

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Follow the Leader

Sharp increases in the cost of government which have spread from senior politicians to the 'grass roots' as we are prone to refer to our municipal officials, are causing 'inflation' concern on two points.

In a small way, we wonder just how far those in authority can reach into a taxpayers' pockets until voters rise in righteous wrath.

And in a much larger way, we worry about how politicians expect to curb inflationary spirals when they talk economy with one breath and inflation with the next.

In Ontario, the provincial government has been consistent in this respect.

The legislature has voted itself salary increases which even the strongest union would be hesitant to suggest. And it has created the means for other smaller units of government to follow the leader.

So it is that, while our town and county salaries have left themselves open to extreme criticism with staggering salary increases last week, they were only acting as human beings will — yielding to the theory that, because the law allows, it is justified.

Token Payment Only

For several years, since salaries became common for councillors, we have argued that these should be token amounts only.

A council member, we say, receives his main payment in the knowledge that he is contributing his time and talent to one of the most important ways he can serve his neighbours, and in the prestige of guiding a town's destiny.

To this, should be added any out of pocket expenses for out-of-town trips, time lost from work if a councillor is an hourly employee... and a yearly fee for service — perhaps \$500 to cover other expenses which might occur.

A higher fee for a mayor is in keeping, and we consider \$2500 or \$3000 for this a more than adequate remuneration.

It will be argued that only by paying

While it is worrisome enough that Georgetown's taxpayers must cough up an extra \$10,000 this year to pay nine councillors alone — plus an extra \$10 per meeting for the two who are county council members — plus the \$3,000 yearly fee for a county board of education representative, this is only small potatoes compared with the problems being created.

In what position has this placed our town fathers, when it comes to bargaining with an employees' union and a police association? Where do our county officials stand in similar negotiations with works employees and health unit nurses? And does this not automatically lead to substantial increases for department heads and office employees?

And how long are men and women who devote their after-hours to serving the community as unpaid firemen, ambulance men, members of parks board, cemetery and library boards, planning and industrial commission members, going to continue, knowing that others are drawing salaries of several thousand dollars a year for other facets of public service?

higher salaries will we get the calibre of person we want on our ruling bodies.

Not so. Our town may progress and was efficiently governed for years by men who didn't receive a penny. It got equal service from councillors who were paid \$5 a meeting — \$8 a meeting — \$12 a meeting. — \$20 a meeting. Nor was there ever a dearth of candidates for office in any of those periods of time.

And we can be particularly critical of a town council which, after only a few weeks in office, decides that they are not satisfied with the already inflated pay scale, which they knew was in effect, and decide they are worth 50 per cent more. If any of these had this in mind at the nomination meeting, there was no mention of it there or in their advertising campaign.

If Not, Then All the Way

If paid councillors and school board members have become the rule, then there is only one thing to do — make municipal politics a full time job.

There is no argument which can support paying an individual \$60 a week or more for his spare time.

Rather than getting better men for the job, as the pay proponents will say, it is possible that we are heading for poorer and poorer quality by putting a price tag on the position.

To justify this kind of spare time income, a councillor must put more hours, more effort into the job than he can spare if he has a responsible position in private life. The salary, then, can discourage, rather than encourage those 'better' people we are always talking about who should be running for office.

Bad for Everyone

To sum up, we consider the present salaries paid to council and school board members exorbitant, inflationary and unnecessary.

It places an undue burden on taxpayers in a growing town which, by council's own estimate, should spend over a million and a quarter dollars alone on necessary capital improvements this year.

It creates problems for men who want to run for council, and for men who, once elected, want to retire from office.

It sets a scale of pay for after-hours work which, even in this inflationary age, is completely unrealistic.



IF YOU CAN'T LICK 'EM -



**Halton MP
Rud L. Whiting
reports
from
Ottawa**

IT WAS GENERALLY agreed that the Constitutional Conference held last week in Ottawa was a success. Canada is well launched on Constitutional reform which will safeguard the unity of the nation.

