

THE LIBERAL

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Stuffed Shirts Not Needed

While, in some respects, a recent incident in Meaford falls into the "storm in a teacup" category yet a somewhat important principle is involved.

Mayor F. Stanley Knight, it will be recalled, felt that he alone should extend an official welcome to Viscount Alexander, the Governor General, on his recent official visit to that community.

The local branch of the Canadian Legion felt differently. It wished — following well-established precedent — to provide a guard of honour. In the ensuing mix-up Mayor Knight resigned, the result being that the acting mayor welcomed His Excellency and the Legion's guard of honour was present.

That is as it should be. Nobody has a better right to express the loyalty of a community to the Crown than the men who fought to preserve that Crown, all that it stands for, and the community. Especially is that the case when the representative of the Crown is one who has been a comrade-in-arms of the men who wish to pay him homage on behalf of their home town.

We spoke of precedents. It will be remembered that on the pre-war tour of the Dominion by Their Majesties, the King and Queen, from the smallest hamlet to the greatest city war veterans formed an honoured and honourable part of the great tide of welcome and loyalty which swept around the royal couple from coast to coast.

We do not know ex-Mayor Knight. Doubtless he is a person who could adequately and with dignity extend the welcome of his municipality to all visitors, whatever their estate might be. In his official position he should, without question, be the leader in such a welcome. But the Mayor Knights of this country should never be forgetful of the fact that on such occasions and, indeed, in all the affairs of a democracy that they are just one part of a great picture — that their election to temporary power does not set them on a pedestal where they, and they alone, represent all that is good and fine and acceptable.

We are fortunate as a nation in having, on the whole, few men who feel that in their own persons alone can the qualifications for extending official welcomes be found. It is to be hoped that that state of affairs continues. There is little room for "stuffed shirts" in Canada.

Our Telephone Service

The forecast that dial telephones will be installed in Richmond Hill and vicinity, as reported elsewhere in this issue, will come as welcome news to those who are not already acquainted with the plans of the Bell Telephone Company in that connection.

In an age when one has become used to instantaneous and automatic telephone service we agree that it is maddening to wait an inordinate length of time for an operator's response — to suffer from frequent cut-offs — to experience delay, because of busy lines, in reaching a point only a few miles away.

But at the same time we have a certain amount of sympathy for the position of the Bell Telephone Company. War-born shortages have been common enough in all lines. Tractors, cars, refrigerators — to name only a few things — have been hard to get after the long years when the whole national economy was devoted to winning the war. But post-war demands, heavy as they have been, have in very few cases equalled those made for telephone service.

The Bell Telephone Company, like most industries, is anxious to get all the business it can. Unless it can provide the service it cannot get the returns. It is in exactly the same position as the smallest merchant — it must have the goods to sell if it expects to make a profit. But — and most merchants have found this out in the last few years — goods have been hard to get.

So it has been with the telephone company. An unprecedented demand — the ever-growing popularity of and necessity for Alexander Graham Bell's invention — have created a situation with which even the most efficient organization, and the Bell Telephone Company certainly falls into that category, finds it hard to cope with.

Richmond Hill itself provides a striking example of what the company is faced with. The fact that, in less than two years, calls have increased from eighteen hundred a day to nearly five thousand a day gives some idea of the growth of the business. And there is little sign of slackening.

It is hard to counsel patience when one is irritated by the lack of service. But it is perhaps the better part of wisdom to examine all angles of the question. That is what this paper has tried to do. It is convinced that an honest and efficient effort to provide the Hill and the district with better telephone service is being made as rapidly as possible, based on the installation of modern equipment. It has been advised that before such a very long time further and more categorical announcements will be made. In other words, the Liberal believes that the fastest possible progress towards providing this area with an up-to-date and efficient telephone service is being made.

But we add — and we know that we voice the opinion of the majority of our readers — let it be soon.

Is Romance Dead in Stouffville?

