

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Association with a Difference

If Halton Hills Ratepayers Association proceeds along its present path, it should have a good future, and a longer one than any of its predecessors.

We attended a meeting recently and were impressed with the fine organization of their civic night, and the thought which had been put into making the night worthwhile for those attending.

With almost thirty years gone by, a reporter can get jaded — and tired — and we haven't the same enthusiasm for night meetings that we had in our younger days.

When one has sat in on municipal council meetings weekly for all those years, it is hardly a thrill to watch politicians a second week night. Nor did the other features — talks on horticulture, ambulance

volunteers, hospital give us too much incentive to attend, for as an older Georgetown we know these details already.

But so well was the meeting organized, and so ably did each speaker present his story, that we found our evening went fast, learned a few things we didn't know before, and thoroughly enjoyed the time spent.

So often a ratepayers' group tends to become a protest movement, continually criticizing politicians in office, active at election time, then fading into oblivion when election fever is gone.

Halton Hills is proving that there is a place for a ratepayers group in a new town area, and that it can play an important function in informing new residents about what Georgetown has to offer them.

Don't Over Organize

Without trying to put a crimp into groups who devote their time to providing organized recreation for area young people, we think there is an equal need to give youngsters some free rein of the type we had a generation back.

Scouts and guides, hockey and baseball teams all have their place and we would never advocate that they don't do a good job for youth.

But it is a paradox that, today, when self-expression seems to be taking over our society, and authorities tell us that our school system must radically change, when university students are demanding a say in what they will study, when parents are being advised to give their children more head, we are tending at the same time to put organized recreation on a pedestal.

How many times do we hear adults say "There's nothing for young people to do in Georgetown."

It took a high school student to tell us what there is to do. If you didn't read Kathy Bradley's essay on Georgetown in a recent Herald issue, you should.

Have we forgotten the joys of a hike in the country, a game of pick-up ball in the spring, marbles and jacks? Do you remember hopscotch, red light, statues, follow the leader?

Georgetown needs its new east end park, and we're all for it. With this, Cedarvale and the old town park, the present town will be fairly well served with major recreation centres.

A fine auxiliary, to these are the type of parkettes advocated by Doug Sargent when he was mayor, perhaps with a bit of playground material as the Kinsmen have provided on Edward Street — perhaps just a vacant lot, large enough not to bother adjoining residences, small enough that it does not draw other than the immediate neighbourhood children.

Intrepid Promoter

Georgetown could use more men like Red Asseltine.

Years back, when the idea of a bantam hockey tournament was conceived by Jack Gudgeon, the idea was peddled to service clubs and other organizations. All were for it, but no one would take on the onerous task of organizing.

No one, that is, until Red appeared on the scene and, almost single-handed, got it underway.

The tournament, now with the added title 'International' has been a growing success story since then. Red and his crew carried on until a year ago when the Kinsmen Club shouldered the job.

Like all success stories, the tournament didn't just happen. It was the result of a lot of hard work by a lot of people — all of it sparked by the energy and ability of Mr. Asseltine, who never takes no for an answer, never considers that there is any chance of failure, and if one helper falters

always has another man up his sleeve to fill the breach.

Now Red's at it again — this time with plans to take the Georgetown juvenile hockey team to a hockey jamboree in Victoria, B.C.

The train booking is made and everything is ready. All that is lacking is the funds, and lucky draw tickets are circulating to raise a good share of the money needed.

If anyone but Red had tackled this he would have some doubts about the outcome. But with Red at the helm, there can be only one outcome.

It's a big job he's tackled, and he is counting on the whole community for support — buying tickets, making private donations, helping in every way to give this fine young team the chance they deserve.

The bantam tournament has helped to put Georgetown on the map. The Victoria trip will also have a good effect on Georgetown's image.



STILL TRYING TO FILL IN THE DETAILS



Halton MP Rud L. Whiting reports from Ottawa

IN THIS week's column I would like to deal briefly with the Task Force Report on Housing. It is a stimulating report which pinpoints the problems with effective powers over housing and development.

ITS SUGGESTIONS call for the cutting off of red tape, the creation of government initiatives and incentives, plus a bit of prodding that challenges and encourages the private sector to get on with the job — a job it is capable of doing.

IN MANY cases the private sector was prepared to do this, but was hampered by out-moded regulations at almost every turn. It will hopefully curb the speculators to perform as I know they are capable of doing.

THE REPORT IS not one that will immediately see lower cost houses being built in Halton overnight. It will take time, possibly a year or two, to see the crux of the problem broken. The long range aspects of the report should minimize the problems in the predictable growth years ahead.

IN THIS REPORT we have seen some action. I hope the provinces and the municipalities will join in making our hopes become realities. It will require implementation by the Federal Government and co-operation of all levels of government.

THERE ARE two areas which were left for further study. They are public housing and student housing. The Members of the Task Force felt that these two areas called for further detailed study, but at the same time felt it unwise to hold up the main report.

