

Christmas Lights Going Out "Every Little Bit Will Help"



GAIL MCDOWELL



MADLEINE SANDERSON



CHARLES WILLIAMSON



KEVIN DRUMM



JIM BURNS

Santa Claus may have problems finding Georgetown this year.

It seems energy-conscious residents plan to cut down their use of outdoor Christmas lights, so it should look pretty dark when jolly old St. Nick comes flying over in his sleigh.

Most residents who were interviewed by The Herald on the street agreed there must be a cutback on Christmas light usage to conserve energy.

Mrs. Allan Prouse, a Margaret Street housewife,

said she will not use her outdoor lights as much this year as in the past.

"We will use them, but I want to make sure they aren't on too much. We won't turn them on until a few days before Christmas, and then only leave them on for two or three hours."

NO LIGHTS
Another resident, who wished to remain unidentified, was much more emphatic about conserving energy.

"There is no way I'm using my outdoor lights this year," he said.

"We've got to conserve energy, and I think every little bit will help."

Jim Burns, an employee at CNR, said he feels the energy shortage is being overdone a little too much.

"I sometimes wonder if it is as bad as they say."

"I want to help conserve it, and I will cut down on my use of Christmas lights, but I really don't believe it is all that bad yet."

Kevin Drumm, who is a student at Georgetown District High School, said he is very conscious of the shortage, and will encourage his parents to cut down on the use of lights.

"I know they have used them in the past, but when energy is so short, I feel it would be a good idea if they didn't use

them as much this Christmas."

MORE CAREFUL
Gail McDowell, a bank employee who lives in an apartment, said her concern for the problem is serious enough that she will cut down on the use of lights on her Christmas tree.

"I think we will be more careful about how long we leave the lights on. Before you never thought of it, but with the shortage, I guess you should be more careful."

Mrs. Madeline Sanderson, a Victoria Avenue housewife, said she will definitely be more careful about using her Christmas lights.

"We will probably really want the energy we save by February, so it won't hurt anyone to cut down for Christmas. You can still use the lights, but just cut down on the length of time they are being used."

The interviews show a trend to listen to government cries for energy conservation. The government has asked that Canadians use outdoor lights only a few days preceding Christmas, and this seems to be what Georgetown residents plan to do.

STORES PINCHED
However, some local stores are feeling the pinch from energy-minded Georgetown

residents. Hak Kim, manager at Stedman's said he has been caught in a very awkward position.

"We ordered our regular Christmas stock of lights during the summer. Now with this energy crisis, we can't sell them," he says pointing to a full display of Christmas lighting.

"We certainly weren't expecting this when we placed the order in August, so I don't know what we will do with them. I'm sure it won't improve by next year, so I guess we're stuck with them."

Canadian Tire manager Jim Hancock said this is the time of year his store has peak sales in Christmas lights.

"We sure aren't doing very well in lighting sales this year," said Mr. Hancock. "We usually expect a run on them right now, but because of this energy shortage, they just aren't selling."

"We've even had customers tell us they won't buy them because they don't want to use them. They say they want to conserve energy."

Morris Vallinsky, owner of Global Department Store, said the energy crisis hasn't really affected his business at all.

"I usually don't sell that many lights until December, but we have sold a few. I guess it is about the same as usual."

The Sahara Desert is in North Africa.

Guest Speaks On Hypnotism At Dinner

Dr. C.B. Hoddinott was guest speaker at the annual dinner of the directors of Georgetown Agricultural Society which sponsors the fall fair.

Speaking on hypnotism as related to the medical profession, Dr. Hoddinott gave a very informative and amusing presentation of the subject. He was introduced by Robert McMaster and the thanks of the gathering was expressed by Sam Penrice.

President Albert Hunter chaired the dinner, and called on parliamentary and municipal guests who had praise for the board for their efforts in bringing Georgetown a fine fall fair.

