



The Liberal



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Fine Response To Flood Appeal

The people of Richmond Hill are to be congratulated on their timely response in raising slightly over \$2,000 to assist in the rehabilitation of hundreds of flood victims in Great Britain and Western Europe. As soon as disaster had struck Richmond Hill, in common with numerous other communities across this Dominion set up the machinery for collecting funds to be used in the relief of these unfortunate individuals.

This sizeable sum. The flood victims have suffered and lost a great deal; in fact many not only lost all their worldly possessions but also forfeited their lives. It's uplifting to realize that each of us by our individual donations have made some small contribution in the rehabilitation of these unfortunate people who through no fault of their own have suffered greatly.

"Dear Mister Editor"

Re: Markham Township Planning Board

Dear Mr. Editor:
As an ex-taxpayer of Markham Township and an ex-member of the Township Planning Board, I was much interested in your March 5 report of Markham Township Council's discussion on Deputy-Reeve LeMasurier's call for planning for industrial development.

(1) Councillor Lennie's reported statement that "This Council has no authority to impose water on anybody. If the people want it, then they must petition for the establishment of a water area."

(2) Councillor Hooper's reported statement that "This whole discussion is out of order for we haven't received anything from the Planning Board."

(3) The report ended by saying that the matter was laid over until the Planning Board has completed its zoning of the township.

I would like to offer your Markham Township readers my suggestions and comments on the above reported items and I will discuss the last item first.

From my experience as a member of the Township Planning Board during 1952, I venture to predict that the Planning Board will not have completed its master Zoning Plan for the whole township before the end of 1954.

I feel strongly that discussion of the problems of industrial development is not "out of order", either in Council or elsewhere.

The Planning Board's authority is limited to recommending only to Council that the plan and other measures which the Board may agree upon be adopted by Council and acted upon.

The Board does not take any active part in the promotion of any kind of development or initiate any projects for providing services to such development.

The Board will finally only recommend to Council that industrial, commercial and residential development if and when it occurs, shall be restricted to the areas allotted.

It is definitely the Council's responsibility, if adopted, to enforce these measures and take the necessary steps to provide for the development as planned.

Active planning should right now be underway for the provision of water and sewerage facilities for those sections of the Township already partially populated and for those areas most suitable to residential and industrial development in the near future.

If the Planning Board could be provided with information that the Township Engineer had surveyed the situation and could take such and such measures in one area to provide the necessary water and sewerage facilities, but could not in the foreseeable future, provide the facilities in some other area I believe that this information would be invaluable to them in their efforts to formulate a Master Plan which would provide for an orderly and financially sound development of the Township.

This leads us to discussion of Councillor Lennie's reported statement as given in item No. 1 above. It is my understanding that a Council may undertake Local Improvement Works such as water and sewerage facilities without waiting to be petitioned by the interested parties. There is provision in the Municipal Act for Councils to undertake such Works by "Initiative of Council", subject to Municipal Board approval.

Unfortunately, residential development in the first concession of Markham Township and other areas to date, has progressed without the possibility of obtaining "essential ser-

vices". These words are commonly used to denote water and sewer facilities. If zoning and land use by-laws had been in effect years ago limiting subdivision of the land into large parcels of say two acres or more, it could be assumed that these "essential services" would not be required as each lot could provide for its own water supply and waste disposal.

Since it is highly impractical and now too late to impose such restrictions on large areas of the Township it is necessary to adopt other measures and I believe the time has come for the Council to take definite steps to get control of the situation before further complications are added.

Here are two alternative methods by which any area may develop. Which method do you consider the better?

(1) An area has been already subdivided or will, in the near future, be subdivided into lots having 100 ft. frontage. The lots are 100 ft. because there is no water main or sewer in the area.

A builder or the individual owners start building on these lots and being up-to-date they drill a well and install a pressure pump system and construct a septic tank and disposal bed.

The cost of these two items today will be at least \$800. Some years later a situation will develop whereby water and sewers are necessary, perhaps to serve industry, but the property owners are opposed to the cost of these since they have already spent quite a sum of money on their own systems.

There is a deadlock. No industry because the Municipality cannot assess the cost of services against the abutting properties and it would be uneconomical to extend water mains and sewers to serve industry only.

Meanwhile taxes on the properties are high because of the 100 ft. frontage and the local improvement costs of the necessary roads and perhaps sidewalks.

Eventually the march of progress will force water mains and sewers on these areas and the taxpayer will begin to pay out at least \$500.00 more for these local improvements.

He can then legally subdivide his lot into two 50 ft. lots, providing he hasn't been foolish enough to place his house on the centre of the 100 ft. lot.

