

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
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"Authorized as second class mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa"

Realistic Decision

By a majority decision Richmond Hill Town Council has accepted the recommendations of its industrial committee (Councillors Alec Campbell and Walter Scudds) calling for major changes in its industrial department. Mayor William Neal and Deputy-reeve Stanley Tinker supported Councillors Campbell and Scudds, thus ensuring council acceptance of the report.

The long-awaited brief was tabled only after several months of research and study by the committee. Messrs. Campbell and Scudds interviewed officials at Queen's Park, Metro, and in a number of other municipalities comparable in size to Richmond Hill.

Appointment of the committee followed Industrial Commissioner Robert Langford's failure to cooperate with the former industrial commission. Mr. Langford's refusal to keep not only the members but the chairman informed of his activities brought about the commission's resignation last February. The commission composed of private citizens who had volunteered their time and experience to assist in the struggle to gain added industrial assessment had no alternative, in the light of Mr. Langford's attitude, but to resign. Since that time Mr. Langford's department has been under the direction of Mayor Neal and Clerk Russell Lynett.

In their report Messrs. Campbell and Scudds cited the lack of municipally-owned industrial land as the main reason for dispensing with the services of the industrial commissioner. The 24 acres owned by the municipality are all sold. Some

80 acres of industrial land still remaining are held by private interests. Even Reeve Floyd Perkins and Councillor Al. White, who opposed Mr. Langford's immediate dismissal, advocated that he be kept on only until the end of this year. In severing their connection with the industrial commissioner, council has been more than fair and generous. Mr. Langford will receive a salary settlement including his two weeks' vacation up until October 1st.

Under the new set-up the industrial department will become the responsibility of a three-member committee of council yet to be named. This committee will be assisted in its work by an advisory board composed of private citizens. The important work of attracting added industrial assessment will now become the direct responsibility of council who are the people's elected representatives.

Council's decision to release its industrial commissioner is the first move by any recent administration in Richmond Hill to cut down on the high cost of government. Since the mid 50's town taxpayers have seen the cost of local government steadily pyramiding year by year. Now at last we have a town council that is not afraid to call a halt to this steady rise and give the people some relief. Past councils have been too busy hiring experts and appointing directors of this and that department to give any real thought to the increasing burden of government. Richmond Hill has had enough "magic men". What is needed is a little more common sense and some old-fashioned economy.

Get Cracking On Centennial

John Fisher, at one time the Mr. Canada of tourism and effervescent and always amusing ambassador of Canada wherever he roves, has gently admonished us taciturn citizens.

"Smile in '67," says genial John, commissioner of the National Centennial Administration.

Mr. Fisher recently told a Montreal Rotary Club meeting, Canadians should let down their hair, dance in the streets and be gay during Canada's 100th birthday year and submerge their usual apathy, apology and caution.

Right-o, John, but before we unbutton our stiff upper lip, let's have something to smile about.

The centennial (a whole year's worth of fun and games for Canada) is exactly 40 months away, not a very long time in this frantic-paced age.

Yet very few municipalities have given their preparations much thought, it would appear. The federal government has dangled the carrot of centennial grants to worthwhile municipal projects if they're completed in 1967.

With that financial incentive at least, and taking into consideration Mr. Fisher's group will have a strong hand in what's to be done on a national basis, area citizens could begin right now thinking of ways we can demonstrate our pride in and our awareness of our magnificent Canadian heritage.

Richmond Hill's first settlers go back to 1797 and its incorporation as a village to 1873. We are steeped in history, much of which has been collected by the local women's institutes as part of the national W.I.

Pot-Pourri

DEEP ARE THE ROOTS

When planting hedges on your lawn, In this or any realm, If you love your neighbor as yourself, Don't plant a Chinese elm.

WISH YOU WEREN'T HERE

We think that we shall never see A child performing on TV Without our wishing that instead The child were home asleep in bed.

BYE BYE BABY

You've heard the old fable that maybe Parents sleep when their child never peeps, But it's easy to sleep like a baby If you have a baby who sleeps.

Robert D. Little

District Lions Refresher Course Here August 21

Lions Club presidents and secretaries from the 46 branches in Sub-District A-7 will meet Aug. 21 in Richmond Hill for a refresher course. The district comprises clubs in York County District Governor Dr. H. H. MacKay with Past District Governor Earl Bagesley are making arrangements for the dinner meeting to be held at the Centre St. Lions Hall. It is the third time the "school" has been held here.

Dr. MacKay said speakers with considerable experience in the club will outline to both presidents and secretaries the responsibilities of their individual jobs. At least 100 are expected.

A reception will be held at 5:30 p.m. prior to the dinner catered by St. Matthew's United Church women.

Flashback

In Bears Gone By

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

From Our Issue of August 17th, 1899

Last Saturday the Metropolitan Trolley car made its first trip from the south terminal at the CPR tracks in North Toronto, through Thornhill and Richmond Hill to the northern terminal at Newmarket. This was just 46 years after the first steam train trip in Canada which was from Toronto through Concord and Maple to Aurora on May 16th, 1853.

