

## EDITORIAL COMMENT

### We're for It

A question vote in Georgetown's elections next Monday is of at least equal, and possibly greater importance to town residents than the choice of candidates for political office.

Voters are being asked their opinion on adding fluoride to the town's water supply. The addition, according to many experts, would have a marked effect on reducing decay in children's teeth.

Cost to the municipality is a \$10,000 installation charge, and \$21 per day for chemicals, according to information assembled by council.

The question is one on which many people have definite opinions.

Since the plebiscite was decided, the Herald mail bag has been filled with letters pro and con. Those who favour it

are definite in their stand. Those who oppose are just as definite in their condemnation.

The large segment of the population in the middle must by now be quite confused if they have followed the controversy.

We have been a fluoride advocate for years, convinced by our family dentist that it is important for dental health. It has been added to the water supply in other communities with beneficial results.

We are content to take the word of Halton's Medical Officer of Health, who, in a mail bag letter this week, comes out strongly in its favour.

We think the cost is moderate, in the light of results expected and we will vote for it on Monday.

### Some Election Pointers

With Monday elections in town and township, a few pointers on voting are in order this week.

In both municipalities, poles will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. for voting on December 7.

In town, six of the nine council offices are being contested. Voters will choose a mayor and reeve and voters in Wards 1 and 2 will each choose two councillors.

The deputy reeve and two ward 3 councillors have been elected by acclamation, as well as two hydro commissioners, two water commissioners, and a board of education member.

Supporters of the Roman Catholic separate school have a choice of two candidates for the local seat on that county board.

And all town voters will be asked to give their opinion on adding fluoride to the water supply.

In Esquesing, all five council seats are contested. There are two candidates for reeve, three for deputy reeve and six men will contest the three council seats.

A board of education seat, shared by Esquesing and Nassagaweya has been filled by acclamation, as has a separate school board seat, which is shared by Esquesing, Nassagaweya and Milton.

In both municipalities, separate school supporters will have an extra ballot on Monday. Besides the 18 members of the board of education elected from various county municipalities, there are two seats on this 20 member board assigned to separate schools. All separate school supporters in the county have a vote here and three men are contesting the two seats.

Attention is drawn also to an advertisement in this issue about an advance poll on Saturday. This is for the convenience of people who expect to be absent during voting hours on Monday, for a number of reasons cited in the advertisement.



LOOKING FOR SOMETHING MORE COMFORTABLE

## - In The Mail Bag -

### Glad for Public Vote On Street Widening

28 Maple Avenue West,  
Georgetown, Ontario,  
Mr. A. Van Every, Chairman  
Ontario Municipal Board  
Parliament Buildings,  
Queen's Park,  
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Van Every:  
I was very pleased to read in the Georgetown Herald a couple of weeks ago, that your Board is taking the position that the proposed widening of Main Street to four lanes should be put to a public vote. Surely the lessons learned from the Maple Avenue fiasco would indicate that we need to take a good long look at exactly what kind of town we want to have. Perhaps the following would be of interest.

We moved into our home on Maple Avenue just over two years ago. This is one of the older residential parts of town. The trees, individual character of the houses as well as the general atmosphere of the neighbourhood appealed to us very much. Maple Avenue was basically a two lane country road. There was a fair bit of traffic but the road and general attractiveness of the area kept the speeds to reasonable level. This quiet, small town environment promoted a good feeling of friendliness in the neighbourhood and everything seemed just fine.

We had been told, by the way, when we bought the house, that the road would be resurfaced and widened slightly. Well, the second summer we were here the demolition squad moved in and after approximately six months of active destruction they completely transformed the essential character and personality of Maple Avenue into either an expressway or runway 23—I'm not sure which. We now have a four lane road which attracts considerable more traffic than previously, the speed of which the police have been unable to control thus far.

During the construction of the new road, we had many discussions with the residents, not only of Maple Avenue itself but also from the areas adjacent to the new road. The people were almost unanimously against the form the new road was taking.

Small town councils and planners are trying their damndest to create the kind of environment the rest of the world is trying to get away from. They won't be satisfied, it would appear until every square inch of grass has been paved over. The next step of course is to build skyscrapers to ensure the sun's rays never touch the ground. Some of these people should spend a week or two in New York or Detroit (especially Detroit) to see how expressways and tall buildings can transform cities into desolate areas uninhabitable by human beings.

There is no doubt that the amount and speed of traffic have increased considerably. It has been pretty well proven

I want you to know that I favour fluoridation of our water supply for reduction of dental caries

