

Centennial Report

1867 | 1967

by JOHN W. FISHER
CENTENNIAL COMMISSIONER

Don't underestimate the good effect the Centennial, celebrations are going to have on Canada.

The Centennial is coming just at the right time — a time when many Canadians are beginning to feel they have too long been subjected to the crying of the beavers, the whiners and the knowers. You know the kind I mean — the ones who do nothing but wring their hands and predict that the country is about to come apart at the provincial seams, that alas, there is naught to do but wearily sit and watch the disintegration.

The idea of Canada disintegrating, I imagine, was merely a novelty of the mind thought up by the doom-criers as a publicity aid, but to use the language of the television age, it has been "overexposed". It has been exhausted in the public prints and along the public sound waves to the point where most Canadians are yawning.

I think we are all eager and ready for a refreshing change. We want to consider the bright future for Canada which we know, down deep, to be probable as well as possible.

During 1967 we will hear and see plenty about the kind of Canada we picture for the future. Just as an example, consider "Second Century Week" a gathering of 1,100 students from all across Canada, on the two campuses of the University of Alberta and the University of Calgary next March. Grants from the Alberta and federal governments are assisting the universities in this Centennial year project. It is the students in our society, who often spark the action necessary to put new ideas in motion.

Forecasts Steady Decline In Farm Labour Supply

The "disturbing" decline in the number of productive farmers in Ontario will continue during the next few years.

This was the opinion of R. Gordon Bennett, assistant deputy minister of agriculture for Ontario, when he addressed Halton Federation of Agriculture's annual banquet, Tuesday, December 6.

"It is very disturbing to us in agriculture to realize the number of very productive farmers going out of business" he said.

Heavy Growth

"We certainly don't like to see this, but we have to recognize that living in an area of high development such as this we should expect it."

Mr. Bennett told Halton farmers that more and more people were focussing attention on food production and prices.

"The lack of adequate manpower to do the jobs on farms is a very great concern," he added.

"It is estimated that employment on farms in the whole of Canada in 1966 is the lowest it has ever been.

He said farm employees represented around one-eighth of Canada's industrial work force.

"It was not so long ago that they amounted to 21 or 22 per cent," he said.

Work Force

He said the agricultural work force in Ontario was down to about six per cent of the industrial employment.

Mr. Bennett said if the number continued to decline it would mean more trouble than in the past.

In 1966 there were 57,000 fewer farm employees than last year, he said.

"It is a decline in employment of 9.5 per cent. It is not that the work is not there to do — the people are not there to do it."

Mr. Bennett said opinion in Ottawa was that the decline would continue in the years ahead.

"This is going to become an increasing difficulty to us," he said.

"During the year there has been considerable unrest about the economic position of farming."

tion and the theme of their "Second Century Week" gathering is that the Centennial is a bridge to the future — a future involving opportunities so great that they are bound to overshadow the temporarily unsolved problems of Canada.

Throughout 1967 events and words also will help refresh the original dream of a great Canada which the Fathers of Confederation started on the way to reality when they met at Prince Edward Island 100 years ago. For example more books, poems, essays, and plays on the story of Canada are being published than at any other time in the country's history. We estimate that several hundreds will find a place on the Canadian shelves. More than 100 are being produced with the help of Centennial Commission grants alone. In addition commercial publishers, churches and other institutions are bringing out many more during Centennial.

Through books and plays the glamour, the drama and the excitement in the story of Canada so often missing in history books, and so long neglected by the majority of publishers will be challenging the whole of our country to show it can live up to its potential greatness in the 20th century.

I believe the Centennial celebrations will be for Canada what a good spring cleaning does for a house that's been too long closed up for the winter months.

The year 1967 will be a time for a new fresh outlook, a time when we open the doors and windows of our minds let in the fresh air and clean out the cobwebs. A country with such a potential has no place for cobwebs.

Future Planning

He advised farmers to put their heads together to work out a long-range plan for the future.

Farmers also have to try to get a large enough segment of the population interested in such a program.

Questioned about the possible future of farming in Ontario the minister replied: "It has to be good, because people need food. We have got to have it."

"But certainly there will be some terrific changes, just as there will be in many other segments of our life."

Mr. Bennett said the farmers had to condition themselves for such changes and increase their education.

Better Education

He said future farm operators would require a very much better education than present-day farmers if they wanted to make a success.

"We have to put this great emphasis on the education of our people and then try to create a climate in our agricultural industry which will get the numbers that are required on the farm."

IN THE MAIL BAG

Lauds Mayor For Keeping Stable Rate, Town Taxes

31 Byron Street,
December 10th, 1966

Dear Mr. Editor
Georgetown's 1967 Council could be the very best in its history.

BECAUSE
We elected to the mayoralty a man really sincere in his efforts to benefit the hard-pressed taxpayers by holding the mill rate. The effects of this in our getting more industry to locate will be invaluable.

There are still two many on council whose money must come to them very easily if we can judge by their willingness to spend the taxpayer's money.

Next year may be the first in over ten years that we may be able to look at a balance sheet for the town which will show a real satisfactory surplus. It would be nice to have some of our past indebtedness paid off as well and without having someone breathing down our necks for our last last dollar, due to overspending.

Remember 1958 when we had a 13 mill tax increase?

We hope we elected a council capable of enforcing our by-laws especially in regard to the stink nuisance.

Talk is cheap. We have a by-law that has been in the books since 1957 and it has never been acted upon in this regard.

