

# The Liberal



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## Keep Away From Disaster Areas

One of the several lessons that can be learned from the Maple holocaust is that the public should refrain from flocking to a disaster area. Following the devastating explosions Saturday evening people from a wide area besieged Maple from every direction. Police reported they were from as far away as Lake Simcoe and Oshawa to say nothing of the large number from Metro itself.

The large number of parked cars on the Maple Sideroad made it impassable and the Richmond Hill Fire Brigade had to lose valuable time trying to reach the disaster area via an alternative route. When disaster strikes trained personnel are needed

without delay. Jamming the highways with people and cars can only result in greater human suffering and property damage. The police have to throw up roadblocks around an area in order to keep the curious from hampering rescue operations. Regardless of how many times they are warned a great many of our citizens seem intent on rushing to the scene of a tragedy. Actually the matter of life and death are involved and people should remain put and let those specially trained to handle disasters move quickly and easily to the area. People who impede the efforts of police and firemen should be dealt with firmly in the courts.

## No Comparison

Police ghost cars will now patrol our highways in search of traffic violators. The decision to use such a means of curbing speeding violations was made recently by the Ontario Police Commission.

Presently, because of insufficient staff, the Ontario Provincial Police have been forced to provide service selectively and have not been able to patrol all accident prone areas. Thus, the commission under the chairmanship of Judge Bruce J. S. MacDonald has chosen an alternative to additional staff — the use of unmarked cruisers.

Our traffic officers will now assume the role of spies in disguise, furtively waiting for highway criminals to break the law.

In his monthly report, OPP Commissioner W. H. Clark stated that an effective patrol system was the surest way to reduce accidents. We are inclined to agree.

But the police commission say such a system would prove too costly. The last special traffic squad operating within the OPP was disbanded in 1940 for this reason. Yet today in 1962, with our traffic volume mounting by leaps and bounds, it

would seem obvious, that such a squad was essential.

A comparison of property damage caused by accidents on our highways and that of the entire budget of the OPP, shows the latter greater by several times. It is impossible to compare the loss of life that occurs almost daily, with the necessary funds for the operation of a special traffic patrol. In view of these facts it seems inconceivable to term the operation "costly".

The only effective deterrent to traffic violations is the use of regular patrols in marked cruisers manning all our highways. The familiar sight of the black and white patrol cars is in itself, reassuring to motorists. It's a welcome sight indeed to the stranded driver miles from the nearest service station. Lastly, the familiar police car patrolling the highway has a sobering effect on the driver with the heavy foot.

The solution to slaughter on our expressways must be found regardless of the price we must pay for such measures. It is doubtful that the return to a system once discarded is the answer. The problem still remains.

## The Need Is Great

A sad but logical conclusion was reached recently by the Ontario Committee on Children at a Toronto conference. Child creativity is contrary to the modern world's materialistic outlook, said Dr. Keith S. Armstrong, director of the Canadian Council for Crippled Children and Adults.

The 50 child development experts present at the conference agreed the stress today is placed on the monetary value of work. We as a whole tend to look upon the remuneration as the chief end to man's existence.

This trend toward emphasis on monetary values is being reflected in the present legislation governing funds for vocational training and placement of displaced persons. In his address, Dr. Armstrong stated that the federal government argued time and money spent in this kind of training would be repaid by the trainee many times through income tax once he was employed.

A desperate social need exists for creative individuals in our world of commercialism. What place in our modern society with its emphasis on crass materialism would the great artists of the Renaissance have; the sculptors; the artists and the poets whose work today after centuries graces our galleries.

It is difficult to conceive greats such as Michelangelo, the Italian sculptor, the culminating genius of the Renaissance, or Rembrandt, the renowned Dutch painter, being produced in our world with its modern ideology.

Where would our best loved poets, Shakespeare, Bacon, or Milton fit into our society. Possibly we could financially utilize their great talents in the writing of soapbox commercials.

A return to creativity, possibly another Renaissance must be, if we are to survive culturally.

