

# The Liberal



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## A Good Beginning

There are strong indications the provincial government does not intend to implement one of the major recommendations of the legislature's select committee on municipal law. The committee has suggested municipal councils be given the power to control the spending of school boards and other bodies dependent on the municipality for financial assistance.

The recommendations were contained in a 105-page report that represented a two-year study by a committee of eight under the chairmanship of Hollis Beckett (PC York East). The committee's recommendations were met by a storm of protest from school authorities, and have been the subject of spirited debate in the press.

At present councils may only review school board budgets for which they are required to raise the necessary tax money. If they refuse to approve them, the board has the right to call for a plebiscite to have the issue settled by the voters. Throughout Ontario today the major share of the taxes collected each year go toward education. There is no better example than our own Town of Richmond Hill where this year 58% of the taxes collected will go to support our elementary and secondary school systems. Public and separate school trustees are elected by the people, while high school trustees are appointed but still have the same rights as their elected counterparts in all matters of budgets and taxation.

The relationship between school boards and councils has not always been a happy one. Councils are sometimes understandably concerned with the size of the proposed expenditures contained in the budget requests of the school boards. They have to set the tax rate and if taxes go up they usually receive the blame for something over which they have no control. In a democracy those who are charged with the responsibility of setting taxes and raising public monies also have the right to limit the money that is to be spent. In Ontario this basic tenet of a democratic society is a shared responsibility between the councils and school boards.

As a solution to this problem Education Minister William G. Davis has called for more "co-operation" between municipal councils and school boards. As laudable as his sugges-

tion may be it offers no real answer in positive terms. As Toronto's morning newspaper commented, "co-operation between school boards and municipal councils has been tried and it has not worked. School boards have not been bound by council suggestions for economies, and many of them have spent far too much for frills that did little to advance the basic cause of education. In the sky-rocketing of costs now before us, it is necessary that a restraining hand be laid upon them, and that their efforts be directed away from frills and toward the true goal of education."

In a TV broadcast on this same subject Premier John Robarts and three of his cabinet ministers all disagreed with any suggestion that councils be granted the power of veto over school expenditures. Premier Robarts said he had noticed many voters do not take the same interest in the election of school board members as they take in the election of municipal councillors. "It is not unusual for complete school boards to be re-elected by acclamation," Mr. Robarts said. "Perhaps this fact takes the school board member a little farther away from the taxpayer." The premier made no reference to the position of high school trustees who are appointed. Last December it took two nomination meetings to get two public school trustees in the largest ward in Richmond Hill.

On the same program Transport Minister James Auld said he had not found many people complaining about the cost of education, "as long as they know they are getting value for it. If we could leave these respective groups on a par so that they both have respective fields of responsibility I think a solution could be reached."

The select committee of the legislature is to be congratulated for making an honest attempt to come to grips with a problem that has been plaguing this province for some time. It knew before it tabled its report that not everyone would wholeheartedly support its recommendations. However a start has been made. For too long the leaders of all the political parties have been trying to solve the matter with pious platitudes and talk about co-operation instead of endeavouring to come up with a practical solution that would, in some measure at least, be satisfactory to both parties.

## Lions Club Twenty-Fifth Anniversary

In our issue of March 3rd, 1938, we reported as front page news the organization here of the Richmond Hill Lions Club. "The roar of Lions soon will be heard in Richmond Hill," we said in starting off that important news item, and now twenty-five years later as the local club prepares to celebrate its silver anniversary it is our great pleasure and privilege to extend sincere congratulations and best wishes.

The roar of Lions has been heard in this community for the past twenty-five years and always it has been heard in support of good causes and in helping the under-privileged, the unfortunate and the handicapped. On May 2nd the members will celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the club and as they do we assure them they have the unbounded good-will of the people of the district and with them we join in extending our best wishes for many more years of service to the community.

Commenting on the organization of a branch of an international service club here twenty-five years ago "The Liberal" at that time said we regarded the event as a most important one in the life of the town and district. We said "a service club has possibilities for good in a community which is equalled by few agencies. Service clubs can do and are doing a wonderful amount of good in hundreds of communities throughout the world and we are confident that the life of Richmond Hill and district will be enriched and blessed by the activities of the Lions Club organized here this week. Service clubs which are thriving in thousands of communities across Canada and the United States are built on just what the name implies "Service".

