

... EDITORIAL COMMENT ...

Two Questions.....

Georgetown property owners will be asked to give an opinion on two questions when they vote on Saturday.

One is a simple one — a \$500 annual grant to Georgetown Girls Pipe Band.

The other is more complex — a bus subsidy which could amount to \$6,240 from the 1965 town treasury.

There is little doubt in most people's minds that the pipe band deserves this support. The band, in fact, has been receiving close to this each year in another form, when council hires the band for a number of engagements. The vote is to clear up a legal point in the Municipal Act which forbids support of a musical group without a plebiscite.

The pipe band, in its many years of history, has given Georgetown fine publicity. The citizens band already enjoys tax support of \$1,500 yearly, since a vote several years back. The \$500 for the pipers is money well spent and the question should carry by a resounding majority.

A bus subsidy is a more difficult decision.

Councillors, who are expected to provide leadership in public issues have been mostly silent on their personal views. To be sure, a majority supported the vote, but only one councillor spoke out in favour of

the franchise were the vote to carry.

A majority of people are probably in the same position, so we can't be too critical of the town fathers if they have tended to sidestep the issue.

We can see a couple of major points against the question. It would mean setting up a subsidized business to compete with established tax firms, and would certainly work some hardship on private businessmen. And, regardless of the merits of the plan, another \$6,000 dip into the treasury could be the straw which sends the tax rate soaring, if one can believe the election speeches of a majority of council candidates.

The advantages of the plan are as obvious.

It would add a service to people in getting from one part to another of a rather far-flung community. Merchants in all shopping areas could well benefit with a more mobile clientele. And it could be one little cog in the oft-expressed wish for unity between different sections of town and a stimulus to the industry we seek.

Perhaps the luckiest voters are those who don't own property, because they are not entitled to vote on the question. The others should be doing some hard thinking before they go to vote on Saturday.

Saturday's The Day.....

We hope Saturday sees the biggest turnout for a Georgetown election in the town's history.

Aside from this usual hope the Herald has a selfish reason, because it was a suggestion in a Herald editorial this year which sparked a change in election day from the customary Monday.

The idea was mainly to accommodate the many commuters who get home late in the day and have little time to get to the polls. And we thought that some election day there would be a storm or a bad fog which might hold up hundreds of voters from their franchise.

The vote has most of the necessary elements for a large turnout.

Two of the top three offices are being contested, with three in the running for mayor and two for deputy reeve. There are council elections in two wards, a vote for separate school trustees and the two ques-

tions mentioned above.

Combining the separate school vote with the general elections is another new feature this year. Until now, the elections have been a separate affair.

As usual the Herald is saying that you should vote this Saturday — but not how. It has never been the custom for this newspaper to boost a slate or an individual candidate.

We have carried full reports of weekly council meetings during the year and this issue contains a detailed account of nomination night speeches. From these it is possible for voters to size up their men, know what they profess to stand for and estimate their worth as elected civic officials.

We hope the majority choice will be the best men for the job. To the winners, we say congratulations, and to the losers — thanks for trying.

Impressive Commencement.....

Friday's high school commencement was one of the most impressive we have been privileged to attend.

The evening was well organized, and once the program started it was a smooth-running, well-timed show, from the opening band number to the outstanding valedictory address by Nancy Hunter.

In recent years, teachers have worn their university robes and it is a colourful parade which marches up the centre aisle to the stage. As usual the band and choir numbers were a pleasure to hear. And it was gratifying to see how many young men and women have taken advantage of the school facilities to complete their highest possible stage of education.

It was gratifying to see most of the donors of prizes present to give their awards. And staff teamwork in identifying students as they reached the stage, while another staff member located the certificate, added to the impressiveness of the evening.

There was a note of sadness when one realized that principal J. L. Lambert would

be officiating in this capacity for the last time after thirty years on the job. He must have recalled the days when the whole student body was scarcely more in number than today's graduating classes.

We thought back to only a decade ago when commencement in the old high school was a complicated affair, with the upper hallway for a stage, and parents standing in the lower corridor and on the stairs to get a glimpse of the presentations.

