

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Rep by Pop

If future councils adopt the philosophy of Councillor Ric Morrow, as expressed in a mail bag letter this week, then Georgetown's tax treasury is going to have to shoulder larger and larger amounts for council salaries.

Councillor Morrow has come up with what is, to us, an original way of gauging a council member's worth — a representation by population basis. And while we give him 'A' for effort, we are somewhat taken aback by the theory involved.

His statistics show that by dividing a \$13 meeting fee in 1958 into the town's 6578 population, we get approximately 500. The same 500 appears when we divide a \$20 meeting fee into the 1961 population of 10,000 — and a \$30 fee into this year's 14,600 population.

We can expect, then, with 20,000 residents in a few more years, to be paying \$40 a meeting, or perhaps \$37.50 when another 2500 people are added to our present 15,000 population. Or to carry the theory farther, in a city of 100,000 councillors shall be paid \$200 a meeting.

One thing which Mr. Morrow has overlooked is the committee meeting fee — also \$30 — and with even the minimum two committee meetings monthly, the present council pay is actually \$45 weekly, which throws the statistics somewhat out of balance.

But more important, to take the other side of the debate, is that a comparison should also be made of the number of municipal employees and the total salary bill for these, in order to give a complete picture.

One could argue that, as population increases, the number of employees increases even more per capita, and it is conceivable that somewhere we reach the point where councillors, rather than having a harder job, can take life a bit easier, because they have more employees to share the workload.

Statistics aside, we have heard no argument to overcome our premise that an after-hours position cannot justify a salary of \$45 to \$60 weekly, and that if we are going to head in this direction, we might as well take the giant step now — make a councillor's job full-time, with pay scale set accordingly.

Spring Cleaning

It was a breath of spring to see the town's street-sweeper in operation on Monday as it went about, removing the winter's debris, getting rid of the sand and salt, the litter of waste which is bound to collect when snow is on the ground.

The street looked so good for a few hours that we couldn't help going to the office window now and then to admire it. And we wished it could always be thus.

And it could be, if only we Canadians would learn to value beauty, to be neat and tidy, thoughtful of the beauty which nature has provided.

It is inherent in most of the animal kingdom to bury their garbage, or deposit it as far out of sight as possible. If it is inherent in humans, we soon learn to overcome it.

Durable Performers

Watching the Hollywood Palace TV show on Saturday, we wondered if Diana Ross will be able to hold an audience the way Ethel Waters did when she sang a song she first introduced in a Broadway musical over 30 years ago.

One of the best features of television for a middle-aged viewer is to revisit the past when stars of that day appear.

We got a kick out of seeing Buddy Rogers on a recent show — the matinee idol of the late 'silents' and early 'talkies' — still handsome, debonair and talented. Kate Smith has lost none of the big voice that made her radio shows so popular in the thirties. Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Jack Benny seem to go on forever.

The Mills Brothers, still on the hit parade, and still drawing them in at the Beverly Hills in Toronto this week.

Georgie Jessel, still able to belt out

We drink pop and throw the container on the street. We finish a pack of cigarettes and throw the package to the four winds. We leave a trail of chocolate bar wrappers, and what have you, wherever we roam.

Mayor Emmerson is particularly interested in encouraging residents to beautify Georgetown in every possible way, and we're behind any campaign he undertakes.

One of the easiest ways, which costs nothing as for each of us to make a resolve today to stop littering — to put waste in garbage containers, and if none are handy, to tuck it in our pocket instead of throwing it into the street.

We long for the day when we can walk down a Georgetown thoroughfare and see it the way Main Street was this morning.

'My Mother's Eyes' with the same verve that made him a star longer ago than we can remember.

The showbiz greats had one thing in their favour — a long, grueling training in vaudeville before live audiences. No gimmicks, no amplification, they had to get by on talent.

The carefully contrived recordings today, the TV appearances where performers mime a song while a record plays, is no path to permanent stardom.

One of today's stars has that quality — the same Diana Ross. The hard working young woman has the foresight to know that topical tunes fade as fast as they appear and is introducing more and more standards into her act. Her duet with Miss Waters proved her a versatile entertainer who could hold her own with a seasoned performer.

IN THE MAIL BAG

"Rep to Pop" Theory For Councillor Pay

Dear Sir: 301 Delrex Blvd. the times, but to those few who who feel that councillors should raise a pay raise three weeks little.

My first reaction to the article was to reply that other very few negative reactions to towns and cities pay much more the increase, but last week's and that county school board article accusing councillors of members are paid more but 'lining their pockets' with a pay felt that this is not a proper raise I felt must be answered.

As a result, this letter will not be directed to the many salaries I feel has justified the residents who realize that council pay should change with salaries as are listed:

Table with 4 columns: Year, Per Meeting, Population, Population per Cr. Rows: 1958, 1961, 1969.

Checking the figures, we see that in 1958 each councillor received \$13 per meeting. It also be noted here that salaries had not changed for eight years. In 1969 each councillor receives \$30 per meeting. It can also be noted here that salaries had not changed for eight years. — R.B. Morrow.

