

**The Mississauga News
EDITORIALS**

A ridiculous mess

We've been wondering of late how long it took the Post Office Department to recognize Ottawa, when the nation's capital changed ITS name. Or does the Prime Minister still get letters with "Bytown" superimposed on the address in the shaky handwriting of a weary postal clerk?

Whatever the situation is elsewhere, the situation in the Town of Mississauga is ridiculous.

The Post Office Department knew last fall there would be a vote on the name for the new town, and that there would be only two names on the ballot. It knew, furthermore, that the town would become a reality Jan. 1 this year. It might have anticipated that the people of the new town, having chosen themselves a name, could be expected to start using it once it became official.

Instead, the department did nothing whatever to prepare for the change except threaten it wouldn't deliver mail addressed to "Mississauga." (That threat, of course, was as empty as the imagination of the man who made it; not even the Postmaster General, who seems to feel he rules by divine right, is ignorant there's a Federal election on the horizon.)

But the Post Office Department isn't going to be shoved around by a bunch of mere taxpayers. No-sirree! So, to show its independence, the department has instructed its postmasters to write in "Clarkson," "Cooksville" "Malton" or "Port Credit," as the case may be, on letters addressed to "Mississauga."

All this accomplishes is a doubling of the work load of people who, despite their boss, do a darn good job.

We get excellent postal service in Mississauga, if the mail ever gets by Toronto. We won't continue to receive service as good if every Mississauga postmaster and postal clerk comes down with writer's cramp . . . which will surely be the case if the Postmaster-General doesn't start acting like one soon.

Of course, we may not have to put up with that particular Postmaster General that much longer . . .

He may deny us our name. But we DO have a vote.

Save our trees

The area in which we live is growing swiftly, and with its growth there is a natural demand for better and wider highways and streets.

These wider thoroughfares will assuredly come. But before they do, we hope the Ontario Department of Highways and our local administrations will have paid heed to the plea of a Picton group called the Committee for Rural Beauty, which is asking for a new look at road-building policy.

The Picton group is seeking a policy under which highway and road plans must be cleared with the Department of Lands and Forests before they are approved, in order that trees may be preserved wherever possible on such thoroughfares. It has plenty of ammunition to work with, Picton itself having recently seen one of its most beautiful thoroughfares become an ugly concrete gash for the lack of just such foresight.

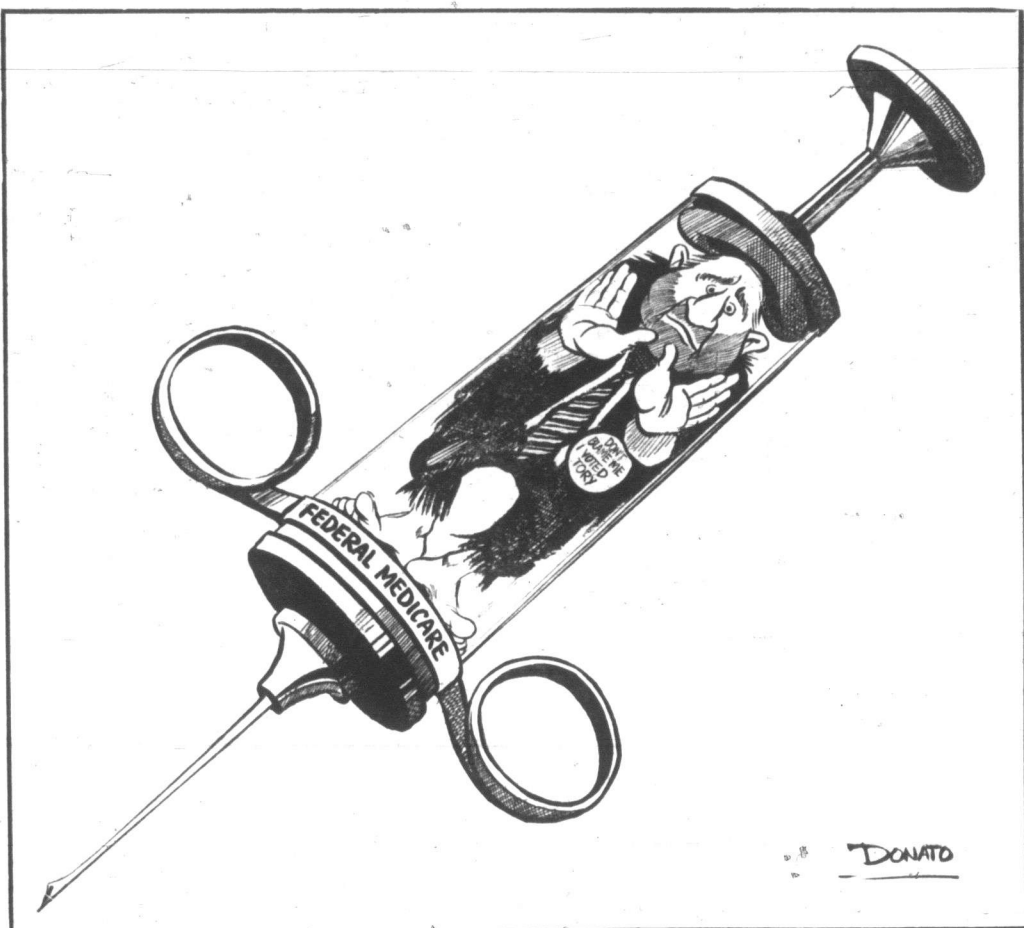
We'd like to see the program carried a step farther, making it mandatory for telephone and Hydro line route, too, to receive the same prior approval from Lands and Forests. The best argument we have here is the once-lovely section of Mississauga rd., north from Dundas st., where there are now almost as many telephone poles as trees.