Vince Mountford led in a sing-song and Earl Burt rendered several vocal selections, accompanying himself on the guitar.

Spencer Wilson introduced the head table guests, Mrs. George Ironside thanked those who entertained, and Mrs. George Burt presented Mrs. Hoddinott with flowers.

A special event of the evening was a presentation to Valerie Ella of the T. Eaton Co. trav for

the most points in cattle shown at the fair.

This year's dinner was held at St. Alban's Church hall, Glen Williams, and catered to by the church ladies.

BALLINAFAD

The community was indeed saddened on the weekend when they learned of the death of Mrs. Bud Anderson, Shirley as she was known to everyone had a beautiful voice and gave freely of this talent. She was a sister of Mrs. Ruth Shortill, of Ballinafad. We extend sympathy to the two young sons and husband, also to the Shortill family and other relatives.

The 4-H home-making girls of the north and south Ballinafad clubs were busy at their meetings last week putting the finishing touches on the project "Accessories for the Bedroom". They have skits and demonstrations in mind for the program on achievement day coming up on December 15th in Stewarttown School.

The second class for the

senior project "Creative Stitches" was held in the community centre on Wednesday afternoon. There was a display on hand of various stitches and hand work; some pieces were around one hundred years old.

The ladies at the church had some very good used clothing donated and were busy the end of last week sorting out and packing the bale. Mrs. Oram, a lady of the neighborhood, came to pick up a bale of children's clothing for the Viet Nam Orphanage.

—Winifred Smith

Buddhism was founded in the fifth century B.C.

Comment

by TERRY O'CONNOR

The massive James Bay Hydro Project suddenly ground to a halt several weeks ago and then just as suddenly, got back on the rails again.

The \$6 billion construction program would damn several large rivers, flood thousands of square miles of forest into large lakes and supply the hydro-electric needs of Quebec and a portion of the northeastern U.S. for many years to come.

However, its less attractive results include the destruction of one of the last large North American wildernesses and the annihilation of a nation of 6,000 people. This latter result is the saddest because it is a human tragedy.

The Cree Indians of the area, until the arrival of the construction gangs, roads, townsites, liquor, etc., lived by trapping, hunting and fishing much the same as had their forebearers for centuries. With little thought for their future the Quebec government moved in and began systematically destroying their contented way of life. Compensation for the land which had never been deeded away by treaty by the Indians was hardly mentioned and relocation plans were vague and inadequate.

Using a grant of over half a million dollars from the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, the Indians went to court to stop the project. After painstakingly lengthy hearings, during which construction continued, a Supreme Court of Quebec judge ruled in favor of the Crees. He ordered negotiations commence to provide fair compensation for the loss of the land and to arrange relocation to similar areas to avoid destruction of the Indians as a people. In the meantime, he ordered all work to cease.

However, an appeal from this injunction, arranged and heard in a suspiciously short five days, reversed the judgment. Three Justices of the Quebec Court of Appeal ordered the parties to argue the case as to the "balance of inconveniences". That is, which side of the dispute would be more inconvenienced by the cessation of work - the Province or the Indians?

To straight-jack the parties in this fashion is fundamentally unfair. Besides, our courts should not weigh justice in terms of numbers of people, or amounts of money. To do so and then find in favor of the majority or the most, succumbs to a "might is right" theory. A government can't do as it wishes to anyone because it represents the majority. Individual rights would be obliterated. To extend the premise to international situations, the U.S. would be entitled to use whatever of our oil and gas it requires, because there are more Americans than Canadians.

The case will now be appealed to the Supreme Court of Canada where a definitive decision on the fate of these people will be made. Hopefully this action will be taken as swiftly as the appeal to the Court of Appeal for Quebec and that the ultimate justice will be equitable.

If you have a problem, idea, comment, criticism or if you simply wish to get in touch with me, please stop by my Riding office at 326 Lakeshore Road East, Oakville, or phone Fran Baines at 877-6478.

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