

Georgetown Herald

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

Good Centennial Project

County council's decision to provide 1500 trees to brighten the rural landscape as part of Canada's centennial is a wise one.

The onslaught of the deadly Dutch elm-disease has played havoc with rural and urban landscapes and an organized campaign to plant more trees is a spur which is needed to restore some of the natural beauty in this part of the province.

Red maple, sugar maple and ash are the choice for this project, and they are being made available to rural residents at a nominal 50c fee.

It is to be hoped that town people will join the trend and start some plantings of their own. For four or five dollars one can secure a tree, and there is no expenditure which will pay more future dividends than a handsome tree on a town property.

The older sections of town, known for their beauty, are rapidly losing trees, some to disease, many to just the inroads of time. Every year that a tree is not replaced, is one more year to wait before we can reap a benefit from nature's beauty. The time to plant is right after a tree falls to the woodsman's axe.

Arsenic, Lace Fine Show

Georgetown Little Theatre has chosen a natural for its closing production of the season in the tried and tested Arsenic and Old Lace.

One of Broadway's most successful comedies, it has been made into a hit movie which has often been televised on the late shows. A whacky comedy, it has appeal for all age groups, some fat character parts for actors, and an endearing story which never fails to tickle audiences.

It is a particularly good choice for an amateur theatrical group. We recall years back seeing a performance in Elora, and noting that it was every bit as professional as the original movie. This week's show

should be one of the highlights in a string of successes which this active Georgetown group has presented.

The cast will have an extra reason for putting on a good show Saturday night when Mrs. Nora Winter, president of the Western Ontario Drama League is expected to be in the audience. Mrs. Winter's home town of Simcoe is one of the strongholds of Little Theatre in Ontario. We venture to say she will be pleasantly surprised at the calibre of production which she will see here, for Georgetown has become one of the best theatrical groups in the province in its short history.

Black Week-End

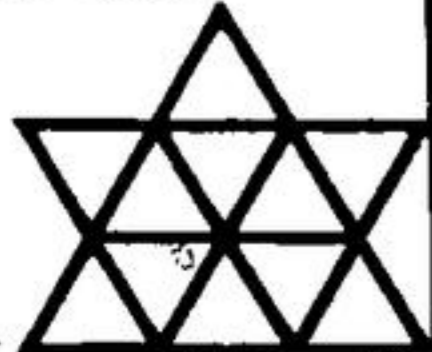
Last week's Herald was an extra sad one, telling as it did of two fatal accidents which took the lives of four Georgetown residents.

It seemed particularly tragic that two young high school girls were victims of a freak accident, enroute home from attending a hockey game in New Hamburg. An accident in another lane of traffic was responsible for pushing a car directly in their path. The accident news, close on the heels of a plane crash which took the lives of another local couple, had a saddening effect on every resident.

Those with high school daughters of similar age shared in the grief of parents whose hopes and dreams were so rudely shattered. There was widespread sympathy expressed for their sorrowing families.

One reads every day in the news about such incidents, but it is only when it hits one's own community that we are jolted and realize that it can happen to us. Perhaps it will be some small comfort for their families to know that they live in a community still small enough to care, and to personally feel a community sadness when trouble strikes.

Centennial Report



1867 | 1967 by JOHN W. FISHER CENTENNIAL COMMISSIONER

The sound of a locomotive whistle in all its variations can produce waves of nostalgia in many Canadians, especially those of us who grew up in the steam generation.

A train's whistle has been a background accompaniment to life in small towns and cities throughout most of our nation's history. It played a tune for the frontier moving west, our growth and development and the bustle of a busy Canada at work.

In many Canadian communities, large and small, the railway whistle was an announcement — of news from the east or the west, of the arrival of needed supplies of friendly visitors or new citizens or the departure of others on their way to greater adventures and new careers.

