

... EDITORIAL COMMENT ...

Benefit to Town

The planned apartment building for senior citizens will be a forward step for town, and the Kinsmen club deserves a word of appreciation for their efforts in planning this.

Today's inflationary world, when it is hard enough for an employed person to budget his income, is that much harder for a person who must live on a government pension and the interest he receives from the capital he has acquired.

The knowledge that he does not have to face spiralling rents will be a real comfort to many people caught in this cost squeeze. A person who has completed his working years, contributed to Georgetown's econ-

omy through his participation in the town's work force, deserves to spend his retirement years in comfort. The senior citizens' apartments will not only help to balance minimal budgets, but will put a group of men and women of similar ages in pleasant surroundings with congenial neighbours.

The location, close to the park and hospital, and within walking distance of downtown, is ideal.

The Kinsmen will be devoting themselves to projects to raise the necessary finances to complete the project now that it has the blessing of the requisite government and municipal authorities. We owe them a boost by donating when the time comes.

Esquering Should Share

The difficulty of financing a large scale hockey program without some assistance from the municipal treasury was pointed out last week to council by Roy Norton, Sr., acting as spokesman for the minor hockey support group.

The group has promoted hockey entries in the Ontario Minor Hockey Association for some years, has won championships which have brought good advertising to our town, and brought healthy recreation to hundreds of young men.

Whether the \$1,000 requested can be found in this year's tight budget is a question mark, although we would think at least a part of the request would be met.

At the meeting, it was suggested that Esquering Twp. should also be approached to assist, as the hockey program embraces young people from that municipality also.

This brings up a point which we think town council should investigate much more fully.

Today every town has a problem of keeping up with the civic services deman-

ded by ratepayers while keeping tax rates at a level where owning a home does not become an overwhelming burden.

There are some services provided in Georgetown which are open to, and used by, a good portion of the surrounding countryside. The arena, swimming pool and library are three which readily come to mind. The town park, the cemetery, the citizens band extend advantages to rural residents.

Is it not fair, then, to ask the township to pay some proportion of the grants which such boards and organizations get from town ratepayers?

One could, of course, argue that town residents get some benefits from the country too — picnic spots, swimming, hunting, hikes. But the amount of tax money involved in these is negligible.

Could it not be possible for town and township politicians to examine the whole problem, as they have done with fire department and ambulance services, and assess some share of recreation costs to be paid by Esquering?

Blitz Night on Monday

The work of the Canadian Red Cross Society in Georgetown district is almost too well known to need repeating.

But, just as a church bell must keep ringing each Sunday, so an organization must keep its name before the public, with constant reminders of the need for its services.

In Georgetown, the society has a particularly active branch. Home nursing courses are offered, water safety aimed at reducing the number of drowning accidents is continually promoted. Always ready when disaster, small or large, disturbs community life, the Red Cross has been instrumental in forming a group to coordinate such help with the assistance of service clubs and churches.

Once a year, residents are asked to do

their bit by providing funds, some of which are used locally, some for the greater work of the society in Canada and throughout the world.

Next Monday is blitz night, and hundreds of men and women have volunteered their services to go door to door asking for donations.

The least we can do is to receive them graciously, give them what donation we can, and ensure that the local campaign raises the necessary money to keep functioning efficiently.

Remember, these canvassers are not working for themselves. They are giving their time and energy because they believe in Red Cross. The dollar or two that each of us can spare is the only payment they hope to get for their work.



TIGER IN OUR TANK

SUGAR AND SPICE

by Bill Smiley

Bats and Butterflies

Life can be a real drag, but it has its moments. A couple of them came to me this week to convince me that it's more fun to be alive and suffering than stone cold dead in the cemetery.

The other night I took three busloads of students to see a play, 'Murder in the Cathedral,' in a neighbouring town. I won't even mention what a nightmare such an excursion is for the man in charge of a hundred-odd lively teenagers.

We arrived in best clothes and best manners, ready for an evening of culture. The house lights dimmed; the stark set was revealed; the chorus came on with its brooding note of doom and death. You could have heard a feather drop as a thousand youngsters set enthralled.

Suddenly a ripple of sound went through the theatre. The ripple rapidly became a wave. The chorus, in the best show tradition, bravely pressed on, its chant almost lost in the swelling titter. The ghost of the old opera house had taken over.

He had assumed the form of a large bat. The noise and lights had frightened him out of his eyrie among the rafters. And he put on a display of aerobatics that stole the show.

He swooped and swirled over audience and actors. He flickered through the shadows, in ever-descending circles that had the girls clutching their hair. He peeled off and dive-bombed the chorus, making it duck collectively and frantically floorwards.

