

# Georgetown Herald

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## Really Just Privilege

Georgetown council this week lent its support to an Oakville resolution that would institute a form of ticket issued to owners of pets that run at large.

The idea is to make owners more directly aware of the infraction, and at the same time, provide some greater measure of control.

It probably won't work. Pets, especially dogs, are supposed to be man's best friends, but man often isn't the best friend of most pets. If he were, then there wouldn't be the large number of cats, dogs and such destroyed in pounds every year.

It's a nasty suggestion to make, but the only sure form of pet control is pet control. Municipalities have to institute stiff measures about pet ownership if they want to control pet populations, especially the population that runs at large.

This means banning pets altogether, or rigidly limiting their numbers. Strict enforcement also is required, much more so than generally is followed now.

Pet owners, of course, can be expected to scream. But the law usually has been bent in their direction. Non-pet owners, who don't like to see lawns and gardens festooned with droppings, are often regarded as mother-haters, child-beaters and even Communists if they protest too loudly.

Even the occasional molestation that might involve a dog and a child, for example, rarely ever seems to produce much counter-reaction against pet ownership. It must be regarded as a simple hazard of pet ownership.

A few rigid applications of rules might be what society needs to drive home the lesson that pet ownership is a responsibility. It's a responsibility that derives from privilege, not right.

## Little Red Hen '73

Once upon a time, there was a little red hen who scratched about and uncovered some grains of wheat. She called her barnyard neighbors and said, "If we work together and plant this wheat, we will have some bread to eat. Who will help me?" "Not I," said the cow. "Not I," said the duck, as did the goose. "Then I will plant it," the little red hen said. And she did.

Much later, when the wheat started to grow, the little red hen was again denied help. At length, the wheat was ready for harvesting. "Who will help me reap the wheat?" the little red hen asked. "Not I," said the cow. Same thing from the duck and the goose. "Out of my classification," said the pig.

So the little red hen harvested the wheat herself. Then she ground the wheat into flour. Now, at last, she asked help with the baking. "That's overtime for me," said the cow. "I'm a dropout and never learned how," said the duck. "I'd lose my welfare benefits," said the pig. "If I'm the only one helping, that would be discrimination," said the goose. "No thanks."

So the little red hen baked and

showed her neighbors the five loaves. "I want some," said the cow, as did the duck. "I want my share," said the goose, while the pig also demanded his share. "No soap," said the little red hen. "I'll just take it easy for a while and enjoy my bread." "Excess profits!" cried the cow. "Company link!" shouted the goose and the pig also demanded equal rights.

Pretty soon, the farmer came to investigate the commotion. "You must not be greedy," he told them. "Look at the oppressed cow, the disadvantaged duck and the underprivileged pig... the less fortunate goose. You are making second-class citizens out of them."

"But I earned the bread," the little red hen said. "Exactly!" the farmer said. "That is the free enterprise system. Anybody can earn as much as he wants. In other barnyards, you would have to give all five loaves to the farmer. Here, you keep one and give four loaves to your suffering neighbors."

And they lived happily ever after, including the little red hen, whose neighbors never ceased to wonder why in the world she never raised any more wheat or baked any more bread.

## Fussbudgeting Pays Off

If a Georgetown householder received \$100 a week to spend on necessities, and had \$10 left by the time the end of the week rolled around, the natural temptation would be to spend the remaining amount on anything, necessity or not, to avoid the possibility that the next week's stipend might be cut to \$90.

That situation is something like the one which happened to several Ontario ministries, which it was later shown, hurried to spend approved budgets to avoid future cutbacks. An investigation discovered that last-minute shopping did, in fact, occur, along with unusual transfers of funds that helped exhaust budgets before

the end of fiscal years.

Now, at least two Ontario ministries, health and natural resources, operate under directives that order staff not to follow irregular practices.

Does all this seem to be an exercise in fussbudgeting?

Perhaps, but it should be some consolation to all Ontario taxpayers that better budgeting might result, with more realistic appraisal of needs and some expenditure according to priorities.

Out of all this comes the chance that taxpayers will receive better value for their tax dollars. And that's not such a bad thing, is it?

## ECHOES FROM THE PAST

### 10 YEARS AGO

A move designed to bring an extra \$15,000 yearly in water revenue to the town, and overcome a present \$42,000 deficit in the water department, was given initial council approval. On a split 5-4 vote, council gave two readings to a new water bylaw. The present minimum gallonage of 6,000 was reduced to 5,000, and the minimum water charge was increased from the present \$2 to \$3.55. Sewer service charge was to remain at an extra 50 per cent of the water bill.

### 30 YEARS AGO

Approval of a \$5,000,000 conservation project which will include dams at Georgetown, Silvercreek and Glen Williams was granted by Georgetown council. But council will continue to press for earlier construction of the Mountview Road dam slated near the end of the 15-year program.