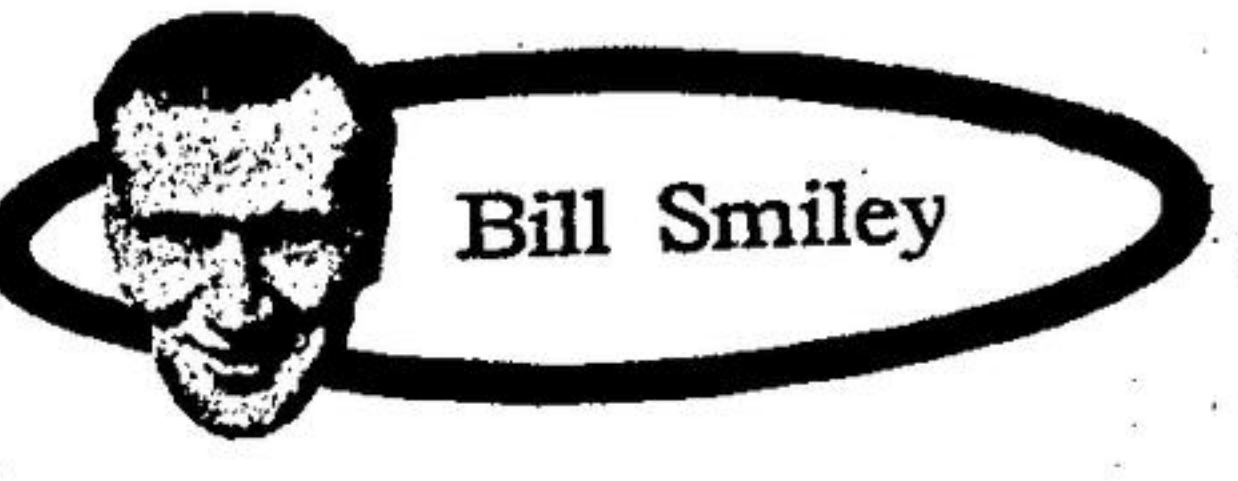
Please take my recommendation and vote yes for fluoridation. Dec. 7 is the day you vote so we can be progressive and have water fluoridation.

Some statistics — dental caries are found in:

- 33% of 2 year old babies
- 48% of 2 1/2 year olds
- 60% of 3 year olds
- 70% of 4 year olds
- Over 90% of school age groups 6 to 14.

Dental decay is carried by — Bacteria, even in healthy mouths. Sugar and starchy food we eat. The acid formed by action of bacteria on carbohydrates. Weak enamel covering of the teeth which is easily attacked by acid.

— J. H. Chamberlain,  
Medical Officer of Health  
Halton County



### Life's Problems Add to Its Delights

During his span on earth, unless he is an ostrich, every man is alternately appalled and delighted with life. Perhaps that's one reason the idea of a paradise on earth will never truly appeal to the multitudes. It would be too bland.

In theory, a life without pain, hunger, disease, cold, war, would be embraced by all. In practice, we shun such an existence, even though it could be achieved if all of humanity wanted it badly enough. It would lack spice. And sugar.

Probably that's why the great novels about a utopia are basically satires on man. From More's 'Utopia' to Golding's 'Lord of the Flies', outstanding writers have portrayed utopia as a paradise smeared by good old human nature, or bad old human nature, if you will.

At two different periods in my life, I lived in an ordered society. They were sort of mini-utopias.

One was in prison camp. We had complete socialism. Everyone got the same amount of food, drink and time in the latrine. There was complete freedom of speech. Everyone shared the duties and chores of the community.

Another was in a sanatorium. We were treated alike, whether ex-private in the army or ex-officer in the air force. Same food, same rules, same shots in the bum for all.

And in both cases, we loathed it. All we wanted to do, in both institutions, was to get out, to get back to the sinful, sordid, disordered, cruel, kind, hurtful, blessed life of the human individual in a crazy society.

If you don't have moments in life that are appalling and delightful, squalid and splendid, you can quit reading now. Close your eyes, fold your arms and lie down. You're dead, and you might as well be comfortable.

When I stop being appalled or delighted by life, I will do what so many kids do. I will start sniffing nail-polish remover or taking speed. Perhaps that's why they do it.

Well, what's to be appalled

or delighted about these days? Plenty. The list is endless and you can make up your own.

I am appalled by the Viet Nam war, surely the most senseless since the Hundred Years War. Nobody is winning, nobody knows who will wear the crown if the stupid thing ever ends.

I am delighted that all my storm windows are on, eighty per cent of my leaves are raked, and that there is oil in the tank and food in the freezer.

I am appalled at the successor to the War Measures Act, which is completely unnecessary unless there is a heck of a lot more going on than the government admits. My appalling reaches shock level when I think that a cop could enter my house, ask me if I'd changed my socks in the last week, and throw me in jail if I hadn't.

I am delighted that my daughter still loves me so much that on the week-end she allowed me to furnish a new winter coat, new boots, a posh dinner and an expensive show without once mentioning the Generation Gap or saying "Dad" there's no way you could understand."

I am appalled at the prices charged for said dinner, and the amount of food wasted, to go to the pigs. Why can't expensive restaurants give you a half portion at half-price or a little more, instead of assuming that you are a hog?

I was delighted, next morning with breakfast in bed, but appalled at the sixty cents for a glass of orange juice and thirty cents each for muffins. Plus tip.

I am appalled at the manners of many young people, and delighted with their courage and compassion.

I am appalled by the traffic in the city, and delighted when I can park illegally and not be caught.

Life is a balance. Appalled. Delighted. Such are the children of earth. May you long be one of them.

