



The Liberal

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North Yonge Bus Fares

Markham Township council at a meeting held on October 20 passed a resolution regarding North Yonge bus operation, asking for a restoration of the 1951 fares and reduced services for a trial period, such trial period to end December 31, 1952.

Fortunately at a meeting of the North Yonge Transportation Commission held last Friday evening no action was taken on the recommendation, in fact Markham Township representatives did not press for its adoption. "Off again, on again" administration such as suggested by the Markham Township resolution could only add confusion to the North Yonge transportation problem.

In the face of recurring and mounting monthly operational deficits the Commission on the advice of the TTC adopted an increased schedule of fares effective September 8.

It is possible the increases are higher than necessary, as claimed by speakers at Ratepayers' meetings in North York Township. At the last meeting of the North Yonge Reeves it was felt the new schedule had not been long enough in effect to give any clear picture of the operation results, but that the whole matter would be reviewed as results of operation over a longer period gave a better indication of the financial position of the service.

North York Township suggested a return to the former fares schedule and when this was not acceptable to the other municipalities, appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board for a ruling.

It may be feared that it will be some time before the Municipal Board is able to

have a hearing, and by past experiences this is probably true. However once a clear picture of the financial results of the recent increase is obtained, the Commission may make any revisions which seem justified.

The Reeves of the four municipalities operating the bus service plan to meet early in November with officials of the TTC when the whole matter of the fares structure and schedule of service can be reviewed in the light of two months experience in operation under the increased rates. Any action before that date would seem to be just stabbing in the dark and most ill-advised.

Good transportation service on Yonge Street at the lowest possible cost is of vital importance to this district. The bus service should operate on a schedule of fares which will provide the people with an adequate service. Those who maintain it should not be operated at a loss to be made up by taxation of the ratepayers in the district are on sound ground, and likewise the fares should not be at a level which makes bus passengers contributors to municipal treasuries.

Revisions in fares which of necessity must be made from time to time should be made after careful study and consideration, and as seldom as possible. They should not be made without a full knowledge of fact, and political considerations of an approaching municipal election should have no significance. The fares structure of the North Yonge Bus line must be firmly established on a fair, equitable and business basis, and must not be kicked around as a political football.

Hallowe'en

Did you ever listen to the oldsters of Richmond Hill — or any other municipality for that matter — recount what they used to do on Hallowe'en? The conversation usually begins with a severe criticism of modern youth. Words like hoodlums, vandals, mischief-makers are prominent. The old-timers then proceed to tell stories of the Hallowe'en vandalism of their day which make the present-day variety look minor league.

"Hallowe'en isn't what it used to be! Why, I remember when I was a kid, we upset every outhouse in town. I'll never forget the time we dismantled a farm wagon and carried it, a piece at a time, to the roof of the blacksmith shop, where it was re-assembled!"

In those days, people were resigned to Hallowe'en vandalism and locked up everything that was of value. Today however some communities have recognized Hallowe'en vandalism as a serious problem of youth and have set about finding a solution.

There are two approaches to this problem. In one Ontario community of which we have heard, the police force is augmented by about a dozen fleet-footed

young men and many culprits have been caught at their pranks. Somehow, all the pleasure of vandalism is lost when the guilty parties are forced in the broad light of November 1 to return to the site of their midnight revels, to lift into place the upturned outhouses, to scrape up the rotten vegetables and scrub the messy verandah floors, to wash and polish the merchants' windows which had been soaped — all this under the amused eyes of the townspeople who aid endeavours with much helpful advice. This method works for a time, at least until another crop of youngsters reaches the age for Hallowe'en high jinks.

Another method which is also giving results in many communities is a community-sponsored party where the young people are encouraged to enjoy themselves and at the same time to be good citizens. It is encouraging to note the willingness of youth all over the nation to accept a substitute for the time-honored custom of property destruction during Hallowe'en.

We would also like to make another suggestion. Won't somebody please tie up the fire-bell rope this October 31, so that it will be inaccessible to any would-be amateur bell-ringers?

Village Ratepayers Association

The secretary of the Elmwood-Harding Ratepayers' Association in a letter to the Editor in our last issue made an excellent suggestion for the organization of a Ratepayers' Association for the Village. Ratepayers' Associations serve a useful purpose in the life of a Community and there is need for such an organization in Richmond Hill.

The writer points out that the Elmwood-Harding Association since its inception has worked in the interest of the area it served, and rightly observes that since that area is now a part of Richmond Hill, a purely sectional organization is not desirable. However, Mrs. Williamson gives assurance that the members of the Elmwood-Harding Association will be glad to cooperate in the formation of Richmond Hill Ratepayers' Association.

