

The Liberal



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Apartment Lot Fees

Richmond Hill Town Council is on the right track in its decision to review the question of the amount of lot fees to be charged on apartment developments. The matter of apartment lot fees was highlighted by the request of builder Ben Freedman for a refund on the fees he has already paid on his Colborne Ave. property. Mr. Freedman originally intended to construct three houses and accordingly paid the municipality \$1,950 in lots fees. After digging three basements he changed his mind and decided instead to build a 35 suite apartment building. He then secured permission from the planning board to change his property back from three separate lots to one lot on which to build his apartment. At present Richmond Hill charges lot fees of \$500 on single lots and \$800 on semi-detached lots. In addition a builder must take a five percent land dedication for park purposes or in

lieu of this make a \$150 donation per lot.

Obviously a new category is required covering apartment development. It stands to reason an apartment development should certainly pay more in lot fees than a person building a single family dwelling. The schedule of lot fees should be graduated to cover single units, semis and apartments. If Reeve Floyd Perkins' forecast of increased apartment construction in the Bayview Avenue South area this year is correct then it is imperative that council prepare a new schedule of lot fees as quickly as possible. The next question is on what basis should apartment lot fees be calculated. The suggestion has been made that it should be calculated on the number of suites any proposed building will contain. Regardless of what the final decision may be a schedule of apartment lot fees is certainly needed.

Rambling Around

By Elisabeth Kelson

THE GRANDMOTHERS OF OUR CHILDREN

As the second Sunday in May approaches, it is only natural that we should turn our thoughts to our mothers, and especially all those wonderful mothers who are grandmothers to our children. It is of them I am thinking as Mother's Day draws near. Some of those mothers may be just tender memories for their children but for those who are still living, may they reap the harvest of love that they so richly deserve. Every mother has her difference, I suppose, but to me, Mother was a very special kind of person. I guess you would call her old-fashioned by present day standards. Her hands were willing servants for others, though her feet often dragged because of a disabling arthritis. She never complained. Even in these later years, she keeps going, slowly and painfully, in the service of her family. When I look at her now, I see that she is little and as sweet as can be. Her face has acquired that aged and gentle look that only time being well used can bring. I never saw my mother lose her temper. She must have at times, but I didn't see it. She wasn't one to foist her troubles on other people. There are things that I forget about my mother, things like whether she was a spic and span housekeeper seven days a week, though I'm sure she made the best use of her time whatever it was. She is still a good cook, but I do not remember the goodness of the food as much as her smile. The things that stay with me the most are things she did to make me feel like a person. She let me know that she loved me. She always listened to me . . . and encouraged me when I needed it. She showed her pride in my accomplishments whenever they merited it, and when they didn't she didn't blame or scold. Somehow I know I didn't always deserve her patience and her gentleness, but well that was her way with us all. One special thing I remember was that she used to sing snatches of songs when she was doing dishes, baking bread or sewing. She sang the same songs to some of her grandchildren while they sat upon her knee in the old-fashioned rocker. Now they sing them with her. She loved to tell stories about when she was a girl in Norway and because she was a sea-captain's daughter, she instilled in me a love for ships and the sea and a beautiful land of fords and mountains. She was an artist in her soul.

And so this Mother's Day, I think of you so much, dear grandmother of my children and also of all the other grandmothers who have their own special place in the hearts of their children.

MARY LEE AXELSON WRITES STORIES FOR CHILDREN

Mary Lee Axelson, 15 Highland Park Blvd. took up writing simply because she didn't want to be bogged down while she was raising her family. So thanks to an understanding husband who is also editor of a McLean-Hunter trade publication on Canadian Shipping and Marine Engineering, she began to write when her last child grew out of babyhood. She experimented with children's stories because her husband gave her the soundest of all possible advice to a would-be writer. "Write about something you know." The results were very successful and she is now an established writer of children's stories.

"It was lucky for me that I followed my husband's advice," said Mrs. Axelson, "because the children are my best critics. I test all my stories on them. I find that they are quicker to sense a mistake than even an adult." Mary Lee Axelson explained that her stories have been more or less involved with animals, and she is kept informed by her publishing company, DANNY BOOKS OF CANADA, a firm that has its home office in Sweden, just what is the current need on the market. Her books are translated into five languages, Spanish, German, French, English and Swedish. The number of books published so far is 19 and the length of the book depends on the age group. Two of her books are currently being used for supplementary reading in Quebec schools. They are "Sentry Skunk," and "Chubby Beaver's Secret Door." This last one sold over 150,000 copies.

