

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Help for Senior Residents

Some time ago we wrote an editorial criticizing communities which had exempted senior citizens from a portion of their municipal tax which goes to education.

Had we been familiar with the legislation allowing this, we would have been writing in reverse, as we do this week, now that Georgetown has embarked on a similar policy.

The town is going to give the advantage of new provincial legislation, the Municipal and School Tax Credit Assistance Act, to those who desire this, and we heartily endorse it.

Under the Act, a person 65 or over, resident in a house which he owns, may be given a tax credit equal to half his municipal and school taxes, to a maximum of \$150.

This is a lifetime gift to the property owner, but not to his estate. After his death, any such credit is a charge against his estate and will be collected from his heirs.

The town, meanwhile, loses no tax revenue, as the Ontario government makes up

this money in its grant structure.

Advantages are obvious to older people in our rapidly rising economy.

A person today, living on a fixed income, which might have been quite adequate a few years ago, is caught in a price squeeze. His cost of living keeps accelerating, while his income remains static.

If his family cares, then he gets an assist when needed, and in such cases, many senior citizens will not even be interested in the Act. But there are some who, after raising their families, do not receive the love and respect they merit. It is here, particularly, that an extra \$150 yearly can help meet living expenses and give a bit extra for a little luxury, without harm to anyone, other than those who someday will inherit the property. Or it can be, too, that children are having their own hard times scraping by, and cannot afford to give dad a hand much as they might want to.

Details of the plan are included in an advertisement elsewhere in this issue of the Herald.

Excellent Swimming Results

Results of the Red Cross swimming tests at the community pool this year were excellent and speak well for the staff which works so faithfully to instruct and protect our young people in this sport.

It has not been the best of seasons, weatherwise, for either swimmers or staff, with a preponderance of rain and chilly days. That the instructors stuck to their job and taught their skills to a large group of young people is a credit to them.

Sometimes we are inclined to take for granted such fine facilities as our swimming pool. Those of us who were in town when it was built know that only through the efforts of the Lions Club was it possible. Public reception to a fund campaign at the time was not good, and the service club members pledged themselves to a huge expenditure, and paid it off with

hard work at a number of fund raising events. The pool, when it was financially clear, was then presented to the town, adding a wonderful asset to a community whose natural swimming areas had largely disappeared.

Whatever nature provides, when it comes to teaching swimming nothing can beat an artificial pool, and there are hundreds of people who have benefited.

It has always been our hope that some day the pool could be improved by converting it into an indoor pool for the winter months, adding still further value to the town. This would, of course, be an even more costly proposal, but not outside the realm of possibility. Perhaps now, with residents realizing its value, and with more to share the cost, it would be an easier job to tackle.

Well I'm not a woman or a little kid, so I must be turning into an old people. Someone will think unkindly, no doubt, that it's the advent of the bikini that has prematurely aged me. This is merely a half truth.

Those who conceived the idea of the summer school, and those teachers who gave a portion of their summer as instructors, are to be congratulated on their efforts. Such courses have been offered in cities in the past, but this is the first time that town students have been able to take advantage of them in large numbers.

That 54 from our school enrolled, shows that it was a popular and appreciated move on the part of the school board, and one which we hope can be carried on in future years.

Summer Well Spent

Refresher courses, offered Georgetown students at a special summer school in Brampton, were taken advantage of by 54 GDHS pupils who had not done so well in their schoolwork last year, and wanted to brush up in certain subjects.

The idea should pay off handsomely for the students, in many cases being the difference between a hard struggle in next term's course without the proper background of knowledge, which could mean failure at the year-end.

The school had a secondary advantage too, in allowing students to take

Civic Holiday Fatality Free Despite Peak Traffic on 401

Traffic on Highway 401 through central Halton county reached a new peak on the past civic holiday weekend.

At one point just after nine o'clock Monday evening, a survey indicated approximately 1,600 cars an hour were passing in the four lanes of the busy thoroughfare. There were at least 900 cars an hour travelling through from just after supper until close to midnight.

