a deep swoon. When I tried to tell her about it, she went straight to the kitchen and checked the contents of the medicinal bottle of brandy. There wasn't a drop out of it, so she said it must have been the venison pie and the cream cheese crust that I'd made for dinner.

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But I knew better. I stopped trying to convince her, but I did permit myself a mirthless little chuckle when she wanted to know why I had let the kids drop celery all over the living room.

THE DISTRICT at a Glance

BRAMPTON

Brampton is about to have its first privately owned industrial subdivision. E. A. Mitchell, real estate agent for the project, revealed that the work on the subdivision services will be started by spring.

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OAKVILLE

The removal of snow and ice from the roof tops of public buildings will soon be required by law, Oakville council decided at its meeting last week.

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MILTON

Two members of a group of Milton youths tobogganing down Rattlesnake Point hill last week collided with a car at the bottom and are in hospital. The boys suffered injuries to their legs, chests, and faces.

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BURLINGTON

A Burlington man, missing for a week, turned up in Los Angeles last week, the apparent victim of amnesia. The man became the object of a widespread search after his wife reported him missing. He had left his office after complaining of a headache but did not arrive home.

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STREETVILLE

The Ontario Municipal Board last week approved Streetsville's application to become a town effective, January 1, 1962. The move toward the change was begun after a comprehensive study by village council and industrial commission which found the increase in prestige would ease dealings with industrial prospects.

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ORANGEVILLE

Orangeville and Grand Valley's high school boards received high praise from the people they employ -- the teachers. A survey "report card" was sent to teachers in the province by the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation. The confidential memo showed that generally teachers approved their boards.

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BRAMPTON

The first automobile to be built in Brampton rolled off the assembly line last week. Seven months after the ground breaking ceremony of the $3,500,000 plant a 1961 Rambler Classic six was ready for the road.

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ACTON

Tentative approval was received at last week's council meeting for the construction of a $150,000 waterworks project. The project includes a 1,000,000 gallon reservoir and the necessary watermains to connect with the present town system.

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BURLINGTON

Several people have reported seeing snowy owls this winter in Burlington. According to John Lamoureux, conservationist at the Royal Botanical Garden Headquarters, these and other carnivorous birds such as hawks, come down almost every winter from the Arctic barrens.

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OAKVILLE

Oakville residents are looking to the Oakville - Trafalgar Business Protective Bureau for advice on how to handle racket salesmen who claim to have been cleared through the bureau. The OBPB advised several victims that they would do well to check with that organization in future before signing any contracts.

Has Lucky Lamb

A sheep's hoof may replace the traditional rabbit's foot as the symbol of good luck — at least in the Everton district.

The basis of the switch is an unusual bit of fortune which embraced Mrs. Lenore Benham, an Everton resident who entered a lamb named "Jimmy" in the Walkerton Christmas Fair.

The lucky lamb:

(1) Won the grand championship.

(2) Was sold for top price at an auction at the show.

(3) Was donated by the new owner to the Bruce Junior Farmers and raffled off.

(4) Was won by — you guessed it — the same Mrs. Lenore Benhame of Everton, who brought him to the show.

Said Mrs. Benham heading home with the prize money, top auction price, and the lamb, "I'll be back next year."

Controversial Corner

by Ian Cass

A Last Look at 1960

The year just ended has not been too encouraging for those who yearn for peace and prosperity for the human race. Mr. Khruchev's shoe - thumping activities at the UN following the breakdown of disarmament talks in Geneva, the bloody disorders in the Belgian Congo that was, the violent clashes in Algiers, the thorny Mr. Castro in Cuba, border incidents in India, fighting in Laos, the issues of the U. 2 flights over Russia and so on, almost without end. It is to be wondered at that no major conflict has broken out. Nevertheless, we still have an uneasy world peace, so let us be thankful for that.

A First Look at 1961

As Controversial Corner makes its first appearance this year, the path of free men looks just as thorny as it did a year ago. This column will continue, in its small way, the fight against prejudice and ignorance, against political corruption and dishonesty, against hypocricy and humbug. We shall continue a campaign aimed at making people uncomfortable rather than adding to their comfort; strong in the belief that the western nations contain far too many people who are blindly comfortable.