We thought, too, of the days of an 8-member staff, only an academic course and compared it with today — some fifty teachers, full commercial and vocational training, cafeterias, gymnasiums, all the physical trappings to give young people the best available in training and accommodation.

And we made a little wish that more and more young people would realize what they will miss by not completing their education, and that future commencements will see even bigger groups receiving their prized certificates, a valuable step on their way to the future.



"BUCK" FEVER

HARLEY TO HALTON

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

SINCE OUR LAST column meeting up to twice daily. The ready retired, the Bill will protect the real value of their old-age pensions. For people now working, it will assure a new source of continuing income, stable in value, when they retire or if they become disabled and unable to work. If they die, their dependents — widows and children — will be assured of a continuing income. There will be a death benefit, payable in a lump sum whether or not the contributor has dependents, designed to meet expenses at the time of death.

A GREAT DEAL of discussion has been taking place concerning an alleged attempted bribe by two of the Cabinet Ministers — the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, a judicial enquiry has been ordered to investigate this matter. One of the Members of Parliament from Montreal, a Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, has resigned this position (but not his seat in the House of Commons) until the investigation is over as his name is mentioned in the R.C.M.P. report.

IT IS MOST important that this whole matter be investigated completely and any wrongdoing be exposed and corrected. If the law has been broken, charges must be laid. It is obvious that the Department of Justice must be completely free of any suspicion of corruption. The Government has named the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Quebec to head this judicial enquiry and it is expected that this will begin immediately.

A SPECIAL COMMITTEE of the Senate and the House this week began a minute study of one of the longest and most complex pieces of legislation ever introduced to Parliament, the 85-page, 125-section Bill on the Canada Pension Plan. The Committee consists of twelve Members of the Senate and twenty-four Members of the House of Commons. It is now

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NEWS ECHOES

From the pages of the Herald 1954 and 1944

10 YEARS AGO

- One of Georgetown's oldest residents both in years and in terms of residence in town, Mrs. John Bell, will celebrate her 92nd birthday tomorrow. She is the former Clara Bussell and was born in Trafalgar Township on the farm now owned by Stan Hall, M.P.P.
- A Georgetown sailor, Midshipman Paul Barber, has left on a cruise to South America aboard HMCS Quebec and will be away from his base at Halifax for eight weeks.
- A new lawyer appears on the local scene this week when Maurice Manderson becomes associated with Dale and Bennett in their law practice on Mill Street. Mr. Manderson, and his family moved here from Dresden last week and are living in the new Sunbeam Heights subdivision.

20 YEARS AGO

- 4,229 new ration books were issued from the Georgetown and district Ration Board Office last week. The first day, Wednesday, was the biggest when 1911 were issued. The local Ration Board wishes to extend their thanks to the industries in town and vicinity for their fine cooperation in issuing the new ration books to the employees in their plants.
- The Georgetown Boys Band made its first public appearance on Main St. last Thursday evening. It's under the leadership of Mr. Jos. Carter. Among the boys in the band are Doug Peck, Ross Sykes, Bud Bouckill, Billy Panson, Bobby Addy, Jimmy Golden, Junior Grace, Jimmy Glacier, Frank Carter, John Tyers, Albert Carter, Johnny Ains, Keith King, Ralph Peck, Claude Reid, William Thompson, Ace Bailey.

SUGAR AND SPICE

by Bill Smiley

Kudos For the Conformist

There's a great boo-hoo these days about conformity, which has become a dirty word. Educationists and editors, social workers and sob sisters warn us that one of the great threats to freedom in the modern world is conformity.

These Cassandras claim that we're turning into a nation, a world, of conformists. They threaten that the golden age of the rebel, the non-conformist, is nearing an end, and that very soon we shall all be slaves, eating what everybody else is eating, wearing what everybody else is wearing, doing what everybody else is doing, and thinking what everybody else is thinking.

I find myself remarkably calm in the face of these prophecies. In fact, I think they are pure poppycock.

In the first place, I see nothing wrong with conformity. It merely means "conspicuity with established forms." In short the individual accepts the responsibilities and the restraints which society imposes on him.

