

The Liberal
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Pave Bayview In '64

Earlier this year county council by a wide margin refused to provide sufficient funds in its 1963 budget to cover the cost of paving that busy mile and a quarter of Bayview Avenue extending from Markham Road to the Elgin Mills Sideroad. Strong efforts last January and February by Mayor William Neal and members of town council saw the Toronto and York Roads Commission agreeing to pave the mile and a quarter in question this year provided county council voted the necessary \$56,000 which was its share of the project.

Total cost of the paving has been estimated at \$224,000. The province would be responsible for 50% of this figure or \$112,000. The remaining \$112,000 would be divided equally between the county and Metro. The two member Toronto and York Roads Commission is made up of representatives of the province, Metro and the county.

In county council Richmond Hill's resolution received support of only Markham Township and Markham Village. The remaining 11 municipalities in the county all voted in the negative. As a compromise county

council agreed to assume for maintenance purposes Bayview and three other roads. The county assumed responsibility for Bayview from Markham Road to the Markham-Whitchurch Townline, effective on May 1.

However the county maintenance program on Bayview has been inadequate simply because it failed to vote sufficient funds to do the work properly. Richmond Hill is the largest town in the county and the second largest contributor to county government. This year town taxpayers paid \$210,493 into county coffers.

The whole sad story of Bayview must be taken as a strong indictment of our present system of county government. It has shown itself to be unable to meet the challenge of rapidly changing suburban areas. Richmond Hill's two representatives on county council Reeve Floyd Perkins and Deputy-reve Stanley Tinker plan to raise the issue of Bayview again at the November session of county council. This newspaper hopes the county will meet its responsibilities and vote the necessary funds so that Bayview may finally be paved in 1964.

Remembrance Day

Next Sunday the people of Richmond Hill and surrounding district will pay solemn tribute to those brave sons of this area who gave their lives in defence of freedom. A fitting service will be held at the cenotaph on Yonge Street South and veterans of Canada's wars will parade.

This year the Royal Canadian Legion will be selling poppies in the town Thursday and Friday evenings and all day Saturday. Citizens are urged to buy a poppy and wear it in honour of those who made the supreme sacrifice for their country.

The association of the poppy with remembrance of war dead was not new when it was adopted in Canada in 1921. At least one hundred and ten years before a correspondent wrote of how thickly poppies grew over the graves of the dead. He was speaking of the Flanders campaign of the Napoleonic war.

But a Canadian medical officer was chiefly responsible for Canada's adoption of the poppy symbol. John McCrae of Guelph was a member of the Canadian Medical Corps. An artillery veteran, of the Boer War, he had the eye of a gunner, the hand of a surgeon and the soul of a poet when he went into the line at Ypres on April 22, 1915.

That's the afternoon the enemy first used poison gas. For seventeen days and nights the allies repulsed wave after wave of attackers while

sustaining great losses.

Working from a dressing station, Lt.-Col. McCrae dressed hundreds of wounded, never taking off his clothes for the entire seventeen days. Sometimes the dead or wounded actually rolled down the bank from above into the dugout. Sometimes, while awaiting the arrival of batches of wounded, he would watch the men at work in the burial plots, which were rapidly filling up.

McCrae came out of Ypres with thirteen lines scrawled on a scrap of paper. The lines were a poem which started, "In Flanders fields the poppies blow..."

These are the words which are enshrined in the hearts of all soldiers. McCrae was their voice. The poem circulated as a folk song circulates, by word of mouth. Men learned it with their hearts.

The poem speaks of Flanders fields. But the subject is universal: the fear of the dead that they will be forgotten, that their death will have been in vain.

The spirit of true remembrance symbolized by the poppy must be our eternal answer which believes these fears.

Buy a poppy from the Legion this weekend and wear it with pride and as an acknowledgement that we are not forgetful of these young men "who grow not old as we who are left grow old."

Spare The Trees

One of the chief criticisms of subdivision developments in the past has been that all trees have been brutally uprooted by the subdividers, leaving behind rows and rows of box like homes without a vestige of shade.

If a policy now under consideration by Metropolitan Toronto Planning Board is adopted, approval of future residential subdivisions will carry a proviso that at least one tree per lot be provided, either by retaining existing trees or by planting a new tree on each lot prior to occupancy. The size and type of any new tree would be specified by the municipality concerned.

Of 13 municipalities in Metro Toronto only two, Etobicoke and North York have a standard policy regarding trees in new residential subdivisions. Action required of the subdivider in Etobicoke is that existing trees on land to be subdivided may not be removed without township permission. Where no trees exist a contribution of \$8.80 per lot is required of the subdivider toward the provision of trees. These trees

are planted only on the road allowance.

In North York existing trees are to be maintained whenever possible.

Three municipalities may require that, in case of "reversed frontage" lots, trees be provided as a screening device.