IN SUMMARY, the highlights are as follows:

- Improvements in the terms and conditions of mortgages, with eventual no down payment purchases for some.
- Extension of full benefits of NHA new home mortgages to purchasers of existing homes.
- Income tax on all land-sale profits, plus a possible special tax where ownership is transferred without improvement.
- Removal of sales tax on building materials for residential construction, possibly starting with tax rebates for materials used in low cost housing.
- A halt to construction of large public housing projects pending study to determine whether they are economically worthwhile and meet human needs.
- Direct Federal loans to municipalities to assemble and develop land for housing.
- An organized system of periodic consultations with private lending institutions to make sure enough funds are being channelled into housing.

the National Housing Act, is for a term of 20 years with interest at 6% based on an estimated total cost of \$364,593. The loan will assist in the construction of 6,880 linear feet of 20 inch diameter force main and a sewage pumping station. For work completed on, or before, 31st March, 1970, CMHC may forgive repayment of 25 per cent of the principal amount of the NHA loan and 25 per cent of the interest that has accrued in respect to the loan as of the date of completion of the project.

THIS WEEK I was contacted by the Canadian Transport Commission regarding the CNR application for removal of their station agent at Acton. The Commission proposes to hold a public hearing to deal with the whole matter of the Guelph Master Agency Plan of which Acton is a part. No date for this hearing has been set but the Canadian Transport Commission are to advise me of the exact time, date and place of this hearing. I want to assure the people of Acton area of my continued efforts on their behalf to keep this station open.

WINTER HOLIDAY

School holidays this spring is the week of March 17.

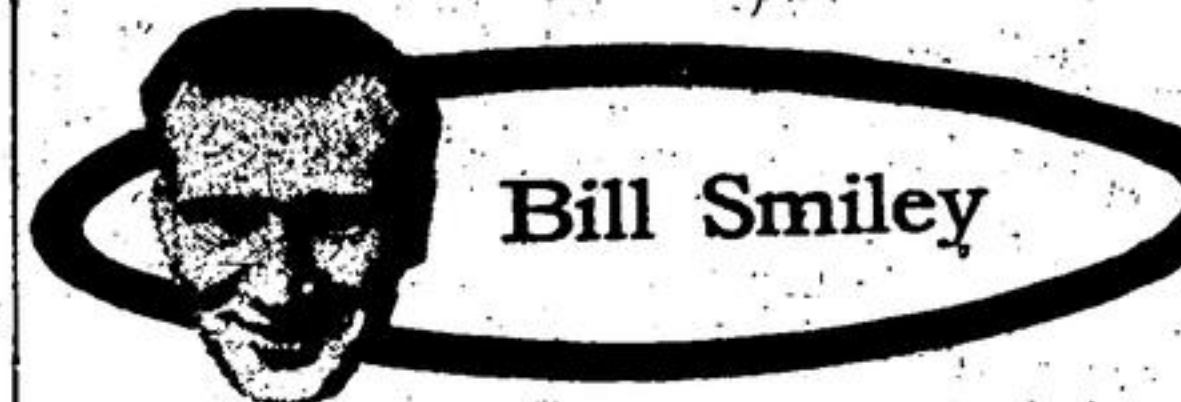
The new winter holiday, initiated last year replaces the former Easter holidays for elementary and high school students.

School children also will have the Good Friday and Easter Monday holiday weekend a few weeks later.

NEWS ECHOES

From the Heralds of 10, 20 and 30 Years Ago

- 1959**
 - The largest delegation in history to visit a council meeting was a group of over 200 unemployed Avro and Orenda workers which overflowed the council chambers Monday. They were thrown out of work by the cancellation of the Arrow contract on Friday. From the interview with council came the formation of Georgetown Employment Service, set up to register all local unemployed men and women, so prospective employers would have ready access to facts about available labour.
 - A dam which would create a lake by flooding the Hungry Hollow area would cost an estimated quarter of a million dollars, council was told Monday by Alex MacLaren of the Credit Valley Conservation Authority. Mr. MacLaren explained the Hungry Hollow dam would be paid for by all municipalities in the CVCA on a share basis, but if it is created primarily to provide a Georgetown water supply, the town would be paying the largest share itself.
- 1949**
 - Announcement was made this week of the appointment of R. H. Ireland to the management of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce in Brantford. He will leave later this month to assume his new position. Mr. Ireland came here three years ago to succeed G. W. McLintock after his retirement. The new Georgetown branch manager is Frederick W. Chapman.
 - A new dance orchestra, the Stardusters, made its debut in Georgetown at Teen Town last week. The group consists of Jim Burns, piano, Owen Hughes, drums, Bob Addy and Herb Moreton trumpets, Norm Long, trombone, Em Thompson and Frank Carter alto sax, and Don Herron, tenor sax.
- 1939**
 - At a special meeting of council on Thursday members discussed advisability of making the Creelman block into a municipal building. Present were Mayor Joseph Gibbons, Reeve George Davis, and councillors A. E. Cripps, N. H. Brown, Joseph Hall, James Costigan, Thomas Lyons and Ken McDonald.



