

The Liberal



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Ontario Election This Fall

With all the signs pointing to a provincial election this fall, the tempo of political activity in York North is increasing by the day. The present provincial government was elected in June 1959 and could, if it so wished, hold office until June 1964. However its legislative program and the many nomination meetings government members are holding are signs pointing to an early election.

At his recent nomination meeting Mr. Allan Lawrence, the Conservative member of the legislature for Toronto St. George, forecast Premier John Robarts will announce the date of the election right after Labour Day with the actual voting being held in the first week of October.

This summer marks two decades of Conservative rule in Ontario, the party having returned to power in 1943 under the leadership of George Drew. Following Mr. Drew's resignation in order to enter the federal field, Leslie Frost was elected party leader and premier in 1949. Premier Robarts succeeded Mr. Frost in October 1961.

In York North both the Liberals and the N.D.P. have nominated their candidates in preparation for the vote expected this fall. The Liberal nominee is Donald Plaxton, 37, a former member of Richmond Hill

Town Council and public school board. Active in community affairs, Mr. Plaxton was the Liberal standard bearer in 1959. The N.D.P. candidate is Robert McVey, a Markham Village lawyer. Mr. McVey was nominated in the spring of 1962. The plans of the Social Credit are unknown. In the last two federal elections their candidates did very poorly, losing their deposits on both occasions.

The Conservatives have yet to hold their nominating convention. The big question is whether or not the present provincial member, Lex Mackenzie, who at 78 is the Dean of the House, will seek a further term. A resident of Woodbridge, Mr. Mackenzie has represented this riding at Queen's Park continuously since 1945. If Mr. Mackenzie does retire, it is expected former County Warden William Hodgson of King Township and King Township Councillor William Curran, who last week was elected president of the Tory riding association, will be among those seeking the nomination.

One thing is certain. York North's normally lazy summer days will this year bring a resurgence of "politicking" at the provincial level in preparation for the expected voting this fall.

Support Your Mental Health Drive

Mental illness is the number one health problem facing this province and nation today. On every hand we hear of the terrible toll it is taking in terms of human suffering and despair.

The York County Branch of the Canadian Mental Health Association is actively engaged in fighting mental illness in a practical way. However, like so many good causes, the work of the association requires the financial support of our people if it is to maintain and extend this badly needed health service. To this end the association is holding its annual drive for funds on June 3 and 4.

Authorities estimate one half of the hospital beds in this country are occupied by psychiatric patients. Speaking at the annual meeting of the York County association in March, Ontario Health Minister Dr. Matthew Dymond said a major portion of his department's current budget will go towards fighting mental illness and retardation. This year in Ontario our government will spend \$58 million on maintenance of mental hospitals plus another \$20 million on new construction, all of which attests to the economic importance of the problem to say nothing of it in terms of human suffering. Dr. E. S. L. Govan of the University of Toronto's School of Social Work estimates that one in every 20 Canadians needs psychiatric treatment.

One could go on and on quoting statistics but all simply point up the salient fact that mental illness is a major health problem in our society today. Under the circumstances a program aimed at prevention will assist people before their condition becomes serious enough to require hospitalization.

A Permanent Fire Brigade

Four permanent firefighters will be added to Vaughan Township's volunteer fire department, according to a recent decision of Vaughan Council.

Vaughan has fire halls at Maple, Richvale, Woodbridge and Robinson Cotton Mills serving an area of 116 square miles. The four brigades are manned by 45 volunteer firemen under the direction of James Davidson who combines the duties of police chief and fire chief for the township.

The permanent staff will be attached to the Maple Fire Hall because of its central location and because it receives the most fire calls. Traditionally fire departments in this district have been manned by volunteers, who have carried out their duties with great devotion and enthusiasm, and devoting many hours to the study of the most effective methods of fire fighting. Although some have lived at great distance from the fire halls, and others have had to leave their businesses to help extinguish reported blazes, the promptness of their response to the alarm has been nothing short of amazing.

Recruiting of volunteer firemen is becoming more difficult in the dormitory areas, where so few of the

men are employed in the community. With some members of a brigade being full time employees it is feared that the attitude of potential volunteers may be — let George do it, he's getting paid for it. Keeping volunteer fire departments up to strength may become an even greater headache to municipal authorities.

At the same time the introduction of a permanent staff can only mean an increase in fire department costs. A full time staff, of any size, is going to cost the taxpayers more money than a volunteer brigade. A council should ask themselves if the level of fire protection justifies the introduction of a permanent staff. There is also the question of maintaining good relations between the permanent and volunteer members of the brigade.

