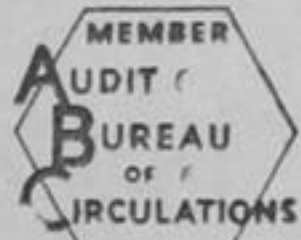


# The Liberal



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## Mayor Haggart's Decision

Mayor James Haggart of Richmond Hill broke all records when he announced on August 16th that he would not be a candidate for municipal office for 1962. Whether his decision to make his announcement this early in the year is wise is a matter which must be left to his own judgment. At least it is honest and above-board. It lets others who covet the office know exactly where they stand, as far as having to compete with a sitting Mayor is concerned.

There is little doubt but that Mayor Haggart would have been accorded the more-or-less traditional second term if he had wanted it. He claims that pressure of business forces him to withdraw from further civic service at the moment. Again, the decision is necessarily his, and his alone. It is, at least, completely understandable.

James Haggart has been a hard-working Mayor. At the beginning of

his term of office he told citizens that he would be available in his office at regular times to serve them. That engagement has been kept scrupulously. On top of that, he has spent many hours in the service of the community, particularly in the field of trying to attract industry. His regular visits to existing industries have been a practical demonstration of his interest. His close co-operation with the Industrial Commissioner, while not producing immediate results in the way of new industries for which he hoped, has doubtless been of value. Whether his policies have always been acceptable to all citizens isn't the point. The Mayor hasn't yet been born who could expect that. But it can be said of Mayor Haggart that, during his years in office, he has done his best to serve the town on whose council he sat and has devoted endless hours to the service of his fellow-citizens.

## "Bits And Pieces" Parks

A few weeks ago this newspaper published an aerial map of Richmond Hill, showing the location of the various parks and parkettes and giving a list of them, together with approximate sizes.

It was noticeable that many of the areas were small. Undoubtedly such "parkettes" have definite value, providing open spaces and small local playgrounds throughout the town. At the same time they have distinct disadvantages, both from the point of view of the Parks Board, which must operate them, and the people who use them. In certain sections, for instance, residents of neighbouring property, while possessing all the good-will in the world, can hardly be expected to cheer for a playground which abuts their own well-kept properties. A further disadvantage is that some of the park areas are so small that it is difficult to put them to practical use. They are obviously costly to administer, in comparison with larger areas.

It is easy to understand how such small parks came into existence.

A number of them were created through the regulation which demands that a subdivider must deed five per cent of his projected building area to the municipality. At the discretion of municipal authorities, a cash equivalent can be accepted instead. This newspaper believes, without attempting to be critical, that it would have been better in more cases to have taken the money. It is possibly another of those matters which slipped by in the growth spurge which hit Richmond Hill a few years ago, and which have had to be lived with since.

Whatever may be the case, the fact remains that it is an error which can and should be guarded against in future expansion. The growing area of the town will inexorably demand larger parks. The cost of available land, Parks Board officials admit even now, is likely to be a headache. Storing up a little cash instead of bits and pieces of land seems like a sane way to meet the needs of the future.

## Experiment Worth Watching

Through a recent decision by Richmond Hill Town Council, in co-operation with the Ontario Department of Highways, a series of traffic lights within the town limits on Yonge Street has become a practical certainty. Whether or not they will prove a cure for bottle-necked traffic, only time can tell. Proponents of the lights declare that they will help move traffic in orderly fashion. While admitting that they may slow traffic down, yet they claim that orderliness of movement will, in the long run, make for speed. Those opposing the installation of the lights hold that they will cause a continuous series of traffic delays throughout the whole north-south length of the town, making the eventual outcome far worse than the present situation.

Only one thing seems to be certain. That is that pedestrians, providing they cross at the lights, may find getting from one side of Yonge Street to the other a speedier and safer operation than it is at present.

A Detroit experiment now being carried out may prove to be the

answer to the situation in Richmond Hill and comparable ones elsewhere. The "traffic pacer" system is based to some extent on a system used in Germany to improve both road capacity and traffic safety. Under it a series of illuminated signals hangs over the pavement. Numeral twenty inches high tell motorists what speed they must maintain to reach the next traffic signal when it is green. "Pre-lights" a short distance ahead of the intersection signals will stop most of the traffic, then give it a rolling start before it reaches the intersection.

