

Georgetown Herald

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

A Variety Vacation

Most people on vacation like to be organized, to know what they will be doing each day, where they will rest their head at night.

We belong to that minority who like it to be a surprise, so this year we planned the perfect (for us) vacation — which consisted of practically no planning at all.

We vaguely decided that we would like some fall scenery, some mountains, a taste of big city life. Perhaps Vermont and Boston; perhaps south through the central states to New Orleans, perhaps northern Michigan. We were going to leave Friday night or Saturday morning for our two week jaunt.

So, after all the loose ends which an editor must tie up before he shoves off, we left Georgetown, late Sunday afternoon, first stop, Syracuse, N.Y.

Next day we proceeded leisurely to New York City, veering off the main highway through the Catskills, traditional vacation country for New Yorkers. We saw mainly rambling old frame hotels, from a vanishing age when transportation was limited and city folk headed to the mountains to beat the summer heat.

Restoring A City

Next stop, Philadelphia, where we were struck by the large scale restoration which should make this city a terrific tourist attraction in coming years.

A large waterfront area is under the wrecker's axe, but many of the old town houses are being saved and will be converted back to their original state. Historic government buildings are being restored, as well they might, for here it was that the first congress met after the revolutionary war, and the city is steeped in early history.

Downtown Philly is a beautiful, modern city with lovely stores and handsome office buildings. Sea food restaurants, deliberately old fashion style, abound. While dining in one, we had a glimpse of a new style entertainer, Mary of Peter, Paul and Mary, who were playing a big concert that night. It was fun, later, to walk by the big auditorium where the doors had not

Good Place Once You're There

Back to city life next day in Washington which, to our mind, is one of the best tourist buys there is.

If one avoids the tour buses and plans for himself, there is little that isn't for free, for the price of a bus ride around the central mall.

It took us almost as long to get settled in a motel as it did to drive from Virginia Beach. Washington traffic is weird and wonderful to behold. Study of a city map and a motor league strip map routing was not too much help when one reached that sea of traffic.

We settled for a motel in neighbouring Arlington with a handy bus nearby which took one to the heart of the city in

On to the bustle of the big city, for a couple of days in an off-Broadway motel where blocks of rooms have been cleared for this type of accommodation. A New York visit is always interesting. We did the usual, Radio City Music Hall, a zippy musical comedy, and, a natural for our age group, dinner and dancing to Sammy Kays. This was in the Empire State building where a restaurant has embarked on a "Bring back the big bands" policy. Cab Calloway had been there, Duke Ellington and the Tommy Dorsey orchestra were on tap.

We got the impression that NYC is in trouble tourist-wise. Broadway restaurants were mostly empty, except for the automat. The gay white way is not so glamorous as in past days. Maybe we're spoiled, sitting on the threshold of Toronto which now has so many of its own attractions. Mostly the trouble is that New York is pricing itself out of existence. A snack in a restaurant costs two or three dollars, Broadway musicals have a ten dollar top, compared with five or six in Toronto, taxi drivers expect, and demand, a sizeable tip. Hotel and motel prices are on a higher scale. A cocktail or a bottle of beer is double what one would expect to pay.

yet opened. The street was thronged with the teen crowd, buses arriving by the dozens to unload more and more. The concert was a complete sell-out, while next door where a bound-for-Broadway musical was having a tryout, there were still seats on sale.

We took in the show — a musical version of a film Hobson's Choice which starred Charles Laughton some years back. It features Norman Wisdom, well known in England, but not so much over here. Set in Lancashire, it should do well, particularly with those of British origin.

Next was a complete change of pace — a leisurely day at Virginia Beach, surely one of the most beautiful combinations of sea and sand that the world has produced. Luckily, it was a bright, sunny day, the water was warm and we had a fine afternoon riding the breakers and sunning on the warm sand.

fifteen or twenty minutes. It's an arrangement we would heartily recommend if you plan on visiting the Capitol.

One had an uneasy feeling here of visiting a country at war. Military uniforms in profusion, signs in every building indicating the direction to fall-out shelters. A debate on Viet Nam in process when we viewed congress in session, the city thronged with businessmen and army personnel.

We took in some of the things which interested us — a tour of the Capitol, the FBI building, the White House, and parts of the Museum of Natural History. The display of precious metals and gems is outstanding there, as is American wild life in its natural habitat.

Committee on Birth Control will be reporting its findings very shortly and the Committee on Drugs which is beginning its detailed examination of drug companies and their structure also has a heavy schedule.

