

The Liberal

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J. E. SMITH, M.P., Publisher F. J. PICKING, Managing Editor
Telephone, Richmond Hill 9

So Endeth The Season

Looked at from the point of view of bringing home championships Richmond Hill's latest effort in the hockey world — that of entering a Juvenile team in the O.M.H.A. — didn't get very far. But, from many other points of view, it was a step in the right direction which the Business Men's Association took when it decided to sponsor the team.

The members of the team had at least the satisfaction of fighting their way up to the play-offs after a somewhat slow start.

Those members of the association who supported the boys have done something constructive for the Hill and have given definite evidence of their interest in good clean sport and in the younger generation. At least an attempt has been made to restore Richmond Hill to its old-time place in the realm of sport. If nothing else the seed has been re-sown. There is a chance that some day it may come to full flower.

To a few individuals in particular we believe, a word of special commendation is due. Leading the list should

most certainly be Jack Hart, local manager for the Canadian Bank of Commerce, and Grant Nighswander of the Public School staff. As chairman of a special committee Mr. Hart was the "spark-plug" of the whole venture. The suggestion was his — he worked unceasingly to put the job across. All through the season he helped carry the lads and their equipment to the scene of games, encouraged and helped in every possible way. Grant Nighswander, manager of the team, contributed many hours, a lot of patience and skill and much goodwill to the building of the team. Without his efforts it is safe to say that the lads would not have got as far as they did. His was not an easy task, but he did it well. Both players, citizens and parents owe him a debt of gratitude for the interest which he took and the hard work he put in.

To Warren Hall, to Morley Hall, to Floyd Pratt, Floyd Perkins, Ed. Croth, George Weeks, Archie Murray and Harry LeCuyer a special "thank-you" is due. By either lending their cars or by driving they made it possible for the team to play at points a

considerable distance away from home. Their job may not have been a spectacular one. Nevertheless without it the whole project would have failed. Thanks are due too to those who by their presence at the home games helped finance the team and to give it encouragement.

While hockey is being mentioned those who have helped the younger boys through their sponsorship of the teams in the Richmond Hill Hockey Club should not be overlooked — but of them more later.

Finally — to the weather man — the back of our hand. He didn't cooperate at all. Many games had to be missed because ice was not available. It's not very much use talking about it now, while there is a ban on materials, but it's a sure and certain thing that if Richmond Hill ever hopes to hold a pre-eminent place in winter sports that hope might as well be abandoned until artificial ice is available. But, on the other hand, it might be well to do some planning now in the hopes that when brighter days come to the world again something can be done about it.

Richvale's Hobby Show

Talking about "Juvenile delinquency" is one thing. Doing something about it is another.

Theorists dwell on the subject at length. Arguments as to whether the ego of the little darlings should be built up, or whether the good old-fashioned method of emphasizing the difference between right and wrong with a hairbrush should be employed rage continuously.

But somehow there seems to be quite a lot in the trite but true old saying that "Satan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do." When a group of people put on a "Hobby Show" such as the one which was staged at Richvale recently there is

more direct and practical approach to the juvenile delinquency problem than all the "long-hairs" produce in a month of Sundays.

Youngsters have a right to happiness. But happiness is not necessarily a matter of having no responsibilities or work. That goes for children just as much as it does for adults. An interest in a project — the pleasure of seeing something grow under ones hands and by the direction of one's brain keeps both hand and brain busy, and heart and mind happy.

There is another aspect to the question. Muscles have to be kept exercised to remain fit and able to do

the job they are supposed to do. So do minds. The young mind that is tuned to the doing of something constructive is likely to be a better adult one than the one which goes soft and flabby through disuse.

The Richvaleians who planned the Hobby Show did a good job in more ways than one. By giving the youngsters something to do they kept them out of mischief. By turning their minds to something constructive they kept those same minds away from something destructive. Good as they were the quality of the children's exhibits at the show doesn't mean so much. What they represent does.