I believe that 1961 will be a critical year for our way of life. I think that in the present war, fought with weapons of ideology for the minds of men, the free nations must be stronger or the battle will be lost. At the moment, even our educational system is manacled by the apathy, indifference and plain stupidity of a large number of comfortable people.

While the benevolent influence of the Festive Season still clings faintly to my pen, let me pass on the following good wishes for the New Year.

To France

The wish that they would find the maturity of mind and spirit to cease atom bomb tests. The uneasy, no-further-tests agreement between the U.S. the U.K. and the U.S.S.R. is one of the very few bright lights of the crisis-ridden year of 1960. Atom bomb tests in the Sahara Desert may hold some power of intimidation to the U.A.R. and to the Algerian natives, but its sickening futility is obvious to thinking people all over the world.

To President John F. Kennedy

The wish that he will realize that atom bombs continue to be produced in large quantities, not because the U.S. hasn't already stockpiled enough to destroy humanity, but because it's easier to go on producing than to put a stop to it. Also the wish that he will discover that the two billion dollars to be spent by the U.S. on its accelerated space program is more in the form of inflated nationalism than scientific progress — and that having discovered this he will see that something more useful is done with the money.

To Prime Minister Diefenbaker

The wish that he would open his eyes to the undisputable fact that unemployment and a depressed economy cannot be cured by (a) blaming the Liberals, (b) forming boards, or councils, or commissions of investigation, (c) pretending it doesn't exist. Also, that when he has opened his eyes he will see that the only thing Canada lacks to provide real prosperity is good management and hard work.

To Canadian Trade Union Leaders

The wish that they would realize the futility of insisting on a larger slice of cake when there is only beef hash in the cupboard. Also that they will encourage the re-creation of a Canadian - owned Merchant Navy to sail the seven seas in view of the fact that labour disputes wound up our previous ocean fleet.

To Canadian Manufacturers

The wish that they would encourage the establishment of a minimum wage scale for all Canadian workers.

To Those Bereaved by the World's Worst Air Disaster

The wish that 1961 will dim the horror and bitterness of their terrible loss on December 16th. Also that the two policemen who gallantly rescued the only original survivor, eleven-year-old Stephen Blatz, only to be informed of his death in hospital shortly after, will realize that their action, although in vain, was an inspiration to all who read of it.

To The Reverend Lloyd Foreman

Best wishes for the New Year and sincere gratitude for his courageous stand in strife-torn New Orleans. With this goes the hope that the white savages who have been screaming and raging at him and his daughter for supporting school integration will replace the periously thin veneer of civilization which they so joyously shed during recent weeks. The actions of this brave man shine like a beacon in the darkness of prejudice, violence and ignorance which appear to grip so many of the white population in some of these Southern towns. At the same time it must be remembered that the majority of the U.S. white population actively support coloured integration and that is an admirable thing.

To Bill Weir of the Georgetown Radicals

Best wishes for the New Year and many thanks for the assistance given to this stranded motorist on the coldest night of the year so far. The Radicals are a local club of young men whose activities include the promotion of safe driving and helping stranded motorists. Bill came to my assistance late one night in December when my car stalled in the ten below zero temperature.

Trucking Industry Plans Student Bursary Help

Nine representatives of Ontario's trucking industry, nursing a $42,000 budget, have laid plans to play Santa Claus next September to approximately 200 deserving and needy students throughout the province.

Members of the board of trustees of the ATA Trucking Industry Educational Foundation Inc., they reported record Christmas contributions from ATA member firms to support university education. The funds will be distributed in bursary awards next fall.

Under a novel plan started three years ago, these firms discontinued the practice of giving Christmas gifts to customers and contributed the money to the Foundation. Contributions in 1958 amounted to $14,326 and assisted 58 students. Last year's contributions, amounting to $37,900 went to aid approximately 180 students.

Foundation chairman Robert D. Grant, of Toronto told the annual meeting that the number of firms contributing has risen from 22 to 54 and the fund was expected to top the $50,000 mark next year.

"The response shows that members feel they are making a more worth-while contribution on behalf of their customers than they would by distributing individual Christmas gifts," he said.

In addition to the aid to Ontario students, $7,500 already has been contributed to assist a similar foundation which began operations in Quebec last year.

