



# The Liberal

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OF  
CIRCULATIONS

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## One Of The Smith Boys

In the Toronto Telegram of August 18 and 19 have appeared articles regarding the fictitious name of John Thomas Smith on the Dominion election sample ballots, which was criticized by C. A. Cathers, defeated Progressive Conservative candidate in North York in the recent Federal election. Mr. Cathers' only objection to the fictitious name is that it is the same as his winning opponent, John E. Smith, and claims that Tory votes were lost because of this similarity. This means that there were 1,529 people (Mr. Smith's final official majority) who didn't know what they were doing.

To quote from the Toronto Telegram "Ottawa, August 19 — John Thomas Smith, that fictitious character who has caused a mild complaint from C. A. Cathers, Progressive Conservative candidate in York North in the Dominion election, has been around 50 years.

John Thomas is in the company of three other ghostly persons — William R. Brown, Frank Arthur Hammond and Joseph E. O'Neil, all of whom have their fictitious homes in or around Ottawa.

Now Mr. Cathers' complaint is that the sample ballots, required to be posted by the Elections Act, were marked in his riding for John Thomas Smith. Mr. Cathers thinks this influenced people to vote for John E. Smith, Liberal candidate in North York.

The four names — Smith, Brown, Hammond and O'Neil — were picked in 1902 when Parliament revised the Elections Act. Nelson Castonguay, Chief Electoral Officer, says that Mr. Cathers' complaint or indeed any complaint, about the favouritism shown Smith should have been made while Parliament was in session and there was a chance to approve a change in the forms. Mr. Castonguay recalls that there have been plenty of Smiths in Parliament and there has never been a complaint before about the sample ballot.

Jack Smith who has won three successive elections in North York asked for his comment said he thought the protests were pretty small potatoes. "In my opinion," he said, "a suggestion that voters were influenced by the sample ballot is a reflection on the intelligence of the people of North York."

## Rowdyism Annoys Council

We have received repeated calls this week from wrestling fans asking why Richmond Hill council announced by letter on the night of August 11 that wrestling matches would be discontinued as of that date. From discussion heard at council meetings we assume councillors are not opposed to the sport itself but to the rowdyism and some of the spectators making a general nuisance of themselves.

The act of council in closing down the arena to further wrestling matches has sprung from the desire to protect village property and residents in the arena area from annoyances and we understand Council acted on the recommendation of the police.

## Students Prepare For New Term

With the end of August, the thoughts of both children and their parents, turn towards the routine of school days, and almost before they realize it the old familiar morning call: "Get up quickly or you will be late for school!" will be resounding throughout district homes.

Returning to school has different meanings for a child or his parents. For a child it means breaking summer bonds in many cases and reaching out towards new ones. It may mean laying down the fishing pole to pick up study books, or leaving familiar green fields he trod in the country to don new, sturdy shoes to tread pavements toward his particular seat of learning. It means new clothes to wear, new books to study, new school activities to become associated with.

To the father, the advent of a new school year means a large cheque to be written for clothes and supplies, and also the knowledge that his son or daughter will be entering or continuing a most important phase of life . . . to make him or her more self-sufficient and better citizens.

Mothers are usually a bit sentimental about the first school day, especially if

they have a child just beginning his "school days". There's the thought that she will be parted from him for several hours a day, when the house will seem empty without his voice and footsteps, and also that her "little man" is rapidly outgrowing the baby stage. Then she takes him, looking spic and span in his new suit, to the school, where she gazes lovingly and proudly at him as she presents him to his teacher and wends her way homeward alone.

After the first shock of being left without his mother is over the little boy quickly finds friends and becomes engrossed in his new environment, and as soon as school is out he rushes home to tell mother all that has happened.

For the boys or girls entering high school there is the feeling that they are now in the "senior" class, and they begin to realize, more than ever, their responsibilities to their school, their elders, and their friends.

The new Collegiate dreams, and works for, that day when he or she will be handed the coveted diploma which entitles one to either enter college or take one's place in the business world.



