

Georgetown Herald

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

The Canada I Love

I love Canada.
McClean's Magazine assures me that no Canadian loves his country, and a thousand critics inform me that there is no such thing as a Canadian, no separate and distinct Canadian identity.
I'm one.
Politicians and pundits assure me that there is no Canadian flag, no Canadian national anthem, but I am content with our flag, a sort of red ensign with the Canadian coat of arms in the fly, and I am always moved when a good band plays 'The Queen', but I could learn to stand up for 'O Canada', too.
I love Canada.
There are people like Rene Levesque and Marcel Chaput who alternately assail me for oppressing my French-Canadian brothers and threaten me with a promise to pull Quebec out of confederation, but I have been shipmates with Johnny Bernatchez and drank with the Van Doos and kissed Ghislaine Gagnon and voted for St. Laurent and saluted George Venier and cheered Jean Beliveau, and I know they're Canadians, too. We both learn each other's language, and though their English and my French might be a bit shaky in spots, we're none the worse for that.
I love Canada.
The Americans think I'm a Limey and the English think I'm a Yank, but I feel wise and superior in the States and young and vigorous in England, and I wouldn't trade my country for both of them. Oh, I

know the Americans have more money and the British have more poise, but I like to think that Canadians combine the best features of both their ways of life.
I love Canada.
Our politics are dull and our sports bush league, but you can't beat the beer or the air. Oh, there are Nathan Cohen and the Argos and Gordon Sinclair and Real Caouette but you have to take the rough with the smooth, same as anywhere else.
Torontonians think Canada lies south of Muskoka between the Humber and the Bluffs, but I have crossed the Yukon and trod the lonely beaches of the Queen Charlottes, felt the Chinook's warm breath across the prairie snows, boiled lobster above the Fundy tideline and picked blueberries on the bars hills above St. John's. It is a magnificent country, the most richly varied in climate and scene in all the world, home of a vigorous and warm-hearted people, a country to be proud of.
I am a Canadian. Are there any more like me?
The above appeared on the Editorial Page of the Orillia Packet and Times on March 5th. Written by the young Canadian publisher of a young and lively Canadian daily newspaper, it has been quoted from coast to coast.
We are pleased to reproduce this editorial — written on the happy note that Canada is a wonderful country and well worth holding together.



THAT SAFETY ZONE KEEPS GETTING SMALLER

SUGAR AND SPICE

Right in the Eye

If ever you decide to do some research on the lower forms of wit, I can tell you how to go about it. Just yourself a thought, I had a black eye. I had a doozer recently. My wife gave me a right. Not that way.
Bill Smiley
She was sitting in the car, waiting for me to carry the groceries into the house, then she reached for the car door to open it and ask her if that was all, she opened it smartly from the inside to ask me why I hadn't brought out an umbrella.
When the door nailed me in the eye, I thought I was a winner. My wife shrieked and ran straight into the house to see whether my "loss of limb or eye" accident policy was paid up.
Within a few minutes, the eye was the size and colour of a bartender's beaver. But by the time we'd finished arguing about whose fault it had been, it was obvious that I'd live.
We didn't have a piece of steak, and if we had, I doubt that it would have been sacrificed. But the Old Girl, bless her, dug out some hamburger that was going a bit blue, and made me lie down with a big hamburger poultice on the injured optic.
I came back with some real funnies myself. "My wife, I replied: Footwork isn't what it used to be." I admitted, "You see the other guy?" I quipped. I can go along with a joke as well as the next bloke.
But after a while, in fact if I remember rightly, it was just after the fourteenth "hitcha". I began getting a little sore. I mean, fun's fun, you know, but after all...
So, when the next fellow made his move, I told him, "I don't like my neck being thrown out by my feet, and that's never been the sight of it again. He bowed grandly. My next customer was a woman, who uttered, "That'll teach you to write things about

your wife in that column of yours." I gave her a gentle, and back from my good eye, and suggested that she not let the driver alternate her front wheels. I let her with her mouth open.

I quickly changed of an elderly lady, strong in the temperamental movement, by insinuating that her baby had been vaccinated from my young daughter, when she checked me on the eye with a half-empty whiskey bottle. It's good sport. Next time the old trawl her — and stride hangs one out to you, Jack, you'll know what to do.

BIBLE THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

And walketh the proud but shall come with the humble. James 4:6
Humility is the very cornerstone of true godliness.

