The Liberal

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Two Year Term

Richmond Hill electors at the coming elections will be asked to vote "yes" or "ne" on the question of a two year term for municipal council members. This is an important decision and we hope it will have the careful and serious consideration of every ratepayer. The two year term may be acceptable or even attractive to a municipal councillor, but it has very little to recommend it to the taxpayer.

Some years ago the Ontario Legislature passed enabling legislation providing that municipalities may if they so decide, elect municipal councils for a two year term. Some municipalities adopted the two year term and many others have stuck with the traditional annual elections. Richmond Hill has been in the latter category and we have observed no demand from the people for any change. Certainly council hasn't been deluged with petitions or troubled by delegations of taxpayers asking for the two year term.

In municipalities where the two year term has been tried, we have failed to notice any quickening interest in municipal affairs or any increase in efficiency in township or town administration. We have noted an increasing indifference to the wishes of the taxpayers by councils elected for the longer term. That is something we don't want in Richmond Hill.

One argument for the two year term is that it saves the expense of an annual election. In any case we think this is a very weak argument, but in Richmond Hill it has no meaning at all. No matter what decision is made regarding the election of a municipal council, annual elections must be held for school trustees. There still would have to be an annual nomination meeting and a full organization of polling places, deputy-return-

officers and poll clerks. The only saving in expense if the two year term is adopted would be the paper ballots on which the taxpayer annually, up to now, has had the privilege of marking his X. We humbly suggest this is the last place to start an

FAVORS ANNUAL

ELECTION

crease their term of office.

Dea. Mr. Editor:-

be on council.

"Dear Mr. Editor"

I was surprised to read that As a resident of Richmond Hill

Richmond Hill Town Council is for almost five (5) years and liv-

asking a vote on a two year term. ing on the East side of Town, I

taxes, increased our water rates on some things which, to me at

taxpayer so far has had the right Road are denied the use of the

to weed them out every year. school bus. As I live on Centre

Councils spend a lot of taxpayer's Street East and have two boys

money and shouldn't object to attending second grade at this

standing before the ratepayers school it means that they will

Objects To Separate

School Ruling

eryone elected to council is a all children attending the Catn- been slaughtered before action is

route. Bayview Avenue is not

safe for adults to walk along,

no sidewalk and only ditches on

both sides of the road, I charge

viding a sidewalk along the bus-

Dear Mr. Editor:-

Council this year increased our wish to make a few comments Department.

whopping success. Unfortunately olic School in Beverley Acres taken. this isn't always true, and the who live North of the Markham I remain,

economy drive. The taxpayer's X is symbolic of the very fundamentals of democracy. The right to use it annually should not be given up without the most careful consideration.

In private business shareholders have annual meetings and call on management for an annual accounting. The existing system of annual municipal elections gives taxpayers the same privilege and it has worked well for so many years.

It is pointed out in support of the two year term that federal and provincial governments are elected for five year terms. This to us is a convincing argument to retain the right of annual elections. After years of close observation of government at different levels, it is our considered opinion that the best public administration exists at the municipal level. The obvious reason is that municipal governments are close to the people, and in this, annual elections play an important part. Good government deteriorates in proportion to the distance it is removed from the people.

It is not practical to suggest that we elect our federal and provincial governments every year, but if it were possible we would have better government. It is practical, possible and inexpensive to elect municipal councils every year and we should not throw away the privilege.

Good councils and good councillors have nothing to fear from the annual election. If they do a good job they can be re-elected.

One year may be too short a term for a good councillor, but it is altogether too long for a poor councillor. The so-called trouble and expense of an annual election is a pretty small premium to pay for good municipal government. In future years Richmond Hill taxpayers will have many occasions to congratulate themselves if they vote a decisive "No" to the proposal for a two year term.

Yonge Street, in the whole vil

The bulk of the traffic now

using Bayview Avenue turns into

Centre Street East in the morning

and the flow is reversed at night

As Centre Street East is paved,

In view of the above comments

Septic Tanks Pumped

C. STUNDEN

RICHMOND HILL TU. 4-1245

Respectfully yours

397 Centre St. East,

James J. Kelly.

