



ZOOMING FROM THE top of the hills at the Robert Little school right into the frozen creek bed are Bill McKenzie, Joel Pink and Paul Gorjup. The dips and plains of the school grounds are a favorite spot in winter time for tobogganers. Further down the creek near the library youngsters had cleaned off the snow for skating.

## Georgetown's founder . . .

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 Wheeler; shoe business, Watson and Austin; bakery, Statham and Meadows; harness, J. F. Taylor. Hotel keepers were Clark, Bennett, Thompson and Spiera.  
 The medical profession was represented by Drs. Ranney, Freeman, Star and Standish. Three lawyers—Forsyth, Matheson and Goodwillie. There may have been other businessmen but these are the names given by the Halton Atlas of 1877.  
 Churches were built to meet the needs of the settlers. In 1840 the Wesleyan - Methodist; in 1845 the Congregational Church. Then followed the Wesleyan-Episcopal and finally the Church of England and the Holy Cross Catholic Church.  
 Recreation was provided by the curling and skating rink. Hotels did a good business—maybe too good as we note the Town Hall was provided with a basement "lock-up" mainly for lodging "tramps and drunks."  
 To accommodate farmers in the surrounding territory a fair for the sale of cattle and horses was held every month. These fairs naturally brought people to the village and increased business for the storekeepers. In fact on fair days "Main Street had all the appearance of a

city thoroughfare."  
 During this expansion period the village was served by the Grand Trunk and the Hamilton and North-Western Railways and to increase rural trade a storehouse for grain was built at the G.T.R. Station. This provided a good outlet for farmers, not only for grain but for other farm produce, including hops and strawberries. Hops were grown extensively on the outskirts of Georgetown as also were strawberries which at one time promised to become one of the leading local industries.  
 To accommodate the Annual Fall Fair organized by the Esquimaux Agricultural Society a race track was laid down and beautiful, shady fair grounds opened to the public. This Fall Fair is still a popular annual event.  
 In 1884, having a population of over 1200, Georgetown was incorporated as a village in the County of Halton. The first Reeve was James Young but it was not until 1882 that a Georgetown man was appointed Warden of the County. This was J. R. Barber, who, incidentally, was Reeve of Georgetown for nine consecutive years and was again appointed at a later date. Up to 1830 other Georgetown reeves occupying the Warden's chair were as follows: 1884, William McLeod; 1886, R. D.

Warren and in 1925, Donald McIntyre.  
 In 1891 Georgetown installed its first waterworks system, its source of supply being Silver Springs, three miles to the west. At one time the village received its electric power from the H. P. Lawson plant at Glen Williams. The plant was eventually taken over by the Hydro Electric system of Georgetown.  
 Of interest to the general public is the fact that J. A. Willoughby, Real Estate Agent, at one time had a large livery business in Georgetown, with a stable of 21 horses and a regular bus service to and from all trains stopping at the village railway station. While still engaged in livery work Mr. Willoughby began operating a real estate business from the same office, which eventually assumed mushroom growth. He also owned a farm of 155 acres adjoining the village and always had the interests of the community at heart.  
 But Mr. Willoughby is only one of many Georgetown boys who "made good" in the business or professional world in and beyond their native environment. We cannot begin to list them all—doctors, lawyers, businessmen and industrialists, all of whom brought honor to the community from which they sprang.

## Stewarttown was . . .

Continued from page 6  
 calling a meeting of the ratepayers to discuss the building of a township hall. This old poster was lost for many years but we believe it has since been recovered—and in excellent condition. At the meeting in question it was moved by Jas. Young, seconded by William Barbour, that a decision about building a hall be left over until the next nomination day. The question was undoubtedly shelved due to the fact that the location was a controversial issue—whether the hall should be built in Stewarttown or Georgetown.

The matter was left in abeyance for a considerable number of years. During that time Messrs. David Cross, Nevin and Jones built a store, with living quarters and a hall overhead, with the idea of selling it to the council. It was a brick building with a quaint two-storey verandah and an outside staircase. Time necessitated the removal of stairs and verandah in the interests of safety.

