

# Letters to the Editor

## Poor reception

### Disappointment for local movie-goer

To the editor of The Herald:  
After waiting many years for Georgetown to again have its own movie theatre I am bitterly disappointed in the reception I received Friday when I took my children to see The North Avenue Irregulars at Cinema 3.

Lining up behind about 150 people and seeing the line inch along is no fun in the rain. What really annoyed me initially, however, was the verbal dressing down Cinema 3 manager Tom Cleaver gave to a group of us who formed a second line at the doors because we were told the first line was waiting to get in to see Saturday Night Fever and that was sold out so the line wasn't going anywhere. Very few adults take kindly to insinuations that they are trying to butt in on a ticket line and I'm no exception. I went back to my original place feeling more than slightly humiliated.

During the course of the next few minutes I turned my ankle on a piece of cement block and someone behind us stepped on

a board on which my child was standing and accidentally tipped her off into a puddle deeper than her shoes. While these may be hazards to be endured by those lined up to attend Georgetown's theatres they don't speak well of the management's common sense. I realize construction is still in progress at the stores adjacent to the theatres but must someone get injured and sue the theatres before anyone has the foresight to demand that the site be kept free of debris or barricaded so that customers can't come to grief in the semi-darkness?

After at least 40 minutes of standing in the rain I went to the door and asked to see Mr. Cleaver. I was determined to give him an opportunity to explain what was causing the hold up rather than jumping to hasty conclusions about his ability.

The surliness of the looks he turned on me gave ample evidence of how he felt about being asked to speak to me. He made it plain that I was being terribly presumptuous when I

requested permission to step into the space between the doors to hold our discussion rather than remaining in the rain. Although my request was ignored I stepped inside anyway. My question as to why there was only one ticket line when there are three theatres was met with a sneer and a comment to the effect that forming three lines would be foolish since there is only one ticket office.

Mr. Cleaver pointed out that the theatres' design was not his and if I had any complaints I should write directly to head office with them. He reeled off a Bay Street address and disappeared back into his office before I could find a pen and take it down.

While Mr. Cleaver seems to feel no improvements can be effected unless head office sees fit to make them I have a question whether a little ingenuity and pre-planning on his part couldn't do much to eliminate the irritations at Cinema 3. All that would be required would be two extra cashiers, two aprons with pockets to hold change, and two rolls of different coloured tickets such as those sold at stationery stores. As long as the tickets were different colours ushers shouldn't have any trouble spotting people going

into the wrong theatre - if that's of any importance to management.

If those glass doors were opened with a cashier beside each patron could move inside much more rapidly and the fact that there are three lines would enable other patrons to judge whether it was worth waiting in line or not. It may not be modern but experience at numerous fall fairs and similar events shows that the system does work.

The final straw, however, was Mr. Cleaver's refusal to allow the people waiting in the line for the second show to step inside between the glass doors and shelter from the rain during the more than 30 minutes between the time the line up disappeared and the second show started. By that time there was less than a dozen people still waiting but they couldn't come inside because if one person got in they'd all have to be allowed inside.

Customers aren't very welcome if that's management's attitude!

My suggestion for speeding up ticket sales will probably be dismissed as too expensive since at first glance more employees would appear to be needed. What would be more sensible would be train-

ing ushers to work on cash since they never went more than half a dozen steps from the door when they passed on messages concerning how many seats were still available to any show and they weren't working inside either obviously since they stood in the doorway until after the theatres were all full.

So here's your letter to your bosses, Mr. Cleaver. I'm quite willing to say the set up here is terrible but I'll leave it to you to explain your inaction to correct it. You're not even tentatively cheap since your recent hike in adult price. I don't want to go back to travelling to see a movie but with a reception like I got last week you may drive me to it, Mr. Cleaver.

Sincerely,  
Peggy Rose,  
Georgetown.



