

ARMISTICE NEWS BUSY TIME FOR TOWN'S SWITCHBOARD

April, 1910's directory indicated that the telephone office could be reached by calling 100 — the number of Jackson's store.

According to a note in the 'Georgetown Questionnaire' the town's 'equipment' in 1910 consisted of Standard local switch, No. 6 rack, 168 generator, Warner pole changer and one No. 2 toll booth. Mr. Smith's visit of inspection took place on April 5, 1910, and in his notebook he recorded that J. H. Jackson the agent had a 'general store, CPR tickets, etc.' and at that time received a commission of 25 per cent plus a monthly allowance of \$3, and also a 'DIP' residential telephone. There were at that time 169 telephones in Georgetown, 122 of them business ones, 39 residential and several of them free ones, including some for the town and the local manager's home telephone. There was a booth for the convenience of those wishing to place calls. The rates were low — as were wages. \$20 a year enabled one to have either a business or a residential telephone. Plainly 160-odd telephones did not bring in a very sensational income to the Telephone Company, especially when a fair percentage of the rentals had to be paid back to the Local Manager. Mr. Smith noted the existence of the 'Ashgrove Co.' with its '7 subs' connecting at Georgetown.

GEORGETOWN-GUELPH LINE

A new line between Georgetown and Guelph was constructed during 1910 at a cost of \$2,037.67; it involved the laying of 52.11 miles of No. 12 copper wire.

The June, 1910 issue of the 'Telephone Gazette' (a periodical issued by The Bell Telephone Company of Canada from 1909 to 1911) carried a brief announcement regarding Georgetown:

"The General Contract Department has been carrying on a canvass (sic) in connection with Georgetown Exchange having secured twenty-seven new orders." It was gratifying but scarcely surprising, therefore, that the number of telephones in Georgetown by the end of 1910 had mounted to 200.

According to the 1911 census Georgetown's population had increased to 1585 inhabitants.

During 1911 further construction work affecting Georgetown was carried out. Over 25 miles of old copper wire were removed between Georgetown and Toronto and 163.26 miles of No. 12 copper wire was strung at a cost of \$7,528.18. There were 215 telephones in Georgetown by the close of 1911 and 256 for the year 1912.

By the end of 1913 there were

ONE OF A SERIES

208 telephones in Georgetown. MILTON HOOKS IN

During 1914 — the year of the outbreak of World War I — a long distance line was constructed between Milton and Georgetown which involved the stringing of 5.42 miles of No. 12 copper wire and 20.78 miles of No. 12 iron wire at a cost of \$572.67. By the end of 1914 there were 338 telephones in Georgetown.

The corresponding total for 1915 was 356, and for 1916, 401.

There were 431 telephones in Georgetown by the close of 1917.

March 1918's Georgetown directory listed Mr. J. H. Jackson as Local Manager for the last time. He had been responsible for the telephone business in Georgetown for nearly 34 years — a rare record of continuous service. By September he was succeeded by Miss G. Glassey, now titled local representative whose work was under the supervision of Mr. H. M. Black, the Guelph Manager. Jackson's Departmental Store still had the number 100, which for years had called the telephone office. Now the Bell office, still located on Main St., was reached by calling 170. By the end of 1918 there were 457 telephones in the town.

MEMORABLE YEAR

As many remember, 1918 was a memorable year: the war in Europe was never fiercer than during the early months of 1918. Later in the year, the dread 'Spanish Influenza' which was soon dubbed 'the flu' swept through Canada and caused sudden and serious illness in many homes and businesses, and an appalling total of deaths. In some Bell Telephone offices the Manager, assisted perhaps by his wife, had to carry on the switchboard because all the operators were off ill at once. Then came the news of the Armistice about daybreak — or before, on November 11th, and the world went mad. So did many of the operating staff who, in many cases, were urgently summoned to duty when it was still dark, and had to dress hurriedly and rush to their boards to cope with unprecedented traffic which lasted until late in the day.

POPULATION REACHES 2,000

By the end of 1919 there were 485 telephones in Georgetown.