A Good Rule - If It's Made To Work

The unfortunate accident by which a little Richmond Hill girl will be incapacitated for a month — to say nothing of the possibility of permanent damage to her hearing — again directs attention to the menace constituted by dogs running at large in the village. Mishaps of the type which has sent ten-year old Carol Hamilton to hospital are, of course, rare. But the nuisance which dogs have caused through the scattering of garbage has been a source of irritation to citizens for many months and the action of council last Monday night in deciding to insist on dogs being kept under control for the

whole of the year instead of just for the summer months is one which will meet with majority and wholehearted approval.

It isn't suggested that Richmond Hill citizens don't like dogs. That is very far from the case. But the fact remains that acceptable as "man's best friend" may be to the average citizen there comes a time when the nuisances which he commits and the harm which he does force action for the good of citizens at large.

Nor is Richmond Hill alone in having found that the uncontrolled dog is a source of infinite annoyance. Township councils have been bothered with the same problem for a long

time. Citizens of areas which are becoming rapidly built up have long been importuning their local governments for action. The decision of the Richmond Hill council to attempt to work out an arrangement with neighbouring municipalities by which control will become a reality rather than a theory is sound. As Reeve Neal warned, the new by-law can become a joke if it is not enforced.

It is to be sincerely hoped that it will be. Undoubtedly there will be objections to the new order of things. But the time has come when action is necessary and it is to be hoped that it will be enforced to the limit.

The Good Neighbour

Few people have time these days to wear a path between their home and the house next door. Our idea of neighborliness is changing. The back fence of friendly converse, the shady porch of slow confidences, the open door of ready response, all are being crowded out of our streamlined lives.

We have a thousand neighbors, where before we had one. We used to worry about the woman next door who broke her hip, now we worry about our neighbor half a continent

or half a world away. A home goes up in flames in Rimouski, the Red River floods out a family in Winnipeg, children flee the birds of war in Korea . . . and these, now, become our neighborly concern.

And, through our Red Cross, we can still extend a helping hand. When we give our energy, our time, our money to our national Society, we know it acts for us. We know it does what we would do if we were there. It may be at the house next door, or a thousand miles away. It may be a visit to a veteran in hospital, or the

despatch of half a million dollars worth of aid for a large-scale disaster. It may be welcome to a newcomer or the saving of a mother's life in hospital.

Red Cross translates the countless impulses of friendliness, of generosity and compassion that we all feel, into action. Red Cross is you, being a good neighbor, wherever the need arises. And the need for mercy never ends. Give and give generously to the national appeal this month.

Co-operation That Counts

"We have dealers right in Richmond Hill. Why go to Toronto? The prices are just as good there and its a whole lot easier and more convenient to shop."

Those are the words of a local business man whose occupation takes him into many homes in the Richmond Hill district. Because of the nature of the goods he sells and the services he renders he is asked about other equipment which is bought as a matter of course after his work is finished. When the place where that

equipment is to be bought is discussed his answer, he says, is that given above. Purchases which he has described are evidence that his salesmanship clicks — that other business houses benefit through his co-operation.

Elaboration of the obvious theme is hardly necessary. The point drives itself home almost automatically.

What a boundless opportunity such a form of good-will presents. Surely there cannot be many better ways of building up local commerce.

At The Grass Roots

(An Editorial from the Globe and Mail, Toronto)

It has again been Toronto's pleasure to entertain the publishers of Canada's larger weeklies. The Class A Weeklies Association at their annual meeting here, brought together some sixty of them, from communities as widely separated as Port Alberni, British Columbia, and Liverpool, Nova Scotia.

Climbing costs, which have caused so many casualties in every field of publishing during the last few years, formed one of their chief subjects for discussion. It has become increasingly difficult for the weekly publisher to serve his community

faithfully and, at the same time, keep his books in the black.

Fortunately, most of them manage to do it. They have the advantage of loyal readers, who wouldn't be without the local news and opinion, and of loyal advertisers, who know how closely the paper is read. The weekly newspaper is something more than a business: it is an institution, cementing the community together, and promoting its health and growth.

