

# The Liberal



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## Just In Case

Reeves and Deputy-reeves who form York's County Council were obviously impressed when the Canadian Army gave a recent demonstration of preparedness. While holding their sessions at Newmarket they visited the old York Manor building, now the headquarters of the army group which, in peace, prepares for nuclear war as Toronto Target Area headquarters. That preparations were "for real" was abundantly obvious. This was no game of playing at soldiers, county councillors soon learned. Whether or not nuclear bombs would be unleashed wasn't the question. That, army men made plain, wasn't their concern. Theirs was the assigned job of being ready to save lives and restore order if disaster struck. Performance, not politics, was their sphere.

single-minded devotion to the cause of democratic government — government by the people, for the people. Every step of extensive plans was based on the premise that, if humanly possible, civil authority must be paramount. Even in the worst emergency, it was made clear, organized civilian government would be given a chance to carry on. The army was to be the servant of the people — not the master.

County councillors — some of them admitting that they had been more than a little bit ready to scoff — were visibly impressed with the thoroughness and the common-sense of the army's preparations. It's to be hoped that the plans now being perfected will remain just that — preparations only. But it's somewhat comforting to know that there's a degree of realistic common-sense thinking and planning going on — just in case.

Dear Mr. Editor

BAYVIEW AVE. HAZARDOUS

The tragic accident of November 10th on Bayview Ave., plus the numerous minor accidents in the past, prompts this letter to "The Liberal" in an effort to enlist public support to offset a known dangerous situation.

Bayview Ave. is an extremely busy thoroughfare and could well be compared to Yonge St., except that Bayview is generally in an unsatisfactory state of repair and the speed limit appears to be one of individual choice. It is a narrow road, with deep ditches on either side, and the street lighting leaves much to be desired.

Bayview High School students and pedestrians in general — particularly small children, must jeopardize their safety by sharing this narrow, pot-holed road with the heavy flow of traffic of varying speeds. icy roads and fog conditions present particular hazards.

Whether or not town council retains the responsibility for Bayview, or if county council assumes it, - we ask that serious consideration be given to providing a sidewalk, or a gravelled pathway, from Crosby Ave., to Markham Road. The increasing number of students attending Bayview High School represents a KNOWN group who must traverse this road twice daily.

Added to this fact is the KNOWN heavy unrestricted traffic - and this indicates a need for normal safety precautions.

- L. Thompson
- Mrs. J. A. Price
- Mrs. E. Dobbs
- Mrs. Hilda Ludlow
- H. C. Betts
- E. Dobbs
- Mrs. G. Eschenlohr
- U. A. Everard
- J. W. Kippen
- Mr. and Mrs. Pitt
- H. A. Eubank
- Mrs. Irene Worrell

## More Night Patrols Will Operate Again During Snow Season

Night patrols for snow removal service during the winter months will be augmented again this year, members of York County Council were told in a Toronto and York Roads Commission report while in session recently.

Last year the patrols were increased from one to five, all operating from the main yard on the Don Mills Road. It was apparent through comparing accident rates on the highways during the winter months that the additional service had been of great benefit and it was decided to carry it on again this year. Patrols will start according to the weather.

NEWMARKET: A policeman was lucky enough to own one of those "illegal" sweepstakes tickets and collected \$28,000 as a result. Deputy Chief James Leeder held a ticket on "Miss Riffin" which came third in the recent Cambridgeshire Handicap in England.

## Second Thoughts . . .

by George Mayes  
● Proving that yesterday's news is not necessarily dead.

If survivors of a nuclear attack can find their post office, it will supply them with "Survival Cards" for mailing to their relatives. . . . Wish you were here?

Last week's "Liberal" reported touchingly on our "New Concept in Canine Treatment". Now, if we could just get our barking "Friends" to reciprocate with a Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to People. . . .

The Niagara Falls Chamber of Commerce was told that there is nothing to induce visitors to stay after they have seen the Falls. . . . Has this "Instant" trend even got around to honeymoons?

And in a real emergency, Immigration Minister Ellen Fairclough would act for the federal government if communications were disrupted. . . . What do they expect her to do, scream?

The chairman of Oakville's Public School Board says that criticism of trustees taking their wives to conventions is "very, very narrow". . . . And leaving them at home would result in some traditional "broad" criticism.

Marcel Ouimet, general manager of the French-language C.B.C. network, leaves some doubt as to which side he's on when he says: "A Quebec split could kill the C.B.C.". A lot of non-separatists might find the prospect irresistible.

A description of a community shelter being tested in the U.S. says it is equipped with bunks (one bed for each two persons). . . . Sounds cozy, doesn't it?