They aim to serve the commun-

ity in any worthwhile way and their particular activities are governed entirely by local conditions and local needs. The dominant note is to help others, particularly the under-privileged and in a general way make life happier and fuller and richer for all. Men do not join service clubs for what they hope to get out of it themselves, but rather for what they can put into it for others. Men join service clubs so that by their combined efforts they can accomplish good for others far beyond what they could do by individual effort.

We commend Richmond Hill's newest organization, The Lions Club, to the people of this district and in doing so we are sure that in their efforts for good and in their work for worthwhile causes the members will have the whole-hearted and generous support of the people of this community."

Now, a quarter of a century later, we are proud to say the record of the passing years more than justifies our faith in the Lions Club. The history of Richmond Hill for the past twenty-five years is a record of the countless projects of public service and deeds of mercy and humanity carried out with enthusiasm and humility by this local service club. The Lions Club and the dedicated and public spirited men who through the years have made up its membership have made a worthy contribution to their day and generation. This community is the richer and many, many people are healthier and happier because of their combined efforts in the Lions Club.

Congratulations to the Richmond Hill Lions Club on its twenty-fifth anniversary and our hope and prayer that it may grow and prosper through the years to come, and long live to serve this community.

## In Years Gone By

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



The photo above shows the decorations at the corner of Yonge Street and Lorne Ave. in honor of Richmond Hill's Old Boys' Reunion, September 2nd, 1911. Shown is the old radial station on the site now occupied by the Yonge Street branch of the Bank of Nova Scotia.

"The Liberal" as the home paper of the district played an important role in promoting the historic event, and reported in our issue of September 7th, 1911 as follows:

"Richmond Hill opened its arms last Saturday and received hundreds of old friends. Decorations in profusion adorned most of the business places and dwellings. The banners suspended across the street read 'For Auld Lang Syne', 'Old Boys the Town is Yours', 'Welcome We Like You as Much as Ever'. The public school was draped in red, white and blue bunting and in all probability the village never looked as pretty as it did that morning. The spirit of hospitality was everywhere evident and the home-comers were received with open arms.

At 2 o'clock a procession was formed with Hesse Nichols and Thomas H. Trench acting as marshals, and with the Queen's Own and village band marched to the southern limits to meet the contingent from the City of Toronto. The procession was again formed and proceeded to the public school where the Toronto visitors made formal presentation of a flagstaff. Councillor John H. Sanderson received the flagstaff on behalf of the village saying that as the staff pointed upwards he hoped the motto of

all would be "Onward and Upwards". Mr. Frank Wiley one of the town's oldest residents then raised a new flag on the flagstaff and the Queen's Own Band played "God Save the King". The village band followed with "Rule Britannia". The parade was then reformed and continued to the north passing under the evergreen arches which had been erected on Lorne Avenue.

Reaching the fair grounds the guests were again welcomed by William Pratt and P. G. Savage of the reception committee.

A pleasant feature of the afternoon was the presentation of \$100 in gold to W. J. Clifford, a former Richmond Hill citizen who had just won the King's prize and the Prince of Wales prize at Bisleigh. Mr. Clifford thanked the donors saying he had lived 22 years in Richmond Hill before moving to Toronto.

According to "The Liberal" more than 2000 people attended the reunion and nearly all remained for supper which was served in the skating rink. John McCague of Vancouver won the prize for coming the longest distance.

The day was a memorable one in the history of Richmond Hill and its record is in the old files of "The Liberal" which has been the home paper of Richmond Hill since 1878. It records that the day of reunion was spent pleasantly in handshaking and renewing old acquaintances. Incidentally "The Liberal", then published by the late T. F. McMahon for the best decorated store-front.

## Dear Mr. Editor

1962-63 MINOR HOCKEY SEASON WAS A SUCCESS  
Dear Mr. Editor:

On behalf of the Richmond Hill Hockey Association, I would like to extend our appreciation to you and your staff for the co-operation we received during the recently ended hockey season.

I realize that there are times when we must be a thorn in your side with our many requests. The 62-63 minor hockey season in Richmond Hill has been the most successful in our history and it is only fair to say that the support we enjoy from "The Liberal" measures very high in the success of this operation.

The many thousands of books of tickets you printed for us for the TV draw on the final night will enable us to start off next fall financially in the black.

We hope to continue this ticket project in the coming season, but of course we shall be starting it much earlier than last season. This will be decided upon at our annual meeting on April 28.

