

## EDITORIAL COMMENT

### Festival Floundering

(From the Acton Free Press)

The future of the North Halton Music Festival hangs in the balance following the annual meeting in Acton.

Almost everyone at the meeting seemed to feel that the idea of a festival was no longer feasible under the new county-wide Board of Education but there is much interest in filling the vacuum with something just as meaningful.

There is some dragging of feet from those who consider the idea of music and festivals as old-fashioned or out of place in the jet age but they seemed to be in the minority. There is also some opposition from some of the education figures who believe competition in any form is harmful to children.

The day when each school in the county had its own music teacher has passed, apparently. In place of the itinerant teacher, there are five music consultants to look after an average of 17 schools each. In some schools music is taught by classroom teachers with advice from the consultants. This and a shortage of auditoriums relegating music and singing to a less important place in the curriculum.

We can agree that the music festival probably does need some streamlining but it does seem too bad there is an apparent lack of interest from the new county Board of Education in keeping the festival functioning. Music has always been an important part of the curriculum. In North Halton schools and in a day when much of the music is horribly similar it would seem there should be more, rather than less emphasis on it.

We don't like to inject a sour note in the discussion but it is the children who benefit from musical training, not those who administer the schools. The festival helps to foster the idea of perfection as well as leading to a better appreciation of singers and singing.

There has been some suggestion that the festival could carry on without a system of marking so there are no disappointed losers but this again is a needless genuflection in the direction of those who cannot stomach the thought of competition.

Without the competition there would be no interest whatsoever in a day set aside for hearing repetitious singing. It is the competition between schools and singers which gives the festival its flavor — and fun.

Are you in favor of retaining the North Halton music festival? Or do you have some suggestions for keeping the annual competition going? Secretary Glenda Benton would be delighted to hear from you.

Incidentally the Festival has received excellent support from the Women's Institutes over the past few years and their donations have kept going up. Some members of the executive of the music festival feel there is still a very strong desire from the public to keep the annual festival going and they point to the excellent financial statement as evidence of public support.

We might add that it is still a delight to attend one of the festival sessions and listen to the students sing. The large attendance at the evening sessions indicates the feeling is general.

### Community School Concept

(From the Oakville Journal-Record)

The Halton Board of Education stands praised for its plans to encourage more after-hours use of the schools.

Of course the idea of the public getting to make more use of its schools is nothing novel, nor is it something that hasn't enjoyed success. Probably one of the finest experiments involving after-hours use of schools has taken place in Flint, Michigan, where schools are open 3,800 hours a year, compared with the national average in the U.S. of 1,800. Due to the efforts of Flint's highly-rated Mott Foundation more adults are using the schools at night than children in the daytime. That American city has for many years promoted taxpayers' use of their schools around the clock around the year, and it has adopted the community school concept. It is a concept that ought to receive serious consideration in Halton county.

In a letter to municipal councils in the Halton region, education officials have invited the communities to "explore areas of co-operation in which schools could be used to community advantage." One use suggested is for recreational purposes.

The truth is, in the past our schools have tended to be treated more as sanctuaries than public buildings constructed and maintained at high cost to the taxpayer.

And in an era when the rising price of education is preventing communities from providing such public facilities as recreation centres, the alternative is to get more use out of the schools for enjoyment as well as education.

Fast growing municipalities such as Oakville and neighbouring Burlington are running far behind in satisfying public demand for community centres as focal points in the various pockets of residential development. Cannot the schools fill this need? We think so.

For instance, certain areas within our town stand isolated from the rest of the community because of their geographic location. Such an area is Falgarwood, sitting as a residential island north of the Queen Elizabeth Way. Here is a wonderful opportunity to put the community-school concept into practice for the benefit of the public.

Now that the education board has offered the use of its schools after hours, let our town officials not delay in taking up the invitation to "explore areas of cooperation." Greater public use of schools will not merely help satisfy certain community needs, it will also help to justify the cost of building and operating these buildings. Pending the introduction of year-round school let's get started on some kind of year-round use of these facilities.

### No-Deposit Bottles are Proven Menace

(From the Orangeville Banner)

The water-thin non-returnable pop bottles have proved themselves to be much more of a menace on the market than originally thought. Apart from making paupers out of the moppers who used to count the two cents on each empty, the new bottles are also causing a higher casualty rate among the general public.

