

Georgetown Herald

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... EDITORIAL COMMENT ...

Municipal Education Lags...

Ontario is lagging in an important municipal phase — education for posts as town managers and administrators, treasurers and clerks.

According to Oakville administrator Kenneth Needham, who spoke to members of the Chamber of Commerce last week, there is no particular course available to men and women who might make municipal work their career.

The assessment department is more fortunate. Queen's University offers a course for municipal assessors (our local town and township assessors are graduates of this extramural course). And while two universities have courses in civic affairs, their graduates tend to be trained for civil service positions.

It is past time that some educational assistance is not offered.

The days when an inexperienced man can step into the shoes of a town clerk or treasurer are past in towns like Georgetown.

Such men need detailed knowledge of finance, municipal law, zoning and planning. And instruction in proper conduct of Council and committee meetings and business correspondence would be most helpful to men entering this field.

Administrators, or as they are sometimes called, town managers, need even more training. Such men should have elementary accounting and engineering knowledge for instance. And with few large cities engaging assistants, there is no particular training ground for men who might fill the position in towns the size of Georgetown.

Town Manager for Georgetown?...

The question of a town manager for Georgetown is one which frequently has got to the talking stage.

Last year Cr. Don Barrager was a proponent of such a move, but nothing concrete came of his suggestion.

It is not something into which a town should enter lightly.

But it is a subject which any council could discuss and check on its merits and shortcomings.

As Mr. Needham explained, the system is designed to separate policy and administration. It can divorce councillors from all the smaller details and many of the larger ones which make the job so time-consuming. It can obviate many committee meetings, and, in fact, in Oakville has done away with small committees altogether.

With acknowledged advantages, there is also another side to the picture, of course.

Finance, particularly when it applies to municipal salaries, is sometimes stressed too much. Just as it is easy for senior government to save on civil service salaries, local councils are sometimes too prone to cut

budgets at the expense of employees and pay them less than the going rates in industry.

And the very nature of municipal politics makes it difficult for an administrator to do his job properly. A councillor is usually a man of strong character who likes to have his finger on every phase of the municipal scene. And, often unknowingly, he is loathe to delegate authority for any decision, no matter how small.

Should Georgetown get to the stage where serious consideration is being given to creating an administrative position, it must then rest with council to abandon many decisions which are time-honoured and concentrate on broader policy. And council must also be prepared to pay, at least the going rate for employees if it wishes to retain the best.

We have an open mind on the question. But there is one point which would sway us in favour. Is there any municipal corporation which operates with a part-time board of directors and no general manager?

More Should Do So...

A merchant last week did a good turn for the town treasury and for local housewives when he checked on a group of salesmen, found they had no licence to operate in town, and carried it through to the police office.

As a result, the required \$50 fee was paid and the salesmen given the proper authority to proceed with their door to door calls.

The incident makes us wonder if tighter control could not be exercised on such selling.

Too often, it's a here today, gone tomorrow type of business and the householder is often the loser. On the other hand there are many perfectly legitimate salesmen who make their living in this way, good as far as it goes, and gives a certain amount of protection to both housewife

The town by-law, requiring a fee, is and salesman. But it fails to go as far as it might.

There should be some kind of bond posted, sufficient to discourage the fly-by-nights. Any reputable company would be quite willing, we are sure, to post a substantial bond as well as paying the required fee, for doing business in town.

The fee, of course, besides being a source of revenue for the town treasury, is a protection for local merchants who pay property and business taxes and who deserve some share of such protection against competitors who have not such fixed costs to meet.

The businessmen's association, in addition to its interest in parking facilities, and Christmas lighting might benefit by discussing this with council and working out a plan.

DISTRICT NEWS AT A GLANCE

OAKVILLE

Firemen are investigating a \$20,000 blaze that burned the sporting goods warehouse of the father of Canada's famous figure-skating Jelinek. Last weekend Harry Jelinek, father of Maria and Otto, world pairs title holders, said the warehouse and contents was a total loss.

MALTON

If Malton cannot have its independence the ratepayers' association will support annexation by Etobicoke Township. An official statement adopted by ratepayers at their Jan. 24th meeting said: "The Association supports annexation of Malton by the municipality on our eastern border if the application

large for incorporation is disallowed

BRAMPTON

Two Brampton men have been charged with possession of a still and spirits following two raids by the RCMP last Wednesday. Police said two small stills and eight gallons of spirits were seized. One was in the cellar of a Brampton store, the other in a private home.