IN THE MAIL BAG

Wants Less, Not More Centralized Government

31 Byron Street,
Georgetown, Ontario
October 11th, 1966.

Dear Mr. Editor,
The people of this great country are having the greatest hoax perpetrated upon them in the country's history!

Why and How?
1st. The proposed integration of our armed forces, which have been told will save the country millions of dollars. It should.

Will it?
Conclusions of reputable thinkers on this issue are that it will not save the country a dime but will cost more.

2nd. The regional studies regarding the elimination of

SUGAR AND SPICE

by Bill Smiley

THANKSGIVING IS THE BEST

As a Canadian, what is your favourite holiday in the year? Think carefully, now. (No objection to Yanks playing the game.)

Originally, our holidays had religious overtones. Hence, the term holy days: Christmas, Good Friday, Thanksgiving.

Then we developed patriotic — or, if you prefer — political holidays. These include such stirring times as Dominion Day now better known as The First of July; British Empire and Commonwealth and The Queen's Birthday; Armistice or Remembrance Day.

Finally we have a few pure pagan holidays tossed in: Labor Day, Civic Holiday and New Year's Day.

Well let's start at the bottom and eliminate. Civic Holiday has no significance whatever. It's the day on which everyone gets out of town for the weekend, except the local merchants who are supposed to get a civic holiday, but spend it working like mad at the service club carnival, raising money for some worthy cause. It isn't even a national holiday. Big-city stores ignore it.

Labour Day, as we all know, far from being a tribute to or-

ganized labour, is a day on which nobody does a tap of work, except for getting their kids ready for school, or closing up the cottage.

The next in insignificance is difficult to choose. We have Dominion Day, of course. Once it was a day of horse races, picnics, boat excursions, and speeches in the park. Now it is merely a day which, annoyingly doesn't always fall on a Monday or a Friday.

And we have that whatever it is day in May. It used to be Queen Victoria's Birthday. In the morning trees were planted. For the rest of the day, and night, you burned your fingers on firecrackers and your eyebrows on Roman Candles. I guess what we're supposed to do now is sit around and think of our Commonwealth brother in Zambia and Senegal, or the Queen, whose birthday is in another month, or something? What we actually do is open the cottage, or go fishing.

And then of course, there is New Year's Day. Hangovers and broken resolutions. Actually, New Year's depends on how fervently you first-footed it on the preceding eve. It can be as bleak as a beverage room, or as rambunctious as a rooster, but ahead of it there lie three cold,

IN THE MAIL BAG

Wants Council Enforce By-Law, Stop Odours

31 Byron Street,
Georgetown, Ont. io
October 11th, 1966.

Dear Mr. Editor
Residents of the area of the Domtar paper coating mill in Georgetown are in a fighting mood over the odours emanating from the open cesspools on the company property, which contain the effluent from the coating plant.

And Rightly So
The residents say they are compelled to keep their windows and doors closed even in the hot summer, when the winds waft this unbearable odour in their direction. They cannot enjoy the open spaces around their homes, but are

municipal governments and boards in favour of regional governments have been made on the basis of saving the taxpayers money. It should.

Will it?
Who, in the history of any country, found other than that the higher echelons of government always cost more than lesser governments? What with the creation of supposedly needed boards and commissions and additions to them all the time, where will the savings be?

Where will be the essential tie-in with the grass roots, the ordinary joe be when our local municipal body is eliminated? The elimination of county governments should have taken place many years ago. They have been only an extra spending body to compete with the local municipal councils at a substantial increase in the tax rates to support county governments. We don't need to hire anyone else to spend our tax dollars.

When the truth of the foregoing is realized it will be seen that both of these plans to save money are but a camouflage to keep the real issue in obscurity.

The only way to save money is by the elimination of the Provincial governments and our useless, high-paid, rubber-stamping senate.

All we require in this country is a Federal Government composed of representatives from each province based on a per-capita and other figures. We do not require a duplicate government with all its boards, commissions and trapings in each province.

We have more government in Canada than in Britain with 30 millions than in Britain with 60 millions. The old alibi that because of the breadth of this great Dominion, this is not possible, will not hold water. With our modes of fast air travel which covers the Atlantic to the Pacific in less than 12 hours any such argument is preposterous.

Until these changes are made, we may expect taxes to keep on rising until we are taxed out of house and home and will have to go back to the caveman's type of living.

Suit you? O.K. Keep on sleeping.
Yours truly,
Ed. A. Peters

driven indoors by the stench.

Sales of property in the area of the plant have been lost because of this and property values have decreased over the years.

