

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Dinner Thoughts —

Attending Warden Bill Hunter's dinner at the Legion auditorium, we couldn't help thinking that this might, and probably would be, the last such function in Georgetown for county council as we know it today.

In this fast growing municipality, so close to Metro, it is a foregone conclusion that in a few years we will see one central governing body, either serving Halton with its present boundaries, or part of this and part of neighbouring counties in a completely new area.

This will not come next year or the year after, perhaps, but as the warden's chair is traditionally passed around roughly in progression, Georgetown's turn wouldn't come again for six or seven years; and by that time it is doubtful that Halton will have its seven separate towns and townships, with county council handling such departments as health, justice and roads.

Municipal government is undergoing the same changes as education, where the little red schoolhouses have been replaced by consolidated central schools.

First step in centralizing municipal government comes in 1969, with replacement of individual school boards by one county board.

board. That other government functions will follow the same pattern is a certainty.

In theory, the larger body should operate more efficiently, dispensing as it does with the education variations which exist when small areas have their own administration. In theory, it should be cheaper to operate, but we aren't holding our breath, for the larger the governing unit, the greater amount of staff seems to accumulate. We will be happy if the new school board can operate with the combined budgets of the present boards.

In theory, one central municipal council should attract the highest calibre of man and woman. But in practice, we are tending to make the job too much for a part-time person with not enough salary to make it a full time profession.

This, then is today's dilemma, and to our mind the only solution is either to make a county council solely a policy-making group, allowing paid employees free scope for most decisions — or to set it up as a full-time job with salary adequate to recompense a man for his time.

The in-between system into which civic government has grown today will work even less successfully on a larger scale.

Strange Twist —

Increasing prevalence of 'booby trap' candy distribution on Halloween night is of concern to parents of youngsters whose trick and treat visits are looked forward to by most residents. While occurring mostly in the cities, there have been a few incidents closer to home also.

Perhaps those who play these cruel tricks on children are trying to get even for a trick played on them in past years. More likely they have a quirk which fails to distinguish between innocent pranks and those to which danger and sadism is attached.

They are the kind of people who get a kick from tying a tin can to a puppy's tail, maiming a bird's wing, chasing a greased pig around a field.

Whatever the cause, we appeal to them to desist from this before it wrecks our modern Halloween completely.

Seems too bad that today, when we have emerged from the days of violence on this night, property destruction and serious practical jokes, that a few adults have stepped in to bring a new and sinister twist to what can be a wonderful evening for youngsters.

Remembrance Day —

Bill Smiley's Sugar 'n Spice column this week contains some thoughtful comments on Remembrance day.

Smiley's talent to put into the right words what many people think has made his weekly column one of the best features in Canada's weekly press.

And we particularly agree with Smiley's thought that Remembrance day is not a glorification of war, but the very opposite, a thankfulness for peace.

We should hope to see the day when the Canadian Legion would only be a mem-

ory to our children, with no new influx of members to swell its ranks from another war.

That would be the ultimate tribute to two generations of young men, cut off in the prime of youth, so that our way of life could continue and that we can enjoy man's most precious heritage — freedom.

Meanwhile those old enough to remember, will shed a silent tear on Sunday for those who didn't come back, for those whose health and spirit was broken in war's holocaust.

SUGAR AND SPICE by Bill Smiley

I SHALL NEVER FORGET

Dimmer and dimmer grow bulges in the wrong places, are the pictures of men, young men, the 'young fellows' of World War I. And despite the general desire to live, staggering under greatcoats and full packs into the tearing and terrible hot hell, bitter ale and bitter cold, and fainter and fainter come the sounds of choking and coughing and retching, as their lungs are seared and their guts are spattered and they go down in a pig squeal of agony, a howl for mother, or a scream for God, do something.

Hallowen and hallowen become the annual reminders that 'we remember them', that 'they died for us', that 'they gave their lives for freedom'.

Remembrance Day is becoming about as important, except for a dedicated few, as the 24th of May, the Queen's birthday.

Vimy Ridge and Ypres are in the history books now. And if there's one sure way to take the dust out of something, it's to put it in a history book.

