



# The Liberal

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## Christmas 1955

Throughout the year, we are constantly reminded that this is an age of science and efficiency — an age of electronics, nuclear fission, calculating machines, jet propulsion and automation. In order to compete in our streamlined society, we try to keep our thinking objective and realistic, our emotions hidden and suppressed and our feelings in a state of "deep-freeze". On the surface, it appears that the material things in life have been over-emphasized to the point where planned economies, time studies and research programs are now what make the world go 'round.

However, about the middle of December, we permit our thinking to become a little less practical. We let our minds take short sorties into the unscientific past and we think of sleigh bells, candle light, kettles hanging in stone fireplaces, stage coaches and old English inns. Something in our subconscious seems to tell us Christmas was enjoyed more in days gone by, when life was simple and nobility of spirit was not obscured by a complex environment, when expediency was a lesser force in men's lives.

As Christmas draws nearer our thinking takes another tack. We begin to see people all around us exhibiting the human qualities that previously seemed to have vanished with the past, and a little reflection convinces us that these qualities have always been there — sometimes a little less obvious, but always apparent to those who took the trouble to look for them.

Thus, by the time Christmas arrives, we realize once again that human values remain unchanged. We are reminded of the personal rewards we can enjoy throughout the entire year by taking a genuine interest in the welfare of others and striving to be worthy of the confidence and trust of our fellow men.

## Safe Highways At Christmas

An appeal to "everybody to make this a safe as well as a Merry Christmas and New Year in Ontario", is made by Highways Minister, the Hon. James N. Allan, in a special pre-holiday safety message.

"Nearly always, the last ten days and nights of each year have been one of Ontario's worst periods for traffic accidents", Mr. Allan warns.

In this 10-day (and night) period in 1952, a total of 39 people were killed; in the same period in 1953 our traffic death toll mounted to 45. Last year, thanks to the safety efforts of many people and organizations, our death toll was cut in half. A total of 22 lives were lost in traffic accidents in the last ten days of the year.

"Despite that tragic loss of lives, last December's record of improvement in life-saving was encouraging. It shows that, enough effort by enough people will save lives and human suffering despite increasing traffic volume and accident possibilities.

"Now we need another all-out effort, supported by everybody.

### Presented With Plaque

J. E. Teetzel, who served as a member of the Richmond Hill Planning Board from its inception in 1952, until he moved out of the village this year, was honored last Wednesday with the presentation of a plaque.

The presentation was made at the Wesley Middleton testimonial dinner by Ross Scrimger, Chairman of the Planning Board. He paid tribute to the outstanding service rendered by Mr. Teetzel who served as member and chairman of the board. In expressing his thanks, Mr. Teetzel who now lives in Beaverton said it had been a great pleasure and privilege to have served the village.

### Police Bear Down

Police Chief Robert P. Robbins and his three-man staff have been bearing down on traffic offences in Richmond Hill during the past two weeks and report a number of charges issued against all-night parking, failing to stop at intersections, and speeding.

Fifty tickets were issued during the two week period for infractions of the all-night parking by-law, and 30 for failing to halt at stop streets. The number of tickets issued against speeders has not yet been determined. Local police are requesting that additional caution be taken by motorists during the holiday season.

### Motor Accident Sunday Morning

Ronald Cundy of Hunt Lane, Richvale, was taken to Toronto Western Hospital with minor injuries following a motor accident on Number 11 Highway just south of Bond Lake, early Sunday morning. Mr. Cundy had just reached the crest of the hill when he saw a car starting to pull out of a driveway. Applying the brakes, the car skidded 165 feet, hit a patch of ice, went up onto the shoulder of the road and turned over three or four times.

O. P. P. Constable Vince Cairo, who investigated the accident reports that charges are being considered but have not been laid. Damage to the car is estimated at over \$1,000.

### Convicted On Fraud Charge

At Magistrate's Court in Willowdale last Thursday, Bruce Dennis of Innisville and Robert Draper of Nashville were handed down sentences on a fraud charge. The pair were charged in connection with issuing a bad cheque in Nashville recently. They were apprehended at the time by Vaughan Township Police.

### MAN KILLED AS CAR HITS HYDRO POLE

Walter Carter, 23, of Winter Ave., Scarborough, was instantly killed early Sunday when his car slammed into a Hydro pole after travelling 174 feet in the ditch. Police said Carter was returning home alone when his car veered into the ditch on Kennedy Road, Markham Township, just north of Milliken. It collided with the Hydro pole then bounced into a cement culvert.

Police believe he fell asleep at the wheel, P. C. William Shearn of Markham township police is investigating.

SUTTON: In the new year, Council will consider a request by Police Chief Donner to allow angle parking on the west side of High Street and parallel parking on the east side.

## Dear Mister Editor

Think As We Progress

Dear Mr. Editor: Leadership is ever in demand. One prominent feature of our day is this way. "Look for some task which is a challenge, then go out and achieve it."

We have a task and a serious problem which confronts us, mentioned by our good citizen, Rev. Arthur Chote. Our christian heritage and our democratic institutions were brought about by God-fearing and liberty-loving men and women. They turned to the Bible for guidance and learned what their duties were and also what their rights were. The civilization which we now enjoy is their legacy to us.

