

The Liberal

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We Have No Land

Anna and Karlen Ludovnic were refugees. They have a young daughter, Marta. In 1949, after considerable trouble and difficulty, they made their way to Western Germany. There they entered a refugee camp and registered for work and emigration. They also took their physical examinations.

Marta was fine. Her mother was fine. But the X-ray turned up an old scar tissue in Karlen's lungs. He was completely cured, but that made no difference. The regulations stated specifically that tuberculars past or present could not be certified for emigration to another country.

The Ludovnic did not stay in the refugee camp. Karlen had been a wireless operator, and a good one. They went to the seaport of Hamburg, where Karlen thought he might find a job on a ship, and if he did, one day they might land in a country that would take them in.

He got the job, on a small tramp freighter of Panamanian registry. He was the wireless operator, Anna was signed on as the cook. They had Marta with them and they set sail with hope in their hearts. But, for the Ludovnic, the sea became a lost highway.

The small, battered freighter put in at many ports. When the port officials checked, the answer the Ludovnic got was always the same. "You have no visa? Sorry, no landing permit."

The rolling boat became their home, the ground they walked on was not earth but the hard, steel decks of the ship. Their daughter, Marta, got sick. Through much effort, through

a port official in England and a social worker and the authorities, little Marta was allowed on shore. But for Anna and Karlen, no place to stay, no country of their own, no ground to walk on, no home.

The months on board turned into years. One, two, three, four years. Karlen wrote a letter, a last hope letter, to the United Nations. He'd heard that, sometimes, people with no country could be helped.

"We have no land where we have a home and no land will let us in. Please, help," he wrote in his letter which was forwarded to the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Geneva, Switzerland.

From the UNHCR came the reply — a telephone call to London. And, months later, when the tramp steamer arrived at an English port, an immigration officer was waiting with a letter — a letter giving Anna and Karlen sanctuary. They could land in England. They could live and work there.

Under their feet, for the first time in four years, Anna and Karlen Ludovnic found solid ground. They had found a home.

An estimated 8,000 seamen in the world are refugees — sailors without a country. They are destined never to set foot on dry land, unless the office of the UNHCR can help them. This is one of the objectives of World Refugee Year. For information about the many ways in which you may help refugees, readers are asked to contact Mr. R. D. Little at TU. 4-3736. Mr. Little is Chairman of the Richmond Hill Refugee Committee.

Well Done Guides

In 1909, a group of determined girls almost broke up a Boy Scout Rally in London's Crystal Palace by appearing in strange adaptations of their brothers' Scout uniforms, and insisting on being allowed to join the game of Scouting.

Lord (then Sir) Robert Baden-Powell, being an understanding man, worked out a plan for a similar organization, suitably adapted for girls, and thus the Girl Guide Movement was born. Within a year, it had taken vigorous root in Britain and spread to Canada, Australia, South Africa and Finland.

Canada's first company was the 1st St. Catharines Company in Ontario, registered with the parent association in England in January, 1910. This year, with more than 175,000 Brownies, Girl Guides and Rangers, and 25,000 leaders, Guiding in Canada is marking its Golden Jubilee — 50 years of training young Canadian girls for healthy happy and useful citizenship.

What do Guides and Brownies do besides lining official routes, looking trim and neat in their blue or brown uniforms? When a girl joins, she promises "to do her best". She learns to follow the four Signposts of Girl Guiding: Intelligence, Handicraft, Health and Service, for all-round development of her personality. She learns to follow the wishes of the majority, to do her share of the work, to accept guidance from her leaders. Through a carefully-developed series of tests, she learns the elements of home-making, and of how to enjoy life outdoors. From the moment she becomes a member, she learns the importance of good health, by following accepted health rules and study-

ing nutrition and child care.

She may win proficiency badges by developing hobbies, interests which may lead to a chosen career. She learns to appreciate the simple things of life, acquires a love of nature, and undergoes an all-round spiritual development impossible to attain among the artificial amusements of today. Through contacts with other girls of her own age from other parts of Canada and the world, she makes new friends and learns tolerance and understanding of other cultures.