## Start Concrete Work On Hospital

Work on the York Central Hospital, which bogged down slightly at its beginning early last month, is now moving full steam ahead, according to S. H. Stewart, construction superintendent on the project. The job is being handled by Angus Robertson Co., Ltd., Toronto.

Work is more advanced on the foundations of the boiler room. The concrete footing has already been poured in this area and a start has been made on forming the walls. This room will be 24 feet high.

The excavation on the kitchen and equipment rooms is also nearing completion. Mr. Stewart predicted the basement walls in this area will be completed in two weeks.

Good weather is a necessity if the project is to be completed on schedule, Mr. Stewart stated. He estimated that a rainy day puts the project two days behind.

Right now there are about 25 men working on the project. Peak work force on the job will be 150 men, Mr. Stewart estimated.

He noted that the amount of labor necessary on such a project had been cut drastically in the past 20 years. He suggested that this was the result of better methods as well as increased mechanization.

Mr. Stewart predicted that all work would be going on indoors by the beginning of December. The hospital is slated for completion by the end of 1963.

The \$2,000,000 building will have a 126 bed capacity.

## Rambling Around

by Elizabeth Kelson

### THE IDEA BEHIND SHARE-A-LOAF PROMOTED BY WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM

The origin of the Freedom From Hunger Campaign was set up in July 1960, by the Food and Agriculture Organization, a specialized agency of the United Nations, in an endeavour to speed up efforts towards eliminating hunger and want in the vast areas of the world. The Campaign continues for five years through 1965. It calls on the participation of governments, the United Nations and its specialized foundations, civic and religious bodies, and men and women of good will everywhere.

Broadly speaking, its goal will be to make it possible through technical and scientific education, for under-developed countries to help themselves in producing ample food for themselves. These will be three-fold. The awakening of a world-wide awareness of the problems, causes and remedies of hunger and malnutrition through public education. 2. By promoting research to fill gaps in knowledge and promote new techniques. Immediate action will be taken to achieve gains in production, distribution and consumption of foods. This includes study of soils, seeds, animal husbandry, pest control, water resources and especially nutrition. This will be done by having each country establish a National Campaign Committee of its own, to plan, stimulate and co-ordinate activities of all co-operating organizations. Canada with 29 other nations has established a national committee. Thus the Women's International League For Peace And Freedom, believing that poverty, hunger, and disease are results of social, economic or religious conditions leading to war, have worked consistently with all agencies whose aims have been to alleviate these conditions and to establish peace, justice and freedom in the world. The WILPF is giving its whole-hearted support to the campaign. The fear of hunger, poverty and insecurity is an innate and perhaps the greatest of all enemies of peace.

Projects like this will, of necessity, form an integral part of the activity. In Toronto, the WILPF have already launched their Share-A-Loaf Plan whereby they supply members and their friends with a coin card and ask them to place one quarter — 25c — the price of one loaf of bread — each week in the card, and when full, return it to the bank address that is indicated on the card. Proceeds will be turned over to the national committee and through them to the international body for a specific project. Here is how you can help. Study the problems that exist in the various areas of the world where hunger, disease and lack of knowledge prevail. Form a discussion group on the subject. Give publicity to the campaign in your locality, among your friends and neighbors. Persuade organizations to which you belong to take part in the Freedom from Hunger Campaign. Have a speaker on the subject for your group. Ask for a Share-A-Loaf card. For further information, write or phone to Mrs. Alan Beckwith, 7 Maralim Road, Richmond Hill, TU. 4-5767.