In theory, heeding the speed advisories would permit the driver to cover a considerable distance without stopping for a red light. During a twelve-week test the traffic pacer system, a progressive traffic lights system and the present system by which lights are not co-ordinated will all be tested.

The results should prove interesting to those whose duty it is to control traffic in Richmond Hill and in similar places.

## "Out Of Evil . . . . ."

Remember Hazel?

She's the girl who, a few years ago, went on a terrific rampage, carrying people to death in her waters and creating damage and destruction over a wide area. But, if a cliché might be forgiven, this is another of the cases where the old adage about it being an ill wind that blows nobody good is distinctly applicable. For Hurricane Hazel of detestable memory has, like many another woman before her, turned evil into good.

The damage and destruction she wrought has resulted in action through conservation authorities which should prevent a repetition. Those measures are constantly being reported in this and other newspapers. Sometimes we wonder if the general public is fully aware of their import or of the size of the job which

is being done. Over an extended period of time, bit by bit the walls are being built, quietly and stoutly, without the fanfare and headlines which accompanied Hazel's debut. They will prevent similar headlines in the future, we hope.

Not only that, but the conservation projects which are gradually killing the chances of Hazel or any of her sisters creating the same amount of destruction again are having another effect. Also reported in this and other newspapers are the almost fantastic attendances which are making use of conservation projects as parks and breathing spaces. People in their tens of thousands are enjoying them in a way hardly dreamed of when flood control was initiated.

Truly, out of Hazel's evil has come the people's good.

## Second Thoughts . . .

By George Mayes  
PROVING THAT YESTERDAY'S NEWS IS NOT NECESSARILY DEAD.

In another tie-in with our title, there are several rather macabre possibilities inherent in the undertaking profession's plans for die now, pay later, funerals. Will they send their collectors after us if we default our payments? Or will they repossess? And will we hear the familiar stories about the little old ladies as we shop their used-casket lots? . . . Maybe it will just be simpler to stay alive until we can afford to pay cash.

And on the same topic, we can't help feeling a certain morbid curiosity over the trucking trouble on Toronto's Erskine Avenue. Just what is the Mount Hope Cemetery doing with its daily quota of 1,000 loads of earth? Does it have a new system?

The Tely's "Operation Survival" certainly proved that a man can stay alive in the bush for three weeks with nothing but a parachute-tent, penicillin and plenty of insect repellent. . . . If he stays at an abandoned camp site complete with cast-off cooking tins, fish hooks and potatoes.

It may be just coincidence, but it does seem that the Berlin brew has come to a boil since Dave Garraway stopped raising his hand each morning and sternly admonishing: "Peace!"

In another pure coincidence, the Toronto theatres' Foto-Nite contest had a jackpot winner less than a week after Pierre Berton pointed out that there hadn't been one for three years.

Fred Gardiner, in announcing his return to politics (And when was he out?), says: "I don't need to apologize for being a Conservative." . . . But, as the saying goes, would he want his daughter to marry one?

Some residents of Inverness, Scotland, are getting a reduction in their taxes because of the proximity of a distillery. The aroma, they say, is at times unbearable. . . . It's enough to drive a man to drink!

We wonder if the Burlington police have realized yet that the "bomb" reported to be in their arena during the Miss Canada contest was really the contest itself.

But there is no doubt about the cleverness of the Toronto police. They are arresting pickets at the Manufacturer's Building at the Ex—which, considering the fire, and unless they are playing games with the buildings' names, is a pretty neat trick.

And an enquiry into the activities of the Quebec Liquor Police has revealed that the force had four members who were "never seen at work" . . . Now there was a real secret service!

## "Dear Mr. Editor"

QUESTIONS MARKHAM ROAD REPAIRS

Dear Mr. Editor:

As a ratepayer of Richmond Hill it is now my turn to speak. It took us a long time to get Markham Road all decently paved. We spent many years travelling our district on a dirt track. Has anyone noticed it recently? Everyone must have, it is very hard to miss. I took a drive along there last week and saw one patchy mess. Was this really Markham Road? Was the workmanship so poor that it had to be repaired already, and if it did need repairing, could it not have been done properly, instead of having the asphalt stopped and left all over the place.