Annexation is now an accomplished fact and will be fully effective on January 1. Previous to that date, on the first Monday in December, all ratepayers of the village including those in the newly annexed area join in the election of a municipal council.

Mrs. Williamson's letter strikes a most commendable note. In the greater Richmond Hill which is now developing there should be no divisions, real or imaginary. We are all citizens of one village and our common aim is to make it a better place in which to live.

In reaching that goal a Ratepayers' Association can give very real assistance and we hope such an organization, representative of the whole village and free to deal with all village problems soon will be a reality.

Why The Discrimination?

Last week an advertisement over the name of the treasurer of Markham township appeared in two weekly newspapers.

The advertisement directed to Markham Township Ratepayers was a reminder that the last day for payment without penalty of the second installment of taxes for 1952 is October 31, 1952.

The advertisement appeared in two weekly newspapers which circulate largely in the eastern half of the township, and was not inserted in "The Liberal" which serves the ratepayers of Markham town-

ship who live in the western half of the township.

We think the ratepayers of Markham township who live in this section of the township are just as much entitled to a reminder to save tax penalties as are those who live in any other part of the municipality.

The discrimination whether intentional, accidental or coincidental was entirely unwarranted and unjustified. Since it has happened before we think it was not accidental.

Dr. King Reports

York County Health Unit Report For Sept. & Oct.

The Health Unit has been particularly busy during September and October with many sanitation problems, the resumption of school health services for the fall, and the conduct of exhibits at community fairs.

School Health
The Public Health Nurses have been particularly busy arranging the school health program with the school Principals, and meeting with teachers concerning health problems. The Public Health Nurses attend if possible local Home and School Association meetings in order to chat with parents and discuss the school health program carried on in the school.

A continuing immunization program in the schools is being carried on to prevent any lapse of the already accomplished protection from Diphtheria, Smallpox and Tetanus.

Communicable Diseases
An apparent outbreak or Infectious Jaundice came to the attention of the Medical Officer of Health after it had occurred in the latter part of the summer, September and early October, in the Yonge Street area south of Richmond Hill. About a dozen cases of what appeared to be a highly communicable disease causing general illness of a flu-like nature followed by jaundice, affected a considerable number of adults and school children. It is hoped that any new cases will be reported promptly in order that investigation may be carried out to find the source.

A total of eight contagious diseases were reported during September, four of which were mumps.

Infant & Pre-School Health
At the eleven Child Health Centres held in September, there were 81 infants and pre-school children in attendance. This makes a total of 1,578 for the current year up to date.

Sanitation
Regular inspection of school buildings is under way again and the Medical Health Officer's report on each school will be sent to the school board in each case. Many of the schools have made valuable improvements in hand washing

and toilet facilities, and in cleaning up play-yards and repainting classrooms. There are still a few schools that are badly in need of improvement and repair in order to protect the health of the children who spend most of their day in the school building.

Inspection of septic tanks and tile beds in new installations and defective installations continues to occupy a large portion of the Sanitary Inspector's time. The Health Unit is particularly anxious to assist home owners and municipal authorities in new installations of waste disposal systems. Several municipalities have now adopted septic tank by-laws and others are considering it. Most problems in defective operation of waste disposal systems can be prevented before they occur by using proper materials and construction methods.

Peter Walters Wins Vaughan Tp. Contest

By Mrs. R. Stuart

The finals of the Vaughan Township Public Speaking Contest were held at Concord School on Tuesday evening, October 16.

Six finalists from Maple, Patterson, Kleinberg, Pine Grove and Concord schools competed. Each contestant gave a three minute impromptu as well as their prepared speech. Judges were Rev. E. E. Kent from Thornhill and Mr. E. Brown and Mr. Harris, principals of North York Schools.

When the results were tabulated Peter Walters from Patterson School, who spoke on the Reverend Bob Richards "The Pole Vaulting Parson" was declared the winner. Jeanette Cox from Pine Grove whose topic was "Safety" was second and third place went to Patsy Knowles from Concord School who told the audience "How to be a Good Public Speaker."

All the contestants received awards for their very worthwhile efforts.

"Way Back When"

Excerpts from the files of The Liberal
Home paper of the Richmond Hill district since 1878

50 YEARS AGO
OCTOBER 30, 1902
"From the locals" The King's birthday on November 9 will not be kept as a public holiday this year, May 24 having been set as the date upon which the king's birthday will be celebrated.

W. Trench and Son secured first and second prizes at Woodbridge Fair for heavy platform spring wagon. Mr. Trench also made several sales for those wagons while at the fair.

