

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Keep Georgetown Separate

With regional government apparently a 'must' in this rapidly urbanizing area, the only question is what form it should take, and what boundaries will be set for smaller units within the whole.

The government's proposal to unite Peel and Halton, with perhaps a portion of Erin township and the town of Orangeville, is not meeting favour with Halton politicians.

They would have Halton County remain an entity and are particularly concerned that if the two-county merger goes through, residents here would be shouldering a higher per capita debt with Peel County.

One concern is the suggested make-up of the units, and both Georgetown and Acton people should be expressing their opinions now, before it is too late.

The Georgetown - Esquesing - Acton union, to our mind, is unrealistic, and is, in fact, the only place where it is proposed to put together two long-established towns into one municipal government.

While local pride can be too parochial, there can be no red-blooded Georgetown person who isn't resentful that the town

where we were born, or which we have adopted as home, is to lose its entity with one stroke of a government pen. Acton folk must feel the same.

And while Esquesing residents, particularly those whose roots go back a century, must feel even more so, they must realize that today they are like the smaller countries whose fate hinges on and is decided by, the whims of the world powers.

Esquesing cannot survive forever, much as its residents might wish. Rapid urbanization is converting it from a rural to another type of economy. And unless a Brantley-type development were to materialize in its midst, its fate is to be gobbled up in small or large doses, by the three towns surrounding it.

It is of interest, then, to keep Georgetown one community, with those portions of Esquesing joining it which geographically are oriented to it as their main urban community. Ditto Acton.

A joint Georgetown - Acton government would be unwieldy, have members with differing interests, and it would take more than our lifetime to weld it together into a cohesive unit.

That's the Spirit

Success of the high school Winterfest last week should ensure that this will become an established part of future school years, and is an indication that the elusive thing called 'school spirit' is much in evidence this year at the school.

Planned primarily by the students themselves, it has many highlights — a snow queen competition, car rally, Mardi Gras dance, and such sidelines as pie eating and egg throwing contests.

The weather interfered with some of the plans. An ice sculpture contest was a weather casualty, as were toboggan races. But these are good possibilities for another season.

School activities, like everything else

in life, have their ups and downs. There have been years when students complained about the lack of school spirit, without realizing that it is not something you buy, nor something you are given, but is an intangible which can only be acquired by cooperative effort. It can be, and we would guess, has been sparked by the school staff, who wisely let students plan it, with a minimum of direction from above, yet a guiding hand when required.

High school years should be the happiest for most young people. They are a wonderful mixture of work and play, that last precious time when a youngster has a minimum of responsibility and a maximum of freedom, when his horizons are widening, his store of knowledge increasing.

Keeping It Straight

Editorials last week on payment for politicians had an interesting response from readers.

Seldom have we had so much comment on editorial material, with several people stopping in at The Herald office or phoning to express agreement with most of what we said.

Unfortunately it is a human tendency to write letters only when one disagrees, and while this week's issue would be filled with mail bag letters had we taken an opposite stand, there were only three who took the trouble to put their views in print.

One thing which should be set straight. Our provincial member, Jim Snow, called to query our remarks about the Ontario MPPs raising their own salaries. We admit that it sounded as if we were inferring this had happened just recently.

As Mr. Snow says, it was in 1963 (before he was a member, incidentally) that the members voted themselves an increase to \$8,000 from the previous \$5,000. This still gives us a valid reason to complain, while not putting our beef on Mr. Snow's shoulders.

Perhaps the best answer for politicians, be they local, or federal, is to put their cards on the table early.

If they feel more money is justified, this should be thoroughly discussed in open session, reasons for the increase debated, then legislation set up to increase pay after the next election.

This would give those who must pay the bill at least a chance to talk, and a chance to evaluate what might be a reasonable move, rather than the present numb acceptance of a fair accompli which seems to be part of today's world.

IN THE MAIL BAG

Drop Plans for Flying School at Rosslake

R.R. 3, Georgetown, Ontario

Mr. Editor: It has been brought to my attention that a large number of residents, including neighbours are taking an apprehensive view of the flying school segment, which I had considered but had not completely accepted into our airport service.

