

The Liberal



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J. E. SMITH, Editor and Publisher
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A Plea For Co-Operation

In a speech delivered to the local Rotary Club on January 14th Planning Director Harold Deeks presented a detailed analysis of what he feels are Richmond Hill's present problems and future needs.

The address has had a mixed reception. Deputy-reeve Stanley Tinker, council's representative on the planning board in 1963, criticized the planning director for having made a speech containing recommendations which were not geared to the present council's thinking. Mr. Tinker said council was not prepared to implement the ideas of past administrations, and felt that Mr. Deeks, as a paid employee of the town, had let the council down. Planning Board Vice-Chairman Howard Whillans, on the other hand, supported Mr. Deeks' action, stating that council should not attempt to muzzle its planning director because his views differ from its own.

The speech in question covered a wide range of subjects, several of which concerned matters of policy. One of the duties of a planning director is to make recommendations to both the planning board and to council. The decision on whether or not to implement these recommendations rests with council members who are the people's elected representatives. Both the planning board and the planning director have a responsibility to council. The members of the planning board are appointed by council and the planning director is hired by a resolution of council and his salary is paid out of the public treasury.

However, whether or not Mr. Deeks had any legal or moral right to make his speech is not the point. The point is that the incident shows a deplorable lack of co-operation between the planning director and board and the elected representatives of the people. Neither body can properly serve the best interests of this town if the situation is allowed to continue. The mayor and his council should not have to read the newspapers to find out what its paid officials are thinking and the views they are expressing. Council should have first-hand knowledge of any recom-

mendations the planning director has to make regarding the future course of local affairs. There would have been less ill will engendered had Mr. Deeks informed the mayor and council of the speech and its contents before its release. They learned of the speech only after its delivery to the Rotary Club. This lack of courtesy to the supreme law-making authority in the municipality is regrettable.

Deputy-reeve Tinker expressed justifiable indignation when he learned of Mr. Deeks' speech. No one can deny that it is embarrassing for any council to have its paid officials recommending policy to which many of its members have declared themselves opposed. Better defined terms of reference to guide Richmond Hill's municipal officials in the implementation of their duties might serve to avoid similar misunderstandings in the future.

We are not suggesting that council should attempt to suppress the views of its planning board and director. We are suggesting that there should be determined efforts on the part of both bodies towards closer co-operation. Council and planning board should sit down together and hear a full expression of views from all concerned. Agreement will not be reached on what is the right solution to every problem. The present mayor and many new council members serving with him, for example, are committed to opposing the whole-sale annexation of more land, a move being recommended by the planning director. This, however, is only one issue. There are many problems facing a growing municipality such as Richmond Hill. Positive measures for solving them cannot be worked out if the elected representatives of the people and their recommending bodies are at loggerheads.

In the democratic process councils change from year to year. Recognizing this fact, appointed boards and officials within the municipality have a duty to endeavour to work in harmony with those chosen by the people to administer their affairs. Such a relationship can only be based on a mutual feeling of trust and goodwill.

Protect Your Eyes

In a special White Cane Week message, Mrs. J. T. Patterson, president, The Canadian Council of the Blind, said, "because doctors state that half the blindness in Canada is preventable we are dedicating White Cane Week, February 3 to 9 to good visual health and urging Canadians to safeguard their sight".

White Cane Week was started in 1946 by the CCB and The Canadian National Institute for the Blind to point out to the public that the white cane is the symbol of the sightless. Held annually through the past 16 years, the week has always been educational in character and has never been associated with fund raising. It has dealt with the problems of blindness, and the achievements of blind people. Because it is a double tragedy when someone loses his sight needlessly, the president pointed out, "we wish to arouse in the public an awareness of what it means to see. Eye-sight is like electricity," she said. "When we have it we think little of the service it provides".

Blind herself, Mrs. Patterson is a capable person, and the head of an organization that operates 79 recreation clubs for blind persons from coast to coast. She has met the blind in every province of Canada and in other parts of the world. She knows the value of vision and the limitations blindness imposes on those who suffer the handicap.

