

# The Liberal



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## Summer Playgrounds

The large registration for the Richmond Hill summer playground program indicates the need for such organized activity, and the Recreation Committee deserves commendation for sponsoring the project.

Launched as a new idea this year, the large number of children registered came as a distinct surprise to the sponsors, and the committee members were hardly prepared with either personnel or finances to meet the situation.

Town Council could do little less than come to the rescue which they did with an additional grant of \$2,000. However with the experience gained, the committee undoubtedly can plan better for next year.

It was suggested the program should be under the direction of a larger committee. It is an imposition to place the burden on the shoulders of two or three individuals. Mrs. Thompson and Mr. Ruttie who have done the work this year certainly deserve the thanks of the community for their public spirited efforts, but the job is more than should be asked of them. A paid Recreation Director has been suggested and undoubtedly this is the easiest answer, but of course would add to the mounting tax rate.

If a summer playground program is necessary, and it is generally agreed it is most desirable, the burden should not fall on the willing shoulders of too few volunteers.

If it is decided to engage a salaried recreation director, the parents of children benefitting from the program should not object to a moderate registration fee. The proceeds would help defray expenses and ease the burden on the taxpayers. It would be fair in that those benefitting most would pay something towards the service. It would contribute to the success of the program in that all participating would be serious in their attitude to the activities planned by the leaders.

It may be termed old fashioned, but we believe it is fundamentally true that an important lesson of life is to learn that it is a good thing to pay our own way. In recent years there has been too much tendency to give our young people, "something for nothing". In the long run it's no real kindness to the young people.

Public playgrounds and supervised programs of activities are fine for the community and should be encouraged. The program planned by the Recreation Committee is most commendable, but we think it would be better for all concerned if there was a registration fee. It's too late to change this year, but we hope it will be given serious consideration in plans for the future. A fee need not necessarily deprive needy families of the benefits of the plan. There are many organizations in the community ready and willing to underwrite any such cases.

## Farm Ponds Water Safety

With the incidence of more and more farm ponds coming into being, as the value of rural water storage is realized, something should be done to create interest in safety measures.

In New York State, Irving B. Stafford of the Soil Conservation Service said every farm pond in the country should be equipped with at least one life preserver.

During the recent years, drownings attributed to rural ponds have increased — one way to cut down on fatalities in isolated areas would be the life-preserver.

"A ring-type life preserver fastened

to a stake at the edge of a farm pond could mean the difference between life and death", Mr. Stafford said. "With a long rope attached it could be thrown from the shore to a person in distress."

Children should never be allowed near a pond, no matter how shallow the water may be, unless accompanied by an older person. A sudden slip, a swift plunge into icy water — perhaps head first — can shock a youngster into unconsciousness and hasten drowning.

Let us remember that whereas ponds are built to further conservation ideals — human life and safety must be considered above all else.

## Rambling Around

THOUGHTS AND THEORIES

by Elizabeth Kelson

What strange words are these — solitude, silence, stillness, tranquility, quietness and peace. Not more than fifty years ago, this country was a much quieter place than it is now. Villages and towns were isolated from each other because the mode of travel depended mainly on horse power, boat power or simply walking. It took hours and sometimes days before a journey was completed. Imagine if you can how quiet the atmosphere was, so quiet that if a bird sang you would hear it. With the exception of the cities, even small towns were semi-rural, with farms surrounding them on all sides. The villages and hamlets of the countryside were like sylvan paradises; homey little settlements hugging the shores of lovely lakes, the only jarring notes being the whistle from the local sawmill, three times a day, in the morning, at noon, and at night, or the deep-toned siren of the lakeboat, before it finally steamed into dock, and the shrieking warning given by the old black iron horse as the train came around the bend, finally to stop panting beside the station house. These noises however were the highlights in the day and were welcomed by young and old.

Girls and boys had plenty of solitude in those days, time for a boy to rig a new fishing line to go fishing in the creek in the springtime, and for a girl to gather flowers in a nearby woods. They heard birds sing, the wind rustling the leaves, and the water running over stones because they had time, and because their ears weren't choked by a constant drumming of sound, and thus their eyes were able to see more.

