

The Liberal

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J. E. SMITH, M.P., Publisher
Telephone, Richmond Hill 9

Why A Home And School Association

Richmond Hill is a progressive village with a population of 2123 progressive men and women. As for their children, 535 boys and girls attend Richmond Hill Public School, and 315 Richmond Hill and District High. There is a Lions Club, a Business Men's Association, a Business and Professional Women's Club, an Orange Lodge, a Masonic Lodge, and numerous church and other organizations. — BUT — there is no Home and School Association. This does not seem logical for a village so active and interested in the welfare of its residents. We ask the parents of the village of Richmond Hill and those of the surrounding districts whose children attend Richmond Hill schools why they have not such an association which benefits pupils, teachers and parents alike? The first move should be made by Richmond Hill parents since the schools are situated within the village limits.

The Home and School Association movement has risen to fill a need. This need has been caused by changing conceptions of modern education. So long as the school conceived of its sole function as the imparting of information and development of skills in "the three R's" teachers could afford to ignore and even resent parents. Had not the teacher passed examinations in the varied fields of knowledge and the development of the fundamental skills? So the school kept the parents out as far as possible.

More recently a changed conception of education has arisen, due to the findings of modern psychology. The importance of the emotional life of the child has been discovered and mental hygiene has shown that hap-

piness depends not as much on intellect or physique as was thought but to a large degree on the emotional patterns and adjustments which the individual develops. Modern psychology tells us that the child comes to school and is affected by everything that goes on there. He is affected physically, socially, emotionally and intellectually by all the stimuli and situations he finds in the schoolroom and on the playground.

The school, therefore, has found that it profoundly affects the child's development along all lines — that its task is essentially the development of high-grade persons. At once it becomes evident that there is an agency that shares this task with the school, in some ways is even more important. That is the home. Parents and teachers are, therefore, partners in the development of children. They are tied together whether they like it or not. Partners who co-operate well, indifferently or poorly they may be, but partners nevertheless they are. There is need for an organization which will make that co-operation a reality.

A school is a social agency growing out of the community and is profoundly affected in a multitude of ways by the point of view, the traditions and the background of the community. The school cannot be divorced from the community. Policies regarding discipline, extra-curricular activities, newer methods of teaching, newer methods of organization can-

not hope to succeed without a reasonable measure of community understanding and support. Teachers often complain of the attitude of parents and the public towards school problems and towards education in general. They might well ask themselves how much real leadership they are giving their communities in developing modern viewpoints in educational problems. There are many ways of giving this leadership. A Home and School Association is one of them.

In addition to developing public opinion on educational topics, the Home and School Association provides a means whereby parents and teachers can come to know and understand one another so that the development of the individual child may be furthered. The association aims to promote the welfare of children and youth, to raise the standards of home life, to secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth, to understand and to aid the schools and to interpret them to the public, to obtain the best for each child according to his physical, mental, social and spiritual needs, and to foster high ideals of true citizenship and patriotism.

All the new school equipment in the world, all the modern conveniences which are so evident in some of today's schools, and for which so much money is being spent, is utterly useless unless there is parent-pupil-teacher co-operation, which makes for harmonious environment at school and in the home, producing a community of healthy, normal children, both physically and mentally. A Home and School Association is the first step towards this achievement.

Part-Time Farms

Part-time farming is of considerable importance in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec Ontario and British Columbia. In June next when the 1951 Census of Agriculture is taken an enumeration of part-time farms will be made.

The 1941 Census recorded 40,000 part-time farms in Canada with a total area of more than 4,000,000 acres. Gross revenues from these farms amounted to more than \$26,000,000 in 1941 with average of \$646 per farm. Quebec had 12,828 part-

time farms in 1941, Ontario 7,075, New Brunswick 4,355, Nova Scotia 4,010, Alberta 3,447, British Columbia 3,446, Saskatchewan 2,762, and Manitoba 1,750.

The population living on this type of farm in 1941 was 178,751 or an average of 4.4 persons per farm. Owners occupied 34,444 of the farms tenants 4,158 and 1,679 were occupied by owners and tenants jointly; managers looked after 156 part-time farms. The average size of these farms was 101.5 acres and the average amount of improved land per

farm was 31.1 acres. About one-third of the operators worked less than 97 days on the farm.

Part-time farms are farms where 50 per cent or more of the gross revenue is obtained from other sources such as lumbering, fishing, roadwork, and from tourist trades. In the enumeration of part-time farms the census will automatically obtain information on the number and extent of operations of commercial farms... farms which produce for sale and provide the major part of the income the farmer receives.

