

# THE HERALD

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## SMOKING

### The Hazard To The Young

Travelling in buses, trains and planes is more comfortable for non-smokers.

Taking the Go train that operates between Georgetown and Toronto illustrates this point. Fewer adults seem to be puffing away, and those who do, by and large, don't seem to smoke as often.

Health statistics tend to lend weight to this about-face. Fewer and fewer adults are smoking more and most are smoking less. The rate of quitting actually is going up, even as the population rises. But if that situation gives rise to sighs of thankfulness, especially among non-smokers, don't breathe easily too soon.

Young people seem to be taking up the slack in the habit.

Somehow, the message about the inherent dangers of smoking has been successfully aimed at adults, and has gone right over the heads of the young.

Watch a group of young people, teenagers, even pre-teens. At least

one in any group of five or so will be smoking, another will probably light up as the first finishes. Watch their purchases, such as in restaurants, where a coke and chips comes with a package of smokes.

It's an ominous trend. The very dangers that have been spelled out to us older folk aren't making much of an impression on the young, who should be more concerned about the ravages of health than they are.

And let's get in an aside, here, at those smokers who declare that their habit really isn't unhealthy. There's no way a burning ember can be stuck into your mouth without some harm being done. No one could survive breathing deeply inside a burning house. The contagion is lesser and takes longer from smoking tobacco, but it's there.

Let's reassess our message to the young, and see if they can't follow an improved adult example.



The summer months provide the best climate for even the youngest businessgirl. Twelve-year-old Georgetown entrepreneur Kelly Harrington of Main Street found a prime location on Main Street for her Kool-aid booth, at the sidewalk sale. (Herald Photo)

## VIEWPOINT

### Study Of The Outdoors At Conservation Areas

By G. LANDSBOROUGH  
Tera Cotta

We are so very fortunate living in the Peel, Halton region where we have so many scenic conservation areas and parklands available to us.

We were out recently to the Mountsberg Wildlife Centre and Game Farm. It has 1,300 acres of woodlands, marshes and nature trails. One of the two watch towers we climbed was located at the end of a delightful walk through a meadow that was in full bloom, and bordered on one side by the lake. The lookout gives a beautiful panorama of the lake below, and one of the attendants told us that it presents the most magnificent display in the fall as hundreds of waterfowl swoop down for a stopover on their migration south.

One of the things I found most enjoyable, were the animals that wandered at will. I watched one little girl frolic gleefully with a baby goat. The wee goat followed her everywhere, and it was hard to tell which kid was having more fun.

**ANIMALS**  
"We like to have the animals as close to the youngsters as possible," said Garry Hutton, a fulltime biologist at the centre. "We want to give the youngsters a close experience with the animals, but we try to discourage excessive handling, especially with the smaller animals such as the baby rabbits. Some of the youngsters get over enthused and sometimes inadvertently the animals are injured."

Mountsberg is primarily a teaching centre for both students and the public. Last year the centre saw more than 10,000 students in the various wildlife programs. "This year we are expecting 15,000 for the 74-75 season," said Garry.

Each week during the Summerfest program they are showing different nature films and demonstrations. Coming up will be demonstrations and films on: birds of prey, weather, canoeing and how to handle your canoe, and farm days with old fashion farm techniques, to mention only a few.

"At present we are working on a new animal enclosure, which we hope to have ready in the fall. It will be approximately 50 to 60 acres and will be the home of buffalo, elk, and white tail deer," said Gary enthusiastically.

Out on the lake we watched a flock of Canada geese, which we were told stay all year round and could number two hundred. Scattered here and there were mixed flocks of wild and farm geese that honked their way about quite impervious to visitors. It was quite comical to watch the adults side step the marching geese honking their right of way quite indignantly.

**TOUR BARN**  
You are invited to tour through the large barn at will to see more animals and to watch the hundreds of baby birds under the incubators. The roosters that parade around the barn, crow up a storm just to let you know they are there.

Outside in cages are a variety of Ontario wildlife, which seemed to fascinate the youngsters I watched. They stared and stared at the great horned owl, and the large bird was almost as big as the little guy that was trying to stare him down.

There is also a building housing aquariums, with various specimens that would be found in Ontario streams. They also had other displays in that building, such as the bee colony. The live bees enter on the outside of the building into an enclosed glass case, so you can actually see the bees at work within the hive.

Garry spoke of hay rides and sleigh rides, that are a regular part of the program. They are discontinued only in the very hot part of the summer for the benefit of the horses, and run regularly once the cooler weather returns.

