



# The Liberal

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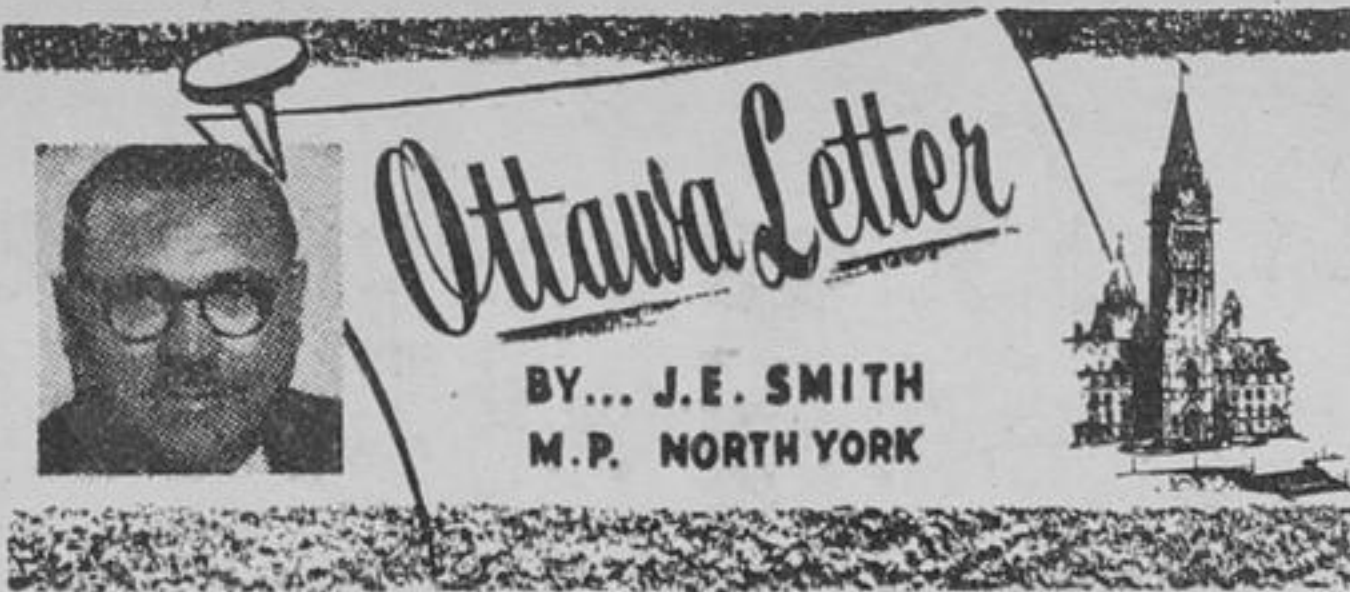
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BY... J.E. SMITH  
M.P. NORTH YORK

## How About The Rest Of Us ?

The Ontario government has introduced legislation providing for a major change in municipal administration in York County. The legislation provides for the establishment of a Metropolitan Council to preside over the municipal administration of that part of the County which lies south of Steele's Avenue.

Although opposed by the Toronto City Council the legislation has been generally well received as a sincere effort to meet the problems of the city and the suburban municipalities. Based on the report of the Municipal Board it has some imperfections but no doubt will be amended and improved as experience is gained in the new form of administration.

The idea of a Metropolitan Council is compromise legislation aimed to relieve the pressing problems of suburban areas without granting the request for amalgamation. Some action was many years overdue and while the present proposals present some difficulties we are confident the ultimate results will be to the mutual advantage of both city and suburban municipalities.

However the grave danger is that the legislation in attempting to solve the problems of the municipalities adjoining the city, has thrown the rest of the County to the wolves and laid some new problems on those municipalities which will remain in the County of York. Any announcements to date are notable for lack of any special consideration or apparent concern for the rest of York County.

As far as we are aware no figures have yet been released to show the financial position of the County which will remain, those municipalities from Markham and Vaughan north to Lake Simcoe. However it doesn't take much figuring to arrive at the conclusion that unless some consideration not yet announced is extended to the County, a very substantial tax increase will be the result.

