



The Liberal

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Remember Your Mailman

At the Christmas season many people like to remember those who through the year have given special and devoted service. This is a very nice Christmas custom, and if you have such giving in mind we suggest that near the top of your list should be the rural Mail Man.
 Every day in all kinds of weather, he brings your mail and oftentimes he has to come over roads almost impassable.
 The mail man is among our most devoted public servants. A little thank you at Christmas time will be appreciated.

"Dear Mr. Editor"

Comments on Doan School Meeting

Dear Mr. Editor:

Grave concern is being widely expressed over the lack of interest in public affairs everywhere. Quite obviously Markham Township is no exception. The Highland Park Ratepayers' Association had announced a public meeting for Thursday, November 29th, to hear representatives of the Township Council and of TSA No. 1 School Board attempt to clarify the thoroughly muddled situation with regard to, particularly, the Ross Doan School, as well as certain other important matters concerning the administration of public school education. Less than 40 turned up and at least this writer feels that if the several hundred absentees, in years to come, find themselves bogged down by unnecessarily heavy taxes and generally poor business administration in school affairs, they have no one to blame but themselves.

It is so much more regrettable since those who did turn up were treated to a three-hour display of what might best be described as mild fireworks. The discussion centred around the parts played by the several different authorities involved in capital expenditures for educational purposes and if questions and opinions from the floor are an indication of the feeling of the meeting, it must be admitted that the school trustees did not show to advantage.

With specific reference to the much-debated Ross Doan School, it was made clear that somebody had been guilty of grave error. But with Chairman W. Ladell maintaining stoutly that it was not his Board, the question is still open. There are not many choices; the Board, the Inspectors, or the Municipal Board. The latter, of course, erred in giving its original approval of a debenture issue but this was quickly remedied as soon as the OMB was made aware of the facts in the case.

The School Inspectors, it was alleged by Mr. Ladell, had neglected to acquaint the trustees with the requirements of the Public School Act on capital expenditures. Reeve A. H. LeMasurier vigorously refuted this plea of ignorance by pointing out that even if the members did not know the Act, they had long ago been notified by Markham Council that further debentures in the school area must have prior approval by the Council.

In the final event, the occasionally quite heated debate boiled down to the School Board's declared intention to go ahead with the project which, Mr. Ladell said, would be subject to a plebiscite when revised cost figures had been obtained. Negotiations are proceeding, he said, between the contractor and Mr. Downing on behalf of the Board, in order

to arrive at the new figures. What will happen of the ratepayers turn down the proposal was not made clear, nor why the negotiations were carried out by an employee rather than by the Board itself.

A lengthy discussion also took place about the possible dissolution of School Area No. 1 and forming of a new one, entirely within Markham Township. On this subject, the principal speaker was Mr. LeMasurier who felt very strongly that several major advantages would accrue to Markham from such a procedure. Planned development in Markham, he said, with an approximately equal distribution of new industries and housing, would not be subjected to the uncertainties which inevitably attach to Vaughan Township with its much smaller industrial potential.

Chairman of the meeting, Dr. A. Smith, in summing up, emphasized that there had at no time been any criticism intended or implied with regard to the quality of education in the area. But serious concern was still felt about the seemingly disproportionately high costs in which to change seemed in prospect.

Many of those present evidently felt that much of the present difficulty could have been avoided by closer liaison between the educational and municipal authorities. And equally strong was the impression that it takes something more than willingness to perform, properly and efficiently, the functions of a school trustee. It is, at best, a thankless job requiring qualities which in private business usually lead to success and it is a pity that it can never, under present conditions, attract a sufficient number of candidates who possess them.

Yours truly,
 ERIC AXELSON,
 15 Highland Park Blvd.,
 Highland Park.

Suggests Choral Group For Richmond Hill

Dear Mr. Editor:

At this season of the year it is a real pleasure to hear the familiar Christmas carols, and I wondered what has happened to the Richmond Hill Choral Group which I recall used to delight us with their singing.

I would suggest that such an organization is a real asset to any community and I would hope it might be revived. I am sure among the many who are now new residents of Richmond Hill there are many who would enjoy singing and who could make a real contribution to such an organization.