At a recent meeting of Richmond Hill Town Council Deputy-reve Tinker commented that had such a provision been in force seven years ago, it would have been a boon to the east side of Richmond Hill. Here the trees were ruthlessly removed, and the purchasers of homes in that area have had to purchase trees to add a bit of shade to their property.

In some cases fast growing Manitoba maples and willows have been planted, which create problems when their roots seek and clog drains.

Richmond Hill Council accepted in principle the recommendation of Metropolitan Toronto Planning Board in this respect. It is hoped that such a provision will be included in any further local residential development.

An Early November From A Window

BY FRED SIMPSON
 Early November is a no man's land of withered leaves and chill winds. It carries yesterday's deflated promise of summer and tomorrow's threat of winter. It's a moody stage of memories.

The watcher sees it all from his window looking through the screen and shimmering slightly with the curtains whenever the breeze stirs. Tomorrow he will have to get busy and put the rest of the storm-windows on.

But today he's a watcher taking inventory and placing a debit here and a credit there. Some day he may draw up a balance sheet and see how it all comes out.

Below his window a squirrel makes its appearance and peers around for an extra morsel of food. He has just

completed his own inventory and has found the cupboard still lacking enough food for the winter.

A cat sniffs his way around the corner of the house and pauses with one paw poised daintily in the air. The squirrel spots him, sniffs too, and decides to make a strategic withdrawal until the coast is clear. He does so up the nearest tree.

The cat continues across the yard. It's his turn to be startled now as the neighbour's boy lets out a war-whoop and comes crashing and crackling over the brown carpet of leaves. The cat disappears around the corner of the house with the boy in hot pursuit.

The landscape is silent and empty again, a little darker and cooler. The steely-blue sky is grayer,



Rambling Around

by Elizabeth Kelson

The Important Role of the Volunteer in the Community

In voluntary association we find one of the best means of education in the democratic way of life. A local society is composed of members who manifest their practical interests by contributions of time, personal service and the raising of money. Of special importance are the great functions of voluntary associations to experiment and blaze trails which later may be followed and perfected by the community or government; to stimulate, to check, to contribute a balance of social power, to co-operate with government efforts, to vitalize civic interests, to develop the whole field of community organization and institutional co-operation and to build up an informed public opinion and guide it into effective channels.

Not all voluntary associations are for the relief of need, treatment of the ill, and the custody of the deserted. Some are for participation in and encouragement of the arts; some are for government, religious organizations and social agencies. Some are for peace and freedom from war. Much of the work of voluntary organizations gets done by teams of people working on boards and committees. The volunteer is one who is not content merely to change as the world around him changes. He wishes to be in the vanguard of a movement for improvement.

For the next month or so, this column will concern itself with the vast contributions to the community and society by the volunteer in our district.

In order to understand the workings of some of these volunteer organizations, let's tune in on what the executives of some of our local organizations have to say about their work. First to Thornhill and the local branch of the Canadian Cancer Society. The president of this branch is Mrs. Douglas Cram, Secretary Mrs. M. J. Walker, Chairman of the Women's Service Committee Mrs. Ed. Percival, and Mrs. John MacKay, Chairman of the transportation committee.

Their information reveals that the Thornhill branch covers an area bounded by Steeles Avenue on the south, Langstaff on the north and east to Bayview Avenue and to Bathurst Street on the west. They have a group of volunteer drivers who transport persons requiring treatment to the Princess Margaret Hospital or Branson Hospital whenever needed. Because of living so close to the city, they are able to drive patients who might otherwise have to remain at the hospital for treatment. There is always a need for more drivers and Mrs. John MacKay would be pleased to hear from anyone. Her telephone number is 285-1635. The patients are so appreciative of being picked up at their home, driven for treatment and returned home again.

Cancer dressings made by local women are available to anyone needing them. Numerous visits are made to out-patients in the area, sometimes taking a gift from the gift cupboard in Richmond Hill which the ladies of the Thornhill Women's Institute help to keep supplied. During the month of April, a complete canvass of the area is made to raise money and inform residents of the importance of early diagnosis. Numerous volunteers give of their time to help during the annual campaign in April.

Now to Richmond Hill and Mrs. Norman Todd, chairman of the March of Dimes campaign in the Richmond Hill-Richvale area. She says that most of her volunteers consist of marching mothers during the time of the annual canvass in January. The captain of the marching mothers is a volunteer and her job is to make sure that every home within her district will be visited on the night of the canvass. In larger districts, the captain will have a lieutenant or perhaps two who will act as the captain's assistants; or they may split the district between them. Some captains may need several lieutenants. Mrs. Todd has a list of 225 volunteers for her organization, a branch of the rehabilitation foundation for the disabled. The executive is also voluntary. To assist Mrs. Todd is Vice-Chairman Mrs. J. Derrick, Secretary Mrs. Bert Tyson, Treasurer Don Ross of the Bank of Montreal, Industrial Chairman Mrs. Beth Peterkin, and Miss Mabel Mackie handles the publicity.

