

An Independent Weekly: Established 1878

(IRCULATIONS

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Worthy Experiment

The snow and frost of our Canadian winters can make even the strongest of us wish for a quick return of the summer heat we complained of a few months ago. But, is there one of us who would feel right if we did not have that blanket of cold to warm our hearts during the Christmas season?

One of the unfortunate happenings of the yuletide is that the universal warmth it releases in man dies with the Christmas trees we toss in the backyard soon after we finish wishing friends and strangers the very best for the coming season. We sometimes wonder, if we, as people, could steel ourselves to experiment for only one year and carry into the year ahead the feelings of warmth, comradeship and spirit of Christmas prevailing everywhere, if we would have developed a broader, more tolerant approach to the wishes and welfare of people everywhere. Dare we experiment for a better world or

shall we continue to store the CHRISTmas spirit with the tinsel and good wishes - carefully packed so that it and the other delicate decorations will not be lost - until next Xmas?

What could we lose if we dared to experiment? (We would have experienced a wonderful feeling of warmth for a whole year - could we stand that?) If our efforts were successful, we would have developed peace on and removed selfishness from the local, national and international scene. If, on the other hand, our year's experiment was a failure, what would we have lost other than a year from our lives - and will we miss that after we are dead?

Maybe we are idealistic dreamers. And yet, maybe someday in the evolution of human development future generations may live in a continuing rebirth of the Christmas spirit as their way of life. But, WHY WAIT?

Need Assessment Balance

In a recent report prepared by a staff member of the Department of Political Economy of the University of Toronto the ill-balance of residential assessment over industrial in Scarboro township has been termed irreparable damage.

The report deals with the frenzied land development and speculation which made Scarboro a "new bonanza". Professor Clark who is a professor of Sociology at the University has blamed the municipal government itself for exploiting the situation basically by not standing in the way of any development which might take place.

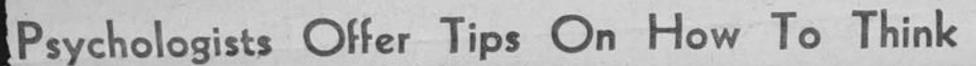
However, one of the saving graces of the whole situation, the report notes, is the growing awareness on the part of the township government which brings hope that the mistakes of the past may be corrected.

While the municipalities in the Richmond Hill district have not reached such disastrous straits, there is still an ncreasing need for "awareness" on the bart of our municipal government offic-

ials to see that expansion is carefully regulated. The ill-balanced assessment referred to in the report shows that Scarboro is faced with a residential assessment today of 75.1 per cent.

The lack of industrial assessment in this area is causing alarm in municipal circles and it formed one of the main planks in the campaign platforms of a number of election candidates in the area. The pinch of heavy residential development not balanced by adequate industrial assessment is making itself apparent and it is taking all the ingenuity of municipal officials to keep things on an even keel.

We in this district have been fortunate that the situation has not become as desperate as it has in Scarboro, however, municipalities must be constantly on their guard now against a similar dangerous upsurge in our development. Municipalities should strive to retain a proportionate relationship between these two assessments as an insurance against disastrous results of poor planning.



Tips on ways to get more power out of your brain cells are offered by Morton M. Hunt in an article, "How to Overcome Mental Blocks," appearing in

January Reader's Digest. Psychologists have found that mental blocks may be set up by evenslight apprehension, pressure (as in examinations), or too much eagerness to succeed (as in applying for a job). Preconceptions - "fixed ideas" about certain problems - may make it difficult to see even simple solutions.

Masquerading as "experience", such preconceptions so seriously block creative thinking that organizations like the Bell Laboratories have devised techniques to counter this. When a group of scientists attack a project, one

man new to the problem is placed with His fresh approach and lack of ade solution drawn from past ce shakes up the group's thinking and often results in new and better

Psychologists suggest that you, when stymied by a problem, talk it over with people with backgrounds and training different from yours. They may offer a fresh viewpoint.

An especially successful technique for countering mental blocks is the "brainstorm" session — a conference where 1) anything goes, 2) the wilder the ideas the better and 3) nobody is allowed to criticize. Later, the brainstormers go over ideas critically, and expand and refine the best ones.

Most problems are less difficult than they seem, and deserve less attention than they get. The author suggests jumping into the middle of the problem and tackling it from any angle. "Once you jump", he declares, "the problem doesn't exist."