It is time too for the people of Richmond Hill to look around them. Why should everyone have gardens and fences alike. Where are the brains and ideas of our people? Use your own ideas and don't be a copier. Let's not keep up with the Jones by copying them, be smart and find something better, after all Mr. Jones was, wasn't he? Take a drive around the Hill sometime, just to look, it's really getting smart.

I Took a drive

REGRETS MAYOR'S RETIREMENT

Dear Mr. Editor:

Like many of my fellow citizens I read with regret the announcement that Mayor James Haggart will not stand for re-election.

We don't necessarily have to agree with all our Mayor has done to say with utmost sincerity that he has been an industrious and devoted public servant. His retirement at the end of the year will leave a vacancy which will be hard to fill.

The announcement points up with emphasis the continually increasing demands made on those who serve in municipal office. Too often as ratepayers we are not only not appreciative but to add to the burdens of our hard-worked representatives we shower them with criticism and abuse.

In looking about for a successor for Mayor Haggart, we must find one with not only the qualification, but also one who has the time and inclination to give a lot of time to public service.

The office of Mayor is a most important one; thanks to Mayor Haggart for giving the people ample time to assess the qualifications of prospective successors.

CIVIS

SCHOOL BUS FOR CONCORD

Dear Mr. Editor:

Residents of the Concord area feel that it is time to drag the school bus situation out of mothballs again and see what can be done. We notice that residents of the Jefferson area are having a similar problem with the Vaughan Township School Area Board.

Families in our Elmwood Acres area are only slightly within the two-mile limit. Over half of the distance is on a very busy major highway. Surely Vaughan Township School Area Board could bend a little and provide a bus.

At the present time, parents pay thirty dollars a year for each child riding on the bus. This so-called "cheaper rate" is available only because we take second place to the high school students - that is, after they have been transported to Thornhill High School the bus returns to pick up the Concord School pupils.

Sometimes, unavoidably, the children aren't picked up until nine o'clock or after.

During the past few months, two boys were hit on the highway, one hurt quite badly, requiring surgery. Perhaps we should be thankful that our accident rate is not higher, but with proper bus facilities, it could be lowered. With the coming of the C.N.R., traffic is heavier than ever and the danger to youngsters greater than ever. As someone has said, children are carefree, not careless, and motorists must be ever watchful.

The whole point of argument is that parents wouldn't even support a private bus, if it can be called that, if it weren't for the highway problem. After all, we aren't looking for ways to spend money. People in other areas have taken a stand on this problem and it is high time we did. There are over sixty children riding on this bus now and the number is increasing.

What would it be like if we parents suddenly decided not to support a bus any longer? Can you imagine sixty or seventy children straggling along the highway between eight and nine in the morning, at the time when trucks are most numerous, and again between three forty-five and four-thirty? Those people who are fearful of being subsidized for another bus should take note that they are now, or will be, subsidized for high school buses and public school buses in other areas. Why not lend a little support to our own community? One alternative: build us an access road north of the highway and we'll gladly let our kiddies walk.

(Mrs.) Ruth Keffer Concord

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## Your Community Hospital

(On August 10th "The Liberal" published the first of a series of articles describing the steps necessary in the organization of a community hospital. That article was written by Mr. G. J. Chatfield, recently appointed administrator for the new hospital which, when many hurdles have been jumped, will serve the southern part of York County. For the next few weeks Mr. Chatfield will detail the many phases in the intricate processes which go into the establishment of a hospital, in a series of articles in "The Liberal." The following is one of them. EDITOR)

## Looking Backward . . .

NEWS WHEN INGRAM CAME TO MAPLE

(This issue of "The Liberal" carries a story about 75-year-old William Ingram, Maple resident who arrived in Canada in 1907, and who has been a subscriber to the home town newspaper ever since. The news below is what he read in the issue published shortly after his arrival in York County—EDITOR.)

A Presbyterian, Mr. Ingram arrived at about the time the funeral was held for George Stewart Bell, church elder at Maple, from Elder's Mills. He may well have thought that fate had conspired so that his arrival represented an illustration of the law of spiritual supply and demand.

Vaughan Township Council met on February 12 at Vellore and among other things authorized the treasurer to pay Arthur S. Fry \$1.80 for sharpening picks and Berwick Weldrick \$2.80 for 40 yards of gravel relative to a minor road repairing project in Road Division No. 2.

