

The Liberal



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J. E. SMITH, Editor and Publisher

W. S. COOK — Managing Editor

MONA ROBERTSON, Associate Editor

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Inaugural Meetings

Municipal councils of the district will hold inaugural meetings next week, and as the newly elected representatives officially assume office, we extend to them our sincere best wishes for a successful year.

Municipal councils in this area will face many problems in 1961, and not the least of these will be the task of holding the tax line. Taxes in recent years have been increasing at a rate which to many property owners is alarming. New development and increased population make increased demands on the public treasury, and of course essential services must be maintained. However council members in 1961 must bear in mind that there is a limit to the load the home owner can carry in the way of municipal taxation.

We hope municipal councils early in 1961 will resolve that for this year anything in the way of "frills" will be eliminated from the municipal budget. In our private lives there are many luxuries everyone would like to have, but if we can't afford them, we just have to do without. It is exactly the same in our municipal business. There are many improvements we would like to have, but if at the present time it means raising the tax rate, we must stop and consider whether or not we can afford it.

This policy would mean that councils will have to say "No" to many requests and delegations in 1961. Richmond Hill tax rate increased by seven mills in 1959 and another seven mills in 1960. We do not want another seven mill increase this year.

If ratepayers are sincere in their demand for a holding of the tax line

they will have to co-operate with their elected representatives and refrain from making excessive demands. If they do not co-operate and persist in making demands for expenditures council members must have the courage to say "no". A good case can be made for many new projects in the coming year, but we believe next December the ratepayers will be inclined to endorse those members who this year say "no" to all but the necessary expenditures.

In Vaughan a new reeve takes office and with the newly elected council faces the problem of clearing the air of the disturbing rumors and charges which featured the recent municipal election. They should investigate all phases of township administration without fear or favor and make a clear-cut statement to the ratepayers.

A new reeve takes over in Markham Township and in Whitchurch, and the veteran ex-Warden William Hodgson carries on in King. There are many new faces on the municipal councils and on the trustee boards of police villages. All will have difficult problems to meet in the coming year, and in their deliberations we hope they have the sympathetic understanding of the ratepayers. Too often all we give to our elected representatives is criticism and abuse. If we want the best in municipal government, and that's just what we do want in 1961, we must do better.

Let's give our elected representatives all the help and encouragement possible in the coming twelve months. They're doing a job for us, and one which many times to them must seem a thankless one.

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 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.

Our Canadian Schools In 1961

Roy C. Sharp, former chairman of the Toronto Board of Education, is credited with saying, "We have only now come to realize that what happens in the university depends largely on what happens in the elementary school."

And as a result of this 'realization' educators and interested onlookers see far-reaching changes taking place or getting started in Canadian schools during 1961.

Perhaps the greatest change will be felt in the high schools, where increased attention will be given to the needs of 15- to 18-year olds; present high school organization; its curriculum, and courses of study. The present, highly criticized Grade 13 will also come under close surveillance, since a move to shorten the present secondary schooling requirements for Grade 12 has already been banded about, in order to offset the high percentage of failures in this "crum grade", which has been likened to a memory course rather than a study course.

Should Grade 13 be disposed of, the equivalent year of schooling would then be spent on higher-level studies — thus dispensing with the present frantic pace this grade has experienced in the past.

In 1961 on every side, budgets for school costs will rise higher again this year — and for many years to come — to meet the also rising debt charges for school construction and larger payrolls for increased teaching staffs and built-in-salary increments. This is unavoidable.

Greater stress will be laid on providing more and better technical and vocational schools, for those students

who are not, nor ever will be, 'university material' — particularly at the level of the Ryerson Institute of Technology. Facilities for the re-training of workers will also be dealt with.

Apropos of the latter — yet pointing up the new era we have entered — Nicholas Mendziuk recently complained in the House of Commons, "Farming is so mechanized that farmers who can afford help can't get it — hired men are too inexperienced to handle the machines or themselves with safety." He compared the days when a 'green' hired man could be shown how to milk a cow or cut down a tree, then left on his own to do — "but with diesel and gasoline tractors, bulldozers, combines, milking machines and trucks, farming now requires re-education," he concluded.