ALTHOUGH FEW concrete decisions were reached, it should be remembered that it took several years, and many meetings, to hammer out the details of Confederation. To the Fathers of Confederation the discussion of those years must often have seemed frustrating and interminable but in the perspective of history I think we must agree that the time was well invested.

THE CONSTITUTION Conference took these guarded, yet significant, actions, before adjournment, to appoint Committees of Federal and Provincial Ministers to undertake the following tasks:

Consider the Constitutional aspect of linguistic matters and methods of implementing language policies.

Study fundamental rights and possible entrenchment of these in a Constitutional Charter.

Look into financial and administrative arrangements towards policies reducing regional disparity.

Examine Senate reform.

Consider proposals regarding changes in the Supreme Court of Canada and the Judiciary.

THE CONFERENCE also ordered its officials to study as a priority matter, taxing and spending powers of both levels of government. This will mean when implemented, that Ottawa and the Provinces must be prepared to co-operate more meaningfully with each other on their fiscal and economic plans.

WHAT IS MEANT by language rights has to a very large extent been misunderstood. It does not mean that every English-speaking Canadian must learn to speak French any more than it means that every French-speaking Canadian must learn to speak English. What it does mean is that every Canadian will have access to public education in either official language and will be free to use either language in dealing with the Federal Government and other public bodies in all areas of the country where the size of the minority group justifies this recognition.

MANY PROVINCES have adopted measures to extend language rights. Ontario being one province which has led the way. The Federal Government has introduced in Parliament an official language bill which is intended to deal with matters within the Federal jurisdiction.

TAKING AND spending powers, are important to all govern-

ments and human rights and language rights are important and essential to individuals. But even more important, and

more essential, to our future as a nation is the preservation and strengthening of the unity of Canada.

I believe the people of Canada want a strong Federal Government empowered to act on behalf of the whole country.

Strong Provincial Governments capable of fulfilling their Constitutional responsibilities.

A division of power adopted to present day needs. A Constitution which defines and guarantees the fundamental rights of its citizens.

IN THE MAIL BAG

Radicals Exemplify Best in Today's Youth

Dear Sir: B Campbell Gate the time their door was opened we were made welcome.

It seems that everytime we pick up a daily paper one of the first things we read about is something the youth of today has done or does not meet with the approval of the elders so I would like to take some of your space to give a little praise for a change.

On our way home one night last week we had car trouble and my wife and I along with a friend had to leave the car and start walking home.

The road luckily went past a local car club so we went in to see if they could assist us, from

Sincerely,
Doris and Eric Clarke

NEWS ECHOES

From the Herald's of 10, 20 and 30 Years Ago.

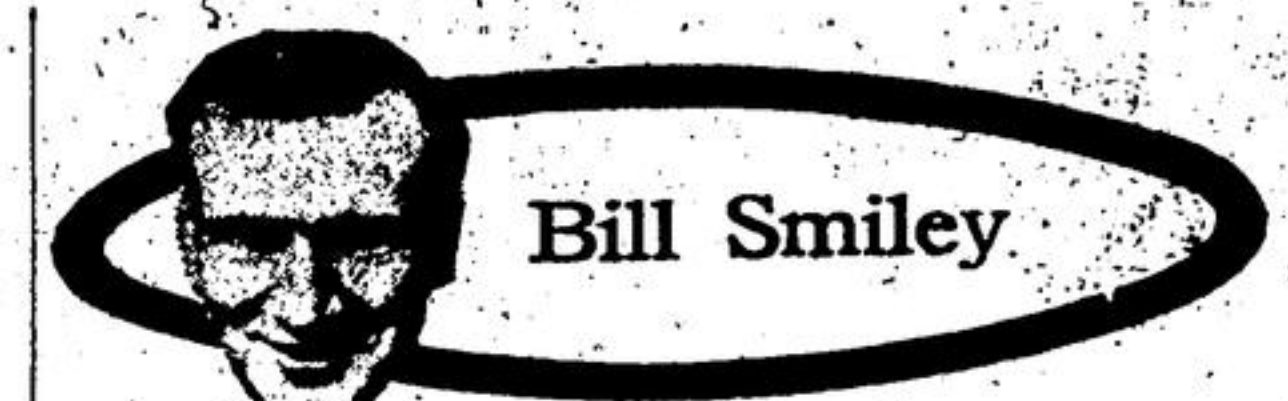
1959
Registration of 413 unemployed men and women to date was reported by Kelvin Brown at Monday's council meeting. Mr. Brown has headed a group of Malton volunteers, who with council cooperation, have organized Georgetown employment service where data about job seekers is available to potential employers. So far only four people have been placed in positions.