Can it be that tradition and sentiment are dying in our respected neighbouring municipality?

Are the flames of yesteryear turning to dust and ashes? Are the immortal words of Charles Kingsley — "Young blood must have its day, lass . . ." nothing but black marks made by printer's ink on a piece of paper?

Perish the thought! And yet there must be something in the idea, for press reports from that town say that no longer will Stouffvillians look with favour on the practice of wedding cars racing through the main streets dragging tin cans behind them, said cans scattering as they travel.

Says the Stouffville Tribune: "Today it could be a warning to the groom of what he may expect to be fed from, but to the village of Stouffville it can mean a general nuisance." The Tribune goes on to say that a citizen has suggested that a remedy for the tin can nuisance would be to buy a goat or two, and that the village constable has been asked to warn touring parties that they may be expected to return and clean up.

So romance — or at least one of its venerable demonstrations — perishes in Stouffville. Here's Niagara Falls issuing special certificates to visiting honeymooners — Stouffville threatening them with a clean-up job.

Come on, Stouffville — have a heart! The innocent victims of your ire are going to spend the rest of their married lives cleaning up tin cans, literally and metaphorically. Give them a break for once — while there's some fun in having tin cans tied to them. Just think what an opportunity you are giving to some poor husband to wise-crack in the years to come, when sweetie lays down the law about those empties which she has been trying to get him to dispose of for a couple of weeks: — "Huh, had to clean up tin cans after you the day we were married. Been doing nothing else ever since."

And just look at the commercial opportunities you are missing. Sure, follow that citizen's suggestion. Buy a goat. Think of the wonderful possibilities for advertising Stouffville. Just imagine what a smart copy-writer could do for you. "Come to Stouffville for your honeymoon. We provide the goat."

On second thoughts perhaps you'd better not. There's always the odd chance that when the bloom has faded from the rose the blushing bride of today might make pointed remarks about acquiring a couple of goats at the same time.