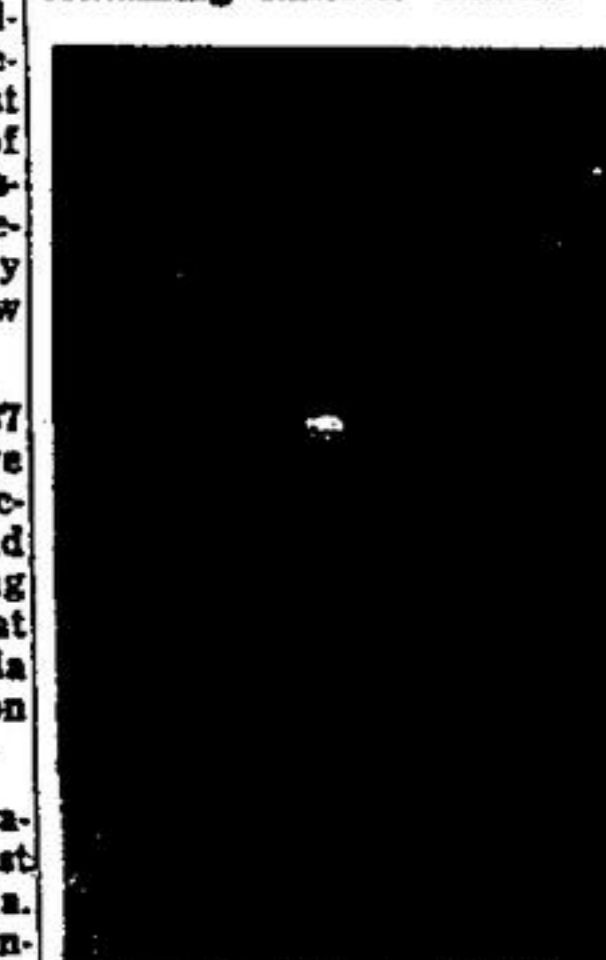
During Centennial Year 1967 a hoot from a diesel locomotive pulling into town with 15 special exhibition cars will herald the arrival of something big, unusual and exciting at more than 80 centres in Canada. This will be the Confederation Train.

During 1967 the Confederation Train will move from west to east, starting at Victoria. Those who view the exhibits inside the train will face situations confronted by the early explorers and settlers of Canada. As they pass from car to car they will experience uncomfortable sensations of strange passage to this new country, pause for reflection in the Chamber of Confederation and pass through periods of the last 100 years including the boom-and-bust twenties and the bar-



ren thirties, and the two wars. Children will derive special benefits from the lively presentation of history.

For more than 700 communities not visited by the train a tractor trailer truck will announce the arrival of a similar exhibit in a huge Centennial Caravan. There will be eight Caravans travelling across Canada each with eight 73-foot tractor trailers made in Calgary — the largest trailers ever to travel on North American roads — containing exhibits similar to



Old Washington Hand Press built in the 19th Century will be one of the relics on display in the Confederation Train. The press was used by Nova Scotia Statesman Joseph Howe to publish his opposition to Confederation. Frank J. Burns, (left) former editor of a Nova Scotia weekly newspaper and the provincial archivist Dr. Bruce Ferguson, admire a page printed on the hand-operated press. Mr. Burns, who earned his apprenticeship on such a machine, restored this one to working order.

those of the train. A Caravan will be arranged on a community site in a specific quadrangle formation and its colorful, bold design will give the impression of a miniature fair. Travelling where roads permit the Caravans will be within the reach of the vast majority of Canadians. Many communities will stage local events in conjunction with the Caravan's visit.

Be sure to watch for dates of the visit of the Confederation Train or Caravan in your area. Your newspaper and Centennial organization will know the location and time.

STUDIED LANGUAGES

Word master: Noah Webster, her of American dictionary making, had a working knowledge of 20 languages. But he was a beginner compared with a 19th century Vatican librarian, Cardinal Giuseppe Caspar Mezzofanti. The cardinal spoke 60 languages fluently and could translate 114 languages and 72 dialects.

Folklore: You tell a witch by sticking a knifeblade in her footprint. If she turns and looks back, she's a witch.

But my main objection to Bill C-64 is that our Parliament will proclaim a national anthem in which there is no acknowledgement of God's supremacy in our land. Our present anthem recognizes Divine power and seeks continuance of His guidance. Has Canada done so well in its first 100 years that it can afford to drop the Pilot?

The pressure is upon our nation to take the name of God out of all public utterances for fear of offending the few who disclaim Him. In our schools the war is on. No longer is the Bible required for the taking of an oath if objected to. Public gatherings are not bothered by the failure to formally acknowledge allegiance to our country and supplication for Divine aid. This is not just a passing matter of little consequence. It is a further thrust of the wedge which may split asunder all evidence that this nation believes



THE RUNAWAY GENII

SUGAR AND SPICE by Bill Smiley

If You Want A Laugh

For teachers on the verge of suicide, puzzled parents, and anyone else who, worn by winter, needs an injection of warmth and humor, I have a spring tonic. Buy a copy of "Up the Down Staircase," paperback 95 cents and read it. I came across it on the weekend and changed my mind about quitting the teaching profession.

It's called a novel but isn't it a record of the first term of a young, pretty high school teacher in a huge New York secondary school.

It's tender and touching and utterly hilarious. And beneath the fun is a shocked and often bitter indictment of what the educational system is doing, or failing to do, for the vast mass of teenagers. As educators and others have pointed out, the cream of the crop will rise to the top. The bottom ten percent, is having millions of dollars spent to help them. It's the great mob in the middle that gets the dirty end of the stick.

IN THE MAIL BAG

Says National Anthem to Differ in Two Versions

Box 175, Burlington, Ont. April 18th, 1966.

