

This Is Your Banner Canada

Why is it that the Union Jack
From Newfoundland to B.C.'s shore
Still waves o'er smoking chimney stack
And waving grain and trapper's door?

Did some Britannic Providence
Hold fast the ramparts while all slept?
Or did rebellious malcontents
Divide the choice, discard the rest?

Deny the slur, Canadians all,
Yours was no easy heritage,
No left o'er from the banquet hall,
No extra leaf in history's page.

Your Fathers from two Mother lands
With culture, tongues of different hue
Fought for one maiden's virgin hand
Bitter, relentless, fought it through.

Then while the stinging wounds still wept,
Across the border Reason fell
And died, and smoking breezes swept
The mob's historic cry, "Rebel!"

Echoed it over the river's flood
Up to the Plains, the Citadel,
Where French and British, jealous stood,
What answer to the cry, "Rebel!"?

Just as when dawn breaks o'er the land
And what was fearsome, dark and veiled
Takes sudden form to heart and hand
So fell the doubts when foe assailed.

This is the answer, sure and clear,
"From every pinnacle and peak
Let fly the colours without fear
Yes, let the Sainted Banner speak".

What act was this? Did eyes deceive?
Did Frenchmen uphold Britain's flag?
"On rebels, teach the French to grieve
Destroy them and their new-sworn rag".

But blessed union born that day
Of French and British patriot's blood
On the fierce field of loyalty
An infant nation rose and stood.

Varied the colours that they wore,
British the colours, nailed on high,
Simple the oath that these men swore
Canada, freedom, live or die.

This is your Banner, Canada,
Yours to the roots as these men proved
Re-born at thy birth, O Canada,
The Union Jack shall not be moved.

— M. M., Richmond Hill

Plan Official Opening Crosby Heights School

The official opening of the Crosby Heights Public School will take place February 4th. Serving as a committee to make arrangements for the event are Trustee Mrs. Margaret Southwell, Trustee Mrs. Virginia Sully, Supervising Principal Duard Rose, and Crosby Heights School Principal E. Gooding.

Mr. O. Magee of Richmond Hill has offered to donate a plaque commemorating the opening and the school board has accepted his gift.

The attractive new school, bringing to five the number of public schools in Richmond Hill, has a gymnasium-auditorium, a kindergarten, as well as 11 classrooms. It was designed by Hanks, Irwin and Pearson, architects, and construction was by the W. J. Lee Company.

"Dear Mr. Editor"

Sounds Note Of Warning
Dear Mr. Editor —

I wish to congratulate the Mayor of Richmond Hill on his inaugural statement that this should be a year of consolidation. However, it might be just a bit inconsistent in the next breath to visualize a city of 40,000.

I suggest Mr. Editor that the need now certainly is for consolidation and there should be a good long breather period before there is any thought of annexation or tension of our boundaries.

We couldn't water our lawns last summer and there is a possibility we may not be able to do so next summer. I don't think it could be called reactionary thinking to suggest that the fullest possible survey should be made of our present water supply and the potential needs of future residential, commercial and industrial development within the existing town, before any consideration is given to any further annexation.

In the coming year and future years there is sure to be a lot of growth right within our own boundaries which will make extensive demands on our services. Let us face the facts of the limitations on our water supply and on our sewage disposal. There would not be much real satisfaction in being a city of 40,000 if we were without the necessary services.

W. J. TAYLOR,
Ex-reeve of Richmond Hill

Vice-President Richmond Hill Hockey Association Replies To Statements
Dear Mr. Editor —

I would like to take a minute to let your readers know what I think of a situation where, because a home team, the Richmond Hill Midget Rams lost a game to a very good team that they should be blasted so to speak by the president of our local hockey association. This to my mind is uncalled for and far from the spirit of being a sportsman.

