

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Dirtiest Town?

A mail bag letter this week from Harry Moss deals with one of the editor's pet peeves - the litter of paper, tin cans and debris which makes Georgetown perhaps not the dirtiest town west of Toronto, as he says, but certainly puts us in the running for top honours. It is a general fault with North Americans, to deface our natural beauty with an unsightly clutter. No more is this in evidence than at the Canadian National exhibition where, despite a crew of clean-up men day and night, the garbage is deposited willy-nilly. We were at the Ex on Saturday, stopped in at the Pure Food building, and were so upset by wading down an aisle of discarded paper cups, wrappers and plates that we beat a hasty retreat to the outdoors where one can at least find a few green patches not despoiled by humans. The problem is of such magnitude that it should be included in our education

and stressed day after day in our elementary schools. Children are certainly responsible for a great share of the litter. Witness any town location where there is a variety store. Such merchants need hardly have a shop sign, for one can find the store easily if you look at the sidewalk outside. But children aren't alone the culprits. We see men toss cigarette packets into the street, motorists toss Kleenex and banana skins from car windows, leave behind a mess of garbage after a roadside picnic. Until we reach a blessed state when people don't litter, the only choice a private citizen has is to pick up the most obvious and dispose of it himself. In commercial areas, we suggest that merchants, most of whom sweep their walks a couple of times a day, gather this up for the garbage, rather than just sweep it into the street to blow back on to someone else's property.

Too Slow

This seems to be a week when mail bag writers beat us to the punch. But, whether Charles Hildebrandt had written his letter or not, we had intended to comment on the new 30 mile speed limit initiated last week on the whole highway stretch through town. We believe this is unrealistic for two reasons - first, very few motorists will drive the whole stretch at this speed, and, more important, there is no necessity for unduly slowing traffic through an area where hazards are at a minimum. We refer to the highway portion particularly from Sinclair Road towards Normal. With the exception of a few factories

and service stations the area is not yet built up, there is no reason why a forty-five mile limit cannot be quite safe, as it has been in the past, and it is here that the majority of infractions will occur. One cannot be over-critical of either council or police when they take measures designed for our safety. But while we can agree, in general, that better safety should be aimed for on the highway, we do not agree that speed should be reduced to such a level that it will create a hardship for motorists. Perhaps council, in its wisdom, will ease regulations after a short experiment.

Three Times and Out - We Hope

Herald readers know by now our opinion about meeting fees for council members, for we have editorialized on several occasions and said that councillors should be paid a flat yearly remuneration rather than a specific amount for each meeting attended. At present council members receive \$20.00 for each council meeting and \$10.00 for each committee meeting (if they are a member of that committee). The payment has evolved over the years from the days when councillors served gratis, to first a \$5.00 fee, then \$8.00, then \$12.00 and finally \$20.00. The committee fee was introduced this year. A \$2,500 yearly salary, paid to previous office holders has been declined by Mayor Joseph Gibbons in this and his preceding terms. Through the years we have come to accept the fact that we have not too much support in our contention about salaries for civic officials. We have admired the mayor for his refusal of a salary, while believing that if any tax money is to be used for salaries, the mayor should get top priority.

Lately a new situation has arisen which should be troubling to taxpayers and which certainly gets our dander up. For three weeks in a row, a special one-hour council meeting has been called prior to the regular 8 p.m. meeting, then adjourned and the regular meeting convened. At each of these special meetings, important business was settled, and although a Herald reporter was not present, the news was gleaned from the minute book afterwards and relayed to the public. The meetings were in no way secret, and the fact that a Herald reporter was not present was our own fault, for the onus is on us to find out when meetings are being held if we wish to attend. Our objection is that for three weeks in a row, councillors received a double payment for an evening's work. If an extra hour was needed to solve important matters, could not the regular meeting have been started at 7:00? The same business could have been accomplished and the town would have saved several hundred dollars.

Harley Continues Battle For Lower Drug Prices

Dr. Harry Harley's battle favour of the on-the-street patient. Supports Harley Denholm's remarks confirm Dr. Harley's earlier statement following government's action on his committee's conclusions. "This is only a small beginning," Dr. Harley said last spring when the government announced the removal of the 12 per cent sales tax on all drugs. A recommendation made by the special committee on drug prices, headed by the Halton riding Liberal MP. Balance Prices This week, Douglas Denholm - president of the Canadian Pharmaceutical Association - said that drug manufacturing companies should balance their prices so that private individuals do not subsidize hospitals and government institutions. The present system, he said, forces individuals to pay for discounts the manufacturers grant to hospitals for both brand-name and generic drugs. "That leaves the on-the-street patient subsidizing this low-cost supply to government-supported agencies," Denholm said. "The drug cost war must be won in

When the government removes a sales tax, it does not allow a rebate on the price of goods already on retail shelves. The fall session of Parliament, starting on September 25, will give high priority to amendments to the Patent Act and the Trade Marks Act, designed to deal with drug prices. The government wants to tackle the costs of research and development that are assigned by manufacturers to successful developments, and to provide for royalties to be paid manufacturers instead of giving them monopoly rights on a product. "We've got started on a program to provide cheaper drugs for the public... and we intend to follow through once the Commons get back in session," Harley said. When Parliament goes into session this fall Dr. Harley will also head a special committee probe into the need for more liberalized abortion laws. Earlier this year another probe he headed recommended birth control law reform. This has been promised as part of the Government's program for the coming season.



IS HE GOING TO ROCK THE BOAT?