Press reports have stated that there is at present a lot of behind-the-scenes turmoil and lobbying for the "plums of the new County set-up". Ratepayers are not much concerned about the so-called plums,

but they are much concerned about next year's tax rate.

It is said there is keen rivalry between Aurora and Newmarket for designation as the County seat. Ratepayers are not nearly so much concerned whether Aurora or Newmarket will get the call as the County Town, as they are concerned with the prospect of a tax increase of three or four hundred per cent for County purposes.

It is understood municipal representatives of the northern municipalities will hold a meeting in the near future and it is very important such a meeting should be held, and soon.

York County administration in the past has been carried on in a rather grandiose manner. A large and prosperous county with large assessment made this possible without too great a burden on the taxpayers, although on many occasions we have protested that it was unnecessary. In fact we have advocated the abolishment of County Councils as a part of our administrative system and still think such a move would result in a saving in money to the taxpayers and no loss at all in necessary services. However until such time as the Ontario government does abolish County Councils it will be necessary for municipalities which will make up York County after January 1st, 1953, to set up a new County organization. We trust municipal representatives will make the new set-up, wherever it is located, on a very practical basis with an absence of unnecessary frills.

The division of York County by the legislation now before the Ontario Legislature presents some very real problems for the municipal representatives. All the hue and cry so far resulting from the Metropolitan Council proposal has been concerned with its effect on the suburban municipalities. We'd like to hear more concern for those municipalities which are still left to make up York County.

The legislation now before the legislature will not be much of a success if in solving some problems for suburban municipalities it creates new and even more difficult problems for the municipalities north of Steele's Avenue.

## Organize Cancer Unit In District

Every doctor stresses lay education of the facts about cancer as an ally in effective treatment, sometimes the cure of the disease.

Clinical statistics prove with good results that more and more cancer cases are being caught in the early stages due to a greater awareness of its danger signals and the importance of early diagnosis and treatment on the part of the public.

But statistics also show through mortality records that there are still far too many people in our communities who come to the doctor when it is too late. Out of 4 1/2 million people living in Ontario, cancer was the second biggest killer last year with 6,405 deaths. It is the tragic fact that some of these victims need not have died had the disease been caught in time.

There is much unknown about cancer, but medical knowledge is steadily growing. Great strides are being made in methods of diagnosis and treatment of the disease. Virtually every branch of science and medicine are now involved in determining its cause and cure. But even with this great fighting army of scientists and doctors life still depends upon the early

detection of cancerous growth and the immediate treatment that must follow.

To bring this knowledge to the attention of everyone in Ontario is the aim of the Ontario Division of the Canadian Cancer Society. It's organized Units of volunteers throughout the province reach out as far as they can within their area to make the facts known. But distance leaves many communities still uncovered with the vital facts.

If the citizens of these unorganized parts would be interested and willing to form Units of the Society as a protection to themselves, their loved ones and others of their neighborhood, their work would greatly facilitate in the progress being made in cancer control.

The Ontario Division of the Canadian Cancer Society, 276 Simcoe St., Toronto, will supply full information about the Society and the facts for its control to all who ask.

Plans are under way for the organization of a Cancer Unit in Richmond Hill and district. A meeting will be called to which everyone will be invited. Further notice will be issued through the Liberal.

## Margaret Aiken Addresses Men's Club

A capacity crowd filled the banquet-hall when the members of Richmond Hill United Church Men's Club, accompanied by their wives held their annual Ladies' Night on Monday last.

The meeting was called to order shortly after 6.30 p.m. by the president James Bradley followed by a short prayer said by the Rev. C. G. Higginson.

Mrs. Sanderson president of the afternoon W. A. and her committee then served a delicious banquet to the guests who were seated at tables decorated in appropriate 17th of March style.

Mrs. J. Pollard on behalf of the ladies of the W.A., was complimented by the president of the Men's club for the work the W.A. had done to help make the evening a success.

