

"THE LIBERAL"

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 J. E. SMITH, Editor

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HIGHWAY AND 'TRAMS'

Probably we are too optimistic, but we do think a decided improvement may be made within the next year in the system of public transportation provided for the people of the Thornhill and Richmond Hill district — and there is even a hope that the province will take steps to eliminate the "bottle-neck" in the North Yonge St. highway, or at least in one way or another, remedy the conditions that make for hazardous travel.

Reeve Neal of Richmond Hill has given the members of the York County council a vivid and realistic picture of our highway problem, and when York county petitions the provincial department of highways, as it surely will now, it should receive a hearing — and perhaps a little action. We can only wait and see.

With respect to the radials, the situation is different. The radials have been making a profit and there is not only need on North Yonge St. for better service, but also for more modern and safer cars. The T.T.C. has ordered new equipment to a value of about \$1,000,000, largely, of course, for city lines. But the T.T.C. cannot and does not want to escape the responsibilities of North Yonge St. operation, and perhaps if the municipal authorities of the district would confer with the management of the T.T.C. some highly interesting information could be obtained as to North York conditions and program.

We have been told that the T.T.C. hopes to weather the coming winter with the present cars, and there have been rumors that buses would be used next year probably to supplement the rush hour car service and that newer cars will be put on North Yonge St. when they become available. We hope some such improvement is in store for us, and we would urge the Reeves and councils of Richmond Hill, Vaughan and Markham to go into the subject with the operating company so we may have first hand data.

The T.T.C. has undoubtedly tried to render as adequate a transportation service as war conditions would permit during the past five years, and we are confident the commission would have averted the unfortunate accidents in Toronto that occurred as a result of the unavoidable employment of obsolete rolling stock or faulty track and switches. However, these accidents and the minor derailments reported from time to time on the North Yonge St. line suggest the advisability of an understanding between the public authority in this district and the heads of the T.T.C., the latter providing us with an accurate picture of just what condition our cars and tracks are in, and whether in winter weather especially they are safe.

We have no doubt the T.T.C. would refuse to operate the line if equipment is not safe, but whether the T.T.C. has been able to find staff to make proper inspection and repairs to the North Yonge St. system is a question the answer to which should be an assurance to the public.

RIGHT AND WRONG! WHAT ARE THEY?

Maj.-Gen. Brock G. Chisholm, Canada's deputy minister of health and welfare, has revealed a truly remarkable ability to say things that will attract public attention. In addresses throughout Canada and the United States recently, he has been developing a theme he enunciated some weeks ago, namely, that we are mistaken in our conception of right and wrong. His view has been attacked in press and pulpit throughout the land, and has been discussed in several Richmond Hill churches.

Dr. Chisholm holds that we have been so wrong in our definitions of right and wrong we should refrain from passing our ideas on to our children. "As long as children are given our rules to guide their living," says the doctor, "then so long are parents hastening the death of the human race. . . . Our children must not have their thinking crippled by being taught the principles of supposed right and wrong." They must, he says, be brought up on the strict basis of reality, free from escapism.

We cannot accept the hypothesis that everyone is and has been out of step except our Jock, that our view of right and wrong revealed to us by faith and reason is in error, that the moral code laid down by Christ which so appeals to our conscience and intelligence is leading us astray. True, we have failed to find the way to a peaceful organization of society. But can we ascribe our failure to false ideas of right and wrong? We have been escapist, indeed. But have we not been trying to escape, on a mass scale, from ideas of conduct which are right and which we know to be right, but which we are unwilling to make the effort or sacrifice to follow?

We doubt also the value of Dr. Chisholm's further suggestion that "the strict basis of reality" requires an abandonment of all the fanciful teachings that have hitherto accompanied childhood. Reality is a very big subject and hardly capable of strict definition, and "the strict basis of reality" to which the doctor makes frequent reference may not be capable of the rigid approach he demands. The matter was put neatly more than half a century ago by John Henry Newman in the following words:

"While we talk logic we are unanswerable; but then, on the other hand, this universal scene of things is after all as little a logical world as it is a poetical; and, as it cannot without violence be exalted into poetical perfection, neither can it be attenuated into a logical formula."

About as far as we care to go with Dr. Chisholm, is that he may be performing a useful role in stimulating people to think. But as for the case he attempts to make, we would ask whether our tragic difficulties have not come about because we have departed too far from allegiance to our traditional standards of right and wrong, rather than because our Divinely given intelligence, reason, conscience and faith have been deceiving us.

ADVICE TO COUNCILLORS

Richmond Hill municipal council and the councils of neighboring municipalities will undoubtedly be interested in the first report of the recently formed Institute of Local Government, an organization linked with Queen's University. The report sets forth information of use to councils which could be obtained previously only by years of experience and the delving into a multitude of legal books and political science texts.

The authors point out that new councillors will almost inevitably get into fights with permanent officials, and they say also that, unusually at the instigation of some interested voter or voters, councillors sometimes discover a rule or regulation working hardship in an individual case and are then tempted to blast away at the entire municipal system of government. Officials, on the other hand,

are strongly in favor of adhering to the rule book. Says the Institute pamphlet:—

"Either view carried to the extreme would be undesirable. In practice the conflict of the two views brings about a compromise that is beneficial to the community. An understanding of why this difference of opinion exists should do much to eliminate any animosity which it might otherwise tend to arouse."