Mrs. Axelson finds writing a real challenge and she plans to go into other fields and perhaps try her hand at writing radio scripts or plays. She has already produced a book on adult fiction and she has received favorable comment from an American publisher with the recommendation to rewrite it. Mary Lee Axelson is a member of the Toronto Branch of the Canadian Women's Press Club, and finds association with other writers stimulating to her work. "Writing has been a great thing for me," she declared, "it has given me a keener appreciation of life . . . and made me more analytical and discerning. I believe it has made me more interesting to my children as an individual and in general it has made my life rich and full. Because my husband is an editor, he understands my need to write, and the writing and selling of my books has really given us something to talk about." Mary Lee mentioned that writing was also good discipline for her in order to be as prolific as she is, she writes 600 words a day, come rain or come shine.

I hope many of you had the pleasure of seeing Mrs. Axelson being interviewed by the CBC on Open House, on Friday afternoon, May the fourth.

WHY ARE WE SO INCURIUS?

Why is it that visitors to Toronto or other places usually take note of the points of interest about a place while the people who live there never seem to find the time. It is so, more or less with most of us. Look at how close many of us live to the City of Toronto. You will be astonished at the number of things that you have not seen . . . because they are so near. Have you been to see historic old Fort York or the Toronto Museum? How about the Toronto Art Gallery, Casa Loma and others? I haven't been to all of them either though it is only a short ride by bus or subway and I think about all the other places in Toronto I'd like to see, but I am always going, but I never seem to get there.

This habit of being incurious is a general affliction and nearly all of us suffer from it. If a thing can be done anytime, that's the thing that never gets done. If people in Thornhill, Richmond Hill, and other points in the district knew that Pioneer Village was going to be blown to bits by a bomb tomorrow, many would rush off to see it this afternoon. But we are conscious that we have a whole lifetime to see it, so we never do. Pioneer Village is close. Perhaps it is too close. We think we can go there anytime. This attitude keeps us from exploring our own village, knowing our own streets, our county, our own province, and our own country. We're in it. We may eventually get to Florida, London, England, or Japan but chances are we'll never really see Canada. Because we live in it. We're always going to explore it some time, but we have all the time in the world . . . or so we think!

"Dear Mr. Editor"

ARE WE EXPLOITING OUR YOUNG HOCKEY PLAYERS?

Dear Mr. Editor: Congratulations to Ron Crane for his fine and most informative article in last week's Liberal. The Sing Alongs had quite a season. They played a total of 59 games and won forty of these; some record. Of course there was no mention of the number of exhibition games played during the season that would surely bring it up to close to seventy games — this record would almost compare with the pros. And these boys are only eleven years of age and under. Last Thursday this club played two games in the Brampton Hockey Tournament and were required to play a game in the King Clancy Series at George Bell Arena. The article Sports Writer Ron Crane wrote in "The Liberal" stated that Coach Earl Methé had to help exhausted and injured players from the ice. Then at eight minutes to go the coach withdrew the team from the ice and bench expressed terms of fair play and commendation to the coach for his heroic action — in view of that he was in danger of suspension; should he be suspended? Quite a story Ron, but from you it is anything but typical. Maybe the fact that the team played the third game one day — never occurred to you in the light of its serious effect on the mental and physical condition of these boys — eleven years of age and under.

Why, in the name of all that is good common sense were these boys entered in this third game? Was this a sound decision? Are we trying to find out how many games that boys, still in their formative and baby years, can stand? Are we trying to exploit our youth? Are we trying to create a pro? Are we trying to build up the prestige of a coach, a town, an association — just what are we trying to do? Under these conditions we are creating a slave market in hockey or attempting to create physical ruin with our young, healthy and ambitious boys. Fifty-seven games and "XX" number of practices — what have the educators to say about this? Boys — eleven years of age and under.

