

Georgetown Herald

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

Everything Was Good!....

Easter week will be a highlight in Georgetown's history in years to come.

Over 500 young hockey players, their coaches and managers and large contingents of parents and friends converged on Georgetown to put the International Bantam Hockey Tournament over with a bang which resounded for miles.

It was a wonderful week of activity.

A week of hard work for dozens of ladies who prepared and served the hundreds of meals which brought such high praise from visitors. A week of hard work for executives, referees, timekeepers, and the dozens of men who helped around the arena. Week of excitement as players were billeted in homes. And a week of pleasure for youngsters who made the arena their headquarters, and for hockey fans of all ages who were treated to a fine calibre of sport.

Thinking back to a Chamber of Commerce executive meeting early last summer, one realizes how big oaks materialize from acorns.

That day Jack Gudgeon, who has been intimately associated with minor hockey as a coach, suggested that Georgetown should sponsor a tournament for bantams similar to those operated in Goderich and Milton for other age groups.

The Chamber explained that it has no way of raising funds and could not sponsor the tournament, but voted a small monetary

assist and moral support, with the suggestion that the three service clubs be asked to head up an initial committee.

One thing led to another and after a meeting or two, decision was made to take the plunge and Walter (Red) Asseline, who already spends the bulk of his spare time aiding hockey and lacrosse activities, was pressed into service as chairman. And with 'Red' at the helm, the tournament could not possibly fail.

The organization of such an ambitious undertaking is terrific and only those who were privileged to sit in on the meetings could realize the endless amount of detail which the committee was faced with.

Invitation letters were the first step. Trophy donors had to be found; between game entertainment provided; transportation of players to their billets. The meals and billeting were major problems to solve. Booster tickets had to be pushed to raise enough money to put the committee over financial hurdles. Referees and timekeepers had to be found, especially for the daytime games.

There were bound to be hitches and discouragements.

But surprisingly enough these were in the minority. And to the uneducated eye one would have thought that the Georgetown tournament had been going for years, so smoothly did it operate.

It was a fine week, and one for which we think the men and women responsible



TWENTIETH CENTURY GOLGOTHA

Controversial Corner

by Ian Cass

Having been interested in politics for the past twenty years and associated with political and political affairs for much of that time, I have come to the conclusion that people in public office who believe that dogmatism is considered opinion and that unreasoned conviction shows personal strength, pose a great threat to the administration.

Probably the best example of the closed mind is illustrated by that famous quotation, "My mind is made up, don't confuse me with the facts." As I grow older in this business I become aware of more and more people who have made their minds on a host of complex controversies without having made any effort to obtain any of the facts. Of course making up your mind on a question without too much conflicting information is easy and formed an unshakable opinion on a particular issue. It is to close your mind to the ridiculous idea that your opinion could be wrong, this will avoid the discomfort of having to reason out additional facts as they become available.

Another Way

Another way to avoid the necessity for continual reasoning, which might be quite a chore for some, is to make sure any discussion on contentious issues is maintained on a level which frustrates fact and dumb argument. At this time, the closed mind is a must. The first essential is to speak only in boring clichés and tedious platitudes. The second essential is to keep the conversation on a personal or emotional basis — this will prevent the facts from being discussed. The third essential, if all else fails, is to introduce as many irrelevant comments and inconsequential questions as possible. All this will ensure a fruitless discussion and avoid the uncomfortable necessity for thought or the revolutionary idea that some preformed opinion may, just possibly, be wrong.

Rarely Shaken

The man with a closed mind is rarely shaken in his convictions. His mind is so easily made up, often supported by a strong ego, that he must find it difficult to understand why others should continually wrestle with the problems he disposed of so quickly. To him there is no problem. Here are the available facts, here is my opinion. That only half the facts are available is of no importance. That the opinion formed today may be completely invalid tomorrow is likewise of no importance.

