



— Peter Jones, Georgetown

CUTTIN' CLEAN AND DEEP FOR THE INTERNATIONAL

HALTON COUNTY'S colour bearers at the International Ploughing at Belleville, Don Brandon (left) and John Wilson (2nd from right) cast critical eyes at the furrow form of County Warden Alex Phillips at a practice run on the farm of Spencer Wilson, R R 1; Norval Spencer (right) gives it the double check with the ruler.

Terms County Councils A Waste of Public Funds

(an address by Mayor Ern Hyde, on a district radio station, October 7th, 3rd of a series)

This morning I want to talk to you on a subject that in recent years has come in for severe criticism from one faction and loyal support from others.

The subject: "Is there a need for County Government?" Without hesitation I place myself on the side of the critics. For several years I have felt that this is the most ridiculous waste of public funds in our whole democratic system of Government of the People.

Major Governments Justified

Certainly our Federal Government justifies itself. It is our whole way of life, our freedom and our principles, our laws and religions, the power that legislates and administers. This is a Government OF the people, and the choice of the people, with a direct responsibility to the people.

Secondly, with the vastness of Canada, there most certainly is a need for the breaking up into provinces, and the governing of these sections. — And again the leader and the Government are the choice of the people, with direct responsibilities to the people for their laws, their legislation and administration, a Government that runs its finances with a direct responsibility to the people where it has levied and raised much of its own assets.

Closest To You

Now, as we come another step down the ladder, we have our County Government. This is number three, but I want to leave this for a moment and go on to step four, which is our own Municipal Government. There is no need to tell you that this is Government of the people, because this is the closest to you, the governing body that you choose, and control the choice of, each year. This local government that levies and raises much of its funds by direct taxation, that is responsible for most of your needs, in services from law enforcement to a puddle in the road — from education and fire protection to catching stray dogs and collecting garbage.

Here, then, we have three levels of Government that legislate, that govern, that administer, that raise funds from direct taxation, and is directly responsible to you, the taxpayers. — Three Governments that are there by the will of the majority.

Now may I go back to the step that I did not comment on — County Government. Firstly, may I say that my following comments in no way cast any reflection on my many friends and acquaintances that have, and are, serving in County Council. It is part of a system and it is this part to which I direct my comments and criticism.

It is my belief that 80% of the people do not realize how a County Council is formed, nor where their monies come from.

Councils. This year, we here in Georgetown taxed you, the people of Georgetown — \$86,653.00, which was turned over to Halton County, and I might add that this will probably be a greater figure next year, and your Municipal Council will have absolutely no control over what the amount will be.

I will say now that of the \$86,652.00 we will get back, through road subsidy from the County — \$12,460.00.

However, as far as County roads are concerned — let's face facts: The County have no means of raising funds, therefore to maintain a small portion of roads that go through Municipalities, they get their funds from those same Municipalities, plus a Provincial Government Grant from the Department of Highways — the same grant that we here in Georgetown are entitled to.

If this last statement seems somewhat confused, it is only because this ridiculous system of maintaining County roads is a great deal more confusing.

Duplication of Efforts

There is one point that to me is very clear in this regard, and that is the extra cost of duplication of efforts and departments.

Another item is the home for the aged — the County Manor. There is no dispute that we must care for our aged, but this is where our provincial responsibilities lie. The senior Governments set these things, they have a tremendous staff of Civil Servants responsible for the administration of this Legislation, and then the efforts are duplicated by our County Council.

When our hospital was built, it was stated that the County gave a grant to the fund. In a sense this is ridiculous — the County actually gave back some of the money that for years has been going out of Georgetown for Hospital Grants. In other words, it was nice to get some of our own money back.

Our system of administering justice is another case where our Provincial Government should follow through, instead of having a duplication of costs. This briefly is a few of the duties of County Council, and I believe every other phase of County Government is similar to these examples — where they should be eliminated as a very costly middle man, and should be administered either by the Provincial Government, or the Municipal Government, or, as generally exists, a combination of both.

You might ask — why do I say costly duplication? First, I feel, is the Administration itself, because County Councilors are more or less removed and out of range of the general taxpayer, there is less regard to costs and personal remuneration and frills. Let us analyse this statement. When your Municipal Council passed

THE MAIL BAG

Suggests Name for New Composite School

Glen Williams, Ont., R. R. No. 1, October 3rd, 1961

Gentlemen: With reference to the article published in the Sept. 28th edition of the Georgetown Herald regarding a suitable name for Georgetown's proposed Composite School, the term 'Composite' applied to a school is cold and non-descriptive.

