

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Hard Chore For Councillors

Continual pressure for more money to operate local boards and commissions, mounting costs of materials and salaries, demands from residents for more services, and an inflationary spiral which causes some ratepayers to resent the fact that taxes don't go up, make it a difficult job for municipal councils these days to conduct business.

that one must keep in mind the wide variation in incomes of residents, and the basis of taxation, which is property, rather than income.

There is one school of thought which would have municipal taxes raised on an income basis — and it has many points in its favour.

But as long as property is the criterion, then caution must be used in raising taxes — keeping in mind particularly those residents who live on fixed incomes.

As we mentioned last week, one major factor which must be curtailed is the passive submission of school boards to outrageous demands for more and more money by the teaching profession. Residents, too, must think twice before complaining too much about roads, sidewalks, water deficiencies, snow plowing. We cannot demand perfection on a town-wide scale any more than we can in our private lives.

No one has his home perfectly outfitted, his family perfectly clothed, takes all the trips he wants, drives the car of his dreams. What most men do is to make their wage stretch as far as it can, providing first the necessities, then some saving for a rainy day, and last what luxuries he can afford. Can a town be any different?

To be sure, one would not want to live in a town where there was no progress, where only the barest of services were provided, where saving a dollar was the end-all in town financing.

But neither should one wish to live in a community where councillors gave no second thoughts to requests for money, and let taxes go up and up with no concern other than to satisfy every demand of every citizen.

A town, after all, is just a collection of individuals, and the tax treasury can only be the total of what we spend for collective improvements.

If we spend more than we can afford, we can be in trouble just as can an individual who tries to spend each year more than he earns.

The difficulty in municipal budgeting is

from 30 families a decade ago to 142 families today, has not only outfitted one structure in its short Georgetown existence, but has outgrown this building and erected a fine new edifice.

A majority of the congregation are New Canadians of Dutch extraction, and it is a tribute to their religion that, starting in a new land with limited finances, they are willing to give generously to their church with all the demands on their pocketbook of everyday living.

When people are prone to criticize if things are not just to their liking, we can point out one incident this week where three public utilities combined to do the public a favour.

The east side of Main Street where the Herald building is located, is a danger spot when certain weather conditions cause huge icicles to form overhanging the sidewalk from sloping roofs.

Monday morning the icicles had reached such epic proportions that if one had

fallen on a pedestrian a serious injury could have occurred.

To the rescue came Operation Icicle. While the public works department blocked off traffic on the street and the police department stood by to direct traffic, the hydro used their truck and 'bucket' to swing hydro-men toward the eaves and knock down the pesky icicles.

Merchants were happy for the service, for it is well nigh impossible to do this themselves. And the public owes a vote of thanks for elimination of this danger.

mayor sat in his car, watching cars by the dozen slip and slide unable to start, once stopped half way up. I am afraid that we lack leadership in Georgetown. I am afraid that we are not going to get it for at least two years either. Let us cut out the nonsense. No more talk of \$47,000 plus \$19,500 that we cannot afford. No more talk of cutting out an essential addition to our educational facilities while adding frills elsewhere.

Yours truly, Hugh Powell

bring in a recommendation to purchase an aerial fire truck for high apartment buildings, at a cost of \$47,000. This was made briefly, but clearly. The mayor did not stand up and ridicule this, and it was not reported in the press. Again on Monday, when addressing council on cost cutting, I stated that where we need library facilities and where these are termed 'ridiculous', we certainly can save this \$47,000 for non-existent high rise apartments, which was frankly, the most outlandish suggestion I have heard.

Councillor Harrison, said that such a ladder and truck was useful for fighting fires on roofs of factories. Again no report of this in the press. Obviously, the purchase is under some sort of consideration, yet the taxpayer has heard nothing of it. Why?

In the same issue of the 'Herald' we are told that the lowest tender for the new Police building was \$19,500. Is this department becoming a little top heavy? For a town of less than 12,000 we have a Chief, an inspector, a sergeant at least 2 corporals (newly-appointed) several constables, and a cadet. If I am not mistaken, a properly stocked, and staffed library, gives everyone with the desire, an equal chance.