The Editor: Georgetown Herald: On July 1st, 1966, a National Anthem Act will come into effect in Canada, under Bill C-54, which will officially make one version of 'O Canada' our national anthem.

I wish to draw the attention of your readers to the fact that there will be two distinct anthems, one in French and one in English, to be sung to the same tune, but the translations of the two will not have the least similarity in words or meaning. It seems amazing to me that our country cannot be united on its national anthem especially with centennial year approaching.

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Conditions in the school described are much worse than those in the average Canadian high school, but the parallels are there. Avalanches of paper, most of it unnecessary. Crowded conditions everywhere? The administration thinks discipline more important than learning. The librarian doesn't like the library used because the kids don't put the books back on the shelves straight. The nurse isn't allowed to dispense even an aspirin. And the counsellor tries to analyze all the kids with phony Freud.

And the teachers are there: the workhorses, the whiners, the beaten, those who don't like kids, and those who, in spite of it all, know they're doing the most important job in the world.

But it is not basically a bitter book. And most of the humor comes from those fascinating animals, the kids themselves.

The teacher asks the kids to tell briefly why we study ancient myths and the Odyssey.

In God. If this happens, I am convinced law and order will be undermined and our national conscience and morality will certainly suffer.

If our legislative bodies and courts consider it necessary to invoke Divine direction each day they convene surely it is fitting for we people to recognize God when we sing our national anthem.

I suggest that the proposed Act be delayed until . . .

- (1) A national anthem is written in which the supremacy of God is acknowledged in Canada.
- (2) The meaning of the English and French translation is the same.

Murray W. Fisher, Burlington, Ont.

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NEWS ECHOES

From the Herald of 10, 20, and 30 Years Ago

10 YEARS AGO

Oil has been discovered on the Gilbert English farm on No. 15 sideroad. According to word from Anthony Gas Explorations, oil discovered Saturday is believed to be of the best crude oil grade in Canada. The company has drilling rights on the farm which is about four miles west of Georgetown.

Albert Rose, 30, an Armo Drainage employee was seriously injured yesterday when a hydraulic jack broke in the tunnel excavation under the CNR line. He was taken to Guelph Hospital by McClure's ambulance and after x-rays was transferred to Toronto General.

20 YEARS AGO

The 1945 executive of the local branch of the Canadian Legion is: honorary presidents: Mayor Harold Cleave, R. Kercher; president James Murphy, past president S. B. Chapman, 1st vice president Arnott Early; 2nd vice president Russel Firestone; secretary Wallace Thompson; treasurer Jack Cunningham; Sgt. At Arms, Thomas Herbert; excutive: Dean Herley, William Collier, Thomas Given, Basil Hadley; standstill bearers: Charles Davis, Henry Preston; committee chairman: Alf Sykes, canteen; William Roney, property; Charles Parton, entertainment; chaplain W. G. O. Thompson.

With Wartime Housing still very much in the forefront of municipal affairs the Council chamber was well filled with interested citizens on Monday night to hear what further action might be taken. Cr. Eason said that four properties had been looked at: about five acres at the foot of John St. belonging to George H. Leslie offered for sale for \$1,800; land on Paper Mill Row owned by Alex MacLaren with no price set; ten acres fronting No. 7 Highway owned by Cedarvale farm offered at \$600 an acre. The fourth site, considered is reservoir park, which is owned by the town. To date 57 applications for wartime houses have been filed with the clerk.

you 85 per cent."

"Get lost and stay there. Singed, Poisoned."

"Having sprained my ankle, the nurse gave me a cup of tea. That supposed to help my ankle. Athlete."

"This is the first class I enjoyed failing because of looking at you."

What emerges from the book? Several things. First and most important, the yearning of the young for some contact with some one who respects them as people. This is the age-old individual demand for respect and human dignity.

Second, the requisites of good teacher: physical toughness; understanding; mental and emotional vitality; a genu-

ine liking for fellow humans, especially kids; and, of course, something to teach: you can't fool kids with games and gimmicks.

Third, the massive, frustrating task of educating the masses. The money, the chalk, paper, steel and stone, the teachers: only the best is the aim, but it's too laden with trivia to attract the best.

Ah, well, read the book. It'll do you good. Last sample of its flavor is a cartoon—the teacher some one who respects them as people. This is the age-old individual demand for respect and human dignity.

Teacher: "There are two words in the English language you must never use. They are 'swell' and 'lousy'."

Pupil: "O.K. What are they?"

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A BIBLE THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"...when I would do good, evil is present with me." Romans 7:21

The devil is out to keep you from doing good, and living Godly. However, "greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world." Jesus is the victor.

There are two and a half times as many traffic deaths on rural roads as on city streets.

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