

# The Liberal

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## Support Hospital Drive

The campaign for funds in the hospital drive now will be resumed after a Christmas recess and it should be the concern of all that the objective be reached quickly.

No more important challenge than the United Hospital Appeal will face the people of Richmond Hill and all York County. It is of the most urgent importance that the objective be subscribed fully and quickly. That this should be accomplished should be not only the concern of hospital campaign workers, but the real concern of every citizen.

The shortage of hospital beds in York County is a very serious matter and the need is urgent. Many times during this holiday season we have heard from friends and neighbours of someone "waiting for a hospital bed". Sometimes a long delay waiting for a hospital bed is not serious,

but sometimes it is very serious and a matter of life or death. Today it may be someone down the street who needs a hospital bed and tomorrow it may be the folks next door or right in your own home.

The response in the hospital campaign so far has in the main been very gratifying. An enthusiastic and dedicated group of volunteers have worked hard and citizens, service club's, women's organizations, business institutions and industry have shown a keen appreciation of the need and are responding with generous help and donations. If the objective is to be reached everyone must do a full share and we hope those who have not already done so will make a donation now, and make it as generous as possible.

We need the hospital — the hospital needs our financial support now.

## Redistribution

The first steps towards a more equitable distribution of the seats in the provincial legislature have been taken by the newly created independent commission on redistribution. The three member commission has tabled an interim report with the legislature calling for the creation of 10 new seats in the Metro area outside of Toronto. The commission is headed by Justice E. A. Richardson, Professor Grant Crawford of Queen's University and Rod Lewis, Clerk of Legislature and Chief Electoral Officer.

Now on the faculty of Queen's Mr. Crawford is a former deputy minister of Municipal Affairs. He recommended the division of the existing provincial Metro riding of Scarborough, York East, York South, York Centre into 16 constituencies with varying ridings would vary in population from 10,000 and Weston with

stituencies between 25,000 and 50,000 and urban-rural constituencies between 50,000 and 60,000. Province-wide redistribution on this basis would result in a legislature of not more than 120 members, the commission said, describing this as a reasonable maximum size. The creation of 10 seats in Metro would increase the legislature's seating capacity from its present 98 to 108. The commission said the most pressing need for redistribution exists in the Metro area outside Toronto.

There have been rumors that the provincial riding of York North would be included in the commission report. The boundaries of the federal seat were changed by the last federal redistribution in 1953. At that time the southern part of the riding became part of the newly created federal ridings of York-Scarboro and York Centre. The federal riding extends from No. 7 Highway on the south to Lake Simcoe on the north.

Some reports had the northern municipalities of North Gwillimbury, East Gwillimbury, Sutton and Georgina put into Ontario riding to the east, while other rumors had the present provincial riding split into two rid-

ings, gain 10 new seats, the commission formula - its 13 seats. Ridings, such as Wood, are very

# The Music Box...

By W. Ray Stephens

## Hiss the Villain of Richmond Hill

Everytime that the sneaky streaky villain Abanazer (Lou Donnelly) appeared on the set of Richmond Hill's Curtain Club production of Aladdin, a large sign dropped from above the curtain with 'HISS' written bold and big. This of course was the time for everyone concerned to hiss to their big and little hearts delight. This year's Pantomime Aladdin was another maximum effort and well rewarding. Last week I saw 'Oliver' down at the O'Keefe Centre and this week it was Aladdin at the Lion's Hall in Richmond Hill, but make no mistake of considering one in the same light as the other.

Directed by Rex Sevenoaks, who also played 'Dame' Widow Twanky, the story was devised and written by Mary Monks and Dennis Stainer. One point is clear and that is if this is to be an annual affair (and such it is) then preparations should begin well ahead of the last moment in order to excel and achieve the standard hoped. I found out quite early in the evening that in such a production as a Pantomime one must accept the children and be ready to join them, otherwise it is suggested that you remain quietly at home.

