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**Confidence In Your Community**

(EDITOR'S NOTE:—Our acknowledgements to the "Markham Economist and Sun" for the following article — a report of a speech delivered in that town which we believe will be of interest to citizens of this area also.)

The following is text of address given by Mr. Harvey M. Dagg, supervisor of Business Development for the Bank of Nova Scotia, at the general meeting of Markham District Chamber of Commerce, last week.

The subject of his address was "Confidence In Your Community". He said confidence according to Webster, is defined in part as "That in which faith is put" whereas the same dictionary has this to say about "Community" — "A body of people living in the same place under the same laws." One subject therefore, means in effect, that "Faith must be put in the people living in one Community." Faith implies understanding, tolerance, neighborliness.

A community is like a home containing many relatives. Harmony and progress can only be achieved by each individual in that home subjugating themselves in some measure to the good of all. I do not mean that all must agree on all subjects. Progress comes only from full and free discussion of all matters relating to the Community. Yes men are little help in making plans and carrying them to fruition.

Communities are in effect semi-independent states, governed democratically and Democracy is "Government by the People" or majority control. Hence, while free and open discussion is of paramount importance in formulating plans for your Community, once those plans are decided upon every resident should get behind them and support them to the fullest possible extent even though in the early stages of consideration your ideas may have differed from those finally decided upon. We are not always right and once a decision has been made the will of the majority should prevail.

Community pride is an essential factor in developing any town or city and pride in one's own town must be fostered if that town is to grow and progress. In this fostering of pride, the members of the Chamber of Commerce take a foremost part. Community pride is an essential factor in developing any town or city and pride in one's own town must be fostered if that town is to grow and progress.

**Province Helps**

The Government of the Province of Ontario is to be congratulated on the steps it has taken to assist the smaller communities of Ontario. The Trade and Industry Branch of the Department of Planning and Development located at 145 Yonge Street in Toronto under the Minister, William Greisinger, and under the capable guidance of Col. F. J. Lyle, the Director, is willing and anxious to assist you in any way possible in securing new industries for your town.

You also have responsibilities in this connection. You must be able to supply full and complete information on your available facilities — factory sites, power, water, labour, housing, recreational facilities and other features which would make Markham a desirable place in which to locate. To assist you in this, the Province has prepared a small booklet entitled "Guide to Industrial Planning for the Smaller Communities of Ontario". These booklets may be obtained by applying to the Department of Planning and Development. Complete information on your community should also be on file in the Department since it is in direct touch with concerns both in Canada, England and the United States who are seeking new opportunities of expansion.

The chartered banks can also assist municipalities in industrial development by providing them with confidential information concerning prospective concerns. Use your bank. The manager has at his disposal, information from all sections of the country, from the United States and abroad through branches and correspondents. Your bank manager is a citizen of your community and shares with you in the growth and progress which your town makes.

In order to assist industry and communities most Canadian banks have established Business Development Departments. The principal functions of these departments are to assist both municipalities and industries in bringing them together, in furnishing both with authentic accurate information which is necessary to both sides. The staff of these Business Development Departments

are constantly on the alert for information of value and Chambers of Commerce, Industrial Commissioners, Councillors and others interested in civic development keep in steady touch with us exchanging leads which may be of value.

**Progress Brings Responsibility**

Here let me point out most definitely that industrial progress brings responsibility. Increased population requires increased facilities, more schools, better water supplies, adequate fire and police protection, in short more taxes. What must be remembered, however, is that enlarged payrolls, greater population, more industries will soon compensate for the higher taxes. Communities on the march must make arrangements to supply these necessities in advance since industry requires adequate services before it will decide on any one locality. Another necessity in our modern living is adequate recreational facilities. A few months ago a large industry finally decided on an Eastern Ontario Town and the factor that led to the decision was the provision which the town had made to provide playing fields and an indoor skating and hockey arena. No longer can labour be ignored and with shorter working hours more time is spent outside the factory hence the need for adequate facilities.

Much can be accomplished in beautifying a town by a group such as yours with very little expenditure of funds. A recent issue of the "Reader's Digest" tells the story of a woman in a mid-western State of the United States who, disgusted with the unsightliness of her village started a one woman crusade for cleanliness and beauty.

