

The Liberal

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Our Nearing Elections

The nearing of nomination day turns thoughts inevitably to the selection of those men and women who, for the next twelve months, will direct the activities of the municipalities which elect them, and to the selection of those who, as school trustees, carry a heavy responsibility for the future.

Sometimes one wonders what motives impel men to seek public office, especially at the municipal level, where many and arduous tasks are done without the glamour which accompanies membership in more senior governing bodies, and with little reward.

Whatever those motives may be, the fact remains that in seeking municipal office as conditions are today candidates are proving themselves to be "bears for punishment." Especially is that the case in this area, where the problems of growth demand the wisdom of a Solomon, and the vision of a prophet.

In an area which is half town, half country, municipal administration problems are multiplied many times. The justifiable demands of city dwellers have to be met. The taxation imposed on farm properties as a result has to be considered. Two different types of life and many different kinds of outlook have to be balanced in just proportion. Instances of such conditions are legion.

Under such conditions the men and women who can satisfy everybody are non-existent. Inevitably enemies will be made. Equally inevitably, hard decisions have to be faced. In village and township alike problems which did not exist a year or so ago will become the vital issues of next year. On their solution depends, in large measure, the sane and happy progress of our people.

And because of those conditions an even greater measure of responsibility falls on the shoulders of our electors. Gone are the days when one could vote for Joe Doakes because he was a good fellow, or because it was his turn for the reeveship, or some such reason. Lowly as municipal office may be in the big over-all picture of government, it is high when the effect of its impact on the life of citizens is concerned. As never before, it is up to electors to exercise the utmost discrimination in the choice of their municipal government.

Upon that discrimination will depend whether we have little men in big places, or big men in little places.

The Flower Garden Of Yonge Street

The record attendance and good spirit which marked the annual meeting of the Richmond Hill Horticultural Society is something of which the organization may well be proud. The splendid array of exhibits affords equal cause for congratulation.

Without in any way detracting from the worth-while activities of other groups in the town we repeat what we have said on many occasions and that is the Horticultural Society can and should fill a very special niche in community affairs.

Few towns in Ontario are endowed with a location as beautiful and commanding as that which the Hill enjoys. But it has often seemed to us — and in saying this we have no wish to be unduly critical — not enough has been done to capitalize on that natural setting to make the village a spot which would command the special attention of those who pass through it. Then, as we have pointed out in the past, Richmond Hill's position in the floral world — a position earned for it by its leading industry of rose-growing — is unknown to many citizens and certainly to the majority of those who pass through its gates. We believe that much could be done to make Richmond Hill one of the outstanding beauty spots of Ontario, and without too much trouble at that.

President-elect C. E. Little and his executive have, we know, definite plans in mind for bringing such a state of affairs into being. Preliminary steps envisage the beautification of the Municipal Hall grounds and the entrances to the village. That is all to the good. We hope, though, that the program will be carried a lot further and that, within the course of the next year or two, such a consciousness of opportunity will have entered the minds of all our citizens that Richmond Hill will become the flower garden of Yonge Street.

Yonge Street Parking

This year's council, soon to face the electors, may not want to bother with it but it is a sure and certain thing that before long municipal authorities will have to face the problem of parking in Richmond Hill squarely.

While not acute at the present moment this additional "growing pain" is well on the way to becoming a major problem. Growth of population, growth of business, an increasing number of motor cars, all tend to emphasize the importance of study of the situation before too long.

We do not pretend to offer a solution. All that we can do at the present time is to suggest that before long the question should receive the attention of experts and that some "long-distance" planning should take place.

There are two phases which we believe should be studied. One involves the free flow of traffic along Yonge Street. The other concerns the necessity of making access to stores and other businesses readily available. Many communities have suffered from a condition where shoppers went elsewhere because it was too difficult to park cars near where they wanted to transact their business. It is our belief that study should be given to the local state of affairs in plenty of time, so that Richmond Hill may attract business to its stores and industries rather than drive it away.

