

# Georgetown Herald

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## EDITORIAL COMMENT

### Required Reading

Parents should put two items in the daily press on their required reading lists. Both appeared in the Toronto Globe & Mail.

Parents with children of elementary school age and younger will be interested in an article in the Saturday magazine section about an experimental public school where children decide what they want to learn and when. Wander from class to class as they take the notion. The school has no formal classrooms, just movable semi-partitions. Teachers prepare no standard lessons, and are finding that they need extra help to handle their young charges. Sort of a return to the one-room country school house, with the variation that there are no lesson preparations.

Parents who hope to send their children to university, particularly Toronto, should put a news item on the front page of the Globe & Mail on their "must" list. It describes the new cooperative residence -

college on Bloor St. There is no governing body, no formal classes, no student council. When trouble occurs, and it does, residents fend for themselves as best they can.

Why should you be interested?

We have heard rumours that in Georgetown, particularly in the planned Moore Park school, this new experiment in elementary education will be inaugurated.

Those who are sending youngsters on to university will want to carefully choose the environment in which they want their sons and daughters placed.

And isn't it getting time that every taxpayer started asking questions about where our expensive education system is heading. Experimental schools, cooperative residences are not built with private funds. A large chunk of our tax dollar is being poured into what we consider to be dangerous projects which can only end in heartache for parents and disaster for youth.

### Season of Good Cheer

The Christmas season, while essentially a Christmas religious observance, has become a season of good cheer for people of every faith.

Christmas carols, most of which have a religious connotation, are enjoyed by everyone, churchgoer or not. Gift giving and exchange of holiday greeting cards is widespread. And the Christmas spirit extends in a charitable way, into the secular world.

The joy in Christmas, for many people, is in doing a little extra something for people who need a hand.

Those who need help most are fairly well looked after by established organizations. A town-service club co-op, churches, social groups usually make a point of seeing that no one has an empty larder or a home devoid of gifts.

But even more important to remember are those people who are not charity cases, who have had a tough break and temporarily are up against it. These are proud people, whose names will never bob up on a list.

Many thoughtful people make a point of giving a helping hand, usually anonymous. It isn't hard to find those who can use it. Everyone knows a family where the husband has been sick, where an accident has made inroads on a budget, where a paycheck has been lost, or a man has been out of work for a few weeks.

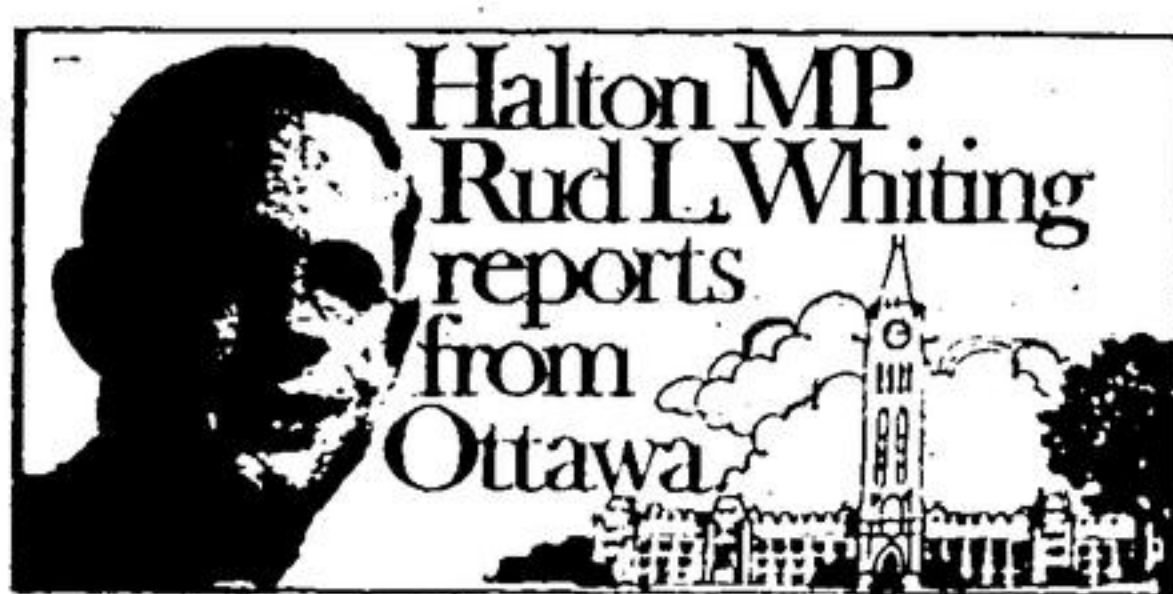
A few dollars discreetly donated here can have far-reaching effects, for these are the type of people who, when they get on their uppers, will follow the old rhyme: "Have you had a kindness shown - pass it on."