All this aside however, the report missed one particularly disquieting point. Some two or three weeks ago, the Council in charge of the Police and Fire committee, covertly stated that his Commission would

Not one of these officers or men were present to sort out the disgraceful traffic tangle that developed on the Maple Avenue Hill on Sunday morning the 27th of January, and the

What has ten legs and five eyes? — 'I've and a half dogs



WINTERS SPORTS

SUGAR AND SPICE MORE ON EDUCATION by Bill Smiley

This was supposed to be part two of a series on education in this country. Last week, I complained about: obsolescence; the lack of everything but pupils; the unfairness of the funding; the lack of national standards; and the rigidity of practically everything in the system. Not bad for a start.

In all the years I wrote this column before I began peddling pedagogy, nobody tried to suppress my opinions here. Many disagreed violently. Others threatened to cancel their subscriptions. Some said I was vulgar. And one reverend gentleman even offered to thrash me within an inch of my life. I reminded him that my big brother was a six-foot-two, 210-pound engineer, and I never heard another word.

The first hint that I should tone it down came from a representative of the mighty teachers' federation. Said they'd had several letters from members urging that I be drummed out of the service because I was destroying the teacher's image by mentioning here such human horrors as sex and drink, and by using the odd epithet.

He asked me heavily what I would do in his position. I replied lightly that I'd do what I always do with letters from cranks and bleats — chuck 'em in the wastebasket. He was annoyed. Pinned down, he admitted there were two such letters. And I was annoyed.

Second subtle suggestion was from an inspector. A lady. She passed the word that the Deputy Minister, no less, was concerned about my column and its contents.

I turned indigo and snarled. "You mean the Department is trying to tell me what I can say and can't say in my column?"

"Nonononono!", she blurted, visions of headlines dancing in her head. "It's merely hoped that you'll use your own good judgment."

Next time, it was another inspector. At the time, a now-defunct newspaper for teachers was running my column. The paper was happy; the fan mail was heavy. But, whispered this inspector, he thought he should tell me, for my own sake, that I was getting-in-wrong-with-the-federation.

"Waddaya tokkin about," I enquired in my best Head of English Department manner. And got no answer that I could pin down.

I seem to be down on inspectors this week. And so I am. We got the word the English inspectors were coming. I alerted my 15-odd birds in the English department.

Next morning, the English staff would have gladdened your eye. Gals all in their best dresses, hair fresh-done. Men with their shoes shined. And every single one glowing with virtue after working till one a.m. preparing the sort of unrealistic but model lessons that inspectors expect.

Nine a.m. Word comes that they wouldn't be there. Snowing and blowing. Any of us would have struck off for anywhere. But these city-nurtured drivers are terrified by a bit of wind and snow.

So we shot off all those terrific lessons on the kids. Mine laughed heartily when they saw my desk cleaned off. It was the first time they'd seen me below the breast-bone in months.

And tomorrow we have to do it all over again, because the inspectors are still coming. If they can make it May they go into a big snow-bank and sit there for four hours. If they do struggle through, it will be an anti-climax. The girls' dresses are crushed and their hair coming down. And I sure as hell ain't going to shine my shoes two days in a row.

Just another of the evils of our system. A teacher is given a record of merit by an inspector, who sees him maybe once a year, for one or two lessons.

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

THE HOUSE of Commons has passed the Transportation Bill and is now debating integration of the Armed Forces in Canada. It has been pointed out that Canada has three main functions for her Armed Forces:

- 1. United Nations Peace Keeping Forces.
2. As a deterrent of war by contributions of Armed Forces to NATO and NORAD.
3. And to maintain the defence of Canada itself.

RATHER THAN concentrate on any one of these matters the Government has decided to combine all three. In this way we protect our own country as well as make a Canadian contribution to our international responsibilities in preserving peace and deterring the possibility of war.

TO TRY TO have three separate Forces do this would be very expensive. What is hoped for unification is to provide a flexible Armed Services that can do all these functions. With three services there have been occasions in the past when one Service procured equipment without any consideration to the needs and requirements of the other Services.

THERE ARE MANY areas where duplications in the three Services are totally unnecessary and exorbitantly expensive. Examples are — distinct and different uniforms — separate personnel policies — common basic training — duplication of communications.