Philadelphia's plan to tranquilize its pesky pigeons should get a big play from the American comedians, e.g.: When you're tranquilized in Philadelphia, man—you're really tranquilized!

We thought Toronto motorists were slipping when we saw the Star heading: "Car Misses Fleeing Pedestrian"; but it turned out to be a woman driver.

Malton must be a really mixed-up place. According to a Toronto Township Councillor it's going backward faster than it's going ahead. . . . And this is in addition to its normal ups and downs.

And Scarboro's works engineer was told by his council that—rather than pay for a weather service—he should listen to the reports on CHUM. . . . What—and have to wait ten minutes? Why not CFGM? where (we'll swear) they give them on a hockey basis: After every period.

## Lovely Local Majorettes



Local senior majorettes are seen at one of their regular weekly practice sessions at the M. L. McConaghy Public School. Strutting their best are (left to right) Captain June Maitland, Liz Hope, Beryl Hall and Paddy Maitland. (Photo by Lagerquist.)

## Bradstock Wants Information

# Take-over Of Bayview By County Once Thought Certain - Delayed

The possibility of Bayview Avenue in Richmond Hill being taken over by York County at an early date dimmed considerably during last week's session of York County Council. It, with other roads, was recommended for county adoption by the special roads committee earlier in the year.

Last week the Toronto and York Roads Commission wished to study the extension of the system in a more thorough manner and to report at the January session of council, it was declared. At that time if it was deemed advisable to recommend that additional roads be assumed, estimates will be included in the annual budget.

The attitude of the Toronto and York Road Commission brought strong criticism from county council members. The by-laws should be amended so that there was faster action and a clearer picture, declared Reeve Roy Pollock of North Gwillimbury. Deputy Reeve John Bradstock of Richmond Hill spoke forcibly. "We should know where we stand," he declared. Reeve Howard Anderson of Georgia Township was also critical. "This will be the same thing as happened yesterday to our police," he said, referring to action which saw the proposal for unification of municipal police force shelved.

**Commission Hits Back**  
Vice-chairman Norman Long of the commission hit back strongly. He declared that the commission would not be stampeded into action until it saw its way clear to take over roads. It is likely that the subject will be reopened at another session of county council to be held in December.

**Stouffville** — Nearly 1,400 feet of telephone cable was cut from its poles and hauled away on the 10th concession road in Markham Township. More than 40 subscribers were without service for a day. A telephone company spokesman said the material was valueless except as scrap. Wire was stolen in the same area three years ago.

## Have You Read These?

**(Book Reviews from the Richmond Hill Public Library)**  
**Carl Sandburg**, by Harry Golden (World, 1961). Carl Sandburg is one of the few American writers whose personality as well as poetry has succeeded in capturing the public imagination. Harry Golden, an old friend, explains that Sandburg comes from poet-ism, - by John A. Armstrong (Random House, 1961). This is a major study of the Communist party of the Soviet Union from 1934 to the present, by a professor at the University of Wisconsin.

**The Modern British Monarchy**, by Sir Charles Petrie (Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1961). A survey of the role of the monarchy to the work on the Lincolnshire Victoria's time by a connoisseur of the monarchist. This is interesting and convincing reading.

**The Careless Corpse**, by Brett Halliday (Torquil, 1961). The latest work of this author is Michael Shayne's forty-first case. **The Hidden Springs**, by Renee Haynes (Devin-Adair, 1961). An enquiry into extra-sensory perception, by the wife of Jerrard Tickell.

**Watchers at the Pond**, by Franklin Russell (Knopf, 1961). In this enjoyable volume, Mr. Russell describes the incredibly intricate interplay of living and dying, feeding, breeding, and killing, defending and fleeing of the myriads of creatures that live in and about a single northern wilderness pond. This picture of life is set against the recurring seasons; typical of the many dramatic and convincing episodes is a description of a sudden Arctic storm that breaks on the unsuspecting denizens just before the onset of spring. One of the best books in recent months on the animal kingdom.

**Promise at Dawn**, by Romain Gary (Harper, 1961). Romain Gary, author of *Lady L*, *The Roots of Heaven*, and other novels, has at last written his autobiography. Written with a Gallic flair, frankness and humor, it is as much the biography of his amazingly strong-willed and worshipping mother, once an actress in Moscow, who scribbled and sacrificed for him. The book tells of Gary's boyhood in Moscow, Vilno, and Nice, and the struggle of his mother, largely unassisted and alone, to give her son every advantage. Gary tells of the war years, and his tour of duty in the French Air Force, and his escape from North Africa. He details his adventures and tragedies as an airman, and his tribal marriage to an African girl. A book, packed with adventure and romance, as well as being a portrait of two dominant people.

