

Georgetown Herald

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

Police Commission

Georgetown's new system of a 3-man board of police commissioners replaces the time-honoured practice of having council appoint a police chairman and committee from among its membership.

While there have been no particular complaints about the old system, the commission idea should be beneficial in establishing a more permanent committee. One member, the mayor, will be subject and responsible to the electors, to retain some semblance of democracy. The county judge is a member beyond the bounds of politics, as well as having a superior knowledge of the law. The third appointee, chosen by the attorney-general's department, is at present a man who has

had long experience in municipal affairs and an excellent standing in the town.

Removal of police matters from council jurisdiction will have one beneficial effect, for administration of a department numbering 15 men at present, is no small task. There are salary negotiations with the police association, hiring of replacements when men leave the force, and a plenitude of detail which our elected officials do not always have the time to deal with.

First job of the new commission is to choose a police chief — surely one of their most important tasks, as well as securing replacement for several officers who have left the force for other positions.

Housing Demands Attention

We agree with NDP election candidate William Gillies that housing is one of Ontario's most pressing problems and demand much more of a solution than has yet been found if young people are not to saddle themselves with more than a lifetime of paying for a home.

We were brought up in a generation which believed that the first responsibility of marriage was to establish a home of one's own, get it paid for as soon as possible, so that one's future was secure with a roof over your head.

The old concepts have changed. No longer do most people desire themselves of some life's extras, to work towards this goal. Today people start out with new furniture, instead of second hand, with houses instead of apartments, with cars, televisions, and many things which their parents would have considered luxuries.

This makes it that much more difficult to save the down payment on a house, despite the fact that a majority of wives are working and a home has a double income. So that not all the problems are the

fault of society, but rest on the shoulders of the individual.

However, the sad fact is that today the cost of a house in relation to a man's income is way out of balance with what it was a few decades ago.

When a man's income was \$2,500 a year, the cost of a house was not too much more than a year's salary, and certainly not more than two years.

With even moderately priced homes selling today for \$18,000 and up, housing costs have risen by leaps and bounds on a percentage scale.

The solution? If we had it, we'd be running for parliament.

Certainly too many subsidies, too many loans will not be good for people if they have not the will to sacrifice some of the extras for the pride of ownership. The answer must lie in a sensible government loan, plus the stamina of an individual to do without a car for a few years, to furnish his home with some used items instead of all brand new, to push a hand mower instead of buying a power one.

Time to Appoint

While there is no terrific rush to appoint a new council member to fill a vacancy, sufficient time has now elapsed that such an appointment should be forthcoming.

At least two men have indicated their desire to be the new Ward 2 councillor. There are no doubt others who would consent to fill the office, and council should be discussing this.

Unfortunately, legislation does not

allow a by-election which would be the proper way to fill a post which will continue for over a year, now that councillors are elected for a two year stint. This is much too long a period for the onus to be placed on those making the appointment.

However, as such is the case, nothing can be saved by delaying too long — and the loss of one member, and consequent vacancy in a committee chairmanship, is not good for municipal administration.

Three Way Election Battles In East and West Halton

Each of the three major parties has candidates in the running. Mr. Snow left the farm to bring for seats in the new provincial riding of Halton East and West Halton. He is a 46-year-old Oakville councillor, he is a native of Niagara Falls and served in the Canadian Armed Forces in the Second World War and in Korea. He moved to Oakville in 1958 to take a position with BP refinery. Mr. Gillies has been active in politics for several years. He is Oakville council's representative to the parks board, the subdivision policy committee and the Chamber of Commerce. Although unsuccessful in 1963, Mr. Gillies polled over

his schooling there and in Mississauga, worked as a French translator and acted as boxing instructor at Wealdgreen Community Centre. The youthful candidate earned his Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Toronto and later studied at Emmanuel College and won a scholarship to the University of Edinburgh where he studied psychology and other subjects related to the ministry near Lindsay and came to Appleby College in Oakville to teach in 1964.

Mr. Skuce was elected president of the Halton East Liberal Association in November. He is a volunteer worker at the Children's Aid Society and a member of the Ontario Teachers' Federation. He feels one of the greatest needs is a redistribution of education costs.