Yet despite the density of the traffic, there were no accidents or serious tie-ups during the peak busy hours of the weekend. In fact, just one accident was reported on the weekend on Hwy. 401 — when a Toronto woman's car left the highway and slid down an embankment, causing \$400 damage and a minor injury to one of the occupants. North Halton OPP, who patrol Hwy. 401 from the east to west borders of Halton County, were breathing a fairly big sigh of relief at midnight Sunday. The men were thankful they had no accidents to investigate, no fatalities and no injuries to mar the holiday weekend.

Monday's threat of bad weather probably helped ease the expected Monday night peak

of traffic. Many holidayers headed home on Sunday evening or earlier on Monday, police said.

OPP constables who patrolled Hwy. 401 both Sunday and Monday evenings claimed the traffic seemed heavier on the Sunday night. They report the cars, trucks and buses kept rolling through until 2 a.m., both Sunday and Monday mornings.

The count at 8 o'clock showed 1,100 vehicles an hour while the nine o'clock count indicated the peak had been reached, 1,600 vehicles an hour, or 27 cars a minute.

By 10 o'clock the traffic had slowed off to 1,200 an hour, and by shortly after 11 o'clock it was just a shade over 800 vehicles an hour. Police later said it kept up at that rate until after one o'clock in the morning.

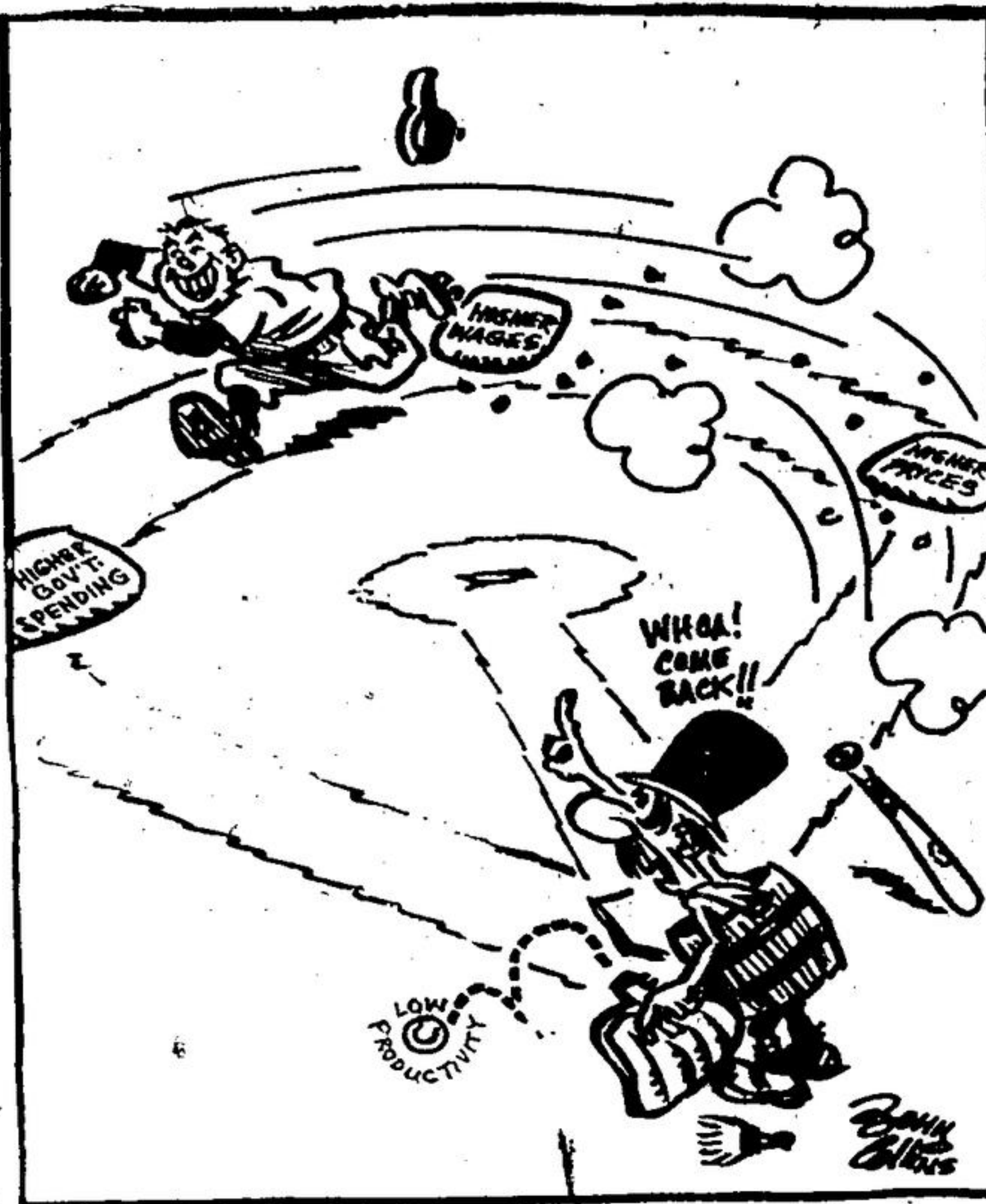
Road Toll Outdoes War Deaths

Canada's 1966 highway accident toll: Dead 5,258, Injured 180,658, Property Damage \$650,000,000. During the last twelve years there were 45,141 fatalities in traffic accidents in Canada, this is a greater toll of life than Canada suffered in the Second World War (44,803).

Another comparison: Last year's highway accident death toll of 5,258 was far more than Canada suffered in the famous

battle of Vimy Ridge in the First World War (32,988). During Centennial Year, 30,000,000 visitors to Canada are expected, most of whom will travel by car. The year 1967 could be a black one on our highways. By driving like a good host, by showing the common courtesy that too often disappears once we get behind the wheel of a car, we can reduce the possibility of accidents and make more friends for Canada.

It's fun to watch and listen over here are a couple of Italian grandmothers in blue dresses, both built about five by five, yattering away eighty miles an hour. Just over there is a majestic young woman with Slavic features, a baby, a



TRYING TO STRETCH A BUNT INTO A HOME RUN

SUGAR AND SPICE

by Bill Smiley

A Beach Soliloquy

With summer on the wane — and boy, how it waned around here — I've made a discovery. With the minimum of encouragement, I could spend the rest of my life as a beach bum.

