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## EDITORIAL COMMENT

### Ambitious and Successful

Globe Productions performance of Finian's Rainbow marked a peak in the short history of amateur dramatics in Georgetown.

While it has become well known that the town boasts enough performers to put on a fully professional show, be it minstrel drama or variety, this was the first time a full scale Broadway production has been attempted.

Allowing the limitations which one would expect, the three-night run in Brampton was a genuine delight for both audience and cast.

Finian is a musical which is particularly suited for an amateur group. Stage settings are as simple as one could expect, there is a better story line than some, and the music is not so taxing and does not require as much vocal range as many of the shows.

Above all, it has a full quota of tuneful songs, which have joined the ranks of the 'standards' — and it is necessary for an audience to know the music to get the most from a musical comedy.

The Globe performers gave their best and one can only have praise for their versatility and the weary hours of rehearsal which preceded their show.

If any criticism is to be levelled, it would be at those who, on the one hand, complain there is not enough entertainment in smaller communities, but who don't take advantage of it when it's there.

The Brampton school auditorium should have been standing room only for the three nights, just as the Little Theatre productions here should draw full houses.

### Maybe an Auditorium?

One pity about the Finian show is that it had to be presented in Brampton because Georgetown has no adequate auditorium for such a presentation.

The town has a number of smaller halls, a large combination gym at the high school, all of which fail to give either the required stage space or acoustics.

With the town growing so rapidly, the need for a good auditorium in town is becoming greater. The Little Theatre has plans for such a venture, but there are terrific monetary hurdles to jump.

What would be the best idea is to combine this with the high school, as is done in so many communities.

A further expansion is in the finaliza-

### Shopping Easy Here

With Christmas only a few short weeks away, gift shopping is to the fore on everyone's program.

And The Herald wants to give its usual reminder to shop at home as much as possible, to patronize Georgetown stores and look here first before taking an exhausting trip to the city.

It isn't purely local patriotism that prompts us to say this.

It is more because during our residence in town it has been proven that merchandise here is competitive in both quality and price with that offered anywhere else in the district.

Add to this the saving in travel cost, wear and tear on shoes and nerves, and the fact that if one wants to exchange a gift, it is much easier to do so at a local store, and it makes a good case for shopping at home.

Add also the fact that a prosperous town depends on a prosperous business community, and it should clinch your decision to spend a reasonable amount of your shopping dollar in Georgetown.

## HARLEY TO HALTON



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

SINCE OUR LAST column, the House of Commons has progressed, without incident, some non-controversial legislation which does not have any particular significance for Halton. One of the matters debated in its resolution stage was the increase in postal rates for first-class mail. This came to a sudden and unexpected vote at the beginning of an evening session and the resolution was defeated. It means that this matter cannot be raised again during this session of the 27th Parliament and, therefore, no increase in postal rates for first-class mail can take place at this time.

THE COMMONS has returned to a consideration of capital punishment which should come to a vote within a day or so. The Committee on Health and Welfare, which I have the honour of chairing, is studying the matter of abortion. This is a highly controversial subject. It was hoped that it would be possible to have a report ready for the House of Commons by Christmas however there have been so many requests for hearings

### Democracy is Dissent Should Hear Opinions

December 2, 1967  
45 Charles Street, Georgetown, Ont.

Dear Sir:

I respect you for taking a stand on the censorship question. You have a right to your opinion. I congratulate you for the fairness and resolution you showed by printing four letters which differed quite strongly with your view. This seems to be all that is asked in the student paper controversy: fairness and resolution. I am sure that if you were the administrator of a school, you would not deny the pupils the opportunity to voice different opinions in letters to your paper.

Democracy is built on dissent; without this, it dies. Democracy has to be exercised daily and authority in a Democracy means persuasion. Let's not equate age with wisdom. There are many older people who never grew up and not all youngsters are fools. Take deGaulle, Hugh Hefner, Ronald Reagan, Billy Gra-

ham, Louis XIV, Controller Lampont, Cecil Rhodes, George Wallace, and Richard Wagner; charming people most of them, but dangerous little Peter Pans nevertheless. And then take Anne Frank, the young Jesus, the young Kennedy, the young Queen Victoria, the young Picasso, Rimbaud, the young Churchill, Joan Baez, and the young Goethe: all of them able to grasp reality at a very early age.