I have been connected with minor hockey in Richmond Hill since 1946 and along with fellows such as Elgin Barrow, Dick Mills, Norm Mabley and a few others we have continued to hold our interest. Now I personally have managed and sponsored the Richmond Hill Rams both when bantam and now midget and my aim in doing so was to help promote good sportsmen and recreational activity for our boys of the town. Like anyone else I too would like to see a championship team here in Richmond Hill but the first thing and the biggest thing in my mind is promoting good sportsmanship and then if possible a champion team.

I take a very dim view of the president's idea on so much emphasis on championships. The first thing is that I know and have known since starting this year's Midget Rams we haven't got the material for a championship team but I believe we have one of the best teams in the league with a fine bunch of boys

who, if Mr. Piller had taken time to put his hand on a shoulder of one of the players after the game and said "you played a good game," he would find his hand moist from the perspiration soaked into the sweaters.

The boys have only lost two games and tied two games and won the balance.

Now for ice time for practices, etc. I have the team practicing once a week and playing once a week. The practices are under a very fine coach, Watson Cottrill, and Co-manager Howard Atkinson. These two men have taken a lot of effort into producing a well organized hockey team. All equipment, sticks, sweaters, etc., as well as the practice time is supplied by H. J. Mills Ltd. and this leaves the one hour allotted for our home games and only this being looked after by the Richmond Hill Minor Hockey Association.

In another year or so with the well organized bantam team coming along which is also being sponsored by an outsider of the hockey association, we stand a chance of coming up with a red hot team. However, until we do I still feel that the main objective of any hockey association is promoting all championship teams but first and only promoting good sportsmen and recreation for our youth of the town.

Yours truly,
H. J. MILLS.

Education Costs
Dear Mr. Editor —

I was impressed by the suggestion of Reeve John Perry of Vaughan that school boards be authorized to levy and collect taxes. It seems sound democratic thinking that those who have the responsibility for spending money should have the responsibility for levying and collecting it.

The cost of education represents a large item on the tax bill, and it is refreshing to hear leaders like Mr. Perry giving it some serious thought. I was interested too in the recent report of the District High School Board Chairman Sayers who suggested some thought be given to finding a new source of revenue to support education. Undoubtedly the burden is becoming too great to be levied on real estate.

VAUGHAN TAXPAYER.

National Flag
Dear Mr. Editor —

I hope the visit to Richmond Hill of a speaker from the Native Sons of Canada reported in your recent issue will revive interest here in the need for a distinctive Canadian flag. It is ridiculous that a country of the importance of Canada should be the only one in the world without a national flag. Other members of the Commonwealth have a distinctive flag, so why not Canada?

CANADIAN

Home Paper
Dear Mr. Editor —

I enclose my renewal subscription, and wish to express my thanks for a splendid community newspaper. I enjoy it thoroughly every week, and in addition to keeping posted on all the happenings, I find it most useful in my shopping. I consult its columns for all my needs, and I have more than saved the subscription many times by bargains in the advertisements.

GRATEFUL READER

More Effort Needed
Dear Mr. Editor —

A country preacher in Alabama, when asked by his congregation to pray for a more abundant crop, responded: "Oh Lord we pray thee in accordance with the request of this thy people that thou send them a more abundant crop; but Oh Lord, thou knowest, as they know, that what they need is deeper plowing, more hard work and more manure."

That goes for an awful lot of things in life, as well as for most of us. Aren't we often praying for Divine help, when what we really need is a little more good old fashioned effort and hard work from ourselves?

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Right To Vote
Dear Mr. Editor —

The Ontario government has appointed a committee to find a way to get a larger and more representative vote in our municipal elections. I have noted some interesting letters on the subject in your paper.

Wouldn't it be a wonderful thing if all Canadians decided to utilize their right to vote in free elections? It would indeed be wonderful if there weren't any free-riders, accepting the rights but ignoring the responsibility of citizenship.

There is one way to help bring this Utopian state of affairs to pass without any special legislative committees. When election day rolls around, VOTE, and see that all members of your family do the same.