25 YEARS AGO
October 27, 1927
A unique ceremony took place last Monday when the peony roots presented to the village by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales were planted in front of the public school.

The residents of Oxford St., Elgin Mills, were enjoying their new electric lights for the first time on Saturday night. The Elgin Mills Sideroad will also soon be saying

good-bye to oil lamps.
Buttonville Community Hall was completely destroyed by fire which for some time threatened the whole community. Richmond Hill brigade stopped the fire from spreading.

10 YEARS AGO
October 29, 1942
The Hon. Mitchell F. Hepburn, Premier of Ontario for the past 8 years, has retired from public life.

With subscriptions totalling \$414,583,900 in eight days of canvassing, Canada's third Victory Loan has passed the half-way mark towards the minimum goal of 750 million dollars.

At a recent local auction sale, a set of harrows which cost \$8.25 years ago sold for \$7.

"Dear Mister Editor"

Re: Oak Ridges & Lake Wilcox
Dear Mr. Editor:

It is an encouraging sign when 58 people will come to a ratepayers' meeting such as was held at Oak Ridges School last week, and ask questions and try to learn the ABC's of municipal government. The question in mind is where were the other ratepayers? Some 2,000 or more in number who have owned property in this district, some of them for two or three generations. They could very well give leadership to these new organizations springing up in Europe because so many people took no interest in politics and were content to let "Joe" do it. They woke up one morning and found it was too late to do anything about it. One is not suggesting that these organizations are Communist but just trying to arouse the people from the lethargy that envelops them. As one speaker said last week Canadians have a duty to themselves and that is to take an interest in politics. It is still difficult to get 50% of the voters out at an election on any level.

Signed — Mrs. C. L. Stephenson, Oak Ridges

RE: Markham Twp.'s New Offices
Dear Mr. Editor: —

In October 1951, I was responsible for the circulation of a petition protesting the erection of a Township garage 40'x60' on 7/8 of an acre adjacent to Crosby Memorial Park in Unionville. This petition was signed by some 40 taxpayers of the Township of Markham and resulted in an open meeting in Veterans' Hall on October 16, 1951. As a result of the aforementioned petition a resolution from the trustees of the police village of Unionville was presented to a special meeting of Markham Township Council the following Saturday afternoon protesting the location of the garage on this unsuitable site. Council agreed to locate their garage elsewhere.

The point I would endeavor to make in this communication is: at no time has a public meeting been called to protest the location of

Township offices in the village of Unionville, no petition to this effect circulated and no remarks passed at any public meeting expressing any feeling for or against the location of such offices in Unionville. As Markham Council found it necessary to purchase three acres on which to erect both offices and garage, it is manifestly impossible that they could have intended to use 7/8 of an acre for both these purposes.

Yours truly,
Helen Strickland, Unionville

Community Fair Was Community Effort

Dear Sir: I would like you to please publish this letter to help dispel the impression that the recent Community Fair was solely the work and responsibility of the Lions Club. The fair was a community effort and while the Lions provided the hall and equipment, they were only sharing the work with the Women's Institute, the Horticultural Society and the Art Group. Without the wholehearted support and cooperation of these other community minded groups the Fair would have been impossible and I personally want to thank publicly these organizations for working together for a common cause. The results speak for themselves, and as the years roll by the citizens of this district will have good reason to thank the sponsors of the First Annual Community Fair for their courage and foresight.

No letter of this kind would be complete without a word of sincere thanks to those people who were not mentioned in the publicity but nevertheless did those little things that added up to success. I would like also to tell you that the publicity given by the Liberal was the only medium of advertising used and those merchants who sponsored the printing of the prize list earned a sincere commendation from the Fair Committee.

Will you please accept our thanks for the wonderful help rendered by you and your staff?
Yours truly,
Douglas Boyd, chairman

The Richmond

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And the voice of the prophet thundered over the raging mobs, against the Lion of Judah: "Give us the adulteress—Bathsheba!"

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Thursday, November 6

THE MOST DIFFERENT PICTURE SINCE MOVIES BEGAN!

The amazing saga of six men who deliberately risked their lives to prove a theory! On a primitive-type raft of balsa logs they drifted over uncharted seas from Peru to the isles where the hula girls wait! 101 days and 4,300 miles of storm, sunshine, peril and peace. No contact with civilization. No sight of ship or shore. Nothing but themselves and their astounding adventures with strange man-eating monsters of the deep—and their heroic efforts to keep busy, alive—and afloat!... An epic of daring—hailed as the greatest sea adventure of our times!

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