

# Georgetown Herald

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## EDITORIAL COMMENT

### Where Were the Voters?

Nowadays when we hear so much about democracy versus dictatorial forms of government, the privilege of choosing governments on the local, provincial and municipal level should be cherished more than ever before.

Yet what happens? With three top council offices at stake, plus council and school board seats; with important issues at stake, and some of the most outspoken campaigning Georgetown has ever seen with candidates ringing doorbells, distributing literature and plastering

### Everyone Can Help with News

Despite the best efforts of the Herald reporting staff, every week we miss many items of news because we didn't hear about them.

Newspapermen grow big ears, but even the biggest aren't enough to hear everything and we have to hear it first from someone.

Particularly at this time of year, there are club parties, annual meetings and social gatherings which add to the Herald's news budget. And we consider it a favour if you phone your items to the office for inclusion in the weekly edition.

### To Make It Clear!

A couple of ratepayers took us to task recently for not supporting certain candidates in the municipal elections.

The week before we stated editorially "Perhaps some people are expecting the Herald to boost a slate or certain candidates. If so, they will be disappointed."

To reiterate, we do not think it is a weekly newspaper's function to take over the job of telling ratepayers for whom they should, or should not, vote.

There is ample opportunity for voters to size up sitting councillors during the year. The public is free to attend all council meetings. Detailed reports of meetings appear weekly in the Herald. And statements of candidates at the nomination meet-

sign boards generously throughout town... a scant 50% of the voters paid enough attention to cast their ballots last Monday.

Granted this was better than some of our neighbours, and that in our town the percentage has dropped on occasion much below the fifty per cent mark, we still think this is a poor showing for a town like ours.

Higher percentages can certainly be achieved.

In 1949, there was an 80% vote registered at the polls.

Where were those extra 30% last week?

Personals, too, are news, and when you have visitors from out-of-town, or go away on a trip yourself, we like to include it in our social and personal column.

Children's birthday parties, wedding anniversaries, visitors from overseas, are news items which interest readers. Church group meetings, young men joining the armed forces, people leaving Georgetown for another home, are also news.

Next time you have interesting news, make it a point to phone TR. 7-2201. The Herald is only as good as you help make it!

### Town Planning Show Window of Community

If you sat down to make an objective assessment of your town as a community in which to raise a child, how would it compare with other towns and cities across Canada? What indeed are the measurable factors you can use in assessing your town as a good place to live?

Town planning should be high on your "measurable" list, according to Catherine Sinclair, who conducted a survey for the November issue of *Chateaux*. "It is the store window into which go the hospitals, churches, schools, theatres and libraries that belong in a well-planned community."

The writer found monotony was the main hazard facing municipalities today. Few cities capitalized on natural assets such as lakes and rivers, hills and wooded belts. Saskatoon was cited as being one city that has properly developed its river instead of letting slums crowd the water's edge. Anthony Adamson, the well known town planner, described the University of Saskatchewan as a "magnificent centrepiece for the city."

Toronto architect John Park rated community spirit high. He felt that towns with populations of between twenty and thirty thousand should be leaders in promoting civic spirit, because their size gave people a sense of belonging that could not be captured in huge metropolitan areas.

Other factors were schools, community health facilities, waste disposal and cultural opportunities.

BRIGHTEN WINDOWS WITH DECORATIONS

Instead of the conventional wreath on the outside of the door why not string some bells and tree ornaments on narrow baby ribbon and hang from a huge red bow?

Make your door and windows bright and cheerful by framing them with ribbon and with sprigs of holly. You can hang the ribbon in festoons across the curtains and tie at the sides in wide sash bows for colourful effect.

Children Can Make Stained Glass Window

With mother's help, children can make a pretty stained glass window for a holiday display.

Lay a newspaper on an ironing board and place on the paper a piece of waxed paper which has been trimmed to fit the window.

Peel crayon stubs in different colors on the wax paper. Place another sheet of waxed paper and another sheet of newspaper over this and iron quickly with a warm iron.

As the crayon melts, a lovely stained-glass effect will be created on the waxed paper, which can be gramed in black construction paper and placed in the window.

### Winter Months are Motoring Hazards

Ontario motorists, be winter-wise. Winterize your driving as well as your car and stay alive during the dangerous months ahead.

This is the theme of a province-wide winter safe driving campaign to be launched in November. It was announced by Ontario's Minister of Transport, Hon. H. L. Rowntree.

More Accidents

November, December and January are the most hazardous driving months of the year. Although fewer miles were travelled during this period last year, Ontario motorists were involved in more accidents.

"Mileage travelled was 13 per cent below average but the number of accidents increased by 19 per cent," Mr. Rowntree noted. "There were no fewer than 23,845 accidents in which 295 people lost their lives and 8,659 others were temporarily or permanently disabled."