He disappeared intermittently but, a born scene-stealer, was right on cue for his entries. Thomas Beckett, Archbishop of Canterbury, intoned, "For a little time the hungry hawk will only soar and hover, circling lower."

And there was Mr. Bat, whistling around the actor's ears. The chorus wailed, "I have heard fluting in the night-time have seen scaly wings slanting over." And guess who was fluting around gaily on scaly wings right past their noses.

All in all, a diverting evening in the theatre. I won't speak for the players, but the kids and the bat loved it.

My second reviving experience was not with a bat, but a butterfly. I think that term best describes my 14-year-old. She fits. She can't quite decide whether she's going to be a writer, a folk singer, a concert pianist or a basketball player.

Last Saturday, I took her to the city to compete in the world's biggest music festival. Competition is tough. Her teacher and her mother had both told her she hadn't a chance. "Because you haven't worked hard enough."

She was pretty jittery. Teeth chattering, great nervous saws four trips to the bathroom in

twenty minutes. My heart bled for her.

In her first class there were 12 competitors. Guess who was last. It was for students 20 and under. They were all good. Even though I've been to a hundred festivals, and am, pretty worldly, my spirits sank for her sake.

The bell clanged. She went on stage. And as I sat, turning purple while holding my breath through a Bach prelude and fugue, she played like a tiger. Second place we take.

We tottered out of the auditorium in a daze, leapt into a cab, rushed to meet her Mom, and hurried her words back into her head.

The kid repeated twice during the afternoon, and we arrived home after a 12-hour day and a 200-mile trip, staggering with exhaustion but flushed with triumph.

Of bats and butterflies, I guess, is the essence of life.

A BIBLE THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, where is the Lord God of Elijah? and when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither; and Elijah went over." — 2 King 2:14

Every obstacle in life still bows to the Word of daring faith. "I am the Lord thy God, I change not."

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KERR'S COLUMN

M.P.P. Reports to Georgetown from Queen's Park
by George Kerr

The Legislature will soon approve the Age Discrimination Act. This is further fair employment legislation and the result of public support for equality of opportunity not only for all religious and racial groups — but for the older worker in our society.

There are still a great many capable older workers with many years of useful employment ahead of them who are being denied the opportunity to work because of negative attitude held by employers regarding chronological age and employment. We now have enough reliable information and studies from social welfare bodies and other organizations to help us realize that many of the myths and stereotypes held about the capabilities of the older worker are not only untrue, but can have a bad effect upon our developing and productive economy. Consequently, the new legislation will discourage the continuance of unfounded assumptions as to job abil-

ities based solely on age and will encourage, to the greatest extent possible, the practice of judging each applicant on his individual merits and with reference to particular standards of performance for the job in question.

The new Bill, at this stage does not ban advertising getting out age qualifications. It provides fines of up to \$500. For employers who refuse to employ or promote persons between the ages of 40 and 65 because of their age.

This Bill, along with such statutes as the Fair Employment Practices Act, the Female Employees Fair Remuneration Act and the Fair Accommodation Practices Act gives Ontario the best package of anti-discrimination laws in the world.

strate Kenneth M. Langdon. The pair were charged with conspiring to break into twelve service stations.

"The next time you will in all probability be treated as habitual criminals. If this happens you will spend the rest of your life away from society," said the magistrate.

Both men had pleaded not guilty to the charge.

They were arrested after police searched a car on January 8th and found property from four of the 12 stations.



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HARLEY TO HALTON

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

THE PAST WEEK has again been devoted to the 1965-1966 estimates. It is expected that these will be concluded at the end of this week, and the following week will have a supply motion which will open departments. These are expected to be referred to Committee for detailed examination, in keeping with the new Rules of the House of Commons. It is an indication of further reform necessary in Parliament on its operation that all our time to date has been spent on matters generally of Government spending, and that no significant legislation has been debated to date, let alone passed.

month). The report recommends that this be a minimum annual income and would be paid in whole or in part (if other income is present) by the Federal Government.

THE PROOF OF income that would be required would be the income tax return which is filed with the Government each year. This approach to me appears to be an excellent one — it would guarantee that each Canadian at age 65 would have a minimum income of \$105 a month, and each married couple at age 65 would have a minimum income of \$185 a month.

IN THIS COLUMN I would like to briefly discuss one of the recommendations of the Senate Committee on Aging. This deals with a minimum annual income for Canadians over the age of 65 years. The Senate Committee feel that every single Canadian, 65 years and over should have a guaranteed annual income of at least \$1280 (\$100 a month) and a married couple 65 years and over should have a guaranteed annual income of at least \$2220 (\$185

Robert R. Hamilton

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