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## STAYING FIT IS FUN

Donna Leadley, left, and Maureen Holmes tried out the stationary bikes at the open house of the Fitness Studio for Women on Saturday afternoon. The Fitness Studio has opened at the former location of the Alpine

Health Club on Wesleyan, but the entrance is off James Street. The studio is accepting registrations now for new members, with memberships being issued on a yearly basis. (Herald photo)

## Trudeau's bilingual policy threatens unity, reader says

To the editor of The Herald:  
When is the gullible Canadian public going to realize that Trudeau's Bilingual Policy is the greatest force for disunity in Canada. It should have been obvious from its inception that it was intended mainly to protect the political base of the Federal Liberals in Quebec. Has it been forgotten that since the days of MacKenzie the Liberals would stoop to any means to protect its Quebec political strength - Yes! Even jeopardize our Canadian Active Army Overseas - rather than enforce conscription.

In this vast North American continent with a population of 300,000,000 or more what chance has a small pocket of French speaking people got to spread their language. It is physically impossible for most Canadians to have any opportunity to hear or to speak French. Certainly French is and will be used by elite groups - highly educated groups, etc. as a cultural achievement and for business and social reasons. The knowledge of French for the masses is an impossibility and in addition it has no

appeal and certainly there is no need to use it. It will continue to be an important regional language of a minority and nothing more.

Governments in Canada - Federal, Provincial and in some cases Municipal will continue to expand their services in French where possible and where numbers justify it, but this is a far cry from Canada ever becoming bilingual. The symbolism of the present Bilingual Policy of the Trudeau Government is false and misleading.

It has completely backfired and may well cause the downfall of the Trudeau Government. At long last the voters may realize that the Liberal Party is and has been for over 50 years basically a Quebec Party with its predominant strength in Quebec. Is it any wonder we have so much disunity, there is no hope for unity as long as Mr. Trudeau is in power. He has become too abrasive. He relishes power as an elitist and his motives have become suspect by the Provinces and by the public. The open hostility between Mr. Trudeau

and Mr. Levesque worsens our National Unity. Only a national leader who has not been a centre of controversy for 11 years such as Mr. Clark can ever hope to mediate our conflicting interests and reduce our prejudices.

C.C. Hillmer  
Oakville, Ontario

## Appreciate support

To the editor of The Herald:  
It has recently come to my attention that on December 30 1978 you published an article entitled "Women's Hostel Is Worthwhile Project". On behalf of the Board of Halton Women's Place I should like to thank you for the extremely valuable support which you expressed for our project. I regret I was not aware of it earlier to convey our appreciation.

Yours sincerely,  
Ann Bivillison  
Chairman of Publicity  
Committee  
Board of Halton  
Women's Place

## Suggests museum for old library

To the editor of The Herald:  
This letter is with respect to the ongoing controversy surrounding our library. Granted, numerous proposals have been presented, but I would like to add mine to those advocating a new building and site.

The building as it stands now is a landmark in this area. It should neither be structurally changed nor demolished, but preserved and utilized in an appropriate way! Consideration might be given to creating a museum or interest centre where historical records, photographs and other mementos could be displayed.

As a library, it is totally inadequate! Physically, the area is much too small, crammed with books, and definitely lacks the necessary atmosphere conducive to study and casual reading. Why even consider renovating or structurally changing a library that is just not suitable? Short-term solutions for an already unsatisfactory situation should be discarded, and in the process, the needs of other local organizations considered.

Georgetown's YM-YWCA strives to offer varied and excellent programming although severely handicapped by inadequate facilities. Our

Little Theatre group should be congratulated for continuing to perform without a suitable auditorium. Local service organizations function with whatever facilities are available.

Surely, a progressive community such as Georgetown can foresee the advantages of one complete community centre. One building to provide a library, an auditorium suitable for varied entertainment from theatre, to the symphony, to children's groups, and facilities for the YM-YWCA as well as local service organizations.

I am aware people are concerned with the cost of replacing the library - so am I. But if we consider a complete community centre, rents and other considerations, now being paid for less than adequate facilities, could be used to offset the operating costs and partly offset the long-term debt payments.

As a community, we must anticipate and consider the future needs of a greater portion of our population. In doing so, we will have provided Georgetown with a community centre everyone can enjoy and be proud of.

Sincerely yours,  
Isabel Cruise,  
Georgetown

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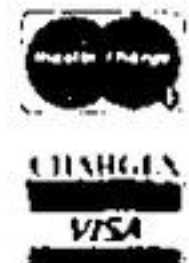
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