BURLINGTON

A recommendation from the finance committee that the request of the Joseph Bram Memorial Hospital for a grant of \$200,000 not be approved at this time was returned to the committee for further study by council Monday. The Board of Governors at the Hospital asked town council last year for \$200,000, to offset the hospital's capital debt.

BOLTON

At a meeting of the Bolton and District Voluntary Ambulance Association held Jan. 25th, the drivers turned down a proposal to be paid a small remuneration on a point system for calls answered. The proposal was made by the executive

when they found they had \$700 in the treasury from last year's operation

ORANGEVILLE

The lodge of the Highlanders was crowded to the doors by people interested in hearing about the Horkley Valley Arts and Crafts school last week. Seventeen courses are planned for four weeks in the summer. There will be 200 students per week.

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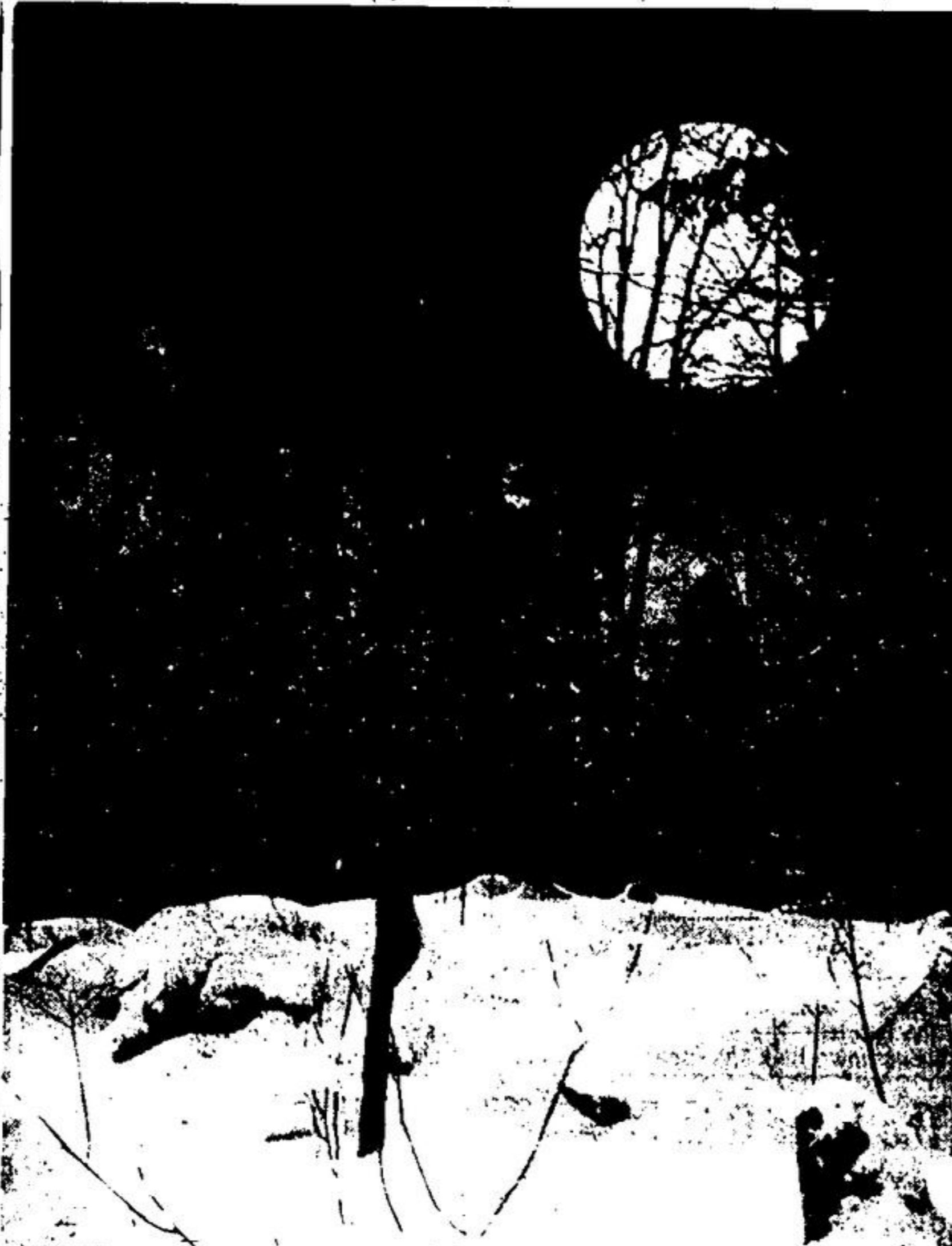
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BEFORE YOU CONDEMN IT



HERE'S THE OTHER SIDE OF WINTER
THE RUGGED TERRAIN of the winter woods is a beauty.

