

"THE LIBERAL"

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Local Traffic Law Enforcement

"Look out or the bogey man will get you!"
 The "bogey man" in this case is Richmond Hill's constable, P. C. Frank Moore.
 Normally the most courteous, good-tempered and tactful of policemen, P. C. Moore is proving that when necessary he can enforce regulations with an iron hand. The number of traffic offenders who are receiving summonses because of speeding on Yonge Street within village limits is an indication of that fact.
 Joining in the all-out drive against speeding which is being carried on on all provincial highways, P. C. Moore has recently been carrying out official and properly conducted speed tests. These, as reported elsewhere, have resulted in a considerable number of summonses being issued. It is noticeable that very few local residents, so far, have found themselves in the clutches of the law. Can this mean that our local drivers are above the average in their observance of traffic laws? Or does it mean that they are lucky enough not to have been caught? In any event they had better look out for the "bogey man," as it is indicated that the drive against speeding is not a temporary one but will be continuous.

Every one of the many citizens who are aware of the dangers inherent in speeding will, we feel sure, join with us in expressing appreciation of the move to ensure safe and sane driving and the safety of our inhabitants and visitors. As for the others — well, their contributions to municipal finances will be gladly received.

Richmond Hill's narrow main street calls for the exercise of more-than-ordinary precautions. Speeding outside the village is dangerous — inside village limits it is hazardous to an extreme degree.

While on the subject of traffic regulations, we suggest that attention to those outside truckers who play fast and loose with commonsense rules might well be increased. The habit of parking delivery trucks in the centre of the street is a dangerous one. We recall a recent Saturday morning when the heavy flow of traffic was confined to one narrow lane in the centre of the street due to the parking of large delivery trucks outside the recognized close-to-curb area. The practice of other truckers in parking facing the wrong direction, meaning that they create an additional traffic hazard while pulling in and out, is one which might well be cured by the application of a dose of blue paper.

Poor Juvenile Sportsmanship

"Can we help you?" was the question put to a prominent citizen by a couple of teen-agers as he slugged away at his hot and voluntary job in the ring at the Lions Club Horse Show on the afternoon of Civic Holiday.

They were told that they could help, but that there was no money in it. Their exact answer, given as they walked away, was "To hell with it."

There is something more to this than a regrettable display of bad manners. Apparently these youngsters did not know or did not care that the work being performed by the citizen mentioned — and several score others like him — was being done largely for their benefit.

The record of the Richmond Hill Lions Club and of all other Lions Clubs in this district in assisting in sports and other activities for the younger people of this area has been a commendable one. Requests for assistance in the provision of playing fields and equipment have met with a generous and willing response. Often the assistance has preceded the request — spurred by the generous and sportsman like interests of the business men who form these clubs.

It's a mighty poor recompense when men who sacrifice time and effort on behalf of their younger compatriots receive such a churlish acknowledgement. We do not for a minute suggest that this attitude is common to all the younger citizens of Richmond Hill and this district. But unfortunately it is sufficiently in evidence to call for comment. Witness the action of a group of youngsters who put in an amusing (?) time removing aerials from the cars of people attending the Lions Carnival — people whose money was supporting the Lions in their activities.

There are a couple of good antidotes. One is a good old-fashioned paddling. The other is the expressed and open contempt of the youngsters of the Hill who know what good sportsmanship means — and fortunately we have many of them — for those of their number who are lacking in the fundamentals of decency, gratitude and fair play.

There is a mighty power in a mighty father. Here's a chance for the citizens of tomorrow to make it work today. We believe that a healthy dose of it might go further in curing so-called "juvenile delinquency" than all the theorizing and lecturing of the experts, so-called, who project cures which, somehow, do not seem to work.

Speedways Vs. Death-Traps

A few weeks ago this paper expressed its strong convictions regarding the futility of creating the new highway from Toronto to Barrie while Highways No. 11 and 27 were so badly in need of attention.

It described the project as another of the "cart-before-horse" brain waves of a Department of Highways which appeared to be unable to face realities.

Further point is given to our contentions by more accidents on No. 27 highway — accidents which we believe could have been prevented by some of the dollars and work which have been poured into the "fifth wheel" road-to-be which has swallowed up so much of the taxpayers' money.

The new clover-leaf which will take care of the intersection of No. 7 highway and the new road will doubtless be a beautiful piece of work. It should be for the money which is being spent on it. But it won't bring much satisfaction to the five people who lie in their graves as the result of the traffic accident on Cemetery Hill at Schomberg — an accident which might possibly not have occurred if some of the money which has been poured into the new speedway had been spent on the cutting down of that ill-fated hill.

