

Georgetown Herald

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

Prevalence of Candidates

With two declared mayoralty candidates and six councillors (none of the councillors sitting members of council) it is apparent that the municipal elections on December 2nd, are going to be keen.

It is certain that at least a percentage of the present council will seek office again, and elections seem a certainty in all council wards, and for at least two of the top three council posts.

The 1968 election will be unique for several reasons.

For the first time, voters will elect a water commission. Until now, this has been a council department, operating under a committee set-up.

For the first time, also, there will be no elections for public and separate school board members on a local basis. A new county system allows one Georgetown member for each of the new county boards, and only one seat on each is available for balloters.

And while not entirely unique, the unaccustomed procedure of having a slate of candidates backed by a citizens group, is adding a different note to the elections.

This has been attempted on a couple of occasions in the past, to our recollection, the most recent being when a national political party decided to enter the municipal scene with an association-backed slate.

Big Decisions Ahead

The nine persons who will be elected to guide Georgetown's destiny for the next two years should be prepared to devote a good deal of thought to their jobs.

Foremost on their agenda will be a decision on the Brumac firm's proposal for full-scale development of a large tract of residential building land. The matter is under study by the present council, but it would seem doubtful that any decision will be made at this late date in council's political life.

They will have the usual routine business to deal with, upkeep of roads, fire and police services, industrial promotion, municipal staffing.

They will be facing a continually expanding administration and works staff,

dealing with the employees' union and the police association.

They will be considering extensions to recreational facilities, with heavy pressure from the east end for a park and playground sites.

And they will be deciding on a tax rate which provides the essentials, a few extras, and yet does not pass the point where residents are crippled by the tax burden.

It is an interesting and demanding term of office, as anyone who has served on a town council can tell you. We hope all candidates are prepared to serve their town as well as those before them have, giving their best to keep Georgetown progressive and prosperous for its residents, individually and collectively.

Not as Bad as Seemed

Last week, in common with many other newspapers, we had some strong words to say about the prevalence of Halloween shellouts containing razor blades, pins, and other things dangerous to the young recipients.

Scarcely was the ink dry, when a Hamilton news story explained some of the incidents in that city. Careful checking by the police led to the conclusion that of eleven cases there, eight children had confessed that they themselves were the culprits.

This would lead one to believe that the publicity given to such stories is encouraging a percentage of kiddies to adapt their world of make-believe to modern times. And what more logical attention-getter than to tie in with the stories of booby-trapped candy.

It is still quite possible that one or two disturbed adults could play a cruel joke on the trick and treaters. But the Hamilton investigation sets our mind at rest somewhat that the majority of the trouble can be laid on the doorstep of the youngsters.

MAIDEN SPEECH

Halton MP Criticizes CNR's Station Closing In Commons

OTTAWA (Special to The Herald) — The program of the CNR to close out its stations in smaller centres under its master agency plan was criticized in the Commons Friday afternoon by Rud Whiting (L-Halton).

Making his maiden speech, Mr. Whiting said the steps taken by the railway were being done under the guise of economy and were supposed to provide a more efficient service to the user. But he said that what the railway was proposing was not always in the best interests of the people, it did not provide a more efficient service to the public and he did not believe it would appreciably improve the financial position of the railway.

Mr. Whiting referred specifically to the removal of the agent-operator at Acton and said that if the CNR application was successful it would mean the virtual loss of railway service to the community.

"This is a community which should have increased railway service, not less," Mr. Whiting argued. "If the CNR would give this community commuter service, undoubtedly people would move here from the congested areas of Toronto but would continue to work in the city. The removal of railway service will have an adverse effect on the future of industrial growth of the community."

The Halton MP said he took exception to the cavalier methods used by the railway prior to making formal application to the Canadian Transport Commission. He said it was just over a year ago that the railway advised that it was putting into effect the first stages of its master agency plan including putting all express, freight and telegram service in a central

office in Guelph. Following a trial period the matter was to be reviewed, but Mr. Whiting said that no users of the railway were asked to give any facts or express their views as to the effect of the rearrangement of service.

He noted that a public meeting had been held at Acton but the people were told that the report of the meeting would not be made public but go to the railway transport committee.

"I submit that this procedure is not democratic and I challenge the right of the committee to keep this matter secret since it affects the future of a town and its people," Mr. Whiting declared. "I suggest that this meeting should have been held long before the phasing out process began."

He said people were unanimous in believing that the decision had been made by the CNR to go ahead with its application in spite of what transpired at the meeting.

"Their decision had, in fact, been reached before they came to Acton. In other words, the public be damned," Mr. Whiting charged.

Turning to the housing question the Halton MP said that more money must be allocated in building houses and the unit cost of housing must be reduced by standardizing building codes and standards across Canada.