Add to Danger

"Many factors contribute to making the November-December-January traffic toll the highest of the year. Snow-covered or icy roads, increased hours of darkness, reduced visibility, dark clothing worn at night, holiday excitement and confusion, office parties, alcoholic hospitality, all add up to danger on foot and behind the wheel," the Minister said.

The Dept.'s intensive public information program is aimed at focusing attention on the vital importance of knowing and applying the few simple rules of winter safe driving. These will enable anyone to survive, even under the most severe weather conditions," Mr. Rowntree added.

Cold War

Automobile owners are urged to winterize their vehicles for the "cold war" during the months ahead. With your car in good shape and properly equipped, the war is half-won," he concluded. "The rest of the battle will depend on careful attitudes and skillful driving under all road and weather conditions."

### Diary of a Vagabond

BY DOROTHY BARKER

HAS IT A NEW LOOK? CHRISTMAS

My feet felt as though I had Mexican jumping beans for toes. I would gladly have taken off my shoes and walked stocking footed, except that I had to set an example for small Lori. Having reached her second birthday, she was eligible this year for a Christmas store-prowl with her doting grandmother as had the older children in other years.

I got just as much kick at the children out of this annual safari into the department store jungle peopled by shoppers. Only that my endurance seemed a little less this year and Lori's exuberance a little more strenuous.

Fortunately it took little coaxing to convince her, after she had seen Santa and the animated toys, that a rest period was indicated. She was quite happy to curl up on a long bench in the ladies waiting room and dig her pony tail into my lap for a nap. I kicked off my shoes well aware that because of swelling I might never get them on again for our final splurge, a children's party in the store's cafe.

The waiting room was crowded with weary shoppers. They all wore a rather smug, satisfied air, however as they tucked their loaded shopping bags beneath their chairs and slumped down with a relaxed appearance.

Besides us on the bench were three elderly gentlemen. They were rather out of place in a ladies waiting room except that this has been provided by the store as a place where families could meet and husbands, who easily become bored with shopping, could rest until their weary folk either exhausted their funds, or their enthusiasm.

At first I wasn't aware of the three old gentlemen's conversation. When it began to filter through my dozy brain I couldn't resist listening to them. They were just three old, old pensioners who found the warmth of the store and nearness of other human beings comforting and were commenting on the women's high heels, wobbly posterior and silly hats as they passed in a never ending stream before us. "My mother wouldn't have been seen dead with her skirts hiked up like that to her knees," remarked the first old duffer.

THREE OPINIONS

"Well, you know, Jim, times change, just like Christmases do. Take the time when we were kids, why we thought we were lucky to get an orange and some nuts in our stockings. My Dad made every toy we ever had, sleighs and rocking horses, doll houses and long slats we used to coast down the hill on. None of them fancy skis and steel harnesses,



There is so much about Christmas that is all too obvious. Colored lights are everywhere. Store windows come alive with beautiful decorations and a seemingly endless array of toys and gifts. Up and down every street in town, windows and doorways are bedecked in mistletoe, holly and evergreen.

Christmas cards and street corner Sanfias, the sound of the postman at the door, the sight and aroma of good things to eat... these are undeniable signs of the season.

Less obvious, perhaps, is the change that comes over people, with very few exceptions. Each individual seems to find new purpose, new incentive. He hurries more than usual, yet he is quicker, to smile, less impatient and somewhat more tolerant of his fellow human being.

We cannot describe it adequately except to say that it is time. But these change their must be in some small way the patterns with the progress of miracle of Christmas at work. humanity.

It has to be; it comes from the Down through the ages the heart. It is irresistible. It is one, single dominating influence compulsive. There is no other upon generations of men and women has been the miracle of Christmas, the simple affirmation of the heritage and dignity that belongs to none but miracle of Christmas shines mankind among myriad creatures of land and sea and sky.

The miracle of Christmas — Man is a special creature, created in the image of eternity. It is through — and because of summing dignity into the hearts — the miracle of Christmas that and minds of living men and hope springs eternal in the human breast.

There it has remained through centuries of oppression, persecution, and the impartial attrition of time.

Despots, dictators and disbelievers have had their day in history's pages. Good "isms" and bad "isms" have made their mark upon the world's Saviour. In these simple words we find the strength of Christianity... the miracle of Christmas which bestows history's pages. Good "isms" and bad "isms" have made their mark upon the world's Saviour.



just leather things to tie these to our feet boots. Dad sandpapered and waxed them to a gleam so they'd glide easy over the snow," reminisced the second elderly codger.

