

Georgetown Herald

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

Have You Noticed?

The Herald can't be accused of overstatement. Last week, without fanfare, an historic day was marked when we became one of a growing list of weekly newspapers which are now printed by the offset method, as opposed to the old letterpress.

The transition was not as startling for staff or readers as in some cases. In March, instead of printing directly from metal type, page proofs were reproduced and since then the Herald has been printed offset. The clearer reproduction of news copy and pictures was well received by readers.

Last week, the metal typesetting machines were replaced by computer type machines which punch tape, something like a player piano roll, which is then fed into another machine which prints this type on paper. This is pasted on large

sheets, together with ads and pictures, and becomes the master copy for final printing.

The further refinement makes an even cleaner reproduction.

There are still a few kinks to iron out and we hope readers will bear with us in the weeks ahead if they notice a small error or two.

Our two new women on the staff are doing an excellent job of tape punching, and our shop staff, skilled in the letterpress system, have fast adapted their talents to the new offset method.

The linotype, faithful workhorse of the print shop for generations, is not being forgotten at the Herald. For some time it will continue to set type for our commercial printing department. But for the newspaper it's the end of an era.

THE COMPUTER AGE



Shop superintendent Garfield McGillvray at the Compugraphic 496TL computer, affectionately dubbed 'Hal' by its co-workers, which converts punched tape into printed columns.

Politics Snag Region Plan For Halton-Peel Says Blake

The provincial government was accused of making regional government in Halton-Peel the victim of political delay, last week.

P.R. (Bob) Blake, Halton East Liberal candidate, said it is apparent the Progressive Conservative government is stalling action on the Halton-Peel regional concept until after the next provincial election.

"This whole overhaul of local government in Halton-Peel has been made the victim of political delay," said Blake. "It is unfortunate because there is immediate need in the two-county region for reorganization of the local government structure."

PIECEMEAL

Blake said it may be necessary to approach Halton-Peel regional government on a piecemeal basis, whereby the first phase would involve setting up separate units of government in Halton and Peel.

The second phase would in-

volve the merger of the two units into the regional government structure.

Blake said he is not in favor of the "two-tier" or metro-style regional government concept as earlier proposed by the provincial government.

BOROUGH UNITS

Blake said it is only when Halton-Peel has streamlined its local government establishment into a regional system that "logical and significant advances can be made in planning, urban services and preservation of open space."

During the past six years there have been several plans for regional government in Halton-Peel, but all have been shelved in the face of opposition from various municipalities within the two counties.

The last plan was the Halton-Peel Metro concept proposed by former Municipal Affairs Minister Darcy McKeough who later backed off his program

because of rural area opposition.

CONSENSUS

McKeough said regional government in Halton-Peel was being delayed until a "favorable consensus could be reached among the communities involved."

Blake said regional government will be a major issue in the next provincial election, which he predicts will be held in September.

Unsung Heroes

Georgetown's Red Cross blood clinic must surely be one of the most efficiently conducted and the most successful of those held in various parts of the province.

One would only have to look behind the scenes once to realize the careful planning and minute detail which goes into each of the local blood clinics.

A first rate publicity and public relations program is one facet which spells success each time for the clinic. Both before and afterwards, a Red Cross representative feeds copy to the Herald in generous quantities.

But no clinic could be a success without the co-operation of town and district

residents, and response is always generous.

Many men and women have given blood time and time again, and they must have a tremendous sense of satisfaction when they realize the sickness they have eased, and the lives saved through their donations.

To help a stranger is the highest form of gift. The good samaritan concept is never more fully realized than in the Red Cross blood clinic.

On several occasions, long-time donors have been honoured with suitable mementoes. The Herald wants them to know that we consider them among Georgetown's most prominent citizens.

Who's Afraid

Toronto's notorious Rochdale College is a political football being tossed back and forth between the city and federal government.

Conceived as an idealistic education centre, a sort of 'do your own thing' university where young people could set their own standards of education and deportment, it has proved to be a cesspool of degeneration.

Those who argue that morals and behaviour are a matter for the individual to decide forget that it is taxpayers' money which has kept Rochdale going.

We, for one, are against subsidizing something so obviously wrong as Rochdale, and we hope the federal authorities stick by their guns and close it up, once and for all.

Society's non-conformists are to be pitied and possibly helped, but not by us providing a central city hang-out, a drug culture centre and a blot on Toronto's beautiful downtown landscape.

Moving it to a less obvious location, as some have suggested, is a stop gap not a solution, to the ills which plague today's society. The argument is that youth must be placated and that a confrontation which could happen if Rochdale is closed, must be avoided.

We say it's past time that we had a confrontation and once and for all tell today's misfits that they will get no sympathy or support from those who work for their daily bread and lead normal, productive lives. A stay of execution will only fester sores which should be cleaned up today.



At the keyboard of the Compugraphic 7200 headliners is John McClements. Headlines are produced on photo paper.



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Mrs Joyce Van Delinder, above, and Mrs Joan Davis, below, put news copy on coded tape on Justowriters which have replaced the old linotype metal type-setters.



