

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Landmarks Disappearing

Georgetown's physical links with the past have been doing a disappearing act these past few years — some by design, others by accident.

Destruction by fire of the old town hall on the highway removes yet another link with history, following closely on the grandstand at the park in similar fashion. Luckily the old town hall had been removed some years ago, and its prominent position in front of the firehall will keep it in mind of those days when the building was a focal point of the town's community life.

The town hall will now join the high school, demolished over a decade ago now to make way for a brand new edifice, and the old radial station where the new Halton-Peel Trust building now stands, in history's ghost town.

Other past links which have given way to progress are the Creelman building on

Main Street, once a flourishing industry, replaced by a new block of stores; the White Rose service station across the road for a similar purpose; the Clay Products building on King Street, razed by fire.

Gone, too, is the creamery building on the highway, with only portions remaining after a fire; the Roxy Theatre on Mill St., now only a fire-scarred shell. And soon joining them will be a house on Main St., north, which was once a brewery, and the old 'White Bridge' itself, to be replaced by a more modern structure.

If tears are to be shed, perhaps most should fall for the town hall.

Town fathers of days past can be censured, perhaps, for allowing it to reach the condition it did. There was a fine auditorium, with perfect acoustics, the building had an impressive look and should have been kept in repair rather than allowed to crumble away and become a pigeon's roost.

It's a Big Land

A holiday motor trip to the east coast should be a 'must' on everyone's travel list, if only to impress on Canadians the magnitude of this land in which we live.

We travelled the Gaspé peninsula route, visiting Prince Edward Island and Cape Breton, then on to Halifax, the Annapolis Valley and back to New Brunswick for a glimpse of Saint John and Fredericton.

It is a perfect time of year for the traveller who can delay his vacation until the fall. Leaves were at just the right turning point, and weather was that perfect late autumn warm, those precious in-between days before frost makes its roads on the flowers.

Like every Ontario resident who makes the trip, we came home filled with de-

lightful scenery, but somewhat sad to find that our province of plenty is not typical of the eastern part of our dominion.

Scenery is fine for the visitor, but you can't eat it. At times in the maritimes, we wondered what would happen if road building stopped and school buses ceased to operate, for these seemed to be among the main industries.

The famed Annapolis valley is lush in contrast to the topography a few miles away, but to an eye accustomed to western Ontario's fine farmland, seemed less than the paradise we had pictured. The Cape Breton highlands provided spectacular views and superb tourist accommodation, but pity the man who tried to farm those barren fields.

Can Trend be Reversed?

The thought kept recurring as we toured the east, is there not some way we can reverse the trend, robbing the maritimes of men whose ancestral roots are deep, funneling them into Ontario because they want to eat, want their children to have a future which the east can't give them.

As more and more easterners come here, we aggravate our housing problems, inflate our property values, create desperate conditions in our cities with the only answer staggering subsidies to more and more houses can be built, to house more and more people.

Would it not be better for our government to consider channelling these subsid-

ies in the other direction, encouraging industry to settle in the east where there are already established communities where people want to stay. Would it be any more expensive to pay industry to locate there, than to pour millions into housing subsidies, and as western Ontario grows, bring increasing expenditures on highways on social welfare, on municipal administration.

Historically, it is the ambitious who emigrate, so it is likely that we are robbing the east of men with the most ambition, the most skill, which must be creating a snowballing problem in government relief costs.

SUGAR AND SPICE

by Bill Smiley

An Apology From Smiley

Every so often I get myself a P.O.W. and have not in such a bind that a razor-keen, nor ever expect to be a blade and a tub of hot water. Curiously, this letter too, seems the only honourable way contains the expression "If you out. The sole reason I am still here is going to seed a HATE, you with you is that either my wife, will find yourself in a hatred." has just ruined my last blade. Collusion, what?

