

# The Liberal



An Independent Weekly: Established 1878

Subscription Rate \$3.50 per year; to United States \$4.50; 10c single copy  
Member Audit Bureau of Circulations  
Member Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association  
J. E. SMITH, Editor and Publisher  
W. S. COOK, Managing Editor  
THOMAS W. LAZENBY, News Editor  
"Authorized as second class mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa"

## Secondary School Costs

Taxpayers served by the York Central District High School Board know by now they are going to be faced with a sizeable jump in the cost of secondary school education this year. The York Central Board is responsible for the high school system in the four municipalities of Richmond Hill, Vaughan and Markham Townships and Woodbridge. The board has two schools in Richmond Hill and one each in Thornhill and Woodbridge. The members of the board are appointed by the four municipalities, the county and the public and separate school boards.

Markham Township will be the hardest hit with a jump of approximately 7.15 mills followed by Vaughan Township with an increase of 5 mills. Woodbridge is third with a jump of 4.27 mills and Richmond Hill is fourth with a figure of 3.29 mills.

Our high school district in common with so many other areas in this province is faced with an ever increasing need for more space. A new Langstaff school is planned for this year, while a two stage addition to the Bayview Secondary School is planned for 1965 and 1969. Future anticipated growth will call for new schools in 1967 and 1969. By 1970 enrollment in the high school district will reach an estimated 5,644 pupils.

All this paints a frightening picture for the homeowner, the small businessman and the farmer. The average citizen raising a family and trying to buy his home is already bending under the crushing burden of mounting taxation. He may well ask what does the future hold for him if some action is not taken by government to relieve the situation.

In his appearance before Markham Township Council last week, High School Chairman Robert Ross stated we can't base education on the mill rate. "You aren't going to build the best educational system by con-

sidering costs." Everyone wants to see improvement in our educational system but at the same time some serious thought must be given to the person who must foot the bill. A school system must evolve in relationship to the taxpayers' ability to bear the costs.

Recently the Canadian School Trustees Association descended on the federal government to demand federal action in what the association views as a rapidly developing crisis in Canadian education. The association pointed out that costs would double between 1960 and 1970, and that provincial governments, to say nothing of the municipalities, were running out of money. It urged all governments to set aside further social legislation until provision had been made to provide for the educational needs of both young and older Canadians.

Toronto's morning newspaper commented, "the vast expansion in the educational requirements of this decade demand that every tax dollar collected for education be spent on education. We shall have no money to spare, at any level of government, for frills however desirable in themselves such frills may be." These extras must make way for classrooms, laboratories and qualified instructors. "These are the meat and potatoes of education; we shall have to wait for the desserts."

Many feel that the trustees' association took the wrong approach in attempting to involve the federal government in what is essentially a provincial matter; that our educational needs must remain the responsibility of the provinces. Until some solution is found to relieve the present difficulties trustees must prepare themselves for stringent economies in order that what money is available will be spent only on essential educational needs.

## Old Fashioned Economy

Taxpayers at election time hear a great deal about old fashioned economy, and it is music to the ears of the tax-wary. However it's possibly true that municipal councils once elected cease to be as economy conscious as during election campaigns. This is unfortunate because in this day of rising costs and spiraling tax rates something must be done to hold the tax line.

Ratepayers maybe should share some of the blame. Sometimes ratepayers make demands on council which mean increased taxes and are pretty insistent in their demands. Sometimes newspapers advocate policies which if carried to conclusion mean an inevitable boost in the tax rate.

It may be that we must accept a spiraling tax rate as part of our way of life and that there is nothing we can do but grin and bear it. If this is true home ownership and property ownership is getting to be a precarious undertaking.

Taxation has reached proportions serious in the lives of many of our people, and if our economy is to survive we must do something about it.

Ratepayers must bear in mind that if the tax increases are to end it may demand some sacrifice in that we will have to do without some services we have come to regard as essential. Council members and school trustees must bear in mind that the people are tax conscious not only at election time but all through the year and that they demand, not from choice but from necessity, that there be economy in public administration.