This spring, from coast to coast, a "River of Gold" will bloom in the form of thousands of golden tulips, planted by Guides and Brownies as a Jubilee "Thank You" gesture to their communities. Special Jubilee Camps are being planned during the summer, each attended by girls from every province in Canada. Every Brownie Pack and Guide and Ranger Company will observe birthday celebrations, with birthday cakes and pageantry.

Canadian girls — and their parents — are indeed fortunate to have shared Guiding during the past 50 years with other girls around the world, now numbering four-and-a-half millions. As yet another generation of 8-year-olds solemnly promise "to do my best", we are proud to wish Girl Guiding in Canada a "Happy Birthday", to wish them many, many more, and to say, as their late, great Founder and Chief may have said, "Well done, Guides!"

Girl Guides have made a worthwhile contribution to good Canadian citizenship and York County communities are fortunate to have shared in the many benefits.

— Speaking Personally — ELEMENTARY EDUCATION IN VAUGHAN TWP. (By Jane Fort Manning)

"I've been serving on the school board Many a live-long year. Why I ever got elected To me was never clear; Can't complain, for I've enjoyed it. Think of the gains that I have made. Now I'm eating 'township' dinners --All expenses paid."

So sang more than fifty former trustees of the schools in Vaughan Township as they were entertained at dinner in the Yangtze Pagoda on Thursday evening by Vaughan's Township Council and the new Township School Area Board.

School Board Chairman H. A. Constable chaired the affair. Reeve John Perry brought greetings from the township. All members of the board were present and included Vice-chairman Mrs. Mona Robertson, Trustee Mrs. Ruth Hogg, Trustee Sam Kaiser, and Trustee Milton Savage.

Deputy-reeve Victor Ryder, Councillor Jesse Bryson, Councillor Bruce Ralph, and Councillor E. W. Anstey with Reeve Perry made up a full contingent of the council.

Superintendent J. A. Gibson, Scot Presbyterian that he is, introduced the minister of his Church in Weston, Rev. R. J. Boggs, Irishman though he be, who gave a talk emphasizing the need for enthusiasm in getting a job well-done.

Rev. Boggs outlined steps to take to acquire the spark to set off the necessary quality of enthusiasm. They are: knowledge, loyalty, identifying oneself with the situation at hand, and love and understanding — or in other words a deep interest in the thing we want to see accomplished.

Necessary We All Take Interest. "There is more socialism in Canada than in England or Ireland," claimed Rev. Boggs referring especially to those of our welfare and economy which are nationalized. "It is necessary that we take our part in the ruling of our country. We must be interested in what is going on."

Chairman Constable in his remarks said, "It was the intention of our board to meet with the provisional committee (made up of representatives from each board in the township who were asked to serve last fall before the election took place) but up to now we have found it more practical to meet with individual school boards."

"We've had many problems and decisions to make though we think they are right maybe there are some who do not think so," Chairman Constable added. Later he called on several members of the former school boards for short speeches.

Former Trustees Speak Former T. S. A. No. 1, Markham and Vaughan chairman, Roy Bick said he'd heard about the need for enthusiasm at this meeting, and was hearing about automation all the time. He could say he knew something about the

need of enthusiasm in his own business, and he could certainly see automation at work in the township — when fifty trustees were out of a job and five were now doing the work they had done.

Former Trustee Harold Hayhoe of Pine Grove, said he was interested in education from the several angles, businessman, parents, and homeowner. "We are anxious to give as good an education as we can but there is a limit to what we can pay for. I hope the new board will not forget the dollar sign," he emphasized.

Purpleville's former trustee, Bill Kerr, said "We had enthusiasm in our own local area." He guessed a different type of enthusiasm would be needed for a large area.

Speaking personally — I imagine that is the way all of us in Vaughan feel. The educating of our children in elementary school encompasses only a few short years and yet of such importance. It is not something that we can be patient about for the time passes so quickly and the child is out of school. And it is something we all want, we have a certain influence over and in, albeit that the province sets up the acts by which our schools are conducted, and the elected trustees have to make final decisions.