"As we grow older we become more a prey to such diseases as glaucoma and cataracts. Statistics show that about 100,000 Canadians have glaucoma right now and are unaware that they have it. An eye examination will catch such conditions in the early stages and can mean the difference between good sight and blindness - blindness that doctors say could have been avoided".

"One of the world's great religions claims that unawareness should be the eighth deadly sin", Mrs. Patterson said. "During White Cane Week become aware of the importance of your good sight and when you can, share it with those who cannot see".

The Music Box... By W. Ray Stephens

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Back Beats The Blizzard
On Sunday night, January 20th, when the Richmond Hill Orchestra and the St. Matthew's United Church Choir combined for a wonderful evening of good music, it was cold and miserable outside. There was no denying the elements their due. The parking area of St. Matthew's Church was akin to the North Pole at its worst and the absence of igloos only proved that even the Eskimos had moved south for the day. This however failed completely to halt any part of the concert as planned and a full turn out of instrumentalists and chorists from various points of the compass gave the proceedings full strength to perform the evening's music-

al fare. It also speaks well for those who attended the concert for I checked the seating which was full even to the additional chairs placed behind the regular seats of the congregation. There was enough room for about ten at the most in the front row. Rev. W. W. Patterson spoke briefly before the concert started and introduced the commentator for the evening, Mr. Dennis Thatcher o. The Curtain Club. The addition of the spoken word in a musical concert of this type is to be indeed appreciated for it gives the listener some idea of what really goes on in the music to follow. It explains to the listener the story of the composition, the composer and also creates a feeling of warmth and good-

will. It also allows the members of the orchestra a chance to prepare for the next selection and take a few minutes off. Dennis Thatcher excels at this sort of thing, (not in taking a few minutes off but in adding color to the concert). Richard Parker was trumpet soloist for the Trumpet Voluntary by Clark (or Purcell) and it was a fitting introduction to the program to have such a professional start.

Mrs. Norma Jackson led the choir through the number of selections during the (Continued On Page 14)

In Years Gone By

Items gleaned from files of "The Liberal", the home paper of this district since 1878.

In The Liberal of January 6th 1898 there was recalled an old Scottish belief that on New Year's Day you must neither sell, nor lend nor give outside the house, but inside the head are to all the members who live north of Centre Street could not hear the new town bell. The letter said "since the church bell has ceased to ring are at a loss to know when we should wake up in the morning. The music of the new town bell seldom penetrates the stillness of our northern latitude". An advertisement stated "among the attractions at the Thornhill rink carnival will be a gramophone which talks, sings and gives cornet solos". And we suppose some said they were overpaid. At the annual meeting of the Richmond Hill Fire Brigade the members received their salary for the year, less fines imposed for absence at meetings or practice. Some of the firemen were astounded to find out that their home to the wife, and Chief Pugsley's investment the returns from his year's work in a new whip which was donated as a prize at the carnival. The largest amount received by any fireman was \$1.90.

Perhaps the most earth-shaking news in the issue: "Mr. W. R. Proctor has a pair of new horse clippers, which work like clockwork. It takes two men to operate the machine those days even as in 1963. A but the finished job is smooth letter to the Editor in the 1896 as velvet".

The Riddle

Junior is wrapped from his head to his toe Whenever he steps out to play in the snow; Sister, aged three, has scarves by the dozen Enfold her when she walks out with her cousin; Father has snow boots, zipped up with a jerk, On cold winter mornings when leaving for work; But mother, (well, this you don't need to be told), Has nylons protecting her limbs from the cold!

- Robert D. Little

Second Thoughts...

by George Mayes

● Yesterday's news is not necessarily dead.

This is the time when your Christmas spirit of "goodwill toward men" starts to wear a little thin - particularly toward the men responsible for those ads asking: "Wouldn't you rather be in Florida?"

