

EDITORIAL COMMENT

We Thought We Were

A mail bag letter from Mr. R. R. Dodokin last week has us somewhat puzzled.

Mr. Dodokin says he is concerned about what he 'doesn't read' in The Herald about municipal affairs and the effect of decisions made which will affect residents. And he points out The Herald's singular opportunity to inform, educate and enlighten our readers.

This is puzzling, because we try to do these very things, never achieving perfection, but always striving to give people the most facts possible. In our thirty years as editor, we can't recall any council meeting of which The Herald had prior knowledge, that was not attended and duly reported. Nor have we sat silent when we had an opinion, pro or con, to express on a question of public interest.

If one learns nothing else in the newspaper business, it is to be humble, never smug, never satisfied that one has done the

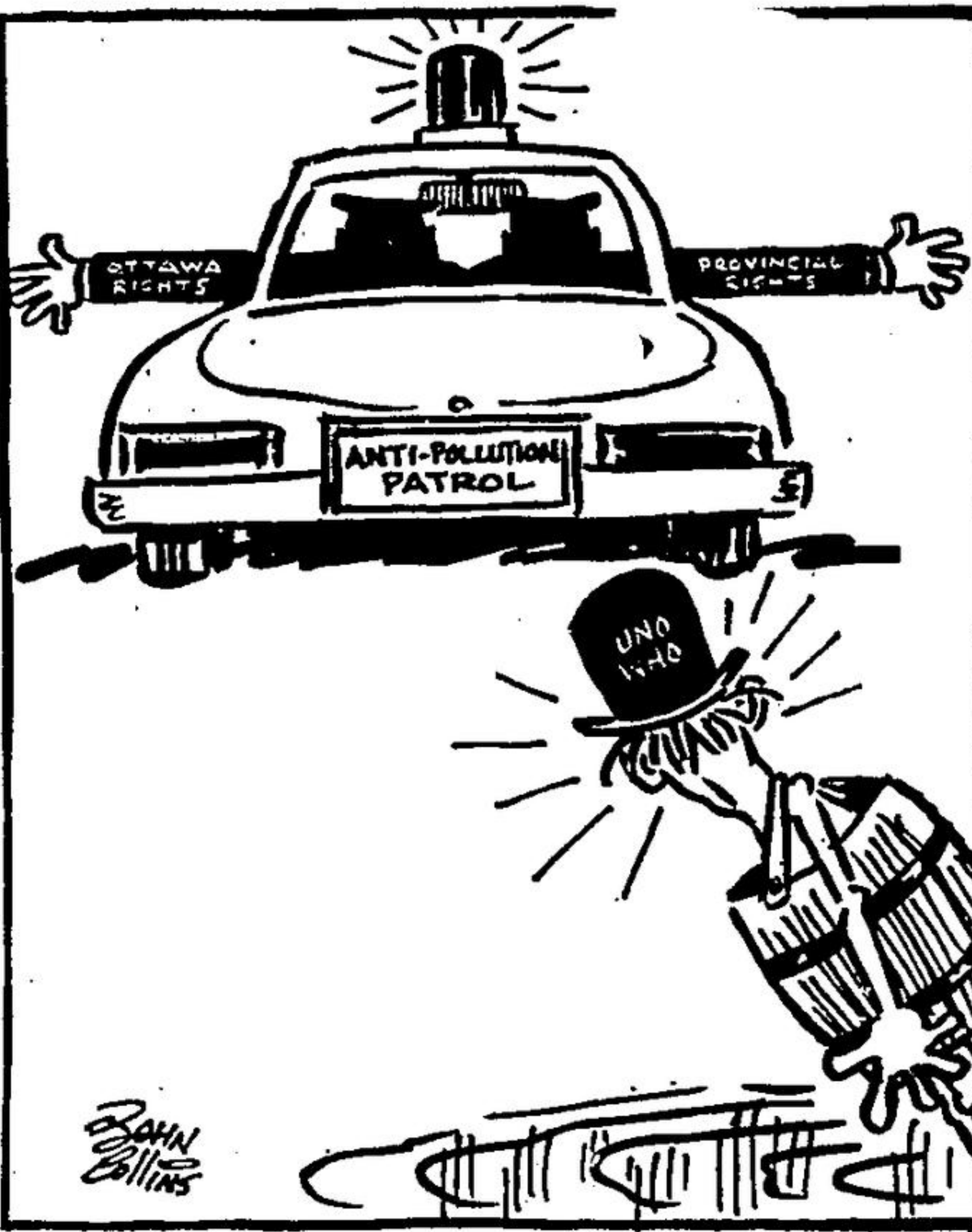
best job possible. It is the challenge and the frustration of journalism that one has never all the time and all the ability to achieve Utopia.

