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Between Ourselves

By Archer Wallace
 A PANTHER PRAECES
 One of the most famous paintings in the world is "The Light of the World," painted by the English artist, Holman Hunt, which now hangs in St. Paul's Cathedral, London. In that picture we see Jesus standing at a door, and waiting patiently to be admitted. The look on his face is one of infinite gentleness and patience, and thousands of people have been deeply moved by Hunt's masterpiece.

The door looks old-fashioned and is covered with ivy as though not much in use. He bears in his hand the lamp of truth. He stands and knocks; the suggestion of the artist is that he has been knocking many times but without receiving any response. His eyes tell of love, his face beams with yearning. A little girl, accompanied by her mother, once saw the picture. As she took in the scene her sympathy was aroused, and she said to her mother, "Why doesn't he open the door and go in?" "Because," her mother answered, "the latch is on the inside and he can't go in unless those in the house open the door."

That little thing was one of the marks of a great painting. It is said that one of the Bible verses which was in the mind of Holman Hunt when he painted the picture was: "Behold I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him and will sup with him and he with me." (Revelations 3:20). But that door can only be opened from the inside; there is no other way to get in.

It is one of the strange things about life that no one can be compelled to do the right thing. They must decide for themselves. They only can open the latch.

We often wonder why God does not compel men and women to be good. If we stop and think for a moment we see that if people were compelled to do right there could be no virtue in it. Human beings would be no better than machines. We have the power to make our own decisions. There is always the possibility that they might be wrong but there is no reason why that should be. We have the power to open the door to the highest and the best.

This is surely one of the mysteries of life, that men can accept or reject the overtures of God's grace. Think how true this was of the earthly life of Jesus. "Ye will not come to me that ye might have life." "How often would I have gathered thy children together as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not." "Behold I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him and sup with him, and he with me." There is no such thing as moral compulsion. Even Jesus must stand at the heart's door and knock and wait until that door is opened from within.

There was a sense in which these people had already come to Jesus. They came to Him in such numbers that He could scarcely find time to eat. They crowded Him and crowded around. Yet these approaches were physical, and what He wanted was a surrender of heart and life. On one occasion when in the midst of a crowd, He surprised His disciples by asking, "Who touched me?" They replied with astonishment, "Thou seest the multitude thronging thee, and sayest thou, who touched me?" But Jesus looked around to see who had done that thing, for He knew there had been an approach which was not merely physical.

Our quotation today is by Tennyson: "Closer is He than breathing, nearer than hands or feet."

Dear Mister Editor

Hallowe'en Collecting For UNICEF
 Dear Mr. Editor:
 Some of our local children took part in a collection for UNICEF on Hallowe'en. Perhaps some of the parents are wondering why the collection wasn't done through the schools as in other communities. The suggestion was made at Powell Road Home and School meeting on October 24, and taking it for granted it would be a local project, 500 cups and tags were secured. When the Board of Trustees for School Area No. 1 Markham and Vaughan, was approached, they said school facilities could not be used because of a ruling that no collection or soliciting could be done by the local children.

I was one of the parents who agreed to this ruling, but I don't feel it has any bearing in this case as the children were going from house to house for their treats and just those who wanted to took the cups along. I am writing this in the hope that this situation will be cleared up before next Hallowe'en so that we can make a real contribution.

I now know what the Bible means "Be not weary of well doing."

I would like to say a very sincere thank you to all the children who so willingly took part. Even from this partial effort, the donations amounted to \$41.33.

Disgusted Parent

Urges Teach French In Public School

Dear Mr. Editor:
 I was very interested to note in a recent issue that Trustee Mrs. Margaret Southwell of the Richmond Hill Public School Board attended a workshop on teaching French in elementary school. It would appear that Mrs. Southwell has realized the importance of such education and the value of starting it early.

The present system of education leaves the teaching of an essential such as French far too late. A student entering high school has such a variety of new subjects to contend with that the study of this language becomes just another class. To the contrary, French is an essential part of Canadian education and not the "foreign language" it is so often called. So many are reluctant to recognize the fact that Canada is a bilingual country, yet closer examination shows that about the whole of the province of Quebec, plus parts of both Northern Ontario, and the Maritimes and areas of the West, have a French speaking population. The Federal Government at Ottawa also recognizes two official languages for debates.