What gives with live performances? Movies and television will never replace it for the young. Take a look around at the kids (dads and moms too) and you'll see complete freedom from the inhibitions of unreal productions. I asked son David (age 9) about half way through just what he thought about it and he said "It's not as funny as Jack and the Beanstalk of last year". Of course he was only a boy of 8 then. The younger one Glyn (5 1/2) would brook no interruption and was glued to his outpost until the final call and had but one thought only of getting to bed now it was over.

The scenes were well executed due no doubt to the Curtain Club experience of Mary Donnelly, Cathie Faulkner and others involved. One major problem was in evidence. This was the stage of the Lions' Hall where the whole show took place. This hall represents Richmond Hill's largest spot for recreational activities and it is to be pitied. It was constructed before the population of the Hill exploded from some 2,000 to some 18,000 in the matter of half a dozen years. Some day soon it is hoped that this fact will strike home and somewhere along the line a real effort will be made to develop a true recreational centre capable of keeping pace with the growth of cultural activity so much in evidence here in the Hill.

It was necessary for actors to make their exits, and some entries, back stage, off

stage, under the stage, down the aisle, out and around the building through the snow, and so on. No one thought of being hoisted above by pulleys otherwise this medium could have also been employed.

The choreography by Eddie Midmer was excellent despite the limitations of the small stage. The dance sequence of the slave girls was indeed good to watch and they also made a good chorus line with their strong clear singing.

Group singing was almost faultless but the individual solo parts were a little weak. Ross Smith only vocal entry was done so in a most professional manner and there was no doubt that Ross has a very fine voice.

Most solo parts were taken much too seriously and instead of a rousing song or heart felt ballad we had too much sweetness of voice. This is not bad but it is out of place here. At last week's 'Oliver' I witnessed a classic example of full voice projection even with microphones. Everyone seemed to have their own built in volume controls, perhaps a little too much. When (in Oliver) the flower girl appeared to sing the sweet and charming 'Who'll buy my flowers' I felt sure that here would be a contrast in vocal coloring just for a change but the dear sweet little flower girl opened up all controls and near belted me into the balcony. With Aladdin we had too much sweetness. I should say I had, for otherwise it was not noticeable. It's nice mind you and I like it but without a 'mike' (a vital part of modern equipment when we one day build a new Recreational Centre) there is a tendency to 'die' as it were and with the kids they just don't take to 'dying' quietly.

Widow Twanky (Rex Sevenoaks) was very good. I felt that we kids could have had more of him or 'her' throughout the evening. The live robust actions and hearty laughter were in happy contrast to the dark (hiss) doings of Abanazer (Lou Donnelly) who was no doubt the 'hero' or 'villain' of the night. The kids really loved this nasty man and his actions and Abanazer was the award winner in Aladdin. Effie Yeseno (Mary Monks) was most active and lively and probably the type most suited to the kind of solo parts mentioned previously. With her ability of being able to project herself into the audience this was the quality needed all evening. I had the impression that perhaps there were too many trying to get into the act rather than basing the play on just a few strong leads with the remainder following through in support.

There were many other good points but being grown up (unfortunately) I have had to leave them out.

Again special mention must be made of the music for Aladdin. This was all composed by Phil Barnes who was hidden from view all night behind an electric organ and a piano. At one point in the solo of Princess Azalea (Carol Scott) the organ suddenly burnt a fuse and quit right there but Mr. Barnes without skipping so much as a semi-quaver (eighth note) carried on by turning to the piano. The lyrics were written by Lou Donnelly, Mary Monks and Dennis Stainer. To say that someone composed the music is not enough when you consider that this is supposed to be only a local activity for the purpose of local entertainment but if you listen to the musical numbers and look at the list it's mighty big. 'It's Christmas Time', 'Slave Song', 'Everyday's a Birthday in Fairyland', 'Abba-abba-abba Never', 'I am a wicked man', 'Diamonds Can't Bring Me Happiness'.