Mental Weakness

The man with the closed mind may not always be so because of stupidity or mental weakness. Frequently all-considered convictions of men are those that they wish to have in order to continue a life of self-deception. The man who beats his wife may have the conviction that it does the girl good to have a smack across the face now and again — he closes his mind to the idea that his opinion may be a wrong one in order to be able to live with himself. The man who has voted for a particular political party all his life may close his mind to the idea that a government by that party may be a bad one — if he opens his mind it may be established that he has been wrong. In the Provincial and Federal Governments, where the party system is in operation, a continual pressure is exerted on M.P.'s and M.P.P.'s to vote and speak in support of the party line; to close their minds to effective and reasoned comments which members of other parties provide. This system can only result in decisions of great importance to us all being made, not on the basis of what is right, but on the basis of which party tag is applied to which particular motion.

standards set during the past months they will provide a real service to the public — complementary to CBC programming, yet containing a high proportion of different Canadian talent, a program which has some of the sickness of U.S. stations but is not yet dominated by interminable commercials.

Rick Campbell's show, Better Late, is particularly good. Here is a show of the informal interview type which, in my opinion, out-foxes Jack Paar. Furthermore, it is not ruined by commercial breaks every five minutes nor is it necessary to stay up half the night to watch it. The music-ship of the trio providing background music to this show is, in itself, a delight to the ear.

EXIT TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS

To the supporters of that emblem, the Toronto Maple Leafs, last week brought the final, crushing, almost unbelievable blow. They were knocked out of the Stanley Cup playoffs by Detroit in five games after starting the series four to one favourites. Being a Leafs supporter myself I am naturally biased but will comment anyway. The only game Toronto seemed to want to win was the fifth game and then it was too late, although the breaks could have gone the other way. Any similarity between Toronto of the playoffs and the team which beat Canadians three weeks ago is purely coincidental. Mahovich decided that the season ended around the middle of February and was just an interested observer during the play-off if they ever get around to really cleaning up NHL ice-hockey. I can think of one Detroit player who might then fail to impress everybody with his ice-time because he'd be too busy warming the bench in the penalty box.

However, sour grapes to one side Toronto gave their support a pretty exciting season at that regardless of their ignominious finish. My guess is that next year if the team plays as a team if they don't suffer such a crippling injury and if they get themselves a good coach as well as a good publicity man they will capture both big plums in NHL hockey.

THE DISTRICT AT A GLANCE

ROCKWOOD

Notice was given at a recent meeting of the trustees of the police village of Rockwood that a motion will be introduced at the next regular meeting to incorporate the community as a village.

BRAMPTON

Over-crowding at Brampton's Peel Memorial Hospital is becoming serious. The hospital's corridors are being used for wards and beds being wheeled to another room now have only six inches of either side because of the extra beds. A request to the county for \$640,000 to cover an addition to the hospital was turned down.

ORANGEVILLE

A three-roomed Roman Catholic Separate School will be built in Orangeville this year. It will be the first separate school in the history of Dufferin County.

ERIN

Fire of unknown origin completely destroyed the poultry barn of Dave Root, 5th Line, Erin, just north of 24 Highway. Included in the loss were 1,450 laying chickens, feed and tractor.

ACTON

Commenting on the Georgetown Raider demise the Acton Free Press remarks "If the club runs true to form they will probably enter some sort of protest although it could be a trifle embarrassing for them with the OHA proxy roasting

SUGAR and SPICE

By Bill Smiley

"Golly, Dad, are you ever shot down, and patted them in the other day that I'd been born in 1920, just a couple of years after World War I. You'd have thought it was immediately following the Gay Nineties, to hear his tone.

There is only one comfort, as the years rush by. One's age values change conveniently. When you are 10, anybody over 21 is middle-aged. By the time you are 15, you realize that people aren't middle-aged until they're 30 or more. When you are 25, middle age begins at 40. And when you are 40, you are serene in the knowledge that you won't really be in middle age until you are about 55.

This disparity in point of view is brought home to me with some force when I'm talking to teenagers at school. One day we all saw a film on the history of flight. It contained some shots of aerial combat in World War I.

Later, I remarked jokingly that I'd enjoying seeing some of the old aircraft I'd flown myself in those days. They didn't get the joke. They really thought I'd been a World War I pilot.

This would make me at least 60. I asked them sharply how old they thought I was. One particularly sweet girl in Grade 10 said, "You don't look it, sir."

