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Herald  
editor

## Filming like waging war

I'm starting to think there's a lot of similarity between making a feature film and waging a World War II battle, at least if there are two July 4 parades in the movie.

At times during Sunday's Main St. filming of *Never Trust an Honest Thief* it looked more like the movie crew was out to capture Georgetown rather than film it. On one hand, legions of Westfront staff were posted throughout the crowd, in classic infiltrator fashion, armed with two-way radios reporting on the crowd's and the parade member's every move.

At the same time, stationed at strategic points in the Mill and Main St. intersection, as well as near Winnabago and parked van base stations, were an assortment of commanding officers.

Breathless runners -- prop people, gaffers and the like -- raved to bring them reports, news from the front and, masking tape to their CO's.

### Towering camera

Towering, all-knowing, all-powerful over the assembled battlefield was a Georgetown Hydro 'cherry-picker' loaded with a film crew rather than a work crew.

I guess I played the sniper's role, armed with a camera and a telephoto lens, I perched on top of a couple different Main St. building rooftops to capture the scene.

Peering down from overhead at the masses of people used in the parade scene, it's easy to forget the film is supposed to be art, at least entertaining. It seems there should be some sort of prize just for getting the thing done.

Certainly things were far from easy on Sunday. To ensure that the parade scene could appear in the film as a semi-continuous sequence, each time shooting was stopped it couldn't resume until the sun was as bright or dull as it was when shooting ended. This led to numerous delays but, the gathered spectators and performers, along with the production crew, weathered the difficulties well.

### Slowed down

There were also at least two instances of camera troubles with the camera perched in the hydro cherry-picker, this too slowed things down.

And it had to slow things down a little as the legion of rookie local actors got used to their new roles.

Still, the film's producers were delighted with the turnout of Georgetown area residents and visitors to swell the parade crowds. One person from Westfront told me if they'd known so many people would turn out for the parade, they would have added at least one concession booth at the fairgrounds. But no one could really complain, unlike what is unfortunately too often the case at much-ballyhooed freebies there was plenty of everything for those who turned out -- hot dogs, soft drinks, corn on the cob and even t-shirts.

It's kind of nice that Never Trust an Honest Thief is the type of film in which young children running on camera giggling carrying balloons and munching a hot dog doesn't mess up the shot. The producers got plenty of that during the parade and park sequences. It was pleasant that because of the type of movie being filmed adults and young people are able to really enjoy themselves as spectators.

The highpoint of Sunday's shooting had to be the long awaited arrival of film legend Orson Welles. Not surprisingly, his appearance was pure Hollywood. A little after five o'clock, just after the film crew (aka, The Troops) had yet another parade scene ready to shoot, a long black limousine rolled into the Main-Mill intersection.

Although the car's windows were tinted from the rooftop I was pretty sure I could see Welles seated in the front seat. Obviously plenty of people in the crowd quickly reached the same conclusion as a buzz stirred in the gathering and people tried to slide closer to see if the star had arrived.

Film director George McCowan continued a walk through of the scene he had been doing. Later it would turn out he had been doing Welles' part.

### Welles left car

Finally McCowan headed to the limo and disappeared in and out of it a handful of times to confer with Welles. The director left the car one last time and then began the parade scene. Right on cue, Welles emerged from the car and stepped into his role in the scene. He did it as smoothly as if he had done it a million times, and I guess he almost has.

It was obvious after Welles finished his first take and the crowd had a chance for his arrival to sink in, that the audience felt some token of respect for the actor was in order -- a smattering of applause broke out from the crowd and grew into a healthy cheer.

Yes, Orson Welles is here.

At one point Sunday, I was joined on my rooftop perch by Toronto Star photographer Frank Rooney. One of Rooney's shots appeared in Monday's Star but, he said he's working on a color spread to appear soon in the Sunday Star's City magazine about films being made in the Toronto area. The Toronto media was well-represented Sunday as film crews from CBC and CFTO were on-hand as well as a Toronto Sun photographer and a reporter from CHUM radio.

John Minns of Glen Williams tells me the film's producers got a sneak preview of this area's parade talent on July 1. Minns invited representatives from Westfront Productions to take in the Glen's renowned Canada Day celebrations this year. Despite the wet weather a number of invitations to appear in the film's parade were made from Westfront's staff saw the Glen Williams parade.

Not to be outdone, the Caledon area is getting into the movie acts. A scene in the film highpoint will be shot at the derelict Orangeville airport, located south of that town. A helicopter is slated to smash into the airport's old control tower for a spectacular crash. The film will star Richard Harris, Christopher Plummer and Kate Reid.



## FILM BIKERS

Making their film debuts at an early age, these local youngsters were among the hundreds of Georgetown and area residents who signed up to appear in *Never Trust an Honest Thief*. These children put their best efforts into decorating bicycles and tricycles to ride in Sunday's parade along Main Street, arranged by the movie crew ostensibly to commemorate America's Independence Day. (Herald photo)

## Letters to the Editor

### Parking ticket irks reader

To The Editor of the Herald:  
My husband who told me to go and see the parade, is a patient in the Georgetown hospital at present. He said "it

should look real, and the people have to help to line the route to make the parade successful."