A federal investigation in the U.S. recently declared that the filled pop bottle was the most dangerous product in the household, outranking the power lawnmower. More than 150,000 injuries a year have been associated with glass bottles, and of this number 90,000 occurred to children under the age of 15.

Then there are the explosions. One display in a Toronto store window exploded during the hot weather, sending showers of glass in all directions.

Shattered glass, broken bottle necks, fragments inside and the ever-present threat of explosions all add up to a year-round household menace that's almost im-

possible to combat except by common sense.

But there is also the problem of disposing of those no-deposit bottles. Like the throw-away cans, they mount up to virtually indestructible heaps across the nation. In some areas there is talk of banning the bottles. Also some governing officials are seriously considering a possible "effluent" tax on a number of consumer containers.

This tax would be paid when consumers buy canned or bottled items and the money would be reimbursed when they return the container. Clumsy as this system may appear, it may expedite the appearance on the market of a new Swedish invention known as the Rigello bottle. This container is "biodegradable," which means, simply, it can be crumpled easily and it eventually rots along with all the other organic garbage.

The manufacturers says they will go into full production next year and the first item to be marketed in the cardboard-cased polyvinyl container is beer.



— Peter Jones Photo

**SURPRISE!**

**AND NOW IT'S OKAY TO WATER THE LAWN**

IN THE MAIL BAG

### Concert Orchestra Off to Good Start

31 Byron Street,

Dear Mr. Editor:

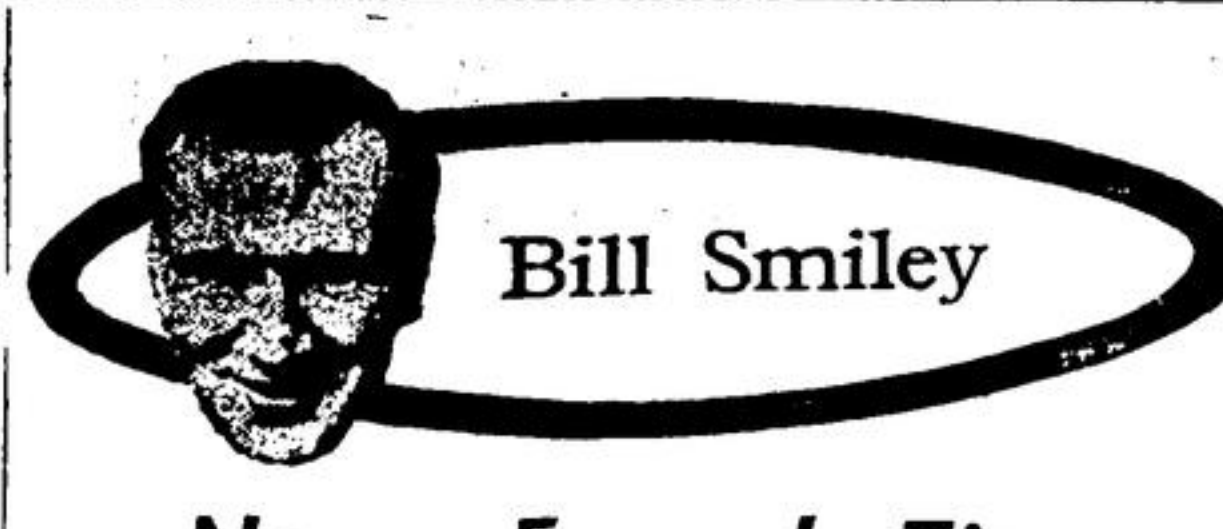
Calling all Musicians.

At the first rehearsal of the newly-formed Georgetown concert orchestra last Sunday night a start was made to build up a musical group to which anyone serious about using their musical talent would be very welcome.

Players came from Acton, Milton, Brampton, Glen Williams and Georgetown and all were enthusiastic about the splendid rehearsal under the able leadership of Erhardt Liedtke, assistant in charge of music instruction in Peel County Schools.

If you are desirous of more information regarding this orchestra, please contact any of those whose names are listed below.

Acton: George Elliott, David Sales, Charles Lonsborough, Archie Kerr, John Duenk; Glen Williams: Marty Wheeler; Milton: Austin Ledwith, Don Mer-



Bill Smiley

### Never Enough Time

This is the time of year when the hunting stories are flying around. Each time they are retold, they become a bigger lie or a little funnier. I don't mind the stories when they're funny, or big, or lies. But there's nothing more boring than listening to a hunter telling you in deadly earnest the entire story of how he would have got his bag of ducks, or bagged his deer, if the fates and the weather, and anything else he can think of, had not conspired against him.