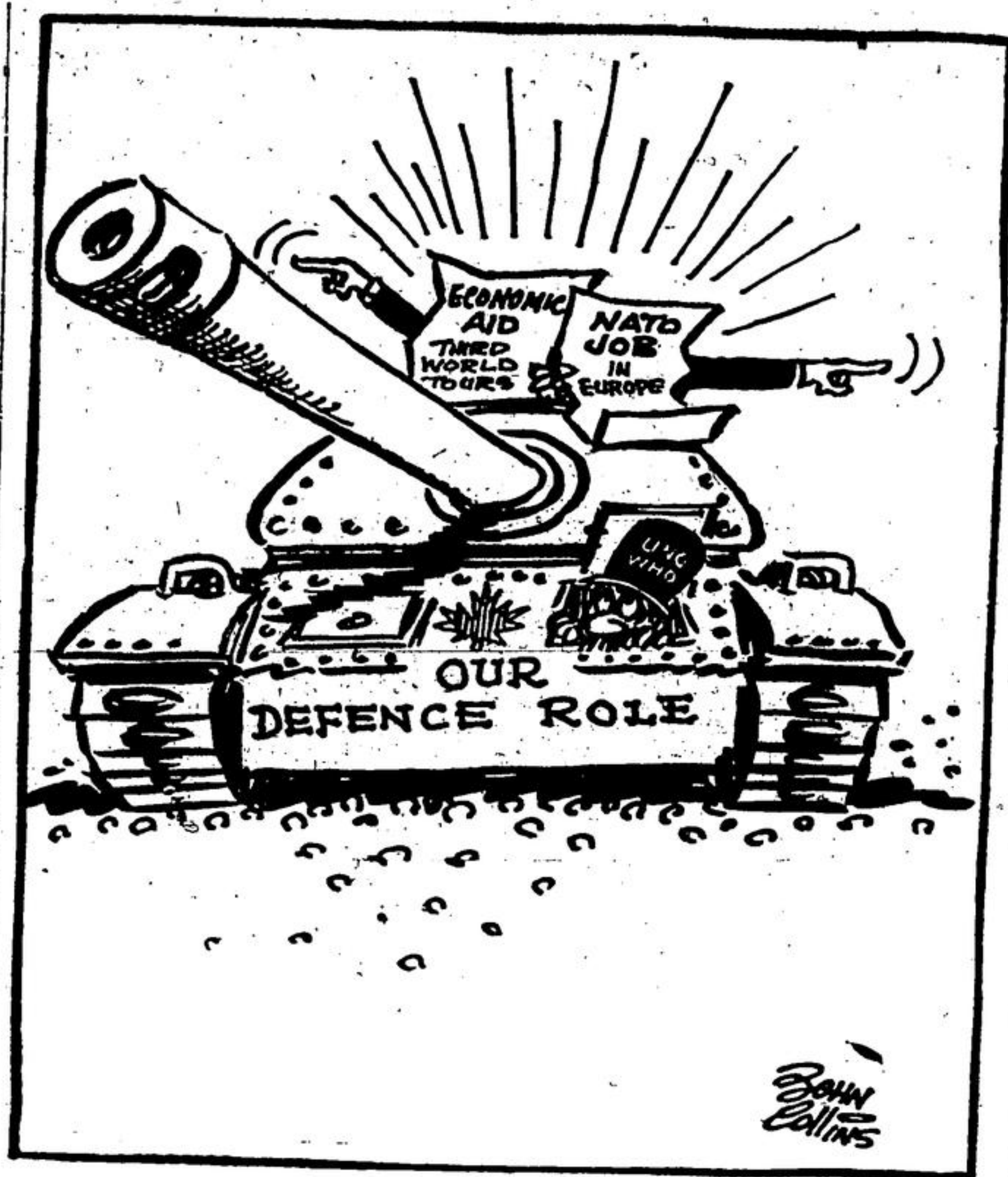
IN THE MAIL BAG

Supports Hyde, Wants Two-Lane Bailey Bridge

Dear Sir: As reported in The Herald, the annoying situation of a one-way traffic detour at the Main Street bridge has again been discussed at last week's meeting of the Georgetown council.

It is difficult to understand, why the town did not specify a two lane detour at the time of the initial negotiations, as the cost for the second temporary bridge can be only marginal in relation to the total project.

Even at this stage a second Bailey bridge should still be acquired, since construction of the permanent overpass will reportedly take until July, and probably longer. If it is not done, both the town and the retail merchants will suffer from this semi-isolation. The whole matter proves to be a poor justification for those responsible for it.



THINK TANK



Halton MP Rud L. Whiting reports from Ottawa

RECENTLY, a Bill entitled 'The Hazardous Products Act' was given second reading in the House of Commons and has been referred to the Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs.

Every housewife, child, handyman in fact every consumer in Canada will be affected by this legislation. There are so many new products coming on to the market almost daily, in liquid and powdered detergents, aerosol cans of cleaning fluids, power tools; electric appliances — the list is endless.