Richmond Hill,



Facts and Faith

(By Rev. Calvin Chambers)

THE POWER OF EVIL The recent celebration of Hallowe'en serves to remind us of a very important fact we are too prone to forget. Evil is present in the world, but its defeat is assur-

We may not believe in witches and hob goblins today. And we do not need to. But we must take seriously the fact of evil. When we do we shall begin to understand the victorious message of the Christian religion. Our faith I triumphantly announces, that the power of evil has been broken by the death and the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Enemy is de-

Immediately we may ask, "If evil has been defeated, why is it still so prevalent in the world. How can we talk about evil being overcome when we are confronted on every side by its manifestations in our personal, social and inter-national life? It seems unrealistic to believe that evil is a conquered foe, especially when we look out upon the world, and into our own lives."

This is where we need to hear the message of the Faith. The cross is the symbol of the victory Jesus Christ. This is at the heart of our faith. Paul tells us in one of his letters, that Jesus spoiled the enemies of God on the cross, just as a great military hero spoils his foes. The cross was not defeat. It was victory. It meant that a death blow had been dealt to the antagonistic forces of the Kingdom of Evil.

But the victory of Christ was not a static, but dynamic thing It set in motion the on going triumph of God's kingdom. Those who are joined to Christ in faith are challenged to move out into the world like a conquering army, to claim Christ's victory over every idea, institution, nation. Everything must be brought under the sovereign rule of Jesus

We all remember how important D. Day was in the winning of the war. How excited we all were when we learned that our troops had landed on the Continent. We knew that victory was assured. Yet, V. J. Day was yet to come. In between those two days, there were a number of skirmishes in which our troops mopped up the enemy. Victory was assured, and yet fighting still went on.

Similarly, the cross of Jesus was God's D. Day. On Calvary, a major offensive was set in motion. The power of God's love in Christ was let loose into the world, to deliver men from the power of sin. But our V. J. Day is yet to come. Christians look forward to the final conquest of evil in the second coming of Christ/ This faith, however, does not mean that we are to 'lay down the shovel and the hoe." We are not to develop a laissez faire attitude toward the world. Christ calls His people to be actively engaged in a war on every front against the forces of evil. Between the Lord's it is now a speedway and no first coming and His second, many longer a residential street. I have battles have been fought, and yet to see any check being put many must still be fought. But if on these speedsters by the Police the Church takes seriously the victory of Christ; if she realizes constantly what Christ has accomand now apparently want to in- any rate, are important to this I earnestly request that the authplished already by His Spirit in orities do something about this the world, we will be constantly Those in favor of a two year I have just been informed by situation now and not wait until cheered by the fact that nothing term apparently assume that ev- the Separate School Board that a number of school children have can ultimately defeat the purposes of God in the world. The kingdom is crucial, and the final decision

will be God's. If we are Christians, we know that we still have many areas of life to win for Him. We must prepare for His coming. If a release was made from Buckingham palace, announcing that the Queen would visit Canada sometime i the near future, we would begin to make preparations for her arrival. We would do our best to get our country ready for her visit. The same truth applies to the final victory of Christ. New Drains Cleaned & Repaired Testament faith rests in the confidence that one day, "the kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdoms of our Lord and His Christ." In this faith, we face the future undaunted. We have a task of preparation to accomplish. But our victory is assured. Christ

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PAUL DELMER

Iravel



I HAVE HEARD FROM SO MANY READERS of this column that they enjoy very much my travel narratives and personal experiences abroad, that I feel I ought to set down in print, more of them. Some readers have said that they have visited some of the places I have mentioned, during their war service. I have been told that one reader brings out a map and explains the countryside to his wife filling out my descriptions from his own memory.

Thus, it is evident that a travel narrative still has a great attraction for many people. Of course a generation or two ago, a travel narrative through darkest this or unknown that, was considered exciting and profitable reading. Since then, modern economic adventuring, radio, television and air-travel at speeds faster than sound, not to mention the start already made in exploring the universe about us with its promise of space travel in the forseeable future, have created the illusion that the world is now known, mapped, sanitary and safe. The struggles of early explorers were due, we feel, to a naive ignorance we have now grown out of, and their stories were dull affairs making much of little. On the whole we regard them and their non-mechanized fumblings rather patronizingly.

