

Pins Presented by Former Inspector



TWO FROM HERE READING ASSOCIATION. PAST PRESENT

FORMER INSPECTOR OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR THIS AREA Mr. Lorne Skuce (centre) presented past-president's pins at a meeting of the International Reading Association in Burlington recently. Among the recipients were two Georgetown teachers, William Kinrade, principal of Howard Wrigglesworth Public School (left) and Mrs. William Cromer of the Park Public School staff.

THE MAIL BAG

Concerned About Youth But Reasons Different

6 Edith Street, December 2, 1967

Dear Sir:

Your recent editorials on censorship and youth aroused my interest but left me puzzled. They seem to have twin themes, the need for censorship and the perennial conflict of youth and age, but I am not sure where the one theme begins and the other ends.

It is clear that every publication, be it a school paper, a company house organ, a trade union pamphlet, or a pornographic paper back, is "censored" to accord with the policy of the publisher. It is perfectly proper for instance, for GM to decide against giving Ralph Nader space in a company magazine.

Compulsory censorship in the public interest is a different matter. It was not proper for GM to try and prevent publication of Nader's book, and the law gave them no help in doing so. In our time and culture, compulsory censorship has been restricted to the subjects of security and obscenity, without notable success in either field, but your suggestion of a censorship based on the age of the author is completely novel to me. If some of the young are immature, some of the old are senile. Maturity and senility come at different ages with different people, and there would be more difficulty drawing the line here than there is now with obscenity.

I share your concern over the younger generation, though for different reasons. I am not concerned that they are apparently opposed to adult authority. This is the inevitable pattern of a dynamic society, without this conflict, a society remains primitive, or becomes fossilized. I am not concerned lest they be deprived of the guide lines of our experience; our experience is quite plainly set before them, and though they will interpret it differently from the way we do, the guide lines are there. Their interpretation is just as likely to be valid as our own, and few of them will have been without the benefit of lots of "When I was a boy . . ." sermons.

I AM concerned that the adult authority they oppose is so nebulous: that our generation has no longer any coherent set of values and beliefs to defend to the younger people: that in our obsessive pursuit of material well being, the virtues of honesty, love and courage have been discounted; that we tolerate the poisoning of air by industry, and savage violence on the picket lines, and accept the virtual assault on a Dow Chemical man by his engineers as normal. If we do not discipline ourselves, and dare not try to discipline the young people, can we expect them to do it themselves?

I am equally concerned that our youth is the first to meet the challenge of the affluent society. This is a challenge we never faced, and it may be too much for anybody. The current issue of Harper's has a note on some experiments by a Viennese doctor, who supplied a colony of normally hard-working birds with every possible luxury: The young egrets turned hippy instead of becoming dependent at the usual age; they became parasitical, letting their parents and grandparents feed them, even after they were fully grown. This experiment may be dreadfully relevant to our future, though I for one do not intend to feed my grandchildren.

Another point which puzzled me in your editorial was your adverse reference to adults who encourage the young

to oppose adult authority. I do not know what you had in mind, but as a general proposition, it is far too wide and dangerous. Socrates was condemned for doing just that, and so were the German parents who tried to counter the influence of the Hitler Youth on their children.

If you give us a further exposition of your views of censorship and youth, I am sure they would attract considerable interest. I offer for your consideration one constructive suggestion on censorship — how to deal with pornography — Tax it. A small corps of readers in Ottawa could classify all such "literature" as one, two or three star pornography, and tax the three categories at progressive rates. Every publisher would seek the three star classification for his merchandise, and in no time flat, Mr. Sharp could afford to institute Medicare.

Yours sincerely,
— John Bellamy

ORIGINAL FORECASTER
Cleveland Abbe, 1838-1916, an American meteorologist, inaugurated the daily weather forecast based on telegraph reports.

DeKleer Organ Recital Sunday Even. Feature

On Sunday evening, George DeKleer, ARCT, presented an organ recital at the Christian Reformed Church.

Mr. DeKleer, who is organist and choirmaster at St. George's Anglican Church, played a program which included chorale preludes by Brahms, Vaughan Williams' "Green Sleeves" and Widor's stirring allegro from his 5th Symphony.

The audience joined in singing a hymn at the conclusion of the concert. A coffee hour in the church basement followed.

SILVERWOOD

Mr. and Mrs. F. Duffield, Mrs. W. R. Norton, Mrs. H. Scott and Mrs. Rudy from Silverwood district were among the members of Georgetown Horticultural Society who went by bus to the Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton on November 23. It was the annual Christmas Fair, and a very popular place that week.