NEWS DESK EXTRAS

By Terry Harley
Before the current tug-of-war for Lord Stanley's beam becomes a gaggle of statistics in the bottomless ocean of hockey record books we feel it's time somebody rebelled against the thorough brain-washing job the league pushers carry on every year almost without protest.
A quick survey will show how well they do their job: 'Share just about any square-eyed hockey bug by the lapsels and ask him who owns the world's professional hockey championship. Sure by Carl Brewer will never win the Lady Byng he'll name the current holders of the Stanley Cup.
You sir, they've done a flawless job.
The NHL hierarchy have been convincing in painting the winners of the Stanley Cup and the champions of pro hockey as one and the same.
They're not. And if you think for a minute they are, you've been a good listener.
The logic that gets brushed over during the playoffs is the fact that the team that sits atop the perennial 70 game endurance test is best on the globe for the current year. The team that emerges triumphant in a post-scheduled playoff, a short series whether it goes the limit or not, deserves a cup, and a title — but not THE title.
Separate the two. The first place capturers are the league champs and because of the league supremacy, the world champs. The Stanley Cup championship is a lesser title and should be regarded as such.
Unfortunately it isn't.
The playoffs are the NHL owners' special holiday. Without their interest in the league race would lag around January as one by one the clubs become mathematically eliminated from reaching the top. When fourth place is still a lofty enough perch for a shot at the winner's circle hope burns much longer, and attendance stays up.
And the additional ducats from those capacity playoff fingle in the pockets of the owners.
The playoff system does have value as a device to hold fan interest. And nobody begrudges paying the piper a little extra to see the squaring-off after the schedule's over. But to pick the winners of a short series as champions over the winners

Assessment Not Just Pulled Out of Hat

Many a landowner has looked in bewilderment at his assessment notice, wondering how the figure arrived at. Well, it isn't just pulled out of a hat, no matter what you think.
According to Assessor Cliff Hibbert the factors taken into consideration are marketing value, location, income on the property, replacement costs, use of property, age and condition of property and anything particularly detrimental or advantageous to it.
In addition the good common sense of the assessor has a lot to do with it. They, of course are governed by the statutes of Ontario, particularly the Assessment Act.
Assessors frequently run into the homeowner who resents his assessment: rising because he has added a recreation room or a garage, however, as the Assessor points out, the market value of his property has been increased, so it is only fair his assessment is increased. "In this County we try to keep the assessment around 35 or 40% of the market value," Mr. Hibbert stated.
Assessments should be reviewed every year for changes to the property, and is usually done with the yearly census for the voters' list.
As a general rule the land is assessed on a frontage basis. However, this applies mostly where the lots are rectangular. In the case of the corner or pie shaped lot, compensations are allowed so that the owner with a long frontage but little depth is not penalized.
As with everything else the job of assessing is becoming more and more specialized, and the day of just anyone being an assessor is disappearing. Now courses at the Institute of Municipal Assessors of Ontario are mandatory. They are run by universities.
Of the 1,400 five calls answered by Halton County five fire departments in 1963, over 300 were grass and bush fires, according to the Halton County Fire Prevention Bureau. These spring and fall grass and bush fires cost the county's taxpayers over \$50,000 in time, wages and equipment maintenance. Think twice before you light an outdoor fire in the dry spring season, the Bureau warns.
of a five months long spring? Ah, c'mon now, folks.

HARLEY TO HALTON

WEEKLY OBSERVATIONS BY DR. HARRY HARLEY, M.P. FOR HALTON

The final Supplementary Estimates have passed the House of Commons. This week the work of the House of Commons has returned to normal. Monday and Tuesday concluded the Budget Debate for 1964-65. Since that time we have been discussing the Redistricting Bill and it is likely this will pass shortly. There are only two contentious matters in the Bill as I have mentioned before; that is the percentage allowance of population to vary between ridings and the composition of the Boundary Commissions.
The Canada Pension Plan has been delayed for a few days. This will be for a few days only as we intend to proceed with it. The delay is to allow the Federal Government to consider the terms of the Pension Plan introduced by the Quebec Government. If making alterations to the Federal plan, without changing the basic principles, we can ensure that such a plan will be uniform across Canada. It is felt that we should consider changing the Bill. We do not intend to change the basic principles. In this way the plan would be ensured of being truly portable, in that a person could move from province to province, including Quebec, and have pension rights, etc. to be transferred from one plan to another, Federal or Provincial.
Last evening the Confederation Room was officially opened. This is a large room in the West Block of the Parliament Buildings where my office is located. It is a special room to be used for state dinners and receptions. Up to the present time there has been little space for this type of entertaining. The only adequate place has been the Governor-General's residence. This Confederation Room was started in 1960 at the same time as the renovations to the West Block. These renovations have converted the inside of the West Block to modern office space, and the outside remains untouched as it has since 1878.
The Confederation Room is 80 feet long by 40 feet wide and 28 feet high. It will hold 200 people for a state dinner or 450 for a state reception. It is my hope that this room will be open for tours, as I am sure the people of Halton would like to see this room where visiting international statesmen will be greeted on Canada's behalf.