Rand Gibson in proposing a toast to the visiting ladies read a poem of his own composition entitled "In the Spring".

Replying to the toast Mrs. Dickson Miller brought laughter with her able repartee and said the ladies present would all like autographed copies of Mr. Gibson's literary gem.

The guest speaker, Margaret Aiken was then introduced to the gathering by Stan Brown, who said although Miss Aiken was born in New Brunswick she had attended Branksome Hall in Toronto and is a niece of Lord Beaverbrook.

A widely travelled newspaper woman, Miss Aiken has crossed Canada and the United States several times; has visited Europe and the Middle East on assignments; attended the Royal wedding for her paper and expects to cover the Coronation in June.

Miss Aiken said that she has

been in newspaper work for 15 years and people have been her business. She also said the most important asset in a job such as hers is to be "curious".

Back in 1700, she continued, a custom grew up in which copymen went around to the coffee shops in London, looking for news and today we find the same thing going on in the newspaper world.

"We are inspired to go around and find news. It is not so much hard work as being tuned to items of news. One has to go prodding, picking and digging for news."

To illustrate her point Miss Aiken told of an assignment she had had in 1941 to interview Theodore Dreiser who had arrived in Toronto to hold a public meeting in the Eaton auditorium.

The interview proved so uninteresting, Margaret Aiken put away her note-book, but was electrified into action when she heard Dreiser make a detrimental reference to Britain in which he said he would rather see the Nazis there than the horse-riding British.

Returning to her office, she told her editor she did not think Dreiser should be allowed to speak in Toronto and her editor agreed to put her remarks on the front page.

Later that day, 4 o'clock to be exact, Dreiser was back across the border. The R.C.M.P., the Canadian Legion and the City Council having investigated this man, because of her news item which had been released at 11.50 a.m., had found him undesirable and as Miss Aiken said, "He never did get a chance to speak in Canada."

Rand Gibson thanked Miss Aiken for her entertaining address and presented her with "a standard of beauty" that is, he said "a part of the trademark of Richmond Hill", a beautiful spray of roses. Mr. Floyd Perkins introduced

Betty Anne Byfield, violinist, who has had the distinction of being guest artist five different times with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Mrs. Byfield, who is a resident of Bond Lake, delighted her audience with her beautiful and accomplished playing.

Ross Smith brought the entertainment to a very tuneful conclusion with a group of three Irish songs, sung in a sprightly Irish style, after which the Rev. Higginson brought the evening of fellowship and good cheer to a close with a prayer of benediction.

### HERE'S HEALTH



A little old lady from Guelph. Was practically starving herself. We know it's no fun To cook for just one.

Dept. of National Health and Welfare

Developments on the international scene have been causing considerable concern. The incidents in Germany are evidence that the cold war to which we have become somewhat accustomed is charged with very real and very dangerous possibilities. The potential danger of an all-out war is ever-present in this divided, and anxious world. It is a time when cool heads are needed in high places and when tremendous responsibilities are carried by those who guide national affairs.

Here in Canada we are fortunate in having experienced leadership from Prime Minister St. Laurent and External Affairs Minister Pearson. Too often we take such leadership for granted, but when danger really threatens or the world situation becomes complicated there is genuine assurance to all Canadians in having these men at the helm.

Russia's veto of the appointment of Mr. Pearson as Secretary of the United Nations robbed the league of the services of the one in all the world best fitted for the task. However United Nations' loss is Canada's gain if we can retain his services as head of our Foreign Affairs department.

Value For Expenditures It is the responsibility and traditional right of the opposition in Parliament to criticize the government in office, but there is pretty general agreement outside of purely political circles that such criticism should be constructive.

This session impartial observers here at Ottawa have expressed disappointment with the showing and performance of the opposition party. There has been from the opposition party an almost frantic and desperate effort to lead the people of Canada to believe there has been widespread waste, extravagance and inefficiency in federal government spending. This frantic effort as election time draws near has not been supported by facts, or even by constructive suggestions where savings may be made. On the contrary there have been extravagant suggestions for increased expenditures.