Let's not hide behind such undefinable words as 'pornography' and 'obscenity'. They only create smoke screens and lead nowhere. Most people in our culture are unfortunately unable to talk about 'sex' without losing their 'cool'.

What we should talk about is the fact that Roger Smith, a bright model of a student, careful, sober, and not given to hysterical accusations, the very opposite of a 'long-haired, bearded, good-for-nothing' (or whatever the nice words are with which we usually label our trouble-makers) found himself compelled to criticize the High School administration at an official function of this school. I am, as a rule, the kind of person who believes that almost everything is not as bad as it looks, but this makes me suspicious.

Shouldn't we, as parents and taxpayers and citizens of a free country, look into this thing? If there is nothing behind it, so much the better. But if there is, then for our own sakes, let's do something about it!

Yours sincerely,  
John Sommer

WORD OF THE WEEK  
ABATIS: A barricade, such as barbed wire used in modern warfare.  
Next Week: Abjurg



WE SEEM TO HAVE COME TO THE END OF THE HORN OF PLENTY

## IN THE MAIL BAG

### Says Censorship Opposes Freedom of the Press

Student Village: N3 — 203, Waterloo Ontario, 1 December 1967

Mr. Editor:

I recently read with deep interest, your editorial of November 16, entitled 'Censorship Necessary' and request that you allow me a bit of space to reply all too briefly, as a university student and past associate editor of a campus newspaper.

Let me first agree that the article published in the McGill Daily was, to me, in bad taste. If I had been the editor, I would not have published it. I was not, and now I feel that the old saying, 'I may disagree with what you say but I will defend to the death your right to say it' comes into effect.

As well as being sexual in content, the McGill article was political in intent. Does it frighten you to be suggesting censorship of a political article? The political intent was twofold. First, the article was an attack on President Johnson. Second, the article was an attempt to break away the bounds surrounding the content of printed items in our society. J. D. Salinger and Arthur Miller, are two famous authors who also tend to try and do the latter, though more subtly.

The real problem lies in the fact that our society has become too enclosing. Nineteen Eighty-Four is only sixteen years away and much of the picture Orwell painted has already come to pass.

Most important, is the fact that our school system has become an authoritarian and stifling institution, particularly at the public and high school levels (but the universities are coming along fast).

Dewey, in his book, 'Democracy and Education' pointed out that the school system will be responsible for introducing into the child, a concept of society that he will hold for all his life. Dewey went on to point out that this would happen primarily not through being lectured at, but through experience. The experience that students are undergoing in the public schools and particularly in the high schools of today is that of one of the most authoritarian, totalitarian, systems ever devised by man.

I return then to saying that, in a society headed in the direction that our present society is headed, your editorial is a terrifying attitude on the part of one of the holders of the public trust in freedom of the press.

If youth has its learning process censored at any stage, then they can only grow up to be human beings who think within the limitation of the censor. Hitler burned books that didn't agree with his concept of good taste. In both cases, John Mills

Whip you suggest only censorship to maintain the bounds of good taste the old problem of whose good taste arises. The communists censor in the firm belief that they are furthering society along the correct path, famous treatise 'In Liberty' was prohibited.

What makes you think your good taste is any better or more correct than theirs is? Any censorship body in Ontario can be composed only of individuals.

In a true democracy, Mr. Editor, we can never say for sure that one thing is right and another wrong. In fact, the only assumption of something being 'right' that must be made in a democracy, are the principles of the democracy itself.

Mills described 'liberty' as the existence of the greatest amount of freedom possible for each individual without infringing upon the freedom of another individual.

The publishing of any story in any newspaper that is not slanderous or libelous does not infringe on anyone's liberty. The right to publish it must therefore exist. As a newspaper editor, you should be the first to stand up on the side of freedom of the press.

Stewart D. Saxe, Third Year Political Science Student, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario.

