

Georgetown Herald

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THURSDAY, APRIL 14th, 1966

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Retain Death Penalty

Retention of the death penalty for murder in Canada will be welcomed by those that believe it has the double effect of reducing the incidence of crime, and dealing most effectively with those who have callously robbed another of his life.

There are those who argue that it is not in man's domain to set such rules. Others say that statistics prove no higher incidence of murder if the death penalty is not the penalty.

But is it less humane to rob a man of his freedom for a lifetime? And does not the possibility of death for oneself deter many men from murderous inclinations?

Now that parliament has dealt with the subject, the next step is to abandon the double-standard which is so common today in Canada — trial, conviction, and last minute reprieve by the Cabinet. Unless this is done, then murder will continue to be one of the least punished of crimes, for many

murderers eventually are paroled back into Society as soon, or sooner, than those sentenced for lesser crimes.

It is difficult, of course, for our courts to set the perfect system of punishment. But it is becoming more and more evident that a complete reorganization of laws and punishment should be undertaken.

It would sometimes seem to the layman that the only clearly defined crime is bank robbery. One seldom hears of a bank robber getting less than five years in jail. While motor manslaughter, assault, intimidation, often receive only token punishment.

It has often seemed to us that our world places more emphasis on money than it does on human dignity — that our courts are more concerned about a money loss than bodily injury. Nor do we agree that a man under alcoholic influence should be any less guilty for his wrongdoing.

No Champ This Year

Last hope for an Ontario hockey championship faded Sunday when the Juniors lost a deciding game with New Hamburg in a cliff-hanging overtime thriller.

It was a disappointment for fans who, only a few weeks ago, had dreamed of at least two, and maybe three, Ontario champs.

Such are the fortunes of the game. While we didn't win Georgetown had a good season of sport. And the Juniors brought some of that old-time excitement to town when the series with Milton filled the arena to capacity for a couple of games.

It's been many a year since people were turned away from a game. It brought back some nostalgic reminiscences to old-

timers who recall when Acton and Georgetown moved in a body to whatever arena had scheduled the game. And when hockey trains to Galt left only a handful of people at home.

There were years when reserved seats for the playoffs were sold out an hour after they went on sale, when hockey officials were almost mobbed by irate fans who couldn't get a ticket.

Maybe this glimmer of the old days will be intensified next season, and hockey will again become Georgetown's No. 1 live entertainment. A heated arena should encourage more regular fans, and the calibre of hockey which the Juniors presented this year will encourage larger crowds during the whole season.

Attend the Tournament

For the sixth straight year, "Red" Aseltine's International Bentham hockey tournament is drawing crowds to the arena, as a total of 44 teams vie for the coveted awards.

The tournament has become a fixture in town. Hundreds of young fellows find homes for their time in town with families who billet them. And scores of men and women devote hours to their assigned chores of refereeing, feeding and entertaining the young visitors from many parts of Canada and the States.

It brings an air of excitement to town during Easter week. Colourful jackets and crests bob up around town. The arena is a mecca for youngsters during the day, and for adults at night as they drop in to see a game or two. And the excitement

constantly builds to Saturday's climax when the competition narrows down to the final eight teams, and the grand championship match at 7 p.m.

Whether Georgetown is in the finals or not, the game is always a must for those who like hockey. By then each team has its own following. Boys in that age group make friends fast, and whether it's Galt or Coppercliff, Orillia or Peterborough, the teams have developed crowd support in their games during the week.

Georgetown, with high hopes this year, has only reached the finals once — in 1962, when Galt copped the championship in the final game.

Other winners have been Peterborough, York Steel, Toronto, and last year, Winnipeg.

HARLEY TO HALTON

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

I AM SURE everyone is aware that the Parliament of Canada voted on 5th April to retain the death penalty for capital murder. In order that the people of Halton County may know how I voted on this important matter I would like to publicly state that I voted for the abolition of capital punishment. Not only was this my personal conviction but it was also the feeling of many hundreds of opinions that have been expressed to me by the constituents of Halton. These views were expressed to me in conversations, in phone calls, telegrams and letters and notes. Those who expressed their opinion to me were in favor of the abolition of capital punishment by approximately three to one and of these a small percentage were in favor of abolition with the exception of the murder of a police officer.

