

# The Liberal

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## The Roarin' Game

Congratulations to Richmond Hill Curling Club on the official opening of the fine new rink on Saturday, December 12th. The new arena with six sheets of ice for curling and modern club house facilities will be a real community asset. Congratulations to those who planned it and made next Saturday's ceremonies possible.

Curling is Canada's fastest growing participation sport, and in recent years new rinks have sprung up all over the country. It is fitting that in Richmond Hill, Canada's fastest growing community we now have modern facilities for Canada's fastest growing game.

Curling is a grand game which through the years has attracted the interest and loyalty of the best sportsmen. It ranks high for promotion of healthful exercise and genuine good fellowship. The game is not by any means new to Richmond Hill. Records are incomplete but back as far as the eighteen-eighties curling was a popular game in the North Yonge Street district and Richmond Hill was an active club.

In Tankard and District Cup competitions, the blue ribbon events of Ontario curling, the Richmond Hill club has a history dating back many years and the club always gave a good account of itself in competition with Thornhill, Unionville, Agincourt, Newmarket and Toronto rinks. Records of bonspiels show that rinks were attracted here

from Barrie, Orillia and Beaverton.

From the early days of the century curling activities were centred in the old rink, just east of the skating arena. The building is still standing but converted to other uses. It had two sheets of natural ice and a club house known as "Dinty Moore's". It was the scene of many a spirited competition and a lot of wholesome good fellowship. The village population was small and when we first knew the Richmond Hill Curling Club back in 1926 the membership numbered at the most eight or ten rinks. Card competitions were popular, and in both euchre and bridge there was keen competition for club honors. In fact in later years, curling interest took second place to cards, and often there were more games in the club house than on the ice. The changing weather conditions and the uncertainties of natural ice all combined with a slackening interest to lead to the discontinuance of curling, and for a time "Dinty's" carried on as purely a card and social centre. In time it too closed its doors to mark the end of an era.

Now with the general revival of curling throughout the land, a new rink has been built, a large membership recruited and the new quarters will be officially opened Saturday. We welcome wholeheartedly the revival of the roarin' game in Richmond Hill, and we wish the new club every success.

## "End Of An Era"

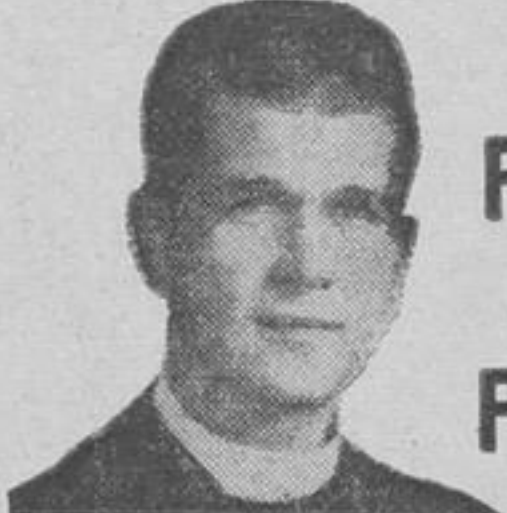
The final monthly meeting of School Area No. 1 Markham-Vaughan School Board has now been entered in the minutes — thus marking "The End of an Era", as Vice-chairman Allen Parker put it so aptly, just before the "adjournment" was moved by him last week.

There can be no doubt in the minds of many residents in "School Area No. 1" — and throughout the Township of Vaughan — that the example set by the No. 1 School Area Board led ultimately to the setting up of the by-law passed on June 8, 1959, for the new Township of Vaughan School Area Board which comes in to effect January 1st, 1960. It is to be hoped — and desired — that the new township board will become the closely-knit, well-run unit instituted in the front end of the township in 1950; when the late Jackson Taylor was one of the original board members.