Anyway, let the poor suckers have their fun for a few min-

Good-Willers In Winnipeg

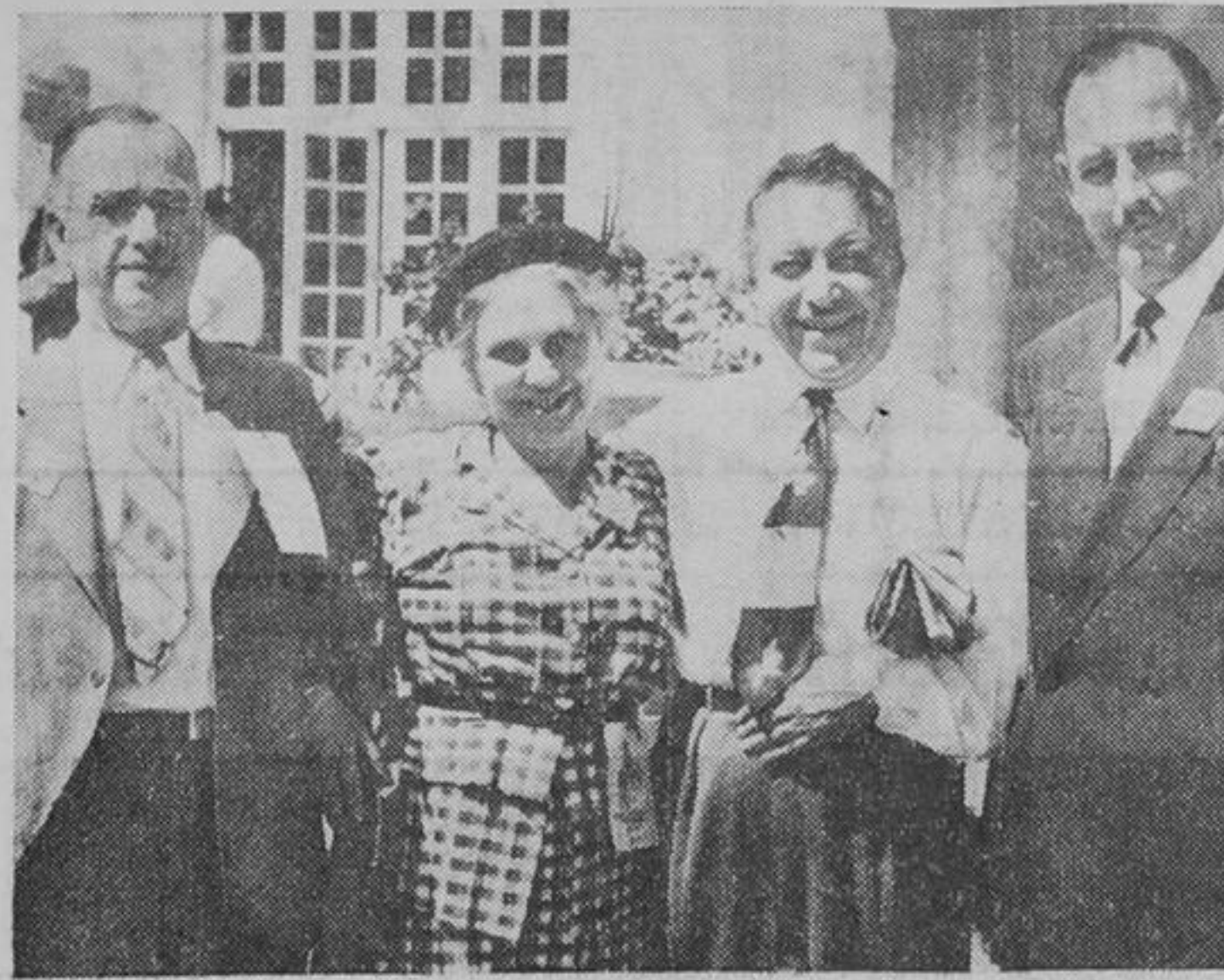


Photo by Jack Dobson

Three natives of Richmond Hill and the Mayor of Toronto are pictured during a chat in Winnipeg's Assiniboine Park. Left to right: Reeve Percy C. Hill, Mrs. Hill, Mayor Hiram McCallum of Toronto, Ben Sharpless, native of Richmond Hill who is now an official of the C.P.R. The four were on the last lap of their tour to Calgary and other western points on the Toronto Goodwill Train.

utes. And when we come to visit you'll look enviously at the growing piles of tin cans on your streets and realize that romance has not perished from the earth, at least as far as Stouffville is concerned.

The Polio Menace

Rumours current in Richmond Hill about ten days ago to the effect that there were several cases of infantile paralysis have proved to be unfounded, to the best of this paper's knowledge.

However, the dangerous season for this dread disease has not yet passed and, in the opinion of experts, is likely to continue for some three or four weeks more.

While medical science has not, unfortunately, yet been able to definitely isolate the germ which causes polio or to find a specific remedy for it, there are several simple precautions which should be observed by parents. They are:

- 1. All children under five should be given only boiled water to drink.
2. An extra precaution is to bring all milk, even if pasteurized, to a boil and then keep it cool for young children.
3. Children's hands should invariably be washed before eating.
4. Young children should have an afternoon rest.
5. Plenty of soap and hot water should be used for washing dishes.
6. Children with upset stomach and diarrhoea should be taken to the family doctor immediately.
7. Any child with a stiff neck should be taken to the doctor at once.
8. Children should, as far as possible, be kept away from crowds.

While there would not appear to be any undue cause for alarm, or fear of a severe outbreak of the disease, it's just as well to "play safe."

Time Well Spent

To President Albert Hill and to all officers and members of the Lions Club, Richmond Hill, congratulations are due on the successful outcome of the Civic Holiday Horse Show and Carnival. While figures are not yet available it seems that a large amount will become available for the splendid community activities in which the Lions play such a prominent part.