How about it, Mr. Editor? Do you suggest I insert an ad in the "Lost" column.

Music Lover
 NOTE: If anyone interested in the formation of such a group will leave their name with us we will pass it along to members of the former organization. (Ed.)

Birthday Of Our Saviour

As different as the clothes we wear are the ways in which people around the world traditionally celebrate Christmas. South Africans, for instance, take to the beaches to escape the summer heat, and eat a picnic lunch for their Christmas dinner. In the cities, Santa braves the sunny streets in his heavy robes and points the way to the elaborate department store toylands. For the natives of that land, Christmas is the beginning of a week-long carnival of singing, dancing and parading the streets with pipe and string bands that invite lilted hearts as well as dancing steps.

In the Netherlands, "Saint Nicolaas" Day is held on December 6. Old Nick himself, robed in ecclesiastical red and white garments — not the white trimmed red suit known to American and Canadian boys and girls — comes to town. His attendant is a young Moorish servant, "Zwarte Piet", who leads Nick's white horse and carries his bag full of presents. This is the time when kinsfolk gather for gay festivity with all the trimmings, and the traditional exchange of gifts.

In Greece, the Blessing of the Waters following Epiphany on January 6 is probably the most closely related event to Christmas. At Nauplia, the Archbishop throws a wooden cross into the water and the fishermen dive and struggle to possess it, for the one who does may visit all the houses in the village and levy a collection, which often brings in a large sum.

And in America too, feasts, hilarity and the usual exchange of gifts are the order of the day. A far cry from the quiet worship and solemn adoration of the shepherds when Jesus was born, is the noise, gaiety, and brilliance of the world's social whirl at Christmas.

Lest we forget, Christmas is the birthday of a Saviour who gave to mankind the greatest gift of all gifts — the gift of eternal life. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16).

Asked to write the ode for the jubilee year of Queen Victoria's reign, Rudyard Kipling composed the immortal poem "Lest We Forget". With dignity and power he exalted God instead of the jubilant occasion; he warned that unless Britain remembered God, her empire would some day crumble.

Lest we forget — and for the sake of our Canadian heritage — let us keep in mind that Christmas is the birthday of God's Son, who died for our sins, and rose that we might have eternal life by believing on His name.

Reeve Taylor Raps Bell Co. Re Sidewalks

Reeve W. J. Taylor and members of Richmond Hill Council were highly critical last Monday night of the construction activities of the Bell Telephone Company in the village. In recent weeks, the Bell Telephone has been laying underground cables in the village along the edge of the sidewalks on Yonge Street. Council members complained that the village sidewalks which are in excellent condition following the rebuilding of them by the Consumers Gas Company are now covered with mud inches deep in many instances.

Mr. Taylor cited a number of cases where the damage to the sidewalks has caused considerable inconvenience to the merchants of the village and he added that in many instances the repairs are makeshift cold-patch arrangements. The reeve said that he had spoken to the contractors and Bell representatives on several occasions regarding the conditions but without avail. It was finally decided to have the village solicitor contact the Bell Telephone Co. to have the matter straightened and Reeve Taylor promised that in the meantime he would attempt to contact an official of the company to clear the matter.

BRADFORD: The campaign for artificial ice is nearly over the top.

LAST CHANCE FOR '56 FORD

DEMONSTRATORS

SAVE UP TO \$1162.00

SAVE \$1162

'56 FORD FAIRLANE 2 DR.
 Automatic, Radio, W/W Tires

SAVE \$820

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 Heater, Winterized, Undercoat

SAVE \$870

'56 FORD CUSTOM SEDAN
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THESE CARS MUST BE SOLD

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'56 FORD FAIRLANE 2 DR.