In 1961 something will probably be done about the mounting agitation across Canada for a uniform course of study for elementary and secondary schools and particularly for primary grades, and, failing that, for uniform textbooks in Canadian schools in certain subjects — such as history.

Programmed learning will also come under study. Programmed learning is when the student reads a short question and fills in a blank answer space at the end of the question; he then turns to the answers given, to assess for himself if he or she is ready to proceed to the next step in learning.

And although many researchers have given up 'teaching machines' as fads and have turned their attention back to book learning, it is predicted the teaching machines will have renewed interest in 1961.

It all condenses into the question — "What methods of teaching are best?"

"Dear Mr. Editor"

ENJOYED CHRISTMAS LIGHTING

Dear Mr. Editor:

I wish to congratulate whoever was responsible for the decorative lighting on Yonge Street. It sure added a bright and cheery note for the festive season. The thousands who travel busy Yonge Street will get a good impression of Richmond Hill and this is all the best of advertising. Incidentally we did all our Christmas shopping in Richmond Hill this year and we were more than delighted with the quality, variety and courteous service.

New Resident
Note: The decorative lighting on Yonge St. was the work of the Yonge St. Business and Professional Association (Ed.)

BRING BACK THE WOOD BOX

Dear Mr. Editor:
This is the time of year our young folk are under fire, and we hear and read charges of delinquent children, flabby youth, and plans and schemes to keep children gainfully occupied.

Some say our children are being molly-coddled and are degenerating into softies. I heard Thornton Burgess in a recent TV interview say he was thankful that in his childhood he had lots of chores to do after school. I think he's so right, and what our youngsters need today is more work and responsibility around the home.

Suppose instead of blaming our youngsters so much we blame the flabby fathers. That might be putting the blame where it belongs. It's a good bet that where you find children who dislike physical exercise or work, you'll find a father with a streak of laziness.

There was a time when a boy kept fit by buck-sawing wood. Now there is no such thing as a wood stove, no wood or water to carry, no ashes to carry out.

We have spectator sports and T.V. The hardest work the modern boy does today is cheer for Roy Rogers. Flabby youth isn't youth's fault; it's the fault of the home.

Old Timer

COMMENDS CO-OPERATIVE EFFORT

Dear Mr. Editor:
I was very happy to read in "The Liberal" of the Christmas activities of the Richmond Hill Co-ordinating and Counselling Committee.

The service clubs are to be commended for this co-operative effort, and I am sure in such a work they will have the whole-hearted support of the community.

Extending help to those in need is something we all want to do, but often as individuals we just don't know where to begin. It is nice to know we have such an organization as the Co-ordinating Committee. Too often I have noted in other centres where the giving is less well organized some families received a lot and unfortunately some were over-looked. I am glad to know this is a continuing organization which will be available to give help all through the year. Such a co-operative project by our service clubs will I am sure receive generous support.

Grateful

WANTS COUNTY POLICE FORCE

Dear Mr. Editor:
I read in The Liberal that there is a move to establish a County Police force, to replace the small police departments supported by the various municipalities.

I hope municipal leaders in this district will give the proposal very careful consideration because I think it has real merit.

Just follow the news in the press and every so often we read of trouble with the police department. York County municipalities can save many headaches and a lot of money by establishing a County force. I

have read the report submitted to County Council and I wish you could publish it in your paper. Civis

For Parents Only...



... by Nancy Cleaver

LET THE CHILDREN REACH DECISIONS

Fathers as well as mothers may incline to be over-protective to their almost-grown children. Parents do not like to hear plain truths. Unfortunately, in many cases, they need to be advised to let their children reach their own decisions.

One of the fundamental reasons for this undesirable situation is that all through their child's growing years parents have been sure that "Mother knows best" or "Father will tell you, the right thing to do."

They have not seen clearly enough that a child must be given the chance to decide. Sometimes he will make a poor or even a wrong choice. But he can only become accustomed to thinking through a problem, reaching a solution and acting on it through his own experience. He must have first-hand knowledge of life, not second-hand. A child must learn from failure as well as from success.