An outright grant of $3,500 was made to University of Toronto from last year's funds, along with two grants of $2,500 to Queen's and University of Western Ontario. Further grants of $1,200 went to Assumption University, Carleton University, McMaster University, University of Waterloo and Ontario Agricultural College. Grants of $[illegible] were made to Laurentian University, University of Ottawa and York University.

Direct aid to students amounted to $15,950.

In all cases the recipients are students who could not continue their studies without outside aid. In order to qualify, it is not necessary for a student to attain the 66 per cent standing required for most other bursaries and scholarships.

All administrative costs of operating the Foundation are borne by the Automotive Transport Association.

The meeting of the Foundation re-elected Mr. Grant as chairman, C. Vedhoar, Toronto president of the ATA as vice chairman, H. G. White, Hamilton secretary and M. B. Davis, Toronto treasurer. Trustees elected were P. A. Duck, Chatham, W. J. Hines, S. V. Martin, J. Walsh all of Toronto. In addition, Mr. Ian H. Lute, Toronto, was elected to represent traffic managers.

Modern Calendar Adopted in 1752

The arrival of a New Year calls to mind the discussion in the Book of Knowledge of the various calendars which have been in use throughout the world. Neither the Roman calendar nor its successor, the Julian calendar, coincided with a true year. As time went on confusion resulted. It was not removed until Pope Gregory introduced his calendar in 1582 and established the year at 365 days, 5 hours, 49 minutes, 12 seconds. However England did not adopt this calendar until 1752 and when it came into force eleven days had to be dropped to make it work.

LEAVE TOURNIQUET ON

In describing how to arrange a tourniquet to arrest serious bleeding the Book of Knowledge emphasizes that only a doctor or other qualified person should remove it.

MERRY MENAGERIE By Walt Disney

"Look, fella—don't you think you'd better stick to chickens?"

10 and 25 YEARS AGO

ECHOES

From the Pages of the Herald, January 10th, 1951, and January 15th, 1936

10 YEARS AGO

- Jim Martin of Normandy Blvd. was elected president of the Georgetown Recreation Commission at the annual meeting of that organization last night in the municipal office. Alex Maclaren is honourary president, John Malcolm is 1st vice president, A. M. Baxter is treasurer and Mrs. Joe Emmerson secretary.
- The Raiders already plagued with injuries have another regular out of action. Max Bradbury broke his wrist in the game Friday against Dundas, which Raiders won 7-5.
- At a meeting in the fire hall on Sunday the members of the fire brigade chose their officers for 1961. Harry Savings continue as fire chief, William Hyde as deputy chief, Erwin Lewis is driver, with Willam Ritchie, Bob Bonfield, Wilf Breen, Walter Richardson, and Don Barrager assistant drivers.

25 YEARS AGO

- Many of us enjoyed Johnny Emmerson, Georgetown's radio artist in his program of songs over CHML last Saturday. The program was presented by Hugh Lindsay, Georgetown's radio expert.
- The official opening of Georgetown's fine new post office will take place on Saturday, January 25th at 3 o'clock. Dr. Anderson exM.P. of Halton will officiate and Mayor Gibbons will be chairman.
- At the Gregory Theatre — The Case of the Lucky Legs starring Warren Williams and Patricia Ellis; Transatlantic Tunnel starring Richard Dix and Madge Evans; and Broadway Melody starring Jack Benny and 15 stars.

Few Plates Yet Sold Says Licence Branch

With 1961 car markers on sale last Monday, January 2nd, relatively few motorists have obtained their plates as yet.

Department officials point out that while the deadline is again Wednesday, March 15th, all motorists would be wise to obtain their plates early. With almost two weeks of the ten-week licencing period gone, and relatively few plates sold, officials fear that the same type of lineup that occurred across the province in 1958 and 1957 could occur again.

This year's plates are, for those who like a distinctive number, relatively short ones. Starting at A37000 they continue into the A40000 series, and trucks are even smaller with only four numbers.

The Dept of Transport office is open each weekday, including Mondays, from 9 until 5, and is open on Saturdays until 1 p.m. The office is located at 41 Main Street South. Mrs. L. Clark is the agent.

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