SUGAR AND SPICE by Bill Smiley

Me, A Hippie?

Every so often I experience an overwhelming urge to throw everything to the winds, run away, and become a middle-aged hippy. Those kids have the world by the tail. With the rest of us, it's the world that has us by the tail, and does the twisting. Think of those lucky bums. No taxes, no insurance premiums, no shaving every morning, no handing over a buck and a half for a haircut. The hippies have abdicated from a society that has no reality for them, a society in which they see precious little love and honesty and a great deal of hate and hypocrisy. They have said, "Include me out," and in many ways I don't blame them. So let them grow their hair and beards. Let them have love-ins and smoke grass and give each other flowers and refuse to work. They're harmless compared to many people and things that are highly respected in our society. But after the first, fine, careless rapture of seeing myself among the hippies, the cold wind of reason blows and I know I couldn't make the scene.

IN THE MAIL BAG

Says Chief was Fair Did Wonderful Job

Liverpool, England Dear Mr. Editor: After reading the Herald dated the 27th July, 1967, I thought I would write to you and tell you that I also have been receiving the Herald every week since I returned to England in June of 1966. My parents of 2 Cleveholm Dr. mail the Herald to me weekly. It certainly is nice to read all the local news but the articles lately on Chief Harley and the police force have been quite disturbing, even though I have been out of touch in the past year or so, when I knew Mr. Harley I found him to be the fairest man I ever knew. If you ever needed help he was always available to give advice or to help in any way he could. As the chief of police he has had a very hard and responsible job to do. I would like to thank Chief Harley for the wonderful job he has done and I hope will continue to do. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for many pleasant hours of reading I have had reading the Herald and I would like also to thank my parents for mailing the paper to me and that they continue to do so. Yours sincerely, Len Taylor.

to do so. That's one thing that didn't rub off on me, thank goodness. I pay them, eventually, but I don't sweat in the interim. And to tell the truth, I'm afraid a lot of the other things didn't take with me. I did have some resistance. But a lot of it did. Now, how could anybody be a hippy with a rotten upbringing like that? So don't worry. If you come across a middle-aged hippy with a flower over his ear next time you're in San Francisco or Vancouver or Yorkville, I'm sorry, but it won't be me. I was ruined by my parents. 1881 Poem Patriotic From a book of poems, written by Mrs. J.C. Yale of Ingersoll, and published in 1881, Mrs. Edna Hill, Charles St. has selected an appropriate one titled "Our Nation's Birthday" which expresses a fine sentiment in centennial year. Ring out your glad peals of rejoicing Wake Music's enlivening strain Let the sound float abroad o'er your waters, And echo through valley and plain From the shores of the far-distant Fundy, To the lakes of the limitless West. Let the sound of a People's exulting Go forth in its joyous unrest. For a great Christian Nation this morning, From fragments disjointed made one With the laws and the speech of old England, Looks up to the new risen sun, And, scarce conscious as yet of her mission, Of the wealth of her young earnest life. Starts out in the march of the nations To a future with perils how rife. Yet who shall not hope for that future, God's wide open book in her hand, With her sturdy and truth-loving young men, Her broad-spreading acres of land? And who does not welcome the rising Of a new star of promise this morn, Whose beams shall illuminate the darkness Of millions that are yet unborn. Then hail we, in songs of rejoicing, Our father-land over the sea, Britannia, pride of the ocean, The home of the gallant and free. Hail, Queen of dominions that stride The world like an emerald zone, Victoria, Head of three Empires, Meek sovereign of earth's proudest throne. And hail to our new-born Dominion, Hail, Canada, happy and blest, May thy flag ever wave o'er the freest, Most glorious clime of the West; Be freedom thy watchword, and onward, Thy motto still cherished and true, And ever abroad on the breezes Float thy time honoured red, white and blue.

Wants Fair Parade Route Extended from Plaza to Town Park

17 Edith St. August 21, 1967 Dear Sir: I note with disappointment the plan to restrict the fall

Disgusted With Litter Pleads for Tidier Town

12 Ostrander Blvd., August 21, 1967 Dear Sir: Georgetown Dirtiest Town West of Toronto Georgetown at one time was a clean and neat town, but recently has become very untidy and littered. Practically every main and residential street is littered with cigarette containers, pop cans and bottles, candy and ice cream wrappers, etc. Town forces clean main streets periodically, but if every businessman and residence cleaned up in front of their own premises including ditches, curbs and roadway, I am sure Georgetowners would again be proud of their town. No doubt transient motor traffic is responsible for part of the litter but our own people are also guilty and if we all become "LITTER CONSCIOUS" and disposed of wrappers and containers in proper garbage disposal units it would be very little time before a decided improvement would be noted. Why not be proud of your home town? Yours truly, Harry Moss.

fair parade to the old downtown area. It will start in the parking lot off Main Street and circle around to the fair grounds, also in the old part of town.

Surely, in Canada's Centennial Year, with an extended week-long fall fair, this is the very time to ensure that as many Georgetown residents as possible see the floats, bands and marchers which make up the parade. At the very least, it should start in the plaza and proceed through the residential areas to the park. Surely this is not too far for even the youngest to march once a year.

If east end residents are to be denied the fun of watching a parade, and if the parade is to follow such a short route, perhaps it would be better to cancel the parade entirely, and replace it with a static display in the fair grounds. Indeed, from now on thought should be given to locating the fall fair itself in a more central spot like Cedarvale.

Sincerely, James Warren.

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