Never was much of a hound for the beach life before. As a boy, I swam in rivers and lakes but not at beaches. Anyway kids are too busy swimming and diving and horsing around to be bothered lying on a beach.

As I grew older beaches still had little attraction. I just did not like sitting in the sun. I don't tan. I just sort of turn a burnt orange. Beaches were for women, little kids and old people. I preferred golf or fishing.

Well I'm not a woman or a little kid, so I must be turning into an old people. Someone will think unkindly, no doubt, that it's the advent of the bikini that has prematurely aged me. This is merely a half truth.

And speaking of urchins, this is the real fun of the beach. They are through, over and around the prone bodies. They build castles and dams and forts. They hurl themselves into the water shrieking with delight. And they're all so brown and firm and smooth you could

Why do all those darling, chubby five-year-old girls have to turn into bored, neurotic, harassed women? Why do all those careless, sturdy, happy

Back up on the sand a bit is the teenage crowd. They too have discovered our beach this summer. About sixteen of them sprang in a loose circle, heads together indulging in harmless sexplay, laughing, punching, smoking and making their intricate plans for the evening. But they're decent youngsters, who apologize when they hit you on the head with their football. No hippies, thank the powers.

Here comes an elderly German gentleman who must have drunk half the beer west of the Berlin Wall to produce that magnificent pot. There's a young Jewish father, spoiling his kids rotten. There's a Hungarian couple, tanned the colour of tar, with two beautiful blonde urchins.

That doesn't mean it's as quiet as a church. The gulls wait, the mamas holler at their children, the kids scream and fight and cry. But when you stretch out on the sand after a dip, and the sun bounces into you, taking away the aches and the tensions, it's as though you were hearing it all through cotton wool.

For some reason, "our" beach has become a mecca for newcomers to Canada. Foreigners, as we used to call them in the old, unenlightened days. You can lie there all day and scarcely hear a word of English. And what a pleasant change that is. You could be at Odessa, on the Black Sea. My Hungarian and Polish and German have improved tremendously.

But they're great people. They love the sun, mind their own business, and pick up their junk when they leave, which is more than can be said of a good many tenth-generation Canadians.

Plan 1000 Acre Dam In Scotch Block Area

The Halton Region Conservation Authority should know in a few days what type of dam can be built on the upper reaches of the middle branch of the Sixteen Mile Creek.