Answering a letter from Georgetown council asking consideration for deferral of mortgage payments by unemployed home owners, a letter from J. S. Secord, vice-president of Central Mortgage & Housing Corporation was read at Monday's council meeting. Mr. Secord said — "CMHA is aware of the present situation regarding unemployed workers" and added "experience has proven that borrowers under the National Housing Act have been able to meet many forms of financial duress without seriously defaulting on their mortgage payments. Therefore we do not authorize wholesale waivers of mortgage payments."

1949
Georgetown Raiders captured the Intermediate B League semi finals last Friday night by defeating Acton Tanners two games straight. Georgetown: goal, Lever; def.: Nash and Patterson; for.: Currie, Storey, M. Bradbury; alt.: L. Bradbury, Melanson, Chappel, Martin, Ferri, Junior Beaumont, D. Beaumont.

Marlene Bludd and Diane Hillock have just won first prize in an amateur talent contest in Milton. These young dancers won out over 33 other acts. They also appeared on Ken Sobel's amateur hour on Sunday afternoon.

1939
The inaugural meeting of the founding of a chapter of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire was held Monday evening at the home of Mrs. R. F. Barber. The activities of the organization are many and varied, but deal chiefly with charitable enterprises and the furthering of interest in education work, and patriotic endeavours. First officers are: Regent, Mrs. K. D. Barber; 1st vice Regent, Mrs. J. B. Milne; 2nd Vice Regent, Mrs. S. J. Mackenzie; treasurer, Mrs. J. Wallace Thompson; secretary, Mrs. K. M. Langdon; educational secretary, Mrs. J. L. Lambert; Echoes Secretary, Mrs. C. J. Hart; Welfare secretary, Mrs. C. V. Williams; publicity secretary, Mrs. R. F. Barber, and standard bearer, Mrs. L. W. Dann.



ALL ABOUT THOSE STUDENTS

My mind is so scrambled right now that I'll be lucky if I can write three understandable sentences.

I've been trying to explain to my daughter, in an hour or so, such things as: Marxism and Communism, why the Russians and Chinese types are different, where Fidel Castro fits in, why where and when the nation of Israel was created, and why the Jews, notably non-belligerent for about 15 centuries, have a chip the size of a brick on their shoulders these days.

From there we wandered to Mahatma Ghandi, the Congonationalism in Africa, separatism in Canada, the Black Power movement in the States, growing anti-semitism among Negroes, and her biology test on the dissection of rats, which takes place tomorrow morning.

Golly, it would be nice to have once again a little girl, who asked such simple questions as "Dad, does God have to go to the bathroom?"

It all begins with a discussion of the student militants at universities. She is appalled at the violence of the hard core of 'pacifists' who, lurking in the forefront of all the young idealists, deliberately resort to violence in their efforts to catch headlines, be martyrs, and destroy an idea which has taken almost 1,000 years to build — The University.

Thankfully, we agreed that violence begets violence, and that neither of us wants any part of the whole stupid business.

Admittedly, the universities are sitting ducks. Over the years they have grown as sleepy and fat and insolent as an old tom-cat who has been 'fixed.'

They have almost taken pride in their administrative inefficiency, their moribund traditions, their cosiness with The Establishment. Write a letter to a university. Three weeks later you will receive a reply, either a form letter or something completely alien to what you asked.

And admittedly, students, universally, have always been among the vanguard of rebels against the system, political or

social. That's because they are idealistic, want action, and are inclined to see things in blacks and whites (or today, blacks and reds.)