'To a Dream World Comes a Stranger', 'Shah of Babalovia', 'Rise and Shine', 'Sultan's National Anthem', 'I once was a Queen of the Chorus', 'Dance of the Sleigh Bells', 'If I Could Change the World', 'Say How d'ya do' and 'Oh What a glorious Wedding day'.

That's an impressive list in any musician's book. The Pantomime section of the Curtain Club is to be congratulated and the club is to be commended on this extra activity.

It all points out that recreation sometimes is more than making profound decisions over badminton clubs and ping-pong tables. This is still in the era of limited thinking. To talk of 'recreation' we must have a 'recreation' centre from which to work. At the moment for ping-pong balls yes, but for all round entertainment for the community - a definite no!

## Second Thoughts...

by George Mayes

● Yesterday's news is not necessarily dead.

Motorists spot-checked by Richmond Hill Police over the holiday season received a bonus this year — strips of reflector tape designed to warn cars behind when a motorist taps and opens his door... Like, for a spot-check.

The Soviet Union is believed to have lost seven of its Cosmonauts in space. If and when the Russians release the full details it will be something of an ordinary notice.

Ontario Agriculture Minister Stewart announces that "almost all meat destined for human consumption in Ontario will be inspected within two years"... And by then, if it isn't, forget it!

The American exhibition of the Mona Lisa has revived the old question: why WAS she smiling? The Star asked it, and you can add to the answers that paper's reproduction of Da Vinci's almost priceless masterpiece — obviously retouched by a newspaper artist.

Another art note comes from Montreal, where one of Canada's foremost art dealers says fake paintings are more widely acceptable in Canada than anywhere else in the world... Particularly the fake rosy pictures painted by our politicians.

Also, for the world of art, there is the item from Kingston telling of the search for an escaped convict with "tattoos all over his body"; although the heading: "Tattooed Convict On Run" sounds more like moving-picture news.

The Telegram invites its readers to submit examples of misleading advertisements for investigation by its "fraud team"... And we wonder how many of its subscribers suggested it investigate its own advertisements promising dependable, on-time delivery by its "junior businessmen" paper boys.

Scarboro's school board has learned that it is allotting so much space for high school students to park their cars that it will soon have to cut down on the size of its schools. The opening of that new all-weather drive-in theatre out their way suggests the probable end to the trend — drive-in schools.

The DeGaulle government has invited Garfield Weston to invade the French food field with his supermarkets. French housewives are expected to resist the system; preferring their market baskets to shopping a la carte.

## Have You Read These?

Book Reviews From The Richmond Hill Public Library

**Atlantic Fury**, by Hammond Innes (Collins). This is the story of the evacuation of a British guided weapons unit from Laerg, an island of the Outer Hebrides, but also, it is the story side by side of the elemental forces of nature as a polar storm rages unchecked, taking its toll of men and equipment. Underlying the ordeal is the suspenseful mystery of the identity of Major Braddock, hero or murderer, a man "missing" since his harrowing experience on the same island 22 years before, during World War II. Innes has neatly combined mystery and high adventure in a story which vividly shows the heights to which men rise when the situation demands it of them.

**Genius**, by Patrick Dennis (Harcourt). Always very much in love with the movies, Patrick Dennis, author of Auntie Mame, and Auntie Mame Around the World, has constructed an entire comedy on a few flamboyant weeks in the life of Leander Starr, an aging film director run to earth in Mexico City. Surrounded by a cast of eccentrics, including ex-wives, ex-mistresses, flunkies, social climbers and just plain crooks, Starr attempts to bootleg a film which will regain his place in the world's eyes. Presented in Mr. Dennis' first-person style, and with a fair number of laughs for all, it is done with his customary touch to details and people.