That's why a lot of us World War II veterans, who keep thinking the war was just a few years ago, should pull our heads out of the sand.

We may feel that we're still practically gray young blades, but we should realize that a whole new generation has grown up, to whom our war is as remote as the Crimean War was to us, at the same age.

Just the same, it's fun to look back. About the same day my son was relegating me to the horseless carriage era, my daughter, while prowling around for something to read, came across my old prisoner-of-war log book. She went through it in one sitting. From time to time she looked at me curiously, cocked an eyebrow, and read on.

I'd forgotten what was in that log book. But I found out. Young Kim went to her mother with it and said, "Look at this, Mom." She was pointing to two pages of photographs of striking young ladies.

I had them in my wallet when shot down, and patted them in the book under the youthful, silly, but harmless heading My Comforters.

Despite the fact that some of those girls are now doublets on the verge of grandmotherhood, the Old Lady got sore. She gave the snapshots one long searing look, gave me another, sneered "Oh, weren't you the charmer!" and bounced off to finish her washing. Kim looked pleased.

I decided to take a look through the old book myself, and spent a thoroughly enjoyable hour, like an old maid with her faded ribbons and her dance programs. It took me from the dreariness of early April, from the morass of middle-class domesticity, back to a time when I was young and tough, completely irresponsible, and slightly wicked.

There were the names, many of them forgotten, of the motley crew in my barracks. I wonder what Jannie de Wet of South Africa thinks of Canada these days? Is Nils Jorgenson back on his railway job in Oslo? How does Don McGibbon of Bulawayo feel about the riots in his Rhodesian homeland? What's the income of Tony Frumolo of Atlanta, Ga. 2? Did Clancy Cleary ever get his dairy farm going in Australia? On which side of the Iron Curtain did Rostislav Knavsky, the Czech, land?

There were the crazy cartoons by "Chuck," the mad Ukrainian, spoofing the Germans. There were the old prison-camp recipes for turnip jam and prune whiskey and powdered milk pie. There were the incredible stories — like that of the Dutch lad who was shot down and taken prisoner while on leave.

There were the excerpts from letters-from-home. They were horrible in their thoughtlessness, but we thought them hilarious. For example: "We are sending you a five-year calendar. feeling it may come in handy." And this one, from a wife: "I'm afraid I'm going to have a baby. His father is a Canadian and very nice. He says he is sorry for you and is sending you some cigarettes."

There was the long list of things to do when I got out — pubs, girls and restaurants to be revisited, places to see, gifts to buy. There was the entire account, in tiny writing, of what had happened to me after I was shot down — a comedy of errors.

And there, right at the back of the book, tucked into a little flap, was something that brought me up with a jolt. It was a head-and-shoulders photo of a young fellow scowling at the camera. He was whiskery and dirty. But there wasn't a line in his face, his eyes were clear and sharp, he had a shock of thick, dark hair, and he looked as tough as tow rope. I looked at it for quite a while.

10 and 25 YEARS AGO

ECHOES

From the Pages of the Herald, April 11, 1951, and April 15, 1936

10 YEARS AGO

- Familiar in Georgetown music circles, W. Ed Capps died at his Brampton home Sunday. He was 65.
- Members of Norval Presbyterian Church have extended a call to Rev. Lockhart Royal, which he has accepted. At present he is finishing his divinity work at Knox College.
- Georgetown Recreation Commission has resigned. Decision to disband the present organization came at a meeting called Sunday following action by the town council in not including any fund grant to the GRC in the 1951 budget.

25 YEARS AGO

- The Georgetown Lions Club held their first annual Business Men's Nite at the Hotel McGibbon on Monday evening. A large number of local businessmen were guests of the club. Ex-mayor Stewart of Toronto was the guest speaker.
- The membership of the Winged Wheelers cycle club is increasing by leaps and bounds. In just a week's time the membership has jumped from 15 to 30. On Saturday Joe Wilcox and George Riddall will compete in the 25 mile team race at Exhibition Park.
- The local Hydro Commission are busy arranging for the installation of new electric street lighting on Main and Mill Sts. as ordered by the town council. When completed Georgetown's business section will be second to none in illumination.

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Reading Is Important...