But the fact remains that the universities over the years, have become the only truly free centres (albeit timid) of sound criticism of society and its ills, in addition to their normal function of teaching people to think and/or learn a professional skill.

And another fact remains. The universities, on the whole, under pressure from within and without, have made a tremendous effort to rouse themselves from their stately torpor and scramble into the twentieth century. Even though it's two-thirds over.

In the process, they have leaned over backwards to free themselves of the rigid puritan traditions of even 20 years ago. When I was there living in the men's residence, we were allowed to bring girls into the place once a year on a Sunday afternoon, for a heavily chaperoned cocoa and cookie party in the common room. Now, wow!

I'm not advocating a return to those days, when university men and women were treated like bright juveniles who were basically sex-fiends and alcoholics.

But I am dismayed to see these once great institutions covering and cringing under the attacks of malcontented, Marxist wolf cubs who represent a fraction of student opinion.

As Mordecai Richler pointed out recently the real yuck of the whole affair is that while the student activists endorse anything, up to the burning of buildings, they are scared stiff lest they get a police record, which would be a serious detriment when they try to get a job in the system they are trying to destroy.

The solution? Kick out the hard-nosed boys and girls, for whom democracy is a sham anyway. Sock it to them with the law when they disturb the peace or commit vandalism. And get back to the business of educating, or teaching to think, the vast majority who want those things.

So now I'm a fascist; and a tool of the imperialistic press. I knew it at heart.

IN THE MAIL BAG

Appreciates Support For Planned Airport

Georgetown Airport, Roslake Resort R. R. 3.

Dear Sir: On behalf of delegation which approached the members of the Esqueping council pertaining to approval of erection of a hangar and granting a building permit, please accept my appreciation of accuracy of the report, and to the councillors who exhibited such a keen interest in our project, and their unanimous support.

I might add a note concerning the airport that will be of interest to those wishing to use our facilities. The port can accommodate a large number of craft tie-downs, the year round for any length of time. It is my opinion that this feature is of prime importance to the flyer.

Yours truly,
Joe Ross.

Georgetown Herald

Published by Home Newspapers Limited
Georgetown, Ontario

Walter C. Biehn
Publisher

Garfield McGilvray
Production Superintendent

Frank Mullin
Advertising Manager

Terry Harley Alteen Bradley
News Editor

Valerie Tost
Accountant

Anne Currie, Reporter
Leslie Clark Dave Hastings
Myles Gilson John McCleims
George Young

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

| | |
|---|---|
| CORBETT Chiropractic Clinic SPINAL X-RAY SERVICE AVAILABLE By Appointment: 877-6631 69 Mill St. (Old Post Office) | Wallace Thompson 3rd Division Court 877-2963 Clerk & Commissioner |
| OPTOMETRIST R. R. Hamilton, O.D. 116 Mountainview South Carretal Building For Appointment 877-3971 | W. H. CARR ● Professional Engineer ● Consulting Engineer ● Ontario Land Surveyor Office: 877-2211 877-3300 Home |
| OPTOMETRIST L. M. Brown O. D. 47 Main St. N. Suite 1 For Appointments phone 877-3671 | McBain and Hulme Ontario Land Surveyors Willowdale 222-2536 L.C. MILLESSE, O.L.S. 877-6273 (residence) |
| BARRAGER'S Cleaners-Shirt Launderers 877-2279 18 Main S. 186 Guelph All work done on premises | MONUMENTS POLLOCK & CAMPBELL DESIGNS ON REQUEST Inspect our work in Greenwood Cemetery PHONE 621-7580 62 Water Street North GALT |
| WATCH JEWELRY REPAIR SERVICE Accutron Service Centre JOHN BOUGHTON JEWELLERS Certified Watchmakers 5 Main St. N. — 877-4313 | Koller Construction Is Now Installing ALUMINUM SIDING, WINDOWS & DOORS All Work Guaranteed Free estimates, CALL 877-9102 |

THE HERALD
ADVERTISING PAYS