"Dear Mr. Editor"

Deplores Local Dog Situation about one Greek for every two

Dear Mr. Editor: pails and destroy evergreens, but they add to this an incessant barking all day long and into the night, that is most harrowing and hard on the nerves, to say nothing of its sleep destroying propensities. Generally one yapper starts the serenade for some insignificant reason and then half a dozen others, ranging from high treble to deep bass, join in the chorus and the noise is deafening. The owners don't bother to try and stop them.

Taylor's suggestion of a stiff license fee will be put into effect. Let dog lovers who think more of their dogs than they do of their responsibilities to their fellow citizens (which fellow citizens, by the way, constitute the large majority of taxpayers) pay for their dog hobby in hard cash and then see how quickly they will discard their canine idiosyncrasies and come down to earth.

As far as Richmond Hill bylaws are concerned Disgusted Citizen had better forget about them. At present they seem to be either non-existent or nonenforceable. Unless Mayor Neal shows more backbone and a stronger hand than did some of his predecessors on Council, the police will still have a lot of weak spots in their armor of protective usefulness. "Don Quixote"

Raps Bell Service

Dear Mr. Editor: I am sure that there are many of your readers in the district who will agree with me that the Bell Telephone Public Relations Department has really "goofed" this time. It would be very interesting to know the theory behind publishing a new telephone directory and then about two weeks later changing half the telephone numbers in the area.

To add to the confusion, there are a number of business and private telephones not listed in the directory. It is understandable that telephones installed just before publication date could not possibly be included in the new directory and still allow the publishers time to do their work, but in the course of recent weeks, I have tried to reach several district business houses and private homes which have had telephones for a number of months and find no listing for them. I am sure this must be very inconvenient for them as well as for their customers and friends. These facts, combined with the problem of playing "heads or tails" when deciding whether to look for numbers in the Langstaff-Richvale region in the Newmarket directory of the Toronto Suburban-North book, have considerably detracted from the convenience of telephone ser-

The rapid growth of the district no doubt causes a certain amount of pressure on telephone services, but it is to be hoped that further expansion and changes in the local telephone service will be a little better timed with the publication of the directories.

> Yours truly, Telephone Subscriber

Turkey - the Key to the Middle East

Dear Mr. Editor: After the war with Russia in 1877 Turkey was reduced in size by having to give up some of her domains to the surrounding countries of Bulgaria, Roumania, Serbia, Montenegro, etc. Britain, in return for promising to defend Turkey's possessions in Asia, was given the right to occupy and administer Cyprus. How Greece ever came to have any claim on this island is beyond me. Of course, there are many Greeks on Cyprus and there are also many in Turkey, the population of which is a heterogenous aggregation of Turks, Greeks, Slavs, Roumanians, Albanians and Franks, with

Turks. Turkey's army in the Please let me add my empha- Russian war was about 750,000 sis to Disgusted Citizen's re- men, well armed. She had a marks about the dog nuisance. pretty good navy. Both army In my section of this growing and navy were much reduced metropolis they not only run at after this war because of the large, play havoc with garbage huge debts accumulated at this time. She was able to remain an independent nation only by the help of the European powers who have always recognized her importance as a buffer 'state between Russia, Southeast Asia and Africa. By retaining control of the Dardenelles, she keeps Russia from dominating the Mediterranean where she could do much damage to the fleets of the western powers by using her submarines based in the Black

Tito has lulled the Western I certainly hope that Reeve Powers into the belief that he is a greater friend to them than he is to Russia, and has built up his supplies and military power with their help, until today no one knows just how powerful he is. To my mind he is another Hitler, and with the help of Russian armies he might easily surprise Turkey into a quick surrender.

About the only thing that gives him pause is the strong position of Great Britain on Cyprus and Malta, along with the presence of English, French and U. S. fleets in the Mediterr-

I believe Tito will make his bid as soon as one or all of these powers withdraw, and if he can gain control of the Dardenelles, the situation becomes dark indeed for the West.

When Dulles makes the bald statement that the U.S. intends to shoot first and talk afterwards, he is on he right road. I believe that Eden's knowledge of these conditions, concerning Turkey, was the reason he attacked Egypt and where the East was given a much needed lesson as to the vitality of the British Lion. Wake up America!

E. P. Roblin Sr., Richmond Hill

Screen Play by

ERNEST K. GANN

Thank You Dear Mr. Editor:

I noticed an item in last week's issue re the drawing power of advertising in your

I want to congratulate you on the excellence of your weekly paper and its service to the community. I a ma new resident here and I have found it very useful and helpful. The messages from the merchants have been helpful to us as new residents in doing our shopping and I have used your classifieds with great success. I have been able to arrange transportation, secure some needed articles and as well sell some unused articles of furniture and turn them into needed cash.