## IN THE MAIL BAG

### Advance Poll is Too Close to Election Day

29 Rosefield Drive,  
Dear Sir:

Would you please include this letter which I have written to the Georgetown returning officer and council in your mail bag column.

I am writing for information concerning the Advance Poll for our forthcoming municipal elections. I would like to know what person or persons made the intelligent decision to have the advance poll held Saturday, December 5, 1970, only two days prior to election day.

An ad in the newspaper which outlines the reasons for such an advance poll, was well thought out. But I would like you to consider two of these reasons and tell me if the forementioned decision was well thought out.

First: "Those persons who expect to be absent from the Municipality."

If one was to be absent on holidays as in my case, Mon. Dec. 7 is it not logical that one would leave town the preceding weekend?

Second: "Those persons who expect to be confined in a hospital."

If one was 'expecting' to be confined in a hospital, a possible reason would be because of an operation. In this case, is there not a likelihood that one would be confined longer than two days?

With these two points in mind, why could those setting the Advance Poll date not have thought out the ramifications of their decision more carefully so that the Advance Poll could be utilized by the maximum number of voters, which is, after all, the reason for this whole exercise in democracy.

Yours truly,  
(Mrs.) Wendy Buykes

### Now's the Time For Questions And Answers

68 Moore Park Cr.  
Dear Editor:

For openers I would like to say, we get exactly what we desire on election day and for the following two years.

After all, this is the day, we the people, have our say.

Now there have been a lot of people with a lot to say since the last election, let's just put it where it counts on a ballot.

Remember ladies and gentlemen, you are paying the shot. When it comes to meet the candidates night we should all be there. We must find out what it's all about. Do you really think experience is the best backing for a politician or would a candidate with foresight plus knowledge be the best policy? We do need a town hall where everything is under one roof. As for our police station I did not know we had one for three months (until I got a parking ticket). It's a little hole in the wall. If I had my way the hydro and water would be in one building too. Are you satisfied with our roads, do you know what they cost us? And our parks, that should be park. I know of only one that comes close to being a park. All these things people if you sit and think of them I am sure you will realize that now is the time to ask the questions and get the answers.

It is your money, your town and this is your council. We cannot teach our children to be responsible citizens if we do not look into our own affairs with knowledge backed up with a vote on election day.

Sincerely,  
B. J. Black,  
(Mrs. R. S.)

**CAMP FIRE RULES**  
To prevent forest fire, build a camp fire only on rock, sand, or bare soil, where it is protected against the wind and where it cannot spread in grass or fallen leaves. Keep it small and never leave it unattended. Make sure it is out, drowned out, before breaking camp.

### Disputes Statement Police Untrained

November 26, 1970

Dear Sir:  
With reference to Mr. R. Dodokin's nomination speech as quoted in the Georgetown Herald, I would like to rectify some erroneous remarks which he made.

The officers of the Georgetown Police Department are not untrained; in fact, only the two newest recruits have not attended Police College. Six men have received specialist training in related fields, and two have attended courses at Seneca College, Toronto. Although some men lack experience, this can only be remedied by time spent on the job.

Whilst it may be true that our present buildings and facilities are not adequate, the fault does not lie with the Board of Commissioners of Police. The Board does not have the authority to purchase a building; this is the prerogative of Town Council. Although our equipment may not compare with other larger centres, the neglected state of the department prior to the appointment of the Board will take time to rectify.

The high turnover is in part due to the higher wages that are offered by surrounding departments, and the fact that some of the men who passed through the department were separated from the service.

While the members of the Police Department welcome Mr. Dodokin's interest in their welfare, it is unlikely that morale will improve until the people begin a program of encouragement and co-operation with the members of the department.

Yours truly,  
J. Barratt,  
President,  
Georgetown Police Association

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### BOARD MAY USE BILL TO OUTLINE "REGION" VIEWS

Halton County Board of Education may present a private member's bill at the next sitting of the provincial legislature to bring its views on regional government to the province's attention.

Board chairman Douglas Wood last week criticized Halton councils for inaction on the regional government issue.

**FOOLISH TO SIT**  
"We would be foolish to sit around waiting for McKeough's decision," he said.

He said the only positive action the Halton board can take is to have a private member's bill presented at the next sitting in January of the legislature.

He said this matter will be brought up at the first December meeting of the board for a resolution.

### M.O.H. Strong Supporter for Adding Fluoride

3 Markot St.  
People of Georgetown:

Fluoride is present naturally in food and water as fluorine.

Georgetown requires a small addition of fluoride to our water supply to bring it up to recommended one part per million.

The use of fluoridated water from birth to twelve years results in 65% reduction in tooth decay. The benefit continues into adult life.

It is a safe and effective measure recognized as the cheapest and best dental health insurance policy.

Water fluoridation is the most important single public health measure available to combat the widespread increase in costly dental health problems.

Voters of Georgetown — it has been left up to you to give the present and future young people of our town the gift of improved dental health. Public health measures are for the protection of the public in the interest of the public. Fluoridation of a community water supply is a part of preventative dentistry in the interest of community health.

Everyone agrees that prevention is far superior in many ways to trying to treat conditions after they have occurred. One only has to consider the polio epidemics of a few years ago and the results since polio vaccine.

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