### 20 YEARS AGO

Council held a court of revision to deal with local improvement charges for sewerage extensions. Council heard an appeal from Mrs. A. N. Cole about the charges for a sewer running along Charity Lane. She said she felt that this charge was unjust, due to the fact that she had previously been required to hook up to a sewer at the rear of her property on back street. The court was in sympathy and the charge was written off. Alterations in the size of three lots along the highway were also adjusted. Dominion Seed House appealed for a deferred payment on its sewer charge of \$2,635, until such time as its property might be subdivided, but the court of revision felt it had no jurisdiction in this matter, the sewer house had the option of appealing to a higher court.

## READER'S FORUM

### Health Hazards Feared

Sir: On June 5, 1973, a group of about twenty Pollution Probe Georgetown members went on a tour of the local sewage treatment plant. We were cordially escorted by Win Smith, chief operator of the plant, who explained the processes involved in handling Georgetown's sewage.

We were truly impressed with the fantastic efforts made by the staff in handling the presently overloaded sewage treatment system. Mr. Smith informed us that despite the plant's capacity

of 1.5 million gallons, the average flow of sewage was at 2.8 million.

On rainy and heavier than normal days, the plant becomes overburdened and sewage must be diverted almost directly into the river being partially treated only.

This to say the least presents a health hazard problem to people not only in the Georgetown area but also to those living in municipalities further down the Credit River. Not a few of us may have observed that our children are playing in

and around Silver Creek (west branch of the Credit), wading, swimming, picnicking, etc., with the potential danger of acquiring some detrimental viruses or other deleterious health problems.

We must emphasize that, after our tour, we are fully satisfied with the manner in which the plant staff is attempting to handle the increased levels of sewage flow, considering the inadequate facilities which are available to them.

It seems that the culprit in these circumstances is poor planning by our local politicians. This narrowness of insight is leading us into disastrous living conditions which one finds in today's overcrowded metropolitan centres, thus destroying the natural beauty of the area we reside in.

It is true that we are being assured that additional facilities for the handling of sewage will be built sometime in the future (a minimum of two years before these additions can be made).

At the rate Georgetown population is growing, and considering the new subdivision being planned on the south side of the plant, we wonder whether or not the problem will merely continue on, unabated.

Pollution Probe, Georgetown.

### UNICYCLING

Sir: Georgetown has so many clubs and organizations now, we need something unusual.

How about a unicycle club? My 12-year-old sister, 16-year-old brother and me, 16, can ride one. I'm sure there would be some people interested to learn to ride one, and go for trips.

It's not hard to learn, it just takes a lot of practice.

Anyone interested?

Rebecca Pettingill, Norval

### SEWAGE AGAIN

Sir: This is a copy of a letter submitted to the council of the Town of Georgetown.

As residents of Chinguacousy Township, we are disturbed by the present overloading of the Georgetown sewage disposal plant and its adverse effects on the Credit River.

The Credit is one of the least polluted rivers in the general Toronto area and we, and many other persons, would like to see it remain that way.

Present average daily throughput of 2.8 million gallons, for a plant designed for 1.5 million gallons, would, in our opinion, indicate a need to curtail further expansion of Georgetown, at least until adequate treatment capacity can be achieved, including tertiary treatment.

Would you please advise us when your plant will be updated, and whether building permits are currently being withheld for the reason mentioned above? May we hear from you?

Robert Hansen, Helen Hansen, RR2 Norval

## Bill Bucked By Chamber

OTTAWA: "It has become apparent that short-term political considerations are being given priority over the long-term national interests, and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce has no alternative but to appeal to your committee to recommend that Bill C-132 be withdrawn."

This was the message given to the Commons committee on finance, trade and economic affairs by A.O. Wolff, chairman of the chamber's foreign investment and national industrial strategy committee.

"Notwithstanding our sincere and well-believed, objective approach," he said, "we were dismayed with the Minister's apparent determination not to consider any constructive suggestions with respect to eliminating certain evident shortcomings in the bill."

It is difficult to understand how the minister can be so inflexible, when this issue is critical to the economic growth of this country and to the future well-being of every Canadian."

Mr. Wolff said, "Of prime concern is the section of the Bill relating to the concept of 'significant benefit'. This should be substituted by the test of 'detriment' or 'prejudice', thus empowering the federal government to block any investment which it considers contrary to Canadian interests or objectives."

Moreover, as long as the test of 'significant benefit' is retained, the Chamber is convinced that great difficulty in the implementation of this legislation will result from conflicts of objectives between the provinces and the federal government."

The chamber met with Alastair Gillespie, minister of industry, trade and commerce, and other ministers and senior officials on June 1, to present to them the results of a two-year undertaking by 13 major business and trade associations on national strategy.

At that meeting, representatives from the chamber were led to believe that the results of their efforts were timely and, indeed, coincided with the minister's views with respect to a coordinated and co-operative approach in this area.