Thank you for your interest. Sincerely,

Earl J. Methe,  
67 Bedford Park Ave.  
Richmond Hill

### ORAL FRENCH

Dear Mr. Editor: Supposing the Vaughan School Area should consider the expense of the implementation of Oral French to our municipality, we think this board or any other board have an obligation also a definite duty of procedure.

First we believe they should approach council in a co-operative (Continued on Page 17)

## Second Thoughts...

by George Mayes

● Yesterday's news is not necessarily dead.

Prime Minister Pearson should be able to restore American-Canadian relations — after all, President Kennedy didn't quite get to the point of calling us "Canader".

Richmond Hill's senior citizens were told at their April meeting that there are over 700,000 senior citizens in Ontario — in 450 clubs with 916,000 members... Wonder when some of these clubs had their last roll-call?

And, speaking of senior citizens: a California doctor has discovered that older persons actually get the greatest benefit from fluoridated water. This is a doubtful advantage locally. It could merely mean that we'll have Gordon Sinclair around longer to complain about it.

On restaurants: The prospect of Oral French being taught in Vaughan Township schools brings back the story: "They laughed when I spoke to the waiter in French!... It was a Chinese restaurant."

Kingston, which is having a Vaughan-type liquor plebiscite, is more fortunate for having received an anonymous gift of \$8,000 to pay for it... Wonder if the donor spelled "anonymous" with two A's?

The T.T.C. is taking a bit of a chance in selecting May 1 as the date for its latest fare increase... Passengers might be tempted to revolt and stage a May Day "parade".

Gum machines are outlawed on township premises in North York because, as a councillor puts it: "It would be poor public relations if taxpayers saw municipal employees chewing gum during coffee breaks."... And next, they'd be wanting a gum break. And then they'd be stretching it!

Toronto's art colony is being invited to paint samples of their "art" on the hoardings around Nathan Phillips Square... The trouble is that any artists likely to be available are not "square" painters.

With an Ontario election shaping up we can hope that the Conservatives keep promising "goodies" until there is nothing for the Liberals to promise — except repealing the sales tax.

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

Halifax, City of Contrasts, of Rain, Fog and the Canadian Music Educators Convention.

This is the fifth annual convention held this year in Halifax. Last year it was Vancouver, before that Montreal. Canadian music educators, the teachers and directors of the school music programmes in Canada meet at this annual convention.

From all points of this spacious nation they gather to discuss programmes of education, to listen to the other fellows' point of view, to ask questions and to get as many right answers as possible. In this way the school of their interests benefits from the better efforts in musical education. In past articles the Music Box, has ever attempted to explain the purpose of music in education, music in life and music in general so for once we offer no apologies for music and will draw no charts to guide the uninitiated. Educators, publishers and some students

mingling in musical harmony. Methods are pointed out, systems analyzed and all sorts of be-setting problems tackled.

How it Might Sound in a Capsule

"This course is not really suitable for the primary grades" - "this course is suitable for the primary grades" - perhaps it's the same course. President LLOYD SLIND, University of British Columbia, "Music in the schools must be stressed as an educational need - a general requirement for youth" - MAURICE GODFREY, B.A. of Toronto, Canadian Harmonicist Champion and a graduate of the Royal Military School of Science, England - busy taking pictures - another of his hobbies, DR. G. FENWICK, retired director of music for the Province of Ontario, "Been just as busy since I've retired but now the pressure has gone - travel by train - take my time - no more planes" - HARRY WENGER, manu-

facturer from Minnesota, one time music supervisor who had to make his own stands and platforms - now has a factory for it and a big nationally known business - movable concert stages for band concerts, schools, auditoriums and the like, - podiums, back drops, etc., Toronto has several now placed in the parks. Our own DICK EDMUNDS, an active organizer and man very much behind the scenes at conventions - arranging space - getting things done - "Are you happy? Everything going o.k.?" KEN BRAY Ontario College of Education - "so now you've heard the band - and aren't you surprised to hear a band play such a high level of music - you orchestral people - what do you think of it?"

CAPT. KEN ELLOWAY.

jovial director of music of the R.C.A. Band, Halifax - "so pleased to bring you this concert, hope to get to Toronto some day - government policy prevents it at the moment - we've been sent to Japan, Korea, Burma, U.S.A. and Jamaica but not to Ontario - government policy - taxpayers money -" Army musicians, service musicians - with a desire to be always in the field of music - only choice - the service.