The vast majority of people have always been conformists. If you happened to be a cannibal, and the place de resistance was road missionary, you sat down with the rest of the boys and enjoyed the preacher. You didn't say, "Gee, I don't know, fellas. Maybe we're making a mistake. Maybe he shoulda bailed him." No, sir. You conformed. You went along with the crowd.

If you happened to be a Roman legionary, happily hacking up Gaul and ancient Britons, you didn't stop in the middle of the orgy and ask yourself, "Is this the real me, or am I just doing this because everybody else is?" If you did, you were a dead non-conformist.

Equally, if you happen to be a modern man, and your kids and wife are putting you over the jumps, you conform. You don't take a two-by-four and pound your kids into submission. You threaten to cut off their allowance.

In the second place, the deliberate, or conscious, non-conformist is a simple pain in the arm. He is the type who thinks he can't be a painter unless he has a beard, who thinks he can't be a poet unless he needs a haircut badly.

Perhaps the greatest conformists in the world today are

Conformists. In their desperate attempt to avoid conformity, they become the most rigid conformists in our society. They dress alike, do their hair alike, eat the same food, listen to the same music. All this, in an effort to revolt against society, is to be non-conformist.

Not that there haven't been great non-conformists. Beethoven, Tolstoy, Gainsborough come to mind. But they were great, not because they were non-conformists, but in spite of it. They had talent, Mac. On the other hand Bach was a church organist, music teacher and had children. Shakespeare worked atrocious hours, lived an exemplary life, and never missed getting his hair cut regularly.

Alexander the Great, Napoleon, the Marquis de Sade, Hitler and Lee Oswald were non-conformists. You know what they contributed to the world.

Does this mean every non-conformist is a nut? Not necessarily, though probably, but it usually is a warning flag when, for some despicable reason, you attract attention.

Trouble is, the people who constantly warn us of the dangers of conformity have confused the non-conformist and the individual. The former is to be pitied. He is seeking firm ground in a quagmire, the latter is to be envied. He has found a prize (himself), in the porridge of society, and he chews happily ever after.

Perhaps old Polonus put it best in Hamlet. His son is going away to college. The dad gives him a lot of advice about conforming. Then, in an unexpected and untypical flash, he adds, "This above all: To thine own self be true; thou canst not then be false to any man."

Weekly Bible Thought

H. B. Deane

"And in my prosperity I said, 'I shall never be moved.'"

Psalm 50:6

Good times breeds big talk. Beware lest thou forget the Lord thy God."

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NEWS DESK EXTRAS

by Terry Harley

Invitations to trouble are of ten such innocent phrases. There is only one formula for nitroglycerine and yet there are hundreds of combinations of words which achieve the same result when casually dropped. Such trouble invoking mixtures of vocabulary as:

"Of course it's really none of my business but..."
"I don't think there would be another car coming around the bend at this hour, go ahead and pass him."
"Well I don't mind sitting in on the game for a little while if the stake are small."
"My daddy can lick your daddy."
"Look I've handled guns since I was a kid and I know this one isn't loaded."

"This time I'll carry the ball and you kids try to stop me. I'll show you how we used to do it at old Embraceable U."
If there was a hit parade for remarks that lead to nothing but trouble these five would have to be among the top ten.

But trouble doesn't always wait for blunt invitations, as Margaret Ellen Emberson of Guelph and Henry Ernest Rempel of Kitchener discovered a couple of weeks ago, when they were wed in Kitchener.

The bridegroom's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Rempel were injured in a head-on collision on their way to the ceremony.

At the reception at a Guelph motel the bride's sister, Mrs. Joseph Felice of Toronto, broke her fingers in a door and was rushed to hospital.

The bride's brother John Emberson of Toronto, and a passenger were injured in a car accident while leaving the reception.

Just prior to the wedding the groom's brother John of Kitchener fell out of a truck and gashed his legs. He was an usher at the ceremony despite a bad limp.

The best man, Richard Buller of Riverside, was shot in a hunting accident two weeks ago. At the bridegroom's insistence he carried out his duties in a wheel chair.

The bride herself was an accident victim a month ago. She suffered leg injuries and was still wearing bandages at the time of her wedding.

The honeymoon to the United States and Mexico has been postponed until after Christmas so the groom can operate his father's upholstery business in Kitchener while he recovers from his car accident.