

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Do You Really Mean It?

One of the saddest little items which has crossed the editor's desk this week is a poem submitted by two teenage girls. Titled 'Hoorah for Georgetown' here's what they have to say:
I'm glad I live in Georgetown;
There is so much to do;
Like loiter in the streets at night
And smoke, and curse and chew.
The week-ends are just filled with fun,
If you're allowed to go out of town;
Let's hope we have a village here,
Then we could all go down.
I don't know if you feel this way,
Maybe you're having fun;
But unless you play in a band or sing,
Your life seems almost done.

Now, we have a few things to say to these young women, and let's hope that they are a small minority in our hundreds of teenagers.
They say they have a problem - nothing to do in Georgetown.

More Things To Do

Those are just a few random suggestions which come to mind from a senior resident of Duffsville.

But there are so many other ways of filling in the hours for girls of your age. Are you learning to bake and sew? You have an on-the-spot teacher at home, and someday soon, chances are you're going to be a housewife. Do you experiment with doing up your own hair? Did you ever try painting a picture, or making a dress?
But even more, have you thought of giving some of those dreary spare hours to justifying your existence by doing something for others?

You can start at home, of course, offering to do a few household chores like dishwashing, ironing, and cleaning. Every home has that in plenty.

Unasked For Advice

By coincidence, our neighbouring Acton Free Press, editorialized last week on the same subject, quoting an 'Author Unknown' item which gives some food for thought.

This is their advice to the teenager.

"Always we hear the plaintive cry of the teenagers. What can we do? Where can we go? The answer is go home, hang the storm windows, paint the woodwork, rake the lawn, shovel the sidewalk, wash the car, learn to cook, scrub some floors, repair the sink, build a boat, get a job.

"Help the minister, priest or rabbi, the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, visit the sick, assist the poor, study your lessons, and when you are through, and not too tired, read - a good book.

"Your parents do not owe you entertainment. Your city or village does not owe

How about... for spectators, hockey games by the bushel in winter, baseball, ditto, in summer, plus rigger games in the fall, and if they are high school students, football, basketball, soccer, wrestling and badminton.

For participation, lawn and indoor bowling, skating, skiing and tobogganing, Ski-Doo's, girls' baseball, dances, swimming, special days like the fall fair.

How about tennis, the almost forgotten sport? Have you thought of learning to play euchre or bridge? Monopoly, scrabble? Jigsaw puzzles can while away an hour now and then.

Do teenagers read like they did in our day? We have a library brimming with the exciting world of books. Want to be modern, then learn to play a guitar.

What's happening to the days when it was just fun to be in your teens, to gather in groups and gab, to go window shopping on Saturdays.

The churches, YWCA, Guides and Brownies are always looking for helpers. You can rake the lawn and weed the flower garden, paint the back porch, shovel the snow.

Have you never heard 'The world is so full of a number of things, I'm sure we should all be as happy as kings.'

If you're bored at your tender age, what in the world is going to happen to you when you get old.

If you have health, imagination, energy, your life can be so full that your only complaint should be that there are only 24 hours in a day, and no one has yet discovered how to stay awake for all those hours.

Your only resentment should be that you have to waste time sleeping.

you a living. You owe the world something. You owe it your time and energy and your talents so that no one will be a war, in poverty, sick or lonely again.

"In plain words - grow up, quit being a cry-baby. Get out of your dream world and start acting like a man or a lady.

"You are supposed to be mature enough to accept some of the responsibilities your parents have carried for years. They have nursed, protected, helped, appealed, begged, excused, tolerated and denied themselves needed comforts so that you could have every benefit. You have no right to expect them to bow to every whim and fancy just because your selfish ego instead of common sense, dominates your life, personality, thinking, requests and demands.

"In Heaven's name - Grow Up and Go Home."

- Unknown Author.

ment is amendments to the Unemployment Insurance Act. Some 400,000 new contributors will now come under the terms of the Act because the maximum allowable salary has been increased from \$5400 to \$7800 annually. This means that employees earning up to \$7800 per year will now be covered under the Act and this will add an extra 400,000 contributors.