"I know, I know," remarked the third old man coming in on the conversation from the mysterious whereabouts of his meditation. "The girls in our family all got aprons in their stockings on Christmas morning and were thrilled with their gift. My mother used to make every stitch by hand. Those were good times, but I would not want the kids today to be without these high falutin' fancy toys. I think they are teaching 'em sumpin. Take that Rocket to the Moon contraption in Toyland that spouts a recitation about all the planets the kids are supposed to be passing while they whirl around and around in that capsule. It would have scared us kids to death, but today's youngsters take everything in their stride. In fact the thing that interested me most was how they all begged their parents for a chance to play engineer and pilot 'Old Smokey' on a rootin' tootin' smoke blatin' ride. The nearby little make believe railway engine was just as fascinating to the kids as that new fangled moon rocket thing, perhaps even more so."

CHRISTMAS SOMETIMES CONFUSING

Though new and more spectacular toys may be produced each year, the real Christmas story will always be the most fascinating tale ever told. It is why old gentlemen will sit on benches and recall their happier youth and why little girls will sleep peacefully in their grandmother's lap, perhaps a bit confused at age two by a red velvet clad, white whiskered old Santa, and the story in her coloured picture book of the birth of the baby Jesus.

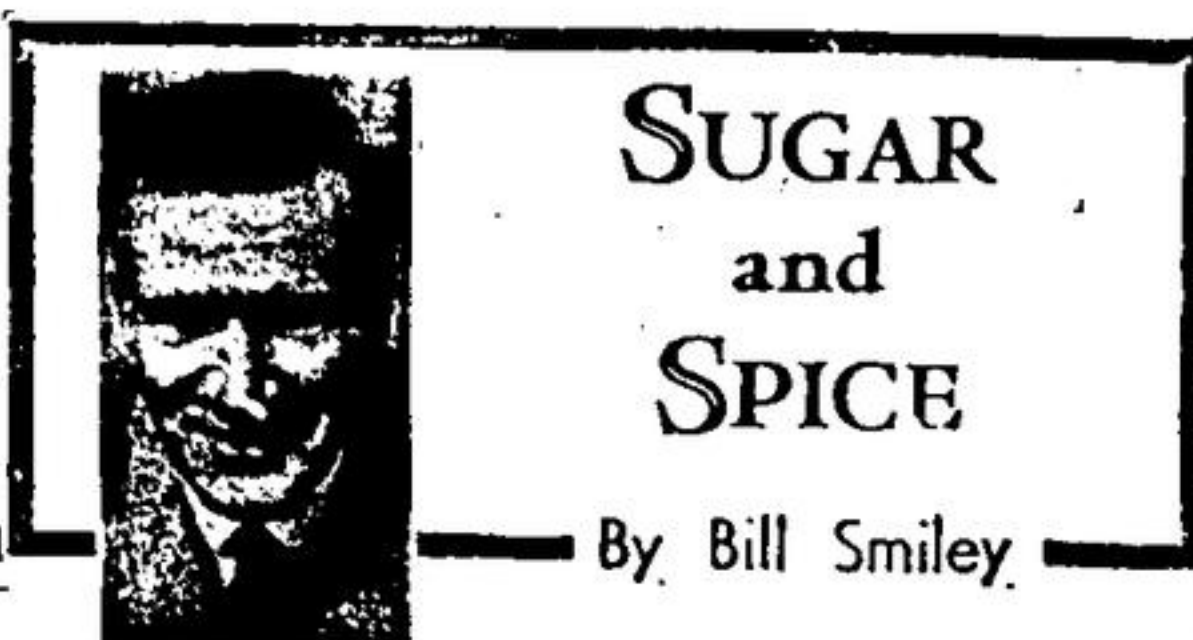
Christmas is and always has been since the Wise Men came to the stable, tinsel and glitter, faith and hope, memories and dreams, surprises and companionship, sharing and giving. Lucky for us humans it comes year after year to reassure us in good times or bad."

CAREFUL WRAPPING FOR DISTINCTIVE GIFT

Everybody gets and gives neckties at Christmas, so why not make your gift distinctive by using a necktie bow in decorating the box?

Fasten the ends of the ribbon under the lid about 1/2 way down, bring to centre, tie the knot and shape the ends tie fashion.

Use dark blue, wine or green ribbon about one and one-half inches wide. These are attractive used on a striped or plaid paper.



Whoa, there! Slow down! Relax. Get that frown off your face. Don't look so strained. It's not a funeral or a wedding, you are getting ready for. It is Christmas. Remember?

I know, I know. "It's a trying time for all of us" and "Christmas is getting too commercialized" and "it's not what it used to be" and "we can't afford all those presents" and "Christmas is just a big pain in the neck" and "I don't enjoy Christmas any more, I'm simply worn out." I've heard them all.

Poppycock! Piffle! It's not Christmas that's a big pain in the neck. It's some of the so-called Christians who celebrate it — worrying, complaining, grabbing, sweating, pushing, whining — in a perfect frenzy as the glorious day approaches.

