

The Liberal

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J. E. SMITH, Editor and Publisher

MONA ROBERTSON, Associate Editor

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March Of Dimes

The Mothers' March to raise funds for the 1960 programme of the Ontario March of Dimes is to be held on the evening of Monday, February 1st. Announcing this, Mrs. R. Maddocks, Chief Marching Mother for Richmond Hill, said that between 7 and 8 o'clock on that evening every Richmond Hill home will be visited by a Marching Mother, with each Mother visiting between 10 and 15 homes in her own neighborhood.

The Marching Mothers in this community will be joining an army of 50,000 Marching Mothers in all Ontario towns, to raise \$634,500 — the estimated sum required to enable the March of Dimes to continue its programme of Polio Prevention and Total Rehabilitation during 1960.

"Last year," said Mrs. R. Maddocks, "some 40,000 Marching Mothers raised \$521,000 in a single hour, which enabled the March of Dimes to carry out not only an increased programme of rehabilitation, enabling hundreds of handicapped persons to return to profitable employment and financial independence, but also to carry out an intensive polio vaccination programme deemed necessary by the epidemic incidence of polio in Quebec and Newfoundland Province."

"Through the alertness of our Honorary Medical Board and the generosity of the people of Ontario in the past, disabled people in this province are being given the best possible chance of

enjoying a life of personal and economic independence. Obviously, little can be done without sufficient funds, and the main purpose of this campaign is to raise those funds.

"There are many jobs in which a physical disability need not be a handicap," Mrs. Maddocks stated, "and experience has proved that the majority of disabled persons can be restored to useful places in society, if they are willing to try, and if the right kind of help is available."

Summing up, Mrs. Maddocks emphasized that the greatest need in connection with the Mothers' March at this stage is volunteers. "Naturally, there can be no Mothers' March without the mothers. Last year we received wonderful support from individuals and from women's organizations, both in Richmond Hill and throughout York County. We are asking for this support once more, and I'm sure that everyone who took part last year will want to do so again. I hope, too, that many others will join in this worthwhile undertaking. As Chief Marching Mother, I would urge all women in our community to volunteer their services. By doing so, rehabilitation services can be made available to all who need them.

If you would like to join in this work and can spare just one hour of your time on the evening of February 1st, please telephone TU. 4-4667.

Why Wait For Spring?

It is sometimes useful to remind ourselves that our community is not really made up of streets, houses and business buildings — it is made up of people. You and I are the community. In our society, this is especially true in the economic sense. We all depend on one another to some extent economically and all of our economic activity, such as the buying and selling of goods and services, has a direct bearing on the welfare of our community and of the people in it.

Each Winter, partly because of the cold weather and partly because of habit, economic activity in this community slows down and some of our wage earners join the ranks of the unemployed. This fact is well known. However, what is not always recognized is that when wage earners are unemployed and unable to make their normal economic contribution, the whole community suffers.

Now, what can you as an individual do about it?

As a householder you can arrange to have all types of inside work such as renovation, redecoration, repair, and other maintenance work around your

home, including dry-cleaning, done during the winter months.

As a member of a community organization, you can urge your group to schedule any construction with which it may be concerned and any other type of work for the winter months and influence others to do likewise.

These are some of the things you can do, and we think you will find that it is to your advantage to do them in the winter. Skilled tradesmen, not so rushed in the winter months, can often do better work. Discounts are often offered by firms to increase winter business. There are other advantages to increasing winter work, but we are sure that many of them will occur to you if you think about this problem. The main thing is that by giving your full support to the local Winter Employment Campaign, you are helping your community. And, if you are in need of help to carry out a home improvement programme, call your nearest National Employment Office.

Home Improvements can be financed by Home Improvement Loans available through your bank.

How To Stay Young

Youth is not a time of life, it is a state of mind. We grow old only by deserting our ideals. Years wrinkle the skin but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul. Worry, doubt, self-distrust, fear and despair — these are the long, long years that bow the head and turn the growing spirit back to dust. There

is in the hearts of all of us, whether seven or seventy, the love of wonder and the love of life. We are as young as our faith and as old as our doubt — as young as our self-confidence — and as old as our fear — as young as our hope and as old as our despair.

"Dear Mr. Editor"

Advice For Teen-agers

Dear Mister Editor:-
I don't know where I got it, but I know who wrote it, but I have seen the following advice for teen-agers which I thought I would pass on to readers of your very interesting paper.

Here's the advice — it's not mine, but it's good:
Always wear the spoiled plaintive cry of the teen-ager: "What can we do where can we go?" I can make some suggestions. Go home! Paint the woodwork. Mow the lawn, or shovel the snow. Wash the car. Learn to cook. Scrub some floors. Repair the sink. Build a boat. Get a job!