THE PRESENT benefits under the Unemployment Insurance Act, depending on the salary range and the number of dependents of a married contributor, range between \$6.00 minimum and \$36 maximum per week. The new benefits will change these figures to \$13 minimum and \$53 maximum and in addition to this a higher amount of casual earnings over and above the benefit will be allowed. There has been no change in the class of people who are covered under the plan. Persons still exempt include all self-employed persons, farmers, teachers, members of the Armed Forces, the RCAP and special other groups. About three or four years ago, the Unemployment Insurance Fund was badly depleted and Government loans to the Fund had to be instituted. Since that time, due to increasing employment, these Government loans have all been repaid and the Unemployment Insurance Fund is in a reasonably solvent condition.

THE DISTRICT AT A GLANCE

ERIN - A replacement value of \$100,000 was estimated on the loss when Kay's Mobile Feeds Ltd., Erin mill, adjoining the CP station was levelled by fire last week.

ORANGEVILLE - Orangeville police have been successful in solving two of four recent break-ins there. Police Chief Jack Kent said a man has been arrested after a break-in at the Broadway Restaurant, and another after a break-in at Marshall's Men's Wear. Also hit were Filto equipment, and IGA.

ACTON - Auditors pouring over the town books came up with one piece of information which indicates citizens there are civic minded. Clerk J. McGeachle told council 87.94 per cent of the 1967 taxes were collected. "Few municipalities can even come close to that figure," commented Reeve Hinton.

MILTON - Two strange objects flitted about the skies over Milton, Sunday evening Jan. 21 between 7 and 7:10 p.m. and three residents witnessed their manoeuvres. One woman said, "I was always skeptical about these things until I saw the two on Sunday."



"IT'S SORT OF A BRAIN-TRANSPLANT"

IN THE MAIL BAG

Buck Up, Smiley, Life Isn't All That Bad

A Toronto transplant who became a Georgetown resident recently, contributes this report to feature columnist Bill Smiley.
Georgetown, Ont.
31 Queen St.

Dear Smiley:

You have had us all worrying ever since before Christmas when a neighbour had to put up the tree for you. Give us a break. We are practically to the point of taking up a collection for your funeral wreath. I've listened to cracker barrel philosophers before but never have I heard such a consistent 'VOICE OF DOOM.' Life is tough all over sweetheart, and

if you are just discovering it: 'welcome to the club.'

All of us birds inevitably have to part with our fledglings. We all ache when they stagger out of the nest and flap off to GOD KNOWS WHERE. Who doesn't sit back feeling forlorn and deserted, wondering if it was all worth the effort and sacrifice.

As for your mate, she is just trying on the latest fad called 'The New Woman.' Let her have her fun. She's earned it. For years she's been the 'Old Woman' to you not to mention personal slave to the kids. She will be back to her 'ever loving' after she's made up for a little lost time.

In the meantime why don't you treat yourself to regular and frequent excursions to a good Swedish steam bath. You would be surprised what a little tender loving care from a sympathetic masseuse can do for your burstitis. Not to mention the 'steam.'

We are getting a little worried about that receding hair line and increasing waistline you keep mentioning. There's no need to become an emotional wreck over such minor problems. All you need is a little constructive advice. There are two ways of handling the situation. One is to alternate between Vic Tanny's - for the battle of the bulge with sessions at a reliable dermatologist for hair transplanting.

The other is to radiate rosy charm such as Richard Burton manages to do while his physical appearance becomes increasingly more decrepit and degenerate each year. It's really quite a potent blend of sex appeal if you're interested, in women over thirty. We can eliminate those under. I'm sure they wouldn't appeal to a worldly philologist types such as yourself.

As far as the rest of the world goes, Smiley, stop worrying about it. You've done your share.

Keep your chin up. We wouldn't want you to trip over your logs.

- Liz Goldup

NEWS ECHOES

From the Heralds of 10 and 20 Years Ago

1958
Bill Henderson of 39 Mill St. and six Orangeville men had to be taken off the frozen surface of Lake Simcoe by an army truck last week when a sudden snow storm hit that area trapping a number of ice fishermen in their huts for 47 hours until the truck got to them.

Georgetown's new hospital will bear the name, Georgetown and district Memorial Hospital, it was decided at a meeting of the hospital association Thursday in the council chambers.

Subject to ratification by Esqueing Township Council, residents of the township Council, will pay double rates when the Georgetown Ambulance is used by them. Town council on Thursday agreed to accept the township's proposal. Also discussed were a 50c per mile charge, and a flat rate of \$35 a call.