By starting the basic French training in public school, Canadian students would have the years in High School to learn to use and appreciate Canada's other language, both through more fluent conversation and advanced literature. High school classes could then devote their time to the fine points of reading, writing and speaking the language, rather than enduring the present first two years of drudgery learning verb lists and conjugations. It is natural that children at the elementary level are more suited to the short simple sentences and stories, which are part of learning a language, than the teenagers of high school, who are beginning to express themselves. To a 15-year-old, I am sure that looking into the mysteries of higher mathematics and science, and advanced study of history and literature completely by-passes the frustration of toying over a detailed translation of "This was a dog, I have a cat." This type of work is left definitely too late, and wastes the high school student's potential for advanced learning.

For those who may share my views on the subject, I am sure it will be interesting to watch the progress of a teaching motion approving the teaching of French in Ontario elementary schools, passed by the Public School Trustees Association of Ontario, which is made up of such foresighted persons as Mrs. Southwell.

Thanking you,
 Donald Lenox,
 Elgin Mills

Hallowe'en Rowdiness

Dear Mr. Editor:
 In reference to Hallowe'en pranks:
 Will the boys and girls who go about damaging other people's property please bear in mind that the same people whom you abuse with such acts, are also taxpayers, a large proportion of taxes goes to pay for your education (the privilege of riding in buses, etc.) It would be a good idea too if the parents of these youngsters knew where they were on Hallowe'en night, and if they cannot confine their activities to good clean fun instead of going about destroying or damaging other people's property, then there is something the matter at home and the parents are to blame.
 Taxpayer.

Local Candidates Night

Dear Mr. Editor:
 In the past, it has been the custom of the Junior Chamber of Commerce to sponsor a "Get Out the Vote" drive in the Village. I understand that they sponsor a Candidates' Night as a part of this very worthwhile effort.

This year, our organization has announced its intention to sponsor a Candidates' Night to create an interest in municipal affairs within our membership. Our executive has already made preliminary arrangements for this night.

It is to be hoped that our announced intentions will in no way interfere with any plans which the Junior Chamber of Commerce may have made for sponsoring their own Candidates' Night this year. Although it may appear on the surface that it is unnecessary to have two such meetings in the Village, the fact must be considered that collectively more residents may have an opportunity to attend one of the meetings if given a choice of two dates.

We plan to invite any interested residents of the Village to our Candidates' Night, and in a true community spirit, I would like to see both organizations share the publicity of both meetings, and recommend to their respective membership that they attend one meeting or the other.

Yours truly,
 W. J. Haggart,
 President
 Richmond Acres Ratepayers Association

Evening Nominations

In a move to stimulate greater interest in municipal affairs, the Council of Whitchurch Township has approved the holding of nominations for municipal council in the evening this year. During past years it has been the custom to hold nominations during the afternoon. For a basically rural municipality this was certainly convenient as the meeting was always over in time to start chores. Recent years, however, have seen a large number of urban type residents move into these rural areas. With much of the present population going to work in the Toronto area every day, the matter of daytime nominations becomes a problem. For them, the continuance of afternoon nominations means that a large percentage of the

municipality's ratepayers are denied the opportunity of attending the annual meetings.

Whitchurch is to be congratulated on being one of the first of the area's rural municipalities to make this change. For some years the village of Richmond Hill has held evening nomination, but both Markham and Vaughan Township still stick to the traditional meeting despite periodic proposals to change the hour.

In making the change, Whitchurch officials felt that an evening meeting will afford ample opportunity for all residents to attend. They have expressed the hope that it will encourage increased interest in municipal elections.

Hallowe'en

The celebration of Hallowe'en in Canada has been the traditional time for high-jinks; it is a little when police departments extend a little more lenience, householders shell out with gifts of candy, and young and old alike dress up to their heart's content.

While few Hallowe'ens pass without their quota of toppled pool sheds, missing gates, a few old buggies on the streets and millions of soggy windows, even the most fun-loving have been a little concerned over acts of vandalism which occurred this year. In Markham Township, a school piano, the replacement value of which would amount to at least \$200., was completely smashed,

while the school itself was ransacked. At Altona, seventeen graves in the Mennonite cemetery were desecrated and the monuments toppled and broken.

This hardly seems in the spirit of good fun and the culprits may be sure that when police learn their identity, the traditional Hallowe'en leniency will not be considered in dealing with such acts.

When next Hallowe'en approaches, it is hoped that those bent on destruction will remember that while Hallowe'en is a time for fun and pranks, it is not a carte blanche for violence, vandalism and hooliganism.

Sports In Autumn

Take an autumn day with the leaves turning red — even when the leaves have withered and disappeared. Add a good rugby game (earlier call it baseball, later hockey) and the crowd of enthusiasts which make spectator sports their recreation and you will have a cross section which is pretty representative of the whole country.