The refusal of parents to let them grow up is perhaps the one thing that irritates adolescents the most of all. Frequently there is bitter conflict between a boy or girl and one or both parents over the choice of a vocation. The same thing is true in picking a girl friend or a boy friend. Why don't parents help their children grow up by encouraging them to make their own choices. In the one matter of selecting their own work parents have committed so many blunders that one would think that the thoughtful parent would hesitate to rush in.

There are scores of biographies which tell of unhappy men and women who were forced by a father's domination to follow a profession for which they were ill-fitted. Zane Grey's father absolutely insisted that he become a dentist. He obeyed, but was miserable in his years as a dentist. Finally he abandoned this profession and turned to the writing profession in which he became famous.

Mothers may not be so strong-minded about their child's life work, but they do have a hard time in the field of human relations. It is difficult for most mothers to accept the definition of a good parent as "one who becomes progressively dispensable." Because they are so fond of their little son it is hard for them to see that by nature the companionship of his peers is his own age group, becomes increasingly important to him.

A little later on, how rare it is for a mother to look for the good points in her son's best girl. An outstanding psychologist has pointed out in this matter that "It is love that let's him go, not the possessive love that keeps him dependent. Freedom makes a boy's healthy growth so important." Mothers and fathers, are you making your children's healthy growth to maturity possible by giving them chances throughout the years to make their own choices? Are you showing your faith in them by cutting the "apron strings," which restrained them from harm when they were small?

Renowned Pianist Returning In 1961



ELINA RITCHE TEMPLIN

Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Ritchie, of Pemberton Road, Richvale, have been looking forward to the arrival of 1961, for it spells the return of their daughter, and only child, Elina, and her husband, Carl Templin, from South Africa — sometime before summer has passed.

The young couple has resided in Durban, South Africa for the past two years, where Carl is studying for his Ph. D. in Higher Mathematics, under fellowships granted by the Canadian Mathematicians Congress and the University of Natal.

Among her teachers have been, Bela Boszormenyi-Nagy of the Franz Listz Academy of Music, Budapest; Pierre Souvarin, Switzerland; Alexander Uinsky, New York; and Rudolph Gang, Chicago. While living in Canada, Elina gave recitals in Hart House, the Art Gallery, the Canadian National Exhibition — and played at St. Michael's College 75th anniversary, as well as various concerts under the auspices of the Canadian Concert Association.

She also did several radio broadcasts over the C.B.C. and the American network.

When her husband, Carl, received an invitation to continue his studies at the University of Natal, Elina met the new challenge and new horizons and since her arrival in South Africa has added further laurels to her already established career. She has given sensitive broadcasts in Durban over the South African Broadcasting Corporation, and four broadcasts on the National hookup; two recitals with the Durban Music Society and a full recital at the University of Natal with the Durban Civic Orchestra.

Of her playing a Durban music critic has said, "Elina Templin is rapidly gaining recognition for her great technical dexterity and sensitive interpretive powers." Among the many others who congratulated Elina was the famous European Impresario, Alex Cherniomy, who recently visited Toronto. After hearing her fine performance with the Durban Civic Orchestra he went backstage to offer his praise personally.

Liberalities ...

Dottie Walter

Goodbye 1960, I'm sorry you're done
Can you offer more, Little '61?

for
This was the year of the Big Debate
Nixon and Kennedy
Jean and Nate

And Castro settling Cuba's Fate
With a turkey from Vaughan on every plate.
when

Canadians journeyed far and wide
To watch the turn of the sporting tide
And visitors south, felt very lucky
With 'Victoria Park' in Old Kentucky.

And if those in Italy didn't feel so chipper
They came home to find we still had 'Whipper'.
Great news events are not forgot
'The Balcony Scenes' and Camelot
Discovery and Echo keeping their course
And 'Gina' buying a Canadian horse.

and
Oh what a year for Baby Boys
Filling Famous Fathers with manly joys
Making the whole world proud and glad
Except Mr. Fleming's 'Little Lad'.

There was gladness and sadness
And none should mock it
We got back Elvis ... but lost the Rocket
What Great Romance have you in store
That can touch the Margaret and Anthony lore?
But here's to your health,
Little '61
May your course
Be a Happy
And Peaceful
One. * Baby Budget

"A Pipe Draws Wisdom from the Lips of a Philosopher ... and Shuts Up the Mouths of the Foolish". (Thackeray)

Among the Fearless Forecasts for 1961, is the unusual prediction: This is going to be a Great Pipe Smoking Year. The prognostication is supposed to indicate more than just Dad enjoying his Christmas Briar.