Thank you, Mr. Editor, I am glad my new home community is served so well by a local paper. It is a new experience for many of us who used to live in the big city.

March of Dimes Dear Mr. Editor:

For the past five years, this Foundation has been engaged in the relief of suffering caused by Poliomyelitis.

Something new is being added. Starting as soon as possible, we expect to be accepting cases, in addition to poliomyelitics, of persons disabled by other diseases or accident who need to be rehabilitated.

Details of the new program are being worked out by a special committee of our Medical Advisory Committee, and will be sent to you for publication within the next week or ten

During January, our annual March of Dimes appeal for funds will be carried out. In view of our added responsibilities, we request your co-operation in helping us to make this the biggest March of Dimes campaign in our five-year his-

Thanking you for your help in the past in outlining our program to the people of your community, we remain,

Yours sincerely, W. Denis Whitaker, President,

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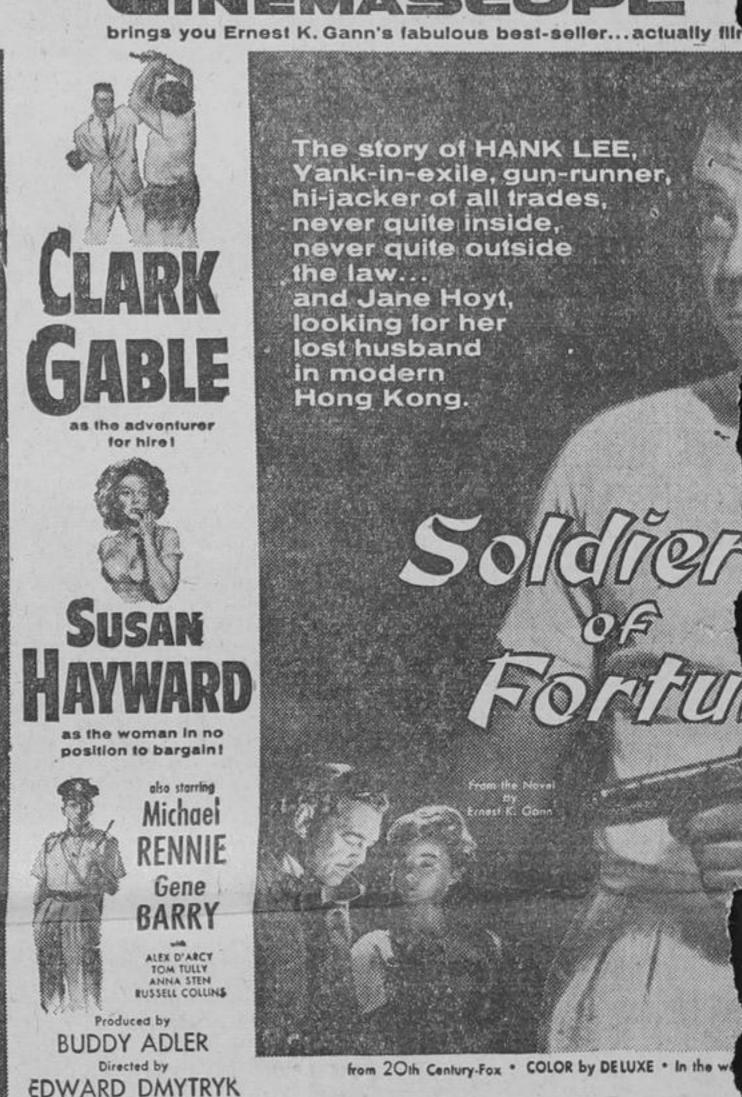
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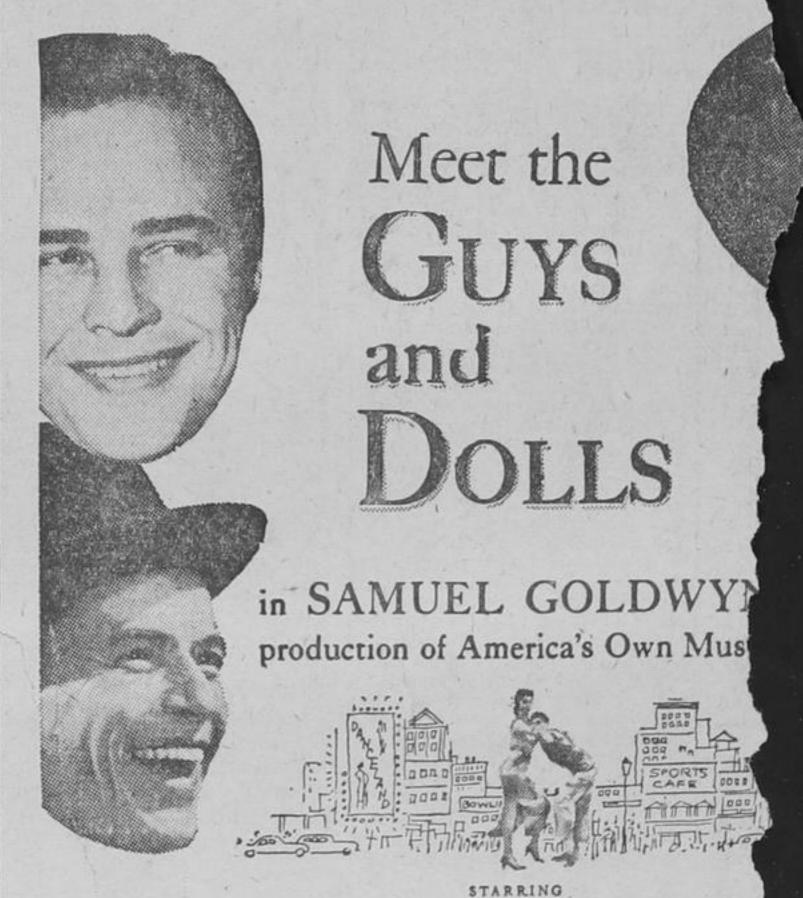
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THE IRON GATES