### Some Unkind Words For Mayor's Flag

49 Hewson Crescent, November 30th, 1967

Gentlemen:

All summer long we contemplated writing to you regarding the disrespect of our town Mayor for the Centennial flag. No doubt you noticed he had a blue Centennial flag closed in the trunk of his car — one half inside the trunk, the other hanging out.

Today was the last straw. As the Mayor and his wife drove out of the IGA parking lot this morning, we saw with no uncertainty the Canadian flag flying from the car aerial — not at half mast, but upside down!

In Cubs we taught the Union Jack flying upside down indicated distress. Does this mean perhaps that the Mayor is, in fact, in difficulty? Perhaps we should be having our annual election this December, as we have done in the past.

I am sure if Mr. Gibbons will contact any local Cub or Scout Group, they will be pleased to tell him about our Canadian flag, and the pride any true Canadian has for it.

Yours very truly,  
Jack and Dawn Livingstone,

## SUGAR AND SPICE

by Bill Smiley

### Hurry Home, Honey

I'm beginning to realize what a widow with children goes through. It's tough being both a momma and a poppa. I'll be glad when my wife finishes her college course, gets home, and can fight it out with Kim, on the old basis, no holds barred, recriminations aplenty, ferocious threats, and tears enough to wash the kitchen floor.

Last weekend I nearly gave my wife a heart attack. After spending most of the weekend screwing up my courage, I gritted my teeth, took a good, stiff pill of Walkers Special Old nerve tonic, and announced gravely:

"Dear, I've got something to tell you about Kim. Now don't get all upset. Everything will probably work out for the best."

"She's not," she shrieked. "Oh, my God!"

"I'm afraid she is," I said, sombrely. "But you've got to face the facts. You can't keep a kid in the nest forever. These things happen in the best of families. There are some things in this day and age that we may not approve of. But..."

Well, without hindsight, I'll admit I was pretty stupid. But after my wife had flown three times around the living-room, without ever lighting, it emerged that we were talking about different things.

She thought Kim was pregnant. All I was trying to do was tell her something even worse, that Kim had, after giving me a real feminine, logical, charming con job, joined a 'group'. She's been invited to play the organ and sing in one of those shouting, belting, deafening groups that are driving every adult over 30 out of his little old square mind.

This is just a sample of the troubles I have. My wife thinks that classical music is it, and groups are for the well-known birds. Kim thinks a young person is missing a vital, terribly important experience if she doesn't ever belong to a group. I think — well, never mind.

But my point is that in these good old days, Kim and her mother would have fought it out, with frequent appeals to me from each side, and both sides ignoring my rational compromise. Now, I have to take the decisions, lay down the law, designate 'testing-in' hours, and try to force the kid to eat some breakfast.

Not to mention cheering her up when she's down, cooling her down when she's all upright, telling her to pick up her clothes, and roaring at her to put the lid on the jam bottle and put it away, after breakfast.

And she'll read this column, and say, "You don't like me, do you, Dad?" "It's just a nuisance to you, I wish Mum was here."

And I'll say: "Stop feeling sorry for yourself. Did it ever occur to you to do the dishes?" I wish Mum was here, too. She'd straighten you out, you little bum."

And she'll say, "Oh, you think I'm a little bum, eh? I wish Mum was here too. She'd straighten you out, you little bum, eh. Well, thanks a lot. That certainly makes a person feel wanted."

And I'll say: "Bum, schlum. Get the carrots ready for the stew and then get at your homework."

And she'll snap: "That's all you think about. Carrots. You're getting more like a school-teacher all the time. Pompous and arrogant."

And I'll shout: "You get upstairs and get at your homework and stop being so lippy or I'll give you a thick ear."

Knowing I wouldn't dare, she flounces out, goes up and works off her repressions with the guitar and a couple of shouted freedom songs. And I work off mine by getting the carrots ready and inviting her down to dinner.

But we get along fine. She knows her place — head of the household, and I know mine — foot of the household. I'll be glad when Mum gets home. At least she knows a head from a foot, which is some-thing in these troubled times.

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