IT SEEMED OBVIOUS in the House of Commons early on the final day that capital punishment would be retained in Canada. In order to try to get more support, several amendments were proposed. These were to abolish capital punishment for

a trial period of five years and to retain capital punishment for the murder of a police officer. Both of these amendments were defeated easily and in fact with many of the Members who would have voted to abolish capital punishment completely.

THE ISSUE OF capital punishment

IN THE MAIL BAG

Seek Canadian Members For Pen Pals Club

28 Parkside Drive, Edgeware, Midd. England, April 1, 1966

Dear Sir, As organizers of an International Pen-Friend Club with members in over sixty countries we are continuously asked by members to introduce them to friends in Canada.

We find that members in England, Europe and other parts of the world are most eager to increase their knowledge of Canada, its people, customs and cultures and that personal cor-

respondence is an ideal way to achieve this.

We would welcome enquiries from any of our readers who would like to receive letters from abroad. If when they write they would give details of their age, interests and requirements, we will undertake to provide them with the pen-friends of their choice.

We trust that this request will not cause too many difficulties for you.

Yours faithfully,
Doreen Black
Concordia Correspondence Club



2000 A.D.

SUGAR AND SPICE

by Bill Smiley

It's A State of Mind

Spring is not a season. It's a state of mind. To Browning, writing in Italy, it was, "Oh, To Be In England, Now That April's There." To Botticelli, it was delicate, long-legged ladies in long nightgowns, scattering petals as they danced. To Beethoven, it was lambs gambolling to the notes of the shepherd's pipe.

But in these parts, it's a time of agony and ecstasy, depending on what age you are, and what you are up to.

Ecstasy for little kids. Off with the snowboots and snow suits hurried into a corner. Out into the wonderful world, from so long ago they can scarcely remember: wading puddles building sinky rafts, shooting marbles; skipping; picking pussy-willows; And lovely, brown, soft, silky, sludgy, slimy mud everywhere. Heaven.

It's ecstasy for the young in love. For the first time in five months they can hold hands, bare-handed, on the way home from school. They can hang around the girl's back door, or the corner, for an hour, talking inattentive, joyous in the certainty they won't freeze to death.

Could anybody be happier, and cockier, than the young mothers in spring? Trim girls last fall, they wheel their prams down the street on the first sunny day, three abreast, pushing honest taxpayers into the gutter as they display with utmost pride the miracles they produced during the winter. They are women this spring.

For our senior citizens, spring brings another kind of happiness, a quiet, deep one. They have been dicing with death all winter. They have suffered loneliness and pain and despair. That first balmy day of spring warms their old hearts and their old bones. It's a promise of life, renewed, which they need badly.

I think farmers and sailors are happy in the spring. For the former, it means another eight months of back-breaking labor with small return. For the latter, it means back to work often dull often dirty, and the loneliness of absence from families. But both are ready for it, after being underfoot all winter. It restores purpose to life. A man who isn't working is only half a man.

For the housewife, spring is a combination of the agony and the ecstasy. There's the agony of choosing the right paint and wallpaper, the ecstasy of attacking the house like Assyrian coming down on the field.

Gardeners are happy. Gloves on, they go out in the back yard and joyously muck about. They squall over the first crocus, inhale with delight the rotting stench of long-buried earth, plant glorious gardens in the mind's eye.

Golfers are giddy with gladness. The last streaks of snow are still under the pines. The course is muddy, the wind chilling. But the first day the flags

are up, they're out there. You see, this is the year when they will slice not, nor will they hook. They feel it in their bones.

Anglers are snooping the countryside, looking for new beaver dams, checking last year's choice spots. Opening day is still not here, but they're dreaming of that first speckled beauty caught on that first cast.

Merchants are optimistic. People are coming into the store for something besides keeping warm. Building booms, and the carpenter, electrician, plumber, bricklayer, feel a surge of hope after a slow winter.

Where's the agony, then, if everybody is so happy about spring? We've run almost the whole gamut, and nobody is suffering.