Flower seeds costing but a few cents a package were scattered at dusty corners of the roadway. Litter was gathered up and burned or buried. The idea caught on, other citizens took a hand and her village is now a model of beauty and cleanliness. The effects of her work have spread far beyond the boundaries of her own settlement and she has been called to assist and advise many other communities in similar plans. I am not for a moment suggesting that Markham needs any such plan; I merely use the illustration to demonstrate what one woman did — she had confidence in her community.

Confidence in your community should be extended to confidence in your county, your province, and your Dominion. I do not need to tell you that we in Ontario are very fortunate people. We live in the most prosperous province of Canada and are blessed with virtually everything needed to supply the materials of living. You here, are in a district noted for its mixed farming and dairying. You are close to your markets and also to your requirements of manufactured goods. You are indeed fortunate that through your industry and that of your fathers, you have helped to create the conditions which you now enjoy.

To go farther afield we are partners in a country whose future is second to none. Canada is on the threshold of an era of expansion which will carry our Dominion to great heights. Most other countries are already heavily populated, with natural resources developed almost to the saturation point. We are only beginning.

As one example, I have only to mention the opening of the new oil fields in Alberta, such as the Leduc, Redwater and Golden Spike districts. The search is spreading to Saskatchewan and now that the Provincial Government has given assurance that there will be no expropriation or socialization of the oil and gas industry, two large companies have announced their intention to re-extend their operations in that province.

Once sufficient pipe lines are laid to carry the oil to the lake head, we will be self-supporting and before too long we should be in the export market.

Following this oil development, will come the opening of the mineral areas of the Great Slave regions which, I venture to predict, will parallel the Northern Ontario mineral Belt.

**Municipalities Share**  
This future development of Canada will be shared by aggressive municipalities and if Markham desires to participate, the Council, the Chamber of Commerce, the Service Club and all other social organizations must be ever alert to sing the praises of your community and to publicize the attractions and advantages which

you have to offer to companies seeking new locations.

Perhaps you think I am wandering from my subject. I do not think so. I feel strongly that in order to be really effective, Confidence in your Community means also confidence in your country, and gentlemen, we have a Dominion in which we can have confidence, a country of which we should be proud. We Canadians are not given to flag waving but at times I think we should consider some of the blessings which we have and give grateful thanks to God for the community in which we live and the Country of which it is a part.

We should also cherish the freedom which is ours and be constantly on the alert to defend that freedom from philosophies of government which would slowly but gradually, like a creeping vine, smother individual initiative and regiment our lives. I make no apologies for my views that this community, this country of ours will best grow under a system of free enterprise where our citizens by the use of their imaginations and individual efforts will express their confidence in their communities and continue in the future as in the past as partners in a free and democratic way of life.

**"Musts" Necessary**

To summarize, may I say:

1. To grow industrially, you must be able to furnish quickly and accurately full information covering the advantages and facilities your town has to offer concerning seeking factory location.
2. To grow industrially you must be prepared to furnish the increased services required to take care of more population. The services include schools, fire and police protection, water and sewers, recreational facilities.
3. To grow industrially you must be prepared to co-operate with industry, to understand their problems, to help them in many ways, even to the extent of providing at times "risk capital."
4. To grow industrially you must believe in the future of your town, your province, your country.