At present there are not any concession stands, so pack a picnic lunch and make a day of it. Our family really enjoyed it and plan to make it a regular happening, we hope you do to.

**READER'S FORUM**  
Last week, council by resolution discontinued the services of its independent architect and on the advice of a local building contractor, has begun negotiations of an arena to be constructed via the "Design Build Concept".

I voted against this resolution because I feel this council is abdicating its public duty to ensure maximum return for the tax dollar and to protect the quality of construction on the new arena.

Last year, when the former Georgetown Council decided to build the arena, it initially commenced discussions with a builder to see what would be offered in the way of an arena complex for \$800,000.00 in the design concept.

At that time, Mr. Tennant and others made council aware of the weakness in the "design build concept." After consideration, council realized a mistake had been made and that the proper method of approach was to hire an architect who would design the arena to fill the requirements as specified by council. Then when tender specifications had been completed contractors would submit sealed public tenders and the contract awarded to the lowest bidder. This method has been followed and the tender documents were to be ready so that construction was planned to be commenced by the end of September.

Council has now placed the project exactly where it was last fall and has completely ignored the work done by the Building Committee. Further, no use will be made of the architect's services over the last eight months for which will likely be in the neighborhood of \$30,000.00.

On the advice of the same Mr. Tennant, who last fall advised against "design build", council has now embarked on this concept with the associated weaknesses.

My opposition to the change is for the following reasons. I am convinced that the only proper way to invest this much of your money is by sealed tenders based on specifications which have been drawn up by an independent architect working for the town. The contract would then be awarded to the lowest bidder.

The method which council has now chosen will not be by tender such as earlier described and will leave council open to question as to

There once was a woman not long ago who in two years did write a book so full of love and truth, piety, courage and might. This popular book of long ago that many a girl did read bore the inspiring title "Little Women" and in content it did not need.

The authors sir name - Alcott and her first Louisa May. She was born in German town Pennsylvania on one warm November day. Louisa's father Amos Bronson raised four daughters with his wife Louisa, Elizabeth, Anna and Abba and a son who died early in his life.

Louisa wrote eight books in her fortifying past, "Eight Cousins, Jack and Jill, Hospital Sketches, Under the Lilacs, An Old fashioned girl and Jo's Boys" which was her last. To "Little Women" there was a sequel that was written in her room. This book was called "Little Men" and of course there was "Rose in Bloom."

Unfortunately Louisa died in '85 in Boston. And though her life did cease she will never be forgotten. Louisa May Alcott was born on November 29, 1832 and died on March 6, 1888 and her beautiful book "Little Women" that I have read inspired me to write this poem. I have also read other books of

## BILL SMILEY

### His Meteoric Career In Financial World



Last week, faithful readers, if there are any left, followed the enthralling, if not appalling, account of my meteoric career in the financial world.

I had suggested that I felt I was being caught in the middle of a great financial squeeze when someone offered to buy me Peel-Elder stock at \$13 a share. I smelled something peculiar and promised I'd try to get it the bottom of it.

I haven't, but I hate to part with those shares of Peel-Elder. I've had them as long as I've had my wife. They are all that's left of my second and final savage attack on the stock market. My first was rather deflating, as I mentioned last week.

**NO CHANCES**  
But the second time around, I didn't take any chances. It was only when a trusted stockbroker told me Eldridge Mines was going to be the hottest thing on the market, that I carefully bought 1,000 shares. They cost me \$330. The broker was a former prisoner-of-war, so could be trusted implicitly.

The stock held firm, went up about five cents a share in a week, and this time there actually was a producing gold mine. I reckoned I was in Biscuit City, as we say in these parts.

What nobody told me was that there was more money in gravel than there was in gold, in those days, and for many years to come. I should have bought a gravel pit.

I have previously related how that 1,000 shares of Eldridge has shrunk to 25 shares of Peel-Elder, so I won't bore you. But I did learn one of the inevitable, or so it seems to me, laws of stocks.

Every time a company gets bigger, I have fewer stocks. Eldridge expanded, became known as Eldridge, with a lot of new capital and great prospects in the offing.

I was told that for my 1,000 shares of that cheap little old Eldridge, I would get 120 shares of this tremendous new Eldre.

**Did You Know?**  
The original name of Columbia University was King's College.

Scientists say that there is more aluminum yielded by the earth than any other metal.

what basis was used for the contract award. The ability to maintain quality control is seriously reduced because in the new proposal the specifications are compiled by an employee of the contractor and not the town.

