



# The Liberal



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## To Study Community Problems

Recently the Teachers' College Department of Curriculum and Teaching in the United States set up a research project at Columbia University's Teachers' College, aimed at identifying and alleviating some of the social and educational problems confronting changing suburban communities. The project will try to determine how teachers and pupils in suburban areas, which have been affected by a heavy influx of former city residents, can be aided in adjusting rather quickly from city ways to suburban living.

Results of the preliminary study (the project will cover a five year period) will point up the issues requiring extended and more critical examination, such as unfamiliar teaching practices and materials used.

The second phase of the study will involve making a case study of one suburban community that has had a recent and large influx of new residents from the city. Final objective of the project will be to develop ways to eliminate or lessen tensions and other problems found in suburban schools through the schools' instructional programs.

Pertaining to the preliminary study, Richmond Hill is fortunate in the fact that such a situation does not exist here, since the town school population is on a similar scale with large city schools and instruction and the system of education applied in our schools is along the same line adopted by metropolitan schools. "Children coming from rural schools to Richmond Hill schools adjust quite satisfactorily, as do children from city schools", Mr. Duard Rose, Supervising Principal of the town's public schools, "but children moving from Richmond Hill to rural schools would have a certain amount of adjustment, since rural schoolrooms have more than one grade in the same classroom. The same thing applies to teachers. They, as well as the pupils who go from urban to rural school systems have a great deal of adjustment."

Professor Alice M. Miel, who with Luther W. Pfluger, is in charge of the preliminary research at the Columbia

college, observed that, "the school curriculum in a suburban school may seem inadequate to children and parents from the city, and the issue of traditional versus modern education may become heightened". On the other hand she points out, "older suburban residents, whose children are finished with school, often protest high tax rates to build more schools for incoming children."

Newcomers to smaller communities, the report adds, often find stronger citizen interest in the suburban schools and wonder how they will fit in.

How familiar the theme of this project sounds, doesn't it?

When we were younger — and lived in the city — we experienced the same "adjustment" when we moved from Balmy Beach to downtown Toronto. Everyone (unless he stays "put" and never emerges from his own small circle of friends or neighbourhood) has to learn to "adjust" to unfamiliar surroundings. We feel that too much stress is put on "difficult adjustments" and that perhaps we as parents are trying too hard to make life for our offspring a bed of roses — without any thorns to make it interesting.

We do not advocate that one overlook the natural aversion even small children experience in being uprooted from familiar friends and surroundings and set down in a new environment "miles away from city life, with unpaved streets and unfinished roads" — but we feel that we should assess the facts to the full before we call our adjustment to the new way of life a "problem".

Suburban and rural living is different from that of city life — and it has many wonderful and rewarding phases too numerous to mention.

Where but in the quieter stream of a small but growing community can one find oneself — and one's capabilities — so fresh and new? As for the children — in a growing community they put down their roots and blossom into manhood and womanhood, secure in the knowledge that they know "everyone on the street" and the street next to theirs, and finally — the whole town is "home".

## Help The Blind

What would you do if you lost your eye sight tomorrow?

Two thousand people in Canada found the answer last year, and 2,000 more will be searching for the answer this year.

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind is providing the answer for all blind Canadians regardless of age, race, or creed.

The extensive rehabilitation program established by The Canadian National Institute for the Blind includes: home teaching, navigation training, employment, counselling, vocational guidance, guidance and instruction to parents of pre-school blind children.

Through our Prevention of Blindness Department 1,370 persons in Ontario with serious eye problems have been helped. Many of these people would have been blind today if The Canadian National Institute for the Blind had not taken an interest in them.

Can these services be bought? No! The facilities are available free of charge to all those needing assistance. Such a rehabilitation program is costly and only through your contributions can The Canadian National Institute for the Blind maintain and improve its service program.

For hope tomorrow give today when your canvasser calls. Please give generously. The campaign in the Richmond Hill area is being conducted under the leadership of Mrs. Alan White.