Our Hallowe'en "Heroes"

The children of public school age who roamed the main and side streets of Richmond Hill during afternoon and evening of October 31 left a warm and friendly feeling in the hearts of those who came in contact with them. With their masks and costumes and their traditional cry of "shell out!" they displayed charm and manners which would be a credit to any community. Those who carried the collection boxes of the public school met, we trust, the reception which their approach deserved — a reception which will help in some measure to alleviate the hardships which people in less fortunate countries are suffering.

For their older brothers, however, we have nothing but sympathy. Sympathy for the fact that they are so lacking in courage and initiative that they must, like scared little dogs, run in packs before they dare, under cover of darkness, harm those who have not harmed them. Sympathy for the fact that their mental processes are so limited, their imagination so small, that the height of their enjoyment is reached through senseless destruction of private and public property. The gangs of teen-age boys who on Hallowe'en night made themselves a destructive nuisance in Richmond Hill's business section do not, fortunately, represent all the group of that age in the municipality. But it is unfortunate that a peaceful and decent community should have to suffer the depredations of a few such mentally inept creatures. Apparently there is little cure for them. All one can do is to be sorry for the fact that they are as they are.

Cornerstone Ceremony Marks U.N. Day



United Nations Day—24 October—was celebrated this year by delegates and staff members of U.N. with a cornerstone ceremony for the world organization's permanent headquarters (above), now under construction in New York City. Scheduled as principal participants in the ceremony—marking U.N.'s fourth "birthday"—were President Harry S. Truman of the United States (upper right insert) and U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie (lower right insert).

From The Hilltop

A COLUMN OF VIEWS AND OBSERVATIONS

(By F. J. Picking)

As some of my readers may have gathered I'm one of those individuals who, every now and again, likes to throw off the shackles and get away and see what the rest of the world looks like and what its people are doing.

Those jaunts, sometimes long, sometimes short, seem during the years to have taken me to a good many parts of this world. And yet more and more as the years go by I wonder why people spend time, effort and money to "go places and do things" when, right on our own door-step, we have some of the premier beauty of the world awaiting us — a beauty which many local people have never seen.

It makes me think of old St. Paul's Cathedral in London, England. It is used to be said — and no doubt with a great deal of truth — that for every thousand people passing that landmark of the Empire only one had ever entered its historic doors.

So it is with us. We'll travel many miles to see some well-advertised scenic spot. Yet we'll bypass something a hundred miles away which, for sheer beauty, outranks them all.

Take, for instance, the Haliburton Highlands. Admitted that a great many of our local people know them well — but how many have never seen this wonderland of lakes and hills. My advice is not to worry about something a thousand miles away until you have seen what nature has provided for us a few townships and a few gallons of gas away.

Now, of course, is the time for somebody to say "Well, why write about that now? Tell us about it next spring?"

And that's where they would be wrong. For it's in the fall, especially if it's such a fall as we are enjoying this year, the Highlands come to the full magic of their beauty. The leaves may be off the trees — but that gives fuller opportunity to enjoy the sweep of hills and lakes and sky. The red of the maples has gone — but the dark green of the pines and cedars is still etched against the bluest of blue heavens.

The summer resorts may be closed — but there's a peace and relaxation on the roadways which curve their way through the rocks that more than makes up for it.

Perhaps by the time that this is in print the "borrowed time" which summer is now giving us may have ended. But if it hasn't just start out one Saturday afternoon. Take it easy as you go (with of course due regard to all the rules for safety on the road). Head for Huntsville. And, if you haven't been to that town for some time, prepare for a shock. Always an "up-and-coming" sort of place, it has during the last few years really jumped ahead. Its stores would be a credit to a place ten times the size. Its greatly enlarged Empire hotel is, from the point of view of smartness, cleanliness, service and especially meals, something which is a credit to this country — an establishment which should contribute materially towards drawing tourists and their welcome dollars to the national exchequer.

Then get up on Sunday morning. Run a little north of the town. Take the road that leads to Algonquin Park but turn off through Dwight and Dorset, following the shoreline of the Lake

of Bays. Incidentally, get up early enough to visit the Lookout at Huntsville before you leave the town, if you want to see a view that, for breath-taking beauty, would be hard to excel in a thousand miles.