I suggest the following title might be appropriate and also self-explanatory.

A By-law to pay members of Council \$20.00 per meeting, it caused quite a flurry of comment from a few irate taxpayers.

But when County Council previous to this, raised their rate of pay to \$20.00 per meeting, plus \$20.00 per Committee meeting, these same taxpayers couldn't have cared less, even when it was their dollars going to pay the shot. In most cases they didn't even know — and they never took the time to find out — because they were too busy opening their mouths and listening to themselves.

Excess Baggage If you are willing to criticize, then you should, for better or for worse, be prepared to pass an opinion, and may I humbly suggest that in my opinion County Council is costly excess baggage. That the head of the County should be our County elected representative to Provincial Parliament. That he is, or should be paid on a

"Esqueasing Vocation Academy" Esqueasing is a basic Canadian-Indian word which, I believe, signifies ultimate goal or "that which lies at the end" which, by itself, would be a good title for a school of higher education. However, "Esqueasing" would embrace the Georgetown and District communities.

Vocation is "a call or impulsion to enter a certain career". Also "Vocation" embraces any trade, profession or occupation.

Academy is "a place of higher learning". Therefore, "Academy" embraces any school of higher learning in liberal, technical or vocational education.

All three words "Esqueasing, full time basis. That he should conduct an office within his own constituency. That his staff would conduct all the liaison between Provincial, Federal and Municipal Governments, and that all efforts such as roads, Home for the Aged, Health Units, Administration of Justice, and on and on, that are directly supported by Georgetown and the Province of Ontario, would be his, and their responsibility, and when the people feel that he is not doing his duties to the fullest, these same people will be in a position to express their dissatisfaction with an "X" on the side of a ballot.

And may I close with these remarks, that all of the foregoing is my own personal opinion, and that I feel that I am right, but, I most certainly may be wrong, and this in itself offers a challenge to ratepayers Associations and citizens in general, to study and voice an opinion on something that affects your standard of living.

Vocation and Academy," have much in common with respect to higher education would, I believe, make an ideal combination as a concise significant name for the new Georgetown and District Technical, Academic, Vocational High School.

Respectfully submitted, Thomas A. Dillon, B. Eng.

Notice To Creditors

In the Estate of GEORGE FISHER, Farmer, Deceased.

All persons having claims against the Estate of George Fisher, late of the Township of Esqueasing, Farmer, who died on or about the 30th day of March, 1961, are hereby notified to send particulars of same to the undersigned on or before the 28th day of October, 1961, after which date the Estate will be distributed with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice, and the undersigned will not be liable to any person whose claim she shall not then have notice.

Dated at Georgetown, this 25th day of September, A.D. 1961.

Mary Ann Fisher, Executrix of the Estate of George Fisher, by Her Solicitors, Dale, Bennett, Latimer and Baines, 23-Mill Street, Georgetown, Ontario.

