

Georgetown Herald

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

Question With Pros and Cons

A jurisdiction dispute between town council and the Recreation Committee has left Georgetown with no regulations for snowmobile operation within town limits.

It is particularly sad because both groups agree that regulations are needed, as do a majority of residents. And to stall needed regulation because of a disagreement on how this winter sport should be carried on in parks, should be something which could be speedily solved.

The contentious point is whether a proposed by-law should specify in what park locations snowmobile trails will be established.

The Recreation Committee wants

this left to them, to change as conditions may dictate. Council says these should be defined in the by-law.

Both sides have a point. Council wants a clear definition, believing it would be difficult to administer a by-law which could have shifting regulations.

Recreation officials say that weather conditions could alter any original plan.

Surely, there is some way the two groups can get together and put the by-law into effect. It has many other clauses of importance, not the least of which is to keep the machines off Main and Guelph streets, dangerous routes for both snowmobilers and other vehicles.

Let's Get Together

While we do not completely favour establishment of government-operated day care centres for children of working mothers, it would seem that this is to be one of the additions to life which a changing society demands.

With the Ontario government promoting this, through generous subsidies on construction, Georgetown council is taking a look, trying to ascertain the need, before discussing action.

Certainly, we are in a world of working mothers, and there can be decided advantages in having child care centralized under an organized system.

And yet, if the idea is promoted too strongly, is there not discrimination against mothers who decide to stay home and look after their own children?

We are not familiar with the fees which would be established, or how these would compare with what women pay now for private baby sitting.

However, assuming that a centralized day care system were operating, we feel that it should be available, not only for children of working parents, but should also have accommodation for children when the mother at home wants a day off from her chores as a housewife.

The other angle which council must consider, of course, is whether there is a need for a day care centre, or whether the town is adequately served by the many women who supplement their husband's income by caring for another's child. If so, despite subsidy, there would be no need for the town to embark on such a project.

He Means It

Twenty-five years as an emcee at dinners and social events is a long time.

And Wheldon (Steamer) Emmerson has decided to be only a listener in future, so he told us this week.

Mr. Emmerson's retirement from the public platform is definite, he said, for a number of reasons. For one, he says that, despite the seeming ease with which he emcees an event, there is a nervous strain, a striving for originality, the choice of material to fit the occasion. An emcee, worth his salt, is a performer, and on each appearance, an emcee is subject to the same butterflies which opening night performers suffer in the wings.

For another, he feels there are many others well qualified to head up a dinner, and it's time they had their chance.

Don't get him wrong. Our Steamer has enjoyed every minute of it, as anyone knows who has attended an event where he presided. One has to like the job, as well as having the talent for it, to perform so successfully in public.

It is particularly fitting that his last appearance was on Monday at the Senior Citizens dinner, which has been enhanced by his wit almost since its inception.

For all those who have enjoyed him, the Herald says thanks, Steamer, for a job well done. We'll miss you.

New Carol

"God of Eaton's, Birks"

A tongue-in-cheek selection of humorous songs and "hymns" you'll never discover in the new United Church Anglican hymn book are to be found in the current issue of the United Church Observer.

Pointing out that modern hymns are supposed to be relevant to the concerns of the people singing, the Observer suggests as a hymn for office girls:

"God of fashion. God of style,
God of Toronto's Golden Mile,
God of Eaton's and of Birks,
Jewelry, make-up all the works:
Help us look both smart and sweet.

With spelling right and typing neat!
For the youngest, mini-skirted girls,
The Observer suggests a substitute:
"Help us keep the brass at ease,
With mind on work and eyes off knees."
For the businessmen who run church finances, the Observer suggests:

"God of bears and God of bulls,
Help us when the market lulls,
God of bulls and God of bears,
God who guides and God who cares,
Keep all our investments sound
That pension funds may go around."

have those crumby old T-shirts that you hate so much. But it really fits me, doesn't it?"

And so on. I don't think I need to elaborate. She got the blouse, our tenpenny typewriter, various pots and pans, the only deodorant in the house and about 64 other items, too miscellaneous to list.

The Old Lady finally balked when Kim tried on a fur jacket and started swanking around in front of the mirror, cooing, "This really does something for me, doesn't it, Mum?" Her mother stood her ground and said, in effect, you get your rotten hands off that jacket.

Well, as I said, I thought Kim was an artist at ripping off. I changed my mind when we took her to the city and saw the apartment she and another girl had rented in the fall. Kim is a rank amateur, a babe-in-the-woods, compared to city landlords. The apartment is on the fringe of a slum area.

In September, she told us glowingly that the apartment was "really neat." It had a new stove and fridge. There were three bedrooms, kitchen, dining room and living room and bathroom, all for \$145 a month. It was unfurnished, of course. Sounded pretty good.