## Fatal Car Accidents Decline

The number and severity of fatal motor vehicle accidents in Ontario decreased during the first quarter of 1953, Hon. James N. Allan, Minister of Transport, announced recently. In the first three months of this year there was a total of 191 fatal accidents which caused the death of 213 people. Last year in the same period, 212 accidents fatally injured 251, a decrease of 10 per cent in the number of fatal accidents and 15 per cent in the number of people killed.

March showed the best improvement with a reduction from 78 fatal accidents and 98 persons killed in 1952, to 67 accidents and 72 fatalities this year, decreases of 14.1 per cent and 26.6 per cent respectively.

There were 56 fatal accidents causing 64 fatalities in February of this year, compared with 66 accidents and 77 fatalities in the same month of 1952, a decrease of 15.2 per cent in fatal ac-

cidents and 16.9 per cent in the number of fatally injured.

The number of fatal accidents was the same in January this year as it was last, when 68 occurred. In January 1952 these accidents caused 76 deaths, while this year the same number resulted in 77 fatalities.

Mr. Allan expressed the hope that this improvement in the traffic accident picture was the result of an increasing awareness amongst drivers and pedestrians of the part they must play as individuals in avoiding and preventing accidents.

If this is in fact the case, he pointed out, there is good reason to believe that as efforts are expanded to persuade all who walk and drive to do so with thoughtful care, still further improvement in the traffic accident situation can be expected.

## Over Hill, Over Dale

by Cicely Thomson

Last week's large attendance at the Richmond Hill High School to see the film "Stigma" and to hear Mr. Outerbridge and Dr. Griffin's talk could be some indication of the awakening interest that our communities are showing in Mental Health problems.

It so happened that at a meeting the evening before I had heard Mr. Outerbridge speak. This was a much smaller group where the dynamic effect of his talk on the needs of the county would be more apparent. At the high school a board was elected with members from the various parts of the county, Schomberg, Sutton, Stouffville, Richmond Hill, Newmarket, Maple and Aurora. Since that time they have had a meeting at which Mrs. John Martin of Maple was elected as chairman and during the summer months a great deal of work will be going on behind the scenes.

If it is only the cost to the taxpayer we think of when we hear that nearly half the hospital beds in Canada are filled by mental patients we are shocked. . . if we think in terms of human living and families we are urged to some kind of action. . . especially when a man like Dr. Griffin tells us that by "First Aid Post" action this number can be drastically reduced.

I for one feel pretty helpless when I am told that I can do something to help this situation. No matter how good my intentions, there is little I can do on my own. But when I hear that the beginnings of a Mental Health Association are being made in York County, then there is one thing I can do! As a first step I can join that association.

As there are somewhere in the neighborhood of 90,000 people in York County the probable long-term goal of the association will be to set up a mental health clinic for the county. . . but that is nothing I can do anything about just now.

However, one thing we did hear of at both meetings were the "Half-Way Houses" in the county where cured mental patients are living until they can return fully to their former lives. . . many have no homes they can go back to. . . it can be a problem to find a job. . . many would be returning to such unfavorable environments that it is better they start new lives. Here is a project that is within the scope of well-meaning laymen. We can visit in these homes and be the first friends for these people who have been ill. We can make their lives brighter and fuller by taking them reading materials or records. . . by talking. . . by accompanying them on shopping expeditions, in many little ways to show them that they needn't be lonely any more.

Mr. Outerbridge told me that he hoped there would be educational programs for us laymen of the association to help us in our visiting. We are going to have to learn to behave normally if a visiting program were to start in the hospital in Aurora as one of the services of the new association.

And of course we can help with the fund raising program that will be needed for research. As well as local research to find out the local problems and how they are being met there will be the all-important laboratory research on a national scale that will combat the mental diseases themselves, may prevent them and will be of untold value to all of us.