**An Answer from Limbo**, by Brian Moore (Atlantic). The latest example of human frailty to be examined by Brian Moore is one of invincible selfishness in the person of Brendan Tierney, a writer. Faced with the knowledge that the money he has been sending his widowed mother in Ulster is inadequate, he hits upon the scheme of bringing her to New York to act as unpaid housekeeper and baby-sitter, while his wife returns to her premarital career as a fashion illustrator, and he can quit his hateful job to finish the all-important novel. The tragic proceedings are made bearable by Moore's artistry. His New York is as tangible as his Belfast and Montreal, and his people are undeniably real and recognizable, if scarcely lovable.

**Everybody Duck**; or Family Plan to Buenos Aires, by Virginia Hamilton (McGraw). When Eric Hamilton's engineering job was suddenly terminated, he loaded his wife, four young daughters, their German shepherd dog, and a crew of three college boys into a World War II DUKW and set out for South America. Virginia, his wife, writes this highly entertaining account of the adventures, mechanical difficulties, dangers, and trials of daily living which

# The Richmond Theatre

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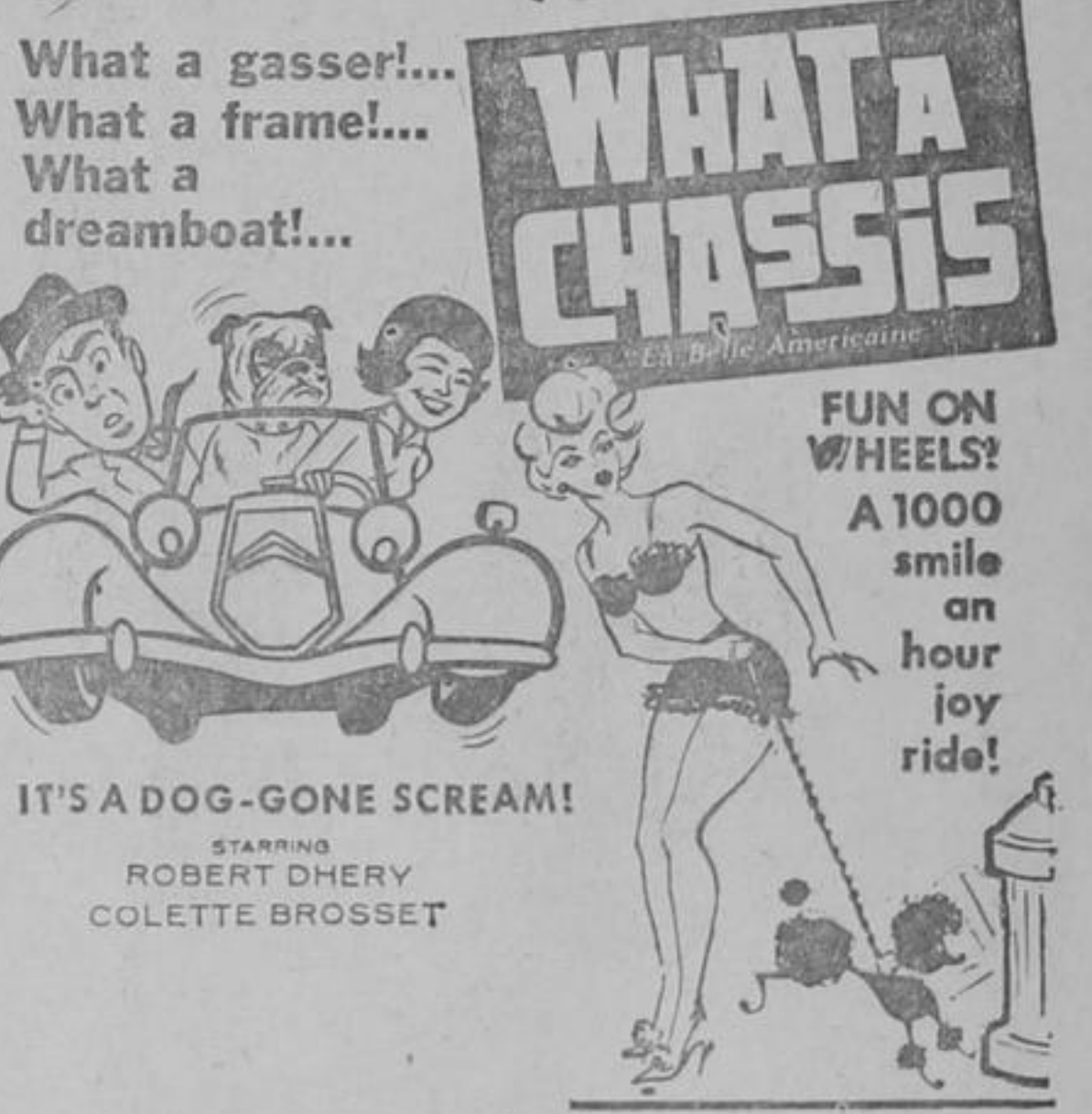
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## Rambling Around