In 1962 actual expenditure for fire protection in Vaughan Township was \$29,265.36. A figure of \$47,530 has been included in the 1963 budget for fire protection. Additions to equipment, planned for this year, are also included in this budgeted amount. This year the township was able to maintain the mill rate at the 1962 level for expenditures controlled by council.

Rambling Around

BY ELIZABETH KELSON

"WATER SAFETY PROGRAM OFF TO A GOOD START" . . . JOHN PASSMORE

John Passmore, your friendly water safety chairman of the Richmond Hill and District branch of the Red Cross and his family have lived on Yonge St., Richmond Hill for 18 years. His son, John Passmore junior, a well known athlete and graduate of McMaster University will be teaching physical education at Bayview Secondary School next fall. Nancy is a grade 13 student in Richmond Hill High School, and Margaret, now in grade 8 is looking forward to high school next year.

John Passmore senior has been professor of physical education at the Teacher Training College of the University of Toronto for the past 17 years. He is a former president of the Ontario Division of the Canadian Red Cross Society. During 1962 to 1963, he has served as the water safety chairman for the Richmond Hill branch. He highly recommends his successor, the new water safety chairman, Mrs. Lois Hancey, who has a good background of swimming and water safety activities to her credit.

Mr. Passmore reported that he had excellent co-operation with all the principals of the public and separate schools and high schools of the area in the matter of distributing water safety literature and materials. Director John Hanna and his staff at the Thornhill Swimming Pool were responsible for the distribution of literature to the Thornhill schools. Many people came to see the water safety demonstration at Camp Richildaca last year. Demonstrations of the new method of artificial respiration (mouth to mouth breathing) various swimming techniques, rescue methods and canoe safety were capably demonstrated. Demonstrations were conducted by Richildaca instructor, Brian Orton and Ron Gibson as master of ceremonies.

Thornhill Pool Director John Hanna along with his staff was responsible for the "Learn To Swim" classes. (John Hanna is a very active member of the water safety committee). The awards to the swimmers were presented by the Richmond Hill branch.

At the annual meeting, a short time ago, the guest speaker was Mr. Graydon Riepart, director of the water safety program for Toronto branch who outlined facets of water safety in boating, swimming and artificial respiration.

Mr. Passmore expressed his appreciation for the co-operation of "The Liberal" for their help in promoting water safety through the local press. The co-operation of T.V.; radio and the press everywhere have been most helpful. He emphasized the fact that the local branch of the Red Cross would be glad to supply speakers or panels if they should be desired by schools or organizations. Mr. Hanna of Thornhill Pool, Bill Babcock and Brian Orton of Richildaca are anxious to promote the idea of water safety as much as possible. Posters and window displays are available from your local branch. It is hoped that the picture of that charming little boy, "Walter Safety" will be a constant reminder to obey swimming and boating rules.

As Mr. Passmore is the retiring water safety chairman, he would like to say a public thank-you to Mrs. Jean Thomson, director of the Richmond Hill Recreation Committee. Mrs. Thomson, along with other members of the committee, has worked closely with the local Red Cross branch in the matter of water safety and "Learn To Swim" classes.

"Last year," said Mr. Passmore, "the Butler and Baird Lumber Co. provided us with a truck and a driver. The local Red Cross constructed a water safety float on it, and we took part in the Richmond Hill Sports Parade.

He added that the water safety committee were hoping to do something like that again but the final details will be worked out at their next meeting of June 2nd. In summing up, Mr. Passmore said that he was not completely satisfied with the results of the year's work, for much remains to be done. However he thinks that the branch has got off to a good start in Water Safety and will soon be planning bigger and better things.

"I would like to see," he concluded, "better indoor and outdoor swimming facilities. This idea should be explored very carefully and I think that service clubs, school boards and the town council should be involved. Even though it is a large and expensive undertaking, the rewards could be very great from such a project as this. It certainly would help to promote the cause of water safety even more."

"WRITING AND HOMEMAKING CAN GO TOGETHER" . . . Loraine Porter

Forward — Rubaboo 2 is the 1963 anthology for ten to twelve year olds. The thirty-three selections include a story about a Newfoundland skipper, a humorous tale about a rooster that grew six feet tall; a biography of a famous Canadian painter, and "River Life" a nature story by our own Loraine Porter of Richmond Hill. What is a Rubaboo? A rubaboo is a stew made from pemmican, flour, water, and preserved potatoes or wild onions. It nourished the Canadian Indians and sustained the Canadian explorers. When savory vegetables and herbs were added, it was transformed into a wonderfully appetizing dish. So Rubaboo 2 is a blend of many wonderful stories by Canadian authors. Writing For Young Canada is a project of W. J. Gage Limited, to encourage Canadian authors to create Canadian literature for children from six to 12 years old. Any Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada may submit a manuscript. It is the intention of the Gage firm to publish at least two anthologies a year, so it is to be hoped that enough Canadian writers will take advantage of this opportunity.