The National Research Council could approve new building materials and they would be acceptable immediately anywhere in Canada. Today, municipal officials often avoided taking the responsibility of approving new methods and materials.

Mr. Whiting said that to buy a \$30,000 house in Oakville the

purchaser must have a down payment of \$10,000 and earn an income of over \$8,000 to qualify for an FHA mortgage but the average family income in Oakville was \$6,235 — the highest in Canada. A man earning \$5,000 a year and saving 10 per cent of his income for five years could only afford a house costing \$12,500.

He said he regretted that action on housing did not begin with the new budget by means of a land speculation tax on the re-sale of undeveloped prime land. Such a tax would be a deterrent to persons who buy and sell land without contributing to the development of the country.

"These problems must be solved by government action which must be critical of obsolete methods of land assembly, construction, financing and subsidizing. A broad and enlightened attack on the problem is required but the government must not wait until all contingencies are considered. The time to act is now," Mr. Whiting urged.

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THIS YEAR'S CHRISTMAS STAMP IS BASED ON AN ESKIMO DESIGN

IN THE MAIL BAG

Agrees With Smiley's Views on Remembrance

The Editor:

It was good to read Bill Smiley's paragraph once again in our weekly Herald re Remembrance Day, Keep it up Bill.

It seems that all too many of Canadians have short memories regarding the freedom that was bought for us by the sacrifice of those who fought and died for us.

The writer lived through two world wars and we often wish that the energy used by those who march in anti Viet marches of protest could be better used in defence against those who would over run our country on the slightest excuse. Just as they are doing in South Vietnam.

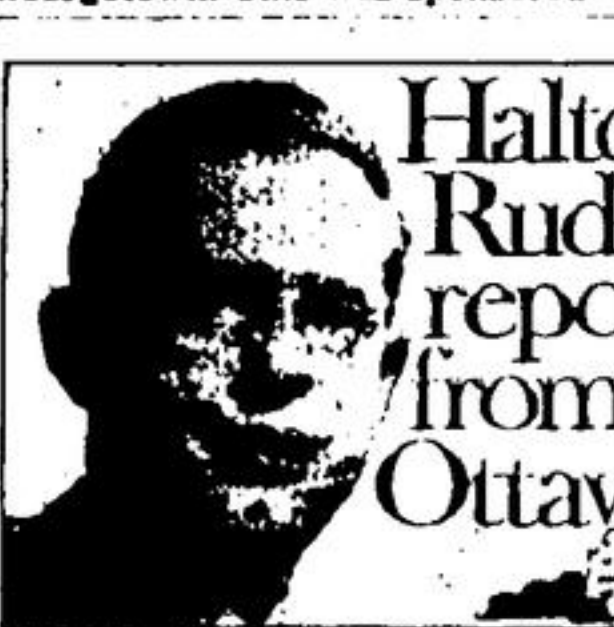
It takes but a small amount of energy to join a peace march. But it takes the test of courage as a man to defend the land in which we live and enjoy so many of the good things of life. Whether we like it or not the war with communism is our war and sooner or later we shall be called upon to fight it or surrender. Let us forget.

Katherine Cordaro
P.S.: My Red Ensign is one of several Bill that will fly here in town.

No Worry for Future With These Teenagers

14 Durham Street,

Dear Sir:
Last Thursday evening the Arthritis and Rheumatism Society held their blitz night in Georgetown. This was sponsored



Halton MP
Rud L. Whiting
reports
from
Ottawa

IN THE BUDGET debate, as in Debate on the Throne Speech, a speaker does not have to confine his remarks to any one particular subject. For this reason, many new members use either of these two occasions to make their maiden speech.

IT GIVES a member an opportunity to talk about his own constituency, and its many fine points. But a member can also talk about some of the problems that might be local to or of pressing concern to the people of his constituency. I wanted to make my maiden speech because I think a member should get to his feet at the earliest opportunity in order that the House should know there is such a place as Halton, and that Halton has someone who is representing them in the House.

I TOOK THE opportunity to speak last Friday afternoon and I chose to talk about Housing in Halton and in Canada, and the cavalier attitude of the CNR in closing the Acton railway station

SUGAR AND SPICE

by Bill Smiley

GOOD OLD STANLEY WYONCH

It's deer hunting time again in the world's best deer hunting country. I'm not being slanted here.

All I can say is that "Skinny Wyonch has come out in print again." As I've pointed out before, this was the greatest canine filler ever used in the newspaper business.

A filler is a little item used in newspapers to plug a hole. They can run up to ten lines, but they can't be any shorter than one. When we were desperate for a one-liner to fill a hole on the frontpage one time we stuck in "Skinny Wyonch has the goat." And he did! He couldn't even see us. Next time we were frantic for a one-liner, we inserted, "Skinny Wyonch has the goat. Again." And he did.