It was a big day in the north Yonge district. All work was suspended so anxious were people along the route to witness the electric trolley make its initial trip. The electric cars started to make regular trips on Monday, August 15th and five trips are made daily. A car for the northern terminus left Toronto with a number of passengers and officials. A stop was made at the new power house at Bond Lake, and Aurora four miles further north was made in 12 minutes and Newmarket was reached in another quarter hour. The return trip was fast, the distance between Newmarket and Toronto about 25 miles, being covered in an hour and fifteen minutes. The fare for the round trip

from Newmarket to Toronto is \$1.25 and from Aurora \$1.10.

The hotel, stables and out-buildings at Brown's Corners, half mile south of Buttonville were burned to the ground last Thursday. The owner Mr. Brown had \$1,000 insurance on the buildings and \$500 on the contents. It is not likely the hotel will be rebuilt. (It wasn't).

From Our Issue of August 12th, 1909

Richmond Hill is getting more like a city every day. We now sprinkle our streets with crude petroleum oil instead of ordinary well water used by such small towns as Aurora and Newmarket. Village council this week has given an application of road oil to Yonge Street between the Post Office crossing and the Metropolitan Waiting room. This is merely an experiment to see if the oil will keep the dust down at a reasonable cost. Councillor John H. Sanderson who did the sprinkling says the cost could probably be met by a frontage tax of two cents per foot for property owners on both sides of Yonge Street.

Town Will Have New Industrial Set-Up

With the release last week of Industrial Commissioner Robert Langford, Councillors Walter Scudds and Alex Campbell presented Richmond Hill Council with the ground rules for a new industrial committee.

Purpose of the industrial committee which will be formed by the mayor, two councillors and which will possibly have an advisory body of interested towns people was outlined as "to maintain and extend the industrial expansion of the town as an integral part of a balanced community."

The committee will be allowed to hire personnel to assist with industrial purposes and its budget will be approved each year by council as are other town departments but shall not exceed an amount as laid down by provincial statute.

Its chairman is to be appointed by council and shall have access to all municipal accounts.

under the chairman's signature must be forwarded to the town's finance committee for payment.

Meetings will be open to the public unless at the request of a specific enterprise that they should be held "in camera".

The committee's chairman will be required to report to council after each meeting and only on the advice of his fellow members may he withhold all or a partial content of matters discussed (excluding finance). However, minutes of the meeting taken by a designated secretary shall contain all matters discussed.

"Because some business enterprises wish to conduct new development in secrecy or semi-secrecy, it is hoped the committee will endeavour to make council and the general public fully aware of the workings of the industrial committee without upsetting this delicate balance," the report said.

Only the chairman or a person designated by the chairman will be allowed to make information releases.

Second Thoughts...

by George Mayes

● Yesterday's news is not necessarily dead.

After all these years of smelling Richmond Hill's roses, Markham seems to have acquired a smell of its own — the Amalco plant. . . . We can at least give credit to our ex-Industrial Commissioner for NOT bringing that one to the Hill.

And, after all these years of presenting his Memory Music Hall on the CBC, the Piccadilly Club's Gerald Peters finally gave a lot of English-Canadians something to really remember. . . . You could almost say that the club operated on a rob-Peter-to-pay-Paul basis — except that the "Peters" wasn't Gerald.

The Diefenbaker dog "Happy" has been destroyed because he "turned vicious" and started biting Diefenbakers. . . . This, for ex-Prime Minister John, must have been almost the last straw.

A Star story on the new Queensway Cathedral commences with the question: "How do you start a church from scratch?" This is like the question of the egg or the chicken: Which comes first, the bite or the scratch? . . . And the big question is who to put the bite on.

Canadian representatives signed the nuclear test-ban treaty in Moscow, London and Washington. . . . Just imagine all the places where we could have signed it if we had any nuclear tests to be banned!

Government agriculturists are busy out in Saskatchewan gathering seed from freak two-headed wheat in the hope that they can develop it and double our wheat crop. . . . If they succeed we'd better speed up those slow boats to China or we'll be engulfed by our own "Yellow Peril."

The New Democratic Party has offered to give the French "equal rights in all Canada" . . . But, considering the status of the N.D.P. in all Quebec, shouldn't it sort of be the other way around?

We don't know where the Dominion government gets its statistics from, but it seemed a little odd when the news that our cost-of-living index had reached a new high came out on the same day as a story that recent raids by the RCMP had raised dope prices.

Never let your right hand know . . . Faith-healer Oral Roberts, who says the power of God courses through his right hand, concludes his performances with an appeal for \$10 contributions.

From Ottawa "A spokesman informed reporters that it was long standing policy that all elevator operators in the parliament buildings had to be bilingual. He said this policy would be carried out immediately." This boy has been up and down too often.



Rambling Around

BY ELIZABETH KELSON

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CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY NEEDS YOUR HELP . . . TO TRACE MISSING YUGOSLAVIAN TOURISTS

The Canadian Embassy in Belgrade has issued an urgent appeal to Canadians to assist in the tracing of tourists believed to be in the Yugoslavian earthquake area.