Well, good Slovaks, and your ladies I apologize, if our educational system was any good, you'd have known what I meant. The original said, "Here you are, a good, honest, Bohemian (Czech). After World War I you are thrown in with those lousy Slovaks and told you are now a Czech-Slovakian."

Let's change that. Make it read: "Here you are, a good, honest Slovak. After World War I, you are thrown in with those lousy Bohemians and told you are now a Czech-Slovakian."

And that's about what they think of each other. Divide and conquer, I always say. But now I'll have the Czechs after me. The next Balkan war may be fought right here in Canada, with yours truly slap in the middle. The only way out that I can see is to have the next ball sponsored by the Slovak Benefit Society.

But even the vision of slandering Slovaks and choking Czechs weeping my blood doesn't bother me nearly as much as the next ordeal in my current bind. I'd rather face both ignorant and a Nazi, than go through with it.

I have to make a speech to the Women's Institute. I would rather walk barefoot over a glowing bed of red hot coals than make the speech. However, it's my own fault.

Their secretary wrote me last June, asking me to speak. I ignored the letter, hoping it would go away, or that I'd die. Then came the mail strike. Thought I was safe. Not so. Early September she wrote again, sharply reminding me.

Still I stalled, but no use. It wasn't my sense of honor that made me accept. It was the fact that the secretary's daughter was in my home farm. Every day she sat and looked at me with huge, reproachful eyes. Finally, I broke, and blurted: "All right, Marsha, all right! Yell your Mom I'll do it." She beamed. Her teach hadn't let her down.

What in the holy old red-eyed world does one say to a group of first class women who have already heard a speaker on every possible topic?

Well I have my opening paragraph ready. It goes like this:

"The Women's Institute should be wiped out, with fire and sword, if necessary. Speaking as a man, I would like to see every branch smashed, all records put to the flames, and any executive members who might be caught sent to Canada to spend the rest of their lives making molasses and resolutions and phoney Eskimo carvings and not asking people to speak to them."

On second thought, maybe I'd better take on the entire Czech-Slovak population of Canada, and get it over with quickly.

SOME OF US CAN REMEMBER WHEN IT WAS LIKE THIS



HOME WORK

Whole New Concept in Revised Scouting Program

Scouting '68 has a dynamic new program for the boys in green.

The aims and purposes are essentially those of founder Lord Baden-Powell in 1908, but after three years of study and testing, The National Scouting Executive met in Winnipeg last October to put new life in a program that has remained virtually unchanged for three generations.

Gone is the semi-military attitude towards scouting and the stagnant grade system of badges and cords. Scouting '68 is more boy-oriented with flexibility and challenge for all types of boys.

Along with the new promise and new law, comes a division of members into Scouts 11-14 years and Venturers 14-17 years. There is a slight

overlap in ages to enable the boys to move up when they feel ready. The new program realizes that older boys have different interests and abilities, and leaves room for consideration of school grades, maturity, previous friendships and interests.

Under the new concept, a patrol is a natural grouping of boys of similar age and physical development. Close friends are no longer split up in the name of universal fellowship. The core of activities will take place within a patrol.

A troop will consist of one or more patrols and it is recommended that the troop meet at least once a month.

Greater emphasis is to be placed on shared and situational leadership. At the same time, some boy leaders will be elected or chosen by different methods within the patrol, to hold a specific post for any set length of time. Patrols will operate under conditions which will most encourage each member to share in the leadership.

Adult leadership could best be described as whatever, any person does to help a patrol or troop determine what it wants to do, and how it wants to do it. The Troop Scouter will be responsible for the operation of the troop, or

at the most two patrols. There is room in the program for leadership by people outside of scouting for specific projects and activities.

A New achievement badge and award scheme replaces the existing grade levels of Tenderfoot, Second Class and First Class, with Pioneer, Voyager, and Pathfinder awards. They are achieved through the earning of combinations of achievement badges. Many require the participation of two or more scouts or an entire patrol.