Assistance . . . That Will Dispel The Darkness

It is a rare privilege to be able to bring some measure of happiness to the afflicted. It is a rare privilege indeed, so think for a moment what it means to be blind, to be deprived of the one sense without which one is dependent upon others to do the seeing. And what is seeing? Seeing is perceiving with the eyes, having the power of sight. Another meaning is perceiving with the mind — and that is just what 18 thousand Canadians are doing to-day because of misfortune which took away from them something very precious, their sight. A handicap is created for them unless, of course, they are trained to be self-sufficient, to see with their minds. It is a substitute yes, but there is no alternative — these people are doing with their minds what more fortunate people are doing with their eyes. The blind have to be trained, have to be given the chance to find their place in life again, and this work is per-

formed by The Canadian National Institute for the Blind, an organization which has served the sightless for the past thirty-three years.

Help those who help themselves is a familiar slogan of C.N.I.B. whose objects are to ameliorate the condition of the blind of Canada and to prevent blindness. To teach a sightless man to use his hands and ears to "see" for him; to bring an elderly woman the comforting words of her favourite author on a Talking Book; to show a mother how she can cook and sew, and play with her children without the benefit of sight are just a few of the services to help blind people whose numbers increase as the years pass.

It is reported that, in two countries outside Canada, towns are being built — complete with houses, churches, stores and other buildings — especially for the blind and their families. While any effort on the

part of a nation to provide for the sightless is commendable, to Canada's blind men and women this method of segregation leaves much to be desired. For Canada's blind citizens do not consider themselves a group apart. They are courageously ready and anxious to be accorded the same privileges and accept the same responsibilities as their sighted neighbours. They want to be independent, useful members of the community. They ask only that they be given a chance to help themselves . . . a chance that can be afforded them with PUBLIC help.

The annual Blind Tag Day is to be held this year on Saturday, May 5. The dollars we contribute this year to C.N.I.B. are more urgently needed than ever before. So give generously. To help the blind lead the blind toward active living . . . this privilege is ours when we support this great humanitarian organization.

About Town Planning

The village of Richmond Hill is toying with the idea of setting up a town plan to blueprint the progress of the community for many years to come. The idea was implemented in an address made some weeks ago to the municipal council by Dr. E. G. Faludi, town planning expert, who said that residential expansion should be matched by industry if one were to find an equitable balance of taxation.

It might be well for the village to thoroughly study this matter of town planning before it commits itself to an expensive procedure. Town planning boards have been springing up like mushrooms all over the country for some time past and high-priced engineers have been engaged to make surveys; the results of their surveys have in many cases not been looked upon kindly by the respective councils or the residents of the mun-

Guest Editorial

(Toronto Star)

Toronto Gore township. Of these municipalities, the only ones with a considerable population on which to levy taxation are Toronto township, 18,634; Vaughan township, 9,305, and Markham township, 9,296. None of the others has as much as 3,500 inhabitants. The population of the whole 10 is only 50,559. But as part of a new metropolis, this huge area would, of course, be anxious for urban services, including greatly extended transportation.

Billy Maclean, who operated the old Toronto World in the early part of the century, advised Toronto people to "Get Big Eyes." In some respects it is good advice. The subway is an example of the sort of "Big

unicipality. A knowledge of local conditions and future possibilities is an absolute essential in working out any town plan that will be of any use in the future. It's all very well for an armchair strategist to work out the shape of things to come in Richmond Hill but wouldn't he have been rather off the beam if he had attempted to work out a town plan for this community about five years ago?

Eyes" that advertise as well as convenience Toronto. But most people will agree that a metropolitan amalgamation (or whatever it might be called) of 23 municipalities is "Big Eyes" of which Toronto may well beware.

And Toronto's business concerns, which would bear a considerable part of the added tax burden, had better bestir themselves to see that this sort of thing is not allowed to happen.

Editorial Opinions

Let's put it this way: the man who won't atone — he who took the Stone of Scone.

OTTAWA LETTER

by
Jack Smith, M.P.
North York

The Dominion Election Act which provides for the holding of elections in Canada is brought before Parliament periodically for study and revision. A committee has been set up to consider certain proposed changes and is starting on its work this week.

Canada's election machinery has worked in a most satisfactory manner, and it is most important that it does, for after all the holding of free elections is the very basis of our democratic system.

Many changes in the provisions of the Election Act will be proposed. One is that there should be an extension of the privilege of voting at the advance poll.

Advance polls in the past have been restricted to sailors, railwaymen and certain classifications of commercial travellers. It is suggested that many people find it necessary to be away from home on election day, and for this reason they should not be denied the right to express their franchise.

It is suggested that a method of absentee voting be introduced which would allow citizens to register their vote at any polling booth where they happen to be on election day. They would of course vote on a special ballot which would be mailed to the Returning Officer of their home constituency.

There is something to be said in favor of the suggestion, and likewise there are objectionable features. This and many other suggestions will be considered during the coming weeks. If you have any grievances against electoral machinery, or any suggestions whereby our present system of voting might be improved, I would be pleased to hear from you.

Senate Resignation
Hon. C. E. Ferland of Joliette member of the Senate representing the electoral district of Shawinigan, this week resigned his seat. He is 59 years old and a former Liberal Member of the House of Commons. Mr. Ferland was appointed to the Senate April 18, 1945. The resignation was contained in a formal letter to the Governor-General and stated no reasons. Resignations from the Senate where the members are appointed for life, are rare. Mr. Ferland's resignation leaves the 102-seat Senate at: Liberals 79, Progressive Conservatives 11, vacant 12. Four of the vacancies are in Quebec.