Action now could save us a pile of sorrow later.

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THE NEWSPAPER ON THE GO
ERIK WATT, Editor and Publisher
ARTHUR LOWE, Associate Editor

BRIAN SARACINI,
Advertising Manager

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Taxation should be changed

Sir:
Once again it is the time of year when tax bills are being sent to all property owners in the new Town of Mississauga who do not have their taxes paid by the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation or other mortgage company.

I am strongly opposed to the instalment payment system which was introduced in 1967 and, through the medium of your correspondence columns, I should like to learn typical reaction to this procedure.

I can understand that financing of the Town operations may be facilitated by having a regular (?) flow of funds coming into the coffers for six months from February but the case against the system appears formidable:

1. Normal business practice is for invoices to be paid in full on a 'Net 30 days' basis with a usual one percent or even two percent discount for prompt payment within 10 days. (This was the kind of laudable practice which was followed in the Township of Toronto until last year and which I found quite acceptable during the 15 years I have been a property owner in the area.
2. The nuisance to the 'consumer' of writing six cheques where one would be sufficient.
3. The enormous in-

crease in administrative costs of processing these six times the number of cheques — in addition to the cost of design and printing these punched cards with coupons attached.

On such an important matter as this, I feel that

**LETTERS
TO THE
EDITOR**

some referendum or plebiscite action should have

been taken to determine just how many people were 'pro' or 'con' before the Council at the time made its arbitrary decision. This courtesy was extended in the case of the new Town name.

Yours very truly,
Geoffrey F. Bringshaw, P. Eng.

Too critical of Canada

Dear Sir,
I should like to suggest to your very critical Mr. E. Matuschka, who wrote concerning the Canadian Post Office and its employees that he should take one month or even a week and spend it in a post office to see what a post office employee has to contend with in the performance of his duties. Then he would qualify as the expert his letter would have us believe.

In any major changeover anyone can realize that it takes time and organization to achieve a successful working operation. Obviously if the Cooksville post office suggested sending mail addressed Mississauga be sent there it is trying to achieve some semblance of order. I would imagine, as a so-called base of operations at least it can be determined to which district the letter belongs and can be forwarded.

I see no reason why anyone wishing his or her mail to reach its destination can not assist every-

one concerned by putting the former town such as Cooksville or Port Credit or Clarkson as well as Mississauga. It takes very little effort, much less is fact than writing letters or criticism.

I resent this man's slight on Canada more than his other comments. In a letter supposedly protesting mishandling of mail he calls Canada a "hypocritical country." He also said, "The Canadian mail belongs to the most expensive, most conceited, least efficient, and least despicable of the civilized world." These names he is levelling are levelled at Canada. To make matters worse he even claims Nazi Germany had better laws of privacy. We all know that story, it's in the history books.

For Mr. Matuschka's own information, we in Canada have laws regarding the protection of privacy including first class mail. There are extreme penalties for tampering with it and these

laws also pertain to postal authorities in spite of what Mr. Matuschka claims. Postal authorities do not have separate laws of their own. In fact they probably have more rules to ensure your and my protection in the proper handling of our mail.

I suggest that this man get his information straight before he finds it necessary to criticize, condemn and judge a whole country and base that judgment on a mis-addressed or mis-sent letter.

A Proud Canadian
Clarkson

**More letters,
Pages 28, 29**

What's on YOUR mind?
The Mississauga News believes few columns give a more accurate picture of the vital issues in a community than its letters columns.
We welcome letters on any subject. The only restrictions are those imposed by good taste and space requirements. Letters must be signed, but a pen name may be used for publication if desired.