## New Breed Cattle At Fair May 24th

An added feature of Richmond Hill Spring Fair which will be held Saturday, May 24th will be a showing of Charolais cattle. The Charolais are a breed native of France and very rare in this country. There are only about 2500 in North America and only a few in Canada. They are a white-straw color, longer backed than ordinary breeds and excellent for beef production. Fat on the animals is marbled through the meat and therefore there is no waste fat. This makes their beef particularly popular with folks who dislike fat meat.

Murray A. Little of Markham Township who will exhibit this new beef breed at the Fair imported his stock from Texas. He now has about twenty head.

## Church Spires Need Repairs

The four spires on top of the tower of Richmond Hill Presbyterian Church have been since 1880 a local landmark. However the passing years have taken their toll and they may disappear.

An announcement last Sunday by A. E. Tyson, Chairman of the Board of Management appealed for funds for their repair. The job of putting the spires in good repair is an expensive one and the Management Board has to decide between the complete renovation of the tower or cutting the tower by some twenty feet. The latter of course is much less expensive, but there is a good deal of feeling that the landmark of the church spires should be retained.

## Investigate Crash Find 2 Culprits

An attempt to rob the safe at Keith's Seeds, Thornhill, Sunday night was frustrated and nothing was stolen from the store. Vaughan township police patrolling the area discovered the break-in but the culprits had taken flight earlier.

On Tuesday of last week Vaughan township police apprehended two Aurora youths, aged 13 and 16 after they had stolen a car from a Wellington Street garage, gone for a ride and rolled the auto over in a mad dash down the highway south of Maple. Investigating the accident, P.C. Ted Green of the Vaughan police department discovered it was a car stolen earlier in the day from the garage of Ivan Dadson, Aurora. Mr. Dadson had left the keys in the car and was away at work when the car was stolen.

The 16 year old youth, who was treated at Branson hospital for cuts and bruises was arraigned in Newmarket court and the 13 year old, who was uninjured but shaken up, appeared in Juvenile court this week.

## R.M. Smith Is New Assistant To The Agricultural Rep.

It has been announced by the Hon. W. A. Goodfellow, Minister of Agriculture, that Raymond M. Smith, of Howick, Que., has been appointed Assistant Agricultural Representative for York County, to succeed E. K. Pearson, who was promoted to Agricultural Rep. for Dundas County, on May 1st. Mr. Smith was a member of this year's graduating class at Macdonald Agricultural College where he specialised in livestock and economics.

According to W. M. Cockburn, Agricultural Rep. for York, Mr. Smith came up through 4-H Clubs in that good livestock and general farming county of Chateauguay, about 40 miles south east of Montreal. The members of the Agricultural Representative Service toured this English speaking district a couple of years ago when their conference was at Kamptville Agricultural School. Mr. Smith will be reporting for duty on May 20th.

## "Dear Mr. Editor"

Deplores Cut In Mail Service

Dear Mr. Editor: I have been in the habit of posting letters in the evening in our local drop box and now learn through the local press that they are not leaving Richmond Hill until the following evening. No notice of this has appeared on the boxes. What exactly is the reason for curtailing our services after fifty years? It seems to me that our services should be increasing concurrent with our rapid growth.

It is good to see that our Town Council acted immediately upon learning of our reduction in postal services and I hope their efforts will soon restore our postal despatches to two a day with a request for three despatches in the very near future.

Yours truly, M. B.

CIVIS

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Regrets Cut In Mail Service

Dear Mr. Editor: Air Mail has greatly speeded up mail communication in our land and to countries overseas. A letter mailed in Toronto is delivered in London within forty eight hours.

The purpose of this letter is to express regret that it takes half this time for a letter to leave Richmond Hill Post Office. Under present practice you can send a letter from Toronto to London in less time than it takes to deliver a letter by mail from Richmond Hill to Elgin Mills.

Most citizens believe that the idea for this beer and liquor outlet originated in Beverley Acres because the taxpayers there wanted to be able to purchase their beer close at hand. But the idea first germinated in the brewers' offices, as they saw Richmond Hill as a likely spot to increase their profits.