Back to the highway. Keep on working south towards Fenelon Falls, Lindsay and home.

As for the scenery en route — I'm not going to say many words about it. Those who have taken the trip I suggest need no description. Those who have not have to see it for themselves to appreciate it. No words of mine can do justice to the ever-changing panorama of hills, lakes, rivers, rocks and waterfalls. Time and again I've been over that road — and yet every time there's new beauty in it — a beauty which one has to see for themselves to appreciate.

Incidentally, if and when you take this trip be sure and stop at the Ontario Rangers' School which you can't miss as you travel along the road. There, in a setting that is incomparable, the Department of Lands and Forests has erected buildings which are devoted to the training of the people who are performing such worth-while service in the preservation of our natural resources and beauties. Modernity and efficiency have the last word in these beautiful new buildings — and yet so well have they been designed and sited that they flow into the northland picture without the slightest incongruity.

And so home. Home to a country that's worth coming back to. Even with the green memory of the beauties of the Highlands there's something satisfying in the less spectacular but nevertheless very real beauties of our own rural townships.

Take the trip if you have a chance. It's worth it. But, of course, there has to be a fly in every pot of ointment. And in this case it's the so-called restaurants of this more southerly part of Ontario which provide the fly. Naturally I'm not speaking of those in our own district. But in the areas to the east and the north, before one reaches the "home country," they leave very much to be desired. It's a pity that 'tis so, because of the effect such places have on the thousands of our visitors who must patronize them. But, for sheer carelessness, lack of service, poor and badly cooked food, a general "damn the customer" attitude, it would be hard to find a worse example than these establishments unfortunately provide. They are a bad advertisement for the province of Ontario — an example which provides an unfortunate back-drop to the kindness, the courtesy and the good service which our northern neighbours dispense so well, and which our local people are emulating.

GOOD RECORD
 Since World War II more than 30,000,000 persons wishing to enter Canada have been examined by the staff of the Immigration Branch of the Department of Mines and Resources. This total includes tourists, Canadians returning after varying periods of residence abroad, and prospective immigrants. Throughout this time only 15 complaints of inefficiency, discourtesy or other shortcomings on the part of the staff have been registered.

News Of Our Neighbours

Three public schools, cost of which was \$750,000, were officially opened in North York Township on October 24 by Hon. Dana Porter, Minister of Education for Ontario. The schools are part of the First School Area expansion made necessary by the growth of the district.

Artificial ice is expected to be a reality in Newmarket Arena by November 25. Renovation of the rink will not be completed by then. Capacity is being increased by 600 to approximately 1,500 seats and standee capacity will be around one thousand.

A third of the school children in Newmarket have been examined under the diabetes survey which is being conducted there. Newmarket was chosen as the "typical Canadian community" and the survey, which is the first of its kind, is expected to cover all inhabitants.

Following complaints about the telephone service in Woodbridge, it has been announced that the Woodbridge and Vaughan Telephone Company will install a new switchboard in the Woodbridge exchange before the end of the year. There are 204 applications for telephone service pending, 17 of them from businesses.

Barrie assessments have increased from \$6,646,946 a year ago to \$7,182,167 in 1949. Population has increased 847, making Barrie a town of 12,833 people. The annual herring run has started in Lake Simcoe. Catches have been small so far, both in quantity and size. Whitefish fishing has also started.

St. Andrew's Hospital at Midland showed an operating deficit of \$2,000 for the month of September. In Barrie the situation was exactly opposite, the Royal Victoria Hospital there having an operating surplus of the same amount.

After advertising for tenders for garbage removal Barrie town council awarded a contract for the year at \$18,720 — \$3,720 more than the previous contractor was being paid. The system of twice-a-week collections will be continued.

During the past four years there has been an increase of 56% in the number of telephones in Lindsay. There are now 3,350 in use as compared to 2,140 in 1945. Local calls average 16,015 per day as against 9,925. Long distance calls average 870 daily or 360 more than in 1945. A new dial exchange is expected to come into operation early next year.