Next week, Canada celebrates an annual event, Canadian Library Week.

And with a fine week of sport just concluded, it is important to remember that some stress should be placed also on reading habits of our young people.

The best young person is one who combines the right proportions of physical and mental activity. Equally important to physical prowess is mental stimulation. More important, in fact, because intellectual development is longer-lasting than any skill acquired at sports. One can enjoy a good book many years after hitting a baseball or chasing a hockey puck is past one's capacity.

Georgetown's library is an activity in which every young person should have an active membership.

The world of books is a fascinating one, and good reading habits acquired in childhood stand one in good stead in later life.

Usually the library board plans special promotion for the week, but this year's promotion is by way of improvements in process to the building which preclude any special displays.

Perhaps the best way we can show our interest is to read an extra book next week.

Chamber of Commerce Week...

And yet another week, this one devoted to the Chamber of Commerce, is in the offing to focus attention on the work which this organization performs.

Georgetown is one of the fortunate communities which possesses an active Chamber — a group of community-minded men devoted to serving the town and making it a continually better community. Like all organizations, the Chamber of

Commerce has no limit to the work it can do. And unlike some groups, it has no limit and no restrictions on membership. While it expects to have a large proportion of merchants and industrial representatives, the Chamber equally welcomes private citizens, for everyone can be a booster for his town. If you aren't a member, and want to join, do it now. A warm welcome awaits you.

Urges Complete Program For Proper Conservation

Proper upstream management alone is not enough to solve flood control problems in the lower reaches of a watershed, the Rotary Club of Toronto was told.

Dr. S. Ross Lord, P. Eng., chairman of the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, said a completely coordinated scheme is required which makes use of the best conservation practices as well as control dams, evacuated flood lands and channel improvements.

In explaining the function of a conservation authority such as the MTRCA, Dr. Lord drew attention to the \$36 million flood control plan now awaiting federal government approval. The plan which is designed to eliminate flood disasters such as created by Hurricane Hazel in the Metro area, calls for construction of 14 dams, acquisition of 7,400 acres of flood plain land and channel improvements to regional streams.

He described conservation as "an undertaking which involves all of the people in the community, and also as an enterprise supported by nearly everyone with very few opponents."

This was natural, he pointed out, because it deals with the out-of-doors, green, open spaces, the planting of trees and shrubs, the control and wise use of water, and the prevention of its pollution.

Dr. Lord noted there are 30 conservation authorities now established since 1946 in the province. They embrace 438 municipalities and cover 19,353 square miles.

He described conservation work by the authorities as being a partnership endeavour between the municipalities and the provincial government, since each pays 50 per cent of the cost of financing conservation projects.

He also noted that a conservation authority is a corporate body with the powers and to carry out works and levy costs among the municipalities in its jurisdiction, with the annual levy being on a per capita basis.

In 1960, the ordinary budget of the MTRCA was about \$1,300,000 which amount to 39 cents per capita, he said.

Dr. Lord pointed out that the Metro Authority now operates six conservation areas for the public's use with a total area of 3,723 acres, "and we are adding to them at the rate of 600-700 acres each year."

He noted that the Toronto region is still far behind some of the large U.S. cities, such as Cleveland, which has 40,000 acres of open space.

"The public has shown its approval of our areas by increasing its attendance from 157,000 in 1957 to 850,000 last year," he said.

SAFETY TIPS

John J. Lemmon, safety supervisor of Colonial Coach Lines Ltd. and inveterate producer of unique safety ideas, has suggested that motorists can keep clean with DDT.

What he means is, keep your driving clean with Defensive Driving Tactics.

Better to have a light foot than a heavy heart.

Use low-beam headlights behind as well as when approaching another vehicle at night.

Fall asleep at the wheel and you'll hit more than the hay.

Walk carefully. Avoid that rundown feeling.

CITY LIFE

When the young lady was leaving to live in the city, her mother warned her not to go to the apartments of any young men.

"Do not go if they ask you because I'll be terribly worried," she said.

The young lady's first letter read something like this: "It was just as you said, mother, the very first one asked me to go to his apartment, but I refused. I took him to my apartment instead. Let his mother worry."

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