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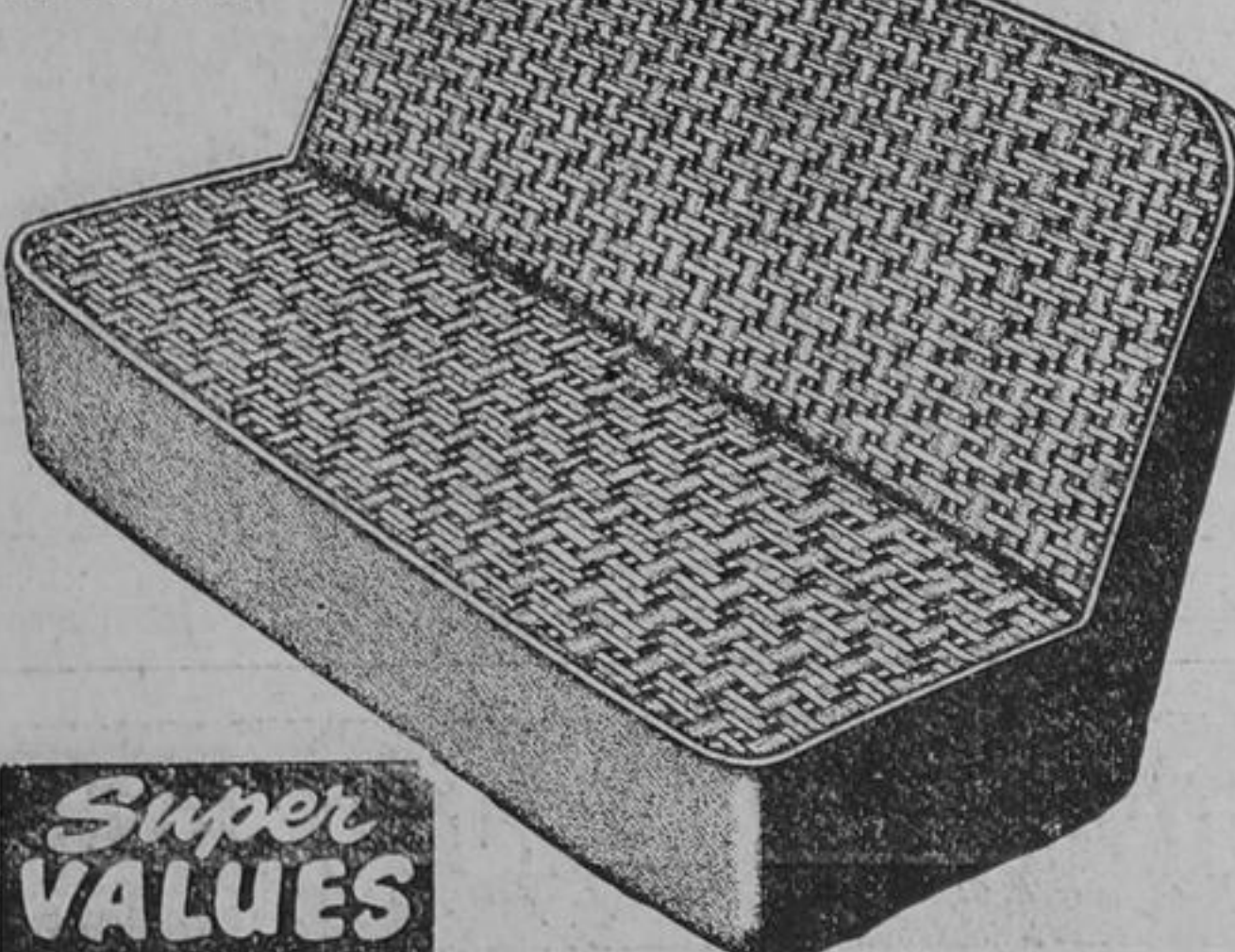
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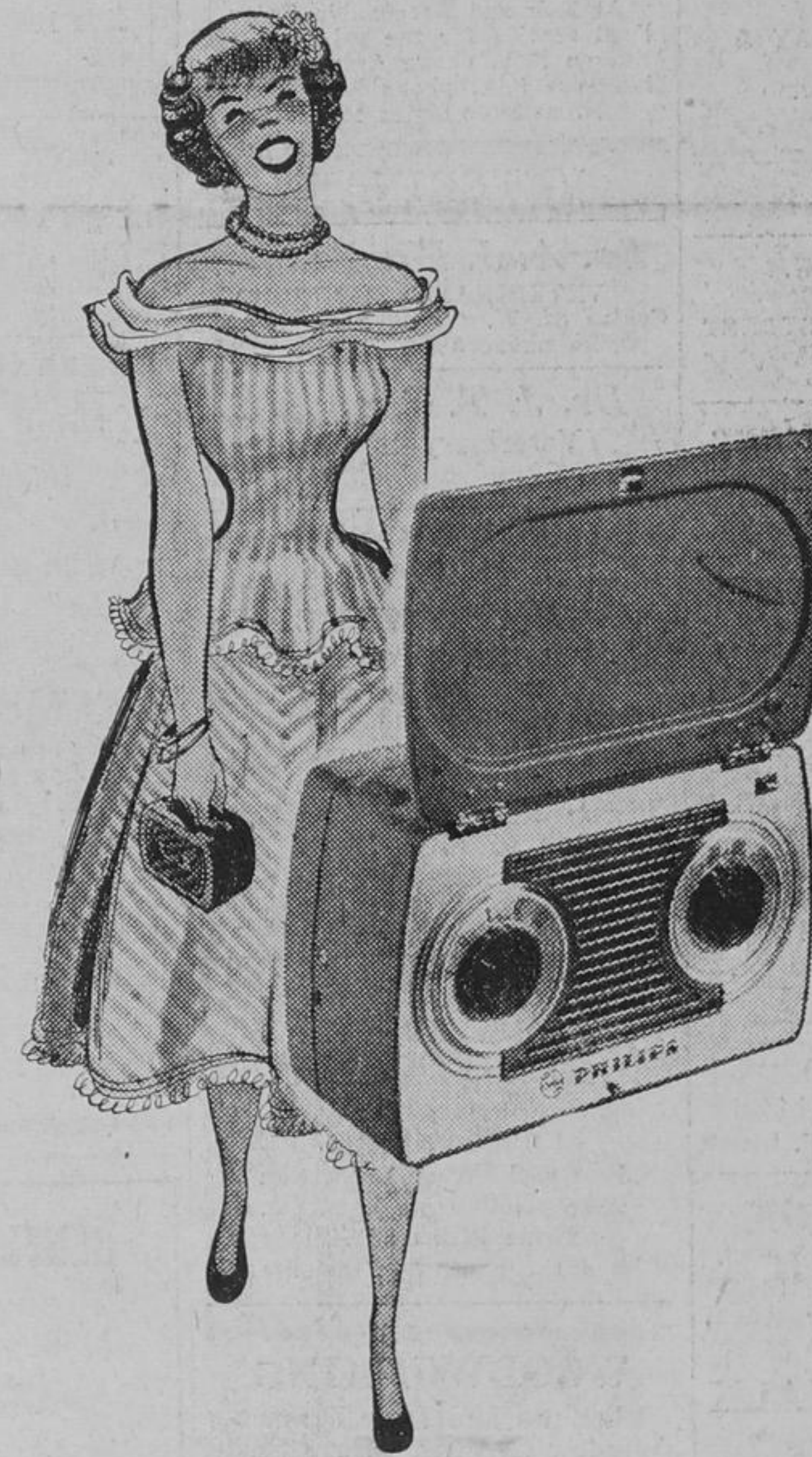
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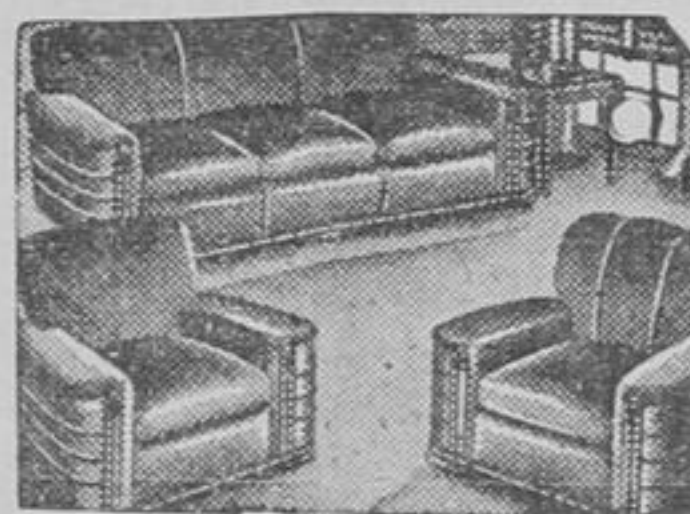
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