The British North America Act provides that when a Senator wishes to vacate his seat he does so by writing the Governor-General and is not requested to state any reason.

Divorce Laws
The Bureau of Statistics issued a report to Parliament this week, which showed a declining divorce rate in Canada. Since 1948 the all Canada rate has dropped from 65.3 to 37.7 divorces per 100,000 population. There were 2,063 divorces granted in Ontario last year as compared with 2,396 in 1949.

Citizenship Act
A bill arming the government with stronger powers to deal with subversive elements in Canada was introduced in the Senate here this session. It is aimed particularly at those with Communist connections and provides for faster elimination of citizenship rights from those who have dealings behind the iron curtain and for revoking citizenship of persons involved in questionable activities. The Bill widens the present Canadian Citizenship Act which confers power to revoke the citizenship rights of those who are active in promoting Communist interests in this country.

Historic Painting
The people of the Netherlands have presented to Canada a painting entitled "The Two Watermills" by a 17th Century Dutch artist Meindert Hobbema. This gift was given to express the gratitude of the Dutch people for the role played by the Canadian forces in the liberation of Holland and for Canadian hospitality to the Dutch Royal family during the war. The painting was received by the Governor-General with fitting ceremony and hangs here in the Hall of Fame. The picture was unveiled by General Crerar who took an active part as our Commanding Officer in the liberation of Holland.

CARE OF PERENNIALS IN THE GARDEN
Plants of all kinds naturally respond to care. Here are some practical suggestions to help keep your garden in order.

Tall growing perennials such as delphiniums and heavy blooming varieties should be staked before the wind has a chance to break them off. As soon as flowers have faded it is a good policy to remove them and you will be well repaid by the amount of second growth bloom.

Dividing Plants
Most perennials need to be divided every two or three years. Rapid growing kinds such as Hardy Asters, Helenium, should be divided every other year and some varieties like Hardy Chrysanthemums should be replanted every year.

Dividing can be done in early spring and fall. Spring blooming perennials are best divided in the fall and autumn flowering plants should be divided and replanted in spring after growth has started. Some species of perennials form a thick fibrous root and require a good sharp knife in order to have successful divisions while others are easily pulled apart.

At this time of year all dead foliage or old stems left on plants from last year should be gathered and burned. This is important as it will help prevent any disease or insects being carried over from last year.

Fertilizing
If your perennial border was well fertilized when planted it will require no fertilizer the first year. As plants increase in size many of the heavy feeders will benefit from an occasional application of Bonemeal or a good commercial fertilizer. A good mulch of rotted barnyard manure dug in, in fall or early spring is very beneficial.

CLEANUP WEEK . . .

In RICHMOND HILL
Mon. April 30th to Sat., May 5th

In accordance with a resolution passed by the Municipal Council on April 16, the week of April 30 to May 5 is hereby proclaimed cleanup week in the village of Richmond Hill.

All citizens are requested to cooperate by cleaning up their premises and placing refuse in containers where it may be picked up by our garbage collectors.

CLEAN UP! PAINT UP!
BRIGHTEN UP RICHMOND HILL;

Russell Lynett Clerk William Neal Reeve

The Richmond Theatre

Richmond Hill, Ontario
Telephone Richmond Hill 500
Shows Daily at 7 and 9 p.m.
Saturdays & holidays continuous from 6 p.m.
FREE PARKING AT REAR OF THEATRE
Entrance from Church Street. Walkway on north side of Theatre Building
Saturday: Matinee at 2 p.m. Doors open at 1.30 p.m.

Thursday, April 26
HELD OVER FOR 1 MORE DAY
"ANNIE GET YOUR GUN"

Friday, April 27
Gene Autry in
"RIM OF THE CANYON"
Plus Joe Sawyer and Wm. Tracy in
"YANKS AHOY"

Saturday, April 28, Only
Great in adventure... Greater in courage!



Plus News Cartoon Featurette

Monday & Tuesday — April 30, May 1



JOHN MILLS ATTENBOROUGH
MORNING DEPARTURE

News Cartoon Featurette

Wednesday & Thursday — May 2 & 3

A REALLY "BETTER" MOTION PICTURE!

M-G-M has filmed, with all of the power and realism at its command, W. R. Burnett's exciting novel that surpasses even "Little Caesar." John Huston directed it with the genius that won him two Academy Awards. It's the story of a city's shadows where life is violent and love is ruthless... where you'll see things you never saw before!

The MEN
The GUNMAN
The DOC
The LAWYER
GUS

The WOMEN
The DOLL
The WIFE
ANGELA

THE ASPHALT JUNGLE
—The City Under a City!
Starring Louis HAYDEN-CALHERN
Jean HAGEN-WHITMORE
Sam JAFFE-McINTIRE

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Adult Entertainment