The fact is of course, that the ignorance is ours. Against the vast areas of mountain, jungle, swamp, and desert on the earth, our total achievements in control are paltry and precarious. Darkest Africa is still far from day-lit and the jungle of the Amazon is merely scratched with the marks of men.

It was with a thrill therefore that my family and I walked down the gangway to step again onto the soil of Africa. It is one thing to cross from sophisticated Britain to Ultra-Sophisticated France. This was AFRICA and in Africa anything could happen. Inevitably we should meet more than one unusual experience and adventure.

We had landed at Bizerte in Tunisia and passed through customs quickly enough. We motored across flat desert country along cactus lined roads and caught our first glimpses of the omnipresent donkey and the patient camel as well as of the colourful people of this restless, heat-soaked land. Occasionally our mouths watered as we passed a vineyard with trees heavy with delicious looking grapes, until at one halt, a kindly farmer invited us to take our fill. No one required a second invitation and the children were charmed.

We decided to camp at Carthage, on a site where Ancient Carthage had stood and where today many ruins of old empires are still to be seen.

Tunisia is known as The Country of the Date Palms. It is a beautiful land but it became in the months following our arrival (but not because of our arrival!), a land of terror and sudden death.

During that first month in Tunisia, which co-incided with the last month of peace, law and order, we trekked through most of the country. Roads were generally of the dirt track type but good, maintained in good order for military purposes. We could tow the house trailer in a cloud of dust at sixty miles an hour without danger.

Highlight of our visit to Tunisia on this occasion was a dinner at the palace of the Resident General of France in Tunis, and a visit to the fabulous Bey of Tunis who was soon to assume, though only for a little while, the mantle of Constitutional Mon-

The dinner at the palace of General de la Tour was also attended by the Prime Minister and other prominent personalities. We still preserve the menu as a souvenir and for the connoisseurs, here it is: -

Consomme de Volaille en Tasse Langouste Pampadour Bouquet d'Argenteuil Sauce Remoulade Grenadin de Veau de France Perigourdine Pommes Foudantes Salade Laurette Coupe Regence Corbeille d'Excellence Vin Nature Blanc de Blanc

Heidsieck Monopole Brut It was a princely banquet and it was also to be a historical occasion - the last dinner of its kind given by a Governor of France in Tunisia, and it was a wonderfully romantic occasion. Tunisian musicians and dancing girls performed for the pleasure of the guests and the meal was served on the open balconies under the starry sky. Although it was hot enough to make dress-wear uncomfortable, a cool breeze offered some compen-

Saint Emilieu

No one knew it at the time, but the occasion was marking another milestone in French history, and Tunisia stood on the threshold of independence. We chatted trivialities informally with everybody present and received during the evening a varlety of invitations. One was to meet the General again, privately, and later we spent a pleasant hour with him and photographed and filmed him playing with our youngest son, Andrew, at that time the baby of the family. The General's children came out on the lawn and joined in the fun.

Later still we were fortunate in being able to visit the Bey of Tunis. In general the country had prospered under the French and the native dynasty had been strengthened, but for all that, it was quickly overthrown once national independence was achieved.

The country has an interesting history. The son of a Cretan renegade was proclaimed Sovereign in 1705 under the title of Bey. It was the direct descendant of that Cretan renegade turned prince who received us at Carthage.

After the Franco-German war, railways and other concessions were placed in British hands. In 1878, Lord Salisbury agreed to allow France a "free hand' in Tunisia in a bargain over Cyprus. During World War Two, Tunisia was turned over to the De Gaulle Government. After the war, the Tunisian Nationalist Party, Destour, intensified its activities, finally compelling France to grant self-government. Today, the bandits of those days, who were known as "fellaga", are policemen, and the country under wise old President Bouquiba is trying to achieve the stability and security which could make it outstanding among the Moslem nations.

The Dar-el-Bey (Palace of the Bey) where we were received contains numerous rooms beautifully decorated in the Moorish style of the 18th century; the judgment hall has a domed roof adorned with the delicate arabesque plaster work known as "Nuksh hadida".

The Bey had two wives and fifty concubines. But he was most famous for his collection of clocks. He kept two thousand of them in the palace, mostly in pairs. What has happened to them now that he has been deposed and compulsorily removed to a small villa on the outskirts of Tunis, is something I often wonder about.

