

THE LIBERAL

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I pray Almighty God that the words I write in this house may be pure and honest—that they be dictated by no personal spite, unworthy motive or unjust greed for gain; that they may tell the truth as far as I know it—and tend to promote love and peace—amongst men.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd, 1928

RADIAL SERVICE ON NORTH YONGE STREET SHOULD BE MAINTAINED

The proposed abandonment of the Metropolitan Radials and the substitution of a Bus Service for the North Yonge Street district is a preposterous suggestion by a Transportation Commission which has apparently got the "bus bug" to such an extent that it has been carried away beyond the realm of reason.

To introduce a bus service to carry the passenger traffic now carried on the radials would be the height of folly and in total disregard of the safety of those who travel Yonge Street. Anyone who has any idea of local conditions can picture the congestion on Yonge Street on a summer week-end or holiday when there would be busses sufficient to carry the passenger traffic plying their way up and down the already too crowded thoroughfare and stopping at every cross-road and street. It would be a condition which we feel sure men of reasonable judgment would never inflict on the general public.

A bus service on North Yonge Street in the winter time would only be an interrupted and unreliable service. Ice storms, and snow storms have visited the district in the past, and we presume the T.T.C. capable though it may be, makes no claims to an intervention with Providence in this regard. The winter months make travelling by bus a precarious and dangerous proposition and perforce many times an impossibility especially in the northern section of the County.

York County has had reason to be thankful for a transportation system on Yonge Street in the heart of the County from end to end and should make a very vigorous fight against any attempt to rob the County of this asset. York County has every reason to be disappointed with a Transportation Commission which after a few months of operation is willing to throw up the sponge and abandon the radial service with an alternative proposal of a bus service.

HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT SHOULD TAKE A MORE ACTIVE INTEREST IN PROVIDING SIDEWALKS ON YONGE STREET

Three accidents to pedestrians and one fatality on Yonge Street in less than a week brings to attention once more with startling emphasis the need of sidewalks. People who walk on Yonge Street are taking a chance with their lives every day in the week. Anyone who has walked on Yonge Street after dark knows it. THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS KNOWS IT AND LONG AGO SHOULD HAVE TAKEN ACTION TO SEE THAT PROVINCIAL HIGHWAYS HAD SOME PROVISION FOR PEDESTRIANS AS WELL AS FOR MOTORISTS. The failure of the Department to do so is evidence of a weakness in the policy of road building in the province of Ontario.

The matter of sidewalks on Yonge Street has been left to the municipalities of Vaughan and Markham and according to regulations the Province bears thirty per cent. of the cost of the work. To their credit the Township councils of Markham and Vaughan townships have gone thoroughly into the matter and a start has been made on the work. The Township councils' delay has not been due to the fact that the members do not appreciate the great need of sidewalks in the interests of public safety. Delay has been due to the fact that the construction of even a cinder walk from Elgin Mills to Langstaff is a very difficult and expensive undertaking. There have been many difficulties foreseen in contemplating the work which the average man passing up and down the street does not see. Expensive fills have to be made and the matter of getting material on the ground in many places is a problem, culverts have to be built and in some places it is practically impossible to build walks without putting tile in the ditches and filling them in. Such a program presents an expensive undertaking for a township council. The Department of Highways lay down a policy that they will pay thirty per cent. of the cost providing that the location and construction is satisfactory and with that apparently wash their hands off the whole proposition. It would appear that the department has little concern if sidewalks are ever built on Yonge Street. The department has plenty of time to make other regulations and demands regarding the construction of roads but apparently turns a deaf ear to the appeal of pedestrians for some accommodation on the highways. The department sees to it that culverts are built, demands that proper drainage be secured, demands roads a certain width, but apparently takes no interest in demanding that sidewalks be provided for pedestrians.

Yonge Street is a provincial highway and conditions as they exist here are probably not paralleled anywhere else in Ontario. We submit that the Ontario Department of Highways should take an active interest in the construction of sidewalks on Yonge Street and that there should in this case be some variation in the fixed policy and that the province should be more generous in the matter of a grant to the interested municipalities which are called upon to do the work. In any event sidewalks must be built in the interests of the preservation of human life.

LET'S ADVANCE WITH A COMMON PURPOSE

The people of any community should work together for a definite purpose. That purpose should be the ADVANCEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE. The common purpose is hardly distinguishable from the purpose of each individual. That which benefits the individual usually benefits the entire community and that which benefits the community reacts to the benefit of the individual. PROSPERITY AND PROGRESS comes to those communities whose citizens have their eyes fixed on a COMMON PURPOSE. Success crowns the efforts of the man of purpose and the community with a COMMON PURPOSE works as one man. The definite establishment of a COMMON PURPOSE in Richmond Hill which will be the aim of the Board of Trade will increase business, create new industries, bring in new residents and in fact perform miracles in community betterment. LET'S WORK FOR A COMMON PURPOSE.

North Yonge Street wants a radial service—not a bus service.

Bus service on Yonge Street at its best is a poor substitute for Radial Service even at its worst.

A radial service is SAFER and SURE than a bus service. North Yonge Street district wants a SAFE and SURE transportation system and should oppose any attempt to grant permission to the T. T. C. to operate a Bus Line instead of radials as under the present franchise.

The people who asked for bread and were given a stone have nothing on the people of York County who expected from T. T. C. operation of the radials, BETTER CARS, BETTER SERVICE AND LOWER FARES and received only a proposal to abandon the line and substitute a bus service.