Unfortunately there is no 1919 telephone directory listing Georgetown subscribers in the Telephone Historical Collection, so it is difficult to say

just when another change in management occurred. November 1920's directory again lists H. M. Black as 'Manager' — he was headquartered in Guelph and had jurisdiction over Georgetown, and also Milton. By now Miss Mac Ross was Georgetown's Local Representative. By the end of 1920 there were 529 telephones in

Georgetown. According to the 1921 census Georgetown's population was now 2061, and by the end of that year there were 544 telephones in the town. (to be continued)

SLOW WALKER
The turtle's normal pace is one mile in nine and a half hours.

Anderson-Puckering Wedding Vows, Glen United Church



MR. AND MRS. DAVID GERALD ANDERSON

In a recent ceremony in Glen Williams United Church, Rev. Walter Ridley officiated at the marriage of Linda Carolyn Puckering, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Puckering, Glen Williams, and David Gerald Anderson of Agincourt.

Given in marriage by her father in the double ring ceremony, the bride wore a gown of organza and lace over taffeta, with cathedral train and shoulder length veil. She carried a bouquet of white mums and red roses with ivy.

Mrs. Sally Leslie, who was matron of honour, wore a full length mint green gown of chiffon over taffeta, featuring elbow length sleeves. Bridesmaids Miss Cathy Anderson, sister of the groom, and Miss Helen Stewart, Collingwood, wore island green chiffon over taffeta. The three attendants wore matching flowered headpieces and veils and carried bouquets of pink carnations.

The church was decorated with standards of pink and white gladioli and carnations, and Mrs. Shirley Inglis was organist. Mrs. Dorothy Townsend was soloist.

Glen Dickout, Scarborough, was groomsman and ushers were Robert Kearns, Toronto, cousin of the groom, and Robert Tizzard, Toronto. Guests attended from Brantford, St. Catharines, Terra Cotta, Owen Sound, Milton, Toronto, Oshawa, Georgetown and Glen Williams.

At a reception which followed the ceremony, the bride's mother wore a turquoise shantung dress and coat ensemble, beige accessories and a corsage of orange ice roses. The groom's mother also received, wearing a coral peau de soie dress and coat ensemble, coral accessories and a corsage of white sweetheart roses.

For a honeymoon trip to Expo the bride wore a three-piece wool matve and beige check suit and matching cape. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are living in Willowdale where he is employed by Avery Division of United Cigar Stores as retail supervisor.

Prior to their marriage, the bride was honoured at three showers, at which Mrs. Hilda Hills, Mrs. Sally Leslie and Mrs. Dorothy Hunsdale were hostesses.

Witnesses Prepare Plan for Circuit Assembly in Burlington

"Will God Intervene in Men's Affairs?" The Bible's answer to this most important question of our day will be given at the upcoming circuit assembly of Jehovah's witnesses in Burlington, December 15 to 17. Melville Taylor, presiding minister of the local congregation announced recently.

"The world's mounting tensions caused by economic instability, wars, crime and immorality are like a bubble ready to burst" Mr. Taylor continued.

"Man's attempts, whether sincere or not, have not provided a practical, lasting solution for the good of all. The grave need for divine intervention has never been more apparent. But will God step in?" Mr. Taylor asked. "The answer will be heard in the public Bible discourse to be delivered by Joseph Scaglione, district supervisor of Jehovah's Witnesses in southern Ontario," he said.

The assembly, a semi-annual event, sponsored by the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society, will be held in the auditorium of M. M. Robinson High School in Burlington. Delegates representing 15 congregations of

Jehovah's witnesses from Georgetown to Brantford will be in attendance.

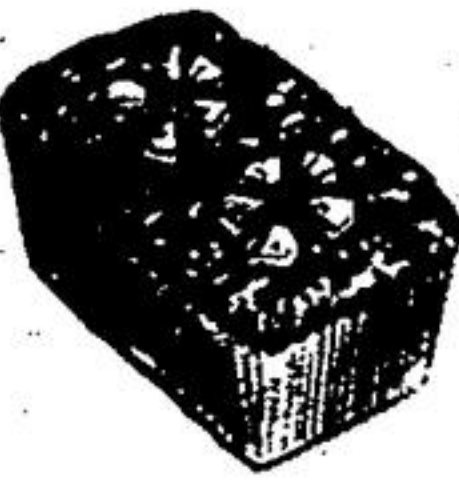
Mr. Taylor disclosed that members of the Georgetown

congregation will be providing transportation to the three-day event for many other interested persons from Georgetown and area.

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