The first council chamber, rented from John Tracy, was on the south side of the building, the other side being used as a store with living quarters at the back. The top floor was used for dances and other community affairs and the place became known as the Community Hall. The last storekeeper was Isaac Bennett, Georgetown, who for many years was also township clerk. In 1948 the building was entirely remodelled and now presents a spacious and up-to-date Community Hall, including council chambers and an office for the township clerk.

The post office was opened in 1820 and was the first in the township. It was given the name of the Township—Esquimaux—an Indian word, meaning "land of the tall pines."

From 1830 mail was brought from Trafalgar by Duncan McColl, a young man from the Scotch Block. He made the trip twice a week on horseback, delivering the mail to the postmaster, Henry Fyfe, Lot 9, 7th Line. In 1840 the office was moved to Stewarttown but retained the old name. It remained in operation until 1900 when Stewarttown was serviced by rural mail delivery from Georgetown.

By 1850 Stewarttown was a busy, thriving village with three hotels, Cross's Tannery, Edward Nixon, saddle and harness maker; J. Fitch, saddler; Jones and Nevin, makers of chairs, cabinets and fanning mills; Applebe and Young brothers, merchants. There was every sign of further expansion—until the building of the Grand Trunk Railway changed the picture, business then being diverted to Georgetown. Apparently the railway line in Esquimaux is noted for its crookedness. According to an old-timer, who worked on the line, this was because "every time the construction 'boss' took a drink he made another curve!"

The blacksmith shop featured in the accompanying picture—later Tom Bell's paint-shop—was the meeting place of Mackenzie sympathizers, previous to the 1837 Rebellion. It was here they foregathered in great secrecy, to fashion spikes and spears in preparation for a display of force—should it become necessary—against the Government and the Family Compact. On the other hand, the Drill Shed, headquarters of No. 2 Company, 20th Battalion, under the command of Captain Applebe, was also in the village. So it would seem that, although the pioneers of Stewarttown held strong opinions they were by no means united on the issues.

## Building negotiations appear deadlocked

Negotiations for the sale of the county owned court house and administration building in Milton to the province appear to be deadlocked.

Halton Regional Council rejected an offer from the province for the building and 10 acres of land at \$1.65 million. At the last meeting, regional council agreed to sell the building, but for \$235,000 more than the province's last offer.

MPP for Halton East and Minister of Government Services Jim Snow said the committee of regional councillors he and his cohorts had dealt with felt the province's offer was a fair one, but council rejected the offer.

Snow said the price the region asked was in excess of any of the appraisals made on the building and noted it wasn't a supportable price. He said the price the council was asking was above what the province could offer.

Snow noted the court house was built as a court house and the province has a lease in perpetuity. If that lease was broken it would have to be by mutual agreement.

Snow said the province would be happy to continue leasing space or to buy the building at the appraised value.

Asked if the province had considered moving out of the building and leaving it for the region to house its staff, Snow expressed concern.

"I'm concerned about the high cost of replacing the facility for provincial offices and courts and renovating the existing building so it could be used for regional offices," he said.

New site best  
 The cost of renovating the building is thought to be between \$500,000 and \$600,000. Snow said he felt the region would be better off to take the provincial offer and purchase new quarters better suited to its needs.

The sale of the building is an issue that has been kicked around by both regional and county council for some time now. Council is split on the sale of the building. Some councillors see the sale as paving the way for a move to the south of the county for regional headquarters.

Meanwhile maintenance men at the current county building are busy making makeshift office arrangements to accommodate regional staffers already

hired. The regional council has authorized chairman Allan Masson to seek a site for temporary headquarters.

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## J. Livock heads club

Halton-Peel Jersey Club members recently held their annual meeting and elected Jim Livock of Oakville as president for 1974.  
 Vice-president is Lorne Ella of Hornby with Bob Mellow of Bolton second vice-president. Secretary-treasurer is Jean House of Meadowdale and past president Bruce Nixon, Norval.  
 Directors are Mac Alexander, Norval; David Davies, Guelph; Mrs. Eva

Harper, Georgetown; Jim Livock, Oakville; Bob Mellow, Bolton; Murray Mellow, Bolton; Lionel McKeown, Caledon East; Bruce Nixon, Norval; Eleanor Robinson, Georgetown; Myrtle Wright, Brampton.

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