

Georgetown Herald

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Page 2 GEORGETOWN HERALD, THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 1972

EDITORIAL COMMENT

"Optimistic" Town

Georgetown has never lacked optimists, but only in the past few weeks have we acquired those with a capital 'O'.

Officially organized in January, members of the newly-formed Optimist Club of Georgetown, are looking forward to their charter night, planned for the Howard Johnston Hotel at Malton in April.

The club has had an auspicious start, with 35 charter members. And membership is still open to other men who might wish to join.

An international organization, one of the club's main aims is work with boys. Georgetown will be one of over 3,000 clubs in Canada and the States, starting from a club in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1919.

Objects of the club, according to a bulletin issued by headquarters, are: to promote an active interest in good government and civic affairs; to promote patriotism and work for international accord and friendship among all people; to aid and encourage the development of youth.

One of the first projects undertaken is an oratorical contest, in which 15 young people have already enrolled.

And the club is also considering helping with the administration workload of the Big Brothers in Georgetown, which lies into its work.

We wish the Optimists a long and successful career as they join other civic-minded men and women who, as members of service clubs, make an important contribution to community life.

Reasons For Giving

Best known, perhaps, through sponsorship of blood donor clinics, the Georgetown and District Red Cross branch is involved in many other public services.

This week, as a prelude to a campaign for funds, a circular was issued which details ways in which the Red Cross serves the community.

Almost too well known to repeat, the Society collects blood which is made available free through hospitals in Canada. When one receives blood at Georgetown hospital, it may well be that this is from a local donor. But regardless, someone in need benefits from your anonymous gift.

If fire or flood damages a home, clothing, bedding and shelter and food for three days is available. A loan cupboard provides a hospital bed, crutches or wheelchair, free, if

needed. Swimming instruction is given by Red Cross instructors at district swimming areas.

Friendly visits are made to shut-ins and senior citizens. A group of volunteers sew in their homes, supplying articles for distribution if disaster strikes.

Yearly courses in home nursing are taught by qualified personnel.

A new homemaker service is now available, but in this case, a charge is made. When able, Red Cross will place a trained homemaker for 4 hours or more a day, while a mother is ill or in the case of a chronically ill senior citizen.

One of the above would be reason enough to justify a donation to the annual fund campaign. Add them all together, and a donation should be a 'must'.

Hockey Resurgence

Hockey in Georgetown, which filled the arena to overflowing in days when the town was much smaller, has had its ups and downs in recent seasons.

It's seldom that one has had to arrive at the arena an hour before game time to be assured of a seat.

But this season, there has been steadily mounting interest, as the North Halton Raiders, icing one of the best-balanced teams for many a year, continues to give fans their money's worth in action.

Now in the playoffs, the Raiders would draw even better crowds. And could be we'll again see a waiting line-up down to the highway and around the corner, as happened many a time in the forties and fifties.

Older sports fans will recall the days when the visiting Acton Tanners would pack the arena for a fire marshal's nightmare. Those days, there was a much smaller lobby,

where as many as possible of the fans would jam between periods, to sample hot dogs and hamburgers, or just jostle around swapping opinions of the night's play.

Then there was the year when playoff tickets were sold on a reserved seat basis, and were sold out an hour after they first went on sale, leaving many faithful fans on the outside. That was as close to a riot as we've ever had in our years in Georgetown.

The older generation still fondly recalls the days when, without artificial ice here, late season playoffs were shifted to other centres - Galt, for one - and special trains took hundreds to the game.

If the train left at 5.00 p.m., the whole town closed down. We could fill a book with stories of those 'specials'. Long after we've forgotten who won the game, sidelights are fresh in memory.

Trees And Shrubs Ice-Damaged?

The rain and ice of this past week has caused many damaged trees and shrubs. Repairs to this damage should be made as soon as it is feasible to work at it. Broken and split branches are an open invitation to disease organisms to enter the tree and could cause further damage and deterioration.

All broken branches should be removed and the wounds covered with a tree dressing. Use a sharp saw or pruning shears and make straight

clean cuts at all times.

TWO STAGES

The removal of large branches should be done in two stages. The first cut should be made about six inches from the trunk of the tree. Cut about 2/3 through the branch from the top and make the final cut from the bottom but about one-half inch closer to the trunk. Once the branch is off, the remaining stub can be removed close to the trunk without danger of stripping off the bark. Apply wound

dressing and the job is done.

Trees with the tops broken off should be sawn off straight to remove the jagged end and wound dressing applied to the cut. The shape of the tree will be spoiled for a while but vigorous, healthy trees will soon fill out and the damaged area will not be noticeable.

If you are in doubt or cannot do the work yourself, call your local landscaper. They are trained and equipped to do this work safely and properly.



WINTER OLYMPICS

Wonders Why Not Local Volunteer

35 Normandy Blvd.
Editor of the Herald,
Dear Sir,

As a taxpayer and subscriber to your paper for over 25 years, I am writing to protest the decision of our council in the hiring of our new Fire Chief.