In respect for my neighbours and attitudes or opinions of others, I have made the decision to abandon that segment of this enterprise. It is my understanding that those who oppose the flying school operation are completely satisfied with the proposed airport and maintenance facilities we plan to offer and can assure the owners of light planes, our two engines are second to none in qualifications.

It will, however, be a major disappointment for the young flying instructor whose ambition to operate his own business in a growing neighbourhood is ended. It is not easy to submit my decision to him, particularly when a great future seemed to open up before him.

Most of us know what it is before the people who pay like to have our little world their wages move themselves crash around us, but I remind and make their opinions heard, this young man that the road of if we sit back and watch with progress is full of defeats, but out comment, he is in favour of victory always is ahead. It is against, we deserve to be put my belief that the only answer on.

How about it, Georgetown, don't you think it's time to wake up.

Yours truly,
—Audrey Hall

Scores Readers for Pay Hike Apathy

297 Delrex Blvd, Georgetown, Ont.

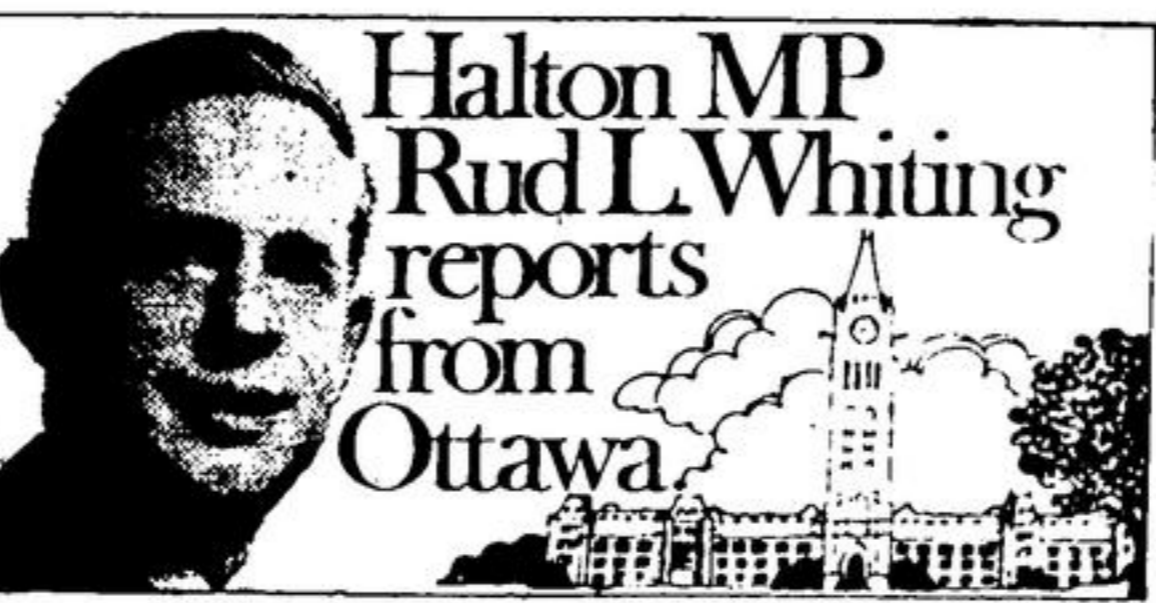
Dear Sir: I am dismayed at the apathy shown by the people of Georgetown regarding the recent pay hike Council saw fit to give themselves.

On reading your paper this week I expected to see a few more letters of protest. Apart from my own which wasn't published and two others (including your own editorial) it seems everyone else was quite content to sit back and say nothing.