When Vaughan Township's School Area Board learned of a child using a drainage culvert to cross busy No. 7 Highway it decided to supply bus transport for all the children in the section. That is, children of all ages - not just drain-age.

Mayor-to-the-south Summerville says he will not reveal the source of his election funds because it would embarrass his friends... Wonder if he means the ones in a friendly finance company?

The chairman of Canada's National Design Council would like to have a permanent building in Toronto to display items of Canadian design... Preferably NOT in the city hall block.

Conservatives, at their annual meeting in Ottawa, voted to ask the government for a 5% reduction in taxes "across-the-board". Finance Minister Nowlan is expected to interpret "across-the-board" as going "against-the-grain".

Toronto's Harbor Commission should be gently reminded that there are possible exceptions to the winterworks slogan: "Why wait for spring - do it now!" Like, not putting their ice-breaker into dry-dock for repairs while the island ferry and airport tug are getting stuck in the harbor ice.

Having made the final payment on the Suez Canal, President Nasser announces that it has been broadened and deepened and, with a revenue of \$140 million a year, "further improvements are planned"... Yeah, how is it for long?

The Mounties are expected to headline the grandstand show at this year's C.N.E. It's nice to see them have something to do while the universities are closed.

Railway commuter service into Metro is not possible... according to the CNR's Vice-President, because of "the great volume of passengers"... Well, they don't HAVE to put a bar-car on every run.

"Children should be taught that sex is fun" - says a York University Professor... And it's just a question of being able to teach them before they find out for themselves.

The Telegram announces that Bruce Kidd has won their "Citizen of the Year" award. Now they're looking for someone who can give it to him.

King City's Trustees believe land values were damaged by bad publicity during their water shortage last fall and are writing the editors of the Toronto papers about the flow from their new well. This un-newsworthy news could merely bring the reply: "Advise when it reaches flood stage."

In Toronto, a team of rent inspectors has "found very little gouging by the city's landlords"... We suspect that the key word here is: "found".

Rambling Around

(By Elizabeth Kelson)

CYRIL BELL SPEAKS OUT ON THE COMMON MARKET

"In a world growing smaller and more interdependent at a faster and faster rate, wisdom demands that we know how developments abroad are going to affect us!" This is the kind of thinking that motivates Cyril Bell of 4 Centre Street West, in Richmond Hill. Cyril has lived in this community with his wife Ruth for 4 years. They have a son, Reggie, (born in Japan) and daughter Heather, two and a half years (already a good little skier).

Cyril Bell is widely acquainted with many different governments and cultures of the world, as his work took him to ten different countries. He married his wife, Ruth, in Manila, capital of the Republic of the Philippines. Mr. Bell is a member of Canada's small but influential Canadian Institute of International Affairs and is one of its keenest adherents. At present, he has been lecturing on the European Economic Community. So far, he has lectured to The Rotary, The Knights of Columbus, the Toronto Chapter of Industrial and Cost Accountants. (In January 1962, "Cost and Management", the accountant's journal carried one of his articles. This year "Cost and Management" will publish another article by Cyril Bell.) During the New Year, he has committed himself to speak to the Lions, the Junior Chamber of Commerce, The Methods, The Time and Measurement Association of Toronto, several high schools in the Toronto area and organizations in Peterborough and Detroit.

Mr. Bell says that the European Economic Community is one of seven scattered throughout the world. This trend to regionalism has been brought about as a result of the twentieth century's industrial revolution. It has been further caused by specialization and long 'runs' of identical products. This has all tended to push the small man to the wall. "It is recognized that this trend to bigness in producers and distributors is here to stay in spite of the fact that it is cutting into individual freedoms," said Mr. Bell.

Cyril Bell said that the natural extension of the loss of individual freedoms into the international field is in the loss of national sovereignty. The United Kingdom will certainly lose part of its sovereignty when it joins the E.E.C., but as it is seldom noticed, the U.K. gave up part of its freedom to act every time it made an international agreement in the past. In effect then, the E.E.C. is the materialization of the general trend towards "interdependence" and eventually "world government".

