

"THE LIBERAL"

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THURSDAY, MAY 16th, 1940.

FAIR DAY CALLING

"There's never anything doing in Richmond Hill," is a statement sometimes heard from those who point to frequent activities in other centres and feel this community is short on big days and celebrations. Fair Day, Friday, May 24th, is one answer to this complaint. For almost a century Richmond Hill Fair has been an attractive event of the spring season and this year an especially attractive program has been secured. It is Richmond Hill's big day of the year, a day when there are thousands of visitors here and when hundreds of former residents of the district come back to renew old acquaintances and see old friends. The Fair this year should be visited by every resident of the village and surrounding district and to this end the officers and directors are making a drive to establish a new attendance record.

The directors have been working hard for months in preparation for the event and every citizen can help by boosting the fair from now until May 24th. Talk about the Fair to your friends, invite them here for the day and above all take your family and join in the crowd at the park on Fair Day.

Merchants and citizens are asked to help too by decorating their places of business and residences and thus give the village a festive appearance for the holiday. Plan now to spend Victoria Day, Friday, May 24th, in Richmond Hill at the Fair.

GARDENS FOR RELIEF RECIPIENTS

The Provincial Government has decreed that all municipalities having relief rolls, must sponsor the "garden plot" movement among the recipients. Every able-bodied person who has been receiving relief must cultivate a garden at least twenty-five by one hundred feet. The municipality will be obligated to make a report on all cases and if costs are to be shared by the Province and Dominion, approval must be secured. This new program is part of the general relief administration and no municipality wherein relief claims have been made within six months, is exempt. Those apt to be seeking relief next winter will be obligated to plant a garden.

This looks like a splendid thing and there does not appear to be any reason why those partly dependent on the municipality, should not plant a garden on many of the vacant lots which are available. With a reasonable effort, they can produce a great deal of food-stuffs which will reduce the relief bills next winter.

RECKLESS DRIVING IN RICHMOND HILL MUST BE CHECKED

Childhood is the happiest time of life, and to expect children never to think of anything but hazards of traffic is to deny them something of their birthright. Motorists have rights, we know, but no motorist has the right to endanger human life. **MOTORISTS ENDANGER HUMAN LIFE EVERY DAY IN RICHMOND HILL,** and something must be done about it. It will be too late after we are shocked into action by another fatality. Too many lives already have been lost on Richmond Hill streets.

There naturally is sympathy for a motorist involved in a serious accident, but too often motorists hide behind the alibi "He darted right out in front of me, and I couldn't do a thing." The truth is the motorist was travelling too fast in a hazardous zone. The motorist who is cautious, considerate of the rights of others and the lives of little children and feeble old folks always has his car under control. Near school zones, through thickly populated areas, in centres where there are parked cars and children are numerous, he drives with the expectation that some child may dart out, or some aged person may be crossing the street but his speed is slow and he is able to stop in time to avoid a fatality.

Drivers of motor cars have a duty and a responsibility in this matter of safety which most of them strive to appreciate. Those who do not, who are too rattle-brained, too selfish to do so should be sternly checked. They should be summonsed to court and fined for their recklessness before they finally become involved in a serious accident. Reckless driving can be noted on Richmond Hill streets every day of the week and in the interests of the preservation of life it must be checked.

The statement of a town councillor that there hasn't been a conviction for speeding here in five years marks Richmond Hill as sort of open territory for speeders. You can't speed in Aurora, Newmarket, and the majority of other towns, but apparently everything goes in Richmond Hill.

THE LONG VIEW

The publisher of one of Ontario's leading weekly newspapers relates that one recent afternoon, when he was worrying about the state of the world in general and the state of his own business in particular, an old subscriber came to call. The latter was a man in his late sixties, apparently in the best of health and vigor; but evidently the trend of events or the weather or both were preying on his spirits. After a little gloomy talk he announced the purpose of his visit, which was to renew his subscription.

Handing a dollar across the desk, he said: "You know, John, when you get to my time of life, you don't know what may happen. So I'm only renewing for six months." After writing the receipt, the publisher sat for a time, feeling gloomier than ever. Then he walked across the street to the post office to get the afternoon mail.

The first envelope he opened contained a money order and a letter from a former resident of the town, now a man ninety-three years of age. He had been keenly interested in the town ever since he moved away, and had always kept up with the local news by reading the paper. His note expressed optimism in every line, and his money order covered a two-year renewal.

The publisher says he has stopped worrying and feels a new confidence about his business and the outlook for the world.—Printed Word.

BIRDS OF THE SEASON

(By Farley Mowat)

This week we inaugurate a new type of bird column. Instead of articles this space will be devoted to the doings of local bird enthusiasts, what they see, and what they talk about. In other words if you are interested in birds, regardless of whether you can tell a Cowbird from a Crow, this column is yours. Make use of it, any records that might be of interest, relating to birds seen, nests found etc. will be published. And incidently we do not confine ourselves completely to birds. Notes on animals, flowers, and insects will be equally welcome. Share your nature experiences with the rest of us, and by doing so help to build up a stronger interest and appreciation of nature.

Two weeks ago, under the leadership of Dr. Lillian Langstaff and Mr. F. Hoover a bird trip to Ashbridges Bay was organized. So large and enthusiastic was the crowd who turned out for it that it was decided to hold a field trip every Sunday morning. Last week a small but enthusiastic group went to High Park. Next week (Sunday, May 19) a trip to Sunnyside Park will be held. These field trips are open to everyone, if you haven't a car then phone or write Dr. Lillian Langstaff or myself and we will arrange for your transportation. The only cost is a share of the gas used.