What other things will council be allowed to get away with



ANOTHER WOMAN JOCKEY



FOR MANY WEEKS now I have been writing about topics that have been discussed in Parliament and I have written about the functions of various Government Departments such as Labour, Manpower and Immigration, and Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

IN THIS WEEK'S column I would like to discuss a function which takes place within all political Parties and that is the weekly Caucus meetings. I attend two Caucus meetings every Wednesday. The Ontario members meet at 9:30 every Wednesday morning and the topics we discuss pertain to the Province as a whole. This meeting lasts until 11 a.m. and then we assemble for the National Liberal Caucus where all Liberal Members gather. This meeting lasts for two hours and at these meetings policy matters affecting the country on a national basis are discussed.

FROM MY conversations with fellow Members of Parliament in the Conservative Party and the NDP I gather they do exactly the same thing.

IN THE LIBERAL Caucus the sky is the limit as far as a private member is concerned. We have a Chairman who presides and he calls upon Members of the rank-and-file such as myself to be critical or complimentary of the actions of the Cabinet. In our cases the Prime Minister is always in attendance and so are the majority of the Members of the Cabinet. The rules of the Caucus are such that we can put these hallowed gentlemen 'on the spot.'

I MIGHT point out that one of the reasons the Estate Tax changes were brought about was because of pressure within the Liberal Caucus. (Actually I might state that I was not quite as successful in Caucus as I would have liked to have been, as I, along with others, made a strong plea that estates of \$100,000 and under should not be taxable). Many Members felt the original amendments as presented by the Minister of Finance, the Hon. Edgar J. Benson, were not fair to many people who had built up estates and wished to leave something to their families. As a result of this thinking the Bill was changed and made more equitable than the previous legislation, even though I personally would have preferred to see it go further.

I MIGHT ALSO add that many Members whose ridings are rural, or partly rural, made strong representations to the Postmaster General, the Hon. Eric Kierans, on his proposal to adopt a five day week mail delivery. It was brought to his attention, and I certainly think with justification, that people living in rural areas could not go out on the street corner and buy a newspaper as readily as those of us who live in urban centres. In any event the Postmaster saw the merit in the representations made and as a consequence changed his mind.

application refers to the CNR and their plans to do the same thing in Acton.

CONGRATULATIONS are in order to both the Canadian Champion in Milton and the Acton Free Press in Acton. Each of these newspapers won awards at the annual convention of the Ontario Weekly Newspaper Association held recently in Ottawa. These honours are richly deserved and the management and staff are deserving of much praise for the high calibre of their respective newspapers.

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NEWS ECHOES

From the Heralds of 10, 20 and 30 Years Ago

1959

Ed Hall, 16 Margaret Street, has been returned as chief of Georgetown Volunteer Ambulance Service. He was voted to his second term as head of the service at the organization's annual meeting in Wrigglesworth School.

An oil painting by local artist Frank Black will have a place of honour in Georgetown High School in future years. The painting, commissioned by the students, portrays the old school which is scheduled for demolition in a construction program now in progress. John Lenz, president of the student council, presented the painting to the school. It was unveiled at commencement by another student council officer, Joan Cummins.

1949

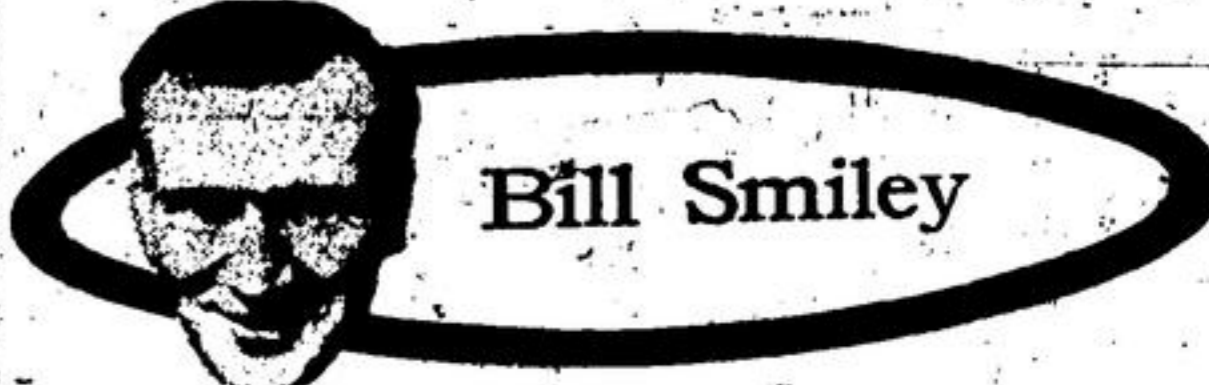
When a large tractor-trailer loaded with 11 tons of paper bound for a local paper mill skidded and jack-knifed across Highway 7 on the Norval hill Thursday morning, traffic was tied up for several hours. An estimated 500 cars and trucks waited in Norval until the truck was swung off the road and the hill sanded. An attempt with block and tackle to pull the truck out of the ditch uprooted a large tree to which the tackle was fastened. The tree fell over hydro wires and left the village without power for several hours.