But they're not history for that 72-year-old, head bowed, standing at the cenotaph on Nov. 11th. He was a little, thin, thing, terrified piece of that history, 30 years ago.

And he remembers. Mud and misery, girls and guns. And the faces that will never grow old and wrinkled and filled with pain, like his own. For a few minutes, it all comes back, and a lump comes in his throat and his eyes grow wet when the Last Post sounds in the sombre, November air.

Behind him, with their blue berets, and balding heads, and

of war. It's just the opposite.

Those in their twenties and thirties are even less interested, if possible. The whole thing is a drag, a sentimental journey for old and middle aged squares.

And what about the old and middle-aged? We must face it. Only a minority of them feel some emotion. And most of these are people who were directly touched by the loss of a brother, husband, son.

But on the whole, Canada, despite heavy losses of youth, was scarcely touched, at home, by the two great world wars. And Remembrance Day as old soldiers are supposed to do, won't die. It will just fade away.

Perhaps it's just as well. Both wars were bloody shambles, bastards' spoils. But I hope there's a special place for old soldiers, when they finally fade away. A place where all the young faces are, and there's lots of beer, and they can exchange lies with Roman legionnaires and panzer troops and confederate fighters and veterans of Waterloo.

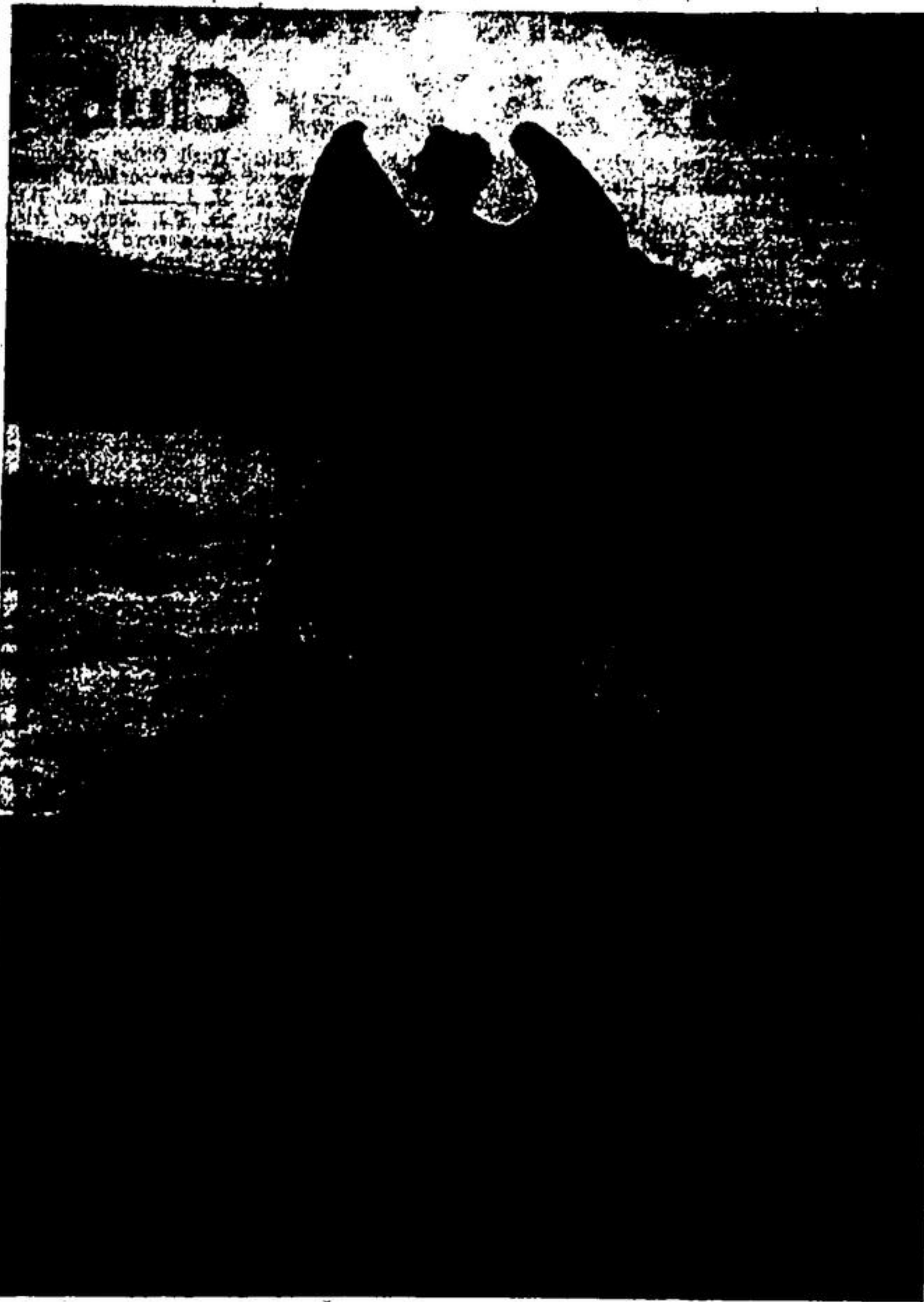
But then reveille sounds, and the heads lift, and the little scattered knot of onlookers disperses, and the parade moves back to the warmth of the Legion Hall, and beer and comradeship and a turkey dinner and funny stories that have been published and embellished and garnished by the years.