### Herald Helpers

During the next two weeks, the Herald will have some extra help, just like many other businesses.

A group of women have been engaged to assist in gathering items for the "Social and Personal" column - a task which has become too big for the Herald staff in this rapidly growing community.

Most residents will be receiving a call, asking that their holiday visits and visitors be included in the social columns of the next few issues.



**THE REPORT** of the Special Committee on Procedures of the House was tabled last week and is now being debated at length in the House. This Committee was formed last September and held twenty-six meetings.

**THE BOARD** of reference given this all party committee was to introduce measures to promote the more expeditious dispatch of the business of the House. In other words, to speed up the business of the House yet at the same time it affords all members simple time to debate and question proposed Government legislation.

**THE REPORT** contains many far-reaching proposals on how this could be carried out and would like to discuss some of the Committee's recommendations.

**THE COMMITTEE** recommended that the Committee of Supply be abolished. The main function of this committee is to grant, reduce, or refuse the moneys requested by the Government for a Department or service. The Speaker leaves the chair and the total membership of the House reviews the department under discussion. Not often are questions asked about specific expenditures, debates usually involve questions of policy.

**THE PROPOSED** rule changes would refer the estimates to a Standing Committee of the House, comprised of Members of all Parties, where a detailed scrutiny of these estimates would be carried out. Policy debates would still be carried out in the House of Commons and would take place on allotted days on Motions initiated by the Opposition.

**THE COMMITTEE** of Supply and Means considers ways and means of raising such money. Budgetary and other taxation measures originate in this Committee upon a motion of the Minister of Finance. Under the present procedure the budget takes place on a motion that the Speaker leave the chair in order that the House should resolve itself into the Committee of Supply and Means. This is an identical body to the Committee of Supply in terms of composition. The budget proposals are

committee. Opportunities for further debate on the budget proposals are provided by the various stages of the bills, which are introduced following the adoption of the ways and means resolutions.

**THE REPORT** suggests that this committee be abolished and the business of ways and means be transferred to the House and would be conducted with the Speaker in the Chair. After

second reading all the various finance Bills would be referred to a committee of the whole house.

**THE LEGISLATIVE** Process in relation to public bills - The resolution stage in Committee of the whole house, which is required in respect to a bill involving the expenditure of money should be eliminated. This is consistent with the recommendations to abolish the Committees of Supply and Ways and Means. The three readings of a Bill would be retained. The motion for First Reading of a Bill would be read: "That this Bill be read a first time and printed." If this passes, then second reading would take place, and if agreed, the Bill will be referred to a Standing Committee after a second reading. Taxation measures following on the Budget, the formal Bills dealing with supply and minor legislation, might continue to be dealt with in committee of the whole.

**THIRD READING** - Under present rules a Bill is seldom debated at this stage. Under the new rules, however, Third Reading could become a most crucial debating stage in the case of a highly controversial Bill.

**THE MOST** controversial portion of the Committee's Report is the amendment to Standing Order 16A dealing with procedure in planning the work of the House. A committee composed of the House Leaders is to be formed. A quorum is to consist of the member of members in attendance at any meeting. When the House Leaders cannot agree on a specific Bill or the allocation of time to debate a Bill, then the Government House Leader makes the decision. This can be debated for a maximum of two hours in the House of Commons before it is voted on.



### CHRISTMAS CARD SEASON

#### THE MAIL BAG

**News Media Important In Manpower Program**  
24 Queen St. East, Suite 605, Brampton, Ontario

Dear Sir: As the end of another year approaches, we wish to take this opportunity of thanking you for your excellent public service cooperation during the past year. In its efforts to match men with jobs, the Dept. of Manpower and Immigration through the Canada Manpower Centres is dependent upon the goodwill of the communications media.