Citizens in the main are fair and they do not demand the impos-

sible of their public representatives nor do they expect those in the public service to be mistreated or denied a fair return for their services.

However when those occupying positions in the public service start to be treated on a scale far better than that enjoyed by the great majority of those who work to supply their pay, it's something altogether different and something should be done about it.

Hard pressed taxpayers hardly can be blamed for objecting to paying those in public service higher wages with more holidays and more frills than they themselves are able to enjoy.

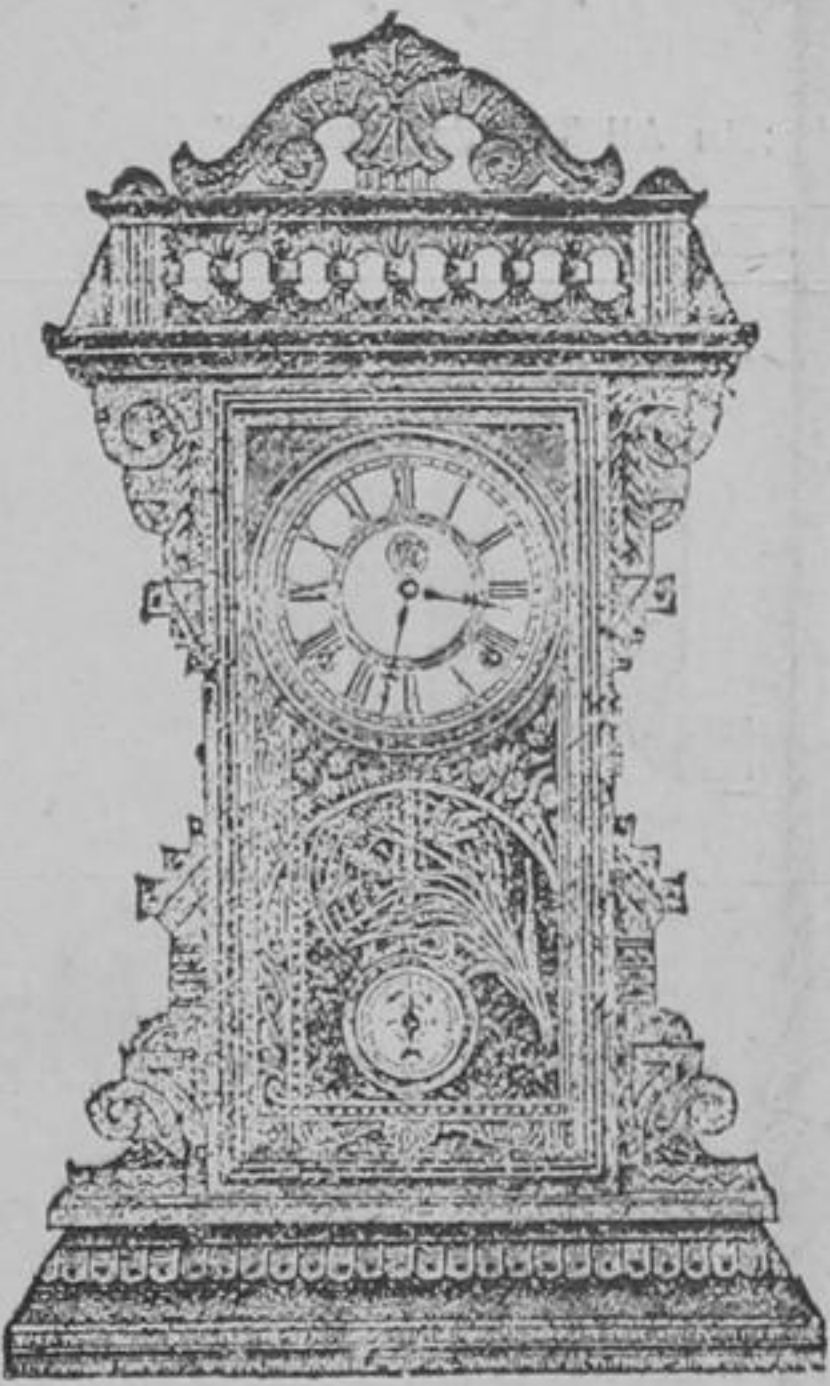
Over in the neighbouring Village of Stouffville members of the district high school board sharply criticized the Ontario Teachers' Federation for pushing salary demands beyond the limit of the taxpayers' ability to pay. In our neighbouring village taxes this year will increase by almost ten mills over 1962 due largely to increased education costs. "It's absolutely unjust what the federation is doing to the school boards" said Merlyn Baker, a board member. "They've got us over a barrel" remarked the chairman of the board.