What about the university student? There are hundreds of thousands of them. They are chewing their nails, pulling out their beautiful hair in handfuls, sweating cold with fear. Outside beckon the sun and soft wind. Inside beckon bleary-eyed grind, despair, gull.

And what about the ordinary middle-aged codger like me? Bursitis behaving badly in the cruel winds of April. Income tax looming like an iceberg. House needs painting. Backyard looks like an exhibition of Pop art.

Car on its last legs. Christmas presents not yet paid for. Hairline receding rapidly. Harder and harder to get out of sack in morning. Kids getting more difficult.

For us, spring is for the birds. And you should hear the little stinkers, about five a.m., just when we're finally falling into a sound sleep.

Who's Delinquent?

We read in the papers, we hear on the air, of killing and stealing, and crime everywhere. We sigh and we say, as we notice the trend of this young generation, "Where will it end?"

But can we be sure that it's their fault alone? That maybe a part of it isn't our own? Too much money to spend, too much idle time, too many movies of passion and crime;

Too many books — not fit to be read, Too much evil in what they hear said, Too many children encouraged to roam,

By too many parents who won't stay at home. Kids don't make the movies, they don't write the books, That paint gay pictures of gangsters and crooks.

They don't make the liquor, they don't run the bars, They don't make the laws and they don't buy the cars. They don't make the drugs that addle the brain, It is all done by older folk, easier for gain,

HOSPITAL NEWS

by Lda Clark

The plans for the regional school for nurses are coming right along. It is hoped to utilize all the hospitals in the area for teaching purposes. However, the school itself will be located near the South Peel Hospital, and will use that institution as a base.

Harold McClure and Fred Whittaker are local representatives on the committee.

The lady in charge of Volunteer Help at the Hospital has mentioned a problem that is recurring quite often. We had an item devoted to this some time ago, and for a little while, anyway, the problem abated.

We refer to the practice of young children being left in the lobby unattended, while parents are visiting. This has led to some rather 'sticky' situations, and we'd respectfully remind parents that we just haven't the staff or volunteer helpers to cope with the situation. We are speaking of the young children, of course, and would ask parents to arrange to have someone keep an eye on them in their absence. Certainly it is no criticism of the children, because if they are normally healthy, they are usually very active, and can not be expected to sit quietly when dad or mother isn't there. As we say, however, our volunteers and staff can't really be everywhere at once, so it's for the children's safety as much as anything that we mention this.

We understand a budding young gymnast (age of 4) man, this is the first time in five years that the county's mill rate has been hiked.

The new rate will net the county the following amount from its municipalities:

Georgetown — \$95,439
Esquimaux — \$61,682
Burlington — \$683,691
Oakville — \$756,291
Acton — \$43,513
Milton — \$58,170
Nassagaweya — \$25,853

With our fifth anniversary in June, we trust that there will be an opportunity for local cit-

DISTRICT NEWS AT A GLANCE

ACTON
Police constable Bruce Kessler will be off duty for about six months as the result of a broken leg suffered during a fracas with a man he was trying to question in the Acton OPP detachment station.

ORANGEVILLE
Dirk Hoogendoorn, 57, has apparently lost the latest round in his battle to avoid paying union dues to the United workers of America C.L.C. His employer, Greening Metal Products and Screening Equipment Ltd., said Saturday he must either pay dues to the union local or be dismissed.

MILTON
Steam-Era will be back to Milton on the Labor Day week end again this year for its sixth annual appearance. Milton council renewed its invitation to the Ontario Steam and Antique Preservers Association to hold their show in town at a meeting last week.

BRAMPTON
Brampton council last week voted 7 to 2 in favour of erecting a modern new bandshell in Gave Park. A site plan drawn of the park area with the proposed new shell superimposed drew favourable comments.

izens to see the hospital as it is today. We are sure that anyone who was present at the opening will be pleasantly surprised by the solid progress made in the acquiring of hospital equipment, and the addition of so many skilled personal.

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Walter C. Biehn
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A BIBLE THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:23 Sin comes with a pay back and a pay back. Only forgiveness through Christ can both be erased.	FOBERT INSURANCE HAROLD FOBERT INSURANCE & REALTOR 164 Guelph St. 877-3374 Gen. Agency ALTO 8086	