1948
A fire which broke out early Thursday morning at the rear of Webb's Bakery caused damage estimated at over \$10,000 to the bake shop premises and McCormack's Drug Store. The bake room at Webb's was gutted and motors damaged, while most of the stock of sugar, flour, lard and other baking ingredients was a complete loss. Had there been a wind the flames would have swept through the entire block.

Mrs. Lawrence McClintock was elected Regent of the Countess of Strathmore Chapter 100E at a meeting on Monday. Other officers are Mrs. W. G. O. Thompson, Mrs. Walter Biehn, Mrs. R. H. Ireland, Miss Hilda Erwin, Miss Helen MacDonald, Mrs. Harold Grose, Miss Jean Mackenzie, Mrs. Ern Balkin, Mrs. Wallace Thompson and Mrs. Jack Armstrong.

John Bingham was elected chairman of the Georgetown high school board, Monday. Other officers are Rev. W. G. O. Thompson, M. H. Moyer, Bruce MacKenzie, Doctor F. R. Watson, Dr. A. McAllister and P. B. Harrison. Walter T. Evens is the secretary.

SUGAR AND SPICE by Bill Smiley

All's Well at School

There are heartening signs that a revolution, bloodless but sweeping, is taking place in education.

There are indications that the oppressed people have passed the muttering stage, have attacked the Bastille, will free the prisoners and in the process over-run the Swiss Guards, defenders of the ancient regime. And all will be wine and dancing in the streets. And chaos.

But out of chaos eventually emerges order. Look what God made out of the chaos of the French Revolution, emerged a completely new concept of freedom and equality that had a tremendous impact on the world.

Perhaps the revolution in education will produce a similar freeing of the spirit of man, allowing him to cope with the great and relentless pressures of this age and those to come.

Education in this century, the century of the common man, has been a failure on a grand scale. It has failed entirely to come to grips with a society that has been turned upside down and inside out by two global wars, mass communication, a tremendous spurt of technological advance and a close, hard look at traditions.

Educators, with a few notable exceptions, have been timid, shying from anything that might upset the system. The public at large has ignored education, except to bludge about the cost.

As a result, education has been a generation behind the times. It has become a monolith of repression, rigidity and conformity. It has been an elephant waltzing with a giraffe.

But fresh winds are blowing through the concrete boxes in which young minds are supposed to be exhilarated, excited and liberated. And with many another, I cry a loud, sincere, 'Halleluia!'

Go into an elementary school today. You may be shocked to death. Instead of sitting in neat rows, facing a teacher, and putting up their hands so they can spout some meaningless information which has been memorized, you're apt to find the children wandering all about the room, doing things, looking

up information, actually talking to each other, which, of course, is pure heresy.

It looks like anarchy, but it isn't. The teacher is teaching, not just telling. The kids are learning, not being taught. No longer are they little sponges, each in his own compartment. There is a flowing of ideas, a joy in finding out for oneself.

Go into a high school. The teacher is supposed to be reading a poem, preferably written at least 100 years ago. Then he is supposed to elicit from the students, with a series of childish questions which bore the dumb ones, the meaning of the poem. Then there is supposed to be the research for similes and metaphors. Then he is to put an analysis of the poem on the blackboard, the kids copy it down, and everyone is happy. They have 'done' a poem. They are being taught the joy of poetry. They are being educated.

But what's this? They're not even sitting in rows, but in a circle. They're arguing about the poem, which was written 3 years ago. They relate it to their own lives. The discussion may run from hippies to drugs to broken hearts to religion to joy and to beauty. They may still be fighting about it when they leave the classroom. Dreadful - disorganized.

It's all disgusting and degenerate, but it's happening. And not just in the classroom. There are field trips in geography. Imagine. Going right outside where the geography is. A visit to parliament by a history class. Shocking. History should be in books, where it belongs.

A trip to the theatre for an English class. Shy, depravity. That Shakespeare can be pretty filthy stuff, if it isn't carefully censored.

My wife tells me that some of the professors at university are actually teaching these days, instead of just talking at you.

Where will it all end? The iron hand has been removed and one of these days we are going to be faced with a generation of kids who like school so much they'll have to be kicked out at 16.

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HARLEY TO HALTON



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

THE HOUSE OF Commons continues debate on amendments to the Broadcasting Act. Between Committee work on this Bill and debate in the House of Commons, this matter has now taken up approximately 25 days of debate and there is every indication that the matter will still be before the House of Commons for some considerable time.

ONE OF THE measures recently introduced by the Gov-

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