Your parents do not owe you entertainment. Your town does not owe you recreational facilities. The world does not owe you a living. You owe the world something. You owe it your time and energy and your talents. Help the minister, the Red Cross, the Salvation Army. Visit the sick. Assist the poor. And when you are through — and not too tired — read a book.

OCTOGENARIAN

Parents Should Take Active Interest

Dear Mister Editor:-
I hope there was a good response to the appeal of Harold Mills in last week's issue for parents to attend hockey games.

In all phases of community work unfortunately we hear the same story, the work is left to the faithful few. Sometimes I wonder they don't get fed up on being "Good Jobs."

Leaders in many fields, coaches, managers, instructors and club officials are willing to give many hours of time each week. We are indeed fortunate to have so many people who do a tremendous amount of volunteer work. We can't blame them if they resent being "baby sitters."

There is small encouragement if parents of boys and girls do not show by their presence at meetings or games that they appreciate this work and are willing to do a small share of it themselves.

More good work is starved for parental support than for financial backing. A fine place to practice good citizenship is in the organizations to which your youngsters belong.

Interested Parent

Question Convention Policy High School Board

Dear Mister Editor:-
I note by last week's paper that this is to be convention year for our High School Trustees.

I was amazed at the new policy adopted that the Board will pay expenses of any trustees who care to attend. This means the taxpayers can pay for a lot of travel.

I don't object to the Board sending a delegate to some conventions, but the new "everybody go" policy of the York Central District School Board looks to be playing pretty fast and free

Ten minutes per diem occupied in reading the bible followed by an equal number of minutes dissertation by a mature teacher to enable an intelligent interpretation of what has been read to be made would not result in students wishing to change to beliefs not subscribed to by their parents. Nor yet would those two hours a week noticeably slow down the production rate of potential nuclear scientists — or lawyers. It is in fact just possible that students destined to either occupation

— Speaking Personally —

LOCAL BOARD TRIES READING EXPERIMENT
(By Jane Fort Manning)

T. V. For The Schools? By Jane Fort Manning

Three weeks ago Tuesday, January 5th marked the beginning of a thirteen week television experiment for elementary schools in Canada. How many of you mothers have sneaked a peek on Tuesdays at 3:00 p.m. instead of viewing some more "compelling T. V. drama"?

Two programs, one for grades 2, and 3 for 15 minutes and grades 4, 5, and 6 for 15 minutes only take up the half hour. Later there will be current events programs for grades 7 and 8. The Richmond Hill Public School Board and the former T. S. S. 1 Markham and Vaughan Board approved of pilot experiments last fall for the schools in their systems. These will be assessed and evaluated later.

First Program

I eagerly awaited the first program and Nancy, my five year old, and I curled up on the sofa to watch. The first program illustrated movements which the teacher interpreted as having musical meaning — shovelling snow, sweeping the floor, swinging one's arms. Later the musical notes were flashed on the screen with the sound of their

There was quite a bit of mechanical contrivance involved with miniature brooms, shovels, etc. and I'm always on edge at such points for fear they won't come off and the illusion for the children will be broken. However, all went off well and I imagine the youngsters got into the "swing of things."

I do find children these days so realistic that magical tales require so much explaining as to how inanimate objects can leap, talk, and run that often the object of the story is lost in the attempt to explain the accoutrements. I still believe in "magic" but not particularly for school lessons!

The grades 4, 5 and 6 telecast will attempt, I gather, to give an across the country and its people view of Canada. A panoramic map of Canada with its natural features was outstanding in this program. An animated figure of Johnny Canuck was used in various guises to show the occupations and recreations of the maritimers.

If there is anything I know about social studies (now geography and history) from personal experience with four children, it is the occupations, fishing, sailing, farming etc., of the people of our Maritime provinces. Sometimes it has seemed to me the Maritimes are attacked with such gusto in the fall that the rest of Canada except for the fishing and bushland of British Columbia get left behind. But that is a very personal experience and I shall look forward to an assessment by professionals in the education field.

with the people's money.

I hope at the end of the year you will publish the Board's conventional expenses for 1959 and alongside an analysis of the resultant benefit to education.

CIVIS

Replies To Mr. Hall

Dear Mr. Editor:-
Mr. Henry C. Hall's letter published in the last issue of your paper, was to me unkind, unjust and un-Christian in all the references to Mr. Paul Robeson. Mr. Robeson and his race have suffered and continue to suffer the most appalling offences and outrages. Democracy does not exist in parts of the United States for colored people and this is true to some extent in certain parts of Canada.

Mr. Robeson is a sensitive actor and a magnificent singer who has enriched the lives of millions. He himself has suffered outrageous discriminatory treatment in his own country and in Canada also.

