

Clamour for Phones Subsides Future of Local Office in Doubt

There is no directory for 1888 available at present for Georgetown, so figures are not available for the year. The number of telephones in Georgetown in 1880 was 19.

In an April, 1890 directory, it is learned that a long distance call between Georgetown and Toronto was 25 cents at that time for subscribers, and forty cents for non-subscribers. This information was obtained in an old Hamilton and Dundas directory. By November, 1890, there were 17 telephones in Georgetown, two of which were residential listings. The corresponding total for 1891 was 23, for 1892, 25, and for 1893 (November) 27. There were still no numbers assigned.

November, 1894's, Georgetown directory shows 27 telephones, 6 of them residential. This total was unchanged for 1895. Corresponding statistics for 1896, 1897 and 1898 are unobtainable from directories, since no books are available for these years. That, however, does not mean that information regarding the telephone business in Georgetown is a complete blank for these years. Records show that in 1897 Georgetown had a '50 line standard' switchboard, and that in 1899 there was a 'Standard metallic switchboard - 2 metallic way switch for the office.

POPULATION 1500?

An inspection of the office was made in December, 1899, by A. T. Smith, then District Superintendent (headquarters in Toronto) and in his small notebook Mr. Smith noted that Georgetown's population was 1500 (a somewhat optimistic estimate) and that there were 21 business telephones and two residential ones and also one "DH" or free instrument (probably Mr. Jackson's). This would mean that there were altogether 24 telephones, though an official

note has it that the total was 25. Take your choice! Undoubtedly there were 25 telephones listed in November, 1899's telephone directory (5 of them residential) but one subscriber may have decided not to keep his instrument between then and the day of Mr. Smith's visit. In those days every single subscriber was important to the welfare of the Company.

By 1900 the situation had improved somewhat. There were 29 telephones in Georgetown according to the November 1900 directory. Numbers were now assigned and had been for a year or two. Mr. Jackson (titled 'Local Manager' since 1890) was still in charge of Georgetown's telephone business, and was to remain in that capacity for a good many years yet.

SIX HOME PHONES

Georgetown's November 1901 directory listed 34 telephones, including 6 for residences. At the foot of the page appeared a pithy and pertinent telephone advertisement reading: "Many Valuable Moments are Saved and Golden Opportunities Gained by the FREQUENT USE OF THE LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE."

In late June, 1902 Mr. H. C. Baker, Manager of the Ontario Department wrote Mr. Jackson "In reference to enclosed contract signed by Messrs. H. T. Arnold & Sons please have date of connection filled in and return contract to this office at once." New business was always gratifying news. However,

ONE OF A SERIES

a couple of letters to the Georgetown Local Manager from Mr. Baker written in July indicate that some subscribers were always behind in their payments which was had news in a slowly growing but still small office. By the time November, 1902's Georgetown directory was prepared there were 36 telephones in Georgetown, five of them residential. In an effort to drum up more residential business the Company printed at the foot of a page in this directory an eye-catching ad reading:

"A TELEPHONE AT YOUR RESIDENCE Is a Great Comfort And Protects your Family DAY AND NIGHT"

The year 1903 appears to have been one of struggle for the Company from two small bits of evidence discovered in the preparation of this exchange history. On January 7th, 1903, Mr. A. T. Smith, District Superintendent wrote to J. F. Gardner, District Manager at Brantford informing him, among other things, that "Proposed Outside construction has been postponed indefinitely. Markdale, Ridgeway, Georgetown . . ."

EAGER FOR SUBSCRIBERS
And the following letter implies a more-than-usual eagerness to obtain new subscribers for Georgetown:

6th November, 1903
Local Manager, Georgetown.
Dear Sir:

In reply to yours of 5th instant my instructions are that in no case is more than fifteen days' free service to be given to new subscribers and then only

as a last resort to secure a hesitating subscriber. If you can get any new ones on those terms, we shall be glad to help you with the instruments, etc., as quickly as possible.

Yours truly,
Hugh C. Baker, Manager.

September, 1903's, Georgetown directory had listed 38 telephones, five of them residential; and by April, 1904; there were 39 (six residential) telephones in the town, which indicates a slight increase. The improvement in business continued during the next few months, for October, 1904's directory lists 45 telephones, ten of them being residential ones. Apparently the advertising done in the directories was having some effect at last.

No statistics are available for 1905 and 1906 because Georgetown directories are not available for those years at present. During 1905 a long distance line was constructed linking Hamilton to Georgetown (2 1/2 miles of poles, 3 1/4 plus 13 miles of copper wire).

