

## EDITORIAL COMMENT

### Main Street Heading Up...

A large business block being constructed on Main Street forecasts an upward trend in downtown property values, and should play a vital role in encouraging future development in the town's older commercial centre.

The building is only the second major construction in the last quarter century. Already it is being followed by others. Across the street, a first company has acquired the Christian Reformed church property and plans to locate there later this year. And this week another large business block has been sold which could add still more to the attractiveness of the downtown district with proper renovations.

The predictions that Main Street was through with the growth of the shopping plazas have long since proven false. Today it is realized that two or three shopping districts are good for everyone, and that a

good merchant can prosper in any location, if he is on his toes.

What downtown property owners must realize still is that you must spend money to make money. Stores must be attractive, modern and filled with merchandise at comparative prices. Adequate parking must be provided, and can only be done by sharing in the cost of acquiring and preparing land for this purpose.

We need more people with the foresight to look beyond the current year's profits like those who are sharing in Main Street's development today.

For some reason it has never been possible for Georgetown merchants to get together for any length of time and keep an active businessmen's association going. Perhaps today would be the time to try it again.

### Cedarvale On Display....

Georgetown's centennial project will be officially on display for the first time this Saturday.

The Community Centre board, established by town council to operate this fine addition to Georgetown's recreational facilities, has arranged an open house and official opening. There will be conducted tours of the property from 2.00 to 4.30. At three o'clock the mayor, centennial chairman Cr. Bill Smith and Halton's two members of parliament will officiate at a ribbon cutting ceremony and tree planting. The Citizens Band and Girls Pipe Band will be participating, and there will be pop and balloons for the children.

While many town people are quite familiar with this beautiful property there are others who have never actually been inside the front gates. Until the town acquired it, it was a private school for girls, operated by the United Church.

With a stream, trees and rolling land, it has natural beauty and ideally suited for

public purposes. It is centrally located and is an extremely valuable acquisition for the future. When Georgetown is a town much larger than today, it will be an oasis which cannot be measured in dollar value.

No one can expect that Cedarvale will immediately become an all-purpose recreation centre. Town finances preclude any large sums of money to be spent there in the next few years.

The buildings in their present form can fill some needs. The land can certainly be used and enjoyed without major expenditures.

Meanwhile the board must proceed cautiously, sorting out ideas which range from botanical gardens to baseball diamonds, bandshells to a theatre, always keeping an eye on the money which might be available.

The main point is that we now own the land, and if nothing were done for a generation, it is still well worth the money in cost.

### Like A Trip?....

It's only one little drop in the bucket, but we resent a \$7,000 grant from Canada's centennial commission which will take a group of Alberta school girls on an 8-province tour.

A news release from the commission reports this as an assistance to 46 girls, students at l'Academie Assomption in Edmonton. They begin a one month tour June 1st, with escorts.

"They hope to gain greater understanding of Canada's social, cultural and political life from their trip," the report says. "It is an educationally oriented project in coordination with the social studies program in Alberta."

Fine... but why should Canadian taxpayers be nicked for \$7,000? How long are we going to fork over more and more taxes for a bureaucracy which apparently will spend money on any scheme which a politi-

cal salesman dreams up.

The government sometimes reminds us of a Bette Davis movie "The Catered Affair" which told of a modest family which reached the verge of bankruptcy planning a wedding for their daughter.

Isn't it possible that a country, like an individual, can bankrupt itself by foolish expenditures, by unbalanced budgets.

The sad fact is that today we have no political parties with the courage to say "no"... no politicians who look farther than the next election... and not many voters who can resist the blandishment of a supposed extra dollar in their own pocket and hang the tax rise it might cost.

Maybe we need men at Ottawa and Queen's Park like some of our local municipal leaders who can say no and try to pare a budget to what they believe taxpayers can afford.



THE FLOWERS THAT BLOOM IN THE SPRING TRA-LA

## SUGAR AND SPICE by Bill Smiley

### Here's More Perfection

Well, if you remember, last week I was explaining how we could improve the high school system. We had thrown out the Lord's Prayer and the Queen, not because we are atheistic or anti-royalist, but because both are meaningless in that context.

Then we had the warm-up period: a half-hour of popular music, jokes, news, weather report. This makes up the children and starts the day, not with a whimper, but with a bang.

Following this would come a solid hour of hard work. We'd switch on the telly for 45 minutes, we'd enjoy the lesson in propaganda from Laurier La-Square, or in charm from Wat Paton, or in mopey and gawk from some cabinet minister, or in double-think from Lesser Person, or in rhetoric from

John Diefendammer or in whatever the Department of Education in its ineffable insight had chosen for the day. After the lesson teacher and students would discuss its content and try to retain their breakfasts.

It's about 10:30 a.m. now. Time for the Anti-Aggression session. The class presidents would distribute equipment. Every student would be given a block of wood and a mallet or two pieces of tin. For 15 minutes, each would pound on his wood or tin until he was cleansed of aggressive tendencies. Only the teacher would be allowed to pound students, and only with a wet towel, to get rid of his aggressive urges.

This would be followed, logically, by 15 minutes of soft music piped into the classrooms, until everybody was completely relaxed. Maybe even asleep. It's 11 a.m.