Yours very truly,
Rill Brown

Religious Education For School Children

164 Mill Street, Richmond Hill

Dear Sir:-

While it is most desirable that an interest be evident concerning religious education — whether at public school or elsewhere — there is not any reason why the subject should be controversial. It is perhaps the natural tendency for members of school boards to indulge in scamachy for quite obvious reasons. When these "electable" representatives permit irrational emotion to supplant intellectual process it is, I submit, better that they return to the more familiar field of amateur dramatics. Especially so when the subject of their pet peeve concerns a matter as fundamental as the history of Western civilization.

It has perhaps escaped the observation of those opposed to the dissemination of knowledge that the number of parents desiring the teaching of knowledge probably and considerably outnumber them. It is unfortunate that in a democracy the vociferations of the proud, stubborn and prejudiced minority often prevail over the desires of a majority. It is not without interest that without a fundamental knowledge of religion it becomes difficult to attain a stage of agnosticism!

Ten minutes per diem occupied in reading the bible followed by an equal number of minutes dissertation by a mature teacher to enable an intelligent interpretation of what has been read to be made would not result in students wishing to change to beliefs not subscribed to by their parents. Nor yet would those two hours a week noticeably slow down the production rate of potential nuclear scientists — or lawyers. It is in fact just possible that students destined to either occupation

T. V. Expensive

However, T. V. is an expensive way of teaching and must really pay in added benefits before we in Canada go holtus bolus for it as a new way to get our children educated. I believe that without hard personal study, visual education cannot succeed, but it can supplement. Perhaps it would be better to use film strips in the classroom so that the teacher can dwell on the lesson as long as she thinks necessary.

The other evening we heard Reinhold Neibur on Background commenting on the wave of anti-semitism, its causes and probable future.

Years ago I was in Dr. Neibur's class and how we enjoyed his clear and pointed analysis of the problem this week. But I felt one must know something of Pietism and the development of the German nation to fully understand what he was talking about; though I cannot deny that anyone could better comprehend the problem after hearing him speak. But knowledge of Pietism, etc., comes only from learning one's history lesson. And history in the beginning has to be outlined and digested, not just heard on the screen to be remembered and understood.

Learning Requires Work

We must help our children to realize the road to learning is hard work. It may be easier for some to comprehend but there is no stigma attached to being a turtle — remember in the long run the turtle beat the rabbit.

To learn and understand becomes more important every day in our world for everyone, and we must not get in the habit of acquiring their opinions from those glibly expressed on the screen.

T. could be a fine way in which to see new techniques for the teacher so that she can be refreshed with new ideas for her classroom routine. It can be used to bring particular places or people to be viewed by the children. But it should be extra. The fundamentals of our curriculum still have to be taught as individually as possible by a teacher to the children whose reaction she can see.

Rather than a million dollar T. V. experiment I'd rather like to see more money available from the government to our school boards so that teachers can be assured of classes not too large for individual attention, and principals who keep teachers well supplied with aids to assist them in getting across lessons to their pupils. If a child can't spell, can't add, can't read, the road to understanding in high school and University is blocked.

Don't forget to tune in on Tuesday at three o'clock over C. B. L. T. What's your opinion?

might, as a result of such instruction, graduate with a degree of moral integrity that would replace the philosophical codes so wanting in compassion that are held by their present day predecessors. Without the psychiatrist's couch the humanist would be led to that greatest of sins — self-destruction. That hardly seems a code that we would wish to pass on to our children.

I would suggest to those who wish to have their children emerge into the adult world with a reasonable knowledge of what has occurred in that world prior to their arrival — intentionally — about religious education. Whilst thinking they might also take time to clearly distinguish between religious education and religious dogma. (Too often the latter involves an unhealthy preoccupation with one's sins that results in even more erratic evil and far less attractive good).

Those who conclude that such knowledge is an inherent part of that overall education for which they are duly taxed might then arouse sufficient interest in both the future of their own children and that of humanity in general to ensure that their thoughts are received loud and clear by those responsible for the school curriculum.

Thank you for your time and attention in reading this letter. By all means reproduce it — in whole — not in part — if you consider that it may assist to draw attention to what is a matter that concerns the very existence of our way of life.