Now probably suffering from gout, he has written a scurrilous article in which he beats around every conceivable bush, including the mulberry, (and I wouldn't be surprised if he'd been into the mulberry, which would give him the gout) trying to suggest that I am a worse deer hunter than he.

This is not only like the politician calling the kettle black. It is like one politician claiming that his opponent is a bigger liar than he is.

Skinny now sits in my old editorial chair, once occupied by the second worst deer hunter in the world now by the worst. In a recent article, gout-inspired obviously, he recalled the time we'd gone hunting together.

As far as it was in his nature, he told the truth about me. He said I had no sense of direction in the bush. Well any damn fool can get lost in the bush, and thousands do every year. That proves nothing.

He said I didn't know how to chop wood. So what? I didn't hire on as a wood-chopper. He said I fell in the lake every time we climbed into the skiff to cross the light to the island. Some of those panics along were afraid to get their feet wet, just because it was November.

And he suggested that I put 3.55 rifle shells in John Desjardins' 32 rifle. That's a lie. It was Teemy Wright's 30.30.

But it's incredible how fragile his memory has become (possibly gout-induced) about the important things. He didn't mention that he never once fired his gun at a moving target. He shot at a tree once and very nearly hit it. But I actually fired twice at a deer, about 40 seconds after he had disappeared into the cedars. I think it was a deer.

It has not stepped back into his consciousness how I solved the food problem. We were

NEWS ECHOES

From the Herald of 10 and 20 Years Ago

1958

Approximately \$500 in cash was netted by safecrackers in a break-in at the IGA Foodliner over the weekend. Entry was gained through a hole knocked in the roof of the building by a railroad sledge hammer. The thieves dropped to the floor and knocked the dial off the safe with the sledge. Cordite was inserted in the dial space to blow the door. About \$200 of the \$670 in the safe was destroyed by the blast.

Only one new face will appear in Esqueping politics next year. Arthur Roy, R R 1, Georgetown, was elected by acclamation for a two year term on the school area board at nominations Monday night. He will replace James Kirkwood, who declined nomination ending five years of service. Rev. Lockhart Royal was also reelected to the board.

East Georgetown Ratepayers elected new officers this week. They are president Roy Warwick, vice president George Macaulay, secretary Mrs. Bryan Gosling, treasurer Chris Fisher, and neighbourhood representatives Ted Francis, Siggy Sigurdson and Murray Parsons. Ron Kitchen is publicity director, and members at large Sid Hordie and Bernard Cassell.

1948

Piano pupils of Miss Marion Hepburn appeared in recital last Friday night in the Sunday School room at the Baptist Church. Those who played were Marlene Komshak, Marilyn Reid, Paulene Walton, Marilyn Barh, Maureen Hepburn, Kenneth Beam, Betty Lucas, Joan Gambell, Judy McCumber, Jacqueline Lucas, Gail McGillivray, Gloria Bain, Barbara Thompson, Ross McGillivray, Marna MacKenzie, Shirley Gambell, Gail King, Betty Jean Anderson, Sandra Scott, Neil Benton, Irene Fogg, John Winfield, Alice Henry, Bob Lucas, Elizabeth Ireland, Donna Thompson, Richard Sienko, Anne Chalker, Barbara Cromar and Ralph Peck.

At the regular Convocation held in the Masonic Hall last Friday evening Ex. Comp. Elmer Dron was elected First Principal of Halton Chapter, RAM. Others named to office: Walter Rigg, J. Lucas, E. L. Arnold, Kenneth Whitworth, Jack Addy, J. D. Kelly, W. J. Cleave, Wm. Cromar, A. Hunter, L. Tracey, J. McCaig, H. Burrows, and E. Hall.

stormbound for four extra days on a desert island. The others, eating like dogs, wanted to cook that last roast of beef. But I was in charge of food rationing. When I finally decided to unwrap it, it turned out to be five pounds of cheese rather than beef, but nobody starved. Some of us have foresight; some of us have hindsight.

And he's completely forgotten that trip home from the island, after ten days of 40-mile an hour wind and snow. "My wife'll kill me," was the plaintive whimper. I knew it was too late for that. I knew mine would boil me in oil.

But at their urging, these mainly hunters, we took off into the pitch-dark, in a snowstorm, 12 foot waves, a leaking boat, five deer on the top deck, and the electric pump on the burner.

They lay in their bunks, green and groaning, while the old fighter-pilot, the well-driller and the middle-aged guide saved their skins.

No sense of direction indeed. You should have seen me steering through that black snowstorm, while John got up on the pee-deck (no poop-deck on this boat) to take a look into the nothing and Teemy manned the pumps.

I don't mind him, gout-operated, trying to bolster his ego. But I resent it when he shows no gratitude for the people who saved his life.

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