What created this situation anyway? From my dealings with the association it is quite clear that any boy of eligible age, living in the confines of Richmond Hill is eligible to play hockey in our town. A fee of \$5.00 upon registration, plus a twenty-five cent admittance fee per game is necessary and fair in order to operate the R.H.H.A. Boys with desire and character are not restricted through lack of funds. After registration they are allocated to different teams and to the best ability of the coaches and executives, are kept within reasonable balance in order to insure interesting and competitive hockey. But in the meantime something happens. After the season starts, boys with hockey ability are stolen from these house league teams and put on an all-star team — in this age group —

"The Sing Alongs". The only persons that can stop this promotion are the parents — the coach has no say. When he is told one of his boys is going to move up to the "All-Stars" the boys feel good about this, and does the coach. There is a sense of accomplishment on the part of both, but it is dead wrong — wrong for the boy and wrong for the coach. You may ask why? The answer is clear, the practise is wrong because why should a select group of boys get preferred treatment when they are all supposed to be treated on equal basis. Maybe if the parents would read the recent articles in the Star Weekly they would understand just what we are reading our boys up to. I have played hockey, and still have an avid interest in all phases of sport, and would not, under any condition, allow my son to be exploited for the team's sake, or burn himself out in four years of junior "A" hockey for only a promise or another's prestige. Many promising hockey careers have been terminated because a boy was burned out at 18 years because he was pushed and overworked. Yes, the young hockey warriors should be assured of a better than even break, but not this way, should it be brick bats or bouquets?

Thanks,
Frank Murphy,
328 North Taylor Mills Dr.
A Senior Citizen

Nature Notes

By Richmond Hill Naturalists

Why do we travel? To see the colourful life of foreign lands, places of historic importance, cities of romance, the world's treasures of art? When Mr. George Bayly, assistant deputy minister of Lands and Forests travels abroad, he goes to see the trees.

This specialized slant made most interesting his films which he presented at the April meeting of the Naturalists. He also included many items of interest to naturalists and to tourists at large. These films were a record of a trip to Europe in April and May of 1961, when he accompanied Hon. J. W. Spooner, Minister of Lands and Forests and Mr. A. B. Wheatley, chief of the parks branch. The purpose of the trip was to study the Natural Resources, particularly as regards to management policies and techniques, of European countries which have a longer experience than we have, or which have special situations of interest to us, also to make an assessment of market competition.

During the period of six and a half weeks, Eire, England, France, Switzerland, Germany, Sweden, Finland and the U.S.S.R. were visited. In all countries they enjoyed great hospitality and were afforded every opportunity to see the work going on and to have discussions with the top officials.

The party, disembarking in

Shannon spent two days visiting Irish forests from Galway on the west coast to Wicklow on the east coast. The lands department is planting an average of 35 million trees per year, mostly Sitka Spruce and Lodgepole Pine. Little has been done to develop the parks for recreation as we do here but the fishing is good and reasonably large areas are available to the public.

In England they visited the research stations engaged in entomology and pathology, then on to the New Forest. Here the emphasis appears to be on the preservation of natural conditions, wild life conservation and controlled grazing. There were three species of deer; Red Roe and Sika.

A large nursery was seen at Wareham and an interesting planting machine in action. Using a tractor fitted with honey transplanting boards it is possible for ten workmen to plant 100,000 trees per day. The Imperial Forestry Institute at Oxford is essentially a forestry school, giving a forestry degree and postgraduate diploma.

The party passed rather quickly through France, visiting forests at Lyons and through the Jura Mountain area to Switzerland. En route they noticed many small sawmills. Here agriculture and grape-growing are practised on steep slopes and as the soil washes down it is carried up again, on small farms by the farm labourers, on larger farms by horse and cart or tractor.

In Switzerland and Germany they found the forestry operations most intensive with good training facilities for students. In Germany there are many new forests and considerable land is being taken out of agriculture to be used for forestry. There is a flourishing pulp and paper industry. The Black Forest and others near the large cities are much used for recreation.

Mr. Bayly thought that Sweden was most advanced in method with a splendid Research Institute and close control of all forest management, planting, cutting and marketing. The salmon fisheries are very important to Swedish economy. Finland has a well advanced programme of natural regeneration and planting. Camping is very popular there.

Ten days were spent in the U.S.S.R. which is important by reason of its enormous coniferous forests. About 50% of the country is forest. With an Intourist interpreter, they had interviews with the director of the Central Research Institute and a very full programme was planned. It included visits to research stations, forestry schools and of course to the forests themselves over a vast area.