The institute also offers sound advice for local governments in dealing with the press. "The press is the only link between government and the people," says the pamphlet. "Through the press government tells what it is doing, wants to do, won't do. Through the press the public has its only continuing means of keeping the activities of the elected representatives under scrutiny."

An agency, such as the Institute, serving the needs of local or municipal government is serving a most timely and urgent need.

YOUTH, TODAY AND TOMORROW

It is undoubtedly true that the hopes of the world are centred now as never before in the youth of the world. Young men and women need to prepare themselves for taking over responsibility for the economical and spiritual changes which are undoubtedly stirring the nations, because the strength and safety of communities and nations depend upon their virtue and intelligence. While steadiness will be required in the ranks of all countries, the next quarter century will see an increased demand for fire and initiative in their leaders.

The first errors to be swept from the minds of young people are the ideas that days of opportunity are past, and that there is no longer a premium on effort. When executives tell young people starting work that advancement depends upon their own efforts, it is a sincere and serious warning. If youth chooses to disregard the advice of successful businessmen, it must face the fact that the alternative is a totalitarian state government, such as those the democracies have just defeated, or an industrial paternalism. Either is calculated to relieve the worker of the necessity to think, and force him into the ranks of those who do nothing but obey orders and perform the tasks to which they are assigned.

But youth cannot just sit and wait for the adult world to solve its problems. The war has disorganized the conventional way of life, and has given all ages and all parts of society unfamiliar situations. In times of peace cultural changes are slow, and can be taken in their stride by adults and youths alike, but war accelerates the speed of evolution, and makes broad-scale, combined-age planning more difficult.

Diagnosis and realization are the first needs of an appreciation of the problem, but it is necessary to proceed toward a cure, which is a joint responsibility of youths and their elders. Training is not everything. It is necessary to provide advice which will enable young people to choose the field for which they are best fitted. Employers are well aware of the fact that while many youths appear fit for nothing except unskilled labour, because of poor education and lack of training, surprising results are attained through right environment, skilful supervision, and encouraging guidance. On the other hand, the mal-adjusted worker means for industry waste, inefficiency, and high turnover of employees.

From the standpoint of society, it is obviously desirable that every youth should have the opportunity to become self-supporting, and from youth's standpoint it is desirable to encourage and guide the girl and boy to learn and to work efficiently. This latter objective has become distorted by the work and wages condition of war time. Conversion from war to peace conditions of employment will include realization that war conditions are not normal. Work habits need to be better. Constant moving from one plant to another will not advance the youth in peacetime. He must learn to be reliable, and to avoid absenteeism. He must have a plan, and guard against the danger of its taking him into an occupation remote from his ability. He needs to place more emphasis on learning than on work, avoid dead-end type jobs, and prepare himself for more than routine.

Youth is being aided by the increasing understanding of adults, wider interest of communities, more opportunities for participation in organizations for their own welfare, greater attention by governments, constantly broadening scope of schools, training in private, government, and plant schools, and the guidance offered by unselfish citizens whose only objective is the good of youth and the betterment of society. These efforts and achievements, however, should not induce complacency, because in spite of them youth finds itself at a most critical stage in life. Even in a settled world, conflict marks all the years of growth toward adulthood, and the problems of today's young people include, in addition, the let-down from pressures of war, the upsets of reconversion, the need for suitable jobs, and what to do with leisure.

MAPLE

At the monthly meeting of St. Stephen's Church Women's Auxiliary held at the home of Mrs. H. Bryan all final arrangements were made for the coming annual Bazaar to be held in the Masonic Hall, Maple on Saturday, December 1st. Bazaar will open at 4 p.m. and supper will be served until 7 p.m.

Billy Hodge of the R.A.F. Ferry Command has returned to Montreal after a short leave with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Hodge.

Stoker Billie Lawrie who has had a 60-day leave at home with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lawrie after being 18 months in Newfoundland left last week for Halifax.

Miss Margaret Fockler spent the week-end with Miss Ina Forrest in Toronto.

Maple Y.P.U. installation service will be held next Sunday evening. Miss Margaret Fockler will speak to the congregation.

The W.M.S. of St. Paul's Church, Vaughan, will hold an evening service next Sunday, November 25. Dr. Archer Wallace will be the guest speaker and the choir of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church will take charge of the music.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Rumble of Toronto spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Rumble.

Mrs. McMurchy and Mrs. Atkinson of Richmond Hill visited on Sunday with the Misses Walkington.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Jennings spent Sunday in Toronto visiting Mr. Jennings' sister.

The village was saddened on Sunday by the death of Mrs. Carl Sai-

geon just a little over two months after her husband the late Carl Saigeon who died September 2nd. Mrs. Saigeon, whose maiden name was Flossie Watson, daughter of the late John Watson and Mrs. Watson was in her 49th year and had been very ill for some months. The only son Jack returned from overseas in October. The sympathy of the entire community is extended to Jack in the death of both parents.

The insurance business known as John T. Saigeon & Son has been taken over by a cousin, Mr. Ernest Brock who will move to Maple very soon.

The Maple quartette consisting of Mrs. F. S. Rumble, soprano, Mrs. T. F. Jackson, alto, Mr. Wm. Oliver, tenor and Mr. Eldon Wade, bass, with Mrs. Wade leader and pianist, held their annual family chicken supper last Thursday evening at the home of Mrs. Rumble. Included among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Hyde and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Rumble of Richmond Hill.

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