## O'CONNOR'S OTTAWA

BY TERRY O'CONNOR (PC-Halton)

Most Wednesday evenings in June, there can be heard on Parliament Hill, strange guttural yells, grunts, groans and the occasional cheer. No, the Members of Parliament have not resorted to physical methods of persuading each other of their points of view. The scene is the front lawn of the Parliament buildings, and the occasions are the annual softball games between the Members of the Commons Protective Staff and the Press Gallery.

Overweight and out-of-shape bodies are forced to dive headlong for a line-drive or made to lumber down to second base. Points of order or privilege are raised only when a batter "knows" that a third strike was a ball and the umpire "knows" differently. However, when the umpire is someone of the imposing size and authority of Linc Alexander from Hamilton, the protester is wasting his time.

No differences are set aside and national unity prevails. A Quebec Nationalist can hit a home run as well as a B.C. socialist as well as a Newfoundland Tory. Or as poorly.

The people of Canada will be proud to know that their elected representatives can do more than just talk. We whipped the Commons Protective Staff 21-3, and cleaned up the Press Gallery 19-9. And the people of Halton will be proud to know that their (honorable?) Member starred in these victories as second-string right-fielder and first-string third-base coach.

Highlights of the games included the efforts of Warren Allmand, who when not playing a tight second-base and wielding a heavy bat, is Canada's Solicitor General in charge of the penitentiary system. After stealing third base, an act quite unbecoming of the country's chief law enforcement officer, he was immediately ordered to return it.

John Reynolds, a Tory member from B.C., hit the longest homerun since the Great Pipeline debate — right into the tulip bed to the West of the Peace Tower.

NDP SIDELINE  
Lorne Nystrom, the best NDP sideline pitcher ever to come out of Yorkton, Saskatchewan, — also the only one — is largely responsible for our successes. It is indisputably in the interests of our team, if not so indisputably in the interests of the country, that he continue to be re-elected.



SOMETIMES I TRY TO KEEP IN STEP WITH ONE — SOMETIMES WITH THE OTHER.

## THE OLD OTTAWA SOFT SHOE

BILL SMILEY

## Love Him A Little Kids Show Teacher



This year, as I mentioned previously, my wife taught English in a private school. It was her first crack at teaching, aside from kindergarten and music, and she taught a Grade 13 class so it was no cinch. She worked hard at it.

again without going around the bend, and that this is a pretty good lot of kids.

SCARED  
Some of the youngsters are actually scared when it comes upon them that another umbilical cord has been cut, and the great big heart world is waiting to swallow them. Occasionally there are tears.

One young lady wanted to know, as she wept, "How did you feel when you left high school?" She obviously meant that she was almost heart-broken. But she received the realistic answer, "Great. It was the happiest day of my life."

At any rate, the last day of school usually produces a feeling of fondness and exchanges of "Have a good summer, sir." And the response, "Will do. You too. See you in the fall." Or, if they're graduating, "Come and see us when you're home from college." They usually do. Once.

Of course, the longer you teach, the tougher you get. In my first couple of years, over a decade ago, I was almost stunned by the good will on closing day. The class president would advance to the front, watched by 35 hawklike pairs of eyes, each pair of which had kicked in a pair of chairs, and a shy, unintelligible mumble, present me with a handsomely-wrapped gift.

NOMINEES  
Now, when the kids are choosing their class president, at the beginning of the year, I assure the reluctant nominees that, "There's nothing much to the job, except to collect the money for my Christmas and end-of-year gifts." It shakes

## QUEEN'S PARK

### Old Automobiles Eyesore of Land

BY DON O'HEARN  
Queen's Park Bureau of The Herald

TORONTO: As you may remember last year's Throne Speech made a promise that the government would be taking action on abandoned automobiles.

The promise was that it would do something about the unsightly mess that abandoned cars make of the country-side.

As of now the promise still has to be kept.

The only substantial step taken to date has been to find out just what the size of the problem might be.

Last summer students were employed to make a survey of abandoned cars throughout the province.

And from their findings it is now estimated that there are some somewhere between 400,000 and 500,000 abandoned cars to be disposed of.

But just how they may be disposed of is a problem the ministry of the environment, which is responsible for the program, still has to meet.

But in areas farther away from the mills the transportation costs are too high. There is little use in trying to dispose of the hulks.

And so most people just take them out on a country road and abandon them.

To try and come up with some answers the ministry this summer is sponsoring pilot projects in Pembroke, Sault Ste. Marie and probably Sudbury.

These projects will cover techniques of collecting old cars and the costs involved, whether incentives for disposal by owners might work and whether perhaps a freight subsidy for transportation to Hamilton might be worthwhile.

Along with this plan is being considered which might turn into a bit of a shock for car owners if it is ever applied.

Under this when a new car was being initially registered a special disposal fee, of say \$25, would be collected.

This would carry through the life of the car.

## Bible Verse

He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls. Proverbs 25:28

## GEORGETOWN HERALD

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