

# Georgetown Herald

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## EDITORIAL COMMENT

### Cluser To Toronto....

A super-highway linking Georgetown with Toronto forecasts a rapidly growing future town, with estimates that Georgetown will quadruple in population within twenty years.

To old timers who have seen a little country town of 2500 do this already in their lifespan, this is not so revolutionary. And yet, when one thinks about it, it is difficult to imagine what is essentially still a small town reaching the fifty or sixty thousand mark in the not too distant future.

It puts a terrific onus on those who have positions of responsibility — councillors, school trustees, members of the cemetery board, the parks commission and the new Cedarvale commission. They must not only oversee the current municipal needs, but be aware of the ramifications that an expanding population will entail.

### Mixed Feelings....

Experimentation with allowing students to proceed to university without the final test of Grade 13 departmental examinations is a radical step in Ontario's education system.

While relieving students of the pressure of final examinations, there is some danger that if the system extends farther than the initial stage of accepting only a small percentage of top students into university, it could work to the detriment of an individual who is not fully qualified to proceed to this next level of education.

There is much to be said for the old high school system, which has gradually been abandoned—the days when there were few options and everyone who intended to graduate had to take a rather narrowly prescribed course. There is a value in discipline of the mind, in conquering a subject which does not come easily. And much of the value of education is not so much in learning specifics as in training a young mind to adapt to a job where one is not always given a choice of procedure.

The same holds true of elementary

### Uxbridge Gain....

The time honoured phrase "Georgetown's loss is Uxbridge's gain" is certainly true when it applies to big Mike Peleschak, who leaves GDHS at the end of this term for a new position in the high school there.

One of several staff members who have taken new positions, Mr. Peleschak will leave a double void, for not only has he been an excellent teacher and a leader in extra-curricular work, but his boundless energy has enriched many facets of community life.

Current problem — of enlarging the municipal building, better police quarters, bridge widenings, facilities at Cedarvale park, a park area in eastern Georgetown, school construction, present a greater challenge when one sees such a forecast.

The day is approaching when the present cemetery may run out of space, when two parks cannot adequately serve the population, when the high school can no longer serve a town three or four times our size.

It is an exciting and challenging time when we should be looking ahead, planning for the city we will become. Acquisition of the Cedarvale property should be only one of the steps in ensuring the green space vital to a city. Zoning becomes of even more importance to ensure the future Georgetown will retain as much of its natural beauty and that progress will be orderly and serve the needs of the majority of its residents.

education nowadays. In an effort to help students whose abilities are such that they cannot place in the top half of the class, there is a continuing trend, not only to keep final standings a secret from others, but from the child himself.

Publication of elementary school results, which once indicated grade and standing, is now carefully alphabetized, and contains only the bare information that a student has passed to the next grade.

The wide choice of options in high school makes it almost impossible today to give any correct grading. And there has been agitation by many headmasters (Georgetown's not included) to not release any information to the press about high school results even including the Grade 13 departmentals.

We believe that a good scholar, be he in public, high school or university, deserves the accolades to which his academic skill entitles him.

Were the same theory to be applied to sports, we could reach the stage where no one would know who won a race or a football game.

In Little Theatre he performed on and off stage with distinction. He lent his efforts to directing a Y fund campaign, served his church as a Sunday school leader, was interested in so many community activities that he left an ordinary mortal out of breath sometimes wondering when he found time for it all.

His friendly personality will be missed around town and we wish him well in his future home town of Uxbridge. Of one thing we're certain, he will be a stranger there only a few days.

## HARLEY TO HALTON

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

IN THIS COLUMN I would like to say a few words about the Old Age Pension (Old Age Security Pension). The age for receiving this Pension is progressively being reduced, and there are some people who are in fact eligible for the Pension now but who have not applied and are therefore not receiving this. This Pension is administered by the Dept. of National Health and Welfare. Under the terms of the Act, a monthly pension of \$75 is paid, upon application, to all persons who meet the age and residence requirements. Age and residence are the only considerations. Canadian citizenship is not required for eligibility. The age at which pension becomes payable is being gradually reduced from 70 to 65. Beginning in January, 1966, pension was payable at age 65; beginning in January, 1967, at age 66; and

on, until by January, 1970, the eligible age will be 65.

**RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS**

An applicant for pension may qualify if he...

1. Has resided in Canada for the ten years immediately preceding the approval of his application, or
2. Has been present in Canada at any time prior to the ten years mentioned above for periods which equal, when totalled, at least twice the length of his absence during the ten-year period, and has resided in Canada for at least one year immediately preceding the approval of his application, or
3. Has resided in Canada after attaining 18 years of age for an aggregate period of at least 40 years prior to the approval of his application.

SOME TYPES of absences

from Canada during the qualifying periods referred to above are considered not to interrupt residence. These may include absences due to the employment of an applicant or the spouse of an applicant. All facts about such absences should be given to the Regional Director.

These three methods of meeting residence requirements are the only ones provided by law. No allowances is made for any exceptions.

**APPLICATIONS FOR PENSION**

If you were born prior to November, 1897, you should have made your application by now. It takes six months to process and confirm residence and age requirements, so always apply six months prior to your date of receiving your pension. For details on requirements, you should pick up an application form from any Post Office.