CIVIS

Markham Receives Four Tenders For Watermains

Markham Township Council in session Monday opened its tenders for the construction of watermains on 22 streets in Watermain Area No. 1. The work which was approved sometime ago will be handled on a local improvement basis. Four tenders were received each giving alternative figures to have the work done during either the winter or next spring. Winter work tenders ran from a low of \$112,440.75 to a high of \$150,431.25. Spring tenders with the work to commence in April were lower. They ran from a low of \$107,793.50 to a high of \$130,248.25. The four Toronto contracting firms submitting tenders were, James MacKay & Sons Ltd., Paul Rosa Construction Co., Carroll-Sharp Construction Ltd., and J. Harrop Contracting Ltd.

The tenders were referred to the Water Committee (Councillors MacNeil and Mumberson and Deputy-reeve Dean), and the consulting engineer for a report.

Council approved a petition presented by Mr. G. Walker of Doncrest Road to have watermains installed on the street. Doncrest Road is located east of Bayview Avenue and north of No. 7 Highway, and lies within the water area. Of the 40 property owners on the street 21 signed the petition while five declined. The remaining 14 lots are all vacant land. The work will be handled on a local improvement basis.

Conservation Authority
Council deferred decision on the appointment of its two representatives to the Metropolitan Conservation Authority for 1959. The appointments will have to be made prior to the February 1st inaugural meeting of the authority. Councillor L. Mumberson suggested council follow the policy of Vaughan Township and appoint two members of council as representatives to the authority. Councillor J. MacNeil concurred with the suggestion. They both felt if the representatives were selected from council it would result in closer liaison between council and the authority especially in the matter of the development of the Bruce property.

Reeve W. L. Clark suggested the members give the matter some thought before making a decision. Markham's present representatives are Mr. C. Clifford of Doncaster and E. Harper of Unionville.

At the request of the Board of Trustees of S.S. 17 (Dickson's Hill) Council will issue the sum of \$46,000.00 in debentures to cover the cost of a three acre school site and new two room school. The cost of the site has been estimated at \$6,000.00, while the building will cost \$40,000.00. Council expressed some concern at what they felt was a high figure for the construction of a two room school. The old school is presently closed and the children are attending classes at the Stouffville Public School on a non resident fee basis. The Consumers Gas Co. has informed council they plan the construction of a gas line from north of Markham Village to Stouffville. The distance to be covered is 3.5 miles. The line will be subject to municipal taxation. The Department of Planning and Development has instructed council not to authorize any civil defence expenditures until the Graham report has received the official sanction of the Federal Government. In 1958 council set aside \$1,000.00 in its budget for civil defence.

A request from Mr. G. W. Camp and three other property owners concerned to have council pave the cut-off road at Gormley has been referred to the Road Committee (Councillors Mumberson and Watson and MacNeil) for a report. Mr. Camp complained that the road is constantly broken up by use and is dusty in the summer. Council has given third and final reading to a by-law authorizing the erection of "No Parking" signs on both sides of Elgin Street and on the east side of Dudley Avenue in Thornhill.

Council will again sponsor the annual school budget night held

Town Names Fiscal Agent Reeve Wants Debentures Sold On Open Market

Richmond Hill Town Council with Reeve F. R. Perkins dissenting, decided to renew for another year the agreement giving J. L. Graham & Co. powers of exclusive fiscal agents for the municipality. Under the agreement, the Graham firm handle the issuing and sale of all local debentures. Reeve Perkins made it clear he had nothing against the firm, but he thought Richmond Hill debentures should be advertised and sold on the open market.

"Richmond Hill is in good financial shape and we should have no difficulty in selling our debentures," he said. "There should be open competition," he said, "it's a matter of principle."

Council decided on motion of Deputy-reeve Tinker and Councillor Ross to renew the agreement. Mayor Tomlin spoke highly of the service rendered last year by the Graham Co. as the town's fiscal agent. "We were very successful in marketing our securities," he said.

Mr. John Craig of Richmond Hill who was present representing the firm pointed out that the policy of appointing fiscal agents for municipalities was pretty well accepted. "It is done by Toronto, Hamilton, Hydro and the Province of Ontario," he said.