Yours truly,  
Ed A. Peters.

THE HISTORY OF KISSING

Scientists think they have tracked down the origin of kissing. They say it began because of a craving for salt.

A caveman discovered that he could cool off on a hot day by licking his neighbour's cheek. According to one source he soon discovered it was a lot more fun if that neighbour happened to be a female.

About that time he forgot all salt. Do you believe that?

### NEWS ECHOES

From the Herald of 10, 20 and 30 Years Ago

1959

Georgetown's revolutionary gyroplane, the Avian 2-180, is ready for flight. A company official told The Herald yesterday that the firm is pleased with the way the craft had breezed through an extensive series of ground tests and the test pilot has been given the nod to take it up whenever he feels ready. The final ground tests were conducted last week at the Wellington-Waterloo airport at Kitchener.

Georgetown will be set back 10 to 15 years in traffic volume if a prediction made by a Hwy. 401 engineer holds true. "The super 401 will become the main route between Toronto and Kitchener and Galt areas when the Milton to Guelph stage is completed, and consequently a terrific reduction in traffic will be noticeable on highways 7 and 5," he says in a report. The latest stretch of the 401, from Streetsville to Milton, will open next month. Local drivers can cut time off their Toronto trip by catching the 401 south of town.

1949

Vacant for some time since the closing of the Georgetown Shoe Company, the factory on John St. has been sold and will be converted into a manufacturing plant for Kippin-Ker Limited which produces plastic boats. The boat company has been operating in the Georgetown Clay Products building on King Street.

The annual commencement exercises of Georgetown High School took the form of an open night in the school last Thursday when parents had an opportunity to meet the teachers and see demonstrations of new methods in education. The glee club and junior and senior choirs sang several selections under the leadership of W. E. Capps and Moira Kelly sang a solo "The Lovely Song of My Heart." Secondary school graduation diplomas were presented to Raymond Anderson, Thomas Beckett, Joan Buck, Betty Conn, Elizabeth King, James Kirkwood, Grey Merriam, Francis Pries and Carl Schenk.

1939

Joseph Matheson Moore, the editor and publisher of The Herald for over 30 years, died a his home at the corner of Factory and Charles Street on Monday, October 30th after an illness of several weeks. Mr. Moore came to Georgetown in 1891 from Acton Free Press where he served his apprenticeship. For some years he served as foreman of The Herald and subsequently purchased the business from Mr. R. D. Warren.

about "hunters" who shoot swans?

A couple of years ago, two chaps I know went out to the local golf course and shot every black squirrel in sight. This takes a lot of nerve, stamina, and bush-lore; walking around a golf course, slaughtering half-tame squirrels, with three ounces of meat each on them.

Then there are the "hunters" who go after a good drunk in the bush. It gives them a chance to play poker, grow a beard, curse, belch and do all sorts of manly things like that. They could do the same thing by checking into a motel room for a week. But they enjoy wearing big boots and rough clothes and making rude noises. Then they come home and let their wives push them around like puppets for the other fifty-one weeks.

The finest hunters are those

who love nature. They respect and admire and are curious about their prey. They shoot only when they know what they're shooting at, try to kill cleanly, and follow the wounded deer or retrieve the wounded bird at any cost. I've quarrelled with them. But I think most of them would be just as happy with an unloaded gun or a camera.

There's no real appeal in hunting for me anymore though I love to get out in the bush, preferably alone.

But if they ever declare an open season on school administrators, I'll be right back there, gun on shoulder, keen of eye and hard of jaw, tireless in the chase, and relentless in the kill. I wouldn't even mind taking part in wiping out the entire species, though I'm against this sort of thing, normally.

WINTER SALT SECRETS

You can baffle your neighbours this winter by spreading salt on walks and drives just as the first snow starts falling. Come morning hours yours will be the only clean sidewalk around. To be effective you should spread about a quarter of a pound of salt over each square yard of paved surface.

A helpful hint for the homeowner who doubles as family chauffeur, as most do nowadays always carry emergency equipment such as tire chains, small shovel and a bag of salt in the trunk of the car. A few handfuls of salt at the rear wheels for traction can be a time and chill saver when stuck on slippery ice at the curb. This may be a life saver when stranded on ice in some dangerous intersection or in a hilly area.

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