IN THE GOOD OLD SUMMER TIME

## SUGAR AND SPICE

by Bill Smiley

### One Week of Sacrifice

We were sitting around bickering after church the other day. My daughter had a bad cold, and was generally owly. She didn't think much of God.

"How can God let so many people in the world be starving?" she wanted to know. Well it's a fair question.

Her mother and I tried to explain that it was not God's doing, but man's. We said it was man's greed, insecurity and fear that made us live like kings (far better than medieval kings, in fact), while hundreds of millions of people in the world, our brothers, starved and died of illness unnecessarily.

She wasn't buying any. "It all sounds pretty foggy to me," she grumped. "I don't think much of God, if that's the way He runs things."

I asked her what she'd do about the situation. Like all kids, she didn't know, except to repeat that it was all wrong.

Well, you can't have a 15-year-old sitting around running down God; so like all fathers since

### THE DISTRICT AT A GLANCE

**MILTON** — Fed up with what it termed the "constant interference" of town council Milton's Centennial Committee dissolved in disgust. The committee had planned a project to refurbish the town's mill pond as the centennial project.

**ACTON** — Charles Kelly Browne, Acton's oldest active merchant celebrated his 96th birthday Saturday. The nonagenarian, who seldom misses working in his Main St. variety store greeted many customers and friends on the day.

**ORANGEVILLE** — Six year old Allan Johnston of Orangeville was killed on Friday at a road construction site opposite his home. Police say the boy was apparently struck by a road grader as it backed up.

**ERIN** — The Erin District High School Band members are sporting new uniforms through the kindness of the Erin Lions Club. The school colours, purple and gold are also the colours of the Lions, and have been used in the uniforms.

**BRAMPTON** — Brampton's new police chief Stan Raikie has stated that the city's police and ambulance services will have to be divorced if residents want efficiency. He said if Police continue to operate the ambulance service it will result in both services being only "fair".

**OAKVILLE** — Officials of Mack Truck Manufacturing Co. announced this week that the firm will build a new plant in Oakville across the Queen Elizabeth Way from the Ford of Canada plant. Production capacity of the plant will be between 1,000 and 2,000 per year.

was coming and planned for it.

The provincial government would collapse, if it lost a week's taxes on booze and beer, I doubt it. A few miles of highway might not be built. So what?

Seriously, I think it would be fun. Many people would take part because it is something concrete, rather than a vague thing like foreign aid or missions.

And there'd be beneficial side effects. Slimmer waists. A new slant on our good life. And I can guarantee that, after three days of macaroni, the squirrels in our attic would never be a problem again. They'd be stew.

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## Centennial Report

1867



1967

by JOHN FISHER  
CENTENNIAL COMMISSIONER

I have met a number of Canadians inspired, by the coming Centennial celebrations, to research the family tree.

Tracing back one's lineage can be an interesting pastime and may produce some surprises. One woman from London, Ontario, told me she had turned up the uniform her grandfather wore in the Northwest Rebellion of 1885, stored for years in an attic trunk belonging to a maiden aunt. Until the uniform was discovered she hadn't known her grandfather was involved with the prairie uprising.

The reason why I like to encourage people to research family history is that it may provide more than a textbook link with the history of the country. History can become alive and personal.

A woman in Ottawa, for example, who has adopted Canada as her country, knew about the Battle of the Plains of Abraham but she did not realize it was Captain James Cook who guided General Wolfe's men to the shores of Quebec. She learned of this when she discovered she was a direct descendant of that famous navigator.

It is worth noting, also, that the spirit of the times rules out the old snobbery associated with claims of having dukes, counts and other nobles as ancestors.

I recall touches of humor associated with a period 25 to 30 years ago when some families went to great trouble and sometimes considerable expense to have their histories researched. Those whose ancestors came from Europe or the British Isles often were hopeful of finding proof of heroes or royal blood in their backgrounds. Certainly a copy of the family crest on old parchment, framed and hanging in the dining room, was a status symbol of sorts.

During the family crest craze various "services" across the seas published classified advertisements in North American newspapers offering to research official documents and produce bona fide family crests—for a fee. It was with dismay that some on this side of the ocean would later discover they actually had paid for a fictional drawing which came only from the mind of a second rate commercial artist in a foreign land.

Family history research can produce exciting stories too. One of our young office boys at the Centennial Commission didn't give a hoot about history until he discovered that an ancestor of his figured prominently in the Papineau uprising. His eyes stared in disbelief as he spotted his own unusual French name in Maçon Wade's "French Canadians". They widened even more when he read on to find that a troop of the Montreal Volunteer Cavalry had been sent to St. Johns, Quebec, to capture his ancestor. The ancestor evaded the Cavalry and fled to the United States.

"Gee, I've often wondered why I have so many American relatives," he said. "Now I know. Here in Canada we had a price on our heads."

I recommend, as a personal Centennial project for yourself, that you check into old family albums and books lying around the house. Ask the relatives too. There's no telling what interesting Canadian history you might find with a family connection of your own.

Whether they have "trees" or not, families also can play a big part in the Centennial celebrations by making 1967 the big year for those picnics and reunions which long have been typical festive occasions in many Canadian communities.

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