There is so much to listen to, today. Industrial and domestic noises of every mechanical description. There are the planes zooming across the sky, and motor cars and other vehicles, in the thousands, constantly sounding along the highways. The broad highway has drawn communities closer with modern means of transportation. The noises that were at first confined to the cities have invaded every nook and cranny of our settled land. The telephone, radio and television have brought the world to the living rooms of countless country homes.

The tide must swing back a little but not by eliminating all the wonderful results of progress, but by men and women resolving to themselves that they must re-acquaint themselves with solitude, must discover that core of stillness that is within themselves, must court the moments when they may quietly read or think or sometimes just to do nothing at all.

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Campaign Chairman,  
Beamsville Branch

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### Notice to Creditors

In the Estate of Frances Ellen Richardson, late of the Town of Richmond Hill, Retired School Teacher, deceased.

All persons having claims against the Estate of Frances Ellen Richardson, late of 121 Yonge Street North, Richmond Hill, Ontario who died on or about the 26th day of March, 1958, are hereby notified to send particulars of same to the undersigned on or before the 23rd day of July, 1959, after which date the Estate will be distributed, with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice, and the undersigned will not be liable to any person of whose claim they shall not then have notice.

Dated at Toronto this twenty-fifth day of June, 1959.

Alice Jane Thomson, Administratrix of the Estate of Maggie Winnifred Richardson, deceased, who was the Executrix of the Estate of Frances Ellen Richardson

by her solicitors,  
Mulock, Milliken, Clark & Redman,  
711 Dominion Bank Building  
Toronto 1, Ontario

## FACTS and FAITH

A weekly Comment On

Christian Life And Action

— By Calvin H. Chambers —



### THE POWER OF PRAYER

Whenever we think of prayer as power, we must not imagine that it involves some techniques by which we may control God. Such a conception would undermine the true meaning of prayer, altogether. Yet, how often this idea flashes into our minds when we speak of the "power of prayer."

Some people think of prayer as a kind of spiritual "blank cheque" with God's signature at the bottom. Others conceive of prayer as a magical charm, something like a rabbit's foot which is bound to bring you good luck if you use it. Then there are those who think of God as a kind of heavenly Santa Claus who supplies all their wants if they ask long enough. Some people use prayer only as a last resort when everything else has failed. Some think of prayer as a method by which we may change God's mind, and make Him see things our way.

But when you come to know God through Christ you realize that these approaches to prayer are false. Prayer is not a mechanical force. It is rather, the means by which we enter into the presence of the living, all powerful God.

Immediately we ask, what is the nature of His power? God's power is love. Paul tells us in his famous passage (1 Corinthians 13) that there is nothing stronger or greater in the world than the power of love. It is this love which enters our lives when we surrender to Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord. It is the presence of Christ, in us, which enables us

to pray in the spirit of love. In prayer, we draw near to the God who loved us enough to die for us. When we realize that this is the God whom we approach in prayer, we know that we do not need to "twist His arm to get what we want." Instead we yield ourselves to Him as channels through which He may work out His purposes for us and all men.

What does prayer accomplish for the person who is yielded to the God of love? It provides spiritual power for living, in the kind of world we must face. Daniel March in his book "Song in the Night," states, "There is no joy or duty, conflict or sorrow in life, for which we cannot be better prepared for through prayer."

Prayer touches all of life. If the paths of evil, let us pray. If the child would be kept from the paths of evil, let us pray. If the young person would pass safely through the times of temptation, let him pray. If the hard working man would not be wholly given over to the cares of life, let him pray. If the aged man or woman would find his last days his best, and enter into the valley of the shadow in peace, let him pray. If anyone does not know by personal experience how much of God's promised power can be secured for daily triumphant living, right now, by prayer, then he had better leave unlearned every lesson of life until he has mastered this one.

Prayer, writes Dr. Alexis Carrel, increases physical buoyancy, brings greater intellectual vigour, moral stamina, better human relations, and the harmonious assembly of body, mind and spirit.