### DUST! DUST! - THE HOUSEWIFE'S SCOURGE

I dislike talking about trouble but since everyone is worried to death about nuclear war and the threat of annihilation, I feel rather ashamed to confess that I'm upset by such a mundane thing as plain, ordinary dust. I object to it on the grounds that dust is one of the worst scourges that an ordinary housewife like me has to face outside of such little troubles as domestic squabbles, the price of meat, and the kids total lack of understanding the previous generation. In books on the art of housekeeping, I read such things like if you keep your walk swept and wiped off the silt and grim from your window sills that you'll keep most of the dust out of the house. Well, I tried that . . . and it just doesn't work. The only thing that was improved was the appearance of the walk and window sills. The dust kept coming in, just the same. Exactly the same amount of dust appeared on the piano, the end tables, and under the chesterfield, and in the radiators. The same thing with the bedrooms. You can turn the mattress and air the blankets every day of your life, but exactly the same amount of dust meets your discouraged eyes. If you leave the dust for one day it is bad, but if you leave it for two days, you're in danger of blocking the nozzle of the vacuum cleaner.

Now I ask you with such a formidable enemy as that, why hasn't society tried to do something about that problem. Instead they seem to be helping Old Mother Nature add to this inevitable, sneaking nemesis that dogs the poor housewife at every turn. Not only the housewife, but industrial workers have big problems with dust. Thousands of workers are exposed to dust particles seeping into their lungs, blurring their eyes, stopping up their ears and blunting their senses in general. Air pollution is one of the most serious problems of industrial centres. Public Health officials are constantly alarmed about how these pollutions will affect the human body. Of course scientists are working on this problem but so far . . . like the problem of saving the world there seems to be no effective solution. It just looks as if all of us, housewife included, must learn to live with the dust nuisance, even while fighting its inroads. At least we can be philosophical about dust!

### THE ROBBER BARON OF BIRDLAND - - - THE STARLING

Only 20 years ago there were no starlings in Ontario and 40 years ago there were none in the United States. Apparently someone in New York thought it would be a good idea to see European Starlings in Central Park. It was a disastrous success and they have been such successful immigrants that they have become the most abundant species in all Ontario. We see them in towns and cities, about buildings and lawns. As we drive along roads we find them settled and feeding in flocks or sitting in rows along fences. Starlings have a habit of roosting in enormous numbers in shade trees and making the evening hideous by their chattering. Everywhere and at all times starlings are in evidence, and all these from 120 birds imported to one city in 1870. The starling is a strong, aggressive and greedy bird, apparently determined to succeed and not particular by what means. His only real competitor in the city is not a match for him. If a pair of starlings want to nest in a certain site occupied by sparrows, the sparrows have to get out. The chief menace of the starling is not his food habits, his disagreeable congregating or his spluttering unmusical notes, but the fact that he wants and will have by force the nesting sites of more desirable species. The bluebird, the flicker, the crested flycatcher and the purple martin must make way for him.

## "Dear Mr. Editor"

### MAPLE DISASTER POINTS UP NEED FOR PRECAUTIONS

Dear Mr. Editor: Like everyone else I was shocked and appalled by the explosion and fire which ravaged the town of Maple on Saturday night. How did a large gas storage depot come to be established in a residential community? Since most of the properties destroyed and damaged were of the older type they must have been there before the gas company arrived in 1946. The time has surely come where legislation should be introduced so that Saturday's tragedy can never be repeated. New and safer methods of storage should be investigated. Why not under water? The minimum area owned by any gas company for a storage depot should have definite limits and should be located at least two miles from any residential area. Finally, and this surely points out the complete lack of regard for safety precautions in this case, night watchmen should be com-

pulsory and full time. Unfortunately after the explosion hundreds of 'sightseers' made the work of police, firemen and ambulancemen extremely difficult. These on-the-scene parasites should be dealt with severely and in future heavy fines should be inflicted on anyone who hinders the authorities in this way. It is to be hoped that those people who have been charged with 'trespassing' will all draw severe sentences when they come up before the magistrates.

Saturday's tragedy gave us many things to think about. Here in Richmond Hill we have a gas storage plant located very close to a large apartment block. What measures are our town council going to take to ensure that Richmond Hill isn't going to be the next disaster area? Let us hope that constructive action is taken both at the local and provincial levels.

