

“THE LIBERAL”

Established 1878

AN INDEPENDENT WEEKLY

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY AT RICHMOND HILL THE LIBERAL PRINTING CO., LTD.

J. Eachern Smith, Manager

Member Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association Subscription \$1.50 per year — To the United States \$2.00

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THURSDAY, MARCH 7th, 1940.

THE CAMPAIGN PROGRESSES

The election campaign continues to hold the centre of interest and with voting day only two weeks distant public sentiment has become sufficiently crystalized to give some indication as to the result.

The return of the King government which is pretty well conceded will be due in large measure to the general satisfaction with the war effort of the present administration and in some measure to the utter weakness of the campaign of the Hon. Dr. Manion and his supporters.

When the election was called the Hon. Dr. Manion grasped at the straw of a National Government label. We believe he would have made a much stronger appeal had he retained the name of the party he was chosen to lead.

There is the convincing evidence of qualified and trusted men in high places in this and the Old Land that Canada's war effort has been sincerely, efficiently and honestly directed.

In North York the political situation remains much as it was at the start of the campaign. The significant fact that no resident of North York was nominated to oppose the sitting member and the only opposition is the candidature of a resident of Truro, Nova Scotia, pretty well indicates North York's feeling that Col. W. P. Mulock's record of service merits support.

THE HISTORY OF BIRDS

(By Farley Mowat)

Something like 100,000,000 years ago in the fern forests of the reptilian age a strange and awkward creature spread its newly discovered wings and flew, down that terrific stretch of time, the Archaeopteryx continued its flight, its structure altered and its habits changed until the original first bird was lost in the countless offspring that now populate our world with feathered animals that know the power of flight.

The Pterodactyl is gone but in the remote forests of the Amazon there can still be found a trace of the early days, in the nestling of the Hoatzin. When this bird is hatched it is equipped with two sets of claws on the ends of its wings and until it is of an age to fly it crawls from branch to branch in the same manner that its lizzard ancestors first left the ground and climbed into the fern forests.

But with the development of the perfect flight body, evolution did not cease nor even slow down. Birds that had gained the power of flight through millions of years evolving began to regress. In Lake Titicaca in Chile a species of grebes found it easier to escape enemies by diving than by flying, they found ample food the year round and had no need of migration, and to-day on Lake Titicaca this species of grebe has become isolated and one day in the future will succumb to evolution.

The next time you hear the expression, 'as rare as hen's teeth', don't laugh. Yesterday in the time of archaeology their swam in our oceans a giant loon, over six feet long and armed with a long narrow bill containing 94 sharp teeth. Complete skeletons of this formidable bird have been discovered and it is supposed that a bite from this bird, and it would be a bite literally, would sever a man's hand.

The process of evolution is endless. Careful studies of present day birds such as the common song sparrow show the mark of evolution. There are about 40 different kinds of song sparrow. They vary due to the different conditions they live under. The desert birds are pale and large, the forest birds are small and dark. In the next few million years these varying forms will probably be distinct species, bearing no resemblance to each other or to the song sparrow of to-day.

When you see a starling outside your window consider that the ancestors of that bird were ancient fossils before the first man walked on two feet. In an article of this length I can give only a mere summary of a few of the amazing stories written by evolution on the beds of sandstone and lime in the days when the earth was still in its youth, but it may show roughly a little of the interest there is in the study of birds and why the class of people known rather pitifully as scientists enjoy their long and difficult books and their slow hours of research.

PRESBYTERIAN GROUPS UNITE FOR CONCERT

Combined talent from the Woodbridge Presbyterian choir and Young People's Society staged an excellent concert in the hall last Friday evening. The variety programme included choral and solo selections by the choir, a short operetta by the same group, readings by a guest elocutionist, Miss Ola MacNaughton, and a one-act play presented by the Young People's organization.