The second method of development might be this:—

(2) The Township Council has enacted that development of any Area will be orderly and progressive. If the Area is Zoned as a high or medium density residential area the Council will have laid plans to provide for the "essential services" and if the subdivided Area is being developed by individual property owners the Township would extend the services as required and charge the costs to the property owners.

Because the lots are serviced, they can be 50 ft. frontage. If the subdivision is being developed by one operator he would be required to extend the essential services to his subdivision and charge the cost to the properties served.

In either case the owner is relieved of the cost of drilling a well and providing a septic tank system.

It would seem logical that services should be available before development is allowed to begin. This is, in the end, the cheapest way, but involves expenditure of money by the council before any cash returns are possible. It would however, pay big dividends in later years.

In closing, let me state some facts, as I see them:

(1) Markham Township, or any other largely rural township, would be better off financially if no further urban development took place within its borders.

(2) It is utterly impossible to hope that fact No. 1 can be realized if a Township is adjacent to a growing city.

(3) Industry must be encouraged to locate in the Township and money must be spent in advance to prepare for industry.

(4) Residential development in the Township must be limited to its correct ratio with industrial development.

(5) Properties should be acquired by the Township now, to hold for future industrial, Park, sewage disposal and school purposes. Today's price is \$1,000.00 an acre or less. When the actual need arises later, it would be three times that price.

Yours very truly, R. T. Shorten, 65 Elmwood Ave., Richmond Hill

Fire Brigade Uses Both Trucks

Last Tuesday the Richmond Hill fire brigade attended two grass fires at the same time. The first call to Thornhill was attended to by the regular brigade but just after they left the fire hall, another call came in from Richvale. A few brigade members who had missed the first call and some private citizens answered the second call with the old fire truck.

There was no serious damage caused by either fire.

OBITUARY

HENRY C. BOWYER
Henry C. Bowyer of Barrie, Ont., formerly of Richmond Hill, passed away at the home of his daughter, Mrs. D. W. Dobson, R. R. No. 2, Barrie, March 14, 1953.

Mr. Bowyer was an ardent reader of the daily paper and took a great interest in World Affairs.

He was born in England and came to Canada in 1909. Mr. Bowyer had five sons in World War I and five grandsons in World War II. His wife predeceased him nine years ago and also two sons, Charles of Richmond Hill and Archie of Tampa, Fla.

Mr. Bowyer was the father of 12 children of whom five are still living. Also left are 28 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren.

In England Mr. Bowyer was a printer by trade and also a member of the Salvation Army Band. In Canada he was an active member of the United Church. Interment was made at Barrie Union Cemetery.

"Dear Mr. Editor"

Re: Buttonville W. I. Dear Mr. Editor:

The letter from Hilda Kelly and Edna Purves in the issue of March 12 entitled "What your 50c accomplished" is, in my opinion, one of the best samples of good public relations that I have seen.

The Buttonville W. I. is to be commended for the good work it has done for the Cancer Society. The needlework, knitting, jelly-making and fancy wrapping meant hours of work for the willing workers.

I am sure the Cancer Society and the patients helped have appreciated this grand effort.

To read this accounting of their fund was an antidote for some of the bad news we have served to us daily by radio and press. There is good at work in the world.

To these good people may I quote Elizabeth Barrett Browning—"A sick man helped by thee shall make thee strong; Thou shalt be served thyself by every sense Of service which thou renderest."

Gladys L. Allison, Willowdale, Ont.

King Farmers Hold Panel On Future Of Agriculture

A panel discussion "What is in the near, or far, future, for farming?" was the program when the King Branch of the Federation of Agriculture met in Laskay Hall last Thursday.

John Kudelka, Glenville, introduced the speakers, who were Cecil Belyea, a Field Economist of the Federation of Agriculture, Mr. Hayward of the Economics branch of the Dept. of Agriculture, Guelph, and James Hope, Newmarket, who represents the Milk Produce Board, No. 7 District. Some of the statistics that were disclosed was that 41% of farmers had taken other jobs since the end of the war. Of 92 members in the Provincial government...

The figures showing increased costs and values were surprising. is now valued at \$25,705. Land A farm valued at \$8,450 in 1941, values have increased 215%, machinery costs 380% more than 10 years ago, and livestock has increased in value by 475%. Although the returns on farm expenditure is now 50% higher than it was in 1941, Mr. Hope felt that the higher costs of farm labour and machinery did not make his savings any more secure. Frank Beatty, president of the King Federation announced that the next meeting will be held in about six weeks. The discussion continued over a cup of coffee and cookies at the close of the meeting.

Reeve's Horse 33-1 Shot

Reeve W. J. Taylor of Richmond Hill was conducting village business at council meeting Monday night when he received a telegram informing him that he held a winning ticket in the Irish Sweepstakes, worth a minimum of \$1,200 or £428 sterling.