D. W. Stainer, Richmond Hill

### YOUR GARDEN And MINE

BEGONIAS FOR WINTER GARDENS

With so many new foliage plants and flowering plants for windows and home decoration, some gardeners may be tempted to overlook such old stand-bys as begonias. You can find a begonia to suit any location in your home and they take kindly to culture under fluorescent lights too. Begonias thrive in a warm, humid atmosphere and if they do not have enough humidity edges of the leaves are likely to be brown and they will yellow and fall from the plant prematurely. Set the potted plants in larger containers, packing peat or sphagnum moss between the two and keep this moist at all times. The air rising around your plants will then have a mist of humidity in it that will make them grow like mad. This is also excellent for all varieties of African Violets.

Begonias detest being overpotted and they do not grow in pots without a drainage hole in the bottom. Water from the top with lukewarm water until it runs from the bottom and do not water again until the top of the soil feels dry. They love conditions in a terrarium and an old discarded aquarium is ideal for this. Place half an inch of pebbles and crushed charcoal in the bottom. (Take the charcoal from the barbecue supply). Then at least three inches of regular potting soil mixed with some sand for good drainage. These begonia terrariums grow best in an east-

### Second Thoughts . . .

by George Mayes  
● Yesterday's news is not necessarily dead.

An account in last week's "Liberal" of the camping trip of a group of local boys says: "For breakfast we had the usual, as well as options for those who were not used to one of food alone." . . . Like, "Mary had a little lamb—and this little lamb'll have a Bloody Mary!"

The National Employment Service is opening a branch in Scarborough with a staff of 40. . . Well, that's one way of attacking the problem.

A spokesman for Canada's postal workers says the work-to-rule procedure would mean no more short cuts. . . They're going to keep off the grass, eh?

The Nandi African District Council in Kenya has decreed that only women over 50 be allowed to drink liquor. . . This—getting women to PROVE they're over 50—will be a real example of Black Magic.

Let's hope the OPP keep their "ghost" cruisers over on Highway 400. Our downtown merchants will be a bit bitter in pointing out how readily the ghost cars identify with their section of Highway 11.

The blowing up of the U.S. Venus-probe rocket because a hyphen was left out of an equation fed to a computer should bring up some second thoughts about that other hyphen—the one in H-bomb.

That Toronto presentation of "The Drunkard" (noted previously as being performed under somewhat conducive conditions on the lawn between a pub and a club) is being advertised as "Held Over" . . . Held over, or hung over?

A Boston paper, in a story of a wife-swap between a part-time pastor and a psychiatrist, says, "The couples were divorced in Alabama, but it was not disclosed where the second marriage took place." . . . Could they have been Banned in Boston?

The Voice of Women is planning a meeting of 500 delegates in September at "an undisclosed Laurentian resort." It will be a secret session. . . Why? No phones?

Paddy Conklin, king of the CNE fun rides, is tired of the name "Midway" and is asking for new suggestions. Well, if he raises his prices over half-dollar we may be calling it the Stayaway.

Everybody talks about the weather—especially on 701, and you can't say the current substitute for Saltzman doesn't have her points. . . But how long will her finger hold out?

The builder of a new apartment house in Toronto says he is air-conditioning the hallways to remove annoying cooking odours. . . So, after paying the rent, who can afford food?

## Appeal To Premier For Court House In County

York County Council is seeking an appointment with Premier John P. Robarts to discuss building of a court house for York County. Local representatives went to Mr. Robarts with the request after being turned down by Attorney General A. Kelso Roberts.

Leading the council's drive for the court house are Reeve William Hodgson of King Township, and Reeve Joseph O. Dales of North Gwillimbury.

A. A. MacKenzie, MLA for North York, is endeavoring to get the issue finalized and something definite done. Only objection to the move is the resistance by some members of the provincial government to move the seat of justice out of Toronto. Officials say the financial load of starting such a building could be handled in part by applying the \$153,067 which the Ontario Municipal Board recently ordered Metro must pay to the county. Metro was ordered to make the payment as a settlement for the assumed costs of county roads that Metro started in 1953. A change in the method of assessing costs for the administration of justice in the county and in Metro netted the county another \$80,000 which could also go towards building the proposed new court house, it has been suggested.

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