C.N.R. TO BUILD BIG HOTEL IN MONTREAL — Plans for the construction of a large convention hotel on the Central Station site in Montreal have been approved by the Canadian National Railways board of directors and will be included in the railway's budget when it is submitted to the sessional parliamentary committee on railways as part of the financial programme to be laid before Parliament at the next session. Donald Gordon, chairman and president, has announced. The 20-storey, \$20,000,000 hotel will have upwards of 1,000 rooms and convention space capable of seating 4,000 persons at meetings and 2,500 at banquets. It will benefit all agencies engaged in the travel and tourist industry and will do much to attract conventions and visitors to Canada, and will be of great and direct benefit to Montreal, the Province of Quebec and Canada as a whole, Mr. Gordon stated. The architect's drawing shows the new hotel facing on Dorchester Street (left) and Mansfield Street (right). At the far left of the sketch is the present International Aviation Building, also owned by the C.N.R., and an idea of the size of the new hotel is to be had by comparing the bulk of the two buildings. Between the hotel and the Aviation Building is a sketch of the new headquarters office building which is planned for later development. The hotel is part of a carefully-conceived terminal area development plan which has been under discussion between the railway and the city of Montreal for several years. When completed by the C.N.R. and private capital the development will rival in scope that of the world-famous Rockefeller Center in New York. CNR Photo

## SUNDAY AFTERNOON

"The Eternal Question" Many years ago when a young minister, I went to see a very sick man in a remote Newfoundland settlement. It was more than fifty miles from the nearest railway which ran only occasionally. The people were kindly and hospitable, but, through no fault of their own, extremely limited in educational advantages.

The poor man was suffering from some disease I did not understand, but was in constant pain. He had suffered so much that his face was actually out of shape. In his distress of mind and body he had often wondered if there was a God of mercy and infinite love. These misgivings he had passed on to the neighbours and so the word got around that he was a doubter — later some said he was an atheist. This stigma deeply hurt him and his devoted wife.

Doubt about the goodness and even the existence of God is a very reasonable thing. Some of the finest and most sincere people who have ever lived have been assailed by doubts. Confronted with bitter experiences and deep disappointments they were staggered and bewildered.

This is the theme of the Book of Job. As cruel misfortune fell upon him he began to wonder whether there was any scheme in the world and openly voiced his concern. He was for a time a sceptic — a reverent sceptic — but still a sceptic. There have been millions like him. If I may turn aside for a minute I should like to say that I have known scores of high-minded sceptical men and women whose downright sincerity has deeply moved me.

The friends of Job were little help to him; many of their answers were smug and complacent. They even implied that his misfortunes were divine punishment. The picture is dramatic and almost cruel in its realism. Surely nothing in the world hurts the cause of true religion more than the smug and silly answers some make to men wrestling with doubt. The best thing that can be said of these men is that when they saw how

great was the affliction of Job: "They sat upon the ground seven days and seven nights and spake not a word with him, for they saw that his grief was very great."

I have buried a good many babes and little children during my ministry and nothing has exasperated me more than to hear neighbours say to the bereaved: "You loved this child too much, so God, because jealous, took it away." Could anything be more callous or cruel? Then some years ago a man and his wife visiting Niagara Falls one Sunday afternoon in winter, were standing on a piece of ice when it snapped and drifted down the gorge to destruction. Several people wrote to the local newspapers pointing out that these people were pleasure-seeking on the Sabbath day and invoked divine displeasure.

It is hard to believe that in this day and age people can have such conceptions of the God Jesus revealed; infinitely tender and kind and loving. The problem of suffering is as old as humanity. I revere and respect my brethren in the ministry; most of them are sincere and intelligent men, but when I hear a man saying: "Believe in Christ and everything will be perfectly clear, all mysteries will be solved." I feel he doesn't know what he is talking about. Jesus never professed to solve all mysteries, all He did was to put a key into the hands of his followers to open and understand the love of God and to know that in spite of all suffering God is good and gracious. He creates a mind and disposition of heart which makes it possible for us to accept the will of God with deepest faith in His wisdom and goodness.

Cardinal Newman's beautiful hymn suggests a Christian frame of mind; one of faith and trust. I do not ask to see the distant scene.

One step enough for me, Our quotation to-day is a saying of Jesus: "He that followeth me, shall not walk in darkness but shall have the light of life."