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BILL SMILEY



The Old Junk Man

There's a lot of talk about recycling these days. That does not mean that great numbers of middle-aged people are going back to the bicycle in despair over traffic and their own wretched physical condition, although this is also happening, and a good thing too.

Recycling is basically the smashing up of such things as paper and tin and turning them back into more paper and tin, instead of the polluting of our countryside with such garbage.

It is common practice in many of the countries of the world which are out-stripping Canada and the U.S. internationally. It also makes a great deal of common sense.

It boggles one's mind to think of the millions of tons of paper, cans, bottles and other reclaimable materials which head each week for the garbage dump.

There are several reasons for this vast wastage. One of them is that we have tremendous natural resources and we throw them away with a lavish hand. It's like living on one's capital. A second reason, obviously, is that industry is not geared for reclaiming waste. In many cases it's probably cheaper to produce new tins than to recycle tin.

Neither of these reasons is a valid one. In the first place, those "inexhaustible resources" of raw material could be exhausted in a few decades. In the second, industry should, and must, find cheap means of recycling manufactured materials into raw materials.

But of course it's much simpler to look at the immediate buck. It's much simpler just to raise the price of the product than to find methods of using disposable items over and over again.

Like everything else, the recycling business seems complicated. A worthy local organization is raising money for a worthy cause. It is collecting newspapers. But they must be bundled and tied just so. And they don't want any other kinds of paper. In the meantime, I throw out five hundred pounds of books, which have a higher rag content than the newsprint which is being picked up. Seems silly.

What ever became of the old junk-man? There was the ideal catalyst between the consumer and the recycler. The perfect middleman.

Most small towns had a junk-man. He usually had a big yard with a fence around it, and inside the fence was an exotic jungle of junk.

When I was a kid the junk-man was my chief source of income. A vast, genial Jew with a benign twinkle, he treated us as one business man to another. There was little haggling on our part, because it was the only game in town, but on the other hand, he didn't try to beat us down.

Prices were established. Pint beer bottles were worth a cent, quart two cents. He'd double his money on them. Old car tires were a nickel apiece. Paper and scrap iron were carefully weighed, and after a judicious pause, beard cocked to one side, he'd say, "I'll give you two cents."

An enterprising kid could pick himself up forty or fifty cents a week, big money in those days. And if we caught a nice pike in the canal (this was before people worried about sewage and such) it was a bonanza, worth a dime or fifteen cents. But a meal for his family.

He prospered. And many of the big fortunes in Canada today

started out in the junk-yard. The junk-man was an unrecognized benefactor to society.

During the war, there were tremendous drives for scrap metal and newsprint. It must have been used for something. Fig farmers picked up the food garbage from big military kitchens.

Why couldn't we do the same today? It would provide employment, stop wasting resources, and do a lot to clean up our environment.

I'd be perfectly willing to sort my garbage into waste food, bottles and cans, and newspapers. How about you? We could all be our own junk-men, and do a lot for our country.

The history making ironclad warship Monitor - the "cheese-box on a raft" - was designed by a Swede, John Ericsson.

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Operatic Tenor Just 'Farmer' In This Area

One of the leading operatic tenors of the world, a man who earns an immense income from singing at the New York Metropolitan and elsewhere, cherishes the fact that most people think of him as an Orangeville area farmer.

"I like that," says Jon Vickers. "And more than that, I do farm. I breed beef cattle, Aberdeen Angus and Herefords. I ride a tractor and muck out barns and plow and haul hay, every chance I get. It's my sanity, on the farm. I've shunned publicity like the plague."

He recently gave his first interview since 1962 to publicize the fact that he would be singing at Toronto, 40 miles southeast of here, to assist some friends who are building a synagogue.

It was his first appearance in Toronto in more than three years. The talk has been that because of what he thought were unjust Toronto reviews he had boycotted the city.

His career is in New York, London, Vienna, Salzburg - all the operatic capitals of the world. He does not need Toronto. But he feels Toronto has boycotted him.

"I haven't had enough invitations to appear in Toronto in the last 12 years to put in a thumb. The moment that I'm offered a contract that is artistically and contractually in keeping with my other commitments, I'll be happy to



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He admitted that, after reading one review of his 1969 recital in Guelph, he backed out of discussions which would have had him sing Fidelio in 1970 in Toronto. He recalled that one critic called him "nothing but a slightly balding, slightly portly, middle-aged man."

"I'm not bitter," he said. "I'm hurt. This is my home and I don't like to have my kids ridiculed in the school yard because of personal attacks like that."

"They can say what they like about my performance, but they're not going to insult me personally. I'm an international artist, but I'm an ordinary man

and I have ordinary sensitivities. "I'm not going to have the period of time that I have allocated to being in my home made unpleasant by things like that."

He left Toronto in 1957, and within six months of his arrival in London, he was world-famous. Within a little more than three years he made his debut at seven of the world's most famous opera houses - Covent Garden,

Vienna, Bayreuth, La Scala, San Francisco, Chicago and the New York Met.

Ever since he has been on a steady round of the great opera houses. He has just completed arrangements with the Metropolitan to sing the tenor leads in Peter Grimes, Carmen, Die Walkure, Otello and the Queen of Spades - one each in English, French German, Italian and Russian - in the 1972-73 season.