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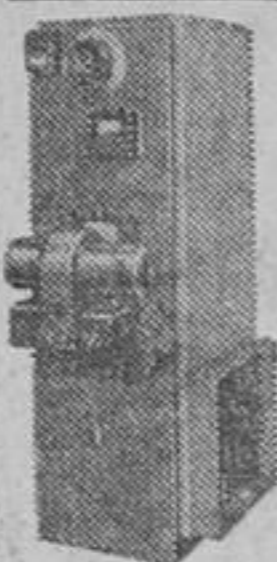
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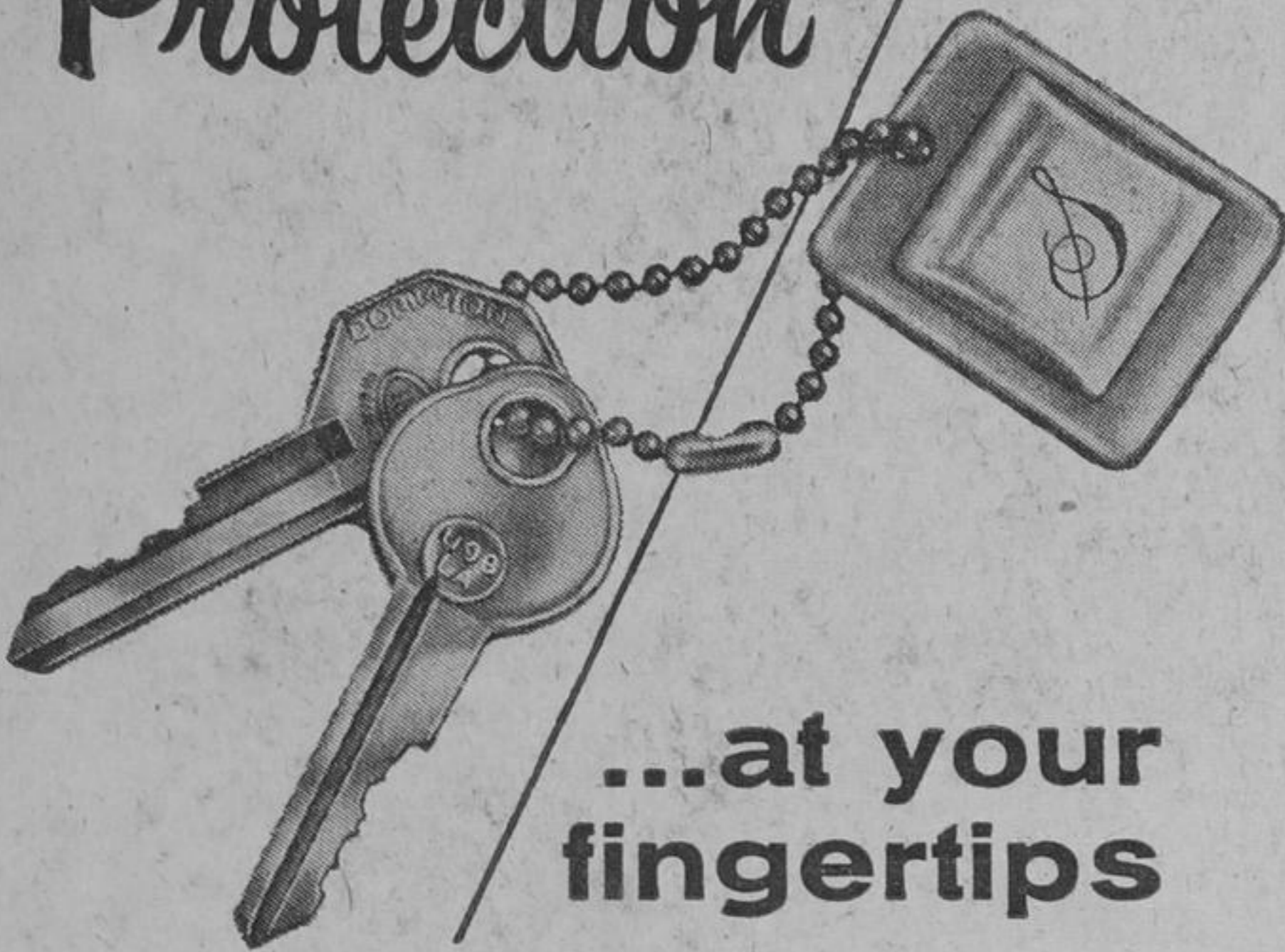
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