Where's it going to lead us and where is it going to end, are questions asked seriously by the home owners and taxpayers of Ontario. Some change in the division of the tax load is long over-due, but until this legislative change comes we must have representatives in public office who can say "no."

There is an urgent need for all-year-round old fashioned economy in all branches of public administration.

## In Years Gone By

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



Clocks like this one pictured above are prized keepsakes in many York County homes. The one shown here is reproduced from an advertisement in The Richmond Hill Liberal of February 19th, 1899. It is an eight day model, strikes the hour and half hour and although it was only guaranteed for ten years many similar models are keeping good time today. Sale price in 1899, \$2.50 each.

Today we read about car thieves. Back in our issue of February 1899 the news was of horse thieves. "The Liberal" reported "Samuel McClure told 13 concession 8, Vaughan, told county police that a bay horse, a black square box buggy, set of single harness and a buffalo robe worth \$50 had been stolen from his stable."

The February 5th issue, 1899, of "The Richmond Hill Liberal" reported municipal officers for the year as follows: Richmond Hill - Reeve, P. G. Savage, Councillors John Palmer, T. H. Trench, William Innes, David Hill.

Toronto - Mayor, John Shaw; Vaughan Twp., Reeve A. Bryson, Councillors J. N. Boyle, J. H. Kirby, D. Malloy and D. Watson.

Markham Twp. - Reeve, J. Lawrie, Councillors J. Dimma, J. Eckhardt, A. Summerfeldt, A. Quantz.

Senate reform was an issue even in those days. This issue reported that Sir Wilfrid Laurier was in favor of reforming the Senate to provide that in any difference arising out of matters of legislation that a joint vote of the members of the House of Commons and the Senate be taken and the majority settle the question.

"The Liberal" reported "Dr. Langstaff is making improvements to his premises, having erected a windmill and a large tank some time ago, he now is converting his driving shed into a wash house so his rigs may be washed by water forced down through hose from the overhead tank".

Minutes of Vaughan Township Council recorded motions fixing the remuneration of officials as follows: council members \$2.00 per day; assessors \$65 per annum; returning officers and poll clerks \$2.00 per day; caretaker of the town hall \$12 per annum; constables for election \$1.00 per day.

Too bad the writer of this poem couldn't drop round to day.

The Slangy Girl  
The pretty girl who uses slang,  
Too conversation gives a tang,  
Too strong for me,  
How could I ever take to wife  
A girl who says, "You bet your life"  
For guarantee?

The maiden who remarks:  
"Well Say",  
Is quite devoid of fascination  
In my eyes,  
And when you hear one say,  
"That's right"  
I take my hat and say good night,  
With shocked surprise.

However charming she may be,  
No slangy girl could be for me,  
A proper wife,  
Do you suppose that I would  
wed,  
A girl who'd say "Oh go fall  
dead"  
Not on your life.

—From "The Liberal", January 1898

## Second Thoughts . . .

by George Mayes

● Yesterday's news is not necessarily dead.