Management of the mill has stated they have taken action on several occasions to overcome the situation, but re-idents contended it is now worse than ever.

The Provincial Paper Ltd. immediately across the road from Dom-Tar, have overcome the problem, common to both by taking its effluent out by tank truck to a farm seven miles from the mill and dumping it into huge moats which are later filled in. It is reasonable to assume that similar action by Dom-Tar years ago would have overcome the odour complaint.

Section 390 of the Georgetown zoning by-law 57-91 enacted in 1957 reads as follows: "Obnoxious: shall mean a use which, from its nature or operation creates a nuisance or is liable to become a nuisance or offensive by creation of noise or vibration; or by reason of the emission of gas, fumes, dust or objectionable odour; or by reason of the unsightly storage of goods, wares, merchandise, salvage, refuse matter, waste or other material; and without limiting the generality of the foregoing shall include any use which under "The Public Health Act" RSO 1950 Ch. 306 or regulations thereunder may be declared by the Local Board of Health or Council to be a noxious or offensive trade business or manufacture.

Under this by-law the Town has the authority to demand that the company rectify this condition immediately as a non-conforming use of the lands. It was passed by council for just this purpose.

Will Council Demand This Be Done,

The fact that the papermill was built in its present location many years ago does not pre-date the erection of many homes in the area which were there before the mill.

The Provincial Paper mill has overcome the odour problem why not Dom-Tar?

As to the suggestion that Dom-Tar might relocate if pressured by Council to do the same as Provincial Paper, well bring, on the salt shaker.

What other area anywhere would put up with what the residents of the mill area have put up with?

It is also noted that a new by-law No. 66-63 enacted by council recently to compel persons to keep their premises cleaned up no doubt will receive adequate enforcement. We are in sympathy with this by-law which would prevent premises becoming junkyards.

Will By-law 57-91 receive the same enforcement?
Yours truly,
Ed. A. Peters



"HOW DARE YOU WASTE OUR WATER LIKE THAT?"

dark dreary and deadly months of winter.

The two saddest holidays of the year are Remembrance Day and Good Friday. And, appropriately, they come at the most dismal times of the year.

On Nov. 11th, the sky weeps the widows and mothers weep the flags droop at half-mast and the bells toll. The only joint in town that jumps is the Legion Hall. After the solemn rites have ended, old cronies gather to exchange lies, enjoy good food and drink, and listen to the inevitable speaker trying to convince them it was all worthwhile.

Good Friday is gloom, darkness and bitter wind, remnants of snow drifts. A day of death, sacrifice and sorrow. Cold, color and the earth is dead and frozen.

Christmas is another thing. A season of peace and joy on earth with goodwill toward men, according to the ads and the interminable carols. But, let's be honest. By the time The Day has arrived, you are baffled, bushed and broke.

That leaves nothing else but Thanksgiving. That's my choice every year. It's the best Canadian holiday, and we had a wonderful one this year.

First, there are the physical delights. Weather is usually fine — brisk and bright. Scenery is magnificent: blue, bronze and crimson. Blood bubbles in the veins. Fire feels good. Food tastes like never before. Lungs lap clean air. Sleep is sweet, smooth and as dreamless as whipped honey.

And then there's the thanksgiving itself. Thanks for good health. Thanks, I'm alive. Thanks for children. Thanks for harvest, or fat beef, or a steady job. Thanks for a chance to go on living through another year of those other holidays until I can say thanks again.

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HARLEY TO HALTON

Weekly Observations by
Dr. Harry Harley,
M.P. for Halton

THE HOUSE OF Commons has opened again to continue and conclude its legislative work for this Session. The first matter dealt with was the Bank Act which was given second reading and referred to the Committee on Finance for detailed study. This is in progress now and witnesses will be heard concerning the proposed changes in the banking laws of Canada.

FOLLOWING THIS a relatively minor Bill was introduced concerning the provision of seed growers for use in Eastern Canada and British Columbia. This was met with unceremonious assistance, not solely because of the contents itself, but because the Opposition is opposed to proceeding with any more legislation.

IN ADDITION to the above a whole day was spent regarding whether an examination could be made into alleged charges of tampering with the report of a Navy Admiral by the Minister of National Defence.

IT IS EXPECTED that the next two pieces of legislation will be Medicare which will be implemented in July, 1968 and the Bill which will guarantee a minimum annual income for all those over 65 years of age. It is expected that both these pieces of legislation will take considerable time as they are expected to be debated for long periods and there will undoubtedly be attempts to modify and change some of the contents of the Bill.

COMMITTEE WORK has again become very heavy. The Com-