And, like any business the number of employees, the money spent in production, must be carefully assessed, or we wouldn't be in business at all.

As Georgetown grows, a newspaper's job becomes increasingly difficult.

The present town council tends to do most of its talking at committee meetings, and a minimum at formal council sessions. We have considered reporting the weekly committee meetings, but limitations of staff and possibilities of conflicting news items on the same subject are apparent.

In all humility, we think we do as good a job as possible in giving the Georgetown community a newsy, well-rounded weekly publication. Can any other district business boast that it has been continuously in existence for 105 years.



KEYSTONE COPS



Lots of Billy Left in Goat

conservation park, there was nothing torn down, no houses, no trees, in fact it went up through a ravine. So all is well there.

I am not against road improvement, but at the cost of taking houses, store, blacksmith shop and tearing the place apart — No, I don't want it. And by the way the public responds, I don't stand alone on this. Read Toronto Star Weekly, Feb. 28th, 1970.

P.S. In regard to Mr. Zillo's where have I been. I didn't think anybody missed me, but I thank you for missing me. Nobody else did.

I am still your friend,
— H. Elwood

Two recent letters have accused me of something inexcusable — losing my test.

One was from a chap I haven't seen since we played together as kids. He said a recent column showed a negative approach and beseeched me not to feel that way. I think he's also a health nut of some kind, because he urged me not to let any "forn" body, such as nicotine or alcohol, to enter my system. (You're right, Bob, your spelling is terrible, but thanks, anyway.)

Another was from a lady whose daughter I taught. She said I sounded as though I had the mid-winter blues, and cheered me by telling me that her daughter thought I was great, even though she had hated school. Thank you, too, Mam, and I know your name, though you didn't sign it.

But don't worry chaps. I might sound a trifle misanthropic at times, I always have. But there's plenty of Billy in the old goat yet. I don't intend to slash my wrists. At least, not until the present curling bonspiel is over. I need them.

We have a great institution at our school for pulverizing those February blues. Once a year, we throw the curriculum out the window and do something sensible. We have a bash called Frosty Frolics.

This year, a computer couldn't have picked a better day. Ten below, piles of snow, and a brilliant sun. Everybody in colourful garb: Boots and parkas and scarves and hats of all hues.

The day began with a leg auction in the gym. Girls hid behind a curtain, with only their legs showing. Boys hid on the legs. One French teacher, male, was knocked down for \$3.25 and the highest bid was over \$7. All proceeds to support a foster child in Hong Kong.

Then a grand march to the lake, for games on the ice. Snowshoe races, broomball in which everything goes, including tripping teachers at every opportunity, tug-of-war, and just plain horsing around and wrestling in the snow. No holds barred. A fine sublimation of sex.

Other groups split for curling, skiing, snowmobile rally for a trip out around the islands, snooker tournament, swimming, skating.

The beauty of the day is that it's so amateur. There are experts in every field, of course. But you could watch fat, middle-aged teachers, eyes bulging with horror, as they tried down hill skiing for the first time ever. Or little Grade 9 kids, weighing in at 80 pounds, trying to get a 40 pound curling stone over the hog line.