OTTAWA REPORT

BI-MONTHLY OBSERVATIONS BY DR. HARRY HARLEY, M.P. FOR HALTON

Following this... (The text is mostly illegible due to the quality of the scan and the density of the text.)

Wednesday evening... (The text is mostly illegible due to the quality of the scan and the density of the text.)

RUSSIAN COSMONAUT POPOVICH SAYS HE HAS "INVITED" SOME CUBANS TO FLY THROUGH THE COSMOS



THOSE RUSSIANS DO COME UP WITH A GOOD IDEA OCCASIONALLY

SUGAR and SPICE

By Bill Smiley

We parents, on the whole, do not give much thought to the education our children are receiving. Oh, we want them to pass their exams, and we'd like to see them get into something where they'd make a lot of money. But aside from that, Canadian adults are pretty well in the dark about what the kids are learning, and why.

As long as our youngsters come home from school with reasonable marks and their own rubber boots, we are happy to let them have enough trouble with the economic system, the political system, and the heating system, without tackling anything as complex as the education system.

And it is complex. It's becoming more complex every day, as educators scramble to keep up with a society that is changing with the ease and rapidity of a burlesque queen.

That's why we parents should pay more attention, take deeper interest in what the sprouts are learning and should be learning. Our ignorance of their training is equalled only by our eagerness to run it down.

We all know the lady, a superb cook and homemaker, who announces flatly that teaching domestic science is an utter waste of time, that girls should learn it at home.

She has forgotten that when she was married, her piece de resistance was mushroom soup on toast, that it took her three quarters of an hour to iron a shirt, that she didn't know French Provincial from Danish blue.

We all know the man who declares roundly that this here shop training for boys is a waste of time. He didn't have none and he can make anything. He then goes down regular to his workshop and takes off his left forefinger in the saw, or makes a hand saw-whet while trying to nail two boards together.

These people don't realize that they have done so well, not because of their lack of training, but in spite of it. Nor do they realize that the world their kids are about to step into is not the one they entered.

I'd like to see more, not fewer, training courses. Take domestic science, for example.

able to NATO and NORAD affairs. The government spoke against this adjustment, feeling this was not urgent. The interference by another country, objected to very strenuously by the Prime Minister, was apparently not considered by them.

A large 16-lane bowling alley, billiard hall and restaurant will be built in the south end of Aurora as soon as weather permits it. This week Premier Judd Bunting was in Aurora last week to complete negotiations with realtor W. R. Case.

ECHOES

From the page of the Herald, Feb. 1953, and 1938

- TEN YEARS AGO
● Legion officials are looking for the Stanley Cup, presented for competition about twelve years ago by John D. Kelly during the day when the Lions, Legion, and various other organizations and industries sponsored teams in the kid hockey league here. Dennis Wright and Bud James would appreciate any information about the missing cup.
- A special banquet Monday in the Oddfellows Hall marked completion of payments for the building by the lodge. Honoured guests were Gordon Spence, Harold Cleave, Harry Savings, and Sam Walker, four of twelve men who banded together several years ago to underwrite the building fund. The Noble Grand, Alex Ritchie, presented cheques to the guests.
- A half hour in the icy waters of the Credit River at Glen Williams was the harrowing experience of William Iste when the empty transport he was driving on his return trip to Industrial Sand & Gravel skidded off the road and jack-knifed. The dazed driver was pinned in the water by the truck cab. Bob McMaster and Herb Preston rushed to the scene and McMaster held his head above water while his neighbour summoned tow trucks and an ambulance.
- 25 YEARS AGO
● On Monday evening the first round of the Halton Young People's Dramatic Contest was held in Georgetown United Church. The members of the cast of the winning play were Misses Margaret Evans and Kathleen Lyons, and Messrs Alan McDonald, Bruce Kennedy, Stewart MacLaren and Jack MacLaren.
- At council Monday it was moved by Cr. Lyons and seconded by Cr. Costigan that a new grandstand be built in the park to replace the one that was destroyed by fire last year. The Property Committee will secure plans and submit them to council.