Two leading cabinet members dealt at some length with this matter during the week.

Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Defence Production, whose honesty, integrity and ability as an administrator are universally recognized, spiked the opposition charges in a most effective manner. He pointed out that ever since the beginning of our Defence expenditure program, there has been sitting a Defence Expenditure Committee, a committee which also sat throughout the last war.

That Defence Expenditures Committee is made up of members of all political parties and has the privilege of examining in the minutest detail every item of defence expenditure, and the right to examine and trace every contract from its inception to its conclusion. It has the right to call as witnesses anyone from anywhere to give evidence and the record of that committee shows they have been doing a pretty thorough job of examination and looking in corners to seek out signs of extravagance or waste. The committee to date has not reported to the house finding either waste or extravagance.

It is easy to make wild statements about waste and extravagance on the political platform, but the record is here to show that such charges have not been established before the all party committee where charges have to be supported by facts. This significant feature of opposition charges should be kept in mind by our citizens who hear or read these extravagant political statements.

Hon. D. C. Abbott, Minister of Finance, took time out from his busy duties to put the record straight as far as his position is concerned. He denied allegations of waste or inefficiency and declared every effort was made to get maximum value for every tax dollar. Many independent observers of the Ottawa and World scene have expressed agreement with the Finance Minister's opinion that Canada is getting as good or better value for defence dollars than any other country in the world.

War Costs In answer to a question in the House this week it was revealed that the total cost to Canada of our participation in the United Nations police action in Korea to the end of 1952 was \$129,416,038.

This figure of course does not include the cost of recruiting, training or initial outfitting of personnel. It would be impossible to single out such expense as it concerns directly the action in Korea.

Member's Mail My mail from North York while I am here at Ottawa averages about fifteen letters daily and ranges all the way from requests for assistance with departmental matters to opinions and suggestions on the international situation and as to how we should best deal with the Kremlin.

### King Twp. Sets Mill Rate

King Township Tax rate for 1953 was truck at 26.3 mills last Friday. Last year the rate was 25 mills.

The increase this year is caused chiefly by the increased rate of Aurora District High School. The Township tax rate is exclusive of the Trustees' and Debutants' school rates of the 26 school sections of the district.

For letting people know about your euchre or bridge try the "Coming Events" column of The Liberal. Telephone Richmond Hill Turner 4-1261.

## Russell Tilt Addresses Richvale Home & Sch.

Russell Tilt from the Department of Lands and Forests, who is conducting province-wide studies into the practical results of planting certain trees and shrubs selected for their adaptability as nesting sites for our feathered friends and homes for the small mammals, as well as their ability to provide food for them throughout the winter months, was the guest speaker at the Richvale Home and School meeting on Monday night.

Mr. Tilt spoke of his experiences of banding the woodcock which is active for only a short time at sunset, and gave imitations of the calls of the chick-dees, male and female woodcock, teal, herring gull, and the male and female Canada goose.

"High over the Borders," a film on the migration of birds awakened the question Why migration? Why does the golden plover fly non-stop from his home in Newfoundland to Brazil in 48 hours? The speaker remarked on the insignificance of man-made barriers to the birds. A colour film showed our handsome cedar wax-wing nesting and feeding her young and a similar study of robins.

Since the welfare of our wild-life as well as our own, is so dependent on rich timberlands, a splendid film on the results of good and poor wood-cutting practices was timely and interesting.

As I have said before I do appreciate receiving your letters because I welcome the opportunity to be of assistance and your expressions of opinion are most helpful. Of course I am not always able to accomplish everything asked of me but I do my best. I have always made it a strict rule to answer every letter I receive, but last week I was in somewhat of a quandary. A constituent wrote regarding a postal matter with which I would have been very glad to be helpful but unfortunately no postal address was given. If the writer happens to read this column and will let me have her address I will get in touch with her at once.

Anyway many thanks for your letters and once again don't hesitate to communicate with me at any time regarding any matter of local or national interest. During the session I will be in the riding every week end and will be available at my office in Richmond Hill every Saturday.

# The Richmond

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