(Medical and dental services have been provided as an integrated service for some time.) The best man for every position should be chosen whether he is Army, Navy or Air Force. Combat units will retain their identity and their specialized training and functions.

Land, sea and air units, each with its own specially trained personnel, will be retained as long as there is a requirement for them. It has been pointed

The self-confident showman, who may be a lazy bum normally, whips up a flashy lesson for inspection, and scores high. The self-conscious teacher, who normally does a terrific job, becomes nervous and makes a botch of things, and scores low.

I don't really hate inspectors. They've changed. They are no longer the old horrors, but a pretty decent, helpful lot. But the system is punk. More next week, maybe.

HORNBY

Congratulations to Jean Marie Heer on her recent marriage.

Birthday greetings to Janet Hill on February 2nd, to Tanya Fleming, on February 4th, Mrs. Joan Wallace, on February 5th, Deborah Sammit, on February 6th, Anderson May and Bill Tallyn on February 7th.

Anniversary greetings to Mr. and Mrs. Joe Saliba, who will celebrate their 18th Wedding Anniversary on Sunday, February 5th.

Sincere sympathy is extended to the family of William Hamilton, who suddenly passed away at the Milton District Hospital on Friday, January 27th, in his 85th year, beloved husband of Lillian Stout; Dear father of Russell of Nipissing, George of Wroxeter, Willis of Milton, Mrs. Albert Marchmont (Laura) of Hornby, Floyd of Oakville, Mrs. Fred Lister (Gwen) of Palermo, Melville of Streetsville and Leslie of Applewood Acres. Also survived by 28 grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren.

The afternoon sewing group of the Hornby United Church Women met at the home of Mrs. Clifford Wrigglesworth on Tuesday, January 31st, for a day of quilting. A Pot Luck dinner was served at noon and the quilt was completed in the afternoon.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Grid of business advertisements including: CHIROPRACTOR DONALD A. GAY, D.C.; OPTOMETRIST L.M. Brown O.D.; Robt. R. Hamilton Optometrist; WALLACE THOMPSON; BARRAGER'S Cleaners-Shirt Launderers; FRANK PETCH LICENSED AUCTIONEER; PRINTING OF DISTINCTION; JOHN B. LOVE ARCHITECT; GEORGETOWN ANIMAL CLINIC.

NEWS ECHOES

- John D. Kelly, Georgetown clerk-treasurer for the past five years, announced his resignation in a letter to council Monday.
Twenty-three teachers and 750 pupils returned to normal school hours this morning when the new Harrison public school opened its doors for the first time.
Construction has been completed on a two-office building at the corner of Guelph and Edward Streets.
Lt. Col. Alex Noble was at home to his friends on Saturday on the occasion of his 90th birthday.
The Ontario Provincial Police are now responsible for maintaining law and order in Georgetown.
The election of officers of the I.O.G.E. for 1947 was held at a meeting this week.
Current top tunes on the hit parade posted at McClure's Record Bar are: Old Devil Moon (Charlie Spivak); Beware My Heart (Vaughn Monroe); That's What I Like About The South (Phil Harris); What Am I Gonna Do About You (Perry Como); I'll Close My Eyes (Johnny Desmond); Open The Door Richard (Count Basie); If This Isn't Love (Charlie Spivak); All of Me (Page Cavanaugh Trio); This Funny Thing Called Love (Freddie Martin.)

THE DISTRICT AT A GLANCE

BRAMPTON Brampton High School's 'old boys and girls' will have their day this week... in fact they will have three.
ORANGEVILLE Orangeville got its first full scale look at plans for Centennial Year celebrations last week.
ERIN The growth of the village of Erin is being reflected in a demand for more teaching space.

IN THE MAIL BAG

Says \$47,000 Fire Aerial Ladder Should Be Vetoed

72 Duncan Drive, February 2nd, 1967. Sir, Your issue of February 2nd, 1967, carries some of the remarks that I made before Council at the meeting of January 30th. Regrettably it does not quote me deeply enough, for the genuine meaning and concern. I expressed, does not show through. I do not pretend to support all or any request to Council, and my prime worry here, was not the library issue.