"The great question is," said Mr. Bell, "will Britain join the E.E.C. In my opinion, she really has no option. One of the reasons she is finding it difficult to get into E.E.C. is because at the Commonwealth Conference, and subsequently at the Conservative Party Annual Conference, MacMillan was forced to put all his cards on the table. And if MacMillan saw there was no choice, he couldn't expect De Gaulle to make any concession to Britain that would hurt France."

Mr. Bell added that the reason for Britain becoming part of the E.E.C. is chiefly political. Professor Ludwig Erhard, Germany's Minister of Economics said: "Europe is no longer a junior partner but an equal partner of the United States". And events prove that he was right, for Europe is being unified and on its way to becoming the United States of Europe. And is Britain going to stand by now and have no effective voice in world affairs after having been leader of the world's greatest empire. "Hardly," said Mr. Bell. "It is quite possible that by joining E. E. C., Britain might become its leader and thereby strengthen it to a degree that it might be the senior in partnership with the U.S.A. Naturally Britain wants to retain leadership in world affairs."

Since this interview, Cyril Bell has become the secretary of the newly formed Richmond Hill Parliament (adult debating club).

NEW ACTING COMMISSIONER OF CANADIAN RED CROSS IS A RESIDENT OF KING CITY

Dr. John T. Phair, former member of the York County Branch, CMHA, is the new acting National Commissioner of the Canadian Red Cross Society until a successor to the late Dr. W. S. Stanbury is found. Dr. Phair has been a volunteer of the Red Cross for almost 40 years. He was elected to its supreme governing body in 1924 as a representative of Ontario Division. Since that time he has served in many capacities. He has been associated with the Junior Red Cross movement since 1925 and became chairman of the national advisory committee in 1942, an office which he still holds. Throughout his Red Cross career, Dr. Phair has been actively interested in the health programmes of the society. Since 1941 he has been honorary advisor in public health. He also serves as chairman of the blood scientific advisory committee. (Based on information given in Red Cross newsletter.)

ELISABETH BARKER REPRESENTS JUNIOR FARMERS

The January 11 issue of the Globe and Mail, reported that our Elisabeth Barker from Gormley sat at a very important board meeting of the Women's Institute. She represented the junior farmers and along with other representatives helped to present an imposing program of projects and activities in which Ontario rural youth engaged last year and also put forth ideas for a promising future. The constructive use you make of your time is an inspiration, Elisabeth!

"Dear Mr. Editor"

HAZARDOUS CONDITION

Dear Mr. Editor: May I through "The Liberal" draw to the attention of the proper authorities a very dangerous situation.

A few years ago, to provide a place for people to wait for the TTC bus south of Vaughan Road on Yonge Street, a hole was dug in the roadside bank. This was an improvement, in good weather. But during recent snowstorms, this refuge has been filled with snow blown off the bank and piled up by snowplows. Bus passengers must stand on the road while waiting for transportation - a very dangerous practice in rush hours,

especially so when driving conditions are poor.

Even in good weather people are forced to walk on this heavily travelled roadway to reach this waiting spot - with their backs to traffic. Dark winter clothing, in pre-dawn and after-dark hours adds to the hazards - and I feel it can only be a matter of time before a tragedy happens in this area.

A flight of steps cut into the bank would make this waiting spot accessible from the sidewalk at the top of the bank - and a little snow shovelling would help eliminate a very dangerous spot.

A Reader



By John Addison

Parliament is back in session after the seasonal recess but the recess was not quite so carefree as for youngsters in school. When the holiday part of it was over, I had the distinct impression that Canada was standing still when other parts of North America and the world were taking vital steps ahead.

Income Tax Cut
Nobody could have escaped the important news which came out of Washington in President Kennedy's income tax cut announcement. (Continued On Page 5)

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