Mrs. H. Marchington and Mr. Clare Wilson of Silverwood are at present patients in Georgetown hospital. The good wishes of the community go to both.

Garage Wants Exemption from By-law For Closing

A Georgetown garage firm is seeking exemption from the closing hour by-law which has been in effect for some years in Georgetown.

In a letter read to council on Monday Dodge Brothers explained that they want to use facilities at their two locations on Guelph Street on a 24-hour basis.

Council opinion was not enthusiastic.

"I would hesitate to take any action unless there was evidence that others were in favour of this," said Mayor Gibbons.

Deputy Reeve Arthur Speight said garage operators had worked for years to arrive at hours of work agreeable to the majority.

Dodge Brothers should call a meeting of operators and get a majority opinion, was the suggestion of Cr. Roy Ballentine.

FOUND NEPTUNE
John Adams 1819-1882 an English astronomer calculated the position of the then unknown planet Neptune.

THE GEORGETOWN HERALD
THURSDAY, DEC. 7th, 1967
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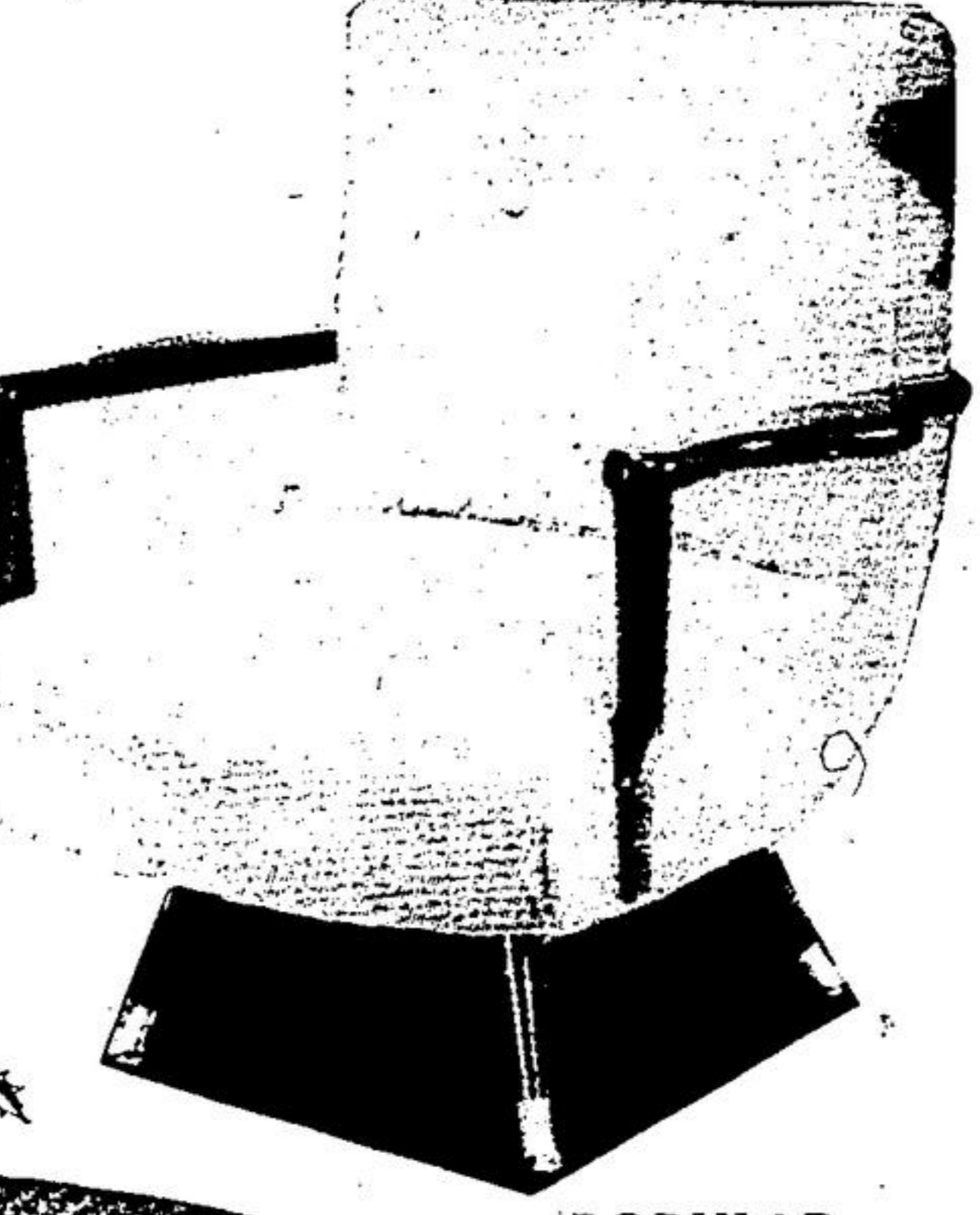
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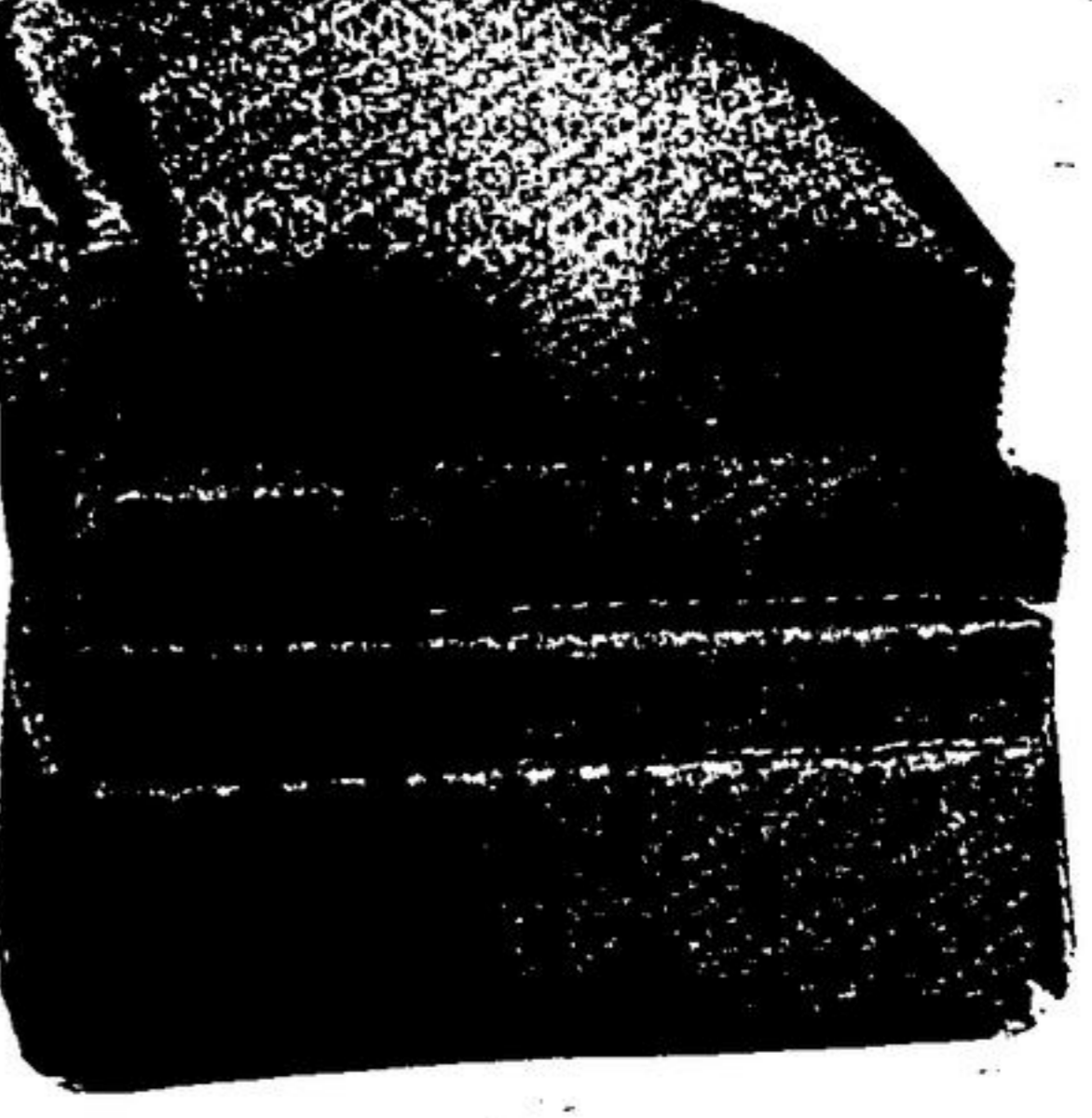


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