The weekly publisher leaves to the dailies the portentous issues of war and peace, tariffs and immigration. Wisely, he concerns himself with problems close to home, at the

grass roots. Does the town need another policeman? Should the hospital be enlarged? Can volunteers be found to help out in the library? How can conservation policies be encouraged?

It is here that the weeklies make their most useful contribution to the national life; by guiding, as well as reporting, the course of local affairs. The moral and material welfare of Canada's smaller communities depends in large measure on the existence of a vigorous, responsible weekly press. We are fortunate to have so many weekly publishers who recognize and accept that responsibility.



YOUR RED CROSS CONTRIBUTION = THOSE OF MANY OTHER CANADIANS = HELP FOR THOSE WHO NEED IT WHEN THEY NEED IT

The Gardener's Column

(By Al Rice)

Shrubs That Will Force Into Bloom Indoors:

When pruning your Forsythia, Japanese Quince, Flowering Crabapple, Cherry or other early blooming shrubs, do not throw away any branches that are long enough to put in a vase, or if you can spare a few nice long ones cut and bring indoors. In about three to four weeks they will come in flower. If for various reasons such as a frost that freezes the flower buds before they are brought indoors or too dry an atmosphere in your room, the shrubs do not flower you still will have lovely delicate green leaves to which may be added two or three tulips or daffodils for a very economical spring bouquet.

If you are driving in the country you may also cut wild cherry, wild plum, pussy willow, and dogwood that grow along the roadside. Not only does the dogwood have delicate flowers and leaves but a pretty red bark that also adds to any bouquet.

Question: Should Cannas Tubers be started now?
Answer: Yes, take them out of storage, clean all dead leaves off and split them up leaving two to three crowns to each plant. Plant in 5 inch pots or in flats and bring into the heat. These should be well established when ready to go into garden.

Question: What is the fastest growing shade tree to provide shade and look good?
Answer: Would recommend Chinese Elm for quick shade. However like other quick growing trees it is subject to splitting when loaded with ice or sleet but this can be overcome by proper pruning.

Question: How to control leaf hopper on Chinese elm hedge?
Answer: This is a small sucking insect green in color, sucking juices from leaves giving them dirty, mottled appearance. Spray with DDT flower spray as directed.

"Know Your Neighbour"

Local residents can and do do a spot of grouching on occasion about the condition of the roads. Their complaints are at times, it must be admitted, justified. But if they had seen what the subject of this week's "Know Your Neighbour" saw in his earlier days in the territory they might be prepared to admit that at least some improvement had been made.

It was in 1908 that the father of ROBERT W. SCOTT — this week's "Neighbour" — very much better known to everybody around as Bob Scott, bought the farm on Yonge Street a little way south of Richmond Hill which is still the family homestead.

In those days Yonge Street was a narrow stone road — not the four-lane hard topped highway of today. Farmers dragged in their field stone, sold it for road building by the ancient measurement of the "toise" — roughly equivalent to a cord of wood. Other men went to work, built the road the hard way by "making little ones of big ones" — in other words reduced the stones to usable size by the good old-fashioned method of banging them with a hammer.

Before he came to this part of the world Bob had seen more of Canada than many people see in their whole lives. His father was a railroad construction worker — moved around wherever new steel was to be laid to join up the growing nation's communities. Just to illustrate — Bob was born at Merrickville, Ontario, went to school at such varied points as Port Hastings in Cape Breton; Kentville, Nova Scotia; Port Colborne and Parry Sound, Ontario. In addition he spent some years in a boarding school in Quebec province.