Wasn't it lucky that Richmond Hill Police were able to round up those 35 horses, which were running around town, before they got over onto Bayview and broke their legs?

The hardest-working people in the country right now are probably the "instant crowd" on the Diefenbaker campaign train — with the Prime Minister making more whistle-stops than a peanut vendor.

Gamblers who had been "linked" with that dismissed OPP inspector would probably agree with the Roach report that his "usefulness had ended".

A court decision that residential election signs are now legal in Etobicoke brought the announcement from a candidate that hundreds of NDP signs would now sprout from the lawns of party faithfuls . . . and there goes the fertilizer market in Etobicoke.

Salary increases recommended by Richmond Hill's Planning Board for its director and his staff could be construed as a case of misdirected effort.

It gets a little confusing to learn that Ethiopian Emperor Haile Selassie is an admirer of Socrated leader Robert Thompson, who has to admire his co-leader Real Caouette, who admires Benito Mussolini, who thought Ethiopians were admirable targets to warm-up on for World War II.

Women's fashions this spring are described as "the little boy look" . . . And now, which washroom will they use?

With Vaughan Township calling its liquor vote within 60 days of the federal election (to use the federal lists) it could be called, appropriately, a hangover vote.

A Liberal MPP suggests that the Ontario Racing Commission must be following the horses to Florida. He questions their \$17,202 expenses, saying they wouldn't spend that much just visiting Ontario tracks . . . But nobody "just visits" Ontario tracks.

Kids are sure maturing fast these days if we can believe that "Liberal" heading: Our Senior Citizens Mark Fifth Anniversary.

Police Chief Robert Robbins says he had his leg broken in a hockey game when he was hit on the head by the puck . . . It must have been taken down and used against him.

Prime Minister Diefenbaker is now talking about a "second five-year plan for economic development" . . . THIS second thought we don't need.

# The Music Box . . . By W. Ray Stephens

And Amongst Other Things Taking up the pen for this column on Saturday afternoon, I just happened to turn on the radio (a rare event these days) and heard the voice of Milton Cross the commentator for the Metropolitan Opera Company. How many years has this voice been associated with Metropolitan Opera? Think back to almost "way back then". I can recall it from as far back as 1937 when first opera interested me. Milton Cross. Another voice is Richard Evans, the spoken word of the Salt Lake Tabernacle Choir. Every Sunday for how many

years? Voices as familiar to good music lovers as is Foster Hewitt's to hockey, and how many years has Foster been at it. Come war, peace, television, atomic bombs or what have you, there is comfort in the fact that these voices are almost eternal to some of us.

John Stanley, whose folks operate the Allegro Music Shop, is rehearsing a small combo for future work here in the Hill. John plays drums and is working out with piano and guitar.

Picking up some hay and straw last week end at Bill

Mitchell's farm in Oak Ridges we called in on John Larkin's automotive supply store there and had a short chat. John plays the viola with the Richmond Hill Symphony Orchestra and is also one of the executive. Mixing motors with music. We'll have to look into John's life and see what it's all about. (Hay and straw? Well, the boys have a Welsh pony named Topsy at Granddads in Elgin Mills and hay and straw is part of the operation).

An interesting aftermath to the article at Christmas time about Italy 1944, was the contact again with some of the wandering minstrels at that particular time. Of 27 bandsmen we have located about 15. New York, London, England, Vancouver, Ottawa, Stratford, Hamilton and a place called Cartwright, Manitoba. Lots of memories — almost 20 years — reunion — where's Joe? — There was one fellow we called Big A.D. after his first initials. He was 21 and about 6 ft. 1" at that time. Never walked but al-

ways ran — up stairs and down — jump up trees and did Tarzan acts all the time — now, as Ed. Sullivan would say, he's really big — 6 ft. 4 in., 350 lbs., and a sergeant on the Ottawa Police Force. A friend says that Big A.D. can still run over you on a first 100 yards. Could pick up his BB tuba with one hand.