The purpose of this great work is to provide funds for the foundation to assist in the rehabilitation of adult men and women, 19 years of age and up, who have been physically disabled by accident or by disease of the musculo-skeletal system. The membership of the foundation consists of volunteer committees throughout Ontario. These are represented by elected delegates to district branch boards and each branch is represented by a delegate appointed to the medical advisory committee for the province. All members of local committees, branch board, provincial board of directors, medical advisory committee, and special committees of the board are voluntary. And Mrs. Todd says if you would like to know what it costs to run the annual campaign for funds, it is only seven cents on the dollar.

(Next Week .. The Volunteer Work of our Senior Citizens and the Canadian Mental Health Association, York County Branch.)

Flashback

In Years Gone By

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

What a well-dressed Mountie is up to its knees in mud, and at other times it is climbing over rocks. You never see a soul from one end of the trip to the other, only some Indians, and you do not know when a bear or other wild animal is going to make a grab at you", the young policeman wrote.

"When the winter comes we use dogs for patrolling, seven dogs in a team. You will be running along without hearing a sound, when suddenly the wolves begin howling away off in the bush, probably six or seven miles away. They come closer and closer until they get into sight, but they very seldom attack a fellow unless they are long without food. Nevertheless they keep very close to a traveller. Towards the packs and are very fierce. They would not think twice about grabbing you then", the young man continued.

"It gets very cold here, sometimes 75 and 80 degrees below zero. We have to cook our own meals here and I have learned how to bake bread, cakes and pies, and am getting to be quite a cook. You have to be able to do everything in the force — ride a wild horse, shoe a horse, pack one, build your own house, cook your own meals and act as policeman — but it is not a bad job after all. We have kind of an easy trail in winter the patrol was time and gets lots to eat and made by dog sled, in summer wear", the 1903 Mountie reported.

Second Thoughts...

by George Mayes

● Yesterday's news is not necessarily dead.

"We're not at a war. Why nuclear arms?" asked Real Caouette at a Ste. Croix, Que., supper sponsored by his supporters... Wonder if Mr. Caouette's home town of Rouyn has a fire department?

British citizens were told last week that they must discontinue the practice of keeping live goats and chickens in their homes... This is the sort of thing that happens when you get an ex-Lord for a prime minister.

Toronto has been blasted as the ugliest city in Canada by Alan Jarvis, national director of the Canadian Conference of the Arts. "But", he says, "the city does have a few fine features, such as: the Don Valley Parkway, the Don Mills industrial sites and the Flemingdon Park residential development... Give yourself two points if you can guess where Mr. Jarvis lives."

David Coon, chairman of the attorney-general's panel on obscene literature, complains that prosecutions instituted by his panel are often dismissed when magistrates flip quickly through publications presented in court and feel they're similar to ones they read in barbershops so there's nothing wrong with them... So he'll just have to find a court with a bald-headed magistrate.

And a Whitby magistrate registered a drunk driving conviction after hearing testimony that samples of the suspect's breath, preserved in two plastic bags, later tested at 1.6 parts alcohol in one bag and 1.9 in the other. Which leaves us sort of wondering what happened between bags?

A new Metro bylaw prevents garbage from picking up household furniture unless it is in a container or tied up in bundles of less than 50 pounds... Well, that's one way for the city to get a lot of new sidewalk cafes.

American longshoremen who formerly refused to work Canadian C.M.U. ships are now said to be prepared to refuse to work ANY Canadian ship... Particularly the Trustee-ship.

How to succeed in life without even thinking - Marcel Chaput, leader of the separatist Quebec Republic party plans to raise a million dollars a year for his party, by offering contributors a 25-fold return on their money, when Quebec becomes a republic. So, if we had a Quebec-size family and took Real Caouette's \$100-per-person and loaned it to Chaput...

The Doukhobor strike of Freedom are said to have ended their hunger strike at the Mountain prison in Agassiz, B.C., after 103 days of fasting... And THAT sounds a little hard to swallow.

Dear Mr. Editor

AVANT-GARDE PLAYERS
 Dear Mr. Editor:
 An event of some importance took place last Friday evening in the basement theatre of St. Mary's Anglican Church. A young group of actors calling themselves the Avant-Garde Players presented their first offering to the public in three short one act plays entitled "A Night of Farce". This reviewer is not concerned with the finer points of their presentation, ability, and overall direction of this evening's entertainment, but found it a most stimulating and rewarding experience to sit in the audience and watch a group of talented youngsters perform so intelligently and with such enthusiasm.

At a time when many people are complaining about the decadence of our youth, it gave this reviewer a much needed lift to see so many young people engaged in such a worthwhile pursuit.

The whole cast under the able direction and guidance of Brad Bellis, are to be congratulated on providing an evening's entertainment which was memorable for its excellence (Continued on page 9)

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