It seems to me that we have qualified men in Georgetown who could fill this position. Or are they only good enough to serve us as "volunteers"? Most of these men have 20, 25, or 30 years of service to their community.

Just because one man has better marks in an exam, it doesn't mean he is the better man. We have never had any complaints in any of our past Fire Chiefs, so why did council have to go out of town to hire one which they are willing to pay \$11,000 plus yearly? It sure smells to high heaven to me.

In closing let me say that I have no connection in any way, shape or form with the Fire Department. I just feel that they got a raw deal.

Thank you.

Yours truly,
Jim Bradley.

Hopes Fluoride Advocates Read 'Overexposure' Story

101 Rexway Drive
Georgetown Herald.
Dear Sir:

"Fluoride Overexposure Possible, NRC Says; Study of Effects Urged."

This was the headline of an article in the Globe and Mail Wednesday February 16, 1972. The article stated that the

National Research Council has called for concerted scientific investigation of the effects on humans of fluorides.

Those of us who openly declared our skepticism of fluoridation received abuse both written and verbal. I hope the individuals who were so adept at rudeness and sarcasm read the article.

It is quite obvious that had such a study been done, that a body such as the NRC would have discovered it.

If anyone would like to read the article, they are welcome to contact me.

Yours truly
Mary Simpson



WINTER GLITTER

Candy-coated trees were everywhere after the freezing rain.



BILL SMILEY

Picket Lines at The Front Door

It's only a matter of time. In the past generation, Joe Nobody, you and I, have suffered from every conceivable type of strike that the warped little human mind can conceive.

You name it: from dock-walkers to doctors, from technicians to teachers, everybody seems to have had a whack at trying to strangle a few more bucks or privileges out of the innocent bystander. That's you and I.

I'm getting pretty sour about the whole nonsense. Somehow, I can't fathom either the economics or the ethics of a man who is worth \$1.25 an hour, and is getting \$2.75, demanding that he be paid \$4.00 and another \$2.00 in fringe benefits.

Strikes are annoying, frustrating and usually pointless, in these days. The worker gets a raise and it takes him two years to get back to where he was, financially. The employer

merely raises his prices, or taxes. The rest of us get it in two painful places, the neck and the pocket-book.

But that's all common knowledge, and beside the point. One of these fine days, the most potent work force in the country is going to realize what a powerful weapon is the strike, and hit the picket line.

When it does, we'll look back with nostalgia and longing to the good old days when a strike merely meant you couldn't take that trip, or there was a shortage of sanitary napkins, or some similar calamity was thrust upon us.

That will be the day the housewives of the country, inflamed by Women's Lib, dull husbands, and rotten kids, walk out the doors demanding more money, better working conditions, and vast fringe benefits.

That will be a day that will make the present vast tie-ups

due to strikes look like id-die-winks. That will be a day that might signal the end of civilization as we know it.

I'm not kidding, and I'm definitely not exaggerating. If the housewives of this nation withdrew such elementary items as cooking and cleaning, sex and sewing from our lives, the whole foundation of our society would collapse.

Not immediately, of course. For perhaps two days, husbands would chortle, "She'll soon come around. She knows when she has a good thing." And kids would roar with laughter, "Is your old lady on this strike kick too? It's a riot. But she won't last. She needs us."

After a week, the comments would change tone. Husbands: "What the hell is wrong with that crazy woman? I've given her the best years of my life." And kids: "Look, if she doesn't come back, she's in for trouble. I haven't had a decent meal or a clean pair of socks for days. And Dad is getting nasty. Wants me to do the dishes and garbage like that."

In two weeks the "innocent bystanders" would be on their knees. And the garbage would be up to their knees.

Husbands: "Listen, kid. You go out and tell your mother that I'll give her eight, no, ten dollars a month to blow on herself. Sky's the limit." Kids: "Listen Dad, this is all your fault. We need that woman, even if she is only our mother. All our buttons are off, and the sink's

full of dishes, and the dishes are full of crud.

In a month, the hospitals and the mental institutions would be overflowing. The take-home chicken joints and the delicatessens would be booming, but the supermarkets would be heading for bankruptcy. Family axe-murders would be so common they wouldn't even rate two inches on Page 35.

There's only one thing that will prevent this catastrophe. As we all know, housewives are extreme individualists. They can't even agree on the texture of toilet paper. How could they agree on such delicate matters as fringe benefits. Some would want forty cents to sew on a button; others would settle for a quarter.

And if they did form a union, it would take them twelve years to draw up the constitution, and everyone would want to be president.

So relax, you neglectful husbands and demanding kids. We're probably safe. But give the whole idea a long, deep thought.

FUN FOR CHARITY

Saturday's evening at the arena will have a double purpose - to raise funds for the Mentally Retarded Association, while providing an evening of entertainment.

Personnel of CKCO Radio and TV, Kitchener, are lending their talents in a hockey game with Legion and Kinsmen, with door prizes and many 'extras'.

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