Apart from the financial angle we believe that there is one point worthy of comment, and that is the sacrifice made by members of the Lions Club in connection with staging such events. While other citizens can look forward to a day off the Lions can only anticipate a day of hard work and much responsibility. For many Civic Holiday is a day to be spent with the family, either at home or abroad. For the families of Lions Club members it is a day when they have to be reconciled to staying home in a good cause.

And it is a good cause. We believe that on consideration those who sacrifice much in order that the lots of others less fortunate may be improved may gain measure of recompense from the thought that "Even as ye have done it unto the least of these My children ye have done it unto Me."

Picture Of The Week

(Continued from Page One)

in the building trade frequently. Many of Richmond Hill's houses and public buildings have either been built or worked on by him. For fourteen years he has been the village's building inspector.

Many and varied have been his other occupations. Back in the days before mechanization he drove a hose wagon team for the Toronto Fire Department. He has worked for the Bedford Park Floral Company. He has farmed in Saskatchewan and North Dakota. For years he drove a milk wagon in Richmond Hill, sometimes leaving council meetings at 11.30 at night and being on the road with his wagon four hours later. He often recalls the days when, eighteen years old, he worked on a farm for \$14.00 a month. That farm was situated on a spot now densely built up — Toronto's swank Lawrence Park district.

He has been in jail too. But as it happened to be as a guard in the Jail Farm at Langstaff for five years his criminal record hasn't been too much of a handicap.

He's very proud of the fact that he has been a member of the Agricultural Society for over twenty years and he is, in this year when the Society celebrated its hundredth anniversary, its president. And when it comes to horses he's equally proud of recalling the day when he rode an "outlaw" in Saskatchewan, winning a bet by riding the supposedly unrideable horse.

In only two terms in the past nineteen years has he been absent from the council table of Richmond Hill. During the seventeen years he has been councillor he claims that he has never missed a meeting.

It's just thirty years this year since he and his wife, the former Elsie Pearson of Toronto, came to the Hill. There were wooden sidewalks in those days, he recalls. For those thirty years he has been actively associated with the church and particularly with its choir. A devoted member of the United Church choir today, he has also been secretary-treasurer of the Sunday School for the last five years.

His daughter Jean, now a proud mother herself, taught school in the Hill for seven years.

Actually it would take a lot more space than is available in a newspaper column to cover the many activities which he has engaged in as a citizen of Richmond Hill, a public servant and a business man. It seems to have been a fairly full life. Now, while he runs Vitafeed Concentrates plant for the Charles E. Frost people, a job he has held for the past nine years, he is doing a lot of thinking about the future of the Hill — the community he is proud to call "home" and to whose steady progress he has contributed so much.

The photograph of Councillor Middleton, like all others in this series, was taken by Edmund Soame, "The Studio," 1720 Avenue Road.

News Of Our Neighbours

Unemployment in that town has increased materially lately, says the Orillia "News-Letter." At a recent date 354 names of those available for work were listed with the Orillia Employment Bureau — 210 men and 144 women. About 40 of the number are veterans. The total is 56 more than the figure for the last day of June and over five times the number on the list a year ago. Layoffs in three Orillia industries contributed to the increase. High point of unemployment for the year was in March when 608 people were registered.

Orillia's Town Council and business men are showing keen interest in the projected extension of the new highway from Toronto to Barrie now under construction to the latter town, and which is eventually expected to be extended as a four-lane highway to North Bay. As the extension would pass to the west of the town they are taking steps to protect Orillia's business interests by the provision of connecting links.

Orillia has been holding a "Made-In-Orillia" week. Many thousands of people have taken an interest in the displays which occupied 29 shop windows loaned by local merchants.

Whitechurch Township Council has engaged L. J. Harper as assistant clerk in the township offices at Vandorf, to help out Clerk and Treasurer John Crawford.

Growth of Scarboro Township in the last two years has made it impossible for the present plant to carry the load much longer, so consideration is being given to a large extension to the waterworks or the building of an additional plant. The cost of the new project is expected to be well over a million.