Council has begun to negotiate with a particular construction company with no investigation into the record of the company and without contact to other construction companies.

Council's action is irrational, irresponsible and totally unrelated to sound financial and business practices.

Now that council has embarked on this approach, I do my utmost to encourage other contractors to make bid proposals to council so that at least we can retain competition for this project and attempt to provide some protection and guarantee for your money.

Coun. Ric Morrow

**UNNECESSARY DOLLARS SPENT**  
Sir: This letter is written to inform you, the ratepayer, that your council is acting in a manner that is costing unnecessary dollars.

Five quotes were recently submitted in connection with a sales tax audit of the town's records. Council accepted the third lowest bid. The fourth lowest bid was equivalent in all respects except a lower price, plus being the past auditing firm for the town of Acton.

Further your council considered an appeal in mid-June from the fourth lowest bidder and shelved the appeal without the courtesy of a reply.

Mr. Ratepayer, if your council handles all contracts in this manner I suggest that you brace yourselves for an enormous mill rate increase.

**NO MONEY**  
There was no money in gold mining, apparently, so Elder became Peel-Elder and got heavily into real estate. Assets increased, profits rose, and Smiley wound up with something like 12% shares of Peel-Elder.

There was one halcyon period when Peel-Elder went up to more than \$20 a share. I was tempted to sell. I could have come out only about \$100 in the hole, after 20 years. Not bad, that. But I hung in there.

Then, about a year ago, Peel-Elder, with a flamboyant burst of something or other, informed me that, as a loyal shareholder, I could have two shares for every one I had.

I don't remember the details. I think you had to be a white Anglican with some teeth missing, a bad back, and no more or less than two children, neither of them self-supporting. Something like that. Anyway, I qualified.

**GO T SHARES**  
That's how I wound up with 25 shares of Peel-Elder. And now along comes an impressive brochure from a limited called Hambro Canada Limited with an offer to buy at \$13 a share. In February and March I could have sold for about \$14.

Hambro is a Canadian affiliate of Hambros Ltd., a London, England, based international merchant banker, with a good many fingers in a good many pies.

Hambro Canada Ltd. already owns almost 50 per cent of Peel-Elder, but wants to buy the rest.

Most of the directors and officers of Peel-Elder are also directors or officers of Hambro Canada Limited. Are you confused? Me too. It's pretty obviously a takeover of an established Canadian corporation by a British-based corporation, with somebody probably about to make a pot of bullion in the process.

And here's something else that puzzles me. After 30-odd years of watching Peel-Elder grow from a sickly little gold mine into a husky corporation, and watching my share of the cake diminish from a small wedge to a crumb, I suddenly get two whacking great dividend cheques from Peel-Elder. One for \$2.94 and the other \$1.50.

**NO DIVIDENDS**  
Wouldn't you be wary when you'd not received a dividend for three decades and suddenly got two in one mail?

The offer to buy me out, from Hambro Canada Ltd., states rather sternly that the offer will expire July 23. If I accept the offer, I will receive \$325. The stock cost me \$330 30 years ago. And Trudeau would probably want a capital gains tax if I sold.

Well, there we are. I started out in a quagmire. I've ended in a quagmire. I wish I'd put that original \$330 into a couple of beach lots which would now be worth \$20,000. I wish I'd gone into pig farming. I wish I could win a sweepstake.

However, that's the way it goes with us chaps who play the market. We accept the fact that we're compulsive gamblers and take our losses with a stiff lower lip. But I won't sell that stock. Let them fight it out, the Rhodeats.

**QUEEN'S PARK**  
Next Election Expected Busy

and probably fierce fighting our next one should come close to it.

This should be true, as mentioned, because politics now is a year-round business. No more is it a matter of laying off in the years between elections.

All leaders are now continually at work at least, usually spending at least a couple of days a week visiting in the province, and backing them up they have full-time, hard-working organizations.

In the old days only the communists ever played politics so persistently. Then there will be three good leaders.

Over the years there have been better leaders than Premier Davis, Bob Nixon and Stephen Lewis. But in no election have there been three men of their calibre heading parties in the one campaign.

The biggest difference of all, however, should be that in this election there will be the scent of blood.

It's a scent that's already there.

Opponents believe that Davis can be beaten. They believe it on evidence and they hold their belief with whole hearts, which should mean a rouser of a campaign.

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