We must have in council men who will bring equality to all in regard to sewage payment rates. Three thousand (\$3,000) a month has been lost to the town since 1962 due to juggling sewage payments to suit certain industries, some of whose employees were then on council. This is equal to over 2 mills on the tax rates.

No more pussyfooting on this issue! Let us see action to remedy this loss in 1967.

I would remind the readers that as of December 31st, 1966 we are still committed to a debt of nearly two million dollars which represents annual principal instalments of nearly \$200,000 and interest of \$113,622.93 for a total of \$306,535.37 each year.

The consideration of these figures should have a sobering effect on those who would spend the taxpayers money not merely as though money was going out of style but that it was a curse to have it as a surplus against future needs.

To stay in the black, the sensible householder must curtail his spending to the amount he can safely do without going into debt and it behooves our municipality to follow the same pattern. This I have advocated very strongly to the Department of Municipal Affairs.

I hope every member of council will consider our present heavy indebtedness when they are figuring their expenditures for 1967. We have heavy expenses that must be met for

present services and commitment for the future ones such as the new Mountainview Road bridge, more storm sewers, better roads, curbs, and gutters. Our police must be provided with better quarters this year and a salary and rate schedule for all employees of the corporation must be dealt with.

Thank you Mr. Editor, for use of your valuable space.
Yours truly,
Ed. A. Peters

Mrs. Harry Sanderson Heads Church Group

Mrs. Harry Sanderson is the new president of the Daughters of the Church, and will be assisted by the following executive for 1967: 1st vice president

Mrs. Thomas Van Eckler, 2nd vice president, Mrs. Loren From; secretary, Mrs. Walter Bicha, treasurer Mrs. Wilbert Bradley; lunch convener, Mrs. Charles Harris; and flower fund convener, Mrs. Wilfred Mine.

The acclamation of the new officers was announced by president Mrs. Gordon Spence, at the Christmas Pot Luck Supper held in the Archdeacon Thompson Memorial Room at St. George's Anglican Church last Monday evening.

Tables attractive with lighted candles and Christmas decorations, an exchange of gifts and coloured slides of the Royal Bowl parade in Pasadena California, added to the enjoyment of the evening. Mrs. Ernie Pearce showed the pictures of the flower-filled floats.

Thanking Mrs. Spence for her fine work as president of the Daughters for the past two years, Mrs. Charles Harris expressed the sentiments of all the members as she presented Mrs. Spence with a gift as a memento of their appreciation.


Engineer "Retires" Now is Consultant

Roy F. Smith, Halton County engineer and roads superintendent, and a man who has worked on Halton's roads for the past 48 years, "officially" retired from his post on November 30 but he hasn't left the office in the county buildings for good.

Mr. Smith has been retained by the county as a consultant to the engineering department, on a two-year basis. D. J. Jack Carbett former DeLorain engineer, is the new county engineer and he accepted the post on June 1.

Back in 1918 when Roy Smith first came to Halton County as resident engineer on the Tansley Bridge job at Highway 5, Halton was a tiny rural community with 25 to 30 miles of paved roads. Today it is crisscrossed with highways as there are 120 miles of pavement in the Halton roads system.

For the money you need to do your Christmas shopping



ASK GAC

for a cash advance

Enjoy the confidence of shopping with cash in your pocket... ready cash from GAC. And shop early to make sure you get your first choice of gift items... the sizes, colors and styles you want. Stop in or call your GAC office. You'll get prompt, personal service and convenient monthly payments fitted to your budget. Get a cash advance from GAC for holiday shopping... or for any good reason.

GAC LOANS UP TO \$500
GAC INTERNATIONAL
FINANCE CORPORATION, LTD.

GEORGETOWN
12 Main Street, South Phone 877-6371

ACTON
75 Mill Street Phone 853-2560

WESTON
4 John Street Phone 249-8341

RICHMOND HILL
20 Yonge Street, South Phone 884-4453

THE GEORGETOWN HERALD
Thursday, December 15, 1966 PAGE 9

WRIGHTS

VARIETY STORE

STORE HOURS
Monday to Saturday: 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.
Sunday: 10:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

WRIGHT'S BARBER SHOP

(2 BARBERS)
Monday Dec. 19th to Friday, Dec. 23rd
OPEN EVERY NIGHT 'TIL 9 P.M.
(Close Saturday, Dec. 24 at 5 p.m.)
FREE PARKING at our new Location
7 James Street (opp. Mackenzie's)

GIFTS FOR EVERYONE
ON YOUR LIST!

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING HOURS

ALL STORES
OPEN EVERY NITE
Til 9 p.m.
OPEN SAT., DEC. 17
Til 9 p.m.



BRAMPTON TALL

Highway 10 Nanwood Drive

FOR THE BEST IN

Creative Printing

TRY THE
Georgetown Herald
22 MAIN ST. S.
Telephone 877-2201

For Fast Action

MLS
MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE

CONSULT A MEMBER OF THE
Brampton Real Estate Board



dazzle her with an electrical gift!

Most gifts can make a woman smile. But to make her eyes glow with thanks, to make her remember the gift and the giver for years to come, make it an electrical gift. Modern electrical appliances make a woman's work easier and her life more pleasant. They help her do more things, enjoy more things. So dazzle her—with an electrical gift!

Georgetown Hydro
14 Water Street
LIVE BETTER ELECTRICALLY 877-2275