And that's about what Remembrance Day has come to be in this land, that sent thousands of its young men off to fight the Kaiser or Hitler, 3,000 miles away.

What do the youngsters think of it? Almost nothing. A few, whose fathers were killed before they knew them, wonder a bit, feel a strange yearning. Most are indifferent. They know they should look solemn, and they do. But there's no understanding.

Some are even hostile to the whole idea. Anti-war on general principles, they have the mistaken idea that Remembrance Day is somehow a glorification

REMEMBER



Halton MP  
Rud L. Whiting  
reports  
from  
Ottawa

SINCE COMING to Ottawa, I have received many enquiries from constituents who have had problems with goods and services they have purchased. Others have sent me lists of items they feel could be improved upon. In this week's column I would like to deal with the many facets of the Dept. of Consumer and Corporate Affairs which was established by Parliament on 21st December, 1967.

THE DEPARTMENT of Consumer and Corporate Affairs has eleven Branches, and I will briefly describe their particular functions.

Consumer Services and Information — This Branch deals with queries, suggestions and complaints received from individuals and groups of consumers. You, the consumer, are invited to write to The Consumer, P.O. Box 99, Ottawa if you have a complaint or suggestion or a question about goods and services. The fullest details should be provided when you write.

Consumer Research — This branch has the benefit of research by the Economic Council of Canada, as well as various Branches of the Federal and Provincial Government, Parliamentary Committees and non-Governmental organizations. It is also developing its own research techniques, and programmes and recommends changes in policies and remedial legislation.

Retail Inspection Services — The Retail Inspection Services will ensure that laws and regulations designed to protect the consumer are being adhered to at the retail level.

Combines Investigation and Research — This actually con-

Director of Investigation and Research and the Restrictive Trades Practices Commission. The Director of Investigation & Research, under the Combines Investigation Act, enquires into monopolies and mergers which could be detrimental to the general public. In the Act there are also provisions against price discrimination, disproportionate promotional

an or were transferred from the Food and Drug Directorate of National Health and Welfare.

RECENTLY in the House of Commons an amendment to the Patent Act and the Trade Marks Act was introduced. The purpose of this Bill is to introduce greater competition in the drug market to lower drug prices. In brief, pharmaceutical

firm will be permitted to import, or manufacture, drugs protected by process patent holder. I mention this bill not only for its merits but because the chairman of this Committee was my predecessor, Dr. Harry Harley. The Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, the Hon. Mr. Basford, on introducing this Bill to the House stated that this Committee was chaired by Dr. Harley and commended him highly for his work as Committee Chairman.

ALTHOUGH THE weather was not as fine as it might have been, I enjoyed myself at the recent Halton County Plowing Match held on George Readhead's farm near Milton. The Match was well organized under the able direction of President George Swann.