Your cooperation has prompted our residents to become more aware of the availability of employment and of the various manpower programs designed to assist them.

Sincerely,  
— H. W. Fullard, Manager.

#### IN THE MAIL BAG

**Scores Police Chases Dangerous to Others**  
134 Rexway Drive, Georgetown, Ont.

Dear Sir: I would draw the attention of Georgetowners and police to a report in last week's paper detailing a "wild truck chase".

The erratically moving truck was not stopped at slow speed in the downtown area, but sped east on the highway. The police took up the chase and stayed with the fleeing truck at high speeds - 86 miles per hour. At one point the police pulled alongside but were sideswiped in an attempt to force a halt. The driver apparently lost control when the truck turned east. The truck spun in a complete circle and sped south.

At this point a cruiser joins the police van in the chase and we now have three vehicles tearing through our streets disregarding the safety of other drivers and pedestrians who might have been innocently involved in a gruesome highway death at any point along the way.

The truck is finally cornered. However, the driver, frantic by now, makes an all or nothing bid for freedom and in so doing rams another parked truck. The police arrest the culprit.

This is not an isolated case. It happens frequently in our towns and cities with devastating results. We were fortunate this time, but innocent bystanders are involved, maimed or killed in these wild chases.

It would appear our responsibility as a citizen lies in bringing about amendments to the highway traffic act enabling our police to investigate these incidents and others in a controlled manner.

In the meantime do we have to contend with this situation, or can we temper our police to conduct their investigations in a more subtle and professional manner.

— T. G. Gordon.

#### THE MAIL BAG

**Evergreen Pastoral Charge, United Church of Canada, Box 620, Mayerthorpe, Alberta.**

Dear Sir: Here we sit like two little birds in the wilderness anxiously awaiting the election results and the December 5th Herald when what to our wondering eyes should arrive this morning in the mail but the December 14th, 1967 edition!

So we've learned what a great thing it would be for the Don Coxack Singers to arrive last March, about the pending retirement of Frank Peteh - well you can look up what was in that Centennial emblem emblazoned edition.

Thought you might be interested to know about this little mailing foulup. Besides it gave us the opportunity to write a little note of Christmas greetings to all our friends in the Georgetown, Norval, Glen Williams area. God bless you all.

Sincerely,  
Marg and Tom Forgrave

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**A Puzzlement?**  
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**HALTON EAST M.P.**



### JIM SNOW REPORTS

A major announcement in the relation to this week was that of Energy and Resources Minister, Honourable John R. Snow, who announced Ontario Hydro's decision to build two new generating stations designed to generate 5,000,000 kilowatts of power.

The total output of the two proposed generating stations will supply more than double the combined present peak load demand of Metro Toronto and Hamilton.

One of the stations will be a nuclear plant and construction will begin next year beside the existing nuclear plant at Douglas Point, and will have a capacity of 3,000,000 kilowatts. The other plant will be built near Bath, Ontario, about 135 miles east of Toronto on the lakeshore. Construction of this plant will begin in 1970.

The Honourable A. Stewart, Minister of Agriculture and Food announced that the report of Ontario's Special Committee on Farm Income will be tabled for discussion during a three day conference in Toronto beginning on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, January 16, next year. This conference will be conducted along the same lines as previous conferences in Vineland in 1968 and will be held at the Seaway Towers Hotel in Toronto.

Also of interest to Halton's farmers will be two new one hour television programs which will be broadcast in January by the CBC. The programs are entitled, "This Business of Farming" and are scheduled for broadcast at 10.30 a.m. on Jan. 7 and Jan. 8. These films have been produced by the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food, in conjunction with the CBC. The first show, entitled "Grain From Field to Feed" is of particular interest to livestock producers. The second film "Money Makers" deals with farm management and finance.

The basic idea of the program is that farming is big business and for that reason, business methods and attitudes must be applied in operating a farm. The proper use of credit, family budgeting, life insurance and estate planning will be discussed.

This week I have been able to confirm arrangements for three very important meetings between municipal officials and Government representatives. On Wednesday, Dec. 18 representatives of the town of Oakville will meet with the Honourable George E. Gomme, Minister of Highways, at which time they will present their revised brief on highway matters in the town of Oakville.