February Is Sadness

February!
I find you very
Hairly,
Not to mention
Contrary,
Weather-wise.
Driving is scary
In February.
One must be wary
Even more than in
January.
Milk in bottles
Freezes on the porch
In February.
And it's not
A very merry
Business
Cleaning up the ruddy mess
when the bottle cracks and the
milk leaks all over the
Refridary.
Sorry, chaps, but I've been
conducting poetry-writing
classes this week. And at the
same time wading through
drifts, trying to get my car
started in the good old sub-
zero, battling my way through
40 mile per hour blizzards, and
helping bury an old mate.
Not conducive to a lyric col-
umn about the long-shortest
month of the year? Right.
As you can see from the
above, the poetry classes have
been going very badly. Imagine
having a teacher who writes
such garbage trying to breathe
Life, Imagination, Experience
into your creative poetic soul.
It's enough to turn a kid off
poetry for life.

but I'll miss him. Our paths
crossed and re-crossed since
we both made the ridiculous
decision to become teachers,
about nine years ago.
During our teaching-training
summer courses, surrounded
by hot-eyed, panting youth,
just out of university and hap-
py, in the knowledge that the
world was theirs for the ask-
ing, we sort of drifted together
in a mutual-defence pact of
gentle cynicism.
I'd been through a war and a
period of carving a living out
of a pretty tough roast of a
world. He'd been through a
terrible accident, broken neck
and the works, years of pain-
filled convalescence. We'd both
emerged, battle-scarred, but
banners still flying, from a
tiffade or so of marriage and
children.
We weren't exactly student
militants, but we shared a
hearty scorn for and a quiet
amusement at the establish-
ment, the keen types, the push-
ers, the scammers, the sparrows
trying to make like eagles.
So we gravitated, and the
friendship, sporadic and cas-
ual, lasted. After some years
we wound up in the same
town, teaching in the same
school.
We goofed together quite a
lot because we enjoyed the
pace. It was leisurely, good-
natured, and we both practiced
one-upmanship without scruple.
You know: the loud
scratch of a match at the top
of the other's backwing; the
coughing fit when the other
was making a delicate putt;
the gazing into the sky when
the other hit a grounder; the
gently raised eyebrow when
the other missed the ball com-
pletely and almost broke his
back in the process.
And we kept a fairly good
eye on the yardarm. If the sun
was over it, we marked the
occasion in the usual manner.
And many a late summer after-
noon, we sat under the oaks
and discussed, without rancour,
the foibles and follies of the
world, while our wives and
the squirrels chattered in the
background.
I'll miss the Old Boy. And so
much for February.

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HALTON EAST M.P.



JIM SNOW REPORTS

The real highlights of the Parliamentary proceedings this week has been the Federal-Provincial Conference being carried on in Ottawa. Mr. Roberts and the senior Cabinet members, have been absent from the legislature for the first three days of this week while attending that conference which I believe has been most successful and has brought the representatives of the two provinces and the Federal government into agreement on many of the major items of constitutional reform.

of the Cabinet Ministers as well as the Opposition leaders from the legislature while they were attending the Federal Conference, no major legislation has been brought before the House this week although the House has been sitting continuously and the Throne Debate carrying on.

Prime Minister Roberts announced this week that he is giving serious consideration to recommendations that would reduce the minimum voting age below the present age of 21. No definite age was suggested at this time, but in some other provinces the voting age has been reduced to 18 or 19 years. There will, no doubt, be recommendations on this subject when the Select Committee on Electoral Laws reports back to the Legislature, probably this fall.

On Tuesday of this week, I attended as a Member of the Committee, the meeting of the Agricultural and Food Committee which heard presentations from the Channel Island Milk Producers' Association, regarding the present Pooling and Quota arrangements for the Channel Island breeders. This meeting was attended by approximately 300 milk producers

which included a large delegation from the Halton County area. Further meetings are to be held of this Committee, at which time further records and information is to be made available to the Committee so that they can consider the request of the Channel Island breeders.

On Saturday afternoon, I will be attending the Oakville Flag Day being held at the Oakville Centennial Centre, and organized by a local committee in recognition of the birthday of our Canadian flag. Saturday has been declared officially as Flag Day for Oakville by His Worship Mayor Anderson. I would personally like to congratulate all those connected with the Flag Day committee for their interest and initiative in organizing this day in recognition of our flag.

WASTE CONTAINERS

Replacement of the waste containers, removed from Main St. for protection on Halloween night, would help keep the downtown area a bit tidier than it has been this winter. As the snow disappears, the litter of waste paper becomes more noticeable and is a poor advertisement for the town.