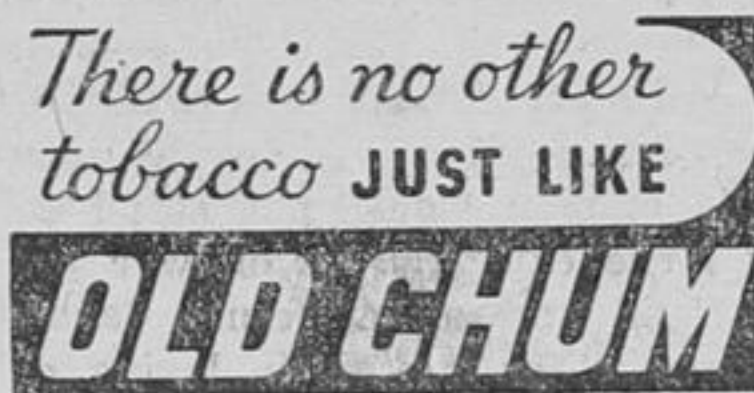
Soloists in the choir's contributions were Mrs. Lorne Bagg, Mrs. H. Lovett, Stanley Harper, Gordon McGillivray, Miss Gladys Armstrong, Miss Janey Nattress, Miss Orpha Farr and Jack Nattress. The operetta, "Thirty Minutes with Stephen Foster", was played by Mrs. Bagg, Mrs. Lovett, Miss Armstrong, Mr. Harper and Miss Mabelle Harris, assisted by the full choir.

The Young People's play, a particularly humorous episode, was acted by the following players: Miss Gertrude Frankum, Miss Irvine Elder, Jack Nattress, Charlie Agnew and Roy Cameron.

Pianist and director of music was Miss Jean Laurie and the chairman was Gilbert Wallis. Others assisting in various capacities were Miss Gladys Brownlee, business manager; James Ross and Jack Cornell, tickets and door; Mrs. D. McKenzie, Miss Mabelle Harris and C. Agnew, stage and play direction; Mrs. Harry Watts and Miss Fern Berry, usherettes.

WEDDING

VARCOE-TRIMBLE The wedding took place on Saturday, February 24th at the United Church Parsonage in Bolton of Aldeen Elizabeth Trimble, daughter of Mrs. Trimble of Palgrave and Lawson Hubert Varcoe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Varcoe of Adjala. Rev. W. Rivers officiated. They will reside in Adjala.



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MRS. C. E. BRADSHAW Mrs. Charles Ellis Bradshaw, 62 year old resident of the 7th concession of Vaughan, passed away in the Private Patient's Pavilion, Toronto General Hospital, on Saturday, February 24th. Mrs. Bradshaw suffered a broken shoulder, a broken hip and other injuries when she fell on ice near her home eight days prior to her death. Her husband is a former postmaster at the University of Toronto office and the family have lived in Vaughan for several years. Mrs. Bradshaw, the former Catherine Taylor, was born at Brockville, the daughter of James Taylor, a native of England, and Catherine Stinson, a native of Ireland. Survivors include her husband, two daughters, Myrtle and Rhena, at home, and a son, Chancey, of Toronto. Funeral services were conducted at Scott's Woodbridge funeral chapel by the Rev. L. Rumble of the Bible Society, Toronto, on Tuesday afternoon, February 27th. Interment was in Hillcrest cemetery with the following acting as pallbearers, A. Harris, Earl Osborne, both of Toronto; Roy Barker, George Stewart, Floyd Farr and Bartley Farr.

Notice to Creditors

IN THE ESTATE OF JOHN EVANS, DECEASED.

All persons having claims against the Estate of John Evans, late of the Township of Markham, in the County of York, Farmer, who died on or about the 6th day of January, 1940, are hereby notified to send particulars of same to the undersigned on or before the 20th day of March, 1940, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice and the undersigned will not be liable to any person of whose claim he shall not then have notice.

DATED at Toronto this 20th day of February, 1940.

JESSE ROBINSON, Executor, c/o his Solicitors, Messrs. Duncan & Gilday, 85 Richmond St. West, Toronto.

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