People of the North Yonge Street district hailed with delight the announcement that the Metropolitan radials would be operated by the T. T. C. The people were given to expect a faster service and a direct service right down town without changing cars. New and better cars were proposed, and many improvements in operation were expected. None of the proposed improvements have been noted. Has the T. T. C. made any constructive effort to make the Metropolitan line pay?

The introduction of busses on Yonge Street which is now overtaxed by motor traffic would be the height of folly and in total disregard of the safety of motorists and pedestrians on Yonge Street as well as passengers using the busses.

York County should oppose to the last ditch the proposal of the T. T. C. to scrap the radials and retain the franchise for the operation of a bus-line.

Some time ago it was aptly said and at this time can bear repetition.—"How long must our highways be stained by the blood of innocents?"

The hit-and-run motorist who has not within his make-up enough humanity and decency to return to the scene of the accident should not be dealt with lightly by our courts.

How many more lives must be sacrificed before sidewalks are provided for pedestrians on Yonge Street?

The number of motor accidents on Yonge Street emphasizes the need of greater police protection. The motorcycle patrol of provincial highway officers is entirely inadequate in the face of traffic conditions.

When offending motorists are dealt with in the same manner as lake captains found guilty of negligence then the highways will be safe

"WAY BACK IN LIBERAL FILES"

DO YOU REMEMBER

This Week of 1893

When the Rising Star Lodge of Victoria Square prepared for the Plebiscite Campaign, which was held in the Temperance Hall, the speakers for the first evening were, Rev. Mr. Dean and Rev. Mr. Vickery, of Richmond Hill and Rev. Mr. Nicol and Rev. Mr. Ritter, of Unionville.

When Mr. J. Peterman, Blacksmith of Edgeley secured another shop on the 3rd con. of York.

When in Richmond Hill, John Clifford, aged 10 years, youngest son of Mrs. Wm. Clifford passed away.

When the sporting fraternity of Victoria Square met to test their skill at off hand rifle shooting. After fifteen rounds had been fired a meeting was held in W. Meek's hotel to consider the advisability of forming a club. Officers were elected as follows:—President, J. C. Jenkins; Vice-President, James Lever; Secretary-Treasurer, W. Scott; Committee of management, T. Frisby, A. McKay, John McKenzie, Geo. Browne and J. Trudgeon.

When the opening of Maple school was held. The exercises of the afternoon commenced about 2.30 by the Principal Mr. Elliott calling upon Mr. Leeds Richardson, secretary-treasurer of the school Board took the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. C. A. Campbell. Among those present were noticed, Messrs T. McCormack, H. J. Saigeon, C. H. Keffer, H. Franks, M. Powers, J. McNeil, R. S. Thomson, Wm. Clark, Silas Shunk, W. Body, J. T. Saigeon, W. Hanna, J. Caldwell and a large number of ladies.

When at Sherwood, township of Vaughan, Margaret, wife of Edwin E. Carver, passed away at the age of 25 years.

DO YOU REMEMBER

This Week of 1903

When at the residence of the brides brother-in-law, Mr. Cline, Toronto Junction, by the Rev. T. Campbell, of Richmond Hill, Mr. Thomas B. Ludford was united in marriage to Mrs. Jane Sivers, both of Richmond Hill.

When a boiler exploded in Cane's factory, Newmarket, killing two firemen and injuring about a dozen other employees.

When the local Conservatives met in the Temperance Hall, here and elected officers for the year as follows:—President, J. H. Sanderson; Vice-President, F. Sims; Secretary, Isaac Crosby; Treasurer, P. G. Savage; Chairman of Committees, W. H. Pugsley, H. A. Nicholls.

When Mr. J. Bentley, of London, England, and Mr. Ross McLennon, of Napier, New Zealand, students of the Canadian Horological institute, Toronto, visited Mr. Jerry Smith's watch-making establishment.

When this week the thermometer was down below zero, but the skating rink was not rented.

When at the Epworth League, Miss Gertrude Derry rendered a piano solo Topic "What the Bible teaches us about giving, was given by Mrs. Sloan; also Miss Winnifred Hume contributed a vocal solo. Mr. Jennings presided.

When on the 3rd con. of Vaughan, Ellen, relict of the late Thomas Curran passed away at the age of 96 years. Interment at Thornhill cemetery.

This Week of 1908

When at Gormley, Laura, beloved wife of Joseph Heise passed away in her 26th year.

When the Vaughan Township Council met with members present, Mr. Isaac Devins, Reeve; D. C. Longhouse Deputy-Reeve; J. A. Cameron, Wm. Thomas and J. S. McNair, Councillors

When the drawing-room was crowded to its utmost when a piano recital was given by the pupils of Miss Millie Trench, assisted by Miss Mary Trench, soprano. The following were the pupils taking part:—Miss Irene McMahon, Miss Marjorie Wright, Miss Irene Cosgrove, Miss Annie Richards, Miss Elsie Brillinger, Miss Winnifred Hume, Miss Jean McDonald, Master, Ernest Allan, Miss Ruby Richards, Miss Luella Johnson.

When the following interesting program was given at the Richmond Hill High School, E. S. Cox, Presiding—Recitation, by H. Hislop; piano solo N. Brydon; Essay, S. Connell; Essay, G. Sloan; Reading, Irene Douglas; Essay, M. Cowie; Vocal solo, R. Little Mr. Weatherill, principal, acted as critic.

When the W.C.T.U. of this village met at the home of Mrs. Soules.

When Rev. T.W. Duggan, of Toronto spoke at a Temperance meeting. A solo was rendered by Miss Glass. Mr. G. S. Sims occupied the chair.

When Rev. Mr. Currie, of Sarnia, preached in large and interesting congregations here and at Thornhill Presbyterian church.



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