The only "original" member of the No. 1 Area still serving the people of the community — until December 25, 1959, is Treasurer Dr. Ross Doan. A

former public school inspector, Dr. Doan took on the duties of treasurer following his retirement from the Board of Education — and has done a thorough job of looking after area funds and balancing the budget from year to year. But mention of merit is also due to Supervising Principal - Business Administrator Eilert J. Sand, for the part he played in making the school area the success it has been.

Chairman Roy Bick and Trustee John Snider were the only other members of the board present at the last of the regular "first Tuesday of the month" meetings which have been held through the years. And, observing the folding away of the past — and the gathering up of the records, facts and figures which the old board will pass on to the two new boards, Markham Township School Area No. 1 Board and Vaughan Township School Area Board, on December 25th — one could not help but feel the sadness and the weight of "Tempus Fugit" — even though the challenge of the future lies ahead.



## Facts and Faith

(By Rev. Calvin Chambers)

"Blessed are the Mourners." "Blessed are they that mourn." surely Jesus isn't serious? How can you be happy when the pangs of grief and sorrow dig deeply into your heart? How can you smile when tears fill your eyes, and despair clutches the soul? The challenge of Jesus words, must be meant for super human creatures, not frail and tempted children of men.

But notice, Jesus did not end His words on the level of mourning. He went further and said, "For they shall be comforted." I'm sure Jesus knew that sorrow is not always a blessing. Many people have grown bitter and cynical because of the sufferings they have been called upon to bear. Men and women have died of broken hearts, or nursed spiritual pain for years. Thus we must go deeper and try to understand what Jesus meant when he assured us that mourning could lead to comfort.

Again we must emphasize that this sermon was spoke to disciples, and has nothing for the person who is not yielded and committed to the Person who preached the sermon. For those who ignore or reject, or have never heard of God's saving love, mourning cannot lead to comfort. Only to cynicism and despair. Christians are not blessed because they mourn, but because they have found in God that source of overcoming power which enables them to triumph even in darkness of death and the agony of pain.

In the world there are many attempts to give comfort to sorrowing hearts. The worldly wisdom of man has many high sounding platitudes which are offered as a cure for inner pain. "Think of the happiness you've had." "It is better to have loved and lost, than not to have loved at all." "Time heals every wound." "Life's sorrows and injustices will be put right in the next world." "It is just the will of God - accept it, and all will be well." This is what philosophy and common sense has to say to the sorrowing heart.

But not Jesus! He offers comfort only to those who will come to Him. He has tasted all the sorrow and sufferings of Life, and has triumphed over them in the strength and by the love of God. He offers this same victory to those who mourn today. The Christian is not immune to the tragedies of life. He must experience the same griefs and sorrows which come to all men. But he has found in Christ the One who can give him power to triumph. It was Paul, a man who knew so much about suffering, who rejoiced in the fact, "that God comforts us in our tribulations, that we may be able to comfort them which are in trouble."

How did Christ triumph over suffering? He did so by making His suffering a channel by which His love might come to all men. He laid down His life, under the heavy burden of sin, that we might be given power to rise above every sin and sorrow. Those who have followed Him in faith, have found this so.

When John Bright lost his wife, after two years of happy married life, he was filled with loneliness and grief, even though he was a Christian. But he found victory over his grief, when his friend John Cobden said to him, "There are thousands of houses in England where wives, and children are dying of hunger. I would advise you to come with me, and never rest until we have revised the Corn Law." Thus Bright found victory over his own suffering as he invested his life to win deliverance for others. This is the way Jesus went. And this is the way we must travel if sorrow is to be turned into comfort.

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### NOTICE

TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS  
IN THE ESTATE OF Aubrey Munro Sutherland Nicol, late of Elgin Mills, in the Township of Vaughan, Woodworker.

All persons having claims against the Estate of Aubrey Munro Sutherland Nicol, who died on the 29th day of October 1959, are required to file proof of their claims with the undersigned Administrator with the will annexed, on or before the 11th day of January 1960. After that date the Administrator with the will annexed will proceed to distribute the Estate having regard only to the claims of which it shall then have had notice.