**Spirit Lake**, by MacKinlay Kantor (World, 1961). The climax of this voluminous, detailed novel of the American frontier is the Indian massacre of white settlers at Spirit Lake, Iowa, in 1857. The author weaves together accounts of the settlers and Indians, involved in or affected by the massacre, tracing histories of families and filling in portraits of individuals so

## Thank You To A Trio

Announcement of the retirement from Richmond Hill Town Council of Deputy-Reeve John Bradstock and Councillor Howard Whillans, and from the Public School Board of Trustee Cecil Williams, is to be regretted. The three represent a class — that of younger businessmen — whose assistance in the job of operating town and schools is needed.

It must be said that their decisions are understandable. The complex problems of municipal government make many demands on those who offer themselves for service to their fellow-citizens. For men with young families, growing businesses and other interests, the demands sometimes become intolerable.

Deputy-Reeve John Bradstock has served Richmond Hill well. His work in connection with parks and the formation of the present parks board has been a solid contribution to civic betterment. His judgment on other matters has been quiet but well-reasoned.

This newspaper does not always

see eye-to-eye with Councillor Whillans. It believes that his attitude with regard to what he believes to be inevitable absorption into Metro has been mistaken. But it does pay him the tribute of recording that he has been a hard worker and constant in his attendance to his duties on council and on planning board. He has never hesitated to speak his mind plainly, leaving no doubt as to where he stood. That, in political circles, can be counted as virtue.

Trustee Cecil Williams will be missed on the Richmond Hill Public School Board. Here is another case where demands on time have robbed a man of the home life to which he is entitled. It is good to know that he will continue to serve the municipality in other capacities, such as the planning board.

To all three a vote of thanks is due—thanks that they have devoted time and effort to their fellow-citizens. It is to be hoped that other younger men of the community will step forward to fill their places.

## A Boomerang Is Possible

Vaughan Township Council achieved a masterpiece of diplomacy and tact in the wording of its recent statement covering the appointment of a superintendent of secondary education by the York Central District High School Board, of which the township is a part. The appointment, which is estimated to cost taxpayers of the area at least \$20,000 annually, has been the subject of hot controversy.

In its committee report, later adopted unanimously by township council, Vaughan Council said: "The committee discussed the proposed appointment of a superintendent of secondary school education for the York Central District High School Board. In view of the provisions of the provincial statutes limiting the authority of the council respecting secondary school administration, the committee is reluctant to comment on this matter. However, in view of the township having to raise the necessary funds through taxation and also having regard to the conflict of opinion amongst the members of the present high school board respecting the appointment, it is recommended that the clerk be directed to request that the high school board review the merits of appointing a superintendent at this time."

The statement does one thing definitely. Trustees appointed by Vaughan Township gave conflicting reports on the stand of the municipality to the high school board at its last meeting. The statement indicates that the information given by Trustee Al. Peck was the accurate interpretation.

Vaughan Township Council properly admits the autonomy of the high school board. It admits its inability to do anything in the situation. But "velvet glove" phrasing indicates pretty thoroughly what the council is thinking. The diplomatic language of the statement says quite plainly by implication — "This is no time to go ahead. Think of the taxpayers!"

By weight of numbers, proponents of the superintendent's appointment have made their point. But — have they won a battle and lost a war?

ment have made their point. But — have they won a battle and lost a war?

Leaders of three of the municipalities involved undoubtedly have public opinion on their side — most emphatically. Those trustees who have forced their wishes on unwilling municipal leaders and unwilling taxpayers may find themselves out in the cold when reappointments are under consideration. An impression that the high school board is completely unwilling to co-operate with municipalities has unfortunately and almost indelibly been created during 1961. There can be little doubt that Richmond Hill, whether it acts or not, will at least make a thorough study of the possibility of withdrawing from the present York Central District High School Board set-up, forming its own board of education to administer both public and high schools. That would not be a healthy situation for its good neighbours of Vaughan, Markham and Woodbridge, albeit an understandable one.

The unfortunate situation which has developed gives still more impetus to the strong movement to have high school trustees elected, the same as public school trustees. That move is gathering justifiable strength. It will be recalled that over nine hundred delegates to the Ontario Municipal Association Convention this year voted unanimously to ask the provincial government to take the necessary legislative action. Trustees would then be forced to account to the public, the same as members of other bodies administering taxpayers' affairs.

In the long run it may be that the failure of the high school board to sit down around a table with other interested parties, in an effort to arrive at a workable solution in the best interests of both students and taxpayers, may have boomeranged. It wouldn't be by any means the first example of its kind.

We repeat — the high school board may have won a battle and lost a war.

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