Mrs. Illyd Harris of Aurora is busy working on a choral program to be held in conjunction with the Richmond Hill Symphony Orchestra in a combined concert at Aurora in early May. Rod Smith is busy working on the details.

Up Newmarket way, Frank Carr of Bells Corners is also very busy preparing for another concert by the above orchestra on April 7th at Greenacres Manor. Frank also plays in the orchestra and is another of the executive. Busy people indeed. Art Burgin, the conductor says that a special string group will be playing at the Richmond Hill Horticulture (Continued On Page 16)

## Rambling Around

(By Elizabeth Kelson)

### DAFFODILS AND THE CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY

Writing this article for the annual Cancer campaign means more to me than ever before. For I too, have had to see someone I loved struck down by the scourge of cancer. I know now, just how much I would like to see this disease conquered once and for all. I fully believe that research is the key to the cancer problem. And research takes money. You can help by giving generously when your volunteer comes around for your donation. The Canadian Cancer Society is the only national health agency fighting cancer through research, education, and services to patients. Its sole source of funds is voluntary gifts from the public. Your local branches of the Canadian Cancer Society will be placing daffodils in the churches to mark the beginning of the campaign on March 31st.

The story of the close association of the daffodil and the Canadian Cancer Society goes back 13 years. In the spring of 1949, a group of dedicated volunteers decided to decorate the tables of a cancer tea with daffodils . . . the gathering was a very great success, and much comment was heard about the bright yellow flowers. It seemed to several of the volunteers who worked longest in the ranks of the society, that the very spring-like nature of the daffodils . . . its sense of hope and renewed life it brings each year . . . represented precisely the feeling they wanted to bring to their work of serving the cancer patient. Six years passed by, and then one day at lunch, the same small group of volunteers discussed the possibility of having a "Daffodil Day" at the beginning of the Canadian Cancer Campaign month of April.

Two faithful members of the society promptly ordered and paid for 5,000 daffodils from Vancouver, and a group of prison camp buddies from the second world war, spent hours sorting them, and cutting the stems and shipping them out across Toronto. Volunteers in their yellow smocks were stationed in various restaurants in the city, and on that first "Daffodil Day" everyone of the 5,000 blooms were gratefully accepted by the public, and many were paid for voluntarily. From then on, Toronto began its yearly campaign on "Daffodil Day". The prison camp buddies still sort and cut, and the flowers are sold by the volunteers. Soon Ottawa, Montreal, and Calgary started a "Daffodil Day". Today, daffodils are almost universal as an insignia of the Canadian Cancer Society as the caduceus, gracing bulletins, table napkins, notes and almost every springtime meeting. And now we have the daffodils adding their sunny splendor in the churches to help remind us of the great job that lies ahead, and not only the job, but the wonderful hope that is symbolized by them.

### "FIGURE SKATING IS GOOD FOR CHILDREN" — BARBARA HANNAH

Just about this time, the Richmond Hill Figure Skating Club will be winding up another successful season of teaching the young fry how to perform on (Continued on Page 5)

## "Dear Mr. Editor"

### DUST FROM BAYVIEW IS UNHEALTHY

Dear Editor: I wish to protest the decision of the York County Council or whoever is responsible for the paving of Bayview Ave., north from Markham Rd. to Elgin Mills Sideroad.

This road is a disgrace to any part of York County, also a health menace to the residents whose property abuts Bayview. It is impossible to enjoy fresh clean air or to hang out a washing (without having to do it over again and dry it in the basement). I am sure that if the York County had an air pollution department they would rate this area as having the highest health detriment in the county.

I am one of those unfortunate residents, in that my property does abut Bayview and having bronchial trouble, came to Richmond Hill on my doctor's advice to move to a higher altitude, however, if nothing is going to be done about this road, I like many others, will be forced to try to dispose of my property and move elsewhere.

For the past three years, and I understand longer, promises have been made, that this road would be paved and thereby ending the inhaling of calcium dust.