Dated at Toronto, this 7th day of December, 1959.

The Sterling Trusts Corporation, 372 Bay Street, Toronto, Ontario, Administrators with the will annexed by J. N. Mulholland, Q.C., 80 Richmond Street, West, Toronto, Ontario its Solicitor herein.

## — Speaking Personally —

### CONCERNING THE GIFTED CHILD

(By Jane Fort Manning)

As our educational system becomes more centralized and the small, or the one room school disappears in favor of larger graded schools special classes become possible to aid in bringing to full lower the various capabilities of our children.

One special group is designated as the "gifted children." Children whose development demands more than the normal class accomplishes.

What Is A Gifted Child

What constitutes a "gifted child" and how is a parent or teacher to know whether a child needs extra challenges?

According to some experts the gifted child should:

- (a) learn more easily and rapidly.
- (b) use practical knowledge.
- (c) reason and think more clearly.
- (d) comprehend beyond the teacher.
- (e) know about things most children are unaware of.
- (f) know use of words.
- (g) read 1 or 2 grades above his grade.
- (h) perform difficult abstract reasoning at the grade 4-5 level.
- (i) be more curious, ask questions.
- (j) work 1 or 2 years ahead of other pupils.
- (k) be physically well co-ordinated.
- (l) respond more quickly.

The bright student profits like the gifted child from a college education, but the gifted child is more than a "bookworm." He is well rounded, quick and practical, and enjoys sports.

Gifted children can usually be spotted in kindergarten through observation and testing. It is believed that early recognition of the child's potentiality is most important as unnecessarily drilling and lack of challenge in his school work can stunt his progress.

Sometimes it is difficult to distinguish between the child whose accomplishments are a result of an environment with advantages and the naturally gifted child. Testing in the hands of an expert is considered the only reliable method for placing children. Most up-to-date school systems have formal testing periods three times during elementary school, at the end of grades 1, 4, and 7.

### Program for the Gifted Child

While it is better from a social standpoint to have the gifted child stay in his own accustomed community group, part of his school day he should be able to meet with his peers and equals. In an ordinary classroom of 35, he is not challenged even with a good teacher. His education needs depth and breadth. He is

capable of probing, greater than an average child. However, the teacher needs to insist that regular subjects be mastered.

Special assignments in addition to the lesson are usually a method of providing the needed extra stimulus.

Parents Co-operation Vital

Parents should be made aware that the special needs of their child are being noted and looked after by the school. Parental co-operation is important and of course when the school is unable to provide for the extra need parents should utilize all the help the school, or the library, can suggest in finding ways to channel the energy and interest of the child in profitable pursuits.

I do feel it is important such a child is not over-organized, nor too club-erized. But given a chance to dream and work on his own. His individualism must be allowed to develop.

While excursions sometimes prove profitable, the gifted child should be required to write an essay and a letter of thanks concerning his trip as well as discussing what he has seen.

A half-day a week with a highly qualified teacher to learn about chemistry, space, etc. is a splendid method of challenging the youngster and it has been established these gifted children can work on their own and need little supervision.

Community specialists who are adept at public speaking, designing, etc. can be utilized in providing special work.

The school boards in our three municipalities have been challenged themselves to provide special classes for the gifted. In the past few years both in Richmond Hill and in TSA No. 1, Markham and Vaughan other special classes, opportunity, etc. for children needing extra help have been established. But there is as yet no special work for the gifted.

A better education for these children, who with their superior natural endowments are the natural resources of Canada as surely as uranium, gold, iron and oils, is a problem that needs to be tackled.

Former Richmond Hill public school Trustee Mrs. Margaret Southwell recently tabled a report to the Richmond Hill board on the gifted child which she drew up following a special session of the Public School Trustees Association of Ontario Convention in Port Arthur in October. The gist of the report will probably be discussed in the coming year by the board.

The problem of additional education for the gifted child exists in the high school level as well as the elementary.

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