Scarboro Township Council has requested to make a debenture issue of \$500,000. by the Public Utilities. \$200,000. of the money is required for the Hydro changeover to sixty cycle. For a number of years profits of utilities have financed expansion but growth has been so rapid and demand for new services so great that borrowing becomes necessary.

Tenders have been called for a new public school for Newmarket. It will be named after Prince Charles.

Land has been purchased in Stouffville by the Hydro Electric Power Commission for the erection of a new sub-station to serve the town when 60 cycle power comes into being next year.

Mrs. Leat, 64-year-old resident of Markham, was first prize winner at the National Hobby Exhibition held recently in Toronto. She receives a silver trophy. Her entry was composed of six samples of her wood carving.

For interfering with the local constable in the execution of his duties a Bolton man, Allan Lockhart, was sentenced to fifteen days in jail. Mrs. Robert Lockhart and her daughter, Miss Evelyn Lockhart, were fined \$25 and costs or ten days for the same offence. Lockhart was also fined \$10 or ten days for fighting in Bolton.

Largest "muskie" to be hauled out of Lake Simcoe for many years was captured by an eleven-year old Roches Point boy, Jimmy Cole, recently from a little home-made boat. It took an hour-long battle to land the 32 pound fish.

The new artificial ice arena at Stouffville is to have an aluminum roof. This metal will reduce the sun's rays and is said to be 20% more effective than canvas used as awnings. The job of closing in the building is well under way.

Parents in Woodbridge and district have been advised not to let their children swim in the Humber river. The warning was given by Dr. Charles McLean of Woodbridge, who says that although the river has not been condemned he suspects it to be bibbly polluted.

Over five thousand attended the annual carnival and street dance staged by the Aurora Lions Club. It was a lucky day for Frank Clubine of that town. Not only was it his birthday, but earlier in the day he found a five-leaf clover and finished up by winning an outboard motor boat at the carnival.

Sponsored by the Aurora Board of Trade, a clinic for a free chest examination will be held in that town during the last three days of September.

A clean-up of the Memorial Hall grounds has been completed by members of the Woodbridge Horticultural Society. Dead brush, leaves, etc., which have been accumulating for years were removed.

From The Hilltop

A COLUMN OF VIEWS AND OBSERVATIONS

(By F. J. Picking)

In a recent story headed "Tour of Cocktail Bars Shows Customers Lose On Deceptive Glasses" two Globe and Mail reporters described a survey made of fifteen — note that, fifteen — cocktail lounges in Toronto.

Main purpose of the tour was to ascertain whether or not customers were getting what they paid for in the way of drinks, that is, as to quantity.

But the reporters, a man and a woman, go on to say "In nine lounges the line marking one ounce on the shot glass was an eighth of an ounce under. In eight lounges the shot glass would not hold the amount of liquor advertised without spilling over."

Now, according to my calculation, nine and eight make seventeen.

Looks to me as if the figuring must have been done after the last call.

Anyway, even if they did get gypped for an eighth of an ounce or so here and there, it must have been QUITE an evening of "pub-crawling." Gosh, how newspaper men and women suffer in the interests of their profession.

Even at the risk of boring somebody I'm going to keep hammering away at the "Safety on the Highway" idea. Seems to me, anyway, that it's better to be bored than dead and if anything that can be said helps to save a life it's all to the good.

Frankly, I think that there's one point that is overlooked consistently. Parents could do a lot to help correct it, for it happens that, in many cases, it's the younger generation which is guilty of a very dangerous practice.

Hitch-hiking ON THE TRAVELLED PORTION OF A HIGHWAY happens, although a lot of people do not seem to know it, to be illegal. Apart from its illegality it is extremely hazardous. Once on a time the knights of the thumb would do their soliciting from the roadside. Now it isn't uncommon to see them at least six feet out on the roadway. Soon they'll be right out in the centre of the road.