Nations come in decay and decline, not so much from physical causes as from wrong choices, moral weaknesses and intellectual and spiritual poverty. The future of Canada depends not upon large income and an abundance of earthly possessions, but upon the ideals we cherish, the convictions we hold about life, duty and our eternal destiny. If we devote all our strength to building larger houses, developing material resources and making ourselves more comfortable, we remove the cement which holds the walls of our public in place. Material prosperity must be matched by intellectual growth and spiritual insight.

Ignorance of a law does not nullify the law. Our judgment is based on the law, as it is written, not on how we interpret it or how we think it should be. If we are found guilty we pay the penalty. Remember God has His laws too. One of which is written, "Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy."

It is nobody's business but our own how we react to this law. God has made us free moral agents, and has given us this privilege to choose. But remember too, privileges carry with them responsibilities. When a stop sign says stop, we are judged according to our reaction to the written law, not to what we think it should be. We have a great responsibility before us. Are we to give way to the modern trend or have we high ideals and convictions toward the decisions which are ours to make. Leadership is ever in demand. Let us not be carried away by the modern trend but rather let us give leadership to those who are looking to us for it, our children, who in turn will step into the shoes of leadership.

Whether you are aware of it or not, someone you least suspect is patterning their life after your example. Is it your child? It may be your best friend. What kind of leadership are you giving them? Is it one that will stand the test of time?

The future of Canada is in the making. Somebody's life is at stake in your example. Please be a good citizen. Cecil G. Black, Richmond Hill

## The Wide Screen

By Norman Brown

Coming to the Richmond Theatre next Monday and Tuesday is a very recent hit and one of the top comedy pictures of 1955. **THE PRIVATE WAR OF MAJOR BENSON** stars Charlton Heston in his first comedy role with Julie Adams in the feminine lead.

Heston plays the role of Major Barney Benson, a tough army career officer who dislikes what he considers the Army's kid-glove treatment of rookies and says so in a national magazine. The Army "banishes" him with an assignment as an R.O.T.C. Instructor at a religious military school for young boys.

At first Barney is such a hard task-master and unfeeling disciplinarian that the boys at the college come to hate him and get up a petition asking for his removal. Meanwhile, Barney has fallen in love with the resident physician (Julie Adams) and she sets about to make him a little softer and more humane.

In technicolor, this picture is heart-warming and humorous and makes an ideal Christmas treat for the whole family during the festive holiday season.

Coming Wednesday and Thursday, December 28 and 29, is a wonderful double feature bill of interest to the whole family. The first feature film is that classic Walt Disney production of **PINOCCHIO**; an old film but a classic that has lived in the hearts of millions ever since it was produced. Since it was last put into release, a whole new generation of children has come along to see and enjoy this picture for the first time. And all those who have seen it previously can recapture the thrill of this wonderful and touching feature-length cartoon.

As a companion feature to "Pinocchio", the Richmond Theatre is also presenting the feature length comedy picture **LOOK WHO'S LAUGHING**, the big picture with the big laughs. Starring in this terrific comedy is a conglomerate of all-time top comedians who do a smash job at making humor. Included in the picture are Fibber McGee and Molly, Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy and Lucille Ball.

## BETWEEN OURSELVES BY Archer Wallace

A school teacher told me that he asked his class to write out The Lord's Prayer. One little lad began — "Our Father, short in heaven". He had been reciting it that way for years.

A little girl walking with her mother, saw a parade of soldiers. She listened to her mother's explanation of war — she listened carefully then said: "Mother, some day there will be a war and nobody will go to it."

After the second World War Mathew Halton took his two children to see the sights of London on Christmas Eve. The lad was thrilled with the sight of animals in the zoo. The girl, a little older, said: "I thought the grandest thing was the thousands of presents being sent to the German children — our former enemies."

A boy was taken to Sunday school for the first time. He was greatly excited and said to his dad: "They have automobiles in heaven because we sang in one hymn: 'He will take me home on high'."

A lad living in Boston watched his father playing in the famous symphony orchestra. He thought it was wonderful and fifteen years later, he too was playing in the orchestra — but he played the leading violin.

Not so long ago six thousand high school students in New York City entered an essay contest. The subject they were asked to write on was: "The modern miracle I would like to see," and the award was a five hundred dollar savings bond.

The judges agreed that the essays were, in the main, quite good, and it was their regret that more than one could not

win the bond. Miracles the writers wanted to see made a very long list, and they differed greatly. Some wanted one thing and some another, according to their tastes and upbringing.

The fortunate winner was a seventeen-year-old student named Elliott Sprechman, who had suffered nearly all his life from infantile paralysis. For fifteen years he had seen other youngsters play games and he had watched them; baseball, hockey, swimming, football, running and dozens of other games. He couldn't play but he could dream of what he would like to be and do. He was a good student and well-liked by other boys. He said that if he couldn't play, at least he could root from the sidelines.

But writing essays was one thing he could do and so he entered the contest. Next, he had to decide what it was he would like to see happen more than anything else in the world. One would think it would be easy for him to decide, but it wasn't. Of course he would like to be well and strong, able to play football and other games but in his essay — which won the five hundred dollar prize — Elliott never once mentioned himself. He said: "The modern miracle I would like to see is the union of people everywhere in the world in a true brotherhood that will bring light and peace into the lives of all men throughout the world and for all time."

Well done, Elliott, you deserved that prize and we are glad you got it.

# The Richmond

Richmond Hill, Ontario

Telephone Turner 4-1213

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Directed by JERRY HOPPER • Screenplay by WILLIAM ROBERTS and RICHARD ALAN SIMMONS • Produced by HOWARD PINE

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