Everyone back to school after lunch for a check-in. Then

THE DISTRICT AT A GLANCE

OLD ACTON P. O. COMES DOWN

ACTON: Wolfend wreckers of Guelph are well on the way to levelling Acton's old post office, a landmark in the business section since 1913. The tall tower that housed the big clock was knocked down last week. Soon a modern bank will spring up on the corner occupied for some years by the post office.

STILL WAIT FOR LOWER SPEED LIMIT

INGLEWOOD: Residents along County Road 12 are waiting for Peel County council to act on recommendations from DOT to lower the speed limit to 40 m.p.h. Incidents of speeding, racing and other hazards involving cars and children led residents to present a petition to county council last August requesting lowering the limit.

INDUSTRIAL SUBDIVISION PLAN FOR HARROP FARM

MILTON: Alliance Building Corporation of Toronto has purchased the former Ted Harrop farm north of Milton and proposes to subdivide the 47 acres into sites for small industries. Planners decided it would be a good area for "shoebase" industry — small factories with neat exteriors and no outside storage of materials.

FIRE TRUCK DITCHED SO SHOP BURNS

ORANGEVILLE: A repair shop owned and operated by Bill Houston of Orangeville was completely destroyed by fire last Saturday thanks to bad road conditions which caused a fire truck en route to the scene to skid into a ditch. Mr. Houston injured, both his legs when he fell trying to smother flames breaking through the roof. Contents of the building included a bulldozer and car.

READY FOR THE UNEXPECTED

Fires, storms, floods have no timetable. They hit at any time of day or night; anytime of year and very often affect those who can afford it least. This is where the Red Cross Minor Disaster Services come in — they are ready for the unexpected — with YOUR support.

not erase uncomplimentary print. And not only does the erring party suffer when his sins appear in print, but his family and friends as well.

Business. As already indicated, The Herald is not a public institution, it's a business on which several people depend for their livelihood. Were the Herald to embark on a policy of printing court news, there would inevitably be a day when such an item could result in a financial loss. Even the mighty daily press, with its penchant for the sensational is not averse to suppressing news when it hurts the pocketbook.

pital bed, wheelchair or sickroom supplies. Senior citizens have friendly visits to their homes.

Yearly home nursing courses train residents in the care of bedridden patients. Youngsters are taught to swim in the community pool by Red Cross trained instructors. A group of volunteers sew in their homes, preparing clothing if disaster strikes here or elsewhere.

Shelter, food and clothing is arranged for three days in time of minor disasters — (fire, flood, etc.)

These are some of the things for which your money is used when you donate to the Red Cross, and some of the reasons you should be generous when a canvasser calls at your home next week.

Why Anonymity?

Regarding Mr. Dodokin's remarks about anonymity, he infers that The Herald doesn't do its job, particularly regarding occurrences which result in court action.

The policy is one which, in this editor's tenure, has been strictly adhered to, and we have no intention of changing this as long as we are at the helm.

We have two very good reasons.

Humanitarian. A person in trouble has enough worries without the local paper adding to them. The printed word is much more powerful than the spoken. Time can-

Red Cross to the Fore

The Red Cross is one of Georgetown's best 'do-gooders.'

Since a local branch was chartered in 1939, it has a long record of public service, and hundreds of willing workers have earned plaudits for their devoted, selfless service to their fellowmen.

During the war years, money and comforts for servicemen flowed freely from this community. Later, Georgetown did its bit in rehabilitation work among war refugees.

Today, one of its proudest boasts is the life-saving plasma collected at blood clinics, blood which is available free to those who need it.

A free loan cupboard provides a hos-

PANEL POST MORTEM

EDUCATION ANSWERS

Replies to written questions directed to panel members at the recent Halton Hills Ratepayers meeting probing 'The High Cost of Learning.'

This second part of the series with questions directed to Georgetown and District High School principal Michael Furlong.

QUESTION

In the last two decades, post adolescent dependency has been greatly extended. Is the basis:

(a) A concerted effort to deny struggling wage earners a chance to progress in the existing class structure?

(b) To ease the social problem of unemployment with withholding youth from the labor market since many students are neither equipped nor intend to pursue an academic career, yet continue to clog educational channels?