The "new" stove has an oven that does not work. The "new" fridge might fetch twelve dollars at a rummage sale and the handle is falling off.

The kitchen is like something out of Dickens. The bedrooms are boxes, only one with a window. There are no locks on the doors. The toilet doesn't work, except when it feels like it. Etc.

Rip-off. I'll never be a wealthy old schoolteacher. But I'm certainly going to look into the prospects of becoming a wealthy old slum landlord.

Name Locations Outdoor Rinks
Outdoor skating rinks will be established at Cedarvale near Maple Avenue, Joseph Gibbons Park on Weber Drive, Harrison Public School, Centennial Senior School and Joseph Gibbons Public School in Moore Park when the weather permits.

A GRC spokesman told The Herald they are also considering other sites. Second rinks at the sites listed above will also be created later to separate the pleasure skaters from the shinny players.

Any community organization interested in taking on the care of a rink should contact the GRC.



THE TENDERFOOT

In the Mail Bag

Says UAW Leaflet Tell It Like It Is

Georgetown, Ont.
Mr. Editor:
Here are the true facts regarding the strike by Local 1967 UAW against the McDonnell-Douglas plant in Malton as contained in an information leaflet distributed by the Local's bargaining committee:

"On Oct. 13, 1971, 4600 Aerospace workers, members of Local 1967, UAW, at the large McDonnell-Douglas Plant in Malton, Ontario, were forced to take strike action when all other attempts to negotiate a settlement failed.

"The Company's attitude toward negotiations had been shabby from the beginning and they refused to bargain in good faith.

"After U.S. President Nixon introduced his 'wage freeze' on August 13, 1971, the Company's attitude became more contemptuous and they told our bargaining committee that they were not prepared to talk about anything at negotiations.

"The radio, newspapers and television have given a lot of distorted publicity as to the reasons why the Douglas workers rejected the Company offer. In all cases the media blew up of proportion the actual wage increase offered and depicted it

as being between 80 cents to \$1.00. They also tried to create some disparity between the Local Union and its International. Never once did they mention that the monetary offer fell within Nixon's wage guidelines or that the Company was importing that wage freeze to Canada.

"As Canadian workers, we feel that Nixon's wage freezing guidelines have no place here. After all, Canadian workers and the C.L.C. have just come through a struggle to defeat Prime Minister Trudeau and Dr. John Young's attempts at a 6 percent Canadian wage guide line.

"We sincerely urge all workers to stand on guard against the imposition of U.S. wage guide lines in Canada. If the McDonnell-Douglas Corporation imposes it successfully against the Aerospace workers, you can be sure that all American-owned Corporations will also try to ram the wage freeze down the throats of the workers in steel, rubber, textiles, chemicals, and so on.

"The Aerospace workers of Local 1967, U.A.W., ask for your support in defeating this wage freeze. Please write or cable your members of Parliament, the leadership of the C.L.C. and O.F.I., and the Douglas Aircraft Co. of Canada, protesting the Company's arrogant attitude toward Canadian workers.

"Wages broken down over the 3-year period are as follows: -39c the first year, 17c of which they already owe us from the last Contract; so that gives us a 22c

raise. -25c raise the following November, 1972, and it is Bargaining Committee opinion that the reason we got 13c of that was to give up the C.O.L. for 1 year - that is instead of the C.O.L. Cap. being removed in Dec. 1971 - we have to wait till Dec. 1972, and the 3rd year is an increase of 3 percent plus an extra 2c which would give us 15c approximately. -'We've had no improvement

in vacations for at least 9 years. This time they offer brothers, with at least 15 years seniority half a week extra. At least 90 percent of the people started in the Plant after Feb. 1963. -'We could go on but all we are trying to do is to get the truth to the people.

-Jack McAusland
11 Norton Cres.
-Jack Hall
297 Delrex Blvd.

In the Mail Bag

Indian Linguist Supports "Last Out Creek" Theory

Glen Williams,
To the editor of the Herald:
It seems that the Great Esquing Debate continues, and that the meaning of the Indian words that give our township its name remains unsettled. Perhaps a derstand the language would help settle the problem. I put the question to a friend, Henry Rogers, who is a member of the University of Toronto anthropology department, and he in turn asked a fellow linguist, Johnathan Kaye, and got the following interpretation:

ishkwé -- last
sing -- at
ishkwéwing -- "at the last one",
or "where the last one is".
For Chinguacousy they suggested:
zhingwak -- pine
ous -- little
ing -- at
zhingwakosing -- at the little pine.

HASTIE EDGE
All of which suggests that Ben Case's "last out creek" has the edge over K. C. Lindsay's "land of the tall pines". (Both men acknowledge that the word is the Indian name for a stream within the township.)