Then it's everybody, the 1400 kids and the 60-odd teachers, out and around the block. Briskly if winter, sauntering in better weather. English teachers would burble about the beauty of nature. Science teachers would point out Flora and Fauna who dropped out of Grade 11 last year. Math teachers would explain the shortest distance between two points (a warm classroom and a warm classroom) is a square block.

Time to eat. Everyone is relaxed, refreshed, ravenous. At present, the kids eat in shifts, stand in long lines, sit at long tables like convicts, gulp their jelly doughnuts, jam-and-peanut butter sandwiches, and soup (often in that order), and hurtle back to classes.

Under my system, there'd be an hour and a half for lunch. There'd be no more than eight at a table. There'd be waiters and waitresses, given this chore as a punishment, instead of a detention. Lunch would be free: a hot dish, all you could eat.

But how to overcome the overcrowding. Simple. Lunch-hour (and a half) would be combined with Learning-Leisure Period. Sociologists warn us gloomily that one of the greatest problems facing mankind is the use of leisure hours, when the work-week has been reduced by automation to about 20 hours.

This period would enable students to develop a hobby. There'd be 10 snooker tables. There'd be curling and figure-skating in winter. There'd be gardening in good weather. There'd be stamp clubs and writing clubs and flower-arranging clubs and Indian clubs.

In the gym, or outdoors in fine weather, you'd find your most learned, savants, strolling like Socrates, ready to question and answer those who really wanted to learn something.

In designated classrooms, there'd be instruction in poker and bridge and chess and darts and sex. There'd be no over-

### Share Costs or We Close Terra Cotta Road - Clark

A Chinguacousy Township road leading to Terra Cotta Park may be closed to the public in the near future if other municipalities or the county don't come up with money towards its upkeep.

Chinguacousy Reeve Cyril Clark, in a discussion on a proposed new road to the Credit Valley Conservation Authority area said: "If something isn't done about the road to Terra Cotta Park we'll find some way of closing it so that it becomes very inconvenient for visitors to get there."

Reeve Clark said that thousands of cars from Metropolitan Toronto and parts of Halton and Peel use the access road regularly, to the great inconvenience of Chinguacousy residents.

"We have spent thousands of dollars in surveying three alternate routes for a new access road and now several of the municipalities whose residents will use the highway say they will not pay their share of the costs."

The only way to show them, he said, is to close the present road until they realize how much their people miss it.

Deputy-Reeve Edward Blair of Chinguacousy had the final word. "After all this talk of conservation, isn't it rather stupid to tear down trees to put in a four lane highway?"

### BIBLE THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"And his master saw that the Lord was with him, and that the Lord made all that he did to prosper in his hand." Genesis 39:3

Real Christianity is hard to conceal. "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in Heaven."

It should be, I myself feel that the words should be identical in both English and French.

### Suggests Gas Pump Emergency Handles

Gas pumps at service stations should be provided with handles so they can be hand-operated during a power black-out, W. Bruce McGregor, co-ordinator of the Halton County Emergency Measures Organization, urged Friday.

He said during the Great Northeastern Power Failure last November there wasn't one service station in the ten in Milton that could pump gas. Police cruisers were filled up at a gas station five miles out of town at Hornby where an emergency generator — supplied by a local steam engine enthusiast — provided the needed power.

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## HARLEY TO HALTON

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

THERE HAS BEEN some misunderstanding regarding "O Canada" which will be proposed as our National Anthem, probably in this session of Parliament. The Government has the following Notice on the Order Paper:

"That the Government be authorized to take such steps as may be necessary to provide that 'O Canada' shall be the National Anthem of Canada while 'God Save the Queen' shall be the Royal Anthem in Canada."

The Government has not given any notice as to when they will proceed with this. In addition to this a Private Member has a Private Bill on the Order Paper — Bill C-54 — An Act to provide for a Canadian National Anthem. As a Private Bill this will be debated for one hour only, unless the Government gives official time, which is unlikely. It is very unlikely

that this will pass the House of Commons in that time as there will be a great deal of debate, not on the principle of "O Canada" as our National Anthem, but on the words to be used. It appears obvious that "O Canada" is accepted by the majority of Canadians as our National Anthem. It is the form it is to take that will give rise to debate and discussion in the Commons.

I AM SURE that most people are aware that the English version and the French version differ greatly in their words. The French version, translated into English is as follows:

O Canada! Our Fatherland, our own,  
Thy brow is crowned with glory and renown!  
For thine arm that knows how to raise the sword  
Knows how to uphold the Cross!  
Thy valor is a glowing word  
On history's page across!

— Refrain —  
Honour and Faith, like sentries stand,  
To guard our liberties, our land, our land!  
To guard our liberties, our land, our land!  
"Neath the eyes of God, by mountains, lake and stream  
We Canadians dwell wrapped in a golden dream  
Our Land, we know, below the skies  
Is fairest of the earth,  
By heroes' deeds and martyrs' signs  
'Twas blessed at its birth;  
Raising our Flag proudly on high,  
We swear, for it that we will live and die  
O Canada! for thee we'll live and die.

IT IS MY personal feeling that this is a good matter to refer to a Special Committee of the House of Commons to determine what the words of "O Canada"