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BRAND NEW

ALL CARS CARRY 1 YR. GUARANTEE BACKED BY
 UNIVERSAL AUTO BONDERS

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TORONTO'S OLDEST SUBURBAN FORD DEALER

Christmas Spirit Prevalent In Pleasantville Area

At an earlier meeting of the Pleasantville Gardens Ratepayers' Association, it was unanimously voted on to carry out some form of Christmas decoration in the

Horticultural Christmas Show

The Richmond Hill Horticultural Society held its Annual Christmas Show on December 13th when everyone present joined voices in the singing of Carols under the direction of Mrs. G. K. Martin. Two solos were given by Mrs. R. H. Lemon, the Polish Carol "Holy, Holy, and The Gift." The Junior Choir of St. Mary's Anglican Church composed of 25 young people ranging in age from 7 to 15 performed for the first time in a public hall and earned high praise for their splendid singing. The Christmas Message was delivered by the Reverend C. G. Higginson of the United Church. The President, Mrs. H. H. MacKay demonstrated the making of a Cookie Tree and a jar of jumping snowballs. Prize winners for the Christmas decorations were the four persons who put in entries, namely: Mrs. Ernst Redelmeier, Mrs. R. O. Kerslake, Billy Beattie and Mrs. Victor McMullen. The big plump turkey was won by Mr. S. G. Gurney. The Judge of the Show was Mrs. Roland Christopher of North York Horticultural Society. The evening was brought to a close with refreshments of Christmas cake and coffee.

subdivision. Under the able leadership of James Long, a committee was formed to canvass the subdivision for donations. The response from the residents enabled the committee to collect 97% of their objective.

Twelve trees were quickly erected throughout the subdivision and each decorated with a string of 50 lights. The residents were also encouraged to add some exterior decoration to their homes and the majority co-operated to create a very colourful and cheery scene. A great deal of effort and time was spent by some residents on the decorations and the home of Ed Lane on Leisure Lane is an outstanding example. A large Christmas tree erected by Mr. Lane is lighted by floodlights which colours changing every few minutes.

Further plans for next year will create another Kingsway in Richmond Hill. The committee and residents are to be congratulated for their splendid effort. The residents who were active on the committee are Jim Long, Dave McCann, Munroe Ashkanase, Peter Whittall, Bill Dawson, Gar Leat, Sid Link, Trevor Pierce, Don Scott, Sid Beaumont, Doug Paton, Al Harley and many others who volunteered their services in erecting the trees. The services of Peter Whittall were greatly appreciated by many residents for his assistance and advice in regard to the decorations.

"The Liberal" can recommend a drive through Pleasantville to see this splendid community effort.

O. H. A.

HOCKEY

FRIDAY

DEC. 21

8.30 p.m.

AURORA "BELAIRS"

vs.

RICHMOND HILL DIAMONDS

Richmond Hill Arena

The **Richmond** Theatre
 Richmond Hill, Ontario
 Telephone TURNER 4-1212
 FREE PARKING REAR OF THEATRE
 Show Times 7 and 9 p.m.
 Continuous from 6 p.m. Saturdays and Holidays

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, DEC. 21, 22

AWESOME!
 — and then some!
 spewing flames that scorch the earth!
It's Alive!
GODZILLA
 KING OF THE MONSTERS!
 INCREDIBLE, UNSTOPPABLE TITAN OF TERROR!
 RAYMOND BURR

SPECIAL MATINEE
 Saturday, December 22
 "ROBIN HOOD"

MON., TUES., WED., DEC., 24, 25, 26

Walt Disney's **Lady and the Tramp**
 COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
 THE FIRST Feature in CINEMASCOPE
 Another First Walt Disney's Switzerland
 COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
 Features and Music by CINEMASCOPE

Jack the scotty says:
 "Aye, she was from the leach and license set and he would wear no man's collar-r-r-r!"
 Worldly wise Dog says:
 "Imagine a nice little lady like her having to spend a night in the pound because of a rover like him!"

Please Note: One Show Only
 Christmas Day, December 25
 at 7.30 p.m.
 Doors open at 7 p.m.
 Holiday Matinee, Wednesday 2 p.m.
 Continuous Wednesday, Dec. 26, 7 p.m.

THURS., FRI., DECEMBER 27, 28

Fought single handed through the lips Wu... was in store.
 Till the Crocks was whipped as peace... this ricky dose.
 As while he was handling...
 Made himself a legend for...
 Dry, Dry Crockett...
 King of the wild frontier!
WALT DISNEY'S DAVY CROCKETT
 KING OF THE WILD FRONTIER!
 COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
 WIDE SCREEN
 FESS PARKER-BUDDY EBSEN

Matinees Thurs., Fri., 2 p.m.