MR. FURLONG:

Assuming the first sentence of the question to be true, then I answer as follows:

I do not believe suggestion (a) to be true in ANY degree.

As for suggestion (b), there are probably some political and economic considerations; but I am sure they are not major considerations. The MAJOR factor is undoubtedly the necessity and desirability of educating all our citizens — even the reluctant ones — to the highest possible level. This consequence of doing otherwise, in my opinion, would be disastrous.

QUESTION

The Panel in general stressed education should develop a philosophy of life, and development of human values. However, these are essentially learnt by example and primarily in the home environment and day to day living. It is a FACT, however, that a sound basic education is required for almost every field of human endeavour. In there is a danger in broadening the course of study and allowing greater student choice of subject, that the end result will be high school graduates unequipped for any useful occupation or subsequent advanced education?

MR. FURLONG:

I feel that our program DOES provide a sound, basic education. At the same time, there is sufficient choice to meet the needs of more students. A rigid, uniform program does not make allowances for individual differences in the needs and abilities of the students.

We feel that our students are being BETTER prepared for employment for advanced education than was the case in former years.

QUESTION

Why are there so many spare periods in a school day at the High School?

MR. FURLONG:

Spare periods in a high school timetable are not particularly desirable — especially in the

junior grades. However, if the flexibility necessary to allow adequate choice of options is to be achieved, some spare periods are unavoidable.

I must admit that this year, our timetables allowed more free time, in some cases, than we had intended. There were several reasons for this, the most important being my misjudgment of certain situations in constructing the overall schedule. I am confident that our 1970-71 spare timetables will be much improved.

I must add that spare periods can be quite beneficial, if facilities are available for constructive study and completion of assignments.

IN THE MAIL BAG

Park Road Didn't Tear Houses Down
Terra Cotta
Dear Sirs:
Well, it seems that we do have quite a few horses around Terra Cotta yet. In fact there are as many horses as there are cars right here.

Just look around — and I don't think these horses are running without shoes, so I am glad there is a blacksmith around yet to shoe them.

As for the new road to the

NEWS ECHOES

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

1960

The personal gift division of the current hospital fund raising campaign under the chairmanship of Lt. Col. John R. Barber has pledges of over \$25,000 which is that division's quota. James S. Jones and Mrs. Anne Currie with Col. Barber were in charge of this division.

Two applications to have go-kart racing in Esqueping are currently under consideration by Esqueping council. The applications were received at Monday's meeting from the North Halton Kart Club and a private promoter.

Erection of a 12-lane bowling club on Mountainview Road is planned. William Radyk and Peter Williams are buying 125 feet of frontage on Mountainview Road and expect to start construction of a building immediately with hopes for a September opening.

1950

One of the most serious floods in the history of Glen Williams occurred yesterday. The Credit branch which flows through the village was swollen by heavy rains and washed out the small bridge on Main Street past the dam. The dam itself suffered heavy damage. A tree carried by the swift water lodged at one corner and destroyed the foot bridge over the dam. At the corner of the dam nearest St. Alban's Church some earth gave way and part of the river took a course through this new opening. The dam abutments weakened and it was feared for a time that it would collapse. The 9th Line and the flats across from Preston's store were under water and extensive water damage was done at Beaumont's knitting mills at the other end of the village where the basement and boiler room was flooded. Older residents of the village claim water rose higher than in the last big flood in 1911.

1940

Dr. C. V. Williams, Medical Officer of Health for Georgetown, presenting his annual report, stresses the need for a full time public health nurse for the town. He pointed out arrangements might be made with one or two neighbouring municipalities for division of her services and salary. He said sanitary conditions are unsatisfactory and will remain so until the town installs a sewage system. This was turned down by the ratepayers when voted upon, but it is planned to bring this to the ratepayers again in 1942 when the debenture debt is lower. The town was free of epidemics during 1939 and no deaths occurred from communicable diseases. There were 10 births and 14 deaths during the year, making the town's population 2451.

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