On Thursday, Dec. 19, again representatives of the Oakville municipal council and staff will meet with the Honourable Darcy McKeough, Minister of Municipal Affairs to present the views of the municipality on Regional Government.

Tentative arrangements have been made for a meeting on Friday, December 20th, between the Honourable Darcy McKeough, Minister of Municipal Affairs, and representatives of Halton County council to discuss Regional Government for Halton County, this meeting is the result of a request from the Halton County council by way of Resolution for the Minister to embark on a program of Regional Government for the county.

It is my intention to accompany the Oakville and county delegations in their meetings with the Ministers.

As this will be my last weekly report to be published prior to the joyous Christmas season I would like to take this opportunity of wishing all residents of my Riding a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year, from Barbara, Jamie, Julie, Jeffrey, Jennifer and myself.

## SUGAR AND SPICE

by Bill Smiley

### A Club You Can Join

Well, is that old Christmas spirit just bubbling inside you? Do you chuckle away with sheer brimming love of your fellow man as you do your shopping? Are your eyes gleaming with glee as you look at your Christmas card list?

What? It isn't? You don't? They're not? What's the matter with you, anyway?

Have you organized your door-to-door carol singing group for Christmas Eve? Have you made plans for a family of 8, on welfare, to share your Christmas dinner?

You haven't? You say you grunt and hunch and sweat and curse as you stagger through the stores? Your eyes are shining with pure hatred as you look over your Christmas card list?

Welcome to the group. We're growing with increasing rapidity. One of these years, we'll have a majority, and will rise up with one mighty shout - "Christmas? Bah! Humbug!"

And if the current Tiny Tim, that creature one sees these days on television, shakes back his long, curly locks, opens his made-up mouth and starts warbling: "God bless us all, everyone" he'll probably get it right between the eyes with one of those cast-iron, Christmas tree stands that never work.

But we mustn't carp. The great day will arrive when Christmas is torn out of the grasp of the hucksters and returned to the people.

After all, Christmas is a time of good cheer. Even though much of it comes out of a crock. And after all, it's a season to be jolly. And most of us are jolly well sick of the whole business by the time the sacred day itself arrives.

One of the founding members of ACSA, the Anti-Christmas-Spirit Association, was King Wenceslaus. The "good" was tacked on by the court minister on the explicit orders of Wenceslaus himself, who was trying to improve his image for the history books.

He looked out one night and shuddered within his ermine robes. The snow lay round about, deep and crisp and even. A great night for skiers and snowmobile friends. But Wenceslaus was neither; and he had the gout. He saw a poor man gathering fuel, though the frost was cruel. And what he actually said was: "Get that lousy bum off my property. He's stealing Christmas trees." And so a legend was born.

Another prominent member of ACSA was Charles Dickens. Dickens really hated Christmas, because he always had a wretched struggle getting the tree up. And when he did, his wife invariably said sweetly: "It's crooked, dear. It's leaning over."

So he wrote a sardonic parody of the whole starry-eyed Christmas mess. He cast himself as Scrooge, a jolly old gent, but one who didn't believe in Santa Claus. Bob Cratchit, Scrooge's semi-literate clerk, was stealing from the petty cash so that he could get bombed on Christmas Eve and go and watch his son, Tiny Tim, play his ukelele and sing for pennies at the Slap and Tickle, a sordid London pub.

In the original version, kindly old Mr. Scrooge said: "Forget it, Bob," gave him a Christmas goose and added, realising that he was, "but the furr will be around for you on Boxing Day."

Dickens' editor, however, a grasping, flint-hearted old skinflint, knew his Victorian readers would never accept such realism. He made the author rewrite the story into the sloppily sentimental "A Christmas Carol," which has nauseated all ACSA members from that day to this.

Dickens got his revenge. He re-wrote the character of Scrooge as a caricature of his editor. Then he hit the punch-bowl, the editor and the read. He was bitter. He disappeared until after New Year's. They found him dragging a Yule log, soaked in kerosene, into the basement of his publisher's plant.

Just a couple of examples out of thousands to show you that you're not alone. Join ACSA. No membership fee, no annual meeting. Nothing required except a resounding "HUMBUG!" when the signal goes out.

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