BANKRUPTCY — The Superintendent of Bankruptcy administers this Act and he is empowered to investigate allegations or irregularities in relation to any bankruptcy in Canada and reports his findings to the Provincial Attorney General.

COMPANY LAW — This Branch is responsible for the Canada Corporation Act under which federal companies, with the exception of special classes such as Banks and Insurance Companies, are incorporated.

TRADE MARKS — This particular Branch maintains a complete record of all Trade Marks registered under this Act and is also responsible for the administration of the Act.

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THE MINISTER of Consumer and Corporate Affairs also performs the duties of the Registrar General of Canada which includes registering all instruments of summons, proclamations, commissions, letters patent of lands, rits and other instruments and documents issued under the Great Seal of Canada.

FINALLY A NUMBER of existing agencies which had been performing regulatory services to protect the consumer, were grouped together for greater efficiency and economy. The Standards Branch, which is concerned with weights and measures, electrical and gas inspections, trade marks, labelling and the markings of precious metals, transferred to us from the Dept. of Trade and Commerce; the Retail Inspection Services of the Departments of Agriculture and Fisheries joined the new Dept. Matters affecting economic fraud in foods — such things as deceptive advertising and packaging, misleading labelling — and

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NEWS ECHOES

From the Heralds of 10 and 20 Years Ago

1958  
A second United Church in Georgetown will come into being Sunday, November 30th when St. Andrew's United Church will inaugurate church services and Sunday School in a temporary location in Harrison Public School. The new congregation will be led by Rev. Alexander Blandford, B.A., who is studying for the ministry. Rev. Morgan McFarlane, B.A., B.D. will be supervising pastor of the new group. A parcel of land has been purchased at the corner of Sinclair and Mountainview where it is planned to eventually build a church and Christian education centre.

Stan Hall, MPP officiated at a ribbon cutting ceremony Friday evening to mark the official opening of the five room Stewarttown Public School. The white ribbon held by two school girls, Janice Carter and Carol McClean, was cut by Mr. Hall following his speech. Mr. and Mrs. Hall presented the school with a picture of the Queen. The new structure is on part of the Herb Reid farm on the 7th Line.

Residents of Ward 3, Esquevas Township, last night paid tribute to their men and women who had served in Canada's armed forces with an evening in their honour in the community hall in Stewarttown. The event had been postponed until the new hall was open. Rev. Ross K. Cameron of Toronto, a former Georgetown man, and himself an air force padre in the war, made the presentation. Mr. K. C. Lindsay was chairman. Doris Hulls' Orchestra played for dancing and refreshments were served. The list of speakers included Reeve George Cleave and Deputy Reeve George Currie. Harry Hele, accompanied at the piano by Miss Jessie Leavitt, entertained with comic songs.

Mantel clocks were presented to the next of kin of four township men who lost their lives while serving overseas: Flying Officer Norman Bailey, Lieut. John Bowman, Pete, Harry Dickenson, and Flying Officer Keith Duncan (Barbara Cousins), Frances Jenkinson, William McLaughlin.

Receiving wrist watches were: Ann Bowmas, Mrs. Louie Reed, John Alexander, Andrew Anderson, Lorne Barrow, Elmer Burt, Don Carmichael, James Cross, Norman Cooper, Fritz DeVries, Tom Dickenson, Charles Douglas, Thomas Duffy, Gilbert Hunt, John Jenkinson, James McLaughlin, John Mileham, Charles Mills, Gordon McDonald, Ken Murray, Ed Lunan, Joseph Standish, Roy Smith, Stewart Simpson and William Tennant.

Pen and pencil sets were given members of the veterans' guard: Gordon Brown, Syd Hunt, Alvin McDonald and John Murray.

Remembrance Service  
A solemn service in Remembrance Park, at the corner of Charles and James Streets on Sunday will honour those who died in two world wars and the Korean conflict.

Legionnaires and organizations will assemble at the Legion Hall and march to the park for this annual service when memorial wreaths will be placed on the cenotaph.

All citizens are urged to attend this service.

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