It's only a few days since a bad crash was narrowly averted at our northern village limits, due to Elgin Mills youngsters who were thumbing their way home. Practically every motorist has had the experience of having to swing out into traffic to avoid hitting one or more of the youngsters who apparently have no regard for their own safety, or for the safety of others.

As I said before, a little home or school education might serve a useful purpose. The Provincial Police on the highways, whose duty it is to enforce the safety law, seem to do nothing about it.

It's interesting to note that our northern neighbour, the town of Orillia, has recently completed a "Made In Orillia" week during which, with out-and-out co-operation from merchants who loaned their windows for the purpose, many Orillians learned with surprise of the great variety of products turned out by their people and industries. It gives some point to a comment I made some time ago when I suggested that we in the village of Richmond Hill — and I include myself — haven't any too broad a picture of what is taking place within our own borders, and the number of industrial and cultural activities in which our citizens take part.

Incidentally, this might be a good time to remind readers of the exhibits of local arts and crafts which are now appearing in the Liberal's office window each week, together with photographs of local "celebrities." It's rather gratifying to notice the number of people who stop and look over exhibits and pictures.

Incidentally, there's no truth in the rumour that members of the staff take the specimen Flex-O-Loc inner spring which has been on exhibit home to sleep on at nights. None of us have been cut down to that size yet — though you never can tell.

There seems to be a revival of the agitation for the staging of statutory holidays, with the exception of Good Friday and Christmas Day, on the Monday of the week in which the usual date falls, and a probability that some official action may be taken.

It appears to be a sound, common-sense idea, and one which might well be endorsed by municipal councils.

Admitted that those engaged in agriculture with their seven-day, all hours, week won't benefit, especially during growing and harvesting seasons when one day, holiday or not, is just another day when essential work has to be done anyway. But to the thousands of indoor workers who look forward to their all-too-few days in the open it would be a god-send.

This business, when a public holiday happens to fall on a Tuesday, or instance, of going back to work on a Monday morning only to break off for another day on Monday evening, is plain silly and disruptive.

There will be those who will claim that a matter of sentiment is involved — that it would be agin the spirit of things to celebrate Canada's birthday on June 29th instead of July 1st. Maybe! But I'd like to take a bet that the average worker's feeling at that period is that of thankfulness for a day off rather than one of gratitude to the Fathers of Confederation for their long-sighted action in welding divided provinces into a united nation. Gratitude and the revering of things accomplished are not governed by dates but by deeper, stronger impulses — and we might as well be practical about it.

Just think how much it would mean to our people in the banks. An industrial plant can close up to give its workers the long week-end but the banks, governed by the Bank Act, have to be on the job willy-nilly, even if it's only for half a day. In a business where members of the staff are often a long way from their own homes the change would really mean something to employees.

(Had to get that plug in. Hope my bank manager sees it. Never can tell when an overdraft might come in handy.)

That source of all information, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, recently disclosed some figures which should be of interest to our cigarette smokers, who, incidentally, provide a hefty chunk of income for the Dominion through taxation.