The Authority has had soil tests in the North Halton region, about two miles north of Highway 401, on Highway 25. When the results of the tests are known, the type of dam needed can be determined.

Dave Murray, an Authority officer said that there may be porous ground near the stream which would affect the design of the dam.

The dam will be designed to provide continuous stream flow throughout the summer months. The dam would be located in the Scotch Block conservation area, on the west side of Highway 25 at the foot of the escarpment.

The lake created, Mr. Murray explained, would be the equivalent of 1,000 acre-feet of water — that is, an area of 1,000 and firm and smooth you could

Teachers for the job will probably be called in the fall, Mr. Murray said, so that construction can start in the spring. The dam will probably be completed by next summer, he said.

NEWS ECHOES

From the Herald's of 10 and 20 Years Ago

- 1957**
 - A Main St. business change will take place next week when Mrs. Al Wheatley assumes ownership of Lilloco's Beauty Salon. The business was established here about thirty years ago by the late Howard Lilloco and continued to carry his name under proprietors Mrs. Donna Marchmont, Bruno Scisizzi and Mrs. Joan McPherson.
 - Six Georgetown residents are off for Great Britain on a plane chartered by Silverthorne Legion Branch of Toronto. They are Mr. and Mrs. Sid Hulme, 22 Victoria St.; William McClements, 7 Kennedy St.; Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Dickie, 2 Temple Road; and Neil Wallace, 32 Gueph St.
 - Two Georgetown firemen were burned and another overcome by heat Monday afternoon when fire destroyed barns on the farms of James McCarthy, R. R. 3, and Gordon Kidney, R. R. 1. A lightning storm is believed to have caused both blazes. Injured were firemen Gordon Inglis, and Jack Cunningham, and another, Bill Hyde, was overcome by the intense heat.
- 1947**
 - The present population of Georgetown is determined by a survey just completed by the Georgetown Lions. A contest conducted by the club with prizes for the person making the closest guess drew good response. The guesses ranged from 2,945 to 8,705. The four winners were Fred Bransby, Jean Bedell who tied for first with 3,113, and Cecil Dobbie 3,111 and Joe Stamp 3,105.
 - Coming here from the Brampton store, Norm Smith has been appointed manager of Dominion Store in town and took over on Monday from Russ Martin who has gone to Bradford.

THE DISTRICT AT A GLANCE

ACTON

At the request of Acton Council, Ontario Housing Corporation has begun its survey to determine the need and demand for public rental housing in Acton. Last week 350 questionnaires were mailed to all tenants listed on the assessment roll. The proposed housing would accommodate either families or senior citizens living or working in Acton whose present housing is unsuitable. Rents would be geared to family income.

ROCKWOOD

Due to delays in demolishing the old portion of Rockwood public school, the Eramosa school board has decided to take no action on demolition until 1968.

MILTON

Establishment of 14 to 18 senior citizens' apartments on a site presently occupied by Milton Tennis Club is being studied by Milton Rotary Club following a survey that indicated applications for at least ten such suites.

FERGUS

For the second time this year vandals have attacked and damaged gravestones in Fergus's Belyde cemetery. The amount of the damage has not been disclosed. The unfenced cemetery contains many pioneer graves.

CHINGUACOUSY

A committee to consider construction of indoor swimming pools and gymnasia at local schools and to inquire into federal and provincial grants for the purpose was appointed this week by Chinguacousy council. Councillor James Cathcart said

council had been trying to urge school board to allow the public to use their facilities when not in use by students.

BRAMPTON

Centennial Secondary School on McMurchy Ave. won't be completed by September because of crippling strikes this summer. First the laborers walked out, and then ironworkers stopped two months ago.

OAKVILLE

Ontario Municipal Board announced this week that it has allowed a motion for a re-hearing on an Oakville redevelopment project. The project calls for the town to appropriate all the land in the area north of Oakville Golf Club and sell it to a private company which would build 700 medium priced houses there.

ORANGEVILLE

Orangeville Fall Fair officials are optimistic that attendance at this year's fair will top last year's 8,000 figure. The fair, to be held Saturday, September 2 and Monday September 4, is Orangeville's 106th.

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