The emergency message from the embassy to the Canadian Red Cross states that for many reasons the task of locating Canadians in the disaster area is complicated. One reason is that most of them were tourists, who left little or no trace of their whereabouts. There is also little known information about tourists other than names which are often misspelled as a result of translation. The majority of missing Canadians are of Yugoslav origin and bear common Yugoslav names, which make them particularly difficult to locate. The Canadian Embassy has asked that in view of the circumstances, all Canadians throughout the nation who have heard from relatives visiting Yugoslavia in the past ten days or who have been informed that they are safe and well, should contact the Canadian Red Cross Society immediately and pass on all details. The embassy requested the Red Cross to forward without delay all information received through this appeal. Please contact: Mrs. Betty Dugan, director, public relations dept. WA. 3-6692.

THE HAPPY CERAMIC ARTISTS OF OAK RIDGES . . . THE BOSTLUND FAMILY

It is a great pleasure to discover the interesting people in one's own locality. Sometimes this is accomplished by direct interview; by listening to people who love to share special knowledge with you about their interesting friends and acquaintances; sometimes you follow the large metropolitan dailies and weeklies, and you find that they have given considerable space to a local story. Like the one written by Eric Haworth about the Bostlund family of Oak Ridges in the July 27th issue of the Star Weekly.

The Bostlunds are a Danish-Canadian family who operate a thriving business making ceramic lamps and stoneware vases, bowls and other pieces. They have a 30 by 80 barn which they use as a workshop. According to the article, this wooden barn is centred on a pie-shaped two acre lot with a stream. The building had formerly been used as a snake-oil factory before the Bostlunds moved in five years ago. Lotte Bostlund is a graduate of the Royal Academy of Art, Copenhagen and she designs, decorates and carves the stoneware made by her husband. It is interesting to note that this small family firm was invited to represent Canada at two foreign trade fairs: one in Cologne, Germany last February, the other will be in Dallas, Texas, next October.

The Bostlunds came to Canada from Copenhagen with their five children (Louise, 6, was born in Canada) in 1952 after their ceramic insulator factory employing 75 people burned down. Gunnar Bostlund, a 45 year-old electrical engineer has over twenty years experience with ceramics.

The Bostlunds experienced some difficulty when they first came to Canada. They first occupied a winterized cottage at Jackson's Point, Lake Simcoe; lived at Sutton where Mr. Bostlund operated an aerial photography business. Then they moved to Oak Ridges and started up their ceramic business. Small Louise makes plump little pottery girls with pigtailed which she sells for 25 cents. Morton, 20, helps in the production of lamp bases and sells and delivers finished stoneware to New York, Montreal, Toronto and other cities. Susanne, 16, makes filament-wound glass fibre lampshades. Mr. Bostlund spent two years perfecting this development. Peter, 17, is going to Dusseldorf soon to establish a European outlet for the family's products. Ole, 14, and Kristine, 13, help in the workshop when they are not going to school.

The biggest sellers are the lamp bases, made in 150 different patterns, in five basic shapes, mostly cone and tear drop. Glazes are plain, patterned, hand-painted, carved, and experiments in water-color are continuous. The Bostlund family is a happy family. They work hard and relax with music as a family group. In this family, "togetherness" is not just a word, it is a reality. By the way, the Star carried a splendid picture of the artistic and music-loving Bostlund family. It showed Gunnar and his six children gathered around Lotte who is playing the lute to accompany their Danish folk-songs.

COTTAGE NEWS

I think the muskrat is a fascinating animal to watch. Nearby the cottage, we see him swimming among the lily pads or chewing off the tops of the water reeds. On one occasion, we have seen him swimming across the lake. A sheet of water is his best friend. On its broad surface he can travel wherever he likes. Its reeds and rootlets, growing all around form his bill of fare. Should an enemy appear he escapes by merely plunging beneath the surface. If an enemy presses him, he seeks safety in a hole in the bank and vanishes amid a cloud of muddy water. In spite of all this water travelling, his coat is always dry, for he has two coats; his top coat is of a hard shiny brown hair, and below is another one of thick grey wool.

Generally speaking, the muskrat is a quiet peaceable animal. With several neighbors, he lives in his watery home minding his own business and never seeming to have misunderstandings with other creatures. He would rather dive than fight. His enemies are the sharp-clawed hawks by day, and the keen-eyed owls by night. He is more afraid of the otter than anyone else. (The occasional otter and mink are seen on this shore). The muskrat can only escape the otter by getting into the nearest bank-hole where the larger animal cannot enter. The mink is also an enemy. He has all the aquatic powers of the muskrat and is able with his long slim body to pursue his victim far into the winding depths of the tunnel. Communities of muskrats build highways through the growths of aquatic weeds. Some lead to open water and some to the feeding spots and perhaps several to the home lodge.

The muskrat does not live entirely on vegetable matter. He knows where the clams are lurking in the mud at the bottom. Many times I've found two shells of a clam lying side by side without the hinges. It's a good guess to believe that a muskrat was the culprit.

AURORA: Students of Dr. G. W. Williams Secondary School, which opens September 3, are required to obtain their books by that time. New students for grades 10, 11, 12, 13 should report to the school before September.

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