Loraine Porter, the author of "River Life" a choice ingredient of Rubaboo 2, has a rich educational and writing background. She was born in London, Ontario, and moved to Toronto when her father became Rector of St. Jude's Anglican Church. She attended Havergal College and Toronto University. She obtained her B.A. in 1940. She also took a summer course at Marguerite Bourgeoys College in Montreal. During the last war, when her husband Stan was in England, she went to Mexico City with her friend, Edda Contreras, and studied Spanish literature at the University of Mexico.

Fifteen years ago, Loraine and Stan Porter moved to five acres and a cottage north of Richmond Hill. It was then that she started free-lancing. She sold her first stories to Bernard Braden Productions of the CBC. When Bernie Braden went to England to act in a play with Lawrence Olivier, she had to find other markets, and so she wrote articles for Country Guide, Family Herald, Winniepee Free Press, Farmer's Advocate, Liberty, Globe and Mail, Canadian Grocer, and Canadian Scene. She won the I.O.D.E. prize of \$100 for her story "The First Canadian" which was printed in Echoes magazine. In the United States, Loraine sold stories to Children's Friend, a Salt Lake City publication, and to "Popular (Continued on Page 17)



By John Addison

More than anything else in Ottawa, one is struck these days by the wonderfully business-like atmosphere created by the new government. These are the 60 Days of Decision and the new ministers have their departments humming at a great rate preparing the legislation to be put before Parliament.

THE BIG PRIORITY
There is one priority above all others and that is the Liberal government's campaign pledge to go to work at once to stimulate the economy. Already, the atmosphere has been created and work on new measures to achieve this end is well advanced. There will be no frills until the basic job is underway.

By the time this column appears, some of the new legislation to make jobs and spur the industrial growth rate will be ready for the 26th Parliament which opened as promised on May 16.

NEW ECONOMIC COUNCIL
The measures being put before this session of Parliament to make jobs and develop our economy include development (Continued on Page 17)

In Years Gone By

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

Current issues of "The Liberal" unfortunately often carry reports of traffic accidents and motor mishaps. In the old files back in the 1890's accidents often were the result of runaway horses.

Just seventy years ago in an issue of May 1893 we reported as follows: "Last Sunday evening shortly after dark Arthur Tennyson of Oak Ridges drove down to the village and tied his horse outside the doctor's office. While in the office his horse broke loose and started to gallop down the street. Opposite "The Liberal" office on Yonge Street the robe dropped off of the buggy and the frightened animal continued down Yonge St. at a break-neck pace. Richard's toll gate being open the race was kept up and as a party tried to stop the horse at Thornhill he ran against the fence and smashed the buggy. Mr. Richards, keeper of the toll gate, hitched up one of his horses and drove Mr. Tennyson down the street in pursuit of the runaway horse. They drove as far as the Golden Lion but couldn't catch up to the frightened animal. The owner spent all day Monday looking for the runaway horse and on Tuesday found him at Brown's Corners in Markham Township. The horse is apparently none the worse for the experience."

Ice Races
You'd never guess it today but there was a time ice races were held on Bond Lake. Our issue of February 4th, 1893, reports that the annual races will take place on the ice on Bond Lake, February 14th and 15th. There were two races each day, open to pacers and trotters. Buses were run daily from Richmond Hill and Aurora to take people to the popular sporting event.

In the history of every community there are days and events which stand out from the others and are talked about for years. One such event which old timers talked about for a long time was the night Innes Mill burned down. Innes Mill was a lumber mill located on Richmond Street at the stream which is now the front door of the modern development known as Pleasantville.

"The Liberal" which has been the home paper of Richmond Hill and district since 1878 and through all the years has recorded the happy as well as the sometimes not so happy events, reported the Innes Mill fire in our issue of April 6th, 1894, as follows: "One of the village's most disastrous fires occurred Friday morning about half an hour past midnight. The sawmill and factory of L. Innes & Sons together with all contents were completely destroyed by fire. The engine and boiler room and every piece of machinery in the mill with all the tools of the firm were entirely ruined. Besides all their patterns and models the factory was almost filled with doors, sash moulding and fancy woodwork prepared for the coming season. Mr. William Innes called to the scene of the fire was able to save one horse but one died in the flames. The local volunteer fire brigade did good work in saving a new residence close by and much of the lumber. The firm reckons the loss at \$3,000, and there was no insurance. The rate for insurance was \$75. per \$1,000, which made it prohibitive."