(By Elizabeth Kelson)

NEW YEAR'S MESSAGES  
From The Superintendent and Principals of  
Secondary Schools and High Schools  
In York Central District High School Area  
S. L. G. Chapman,  
Superintendent of Secondary Schools:

"The last several years have seen steady growth both in numbers and in the quality of service in secondary education in this area. The year 1963 will not be unlike those that preceded it in this regard. The greater variety of courses made available under the Reorganized Programmes recently introduced will be available in both Bayview Secondary School and Thornhill Secondary School and through these courses the needs of the young people in this area will be better met, than has ever been the case before. The young people of any community are its greatest resource. The future success of this area, and, in fact of the country, depends in great measure on the degree to which these young people achieve the development of the potential they have. With this in mind it is only fair to say that no investment of time and effort in them can be too great. The greatest single problem which secondary education faces is the continuing teacher shortage. The community that can communicate to its academic staff an appreciation of good teaching will retain its top teachers and attract others of the same quality. Every citizen can make a direct contribution to his school in this regard. School board members also need to feel the warm support of the people on whose behalf they contribute so much of their time. York Central would not have the good system that it has if dedicated board members had not wrestled so sincerely with the problems of education in the past. As school people we appreciate their efforts. We know that they would be pleased to hear that the members of the community share this same appreciation."

J. W. Kippen,  
Principal, Bayview Secondary School

"We at Bayview have been anticipating 1963 for some time. In January we expect to have available the new academic wing of the school in its entirety and in September we are to have the facilities of all shops ready. The greater opportunities which this additional and varied accommodation implies will be of value to this school area for many years to come. I should like to say one word of thanks for the support of the staff, for the positive attitude of the pupils, and for the understanding of the parents during this last fall when temporary and at times less than com-

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## HOBBY

more and more people, generally more leisure time, than ever before. Obvious spare time alone does not answer to the many frustrated day-by-day tensions experienced by the average individual. Leisure time for many in fact may only aggravate their anxiety since it allows more time for reflection on feelings of inner anxiety.

An effective hobby is one that gives a new interest and individuality to turn his mind away from himself and feelings of inferiority. A hobby usually affords pleasure and a feeling of success and worthiness, thereby helping to overcome feelings of inadequacy and attendant tensions. And finally, an ideal hobby may open up avenues for contact with others with similar interests, filling the need to be part of a group, to experience companionship, to give and to receive affection, to gain recognition and to restore self-esteem and confidence.

An absorbing hobby interest is certainly no "cure-all" for neurotic difficulties, offering at best only temporary surcease. However, for many millions of individuals experiencing the general unpleasantness of everyday tension, a hobby may offer a means for maintaining good mental health and opportunities to participate with others in projects of mutual enjoyment and relaxation.

A hobby, according to Webster's New Twentieth Century Dictionary, is "something that a person likes to do or study in his spare time, a favorite pastime or avocation."

An abundance of spare time, however, may be a "mixed blessing". At a time when the stresses and strains of everyday living in our complex culture appear to be adverse-