So being a good wife I went from Acton to Georgetown to participate. I went close to the park, on Charles St. to see if they had started yet, and parked the car with many others on the street, but before I left I looked if there were any "no parking" signs or a fire-hydrant, but I did not see any

such signs. I had the car parked for about 10 minutes and found a \$5 ticket as I came back. I was so upset when I found it.

I went straight to the police station stating I had not seen such "no parking" sign, the policeman's explanation was,

they are far apart and I failed to see it.

And that on a Sunday on Charles St., not on the route of the parade. I shall be sure never to participate in any local happenings in fear I might get punished for it.

Edith C. Regent

### VIEWPOINT

## Consumer's guide to the CNE

By Gerry Landsborough  
Herald columnist  
The Canadian National Exhibition is "101" years old this year - the biggest fair of its kind in the world.

This column is intended for those who say "phooey - it's just the same old thing - a giant money grabber."

First off, the reason the Ex remains the same for so many people is that they do exactly what they did last time they went. Listen to the kids scream - "I want to go on the rides." Walk around and around and around. Lineups? ... not worth waiting for - too long. Food-building? ... too crowded. Food outside on the grounds? ... a big rip-off. The Ex for them is a crowded, time-consuming, money-waster.

But the above "ain't necessarily so". If you fit the description - hang in there, this column is especially for you.

First, let's talk about the food. As soon as your family hits the grounds you are immediately besieged with pleading requests to "eat." This is due to the marvelous smells of a thousand different disciplines - Italian, Oriental, Hungarian, Polish, German, Greek, Indian, you name it - they cook it.

Now, to keep from bankruptcy you should try to do several things. Don't eat on the grounds unless you have dollars to spare.

The place to go is the Pure Food building. Pepsi outside the Food building is anywhere from 40 to 60 cents; inside the Food Building it's 5 cents.

Don't be discouraged by line-ups - they move very fast. Another terrific money saver is the coupons given out by most of the big chain stores. Loblaw's started it years ago with the free CNE passport. This year the major food stores all give something. With a 50 cent off coupon from Loblaw's you can have a No-name brand steak on a keiser for only 79 cents. They're \$1.29 without the coupon - the price

of the steak alone. Miracle Food has, among others half-price off of Shopsy hotdogs - another terrific money saver.

Look around before you buy, even in the Food Building. The prices do vary. Okay, so now you're fed - what's the next step.

This year in the Queen Elizabeth Building (where Ghosts of the Globe Theatre used to be), there is a special live production from Disney World. It's terrific and it's free. Don't be discouraged by the line-ups - the theatre holds 1,300 and there are several performances daily. For all of us who remain a bit of the child at heart, the magic and wonder that Disney has brought us over the years is an absolute must.

**BIG-TOP CIRCUS**

Try to see the Dominion Circus under the big-top at the far end of the midway. It is not a regular travelling circus but a variety of acts that were free at this time. They have put together a fantastic show. The lion act is great. The lion tamer puts his head into Leo's mouth complete with the "roaringest roars" you will ever hear in your life. Acrobats, trapeze acts, jugglers, tumblers, and of course elephants. They have three elephants - two big ones and a baby, and their performance is nothing short of astounding, and I mean "astounding."

The admission is \$1.20 each and more than worth the price. Try to catch some of the horse shows in the main arena of the Coliseum. We watched some flag races that were quite exciting - and good for an hour or so of enjoyable rest for the feet. This year, the Carlsberg Pavilion presents Myths and Legends. A walk-through into mythology and legend where you meet with a giant flesh-eating dinosaur, the Medusa, the Yeti, ghosts, the devil and many more. The lighting, sound effects, and animation make this an excellent exhibit. And once more - it's free.

Now another great attraction of the CNE that doesn't cost a dime is "people watching." You'll see the darndest things.

This year we caught sight of an very elderly lady perhaps in her late 70's, 80's or even 90's. She was wearing go-go boots and a swishy two-piece suit; however what really caught my attention was the biggest pair of false eyelashes I have ever seen in my life. They were so big that they pulled her eyelids down into a half-shut appearance. Fuller-brush had nothing on those eyelashes.

**VANDALS TOO**

Of course, like everything everywhere else these days the vandals were also at the Ex. This year, they got to the main fountain (the three-tiered one) and it was bubbling out giant soapuds some six or seven feet high. It seems the little devils - or perhaps big devils - had put a box of detergent into the fountain. The custodian told me it usually happens once or twice a year with the

smaller fountains but this was the first time to his knowledge they had ever foamed up the main one. It's a shame because it takes so long to clean the mess up. It certainly spoils a beautiful sight at night with the colored lights and all, but I must admit there were quite a few chuckles through the crowd who were ready to "meet you at suds in the fountain."

I guess the high price of everything in general is taking its toll on the Ex this year, because the crowds are certainly way down.

However, give it a try, make a plan, and try to stick to it. There is so much to see even for the price of the admission alone. Try to follow the above guideline and I'll guarantee you'll have the time of your life and you won't go home broke either.

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## THE CASUAL MAN

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## Inmate seeks letters

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