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Have You Read These?

(Book Reviews From The Richmond Hill Public Library)

THE PARADISE PEOPLE. BY DAVID LYTTON (MacGIBBON). In his earlier book, Mr. Lytton has demonstrated his understanding of the predicament of the coloured peoples of South Africa. Here he turns to the other side of the picture. This collection of sketches is devoted to portraying the character and virtues of the Boers. These are pictured through the figure of Ouma - a remarkable matriarch, equally formidable at horse-breaking, dairy farming, midwifery and matchmaking - in whom Mr. Lytton finds the image of Boer life in its primitive setting. This is an affectionate picture of a vanished age which makes fascinating reading.

MODEL SOLDIERS. BY HENRY HARRIS (WEIDENFELD). Small-scale models of human figures have been throughout history, a specially fascinating branch of this figurine art being the model soldiers whose history is here told with charm and complete knowledge of the collector. The makers of the models, the materials used, notable collections of the past, and advice on building up a collection today are discussed in a text packed with information. The illustrations, enhance the text and make it appealing to everyone.

THE HIDDEN MOUNTAIN. BY GABRIELLE ROY (McCLELLAND & STEWART). Man exists. He perceives. What he feels must be communicated, one man to another, one generation to another. Over (Continued on Page 14)

Lilacs

Lilacs have the mystery of fog in their blossoms; 'Tis said they came from England in the long, long ago;
Pioneers who cherished them brought a piece of homeland
To plant beside their cabins, or wherever they would grow.

So plan to have a lilac tree just beneath your window, And in the nights of Maytime, when leaves are quiet with rain,
The fragrance of its snowy plumes will drift about your garden,
And bring you back a vanished hour and make you young again.

— Robert D. Little

Second Thoughts . . .

by George Mayes

- Yesterday's news is not necessarily dead.

John Diefenbaker is reported to be acting "like a tiger" in his old role as Opposition Leader . . . Or maybe more like a bear — after hibernation.

NATO Dinner: Fish and Quips — heading in the Toronto Star. About the only way we could top this is to denounce it in "The Liberal" (Est. 1878) as being facetious and undignified . . . and wait for the Star to supply the second heading: "Fish and Quips" Rapped in Old Newspaper.

And speaking of the Star: Its boating editor estimates that there are 22,000 trailer boats in the Metro area — with practically nowhere to launch them. We mention this to save you counting them on the next holiday week-end.

Britain's law-makers are working on a "kiss-and-make-up" bill aimed at saving tottering marriages. Well, off hand, we'd say the bill was unnecessary; in any "tottering" marriage the partners must be kissing and making-up occasionally.

Students at Metro's Vaughan Road Collegiate are protesting the school's passing-along of an increase in the price of their lunch-time milk. This is one time, at least, when modern educators can't be accused of leaving students unprepared for real-life conditions.

A report from Montreal says the FLQ's homemade bombs are set off by "dollar watches" . . . This HAS to be a case where something was lost in the translation. Either that, or use of the "dollar watch" expression indicates that the papers are sending their senile, expendable reporters to the bomb sites.

Toronto's cemetery workers have just negotiated an agreement for "more money for less work". We were going to remark that this could lead to an increase in the "cost of leaving" until we had an uneasy second thought about that: "less work" . . . Surely they wouldn't? . . . Not compacts!

Dave Mickie (the what's-it on CKEY) estimates that 80% of his listeners hear him on transistor radios. This supports a theory we have: A transistor radio can make any announcer sound unintelligible; ergo: On a transistor radio Dave Mickie may sound normal. But then, how do we account for the music?

In the field of FM radio, both CFRB and CHFI are broadcasting in stereo — but it seems more like split-personality when CFRB advertises it is now CKFM, and CHFI advertises it is now Rogers Radio Ltd.

East and West Berlin are reported to be discussing the possibility of hosting the 1968 Olympics. If the Wall is still there we can see the entire population of East Berlin turning out to practice for the high hurdles and pole vault.

The coincidence corner:
While Toronto's Mayor Summerville was reminiscing to his council about the days when he swam nude in the upper Don River, East York's Reeve True Davidson was telling the parks board of her happy childhood in the undeveloped ravines where she "could come to grips with nature in the raw."

The Richmond Theatre

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