This new system enables a boy to enter scouting at any age and move directly into a suitable stage of achievement.

The Challenge Badge and Award scheme replaces the old cord and badge system. It focuses on vocations, hobbies, and interests on both the group and the individual level.

Scouting '68 has met with consistent success where it has been tested. Boys have indicated it presents a greater challenge and encourages achievement.

The degree of patrol self-determination and the wider variety of activities gives the organization an exciting new look that can continue to change with the times.



1350 Appeals as Farmers Protest New Assessments

The Halton committee of adjustment will begin sittings October 30 to hear the first of 1350 appeals against assessments in the county this year.

County assessor Robert Beach said this week that 350 farmers are among those who have appealed their assessment, raised this year through county-wide re-assessment. The assessors tried to bring land assessments up to approximately one-third of their market value, with the result some assessments doubled and some increased as much as 10 times.

Beach said the county has been averaging 900 appeals a year but this year's figure still represents only two and a half per cent of the more than 50,000 properties in the county.

Most farmers who have appealed are from the south of the county. Few farmers in Essex and Nassagaweya Twp. appealed.

The farmers were supported by the Halton federation of agriculture, which held a series of meetings to acquaint them with the new assessment values being applied in the county. The assessors attended some meetings to explain how the re-assessment works.

The federation has appointed a select committee to push for assessment reform through the Ontario federation of agriculture. They plan to carry their protests to the Ontario Municipal Board if necessary.

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Halton MP Rud L. Whiting reports from Ottawa

THIS WEEK I was appointed to two Committees of the House of Commons by the Honourable Donald Macdonald, President of the Privy Council, and the Minister responsible for assigning Members to the various Committees. I will be serving on the Committee for Regional Development and the Labour, Manpower and Immigration Committee. In the near future, I expect to be appointed to additional Committees, which I hope will be the Committee on Housing and the Committee on Consumer Affairs.

I AM VERY pleased to be a Member of the Regional Development Committee because it has many areas of responsibility which are of great interest to me. For example, regional development is responsible for ARDA (Agriculture, Rehabilitation, Development Act) and FRED (Funds for Rural Economic Development). Part of the regional development work is very much concerned with soil and water conservation. As many of you know, I was a member of the Halton Region Conservation Authority and held that position until I was elected to Parliament last June.

AS FAR AS the Labour, Manpower and Immigration Committee is concerned, again I am pleased to be a member because of the great interest this Committee will have for many people in Halton Riding. In the past few months since I have been your Member of Parliament a great many people, who are immigrants themselves, have come to me with problems, relating to finding jobs, fitting themselves into the labour force, and asking for assistance in bringing their families to Canada.

NEW IMMIGRANTS to Halton become excellent Canadian citizens and are usually very pleased with the many opportunities which Canada offers them and it is understandable that they want to bring their families to share in their good fortune. Of course, there are many problems associated with Labour, Manpower, and Immigration and, therefore, as your Member of Parliament I will take an active part in dealing

with matters which affect people in my Riding.

CANADA POWER is the successor to the National Employment Service. This Department has expanded its facilities in order to keep pace with our expanding economy. There are 531 Canada Manpower Centres, across the country, which are administered and financed by the Federal Government. In Oakville this Centre is located in the Federal Building under the direction of Miss Evelyn Hartwell. Listings are obtained by the Centre from employers of job opportunities and experience requirements, for these jobs in Oakville, Milton and part of the Town of Mississauga. Persons resident in Georgetown and Acton should go to the Manpower Centre in Brampton and persons resident in Erii should deal with the Centre in Guelph.

MY SON JAMIE and I attended the Georgetown Fall Fair and even though the weather was not as pleasant as it might have been, we, along with the hundreds of visitors, enjoyed ourselves very much. Mr. Keith Webb, president of the Georgetown Agricultural Society and his Committee, are to be sincerely commended for a splendid Fair.

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