That doesn't leave the township with a very colourful (or even very logical) name. But perhaps that's another point in Mr. Case's favour. There is a principle in biblical criticism that if you have two variant readings of a text, the more difficult one is probably closer to the original. It's more likely that a scribe would change a word to have it make more sense than the other way around.

That seemingly is what the early settlers did, according to Mr. Lindsay's evidence. Since there were few pines on the clay soil of Chinguacousy, that came to mean "the flat plains" or the "clay plains". Chinguacousy township now, however, makes the same claim as Esquing, that its name means "land of the tall pines", and both townships use the same sort of emblems on their trucks to lay claim to that translation. If they

were pressed, though, I think Chinguacousy would admit to being "land of the young pine".

PROVIDE MASTS
Though Esquing hasn't had the tall pines in its name, it has had them in fact, as the enormous timbers in St. Stephen's Church, Hornby give evidence. At one time, too, timbers were heven here to provide masts for vessels of the British navy. So the widely held tradition grew up that this was the land of the tall pines, and only recently has Chinguacousy grown bold enough to try to reclaim the title.

(Often tradition becomes more important than literal meaning. When an early printer of the bible

left out an "s" in setting up his type for Job 41:18 the sneezing of the sea-monster Leviathan became his "neesings". But from then until the present time every copy of the King James Version has proclaimed poor Leviathan's "neesings".

Perhaps the people of the township could make a compromise between the letter and tradition. They could acknowledge that the Indian name Esquing - whatever creek it refers to - means "at the last one", yet still retain the tradition, based on what the early settlers found here; that they are the "land of the tall pines".

Sincerely,
-Richard Huggie.

The Weather

Only One Record in Unspectacular November

by ROGER SMITH
November, 1971, was truly an unspectacular month in Georgetown - at least in the weather department.
The average temperature, 35.7 degrees, was 0.3 degrees below the 30 year average, and was therefore one of the closest to "Normal" in our 58 years of records.

It was somewhat drier than usual, with total precipitation of 1.83 inches, about 90 percent of usual. There was 1.01 inches of rain and 8.2 inches of snow - only 1968 had more snow in the past 13 years.

CONSIDERABLE FOG
Sunshine was near the usual total, adding up to 112 hours, about 37 percent of the possible total. As usual, many days were overcast, 13 days having less than one hour of sunshine. The cloudy weather was accompanied by considerable fog in mid-November.
The first six November days

continued the October trend, dry and mild. Highest for the month, 68 degrees, occurred on the 2nd. Although it was not a record, it was the warmest November temperature since Nov. 3, 1961. After this, temperatures fluctuated widely.

VERY MILD
A new record of 13 degrees occurred November 9, replacing the record of 18 degrees in 1924. On the 18th, a very mild 65 degrees came within one degree of the record, but this was followed by heavy rain and much colder weather. By the 23rd, the temperature reached 6 degrees, only three above the record for the day.

Nov. 29, there was a 4 inch snowfall, followed by clear, cold weather. Lows were near record Dec. 1 and 2 - 2 inches on the 1st (Old record, 3 degrees, 1936) and minus 1 on the 2nd (record is minus 4 in 1930). By the weekend, however, temperatures had reached the high thirties.

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BILL SMILEY

Bill Finds Out About a Rip-Off

Do you have difficulty in communicating with young people? Don't worry. We all do.

I have two of my own, and I teach the critics every day, in droves, and I have trouble.

I've come to the conclusion that it's not our fault, it's theirs. We just can't keep up with their ever-changing slang.

For years I thought a hang-up was something I'd had during the war. It was what we called the rather delicate situation created when one of your bombs was caught by the tail and, hanging nose down, fused, refused to drop.

I had to land with one of these babies dangling there, one day. One bounce on landing and the aircraft and yours truly went to glory. As you can see, I landed like a feather on a snowbank, but it was a little disconcerting to see everyone on the air-strip flat on his face as I was coming in.

almost old hat in younger circles. It means anything from an obsession to a minor worry. You can be hung-up on the other sex, on drugs, on school work.

Another term that is enjoying quite a vogue these days is "rip-off". Basically, it means stealing, but there are milder forms. It can also mean talking somebody out of something you want, conning somebody into taking something he doesn't want, not providing something you've promised, and so on.

My daughter Kim was home from college last week. She was supposed to come home for the weekend, but it was so pleasant at home, and the food was so good, and she enjoyed being spoiled so much that she stayed the whole week.

I observed her manoeuvres as she prepared to return, and thought I was seeing a real rip-off artist at work.

It went something like this. "Oh, Mom, is that ever a smart blouse! Could I try it on?" Momma, with resignation, "O.K., but you're not getting it. That's the only decent thing I have to wear". Kim, brightly, "Oh, I don't need it; I