GEORGETOWN FIGURE SKATING CLUB

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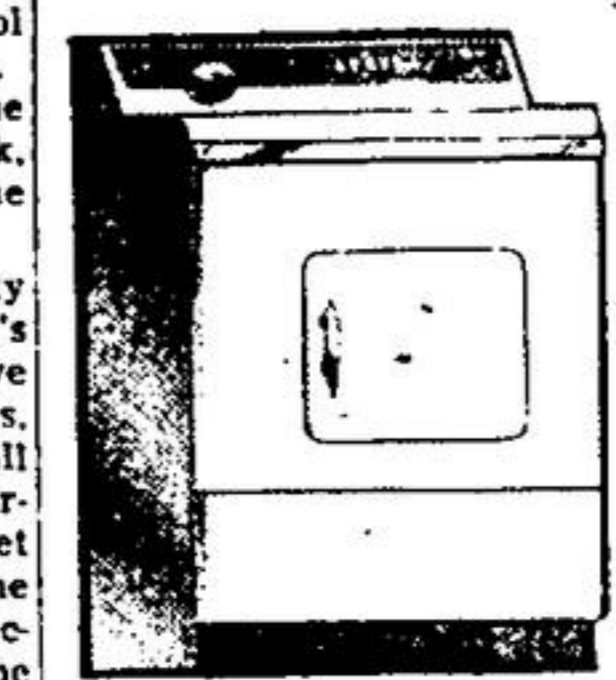
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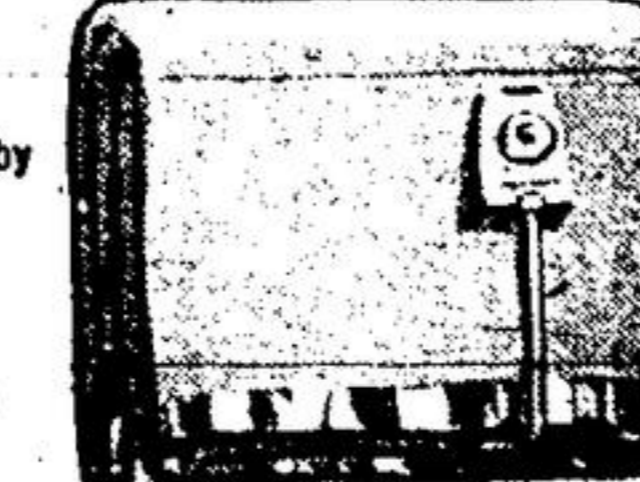
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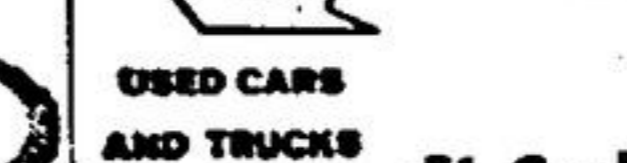


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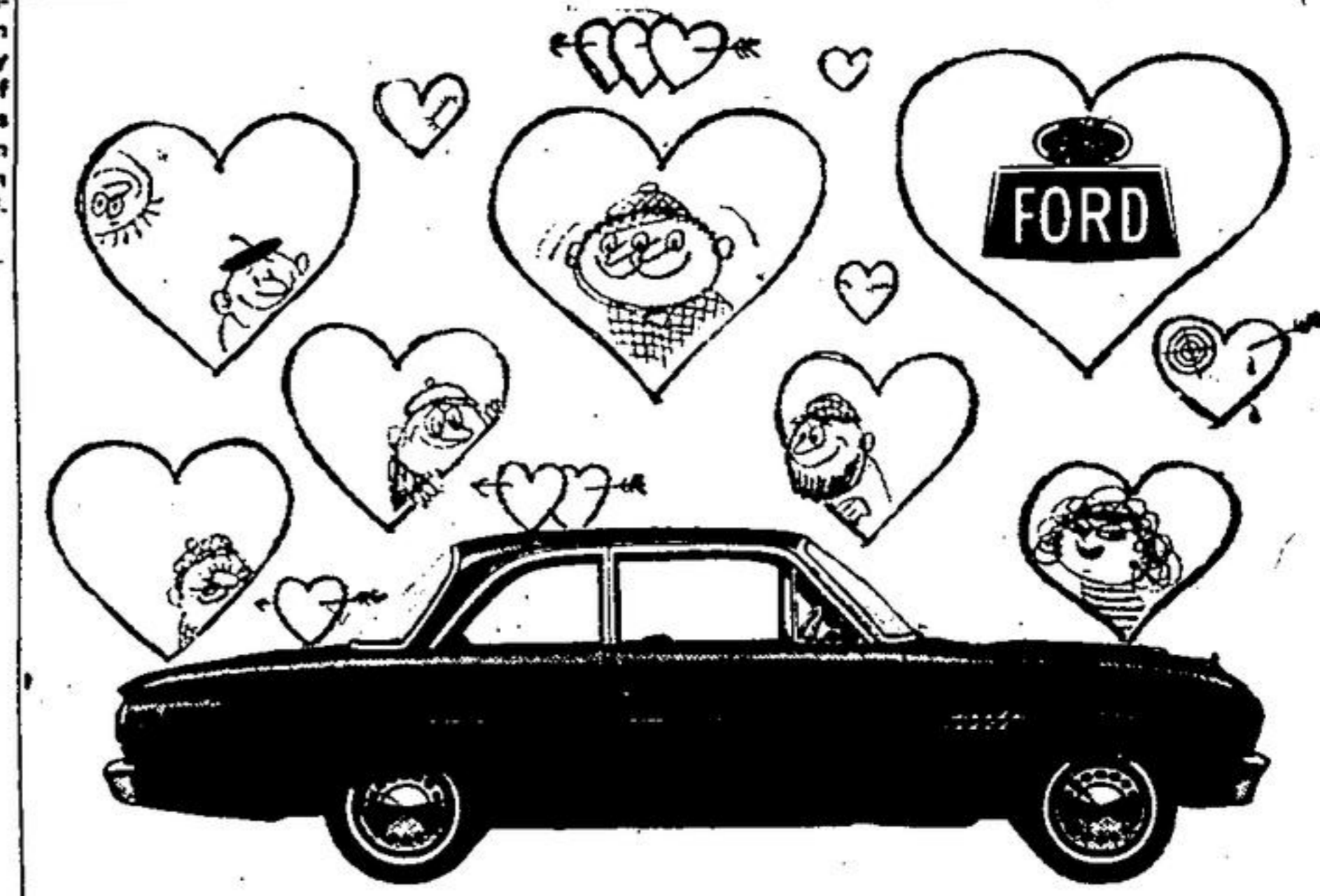