I personally would advocate, if Bayview is not paved this year, close this part of the road and eliminate the calcium dust and give us residents a chance to breathe clean fresh air.

Will you please use your influence to get this matter reopened in order to get this decision reversed.

Thanking you,  
B. W. Osborne,  
Richmond Hill.

### NEW RATEPAYERS ASSOC.

Dear Mr. Editor: Having recently moved into the district, I was appalled at the condition of Bayview Av-

enue. I can well understand the people's feeling on this matter.

Especially having read the letters this week in "The Liberal" from people who have lived here a number of years, my own personal view is that if there is a ratepayers' association in this district they should challenge the council to a meeting to finally decide the issue of Bayview — not wait until some child has been badly injured.

I, for one, wouldn't like to think I was going to put up with it for the next seven years.

Mr. J. T. Powell,  
271 McConvey Drive,  
Richmond Hill.

### STABLE GOVERNMENT

Dear Mr. Editor: The biggest red herring being dangled before the electorate in the current campaign is that we must vote Liberal to produce a stable government. The argument that to vote for a splinter party is to "throw away" one's vote is sheer nonsense, for the very essence of democracy is that the citizen should examine the issues on hand and vote according to his reason and conscience. Since both the major parties have been tried and found to be inadequate to the problems facing the country, of what use is it to try to back a winner if the prize is not worth having?

An American to whom I was recently speaking expressed the opinion that we in Canada were extremely fortunate to have a choice outside of the two "old" parties. Minority government is one of the risks we have to take under our democratic system, but it need not be disastrous if politicians would rise above the petty juggling for power, and honestly try to lead and govern.

Yours sincerely,  
Mrs. Alice Burnett  
312 Boisdale Ave.,  
Richmond Hill.

# The Richmond

Richmond Hill, Ontario  
Phone TU. 4-1212

FREE PARKING AT REAR OF THEATRE

## Open Sunday Continuous from 2pm

ONE WEEK  
Starting Friday, March 29  
Through Thursday, April 4  
2 BIG HITS

PLEASE NOTE FEATURES SHOWN  
Fri., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs. —  
"The Interns" at 9.15 p.m.; "H.M.S. Defiant" at 7.15 p.m.  
Saturday —  
"The Interns" 6.20 & 10 p.m.; "H.M.S. Defiant" at 8.20  
Sunday —  
"The Interns" 2, 6 & 9.45; "H.M.S. Defiant" 4 & 8 p.m.

Saturday Matinee March 30  
2 P.M. ONLY

## "H.M.S. DEFIANT"

## "Spring Freeze" Successful Event

Fun for the whole family was the theme of "Spring Freeze", a variety night presented by the MacKillop Home and School Association on March 18, in the school auditorium. A big hit with the audience was a humorous dance number from the "Roaring Twenties" presented by the staff of MacKillop School. Also appreciated was a skit by members of the Curtain Club from their autumn revue. Songs by Mrs. E. L. Locking and a trio of high school girls who had started singing under the direction of Miss Thompson in MacKillop School rounded out the evening's program. Reports are that everyone enjoyed themselves, and the evening is considered to have been very successful.

## Come Over For Breakfast

The packages that contain our foods are not conducive to pleasant moods. Before we can ever sit down to sup we have to be sure which is "right side up"; The labels of course are there to read, And after an hour the food is freed; You punch in here and you pull out there, (And half of the flakes go up in the air.) It takes a man and a boy or two To break a cellophane wrap in two.

"Just slip in your thumb and it opens free" — Brother, you said it — you're telling me, But I'm tired of reading your soothing words, And distinctly tell you they're for the birds. My thumbs are scarred like a century tree, And my cheerful humour is gone from me. "Cut here to open and find the spout", (And surprise yourself at what comes out!) And here, where the letters are raised in Braille Is the line where I break my fingernail.  
Robert D. Little