## "Way Back When"

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

### AUGUST 9, 1853

One of the old Toronto dailies has this to say about the great prospects for Richmond Hill 100 years ago:

Lots for Sale Our columns contain plenty of evidence of the effects of railways. On all parts of the Northern Road villages are being laid out, and lots are for sale. The Richmond Hill station has been established where no house stood before, and Mr. Holmes who owns the adjoining land and who gave the ground for the station, is about to dispose of building lots. The land is rolling — presents a pretty aspect; and is well fitted for residences. It is seventeen miles from Toronto but as distance is an entirely different thing under the railroad system from what it was before, we must consider it as no more than 4 or 5 miles away, for it can be reached in three quarters of an hour. But the station is the centre of a great many roads, and have not the least doubt will soon collect a considerable village around it. In this light, the sale presents a favorable opportunity to business men.

### AUGUST 25, 1892

Tuesday evening as Mr. Thomas Palmer was driving a load of grain through a gate leading to the barn, the front axle of the wagon gave way and he was thrown against the fence striking his head and causing painful injury.

Mr. Robert Holland, for many years a resident of this village passed away last Tuesday at his home.

On August 12, the formal opening of S. S. No. 2 Vaughan and Markham took place. During the ceremony, Rev. W. W. Bates, rector of the parish was in the chair. In 1811 an earlier school was dedicated on this same site.

### The Week's News From the World

The Royal Military College, Kingston, is to be lit by electricity. Four thousand cab men are on strike in the city of Paris.

Over 100 cars have been burned by striking Erie & Lehigh switchmen at Buffalo.

### AUGUST 25, 1910

Crops in this district are first class this year, although the Western crop is, for the most part, very poor.

Special cars will be run on the Metropolitan railway for the convenience of Exhibition visitors.

Richmond Hill order of A.O.F. will hold court this Friday evening.

The village constable should keep a sharp look-out these nights

for those bent on mischief. Last Sunday night a number of boards and large stones were placed across Yonge Street in front of the Palmer House.

Last Saturday evening saw the presentation of a Band Concert and ice cream social on the High School lawn. The Richmond Hill Band will give another concert this Saturday at the Public School.

### AUGUST 22, 1918

On Monday, the publisher of this paper received letters from the Marine Dept. of the Imperial Oil Co., stating that his son Goldwin Starr McMahon had lost his life when the oil tanker on which he was serving was torpedoed 35 miles from Halifax.

Dr. Hutt, a prominent Newmarket citizen passed away at his home last Sunday.

Organization names which appear on the 1918 Village Directory and which have now disappeared from the local social life are: R. H. Band, United Farmers, Hillcrest Lodge, I.O.O.F., Court Richmond, A.O.F., I.O.F. and Camp Elgin, S.O.S.

SCOUT NEWS — Last Friday evening Scouts Robert Mansbridge, Edward Mansbridge, Wilfred Dean, Stanley Ransom and Bernard White all passed their Ambulance Tests and received their badges.

Mr. C. Hardy, a farmer near Stouffville had an extra good yield of alfalfa this year and sold the 12 acre crop for \$1248 to Stiver Bros. at Unionville.

See the 1918 Maxwell at Oliver and Hick, Richmond Hill, made in Windsor, Ont. Be patriotic, buy goods made at home.

The Women's Farm Department, Toronto, states that it is being swamped with requests for farmettes and dairy maids. For experienced girls the wages start at \$25 a month with board.

### AUGUST 21, 1930

Elgin Mills and Jefferson were all aglow by the number of officers surrounding that district last Saturday in search of the bandit who robbed the King City bank.

Newmarket won the Mackenzie King cup emblematic of the baseball championship of Ontario and York Counties.

Deputy-Reeve T. M. Baker of Vaughan Twp. has completed his harvesting and threshing 18 days after the first binder cut. Mr. Baker reports a very good crop and has 3,000 bushels of fine grain in his granary.

The municipalities of Newmarket and Aurora are still discussing the purchase of the radials north of Richmond Hill. The purchase price will be \$150,000.

## A Model Campaign

The political campaign in North York was conducted in the best tradition. No personalities were introduced and there was no mud-slinging. The case of each candidate was stated in circulars and other literature. The appeal was made to reason, not to passion. It would be hard to envisage a more decorous campaign in the whole of Canada.