A fire which broke out in the newly-built home on Ostrander Boulevard of Dr. W. C. Stiles, gutted the interior and did extensive damage to the property. The fire first noticed by neighbours at 2:15 on Friday morning, spread quickly through the house and the roof caved in shortly after firemen arrived. Little more than the brickwork remains. There were no stoves in the house and the electrical connections had not yet been made.

1939

Two Main Street properties were sold by the town at Thursday night's council meeting. After Mrs. W. Preston and Mr. H. Silver addressed council it was moved by A. E. Cripps and seconded by G. W. Davis that the tender of Mrs. Preston for \$900 for the Creelman factory and 45 ft. frontage on Main Street be accepted, and it was moved by Joseph Hall and seconded by Thomas Lyons that the tender of Mr. H. Silver for \$450 for 22 ft. six inches frontage on Main Street be accepted.

Members of Verdun Rebekah Lodge celebrated its 21st birthday with a party in the arena on Friday. Twenty-five tables of euchre were centred by a 3 tier birthday cake with 21 candles made by the Noble Grand, Mrs. Stafford Groat. Euchre and draw prize winners were Mrs. Doyle, Mrs. Ross Thompson, Mrs. Jos. Standish, Mr. E. Brownlee, Miss Gladys McGibbon, Mrs. W. G. McDowell, and Mrs. Wm. Near.



Bill Smiley

Prelude to Spring

Isn't it a delirious feeling, there are little black clouds no about this time of year to wake bigger than the Rocky Mountain in daylight, and get home ains on the horizon from work before dark?

There are Black Panthers and the Yellow Menace and brown faith in the scientist's claim, guerillas and white gorillas and that the earth is round, and pink elephants and blue singers moves in orbit about the sun, and reds under a great many Or is it the other way 'round? beds.

For about three months any winter. I'd join the Flat-Earth Society and agree with practically anybody that the sun is a legend, a figment of last summer's imagination.

There are broken homes and broken marriages and broken garterbelts. Practically everybody you meet over the age of eight months is either emotionally disturbed or senile.

We have explosions in the population, the stock markets and the furnaces of the nation. Taxes and insurance and even the important things like bread and milk keep going up. (It won't be long before most of us are living on bread and milk considering the price of meat.)

Cars are not being as well made as tin cans. The non-returnable bottle is our biggest threat since the bubonic plague. The Man in the Moon has lost his image and Mr. Trudeau is following fast.

Tomorrow there will be a blizzard. And the day after the muffer and tail pipe will fall off my car. My piles will reactivate. I'll lose both my toe rubbers.

But today I don't care. The yellow sun is kissing the white snow and the latter overcome by passion is melting. That is all I know and all I need to know. To hell with all the rest of it.

I'm in such a state of euphoria I think I could even go out and have a whale of a time with a girl called Gloria. If I knew one.

My son is making his mark in the world... of dining rooms. Some nights he makes as much as \$35. And some nights \$5. And he's making something else; noises vague but audible about going back to school.

My daughter came home from school today smiling instead of scowling. Her mother asked her what she was smiling at as she came in. "The door" poker faced. Things are definitely on the upswing around here.

Now don't get me wrong I'm no Pollyanna. I know that

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