Storage Suggestions

The main crops of vegetables for storage have just been or are now being harvested. These include potatoes, beets, cabbage, carrots and swede turnips or rutabagas. If they are grown in heavy soil harvesting should not be left too late, particularly for the root crops. Otherwise fall rains will encourage the spread of disease and the tubers or roots will be muddy and unattractive. If the soil is light and well drained, harvesting can be deferred until later as long as conditions are ideal for the crop. After harvesting they should be well dried before going into storage. Vegetables which are not dry will heat and rot when placed in storage.

For general purposes these vegetables can be stored under the same conditions, says W. Ferguson, Division of Horticulture, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. Potatoes will keep best at a temperature of 38 to 40 degrees F. Lower temperatures will cause a sweet flavour. The other vegetables mentioned will keep better in a cooler part of the storage. Potatoes and rutabagas should be put in slatted bins which allow plenty of ventilation. The outer leaves and roots should be removed from cabbage. The heads can then be stored in slatted bins or on shelves. Beets and carrots will keep best if placed in dry sand or mixed with slightly moistened sphagnum moss. The moss should be watered lightly with a sprinkler so that it feels damp to the touch but not wet enough to squeeze water from it. It should then be mixed through the roots when they are being placed in the slatted bins and a thin layer spread on top. The moss helps greatly to reduce wilting of the roots, keeping them crisp and brittle.

Other vegetables to be stored, such as onions, squash and pumpkins, require different conditions. Onions should be kept in slatted trays or boxes not more than two or three layers deep with plenty of ventilation. They store best at 32 to 35 degrees F. under dry conditions. The bulbs should be well dried before placing in storage and all soft or thick-necked onions discarded.

Squash, pumpkins, etc., should be kept under dry airy conditions at a temperature of 55 degrees F. They should not be piled deeply but placed on shelves or racks where they will get plenty of fresh air.



OTTAWA LETTER

by "Jack" Smith, M.P. North York

BY-ELECTIONS

Eight by-elections were held Monday, October 24. Six vacancies were caused by appointments and two by death. For the first time in Canadian history, two Members-elect died between polling day and the opening of the first Session of Parliament.

In the General Election seven of the eight vacant seats were won by The Liberal Party. In last week's voting Liberals or Independent Liberals, won six of the seats, an Independent one and the Conservatives retained Greenwood which they won in the general election. All Independent Liberals and the successful Independent gave notice of their intention of supporting the government. The standing of parties now with all seats filled is as follows:

Liberals	190
Conservatives	41
C.C.F.	13
Social Credit	10
Independents	5
Independent Liberals	3
Total	262

The Independent Liberals elected from Quebec were in most cases Liberals who had unsuccessfully contested the nomination, and then there being no opposition from other parties decided to run anyway. The Conservatives contested only three of the eight by-elections, so in the absence of outside opposition the Liberals decided to have a contest among themselves. In three ridings the official candidate came out only second best.

Independent candidates are always much more numerous in Quebec than in other provinces. The Independent-Liberals if they follow the fashion of others similarly elected with the passing of time and the healing of riding differences generally very soon become official members of the party.

The party caucus here now are several Quebec members who first were elected as Independents or Independent Liberals.

Trade With India

The visit to Canada of Prime Minister Nehru may have far reaching results. The Indian Prime Minister and his associates who visited Ottawa made it clear they want from Canada capital for investment, machinery and wheat.

India is on the eve of extensive development and Canada is looking forward to greater trade with

that part of the world. India wants one million tons of wheat. Canada will supply some of this also locomotives and machinery. Many Indians are now in Canadian manufacturing plants learning modern production methods.

East Meets West

In an address of welcome to Prime Minister Nehru in the House last week, Speaker Ross Macdonald ably expressed some very fine thoughts. Quoting Kipling as follows: "Oh east, is east, and west is west, and never the twain shall meet." He said it is too often forgotten that Kipling also said — "But there is neither east nor west, border, nor breed, nor birth. When two strong men stand face to face, though they come from the ends of the earth."