That we are not alone in our opinions is evidenced by the following editorial from the Newmarket Era and Express:

"Another head-on collision on the Schomberg road, close to the scene of the deaths of five travellers from Hamilton, makes it absolutely imperative that the highway be improved. The provincial police are quoted as having reported the condition of the highway several times in the past year, but no action has been taken. Mr. J. D. Millar, deputy minister of highways, remarks that "naturally, as the traffic on the highway has increased, there have been more accidents" but this is hardly an explanation for the heavy toll on that stretch of highway.

Mr. Millar says that more than a million dollars has been spent on that highway in three years, but the heavy accident rate on highway 27 from Nobleton to highway 9 just north of Schomberg is still an indisputable fact. If indeed the highway is so little improved despite such expenditures, it would be better closed to traffic than to be maintained at the risk of death and injury to the travellers. We wonder anew at the heavy expenditures on the new Barrie route if so little has been done to improve existing routes.

"We understand the residents along the worst part of the highway are planning to petition the government to improve the highway. Perhaps now, an outraged public opinion will force what common sense has indicated all along, either reduction of through traffic by barriers at either end, or else widening and levelling of the highway at once."

News Of Our Neighbours

For the third time in two and a half years an application for a beer and wine license for the Yorktown Inn, 4755 Yonge Street, Lansing is being made. It will be heard by the Liquor License Board of Ontario on August 22.

A rather unusual combination has come into being in Lindsay, where the positions of fire chief and chief of police have been combined. Chief of Police Arthur Webster has been appointed to the dual position. Police constables will be trained in fire fighting and will assist the volunteer fire brigade.

Employees of the Board of Works in Lindsay have had their pay raised from 65c to 75c an hour. They will also be paid for wet days and holidays.

Bradford Athletic Club has shelved its original idea of raising money for floodlights for the ball field and instead will work towards the construction of a swimming pool.

A "mutt show" will be a feature of the Newmarket Lions Club carnival on August 17. Prizes will be awarded for: the largest dog, smallest dog, best dressed dog, dog with the longest tail, dog with the shortest tail, best trick dog, fastest eating dog.

Aroused over the condition of No. 27 Highway, which has been the scene of numerous accidents, including a recent one when five people met death on Cemetery Hill, residents of Schomberg are reported to be preparing a petition asking the Department of Highways to remedy conditions.

A prominent Aurora business man, William Joseph Sisman, president of the Sisman Shoe Company of that town, died on July 31st. He was 59 and had been a prominent Mason, an active United Church member and a keen golfer, winning many trophies in that sport.

A pension plan for employees of Pickering township is under discussion. Fourteen employees would be involved.

Ten persons over eighty years of age were among the three hundred present at the Cober reunion held at Memorial Park, Stouffville, on Civic Holiday.

Three quarters — of the \$75,000 worth of shares to finance the Stouffville Arena and artificial ice rink have been sold.

Agitation for separation of the town of Orillia from the County of Simcoe has been revived. Dissatisfaction with the present set-up is based on requests from the county for more taxes. In 1943 Orillia contributed \$26,000 to the county. This year the amount was \$50,000.

The biggest fish to be caught in Lake Couchiching in many years — a 27-pound lunge, was landed at Menoko Beach near Ardrea recently. Its captor was John Winkworth of Hagersville. The fish measured 52 inches.

When Lou Miron of Humber Summit, employee of the A. V. Roe, Malton plant, broke his neck while swimming in the Humber River and was paralyzed fellow workers got busy and provided him with the three special nurses he needed. They are now contributing 25c each weekly from their pay envelopes to build up a fund to help him out.

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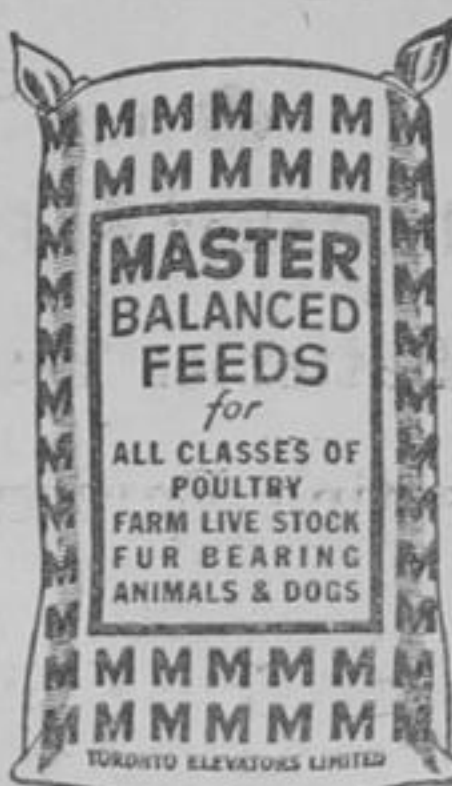
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