But the vital question that really concerns us is how will it affect us, the citizens, individually. The first place will be in the pocket book, for in spite of the

fact that many businessmen feel it will bring more dollars to town, the proven fact is that for every \$1 spent on beer and alcohol in Ontario, it cost you the readers of this letter, exactly \$5.70 to clear up the trouble that liquor causes in traffic accidents, in broken homes, in increased police protection, etc. You pay this whether you are a non-drinker, whether you have the occasional drink or whether you drink regularly, so all of us are concerned whether we like it or not. From the brewers' side, of course, you will not hear this. At the end of their fiscal year they will be able to report another big increase in profits, though wishing they could have made more, but hoping that next year will be better. But they will not mention that one in every eleven of our citizens who take the occasional drink here in Richmond Hill become an alcoholic, or that some of our children were injured or killed by drunken drivers, or that the value of some citizen's property declined, or that some families had to give up their homes, the money for payments showing up on the brewers' balance sheet.

Many people will say, but it's only a small outlet, but experience has proven time and again, that this is the thin end of the wedge, first one outlet, then another nearer the highway and then "now that everyone's for it" let's do it properly and have a beer parlour. For this vote is not just for one outlet, if we say "yes" the brewers are free according to law to put up several liquor and beer outlets without consulting us any further.

Fortunately every citizen of voting age still has the opportunity of registering his feeling for or against on this issue. If you feel that the town has done fairly well for itself without beer and liquor outlets, that people who drink are a hazard on the highway and that the cost of living is high enough, then use your vote intelligently and wisely. Remember your vote will be the one that counts.

James J. Brown, Bridgeford St.

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**The Richmond THEATRE**  
 Telephone TURNER 4-1113  
**FREE PARKING REAR OF THEATRE**  
 Show Times 7 and 9 p.m.  
 Continuous from 6 p.m. Saturdays and Holidays  
 Matinee Saturday 2 p.m.

Friday, Saturday, May 16, 17  
**MA AND PA KETTLE BACK ON THE FARM** IT'S ALL NEW!  
 UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL presents  
**Marjorie MAIN Percy KILBRIDE**  
 RICHARD LONG - MEG RANDALL

Special Midnite Horrorama Show Sunday, May 18, 12.05

**DOUBLE BILL of ARCH FIENDS!**  
 50 FT. HIGH GIANT IN A LAND OF HORRENDOUS BEASTS!  
**The CYCLOPS**  
 CRAIG  
**BLOOD HUNGRY SHE-BEAST! DAUGHTER OF DR. JEKYLL**  
 JOHN AGAR - GLORIA TALBOTT - ARTHUR SHIELDS  
 ALLIED ARTISTS PICTURES

Monday, Tuesday, May 19, 20 Matinee Monday, May 19, 2 p.m.

**GERMAN WAR ACE...**  
 FRANZ VON WERRA - WHO THE ALLIES CAUGHT BUT COULDN'T KEEP.

**THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY**  
 A RANK ORGANIZATION PRESENTATION  
 STARRING EUROPE'S TOP MALE STAR **HARDY KRUGER** AS FRANZ VON WERRA

Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat., May 21, 22, 23, 24 AT REGULAR ADMISSIONS

"A SPECTACULAR MOVIE." - L.A.

AUDREY HEPBURN HENRY FONDA MEL FERRER

**War and Peace**  
 LEO TOLSTOY'S  
 A PONTI-DELAURENTIS PRODUCTION  
 PLEASE NOTE DURING THE SHOWING OF "WAR AND PEACE" ONE SHOW NIGHTLY - BOX OFFICE OPENS 6.45 p.m. FEATURE PRESENTATION 7.30 p.m.

**Richmond Hill Lions Hall BINGO** Golden Lion \$60 **\$225.00** STARTING TIME - 8 P.M.  
 Monday, May 19th **JACKPOT 53** Numbers Called