Improvements in the service - bettered transmission - is practically promised in a brief note from the Ontario Dept. Superintendent of Construction dated January 7, 1907. It is addressed to A. T. Smith, District Superintendent, Toronto: "Replying to yours of 2nd and 4th insts., I will see what I can do in connection with the metalizing up of the lines." This note is headed "Georgetown Construction."

TIME CALLS

By April, 1907 (and probably before, but directories to confirm this are lacking for 1905 and 1906) "Continuous Service" was being given to Georgetown subscribers, who, by the end of the year numbered 111. Numbers had been assigned to telephone users in Georgetown from 1899.

Early in 1907, according to

Almost Call-A-Day for Ambulance in Nov.

Georgetown Volunteer Ambulance Service made 25 runs during November according to figures released this week. Eleven were classified as emergencies.

Seventeen runs were to Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital, while others were to Princess Margaret Hospital, South Peel Hospital, St. Michael's Hospital, Woodstock Hospital, Guolph General, and Peel Memorial.

Taking duty were Logan MacDonald, Walter Leuenberger, Dan Mossop, Ed Hall, Harry Egink, Jim Bennett, Jim Jenkins, Paul Thompson, Lloyd Sweezy, Peter Pew, Ted Burley, Ken Thompson, Walter Thompson, John Holden, George Sargent, Art Stamp, Bob Bradley, Trevor Williams, John Elliott, Tom Massena, Dick Foster, Ron Ovenden, Dennis Wright, Harry Stone, Bill French, Les Dickenson, Allan Broadworth, Cyril Engleby, Clarence Stephens, Ace Bailey, Bill MacDonald, Jim Costigan, Lou Pankenin and Doug Herrington.

Attention "Home Owners"

Have a Snow Free Driveway This Winter . . . We Have a Good Supply of Snow Fence and Steel Posts on Hand - Call Us and Place Your Order With Us Today!

- Freeze-up Time Is Almost Here ●
- For Your Other Winter Supplies Contact Us For . . .
- MASTER DOG & CAT FOOD ● KITTY LITTER
- ICE SALT ● WILD BIRD FEED
- WATER SOFTENER SALT ● SUNFLOWER SEED
- RABBIT PELLETS

"PLEASE NOTE"

We Deliver in Georgetown on Mondays of Each Week. Orders Must Be Placed With Us by 9 a.m. Each Monday Morning



R. R. 2, Georgetown Dial 877-3512

Red Cross Blood Donor Clinic

MONDAY, DEC. 11th, 1967

1.30 to 4.00 and 6.00 to 8.45 p.m.

Holy Cross Church Auditorium

MAPLE AVENUE EAST, GEORGETOWN
AMPLE PARKING SPACE

New Donors Urgently Needed - - - Age 18 to 65
New Donors Register at Clinic.

In 1967, the aim must be an overall increase of 8% in blood collections in order to meet all requirements of our new technology and increased population, and a sizeable increase in the number of hospital beds.

TRANSPORTATION AND BABY-SITTING AT THE CLINIC AVAILABLE TO DONORS
If required, phone Mrs R. H. Jones 877-3435. On Clinic Day Phone 877-9233.

PROTECT YOURSELF - YOUR FAMILY - YOUR COMMUNITY
GIVE BLOOD ON DECEMBER 11th!

How should a man give Coty to a woman?



Very carefully.

Think about her for a moment. If she's exciting, subtle, all-woman . . . Coty Emeraude is her perfume. Perhaps she's eternally romantic, bubbling, ever gay. Then choose Coty L'Aimant for her. Coty Christmas Gift Sets range from \$2.00 to \$14.50. Dare you give her anything else?

KENTNER'S PHARMACY

12 MAIN STREET NORTH 877-2632

Your Savings Earn Good Interest at Your Local Trust Company

6 3/4%

1 to 5 YEAR
GUARANTEED
INVESTMENT
CERTIFICATES

Amounts \$100 to \$100,000
COME IN AND ASK US ABOUT IT!

GEORGETOWN 877-2286
53 Mill Street
JOHN A. EDGAR, Manager

NORTH HALTON ADVISORY BOARD
John T. Armstrong, Chairman; Reford Gardhouse, Maurice C. Bealy,
Michale Ledwith, John Goy, Dr. B. D. Young

HALTON & PEEL TRUST & SAVINGS COMPANY

HEAD OFFICE: Oakville. OTHER BRANCH OFFICES: Brampton, Simcoe, Burlington, Delhi, Cooksville, Milton
Assets under Administration exceed \$75,000,000



Blake magneto wall telephones like this one were installed for Georgetown's first subscribers in 1884.

TRAIN TO MONTREAL

Ask about convenient departure and return times

For information, phone the local CN Passenger Sales Office



CANADIAN NATIONAL

FROM GEORGETOWN

\$8.60

ONE WAY
ONE WAY RED FARE

40-65M