

Sweaty Shirts and Running Shoes? That's Not the 'Y' Image Any More

by Mary Simpson
At a YMCA seminar called "Shape-Up" held in the spring in Winnipeg, the YMCA was told by a speaker that its public image was that of "Business men in sweaty shirts and running shoes." It is time this image was changed. We still have the shirts and running shoes, but today we are more concerned with "total fitness" that is, the whole person, mind, body and spirit.

In 1960 the nucleus of the Georgetown YM-YWCA was formed by a few local citizens who believed in the "Y" and what it could do for their community. In 1962 the Georgetown and District YM-YWCA was born. Through a phenomenal amount of plain hard work these board members organized the first campaign which through donations and pledges revealed a total of eight thousand dollars, a truly remarkable feat when one realizes that Georgetown's population was far less than it is now.

SELFLESS
We owe much to the dedicated optimistic citizens who were Charter Board members, as well as to those who have selflessly carried on the "Y" business in the following years. They had a dream which would benefit their town in many ways — most of them intangible, with the result that today, nine years later, the "Y" is a viable institution in town. Its absence would be sorely missed.

"The 'Y' is a world wide fellowship dedicated to the growth of persons in spirit, mind and body and a sense of responsibility to each other and the human community."

There are "Y's" in more than 80 countries in the world, dedicated in every conceivable way to the betterment of mankind, to the broadening of literacy in adults, training in skills and semi-skilled jobs, refugee work, training camps for war orphans, and teaching modern agricultural methods.

COMPLACENT
In Canada, basically founded on Christian ideals, we tend to be a bit complacent about the Christian aspect of the YM or YWCA; however, in a country such as India where Christianity is a minority religion, the "big C" plays a vital role.

Those involved here in "Y" work believe that "Y" programs of any type should emphasize good sportsmanship, responsible behaviour and a concern for our fellow man. The "Y" is concerned with the non-winner and the slogan "Winning is not the thing, it is the only thing!" has no place in any "Y" activity!

Many large "Y's" in Canada are deeply involved in social action — the human rights and basic worth of an individual. These concerns are seeping down to smaller "Y's".

OTHER AREAS
Times are constantly evolving. Many activities provided by the

"Y" ten years ago have today been taken over by other organizations such as Recreation Departments, allowing the "Y" to continue to develop in other areas of need.

Here in Georgetown, we also try to evolve and improve, anticipate and be prepared to meet community needs. Physical programs for school age children are taking less priority now that our schools, at last, are getting gyms.

Leadership work continues to be an important service and one of the "Y's" main emphases with youth is prevention; much of what we do with teens is not to keep them out of trouble, but to stimulate and help young people develop, become more aware of the world around them and learn how to become involved in a meaningful way in their community. We are working in this area; if we were not so hampered by lack of facilities, we could be doing much more for this age group.

HOUSEBOUND
New programs in Georgetown are in response to the needs of the community which we may first hear about from the residents



themselves, or through referrals from other agencies. One of our greatest concerns is for the housebound mother, the former "career girl" whose life is changed so completely by becoming a 24-hour-a-day, full-time, on-call mother.

Now in 1971 we must look forward — to anticipate and to be prepared to meet future needs — to initiate preventive measures in the areas of social problems, the areas of youth, low income families, and the constructive use of our rapidly increasing leisure time.

Nine years ago, Georgetown needed a "Y"; today the need is greater; tomorrow we will be needed even more. The past year has been one of critical examination in Canadian "Y's" and in our local "Y". We are flexible and adaptable. We can do wonders — but not without the support of the public.

CAMPAIGN
One week from now the annual campaign for funds for our local "Y" will be in its final stages. Will we have the public's financial vote of confidence to expand in needed areas, or will we be forced to stand still, prevented from fulfilling our potential because of a lack of funds? The answer is up to every Georgetown citizen, business and industry.

The "Y" can and should become a vital part of your family's life — even if they are now very young. Improvements cannot be made overnight — or by wishing. We have our dreams — our "castles in the air", now is the time to build their foundations.

When the canvasser calls at your house please receive him graciously. He is giving his time for something in which he believes. He is there not just to collect your money, but to find your interests, your talents and your desires.

Please be generous. If Georgetown is to become the vital community we would all like it to be, then we must give it our best. Blitz night is Monday, October 25.

In the Mail Bag

Says No Choice in Today's Election

Georgetown, Ontario,
31 Byron Street.

Dear Mr. Editor:
We are being given the opportunity to cast a vote for Provincial government on Thursday, October 21st.

Should we vote for the Conservatives who have sunk the taxpayers with their overpaid, over-fancy school system? The thirty-five thousand dollar salary being paid to the chief executive of the Halton county board is more for one individual than was paid to all those devoted educationalists in the county for many years past. A reduction to \$15,000 is in order along with similar reductions to the other over paid members of the board.

Also the Conservative's attempts at regional governments which have proved to be ineffective, inefficient and very costly. Nix on that!
Vote for the N.D.P.? And have the running of the country eventually put in the hands of a minority clamoring and

vociferous group? No! No! No! What about the Liberals? Promises as usual from them as from the Conservatives without fulfillment for the people who need help most.
What a laugh! Not much choice, eh? None at all.
Yours truly,
Ed. A. Peters.

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Ballinacraigh News

Miss Florrie Kirkpatrick flew back to her home in Belfast, Ireland, on Saturday after spending a few days visiting here with her cousin, the Floyd Shortill and the Wright family. Miss Kirkpatrick spent the first part of her holiday visiting with a cousin in Oliphant, who is recovering from an illness.

The eighth line was the scene of much activity for a few days last week when the telephone company was busy laying the underground wires for the telephone.

Sorry to have to report Miss Beatrice Hills and Mr. Fred W. Shortill are patients in the Georgetown & District Hospital. We understand they are responding to treatment and hope their stay will be short.

Mr. Frank Smith returned home on Tuesday from the Scarborough Centenary Hospital after a successful eye operation for the removal of a cataract.

Many relatives and friends were at Church on Sunday to witness the christening of baby Laurie Ann Linstead. Rev. Kelvin Johnston officiated at the ceremony when Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Linstead presented their little daughter for baptism.

The area men who went up north to hunt recently were successful in bagging a moose.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest McEnery spent Sunday with the Early's in Campbellville and attended anniversary services at Ebenezer Church.

—Mrs. W. Smith

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MOORE PARK PLAZA

CORRECTION

DUE TO AN ERROR IN THE HERALD OFFICE last week, the opening date announcement for the

NEW CANADIAN TIRE STORE

was incorrect. It should have read

OPENING FRIDAY, OCT. 15

WE EXTEND OUR APOLOGIES to all Canadian Tire Customers, who may have been inconvenienced by our error.

Georgetown Herald



PHOTO BY GEORGE ADAMS

Your Georgetown YM-YWCA Helps People

The Georgetown YM-YWCA is a member of a world wide fellowship, dedicated to the growth of persons in spirit, mind and body and a sense of responsibility to each other and the human community.

ITS ACHIEVEMENTS ARE DIRECTLY PROPORTIONATE TO THE RESPONSE AND SUPPORT OF OUR CITIZENS. MANY GEORGETOWN RESIDENTS GIVE GENEROUSLY, BOTH OF THEIR TIME AND THEIR MONEY. WHEN THE CANVASSER CALLS, HE/SHE ASKS ONLY FOR A LITTLE OF YOUR MONEY.

YM-YWCA Annual Funds Drive, Oct. 25-30

Help your "Y" to serve others