Yours sincerely,
Royston J. Packard

Liquor Laws and Liquor Advertising

7 Church St. South, Richmond Hill, Ont., January 9th, 1960

Dear Mr. Editor:-

I wish to take very sharp issue with an individual who signs him-or-herself as "Langstaff Reader," and who's letter was published in your issue of January 7th, 1960. I can only assume that the author there of has not the courage of his or her convictions otherwise there would have been a name appended. Our anonymous author claimed in effect, that there must be many people in the area who are disgusted at liquor advertising in Toronto's daily papers. It was further claimed that our provincial liquor advertising laws must be farcical if the big dailies were allowed to flout them by having their printing done outside the province. In my humble opinion, it is just this ostrich-like, narrow-minded bigotry which is infinitely more dangerous than a frank and open approach to the problems of alcohol and the advertising inevitably attached thereto. What I want to know is this: exactly why are these people so disgusted? Just what is wrong with discreet and tasteful advertising of beer and liquor? I personally find it far less offensive than the advertising showered upon us from every known medium concerning toilet paper, laxatives, deodorants, women's foundation garments and other similar products. If it is a matter of good or bad taste, these people who claim that liquor advertising is disgusting do not have a leg to stand on.

If it is a question of drinking, then that is quite another matter I fully agree that alcoholism is a problem, but the problem of advertising of beer or liquor, nor by restricting or even forbidding the sale thereof. The problem can ultimately only be solved by education, and that education can be best applied in the home by wise and understanding parents. There is no denying the fact that the use of alcohol is not only here to stay, but is also on the increase at the same time. I cannot agree that a slight or moderate use of alcohol is evil. Many of us in the Richmond Hill area spring from British stock; advertising of beer and liquor in Great Britain is freely permitted, but I defy anyone to come out in the open and claim that the British are degenerate because of it. British moral fibre always has been and always will be of the best, so it would not appear that the use or advertising alcohol has done them any harm. Nothing disappears because one ignores it, and it is my considered opinion that alcoholism will be far less of a problem when alcohol is treated the same as tobacco — freely but carefully used by those who will, and advertised in exactly the same free manner as any other product. It is up to us parents to educate our children about alcohol and the evils of any excessive use of it. I cannot agree that to forbid its existence would remove the problem. Childish curiosity being what it is, any taboo is worthy of investigation. If we ask the government to bar liquor advertising because we are afraid of its effects on our children, then we are being lazy as parents and sloughing off our responsibilities. If we ask it because we don't happen to like it, then it is pure selfishness because it is quite possible that the majority of our fellow citizens may not object at all. After all, we claim to be a democracy,

Yours truly,
David M. Thomas

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with, among other things, complete freedom of the press and of speech. This claim is not compatible with a ban on liquor advertising. It strikes me that, as a nation, we have a great deal of growing up to do where alcohol is concerned.

Despite its pecksniff attitude toward the use of alcohol the Frost government is very eager to smack its chops and rake in the heavy dividends from the sale thereof. Has our "Langstaff Reader" ever paused to think of the vast advertising revenues going outside the province into Quebec or the United States? These revenues should remain here in Ontario, where they are sorely needed. If advertising were permitted in this province, there would undoubtedly be more work, and this would alleviate the unemployment problem.

In closing, I would like to make this suggestion. The provincial government should hold a plebiscite, and ask the following questions:
(I) Do you think that beer and liquor should be advertised?
(II) Should the advertising thereof be permitted on radio and television as well as through other media?
(III) Do you think that the sale of alcoholic beverages should be in the hands of responsible merchants, instead of under the present system?
(IV) Should liquor licences and form-filling be abolished?

The result of the plebiscite should reveal the public's wishes, and we should be prepared to abide by the majority's opinion. I, for one, would be glad to see an end, one way or the other, to the constant and inviting bickering over this subject. Perhaps, then, we can get down to the problems of raising our children without the constant intrusions of outsiders telling us what we should or should not do concerning the use of alcohol.

Yours truly,
David M. Thomas

Lawyers On The Planning Board

Dear Mr. Editor:-
In the last issue of your paper, Mr. John Bradstock made the statement in Council that he felt that architects and engineers should be put on the Planning Board and thought that lawyers should not be appointed as they might have "entangling interests."

This is rather surprising as architects and engineers as well as real estate agents and lawyers, by acting for builders and/or subdividers, might have just as many entangling interests and on behalf of the bar, of which I am a member, I just wish to point out, not only to Mr. Bradstock but to the rest of the community, that no ethical lawyer as a member of the Planning Board would permit his clients' affairs to color or influence his action as a Planning Board member and that has always been my attitude during the seven years that I have sat on the Planning Board.

Yours very truly,
Norman A. Todd

Modern Richmond Hill

Dear Mister Editor:-

"MODERN RICHMOND HILL" no religious training in our schools - Business run wide open on the Sabbath Day - a film on Soviet Russia at our local theatre - Soviet Attache speaks to our Home and School Association. Shades of Sodom and Gomorrah - let us now raise the GOD-LESS flag of the Soviet over our War Memorial and complete the picture.

James Butler

AURORA — Councillor Wm. Davidson asked if Aurora Council could sponsor a resolution to be sent to other municipalities urging the provincial government to encourage the diversification of industry away from "the 10-mile wide strip from Niagara Falls to Oshawa."

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