The students who delve into the undercurrents of human behaviour say it has real significance. It almost portends a peaceful year! Even though the ending of 1960 must have looked pretty shaky to them, But they have their reasons ... pipe smoking rises and declines sharply in a ratio to world stress. Its last low was during World War Two. But as the Head of the Pipe and Tobacco Council pointed out: "Who can smoke a pipe in the tail turret of a B24 Bomber?" But he insists that pipe smoking follows the pattern of world tension and falls off sharply when men and countries are nervous. But now it is on the upsurge and the sale of pipes and pipe tobacco is expected to reach its highest peak in fifteen years, during 1961.

They predict, while men draw on their old seasoned pipes, they become mellow and friendly and at Peace with the World! So, Mr. Khrushchev and Mr. Castro ... put that in a pipe and smoke it!

And now we have the Image of the 1961 Man ... rugged, masculine, his pipe clenched firmly between his teeth, attacking the world problems in an unhurried sort of way.

If pipe smoking is going to be the 'Thinking Man's' pastime this year, I decided I should know a little more about it and asked my brother-in-law, who has never been moved by the rise and fall of the tide of pipe smoking, but with constant respect has puffed away at the various seasoned companions of his leisure hours and as a result has a fair knowledge of their points of excellence.

And now I wish I could call in all the pipes I have so blithely given away for presents. They probably have done more to disenchant the neophyte pipe smoker than all the anti-smoking propaganda that could be thought up.

First of all, they just didn't come from the right tree. The Best Briars, so I am told, come from the craggy mountains along the Mediterranean and are hand hewn from the gnarled roots of the White Heath Tree ... and all the time I thought 'Briar' was just another tobacco, that battled it out in big letters for top honours with 'Old Chum' on the side of a barn.

But no, this hardy old root, subsisting on almost nothing, seems able to take any amount of early hardship and finally emerge as a shining pipe bowl. A close relative to Corning ware, it can be heated, cooled, dampened and dried and still retains its original lustre. But after its tough start in life, it is given the tender treatment by people like the famous Dunhills. The roots are soaked for months in olive oil, dried and shined with the loving care of a French Polisher to bring out the grain in the knot of wood. If you like the burly look and rough finish on your pipe, you can have that too, from the Shell Briar.

But the outside finish has little to do with the Good Smoking Qualities of a pipe. Just so long as it is not varnished on the inside! But like a pony, it is how they are handled and broken-in from the initial stage, that makes them good. I am told this 'breaking in' is done with as much thought as the first mileage is run off on a car ... and that it is a labor of love.

So don't whisk off your husband's new pipe to the "Speedy Pipe Breaking Service" ... (and there is such a service). He will want to save this ritual for himself.

The experts say a new pipe should be half filled and smoked for only a few minutes a day, then cleaned with a pipe cleaner and set aside. And at no time should there be more than an eighth of an inch of carbon formed on the inside. Some men rub honey on the inside of the bowl for a distinctive sweet taste.

They warn too it is an insidious hobby and will ensnare you and very soon you will learn that true enjoyment of pipe smoking comes from having a different pipe for each day of the week — Monday, meerschaum; Tuesday, corncob; Wednesday, briar — until someday you may even find yourself exploring the mysteries of a Turkish water pipe.

You are not through with the choosing of a pipe. There is the great world of tobaccos to discover. Literally thousands of blends from all corners of the earth.

Some like it hot — some like it cool and because things are seldom what they seem, it seems, the mild mixtures smoke 'hot' and the strong mixtures are cool with 'less bite'.

If you want that personal 'Especially For You' blend, you had better not do it yourself — for the best results let the experienced tobacconist play around with the Burleys, the Virginias, the Latakias and the Periques. They will come up with something as personal to a pipe smoker as a perfume is to a woman.

If the forecasters are right and smoking a pipe may really mean a trend toward peace — I'm on the 1961 Pipeline — besides, "I love a man who smokes a pipe"

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