He continued, "This afternoon we have seen the Prime Minister of India and the Prime Minister of Canada, two strong men from the opposite ends of the earth, standing face to face on the floor of the House of Commons of Canada and cordially greeting each other without any thought that there is either west or east."

Senior Member

The senior member of the House in years of service is Hon. C. G. "Chubby" Powers, M.P. for Quebec South. He has represented that constituency continuously since 1917 and at the completion of the present Parliament will have served as a member continuously for thirty-six years. Toronto's own Tommy Church was first elected in 1921 but was out of the House for a short period.

Farm Income

Canada's farmers are having a big year, perhaps the biggest year in history, total cash income amounting to \$1,056,500,000 during the first half of 1949 according to reports compiled here.

This represents an increase of 14.7 per cent over the same period of 1948, and of 45.9 per cent as compared with the first half of 1947.

Every province but Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick shared in the rise. In those two farm income fell slightly as a result of a drop in value of the potato crop.

Old Age Pensions

A total of 257,714 persons in Canada were in receipt of old age pension as at December 31, 1948. The total number of persons in Canada over 70 years of age at that date was 582,411.



WHAT MAKES PEOPLE HAPPY?

The pursuit of happiness is a favorite topic of speakers and writers. Literally hundreds of books have been written on, The Secret of Happiness. One thing we know is that many people whom we would expect to be happy are miserable and a vast number who have hardship, trouble and misfortune are "bursting with happiness."

The irrepressible radiance of the saints is one of the most thrilling lessons in Christian history — a radiance which often shone brightest in face of bitter persecution. Of Stephen, the first Christian martyr, in the hour of his passing we read that his face was lightened up with holy joy; a circumstance which made an immediate and lasting impression upon those who witnessed it. The martyrs of the early church probably made more converts to the faith by their glorious witness in death than by any of their preaching. The proud Romans were amazed to see men and women met ignominious and cruel death with faces aglow and songs of triumph upon their lips.

What was true of the early Christians has been repeated over and over again in the story of missions in more modern times. In a score of different lands missionaries have endured cruel and excruciating agony with rapture and that was the distinguishing mark of these men and women.

When Bishop Hannington was put to death on October 11, 1885, in Africa, it was generally recognized that the cause of missions in the Dark Continent had suffered no greater loss since the death of Livingstone. The story of how this remarkable man endured physical suffering and faced derision, treachery, and cruelty with indomitable courage is inspiring but it was his unquenchable and contagious happiness which laid a spell upon all who knew him. He marched to his death singing "Safe in the Arms of Jesus," and the men who succeeded him, Bishop Tucker, said: "This remarkable man has been beaten, imprisoned, put in the chain gang, had his house burned down and his property destroyed; yet he has borne it all with the smile upon his face and a song

upon his lips."

Writers have stressed the need for good health, financial security and a satisfactory adjustment to one's environment and especially the personal relationships of life. It would be mere insincere cant on our part should we pretend to despise these things and yet all history, and especially the history of the Christian church, bears witness that happiness comes from within.

This is what Jesus knew and sought to make plain to his disciples. Happiness, he taught is not the outcome of certain harmonious and congenial circumstances but the triumph of the spirit over affairs that ordinarily might be adverse and devastating. It was Helen Keller who wrote: "I, who have never heard a sound, tell you there is no silence, and I, who have never seen a ray of light, tell you there is no darkness."

Helen Keller herself is a striking illustration of spiritual radiance. She was severely handicapped by blindness and deafness. She was hemmed in behind walls which threatened to shut her out from any fellowship, human or divine. But she tunneled her way through these barriers; ceased to be an object of pity and became a channel of blessing. She writes in My Religion: "I cannot imagine myself without religion. I could as easily imagine myself living without a heart. To one who is blind and deaf, the spiritual world offers no difficulty. . . . The inner or mystic sense gives me vision of the unseen. Septics declare that I see light that never was on sea or land" but I know that their mystic sense is dormant, and that is why there are so many barren places in their lives."

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