LAWRENCE PARK COLLEGIATE from Toronto, guests of the Halifax Symphony members - fed and housed 85 excited and proud young people - big deal - on the edge of the fabulous world of music - "remember the Halifax trip" - a touch of the greatness of music - and probably no more - (Continued On Page 5)

## Rambling Around

BY ELIZABETH KELSON

EXPLORING THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF "Y" WITH GRACE HYNDMAN JACKSON

Grace Hyndman Jackson is the part-time extension secretary for the National Y.W.C.A. in the Richmond Hill area and is the wife of the Rev. Fred C. Jackson, rector of Emmanuel Anglican Church in Richvale. Rev. and Mrs. Jackson have been social workers for many years and are keenly interested in the needs and potentialities of people.

Before coming to Richmond Hill six years ago, Mrs. Jackson had worked as a social worker in family welfare services, war-time industrial personnel services, UNRRA, and in the federal government health services as social work consultant. In the Hill, she has been active in the founding of the York County Mental Health Association and clinic, the senior citizens club, the York Central Hospital Association and its auxiliary and the Y. W. Neighbours for young mothers. Mrs. Jackson is keenly interested in teens and pre-teens and the programs urgently needed to help them develop happy, interesting and useful lives. She is optimistic that Richmond Hill and the neighbouring areas will develop the necessary recreation and leadership facilities. Mrs. Jackson says that one of the lovely things in life is to be able to look back on the wonderful way people in the community have made dreams come true, and to look ahead with expectation to similar fulfillment of the splendid on-going goals of interested people.

Mrs. Jackson has some very wonderful things to say about the "Y". She says that suburban living presents many challenges to the young wife who has to cope with all the problems of raising her children in a new housing area, frequently far-removed from family and the familiar social and cultural facilities of established communities. It is easy to feel isolated although surrounded by other women the same age and with the same problems and pressures. The space age with its fast communications has made the world simultaneously both small and vast. Jets, radio and TV seem to set the world and one's problems right on one's doorstep... so imminent, overwhelming and so confusing. It isn't easy to keep abreast of the times and to achieve good perspective, sound values and a satisfying philosophy of life, and to find personal significance and fulfillment in this changing world. There are so many stimuli and so many demands that a girl needs a warm fellowship with a satisfying purpose and a program planned toward personal development, ever widening horizons, broadening understanding and improved contribution to life.

"For the Y.W.C.A.," said Mrs. Jackson, "this challenge for a program to meet the need of suburban mothers is simply the current variation of the kind of needs of women and girls which the "Y" has been existing to meet since 1855. Service undergirded by prayer and Christian caring has motivated the movement ever since it was organized to provide homes for Florence Nightingale's nurses returning from the Crimea to find themselves disowned by their families for this unclay-like venture. Then came the industrial revolution and the need for housing and friendship for women seeking work in urban centres. Since then, through wars, depressions, industrial expansion and emancipation of women, the Y.W.C.A. has been expanding and changing and adapting to the ever-changing needs of women and girls throughout the world. Today's needs require literacy classes, nutrition and home-making classes in the hungry have-not nations, leadership training, an understanding of citizenship, United Nations Seminars, wholesome physical activities, clubs, residences, programs adapted to the needs of Canada's expanding north and her native population, her new immigrants and lonely newcomers to suburbia."

Mrs. Jackson said... that to many people in suburbia, the Y.W.C.A. means building a swimming pool, a gym, a camp or residence. It can be any or all of these things or none of these. It is always a movement with a purpose. "To build a fellowship of women and girls devoted to the task of realizing in our common life those ideals of personal and social living to which we are committed by our faith as Christians. In this endeavour we seek to understand Jesus, to share his love for all people, to grow in the knowledge and love of God." Membership is open to women and girls of every race, creed and color and the "Y" serves as a meeting place where we learn to appreciate those who are different and to enrich our lives thereby. The "Y" encourages membership and active participation in the life of one's own place of worship and serves as an ecumenical bridge since it provides a unique opportunity for close fellowship among people of different faiths.

In 1959 the "Y" program came to Richmond Hill through the request of the university women's club to the national Y.W.C.A. Since the need was urgent, the usual procedure was waived. The cost is largely underwritten by the membership across Canada but the local members are becoming anxious to be self-supporting. However, the program has paid ample dividends in the enthusiasm and growth of the participants and its influence in family and community life in the Hill.

(Next week, Mrs. Jackson tells you about the local "Y" groups in Richmond Hill and area.)

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