

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Didn't Hurt the Party

A story in a Toronto daily last week drew local resentment, but didn't hurt the success of the Club Midtown party which featured a celebrated singing group on Friday.

Danny and the Juniors proved to be a big attraction with young people who flocked to the Rose Room to hear the visitors and to dance to the rocking Consuls.

The Toronto reporter angled his story to make it appear that adults were cool to the invasion and such nonsensical statements as every available policeman will be at the dance and 'councilors aren't making any arrangements to welcome the group' might have added to the story's colour, but certainly had no factual basis.

The same paper apologized the next issue with quotes from Mayor Hyde who, with his wife attended the dance, along with other senior citizens.

The mayor summed up local views when he said "Some people have wrong ideas about teen age rock 'n roll dances. The young people's club which organized this dance is an asset to our community."

We agree with the mayor for we have heard nothing but good words about the Midtown group which has been providing entertainment for the teen population for several years. Dances, as far as we can learn, are well chaperoned and there is a minimum of trouble. No more so than there might be if the dances were sponsored by a church, a YMCA or a service club.

And while adults may be astounded at the gyrations of the rocking teenagers of today, most of us aren't that ancient that we can't remember the Charleston, the Black Bottom, the Big Apple, or any number of equally energetic dances of past decades.

Automation Means Education

Never has education become more important for young Canadians than in this age of automation in industry.

The world is undergoing just as drastic a change as at the time of the industrial revolution. And we are rapidly reaching the stage when physical skills and the sweat of one's brow are not enough to earn a man his daily bread.

It would take more of an economist than us to tell what the next decade will bring in the field of industry.

It is obvious that machines, which only a generation ago replaced the horse are now replacing man. Where building foundations were once dug by men, a machine now scoops out the earth in a day or two. Office work, once performed by stenographers, is now a job for an electronic machine. Bowling alley pin boys have felt the pinch. Dictaphones have dis-

placed shorthand stenographers. Wherever one looks it is an age of machinery wonders.

What's the answer for young Canadians?

More and more education, of course. Technical schools must teach more skilled trades. Machines are only as good as the men who service them, and a new generation of men trained in mathematics must arise to cope with these manpower saving monsters.

We must have more teachers. And we must have more economists who will study the automation trend, and seek ways to correlate this with the men displaced from jobs which man used to do.

We cannot stress too strongly to young people to stay in school as long as possible, to apply themselves to their studies, to learn, learn, learn.

THE MAIL BAG

Says Tax Dollar Buys A Great Deal of Things

The Editor, Dear Sir: Thursday last at the Urban Board meeting I was among a small group of men discussing our municipal problems. I was introduced to a group of gentlemen from Aston as one of the angry young men of Georgetown. I must say that I was glad to hear that I'm not the only one. The gentleman asked me what I thought I got for my tax dollar. Here are my thoughts on the subject: Our mass media have convinced people to resent taxes, and to accept the propaganda that the taxpayer receives little for what he pays into the public purse. This is part of the whole struggle of the private enterprise concept of society against government regulation and government enterprise.

I got trunk sewers and drainage schemes, and I got protection from private enterprisers who want to put a service station on every corner, junk yards on main thoroughfares, apartments in single family blocks and houses on twenty-foot lots. All this, and much more, for a dollar a day.

If I had to buy any one of the services I have mentioned from private enterprise, it would cost me many times what it costs me now through taxes. As a matter of fact, by buying these services through my municipality, I'm getting them at an incredibly lower rate than private companies could or would provide them. I'm saving myself a great deal of money and having far more services than I could ever afford if I left them for private enterprise to provide.

It's to cover up this very fact that the private enterprisers carry on their propaganda rather than continue the system of education for the children of the rich in private schools. They struggled to oust the private and very expensive garbage collectors and do the job through taxes at a much cheaper rate. Today we're still fighting to provide medical care through public, rather than through private channels.

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THE COMMONWEALTH TIE

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS Toronto Terminals Yard Project

The CN switching yard at Georgetown, part of the proposed Toronto Terminals Yard Project, is one of the largest in the world. As many as 90 trains daily will be routed through here and it will be necessary for all Terminal bound trains from Buffalo and the Niagara peninsula to change tracks here.

THE BENEFITS

Most obvious benefits accruing to a community from a project of this magnitude is the number of men that will be employed in the yard and its ancillary facilities. It is expected that 400 men will be employed in the freight station and that there will be approximately 1,000 men working in the yard.