Mr. Snow, who has been a member of the Halton Progressive Conservative Association for the past 12 years, promises support of programs concerning conservation and increased housing facilities if he is elected.

The P.C. candidate is past director of the Ontario Beef Producers' Association and is a member of the Burlington-Oakville airport committee.

Mr. Snow is married with four children and makes his home in Hornby.

Liberal candidate Robin Skuce at 29 years of age is the youngest entering the race. Mr. Skuce, former United Church minister, is Canadian Secretary of the United Nations' Association. He is a native of Ireland and received his early schooling in Belfast and later entered Trinity College in Dublin. After three years at Trinity, he moved to Toronto, where he

WILLIAM GILLIES

William Gillies, an unsuccessful NDP candidate in the 1963 election, will be in the running for the new riding in Halton East.

A 46-year-old Oakville Councillor, he is a native of Niagara Falls and served in the Canadian Armed Forces in the Second World War and in Korea. He moved to Oakville in 1958 to take a position with BP refinery. Mr. Gillies has been active in politics for several years. He is Oakville council's representative to the parks board, the subdivision policy committee and the Chamber of Commerce. Although unsuccessful in 1963, Mr. Gillies polled over

Continued on Page 15

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"BUT HOW ABOUT THE THUMB?"

SUGAR AND SPICE

by Bill Smiley

BRAVO STRATFORD!

I wonder how many people things you had to memorize in school, but a real man brings his tortured soul before your world of ours and read a play naked eyes.

Suddenly a turn of phrase or a shrug brings tears to your eyes. Or an unexpected belch draws a wave of laughter. Or an old cliché like, "A horse, a horse, my kingdom for a horse!" becomes a wail of mad anguish that has you bolt upright in your seat.

The only people who read plays are producers, directors and actors, who read them for obvious reasons, and high school students who read them because they have to.

Plays are not written to be read, but to be seen. Just as operas are written to be heard, and houses built to be lived in, and cars built to rust and worn on built different from men.

That's why I enjoy so much our occasional visit to the Stratford Festival. Suddenly, a colloquy becomes not some-

This year, we saw the same play, with British actor Alan Bates, playing the emotionally and physically warped Richard. There's a handsome theatre, air-conditioned. The festival is no longer something new. But it's as vital and colorful as ever. And it's still a thrill.

Despite a fairly solid lambasting from the drama critics, the festival is having a solid smash this year at the box office. Which merely goes to show how much attention anybody pays to drama critics, outside of New York.

It also shows, I think, that the festival is more than just a theatre. For the real drama draws a wave of laughter. Or an old cliché like, "A horse, a horse, my kingdom for a horse!" becomes a wail of mad anguish that has you bolt upright in your seat.

Fourteen years ago, my wife and I saw a production of Richard III with the great Alec Guinness starring. It was the first season of the festival, when the theatre was a bare tent, rotten hot in mid-summer. But it was something new, colorful and vital on the Canadian scene. We were thrilled.

No longer do you have to sit on the bank of the Avon, padding your feet in the water and drinking gin and tonic out

NEWS ECHOES

From the Herald of 10 and 20 Years Ago

1957

Georgetown will have a third dentist when Dr. Kenneth McCauley opens his office here within the next week. Dr. McCauley will locate on Main St. W. above Robb's Drug Store in the office last occupied by Dr. Clifford Reid, and prior to that by the late Dr. Ben Gollop.

Georgetown, faced with the most rapid growth in its century of history will add a fourth public school to be ready by September, 1958. Public school chairman Ray Salter said the school, to be situated on town-owned property adjoining the park, will take care of some 300 children in the park district, Churchill Cres., and Cloverdale subdivision.

Halton's new Member of Parliament, Sandy Best of Georgetown, will take his seat in parliament when it convenes in Ottawa on Thanksgiving day.

1947

Council on Monday asked Branch 120, Canadian Legion, to name the new street in wartime housing Project 2 at the west end of George St. Council also authorized the town solicitor to offer up to \$50 to Harold Cleave for a piece of property at the entrance to the new area.