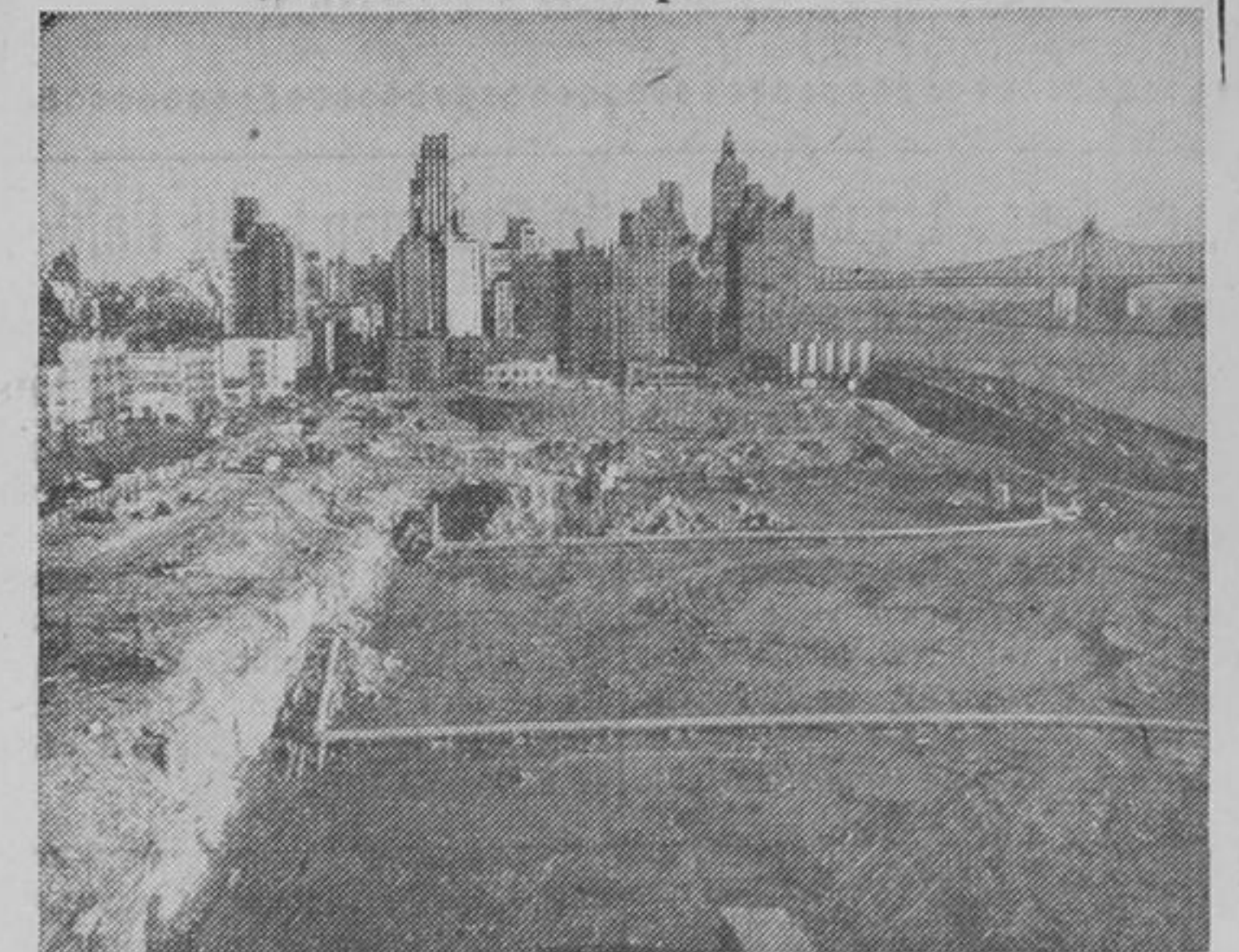
Back in 1926 average monthly consumption of cigarettes in Canada was 269 million. By 1929 the monthly average had increased to 423 million. Even during the "hungry thirties" consumption only dropped about 15% to a monthly average of 360 million.

For the first three months of this year average monthly consumption has been at the rate of 1,282 million.

The First Great War undoubtedly had much to do with increasing the use of cigarettes. Former pipe and cigar smokers found it unhandy to carry them in uniform and the easily carried and rapidly utilized "fag" gained many converts. It also saw smoking among the female portion of the population emerge from a furtive and generally frowned upon habit into a widely accepted development.

In any event, cigarettes are now "big business."

Where World Capital Will Rise



Excavations in the six-block site where the permanent headquarters of the United Nations are to be built in New York City are nearly complete. Meanwhile, U.N. signed a contract for \$23,809,573 for the construction of the 39-story office building which will house its staff. The building is to be completed in the autumn of 1950.