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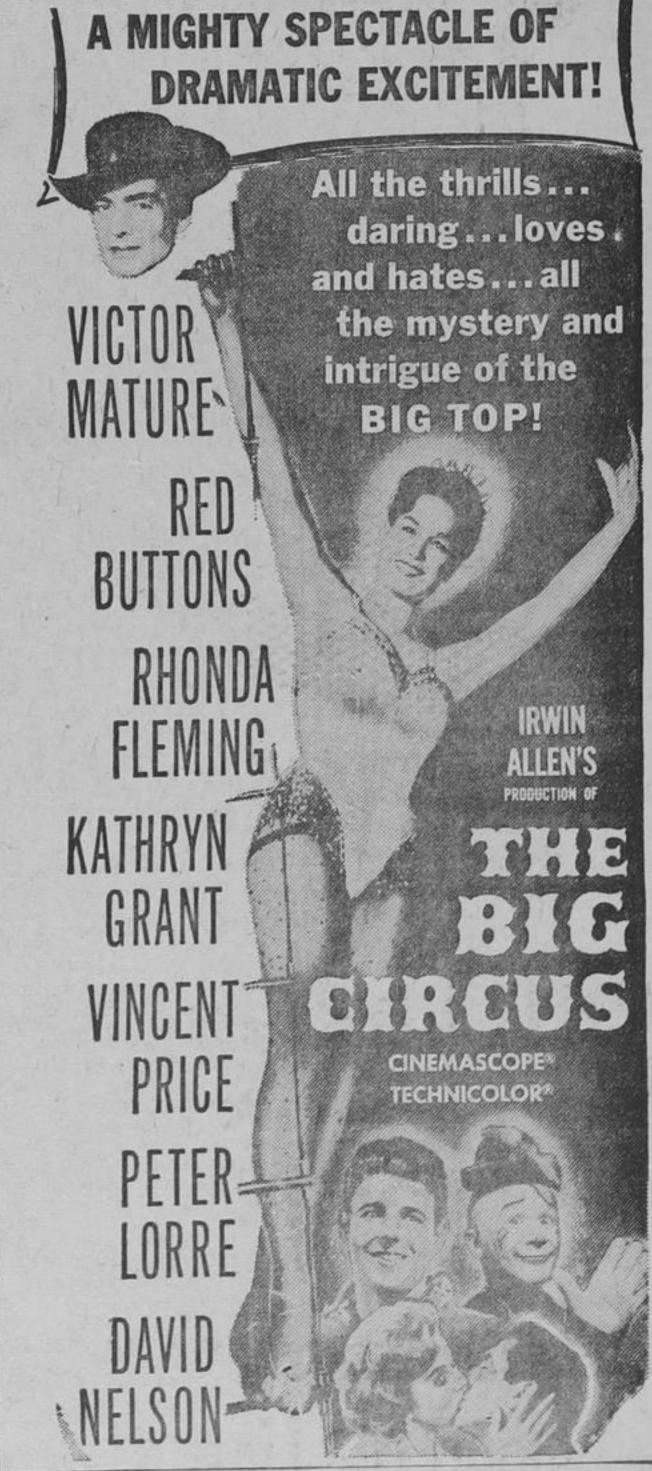
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once a year and giving an account have to walk over a mile each of it. A councillor who thinks morning and evening along Centhis is too much trouble, shouldn't tre Street East to Bayview Avenue, and up Bayview Avenue to the CIVIS school. Anyone who is familiar * * * * with this area will understand my apprehension about sending two Sweepstake Winnings seven-year old boys along this

Victoria Square, Ont. November 3, 1959. Dear Mr. Editor:much less school children, and In your paper of last week, considering the fact that there is October 29th on the front page you have an account of John Mitchell of Maple and his wife Arthe Richmond Hill Council with lene who are "very happy" about dereliction of duty in not pro-John winning \$28,000 in the Irish Swepstakes. John, it seems is an iest thoroughfare, outside assessor with Vaughan Township. His work depends on government and law. But in buying an Irish Sweepstake ticket, John is break-

ing the law of this country. He and Arlene are "very happy" in winning. Are the people of Vaughan just as happy in having an assessor who is apparently breaking the law in this regard? Perhaps the Mitchells have lost more than they realize. Yours truly

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