At the beginning of a new year, we know that often we shall meet situations which harass and distress us; we ought to know that much of he worry is futile and unnecessary. In the Book of Acts (Chapter 12) there is an account of Peter's deliverance from prison by the assistance of an angel. With a heart full of fear and misgiving the Apostle passed through the first and second gate and then approached the iron gate. Here is the Scriptural account of what happened: "They came upon the iron gate that leadeth unto the city which opened to them of its own accord and they went out and passed on through one street."

There are hundreds of books written about the utter futility of worry and thousands of sermons have been preached on the subject; the sad truth is that many of those who write the books or preach the sermons often find it hard to take their own advice. That doesn't mean the advice is futile; it does indicate how much harder it is to practice than to preach. Not only is it useless but it is dangerous. It unfits us to meet the very experience we dread. I for him in more ways than one. burden with today's strength. As the day lrew near, he beand soon after the written exam brated the sixtieth anniversary

began, he was taken ill; had to leave the room and, of course, was not allowed to return. It was a perfect example of how

worry saps the strength. We often say that some are born worriers. It is true that there are men and women who have that tendency. Yet in their better moods these people laugh at themselves. They know from experience what they have previously suffered from scarecrows and so hope begins to glimmer. One of the loveliest poems I know on this subject is by Karle Wilson Baker;

"I love the friendly faces of old SOFFOWS: 1 have no secrets that they do

not know. They are so old I think they have forgotten What bitter words were spoken

long ago.

I hate the cold stern faces of tory. In spite of all the talk of new sorrows me all alone. I should be braver if I could

How different the older ones

have grown."

We must learn to live one day at a time; otherwise we once knew a student in England shall have no peace of mind. It who had to face a difficult ex- is certain that we cannot carry amination. It was a critical one today's burden and tomorrow's Newspapers told recently of came more and more nervous an old couple who happily cele-

of their wedding. Supposing on the morning of their marriage day they had been shown a list of all the troubles that lay ahead of them, it isn't likely they would have the courage to go on with it. But the trials came one at a time and they were given strength to meet hem all. Jesus taught us to say: "Give us this day our daily bread." Dr. Archibald Alexander, a Scottish preacher, tells this story. The railway into Edinburgh

from the east goes through a long tunnel just before coming into the city. Now, there was a certain old lady, who lived in the country, who had a great dread of this long, dark tunnel, and so her friends laughed at her and tried to tease her out of it. She always used to get out at Abbeyhill, before the tunnel, and go into town by car. One day, when the train reached Abbeyhill, she was sleeping, and her friends did not wake her. So she passed through the tunnel she so much feared, in her sleep, and never knew it, and when she opened her eyes

she was in the midst of the city. At this season millions pass on the wish: 'A Happy New Year.' I like to hear it even if it does become a little perfuncwar and rumors of war there is Who stand and watch and catch more good will in the world than ever; more desire to understand each other and bear one another's burdens. To all who read this I say: "A Happy New Year and God Bless You."

> Our quotation today is by Archdeacon Farrar:

"We must learn to read the future by the past."