For myself, I find Christmas and the weeks approaching it, a demanding but exhilarating experience. Each Christmas season, around our house, presents a challenge that brings out the best in me. And don't anybody, please, remark that the best is none too good.

The reason is that, each year, about the time other people are wrapping gifts and addressing Christmas cards, we are up to our ears in a Domestic Project. For some reason, we become involved, annually, in the most stupendous household upheaval, just before the festive season. It's not my doing. Every year, about the first of December, the Chief Engineer gets hallucinations of grandeur, and we're for it.

One year, it was a new sink in the bathroom. Translated, this means I wound up with a complete new bathroom which took me about two years to pay for. Another year, she thought we'd sand all the floors. The result looked like Lake Superior on a choppy day. One pre-Christmas, we got into the painting and whenever the family met at mealtime, it resembled a war gathering of the Six Nations.

On still another occasion, we had to build a chimney a couple of weeks before Christmas. (No, Virginia, it wasn't for Santa Claus to come down. It was for the smoke to go up, for a change, instead of just hanging there.) Anyway, the man said the bricks were too wet, or something, so we wound up with about 8,000 bricks piled to dry, in the kitchen.

But I needn't have worried. Unable to create alarm, confusion, chaos and open warfare in the house, she has gone further afield. To church. As organist, she's facing her first Christmas, with all the extra and special services. There's pay for. Another year, she thought we'd sand all the floors. The result looked like Lake Superior on a choppy day. One pre-Christmas, we got into the painting and whenever the family met at mealtime, it resembled a war gathering of the Six Nations.

But it's a good thing, I say. Here's the program: three services the day before Christmas including a midnight service Christmas morning; then jump in the car and go haring off a hundred miles across country to Granny's, for Christmas dinner. With a session like that, to get frantic about, she hasn't time to drive us all crazy "getting ready for Christmas."

In Stam, houses are constructed with odd number of floors and steps to insure good luck.

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### THE MAIL BAG

#### Appreciate Merchant's Effort in Lighting

Georgetown, Ontario  
December 11, 1961

The Editor,  
Georgetown Herald  
Georgetown, Ontario

Dear Sir:

We note with considerable pleasure the festive air that have been forthcoming and erected this holiday season. This has our sincere thanks for this effort brought about not only for Morris. Our thanks, too, to the efforts of individual Georgetown Hydros for their merchants to decorate their care and attention in erecting own establishments, but by the lights.

group of public spirited persons. We might add that the light-determined to do something in arrangements were designed.

### ECHOES

From the pages of The Herald, December, 1951 and 1936

#### 10 YEARS AGO

The Georgetown Raiders have engaged Jack Kentner, better known as "Dang," to coach the team in the Intermediate B circuit with Bridgeport, Walkerton, Hespeler, and Elmira.

The ladies have taken up curling with enthusiasm in their first season. So far there have been about fifteen out of each session. More lady curlers are welcome and Mrs. Harold Hutchinson who is one of the organizers will accept new registrations.

Pilot Officer Nigel Palmer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Palmer of England who was so kind to local Lorne Scots when they were overseas with the Canadian forces, spent a recent weekend in town visiting some of the local soldiers who were entertained at their home during the second world war.

#### 25 YEARS AGO

Esqueving Township council were returned to office by acclamation. Reeve George Currie; Deputy Reeve, Nelson Robinson; Councillors: W. A. Wilson, Howard May and Edwin Harrop; School trustees: Oliver Hunter, William Schenk and Robert Addy.

Peel, Dufferin and Halton Regiments have been amalgamated and will be known as the Lorne Scots Regiment. Companies will be at Brampton, Oakville, Port Credit, Orangeville, Shelburne, Acton and Georgetown.

At the Gregory theatre: "The Big Noise", starring Guy Kibbee; "The Devil is a Sissy", starring Freddie Bartholomew; and "We Went to College", starring Charles Butterworth.

### THE MAIL BAG

#### Another Opinion On Fluoridation

70 Maple Ave. West  
December 8th, 1961

The Editor,  
The Georgetown Herald.

Dear Sir:

I have read with interest your editorials boosting fluoridation, and regret that in this case I cannot agree with you.

Other factors were schools, community health facilities, waste disposal and cultural opportunities.

BRIGHTEN WINDOWS WITH DECORATIONS

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## DECORATE YOUR HOME THIS CHRISTMAS

# WIN A PRIZE!

PRIZES WILL BE GIVEN FOR THE BEST EXTERIOR DECORATING OF A GEORGETOWN HOME.

Two Prizes in Each of 3 Categories

- DOOR DECORATION
- CHRISTMAS SCENE
- GENERAL LIGHTING

Judging will be done between Christmas and New Year's

Please keep your display lighted between 6-30 - 11 p.m.

Sponsored by  
**Georgetown Chamber of Commerce**