Let those who will call it a waste of time, or decry the loss of more active participation. The fact remains that the rugby season, or any other specific sports season, gives a needle of enthusiasm to those who may be tired of sitting at home or following the more staid forms of recreation provided for this generation.

There comes a time when it is a good thing to let loose, to cheer a team to victory and to stand waving arms and being really enthusiastic about a win in which even the loser is not seriously hurt. Because there will be another football season.

It will be a wonderful day when eastern fans follow the Gray Cup finals across the provinces and through the majesty of the mountains to Vancouver where the Pacific bounds a city which is on its way toward being one of the largest ports in the world.

East and west, and in the middle, good clean sport will do a job of tying together the varied interests of a huge country as well as anything we can think of, and these autumn days are the most spectacular of all.

Thursday's Chuckle Editorial Comment

The lawyer thus illustrates the language of his craft: "If a man were to give another an orange, he would simply say: 'Have an orange.' But when the transaction is entrusted to a lawyer to be put in writing he adopts this form: 'I hereby give and convey to you, all and singular, my estate and interests, right, title, claim and advantages of and in said orange, together with all and all rights and advantages therein, with full power to bite, cut, suck and otherwise eat the same or give the same away with or without the rind, skin, juice, pulp or pips, anything hereinbefore or hereinafter or in any other deed or deeds, instrument or instruments of whatever nature or kind whatsoever to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.' And then another lawyer comes along and takes it away from you."

OPTIMISM
 "I got off a street car this morning and being in no hurry, began moralizing on the actions and probable character of three men who had alighted just ahead of me. The first one was even then halfway down the block and was going on with such rapid strides that he had already put a couple of hundred yards between himself and the next man. "There," thought I, "goes a success — a man who's bound to succeed in life." The second man was walking rather slowly and impressed me as one who would do fairly well, perhaps, in this world. But the last fellow was just dawdling along in the most shiftless sort of way. I very quickly set him down as a loafer.

"Just then another idea came to me. All three were ahead of ME."

SCARBORO: J. Mervyn Rainey of Unionville has been appointed manager of a new branch of the Canadian Bank of Commerce at Eglinton and Brimley Road.

AURORA: The Hart Manufacturing Company has announced that it plans to sponsor the Aurora Bears hockey team this year.

BETHANY: The 17th General Conference of the United Missionary Church was held here last week at the Bethany United Missionary Church.

BRADFORD: With the purchase of a new fire truck plus the retention of the old truck, the local brigade has an efficient fire-fighting unit. The two trucks carry a total of 1,150 gallons of water.

STOUFFVILLE: Tom Jennings has retired from the Bethesda and Stouffville Telephone Co., after more than 40 years service.



GRASSICK IN THE TORONTO TELEGRAM

The Wide Screen

by NORMAN G. BROWNE

Hollywood Notes: "Oedipus Rex" which was presented at the recent Stratford Festival, is to be made into a feature-length movie. Shooting is to start at the end of November in Toronto. "From Here to Eternity" which was released in August 1953, has earned 12 million dollars to date. It is to be reissued next year. Al Capp turns film actor this month when he leaves for Hollywood to star in a picture. While out there, he will check the leads for the film musical version of "Lil' Abner."

Periodically, a motion picture comes along whose title or theme song climbs into the hit parade brackets. About a year ago, everyone was humming, whistling or singing the song "Six Bridges to Cross" from the picture of the same name. It comes to the Richmond Theatre next Monday or Tuesday and is billed as Adult Entertainment.

I remember having mixed feelings after initially seeing this picture, for the simple reason that it is a strong dramatic picture with Tony Curtis in the lead. I think Tony Curtis is completely miscast in a strong dramatic lead role, possibly because I have seen him so often in light adventure roles and mentally type-cast him.

Basic to the picture is a fictionalized study of the famous Brinks robbery of many years ago. It starts with the early life of a teen-age juvenile delinquent and the policeman who first had an influence in his life. The picture profiles them both as they progress in life: the boy becomes a small time hood and then a big time operator, the cop becomes a sergeant of detectives. Their friendship, which starts early in their life continues right through the picture until the smash ending when the criminal dies in the policeman's arms after a blazing gun battle.

I'm sorry, but again I feel we have a miscast actor in MICKEY SPILLANE who stars in RING OF FEAR, which comes to the Richmond Theatre on November 16 and 17. The picture concerns the Clyde Beatty circus and a maniac who through some resentment starts sabotaging the

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 Richmond Hill, Ontario
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