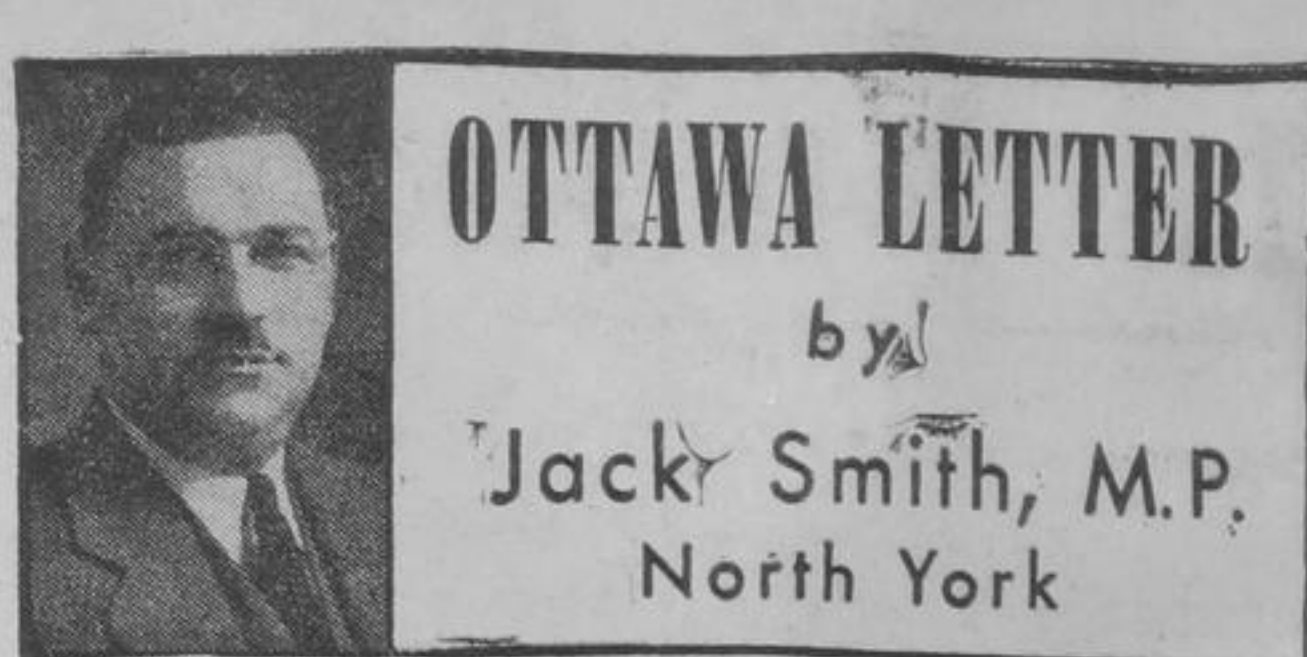
After the Scott family finally arranged to "stay put" the reeve-to-be still managed to achieve a bit of variety. He took a business course in Toronto, did some railroad construction work at MacTier, carried out some road construction on Toronto and York roads, spent six months ranching in Western Canada, as well as carrying on the farm. Besides recalling the old Yonge St. of the early nineteen hundreds he remembers the first sub-division being started on what was the Boyle farm at Richvale.

It was in 1930 that he first entered local municipal life. Elected councillor of Vaughan Township then he served for four years, became deputy reeve for a year and then succeeded to the reeveship, which he held for eight years. He left that to become agricultural representative on the Mobilization Board of District B during the last war.

The days when he was in council were, he says, tough ones. The country was in the depths of the depression of the 1930s. Things were so bad that even prosperous Vaughan Township had its relief officer. Families lost their hard-fought-for homes — had to start all over again from scratch. Today's councils have their problems caused by the growth of population — councils of Reeve Scott's day had their hands full looking after what population there was then.

However, everybody managed to plug through and the man who watched the roads being repaired with stone now sees traffic flow in heavy volume past the 173 acre farm, part of which, in keeping with the trend of the times, is being subdivided to provide home sites for approximately eighty families. And on the edge of his sub-division the man who as a boy spent his time in schools at many scattered points will, in a few weeks, see the start of a new school to take care of the growing Canadians of another generation.

Watching that development with him will be a lady who knows this part of the country well — Mrs. Scott, the former Mary Francis of Thornhill — and their daughter Jean.