THE MAIL BAG

Essay Subject Prompts Remarks on Alcoholism

Dear Mr. Editor: In his 'Controversial' column (March 20th) Mr. Farago, writing of the problem of alcoholism, says 'I suggest that the consideration of alcoholism as an extenuating factor in our courts of law should be abandoned forthwith.'

Alcoholism is taken as a matter of course, and therefore, some regard it as a natural, inevitable factor in the pleasure derived from the use of the mouth and taste. Alcohol has a narcotic effect. It induces the individual to forget fears and stresses and enables him to indulge in satisfying impulses which are usually struggled against. Alcohol hinders the individual to forget his troubles.

Because his companions are like himself, they drink, and the individual feels a degree of compensation for the rejection by and the loss of love of others. Drinking also receives social selection and is therefore 'the thing to do.'

Alcohol induces relaxation and self assertion thereby raising self esteem. Alcohol diminishes inhibitions. There may also be a psychological susceptibility to the use of alcohol inherent in the individual.

One more important effect of alcohol is that as it reduces inhibitions, it also deadens the anticipation of external punishment, thus making what would normally seem a criminal deed seem quite proper. This is why drunkenness is constantly mentioned as an extenuating factor in the courts. It may not int-

It doesn't happen often. Often enough, however, is the incidence of thirty in every one thousand births, about ten times that of crippling polio at its height. The same zeal that helps lack crippling polio will at least help this infinitely sadder problem.

The veil of superstition and guilt that shrouded retardation is gradually being lifted, and the child, once hidden and men-tioned only in whispers, is emerging from the shadows of misunderstanding to the light of understanding and love. Love, beautiful love, is a gift the retarded child bestows in great abundance, as all who deal with them can testify.

There are parents even today, carrying in addition to the burdens we all carry, a burden of guilt for having produced a retarded child. What did I do? they cry from the depths of their despair. They did nothing. With all the sorrow they carry, this additional sorrow should be discarded.

SUGAR and SPICE By Bill Smiley

Do you know what we're getting to be a nation of? We're getting to be a nation of child worshippers. And personally, I am becoming a bit nauseated by the whole perverted business.

When the ancient Hebrews began fasting their calves, they built themselves a golden calf, and you know what happened then. We're in the process of building ourselves a golden kid, and we'll deserve everything that's coming to us when the Lord grows tired of our silliness.

I keep reading things that make my hair stand on end with sheer horror at the indulgences we're committing. Just the other day I read in the paper some remarks by a professor of psychology at the University of Montreal. He claimed that a disturbed child becomes delinquent because he is convinced he is meant to be.

The professor said: "For instance, a child is sent on an errand with the admonition to bring back the change. There's an insinuation there that the world is expected of him. Slowly he builds up this image of himself, and accepts himself as the black sheep of the family. From there, apparently, it is only a hop, step and a switchblade knife to a criminal gang."

It used to be that when a child was a mean little beast that nobody, including his parents, had any use for, everybody steered clear of him, and he grew up to be a business tycoon, or a great artist, or a brilliant politician, or just a plain, ordinary, miserable adult that nobody had any use for.

Perhaps if I'd been a product of a Broken Home, I might have announced to something: I never got a chance to be emotionally disturbed until it was too late to cut any capers. But just because I didn't have the opportunity doesn't mean that I'm going to deny my children the chance of being delinquent. You'll have to excuse me now, while I go downstairs and start a fight with the old lady.

25 YEARS AGO: This week saw the installation of a time clock in Georgetown's new Post Office and Customs House. The clock, which is really four clocks, is electrically controlled by IBM.

There was a large attendance at Verdun Rebekah Lodge birthday party held in the arena last Friday when this popular lodge celebrated its 18th birthday. Eucure winners were Mrs. R. Smith, Mrs. Hennesy, Mr. Webb, and Mrs. S. King. The lucky number winners were Mrs. Robert Erwin and Mrs. Broomhead.

A number of Georgetown persons who failed to purchase a radio license were taken to court one day last week and it cost them \$4.50 each.

10 and 25 YEARS AGO: Bruce Mackenzie, life insurance salesman in Georgetown, has been engaged by County Council as work clerk during the construction of Halton Home for the Aged.

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ECHOES From the Pages of the Herald, March 21, 1951, and March 25, 1936. 10 YEARS AGO: Bruce Mackenzie, life insurance salesman in Georgetown, has been engaged by County Council as work clerk during the construction of Halton Home for the Aged.

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