His horse is Parasol II and is a 33-1 shot. The race will be run this Saturday and if the Reeve's horse wins he is eligible for \$140,000 in prize money.

The number of his ticket is GB12566.



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

The number of television aerials in North York increases daily and therefore there is very widespread interest in government policy on television. I can assure you that the matter of policy on television is receiving the careful study and attention of the government. I have received many letters on the subject and while I have answered all personally, I think many others who have not got around to the point of writing may be interested in a few frank facts of government policy.

The number of broadcasting stations is limited by the number of available frequency channels. The channels belong not to any individual group but are a part of our public domain and belong to the Canadian people. This being so government policy is that they should be developed for the use of all the people and not given over to private interests for profit.

The government aims to develop television as all-Canadian as possible. We believe it is important that a reasonable proportion of what we see, and particularly what our children see both in popular and cultural programs be produced in Canada, by Canadians and about Canada. Publicly owned broadcasting stations will be established in major centres and licenses to private stations will be available in other places not served by the C.B.C. The privately owned stations will supplement the national service given by the C.B.C.

If the C.B.C. had the field all to itself in sound broadcasting or in television, there would be a real danger of uniformity and of complacency. There would not be the same incentive to provide local programs to meet local desires. Moreover it is still early to say just how many television stations can really be operated profitably. How many are, in fact, really needed to provide adequate public service? That is another question to which consideration must be given. There is an element of risk-taking, an element of enterprise, in the establishment of stations in medium and smaller centres. And this is an appropriate field for local initiative, for private enterprise, and for all the excitement and ingenuity to be called forth by the necessity to make an enterprise pay.

That is why the government feels, at this stage, that we should have in television, as in sound broadcasting, a combination of public and private stations. But there is one difference between the address; here is an account of it as it appeared in the Detroit Free Press:

"They gathered more out of courtesy and because it was the thing to do. Then Dr. Rice began speaking. Right then and there something happened to Detroit. The handsome giant's magnetism, the power and the glory of his vision held his audience spellbound. And among these was the late Edward H. Doyle, leading Catholic layman of Detroit and one of the most sincerely devout Christians ever to walk our streets— though never quite able to overcome the rough and ready speech he had learned as a boy in the lumber camps.

When Dr. Rice had finished one of the first to grip his hand was Mr. Doyle. "By God," he cried, "if you were a member of my church I would nominate you for Pope! What's your name?" "M. S. Rice," answered the startled clergyman.

"Could that 'M' by any chance stand for 'Michael'?" demanded Doyle.

"Well, it's Merton," roared the gorgeous E. H. "You're too good not to be Irish."

By evening Dr. Rice was known as nothing else on shipboard but "Mike," and it remained with him until the end. At Rotary he was "Mike" and the vast world which was his larger pulpit, he was never known as anything else.

From then on until his death over thirty years later, Dr. Rice was one of the most useful and best loved citizens of Detroit. There wasn't a good cause with which he did not become identified. He could be depended on to throw his weight into every movement for human betterment. He never was negative. This is why I am writing this article. He never ran down anybody; if he couldn't say a good word he remained silent.

Sizing up people by the religious group to which they belonged was the last thing he thought of. He loved people because they were human beings; irrespective of their race or creed.

When the great drive started to build the Metropolitan Church the Doctor announced that he would not preach in it until it had been paid for—every brick and stone. The cost was around a million and a half. Toward the end of the long hard struggle there were days of discouragement. The Sunday on which it was scheduled to open was just a few days away. They still owed \$30,000 with no place to turn for more aid.

Dr. Rice went into the church on Thursday night alone and in the darkness. He prayed to God for guidance and help to finish the task. And when he had finished he walked down the long corridor. A door opened and there he met one of Detroit's wealthiest men.

"I had to come over to see you, Doctor," he said. "I understand you need more funds. Here is my signature on a blank cheque. Fill it out for what you need to finish the job."

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Friday & Saturday — March 27 & 28

MICKEY ROONEY Sound Off in SUPER CINE COLOR
COLUMBIA PICTURES presents
STRIKE UP THE BAND! - FOR A BANG-UP MUSICAL!
Anne James - Sammy White - John Archer

Monday & Tuesday — March 30 & 31

THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD
KROGER BABB and J. S. JOSSEY Present
"The Prince of Peace"
A FILM for the ENTIRE FAMILY
ENTIALLY IN GLORIOUS COLOR!

ONLY - WEDNESDAY APRIL 1 - ONLY

THE LOVES OF PANDORA IN FLAMING TECHNICOLOR!
James Mason · Ava Gardner
Pandora and The Flying Dutchman
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR

Thursday, Friday & Saturday — April 2, 3 & 4

"SCARAMOUCHE" In Technicolor
Starring Stewart Grainger Janet Leigh Eleanor Parker Mel Ferrer