Last Sunday's trip was unusually good. Miss Izzard, Miss Smith, Molly Campbell, Harris Hord and myself made up the group. A slight misprint in last week's paper caused us some delay but resulted in your reporter partaking of three breakfasts, which led him to believe that misprints have their value. The group got to High Park just as the rain started but the birds were out in force. A walk up Harcourt Valley revealed some 15 species including a Grey-cheeked Thrush and a Veery. White-crowned and White-throat Sparrows were very numerous. Grenadier Pond was almost deserted, one pair of Black Ducks and another of 'Screw Ball' ducks being observed. The 'Screw Ball' ducks are crosses between Wild Mallards and tame Black Ducks. On a small pond near Grenadier we were fortunate in finding four kinds of swallows, two of them very rare. Rough-winged, Bank, Cliff and Tree Swallows were present along with a pair of Bufflehead Ducks on the pond. Down along the Exhibition waterfront we found 5 kinds of gulls. Almost an all time record as three kinds of gulls is usually the limit. A huge, pure white Glaucous Gull, rare straggler from the arctic was the highlight of the day. Black-backed and Bonapartes Gulls were also interesting. Altogether the party saw 41 species of birds in three hours observing. Next week we can promise 50 kinds.

A new bird for the local list was seen by Bill Stewart, Harris Hord and the author just south of the Orange-Home. It was a single Upland Plover, a bird that has become very rare in recent years. Also seen at the same time were Greater Yellow-legs, Solitary Sandpiper and Alder Flycatcher.

Nesting records include a robin or two, several crows and one White-rumped Shrike nesting near the west end of Centre Street. John Curzon who found the nest (which has 4 eggs by the way) will be glad to show the nest to any observers who are interested.

An almost pure white Albino House Sparrow was seen this week in Thornhill. Albinoism in House Sparrows seems to be quite common.

The waterworks pond has been up to standard this week with the following birds observed by Mr. Hoover, Dr. Langstaff and Father Kane: Brown Thrasher, Yellow Warbler, Spotted Sandpiper, Catbird and Nashville Warbler.

I have done an unusual amount of bird banding this spring, 65 birds to date including a Pied-billed Grebe. Two Song Sparrows banded last Spring were back in the traps almost a year to the day after first being banded. We would like to band Chimney Swifts this year and anyone knowing of chimneys being used by Swifts will do the Biological Survey a favour by passing on the information to me.

About next Sunday. Practically everyone who went on the last two trips was asked specifically but once asked they were keen to go. We cannot ask each of you personally so don't wait for an invitation. Phone or write before Saturday night. The group will leave the Post Office at 9:00 a.m. sharp and will be back about 1:30 (not a.m. as in last week's notice). If you can't get in touch

with us before Saturday, turn up at the Post Office anyway and we will find room for you. Bring your glasses and notebooks, and if you have time eat an extra breakfast, you'll need it.

Letters From The People

ASKS RE DOG BY-LAW

Editor, The Liberal

Sir:—

Will you please advise through your valuable paper whether or not there is a by-law to prohibit the running at large of dogs in Richmond Hill. I am informed that there is but unless my eyes deceive me there are still some running around. Looking at my tulip bed this morning I concluded an elephant stepped in it, but my neighbour tells me it was a very large dog. Now Mr. Editor I may be old fashioned but I believe if there is a by-law to restrain dogs running at large it should apply to everyone.

FLOWER LOVER.

Note: By-law No. 454 of the Village of Richmond Hill provides that from the 1st of May to the 30th of September no dog shall be at large within the village of Richmond Hill unless the animal is on leash. (Ed.)

POINTS OUT DANGER OF PARKING CLOSE TO INTERSECTIONS

Editor, The Liberal

Sir:—

Congratulations on drawing attention to the traffic conditions in Richmond Hill. It is disgraceful the way some people drive and certainly they should be checked.

I write to draw attention to the dangerous practice of allowing parking on Yonge Street close to intersections. It makes it impossible to see oncoming traffic and I have noted several very narrow escapes from accidents. I trust the authorities will note this hazard and have it corrected.

A READER.

Lion Allan: "Do you know what a poinsettia is?"
Lion Wick: "Sure, it's a bird dog."

Notice to Creditors

HENRY DANIEL GAMBLE ESTATE

Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against the Estate of the above named decedent, who died on or about the 6th day of May 1938 at the Township of Markham, are requested to send on or before the first day of June 1940 to the undersigned, agent for the Executor, their names, addresses and full particulars of their claims, duly verified.

Take notice that on and after the first of June, 1940, the assets of the Estate will be distributed, having regard only to the claims of which notice has been received, and that the Executor will not be liable for the assets to any person whose claim has not been received.

Dated at Aurora the 6th day of May, 1940.

J. M. WALTON, Box 476, Aurora, Agent for the Executor,
Harriett I. Gamble.

Notice to Creditors

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons having claims against the estate of Susan Henrietta Gooderham, late of Lansing, Township of North York, Widow, deceased, who died on or about 23rd December, 1939, are required to forward their claims, duly proven, to the undersigned Henry James Elliot and Ira Worts Gooderham, executors, on or before 20th May 1940.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that after said date, the undersigned executors will proceed to distribute the estate amongst those entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which said executors shall then have notice.

DATED this 3rd day of May, 1940.

Alexander MacGregor, K.C.,

614 Confederation Life Bldg.,

Toronto,

Solicitor for Henry James Elliot,

and Ira Worts Gooderham, Executors of last will of said Susan

Henrietta Gooderham, 30 Sheppard Ave., East, Lansing, Ont.

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