Both candidates were men whose private affiliations belong to the ancient order of Freemasonry and the modern order of Lionism, both of which teach the highest codes of citizenship and ethics. In the case of both candidates such principles were given practical application. The defeated as well as the successful candidate may take pride in having fought a model campaign.

— Newmarket Era & Express

## "Dear Mr. Editor"

Re: New Thornhill High School

Dear Mr. Editor:

I have through the excellent coverage in the "Liberal" followed closely the development of plans for the new High School in the "South End" of the area.

The building of a new High School without accommodation for Vocational Options would be a major mistake. It would not provide for the needs of the majority of young people in this area.

Wilfred Dean is speaking for us, he knows our requirements and he has our full support.

It is altogether reasonable that the Richmond Hill High School Board should be composed to a major extent of residents from the "North End" of the area but I hope they will be fair minded and realize our needs.

I believe a Public Meeting in this area would convince the Board that Mr. Dean's recommendations should be followed.

I do hope that editorially and in every other way possible you will press for a full public hearing on this important matter.

Yours truly,

Pat McTaggart-Cowan, Thornhill

Dear Mr. Editor:

In recent issues of The Liberal much comment has been published concerning the projected new High School in Thornhill. Unfortunately, in all this comment there has been a complete lack of factual data which would give the ratepayers something on which to base a considered opinion.

At the outset it appears evident from the ratepayers point of view in the area which will be served by the new school that there is a strong opinion favouring the inclusion of vocational options on the same basis as that of the Richmond Hill High School. It also favours a gymnasium but this only if it can be had without seriously affecting the tax picture.

We think it is about time for the High School Board to obtain competent advice from experienced architects relative to building costs of different proposals and then to place that information before the ratepayers in any reasonable manner the Board sees fit so that the building costs can be properly related to taxes.

After taking the grant picture into account, if there is not much difference in the tax rate between a purely academic unit and one with practical options (and we doubt that there is) then we feel sure that all ratepayers would say give us the practical options. The same would apply to the gym.

One other aspect should be taken carefully into consideration — the needs of the community. We all deplore the cost of education in present times but in doing so we must not forget that we are duty bound to provide the form of education necessary to give our children a solid foundation on which to base their future. This aspect alone dictates the inclusion of practical options and is borne out by statistics in Richmond Hill High School where the vast majority of pupils are taking the practical option course.

In the final analysis it will be the Councils of the Municipalities involved who will decide and approve the amounts for debenture issues. Our Councils are to be commended for the watchful eye they maintain on the debenture debt but when considering an issue such as that of the High School they should take cognizance of a situation where the ratepayers affected are prepared to pay a little more to get a completely satisfactory educational unit.

Yours truly,  
The Thornlea Association  
R. A. Boyter President

Dear Mr. Editor—

A group of our neighbours have spent some time discussing the question of the type of high school which would be best for our area. The consensus seems to be as follows:

1. Even though all the classrooms will not be needed immediately now because we should build for the future

(a) Additions to buildings cost more on a unit basis than equivalent construction at the time of initial building.

(b) With all indications pointing to a continued increase in building costs it would hardly seem prudent to defer any construction which would result in an overall increased outlay.

2. The decision as to whether the building should provide for physical education or practical options is a very difficult one. However here are some of our considerations.

(a) Physical training could be arranged for out of doors for some months of the year.

(b) All our children will not be continuing their formal education at a university. For those who will be going to work directly from school, the practical options provide the only real solution to rounding out their educations.

(c) Those of us who are interested in hiring graduates have found that students with purely academic training do not normally measure up to those whose academic training has been augmented by some practical subjects.

3. The real concern of our group however, was the method to be used in reaching a decision. Will our representatives be thinking of the welfare of our children or will they be thinking only of costs? In other words are they concerned with the tax rate or the future of our country? Are they thinking of the cost of the school as an expense or as an investment? Will they be thinking of school as they knew it or will they have an eye to the future and attempt to provide for all modern improvements? Or to sum up, will they really be acting as our representatives or will they be acting as individuals?

Our group would be very much interested in hearing opinions from others who have children of school age.

A Group of Thornhillers

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