STATISTICS SHOW that in 1966, 11,479 Canadians died from accidents and that 20 per cent of these accidents occurred in the home. This points out the fact that when you are not driving your car on the open highway the next most dangerous place for you to be is right in your own home. It is true that many of the accidents which occur in households must be attributed to carelessness. However, sometimes, a product looks perfectly safe but in reality it is lethal.

CONSULTING ENGINEERS carry out their clients' assignments and incorporate in their recommendations special wishes from them.

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CERTAIN PRODUCTS listed which may be sold, but only when they conform to special regulations, are chlorine bleaches and cleaners, certain powerful cleansers used to clean drains in the home, some household polishes and cleaning agents and model aeroplane glue.

WHILE THE BILL does contain a provision whereby a manufacturer or distributor can appeal a decision to prohibit or regulate his product, it is expected that most reputable businessmen will voluntarily comply with common sense safety standards.

SOME PRODUCTS have been banned outright. An example of this is jewellery and other articles, containing jewelry, beans — this is a bright red and black seed which is deadly poisonous. Children's furniture and toys covered with paint containing too many lead compounds. Paints and varnish removers which have too low a flashpoint. Other products will be added as the need arises and research progresses.

NEWS ECHOES

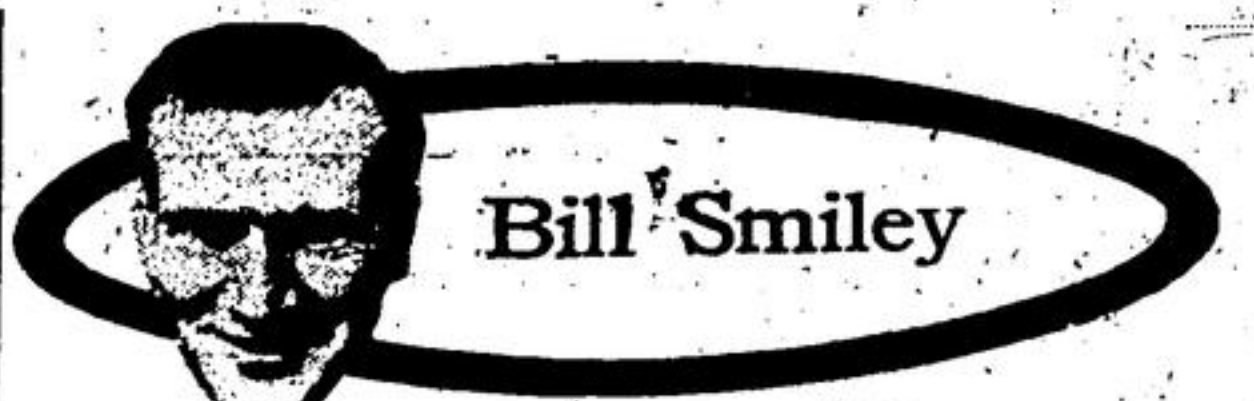
From the Heralds of 10, 20 and 30 Years Ago

1959 Unusually high March winds, gusting up to hurricane force did mass damage in the area Sunday. Television aeriels were the storm's favourite target and some 65 fell in town before the wind according to claims which flooded local insurance offices the next day.

1949 Georgetown council set the 1949 tax rate at 64 mills at their meeting this week, an increase of four mills over 1948. Payments will be made in three instalments, due May 16, July 16 and September 16.

1939 Indications that Canada will not be caught in confusion in the event of a national emergency with no trained organization is clearly shown in an announcement by the Canadian Legion that all ex-service men and women may now register at the various branches making themselves available in such an instance.

Mrs. W. Preston has given the Georgetown Lumber Company the contract for remodelling the Creelman building on Main Street into a restaurant and apartment block.



WELL, I'M BACK TO NORMAL

Last week I wrote a column which must have made faithful readers believe I was either taken with drink, or breaking down mentally. It was full of joy and good spirits, looking of the bright side, and revealing silver linings.

It's a great relief to me, and it must be to you, to go back to normal. Last week was a brief mental aberration. This week, I'm back to my old sanely misanthropic self. The man, my wife calls 'Old Stone Face.'

What I propose to do today is act as your alter-ego, the brooding, dark self that is hidden behind your bright sunny exterior. I'm going to let you take out your aggressions, vicariously, through mine.

I'll list what I despise and detest in our society. Send in your own special beefs, and we'll keep the column going for months. Everybody hates something.

There is no particular order to these items. My venom extends with equal virulence to each.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Grid of business advertisements including Corbett Chiropractic Clinic, Wallace Thompson, W. H. Carr, McBain and Hulme, OPTOMETRIST R. R. Hamilton, OPTOMETRIST L. M. Brown, BARRAGER'S Cleaners-Shirt Launderers, MONUMENTS POLLOCK & CAMPBELL, Koller Construction, WATCH JEWELRY REPAIR SERVICE, and JOHN BOUGHTON JEWELLERS.