Mr. Ingram worked on a farm just south of Richmond Hill the first year of his arrival in Canada and doubtless had occasion to shop at Naughton Bros., Elgin Mills, where, in February, "ladies' prunella slippers with elastic ankles, size 3", were selling for 20 cents. They represented early day "loss leaders" though termed differently.

"The Liberal" ran this intriguing item under "LOCALS HERE" it reads: "The above notice is posted up in a fashionable tailoring establishment not far from this office. The request to frequenters of the shop, not to transgress, will not be considered unreasonable, as it cannot be said the proprietor has ever broken such a rule himself. Alas, we'll never know whether the word "Aloud" bespoke the proprietor's sense of humour or the printer's error."

Shortly before Mr. Ingram arrived in the district, Richmond Hill's municipal election recorded the largest vote ever without any remuneration, to

actions occurring in your hospital. They are trustees in every sense of the word.

In the next columns we will see how the board delegates direct responsibilities for the hospital's operation, through the appointment of an administrator and a medical staff.

H. Pugsley took 105 votes and runner-up P. G. Savage 85. Councilors elected for 1907 were H. A. Nicholls, 111; T. T. French, 110; E. Barker, 104, and J. H. Sanderson, 100.

A cough cure was being sold by a Dr. Shoop and the hint was plain in the advertisement. When you whooped, you Shooped, if you had any sense.

Health was not a topic of great legislative interest in those days. "The Liberal" (February 14, 1907) reported: "Aside from the extraordinary expenditure of \$26,000 at Fort William as a result of the typhoid fever epidemic, the cost of maintaining health in the 497 urban municipalities of this province was only 32 cents for each inhabitant." Including the Fort William expenditure, Ontario spent \$60,000 on health.

Science had the farmer's interest at heart, as witness the prediction of an official of the federal government experimental farms, Ottawa. He said that recent scientific experiments made with a view to extracting by means of electricity nitrogen from air, to be used as a fertilizer, showed that when perfected the scheme would revolutionize agriculture. The scheme was called ATMOSPHERIC-NITROGEN.

Richmond Hill Council, late in February, drafted a \$1,000 debenture by-law for the purpose of improving Centre Street East and gave notice that a vote on the by-law would be held on March 26.

Mr. Ingram and all other citizens were advised by "The Liberal" that "it will cost you only 25 cents to the end of the year if you leave your subscription order at "The Liberal" office."

WHITEVALE: Wilson's Mill, built by the man after whom the settlement was named, Truman P. White, in 1855, has been destroyed by fire. It was one of the few water-powered mills in existence.

## The Richmond Theatre

Continuous Daily from 7 p.m. (6 p.m. on Saturdays) Saturday, Children's Matinee 2 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE August Holiday Matinees Every Wed. and Sat. at 2 p.m.

Thur., Fri., Sat., Aug. 24-25-26

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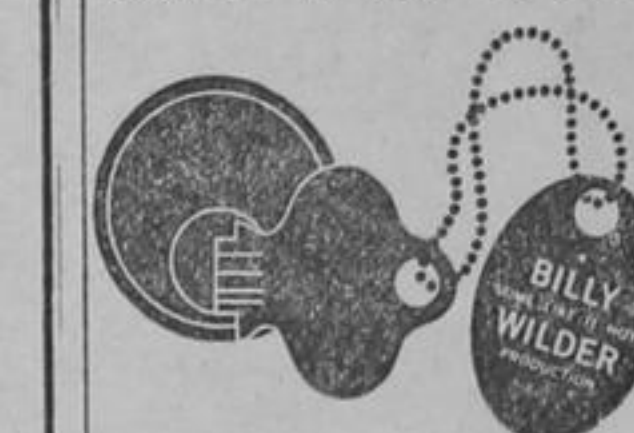
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An Important Element To An Active Boy.

Won't you please have YOUR MONEY READY when your carrier calls this month? Your help will be greatly appreciated by him.

Published in the interests of "The Liberal" carrier organization by the Circulation Department of "The Liberal."

"The Liberal"

'Episode No. 13'

OF "CAPTAIN VIDEO"



Plus

'Episode No. 13'

OF "CAPTAIN VIDEO"