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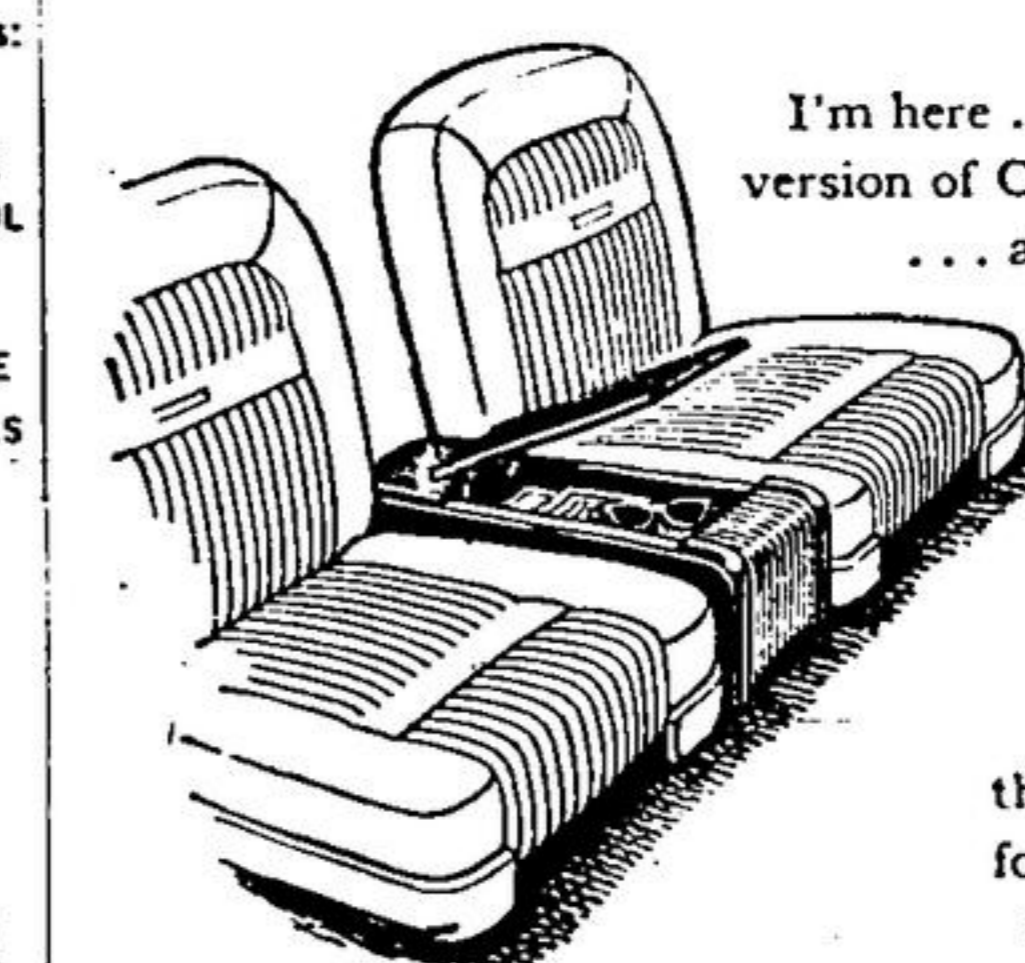


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