We have to lose our little schools, yet we know crowded one room schools cannot give our beginners the best start at the same time our older children must be prepared for high school by one teacher.

One decision of the new board has already been to take some of the seven and eighth grades in overcrowded one room schools to a larger school this fall if they can be accommodated.

Good Wishes We are wishing our new board the best of good wishes, and only ask of it that it will share its problems and decisions with us. We know there is a big job to do that must be done economically and yet what is best for our children. We are glad we have Superintendent Gibson on the job, he knows our little schools and he also knows from experience how to weld the old and new into a township area organization.

Vaughan's music supervisor Hugh Martin led the trustees in an appropriate song which we quote in honor of our new board: "Beautiful dreamers, that's what we are.

Trying to forecast the future afar Trying to guess what our neighbors will do. Will they have six kids, or just one or two? Shall we add one room? Shall we add four? Have we enough staff, or shall we need more?

Shades of our ancestors! Would we were back To the little old school house That looked like a shack!"

"Dear Mr. Editor"

Thornlea School
Dear Mr. Editor:—
In an area such as Richvale East, a school building can be much more than just a school. It can and should be a community centre. Our area lacks the usual parks, churches and club-rooms common in a town or city and therefore our school must play a much larger role.

Thornlea School was poorly planned, poorly built and poorly located. It was expensive and inadequate. Most of the children require bus service to reach it. Considering future highway development plans, it seems folly to pour more money into a building which may in the very near future be so surrounded by highways as to be completely unsuitable as a school. The possibility indeed exists, that a cloverleaf at this junction may make it necessary to demolish the building.

In any event it would appear practical, for the present, to make use of Thornlea as it is, to school those children from Briggs Avenue and south, who are currently using the school and add to their number those children from Highway 7 area, now on a non-resident basis at Langstaff school in Vaughan Township.

A new school would then be required for the north west corner of School Area 1, to be located on property already in the Board's possession, to school children from Bayview, Duncan Road, 16th Avenue, Hunt's Lane and Observatory Lane, many of whom are now attending Thornlea and many more being sent on a non-resident basis (which is costly to the taxpayer) to either Vaughan or Richmond Hill Schools.

Residential development on the north side of 10th Avenue is inevitable, therefore this school should be carefully planned for radical expansion.

I beg the Board not to pour any more money into Thornlea, but consider more closely our current needs and those of the future.

Most sincerely
Ruth Crawford, Richvale

DONCASTER

Correspondent:
David Barbour
Henderson Ave.
Phone AV. 5-5205

Wedding congratulations are in order for Miss Gail Hurworth of 44 Clarke Ave., who, on Saturday, April 30, was wed at the Doncaster Bible Chapel. The groom was Mr. Henry Widowski, of Richmond Hill. Mr. Howard Hunt conducted the service.

Friends and former neighbours of the Donaldson family, now residing in Willowdale, are saddened to learn of the passing of 2 year old Ronnie. He passed away on Monday, May 2, at Orillia.

Sympathy of the community is extended to Mrs. May Barbour, 24 Henderson Ave., on the passing of her grandfather, Mr. Joseph Leruez, of Waterdown, Ont., in his 91st year.

Mrs. Barbour attended the funeral, held on Friday, April 29. Birthday greetings are in order for Stephen Morrison, 29 Sprucewood Ave., who celebrated his 11th birthday on Thursday April 28 with a dinner and bowling party.

The regular monthly meeting of the Doncaster Community Ladies' Club was held on Monday, May 2, at the home of Mrs. J. Steele, Morgan Ave.

Mrs. Allison from the St. John Ambulance Brigade was the visiting speaker who gave a very good refresher on artificial respiration.

A marathon euchre has been planned from which a donation will be given to the Thornhill and District Hockey Club.

Final arrangements were made for an annual June Tea at Mrs. H. Mizen, 77 Sprucewood Dr. on June 15.

The meeting closed with lunch being served by Mrs. Cole Sr. and Mrs. Cole Jr.

The Copper Tooling Class will be held May 16, at Henderson Ave. Public School at 8 p.m.

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