Many Georgetown students have returned to universities with the opening of the fall semester. Among them are Peggy Kelly, William Kelly, David Crichton, Richard Crichton, Ross Petch, George Long, Helen Devreux, Barbara Cousens, Barbara Faram, Shirley Tapp, John Tapp, Harry Williams, Margot Williams, Marjorie Schenk, Russell Firestone, James Ruddell, Craig Alexander and Bob Lawson.

of a thermos. Now you can pad days, but I think everything die your feet in any of several road bars.

No longer do you sit down to a good meal prepared by the Ladies' Aid, for a dollar and a quarter. Now you can take your pick of some fine restaurants. But the price isn't the same, I'm afraid.

Yep, the Festival has changed, and so has the town. Some people yearn for the good old days, but I think everything has improved about 400 per cent. One big bonus is the lengthened season, which gives thousands of high school kids a chance to see Shakespeare alive and exciting.

And that's the way it should be. Long live the Festival. It was a great idea nobly conceived and executed. It's a source of real pride to see something in Canada that does not flop, but flourishes.

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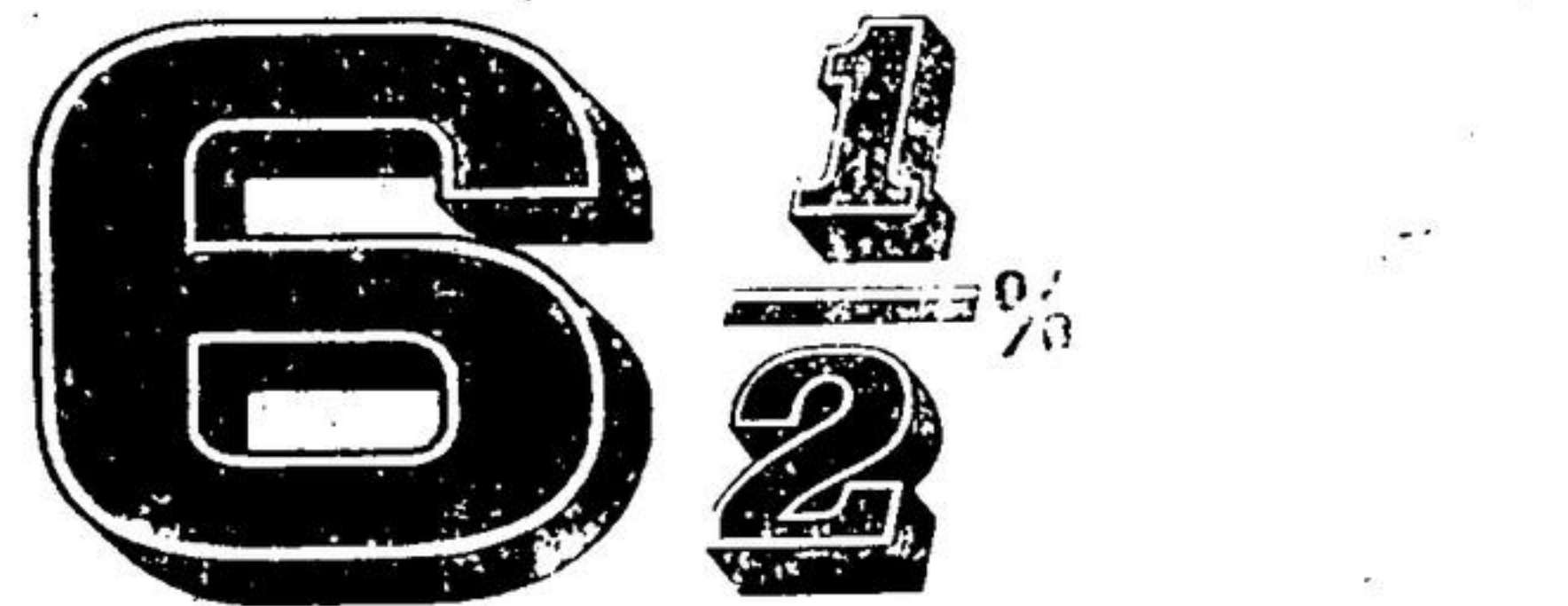
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