NEWS ECHOES

from the pages of the Herald, 1954 and 1959

10 YEARS AGO
Local police are checking on a series of crank phone calls which have been made to Georgetown housewives. A man with a perverted mind has called various local women and uttered obscenities over the phone. One woman was the victim on several occasions and reported it to police. It was learned that others have experienced the same indignity.
Georgetown may be on the threshold of a suburban development unparalleled in the town's history. Yesterday, information became public that a real estate firm acting for an unknown corporation has optioned at least half a dozen farms on both sides of No. 7 between here and Norval.
Completion of a new \$500,000 thermo-plastics division of Smith & Stone, Limited, Georgetown, was announced this week by Col. W. E. Phillips, president. Simultaneously he also announced that the plastic facilities of an associate company, Duplate Canada Ltd., Oshawa, have been transferred to Georgetown.

25 YEARS AGO
At council-meeting Monday it was moved by Davis and seconded by Costigan that the Georgetown Housing Commission be abolished. It carried six to two. Mayor Gibbons said he opposed the abolition of the Commission because the members, by their familiarity with the work and good sound judgment, have greatly assisted him in cleaning up one of the worst financial situations affecting the taxpayers in Georgetown in recent years.
Although much opposition has been raised against the establishing of a brewers' warehouse in Georgetown, the authority has been granted by the Liquor Control Board of Ontario, and the work of remodeling the building on Mill St. is rapidly progressing. It will be located in the old Cook Block where Gray's Garage was recently located. The work is likely to be completed and the warehouse opened about August 15.

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Salaries, Police on Writer's Beef List

8 Keats Avenue, April 14th, 1964.
Dear Mr. Editor:
With permission of the use of your mail bag column, I would like to enlarge on certain items raised in the council chamber last Monday evening.
First the point of money spent on salaries for councillors. With our Reeve drawing \$3,400 a year, our Deputy Reeve drawing \$3,200 a year and six councillors drawing \$1,000 a year each, I asked what did the town receive in return, and the only answers I received were: councillor J. Young had to buy a lot of tickets for socials and dances, others pointed out that at the rate of pay received they were often working for less than they were worth. I have no argument as to what each councillor is worth per hour, but these men offered their services to serve this town, and were not hired nor forced into this, and so should be prepared to give their time gratis as our mayor J. Gibbons does.
Then perhaps we would get a little more action and less idle talk. We need men around our council table who have one aim only — to improve this town, and to improve it, we do not want to do anything else.

Then I raised the question of our Police force made up of a Chief, two Corporals, and five constables, who only patrol the town on foot. Salaries of which cost the town approximately \$38,000 a year.
In addition we purchase two cars, and all their police clothing, yet if you live anywhere else except on Main St., you will never see a policeman walking your road or street (not on duty, anyway).
WHY — are not we all paying for this force of men, or is it asking too much to expect a policeman to walk around a few blocks in different parts of town each day?
Councillor J. Emmerson, who is chairman of this committee stated in reply, that it was impossible to patrol this town on foot unless the force was increased. Ratepayers and taxpayers this is a lot of nonsense, but these are the people you voted in to council.
Is our Councillor Emmerson working for our police force or the taxpayer who put him there?
Then I raised the point about our police force being in court all day, and although as Councillor Emmerson has said this force is understaffed, you can on many occasions find three or four of our force in court all day.
To this Councillor Emmerson pointed out that when a policeman lays a charge he has to be in court to answer it. We know this, we are not stupid, but do we have to have a coronal go with him, and wait on the Court magistrate all day, at our expense?
That's the question, who allows these things to go on and why?
To you the taxpayer reading this, I earnestly ask your cooperation to fight these things, in order that we can perhaps make this town a place people will be proud to know, and live in.
— E. R. FRANCIS

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