Mayor Tomlin said the appointment of a fiscal agent had been first carried out by council on the recommendation of the auditors. "I think we should sell on the open market," said Mr. Perkins. "We might save the town some money. That's what I'm here for."

Councillor Haggart — "I like to see competition when it is in the

interests of the town. Under the circumstances I think its advantages to have our own fiscal agents and I think the J. L. Graham firm has done an excellent job."

Councillor Paterson — I would not want to in any way prejudice our works program by having to sell debentures on the open market this year.

Sub-divide Lot
Mrs. Ethel McLean has applied to sub-divide a lot at the corner of Elmwood and Essex. In view of circumstances explained by D. G. Plaxton council agreed to accept \$650, instead of the usual levy of \$1,300. The motion to accept \$650, was made by Reeve Perkins. An amendment by Councillor Paterson that no fee be charged failed to get a second.

Garbage
It was reported to council that a prosecution is now under way under the local garbage by-law.

Revise Fees
On the recommendation of the Works Commissioner Deputy-reeve Tinker moved that the fees for water and sewer connections be increased to take care of increased costs. Lateral connection formerly priced at \$122 will now cost \$200.

Wait Till Spring
On the recommendation of Councillors Ross and Bradlock the Works Committee passed a resolution that no sub-divisions be taken over until the spring of 1959. It was pointed out it is impossible to properly inspect roads and services at this time of year.

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"Mothers' March" Dimes Blitz Feb. 2

Once again the Thornhill and District "Mothers' March" — consisting of the area between May Ave. and Steeles, bounded by Bathurst and Bayview — is being organized for the one-hour March of Dimes Blitz on February 2, from 7 to 8 p.m.

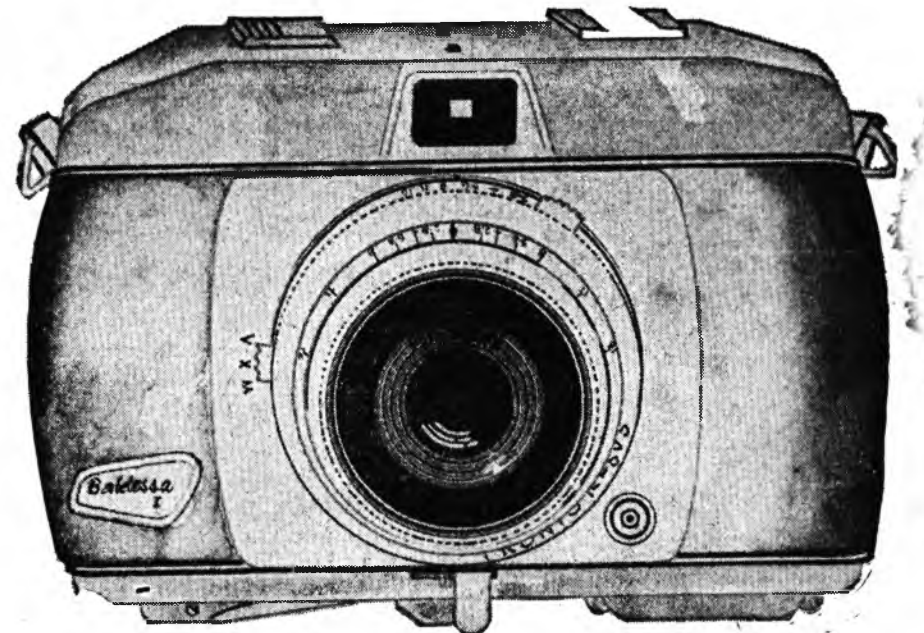
A meeting of all lieutenants (who are also local mothers) was held Monday evening to discuss campaign details. Each of the 15 lieutenants has under her an average of 13 women, a total of 200 Marching Mothers. On February 2, this army of women will visit every house in our district to raise funds for the March of Dimes . . . now treating and rehabilitating those disabled not only by Polio but also through accidents and other unforeseen calamities.

It is estimated the number of homes to be canvassed is approximately 3,000.

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