The agricultural and industrial exhibition was on in Moscow and afforded an opportunity of seeing the latest equipment developed for forestry purposes. Mr. Bayly's pictures showed that throughout the trip there were many machines and methods similar to our own. Comparisons can be valuable and we would like to hear more of the results of this fact-finding tour.

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Second Thoughts . . .

by George Mayes

• Yesterday's news is not necessarily dead.

Mr. Diefenbaker has pointed to Canada's northern development as a monument to his administration . . . Maybe, on second thought, he might like to reconsider how we may interpret the word "monument".

Toronto is making formal application for the 1967 World's Fair now that Russia has cancelled its plan to hold it there. The city should first check with the Russians. They may have something else in mind for 1967. Like, no world!

Pipes specially made for women smokers are now being marketed in England. They are said to be designed to match any shade of lipstick . . . Which is just another way of saying that the stems will be all one colour — white.

Ol' Casey Stengel, manager of the sub-cellar New York Mets, has been fined \$500 for posing for a beer advertisement showing him holding a bat while a pretty girl stands behind with a glove and ball . . . The whole team, eh?

A delegate to the recent O.E.A. convention says there are now 445 programs either completed or planned for the new teaching machines — including one on grief and mourning for adults . . . Just looking at the machines should be enough.

Etobicoke school trustees have approved a course in Russian to be taught in their collegiate next September. There's nothing like being prepared for the worst, but how are they going to translate Etobicoke into Russian?

Forty children were picketing a small park in Swansea because the village wouldn't allow them to play in it. The Toronto papers described the park as a "parkette" and it naturally follows that the pint-sized picketers would be pickettes.

Another monorail system has been proposed by Toronto Aldermen. This one would run from downtown to the C.N.E. grounds. Last time it was a monorail to Malton. These fellows certainly have single-track minds, don't they?

A tiny tooth-sized radio transmitter has been developed by a U.S. electronics firm . . . Giving our kids the powerful argument that even electronics engineers read the Steve Canyon comics.

One of the top advisers in the Department of Agriculture has resigned his post to do research for Prime Minister Diefenbaker during his election campaign . . . And advise him how high to spread it?

Last week's "Liberal" says a lecturer who appeared locally to speak on vegetarianism "includes among his friends such world figures as George Bernard Shaw and Mahatma Gandhi, both of whom believe in strict vegetarian living" . . . What does he do with his vegetables? Eat them—or smoke them?

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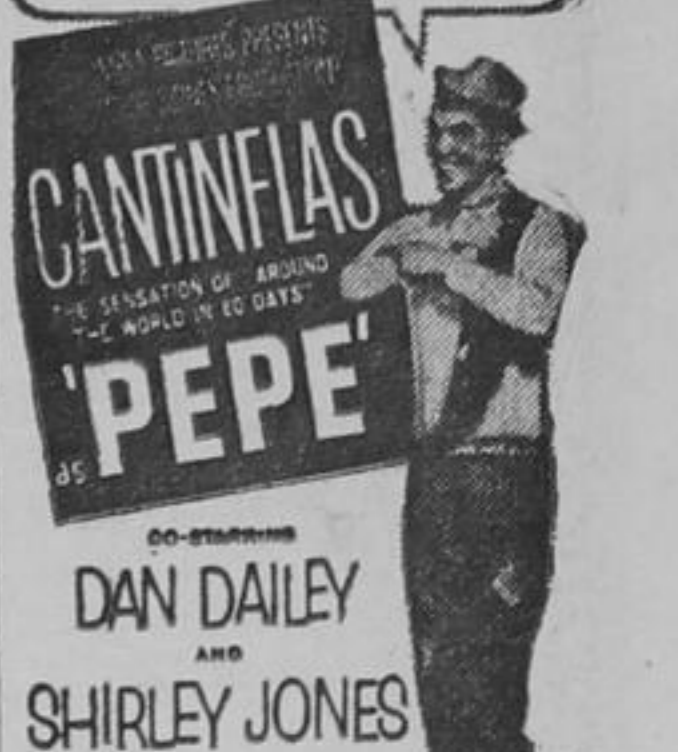
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