OTTAWA LETTER
by
Jack Smith, M.P.
North York

The government has introduced legislation providing stand-by authority under a 1951 Emergency Powers Act. This will give the Cabinet power to authorize such acts and make such orders and regulations as may be required by reason of international emergency be deemed necessary or advisable for the security, defence, peace, order and welfare of Canada, subject only to certain listed restrictions.

Such authority is only granted the executive branch of government in time of war or national emergency. In passing this legislation, Parliament recognizes that the government must have authority for quick action in case of an emergency.

Canada in common with other democracies is facing a critical world situation. We must devote our utmost energy and resources to building up strong defences which we hope in the long run will convince those with ideas of aggression that it will not and cannot succeed. This is the basis of our hope for maintaining peace.

In such a program the dangers to our economy of inflation are very real. Recognizing that such a condition may obtain for a long time, the government is hesitant to introduce a system of overall controls, at least until it is absolutely necessary or until other methods have failed. Therefore we have the present Emergency Powers Act to give the government the power to institute controls when considered in the public interest.

Senate Reform
From time to time over a considerable period of years there have been suggestions from within and from without for reform of the Senate.

The Senate of Canada is composed of 102 members. In the House of Commons representation is given each province in proportion to population. In the Senate representation is arranged so as to give equal representation to different sections of the country. Thus the 102 seats are allotted 24 each to the four major sections of the country, Ontario, Quebec, the Maritime provinces and Western Canada, with six being given the newest province of Newfoundland.

Members of the Senate are appointed for life by the Governor General on the advice of the Prime Minister, that is in effect, they are appointed by the government in office.

A Senator must reside in the province which he or she represents.

At present the political standing in the Senate is, Liberals 80, Conservative 11, vacant 11.

The suggestion has been made that the Senate might be made wholly or at least partly elective, and that there should be a retiring age of 75. The present average age of Senators is 68. The suggestion has been made also that some appointments be made by the provincial governments.

Senator J. T. Haig, Conservative leader in the Senate who under present circumstances might be expected to favor some kind of reform came out strongly as opposed to any extensive change. He opposed the government motion that a committee be set up to consider the question.

The discussion as it continues will be interesting and helpful, but it is my humble opinion that any substantial reform in the Upper House is still quite a long way in the future.



POETRY IN HOMESPUN

During over thirty years as an editor, during which time I have considered thousands of manuscripts submitted for publication; stories, articles and poems, nothing has interested me more than the continuous flow of poetry. It is an unending stream and much of it although it may never be published, suggests fine thinking and lofty living. It comes from busy cities and tiny villages and often from lonely dwellers in remote backwoods. I have often thought that the difference between outstanding poetry that is read by multitudes and poetry that will not be read much beyond one family circle, is not nearly so great as many think.

I remember a local poet in the town in which I was brought up in the north of England, close to the Scottish border. He had been a coal miner, to use the local expression, a pitman. He was physically quite small, and I think had to give up mining because of his health. He had a long, white beard, hair almost down to his shoulders and wore a black broad-brimmed hat. People said he looked like the poet Alfred Tennyson, and I rather think the old man enjoyed the comparison.

Although I was a boy at the time, I remember the kindly and courtly old man as he moved along the streets of our town. I thought he looked like pictures of poets I had seen.

He published at least three volumes of verse and I have the third one — got out in 1893 — before me now. It is made up of nearly two hundred songs, poems and ballads. The old pitman, has long since gone to his rest and his books are out of print, but as I look the poems over I am touched at the simplicity and sincerity of sentiments expressed and at the old man's keen awareness of beauty.

Many of the poems were tributes to outstanding men of his day such as William E. Gladstone and John Bright. Others had to do with local celebrities. Some expressed sympathy with friends sorely bereaved while a large number had to do with nature, the passing seasons, and the beauties of the countryside.

Our quotation today is by an anonymous author:
"He is a rich man who can enjoy the landscape without owning the land."