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Starting A New Year

Inaugural meetings for district municipalities have been held and members have entered on the duties and responsibilities of the New Year with commendable enthusiasm. We join with all the people of the area in wishing the elected representatives every success in the challenging and exacting business of guiding the destinies of growing municipalities with many complex problems.

As population increases the problems multiply and for many there is no easy or simple solution. Thoughtful citizens have an appreciation of this fact and will extend sympathetic co-operation to council members throughout the coming term. New ideas and suggestions will be welcome and constructive criticism is always in order. Thoughtless and uninformed fault-finding will be no assistance to council members but the active in-

terest of all ratepayers will help in the task of public service which they have assumed on behalf of their fellow citizens.

At the start of a New Year is a good time to tell all council members that their public spirit in accepting municipal office is a mark of good citizenship and is appreciated by the people. All too often this appreciation is not expressed, and carping and petty criticism and unreasonable demands often discourage good men and women from accepting public responsibility.

Our sincere good wishes to all who have accepted the responsibility of municipal office. We trust in the coming year they may give to all matters of public business careful consideration and that wise judgement may prevail in all their deliberations.

Licence Nursing Homes

Commenting on the announcement that the Ontario Government will move to improve the operation of nursing homes by introducing at once a new set of regulations for homes caring for indigent patients, the head of Associated Nursing Homes said much more is needed.

The association president said that what is needed is provincial licencing and inspection of all nursing homes.

There will be general agreement with the association president in his opinion. The number of nursing homes in the province has increased steadily in recent years and there is

a growing demand for the service they provide. In the main they are well run but there is need for supervision and inspection.

The suggestion for provincial licencing and inspection should provide a standard of equipment and service and would be a protection for the people which we think would well warrant the trouble and expense.

A provincial law providing for the licencing and inspection of all nursing homes would be welcomed by the people of Ontario who in ever-increasing numbers are taking advantage of the services nursing homes provide.

Advisory Council On Justice

Canada's first permanent advisory council on the administration of justice will be established in Quebec, Attorney-General Claude Wagner announced recently.

Discussing the new council with the parliamentary press gallery, Mr. Wagner expressed the hope that if it were successful its lessons might be helpful elsewhere.

Such a council had been recommended last May by the Quebec section of the Canadian Bar Association. Quebec's Attorney-General said the council, though advisory, should have a great influence on the whole program of supervising present law enforcement methods and of creating better ones.

The council will be made up of members of the bar, universities,

welfare agencies, prosecution and defence counsel, students of public administration, of penology and of the police, Mr. Wagner reported.

It will meet at least six times a year with an agenda reflecting not only the initiative of the Attorney-General seeking advice on given issues, but also reflecting the council's own research interests.

This is indeed a step in the right direction, and it would appear to be a step which other provinces, including Ontario, might well copy. There is no doubt that the work of this permanent advisory council will be watched with great interest across Canada. If it proves to be as successful as anticipated, there is no doubt similar councils should be set up in the other provinces.

Redistribution And The Farmer

(Guest Editorial — Stouffville Tribune)

We hear continuous rumours about a possible federal election in 1965, but one of the big jobs which needs to be completed before any more elections is the national riding redistribution. Certainly any new redistributions will hit the farmers of the country hardest as it decreases the percentage of members from rural seats and increases those from urban ridings.

While everyone agrees that a re-vamping of the ridings is needed, some farm leaders are expressing fears of the long-range result. One of these is A. H. Musgrave, past president of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture. He makes the statement that neglect of "developing rural problems" will strike a heavy blow against, "not only the farm but the towns, the villages and the smaller cities that make up our rural areas."

While this former federation head

agrees that we must make some review of representation by population, he is concerned that the importance of the farmer in the national economy may be lost sight of, and thinks farm organizations should be stressing this point with their members and the general public. He thinks that Canadians should be made aware that a Canadian farmer produces three times as much food as a farmer in Europe.

Undoubtedly when the redistribution job is done there will be fewer members of Parliament from rural areas. This point should make it more and more important that farmers and farm organizations make sure they are sending the best possible men from rural ridings to Ottawa.

Here is one thing over which they still have direct control and are totally responsible.

Dear Mr. Editor

THORNHILL HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Dear Mr. Editor:
 On behalf of the executive of the Thornhill Hockey Association and the coaches and managers of our five OMHA teams, I want to thank and congratulate you for the splendid coverage of all our league games.

We are especially grateful to your Thornhill correspondent, Mrs. Elizabeth Kelson, who takes time each week to call every manager for scores and other statistics.

Your fine weekly newspaper is a credit to the district and does much to engender interest in the ever-growing sport of hockey, not to mention the other seasonal pastimes that get

wide play in your sports columns.

It is little wonder that The Richmond Hill Liberal finds its way into more and more homes in this area and may its circulation continue to grow.

Yours truly,
 JAMES ANTONACI,
 Secretary,
 Thornhill Hockey Association.

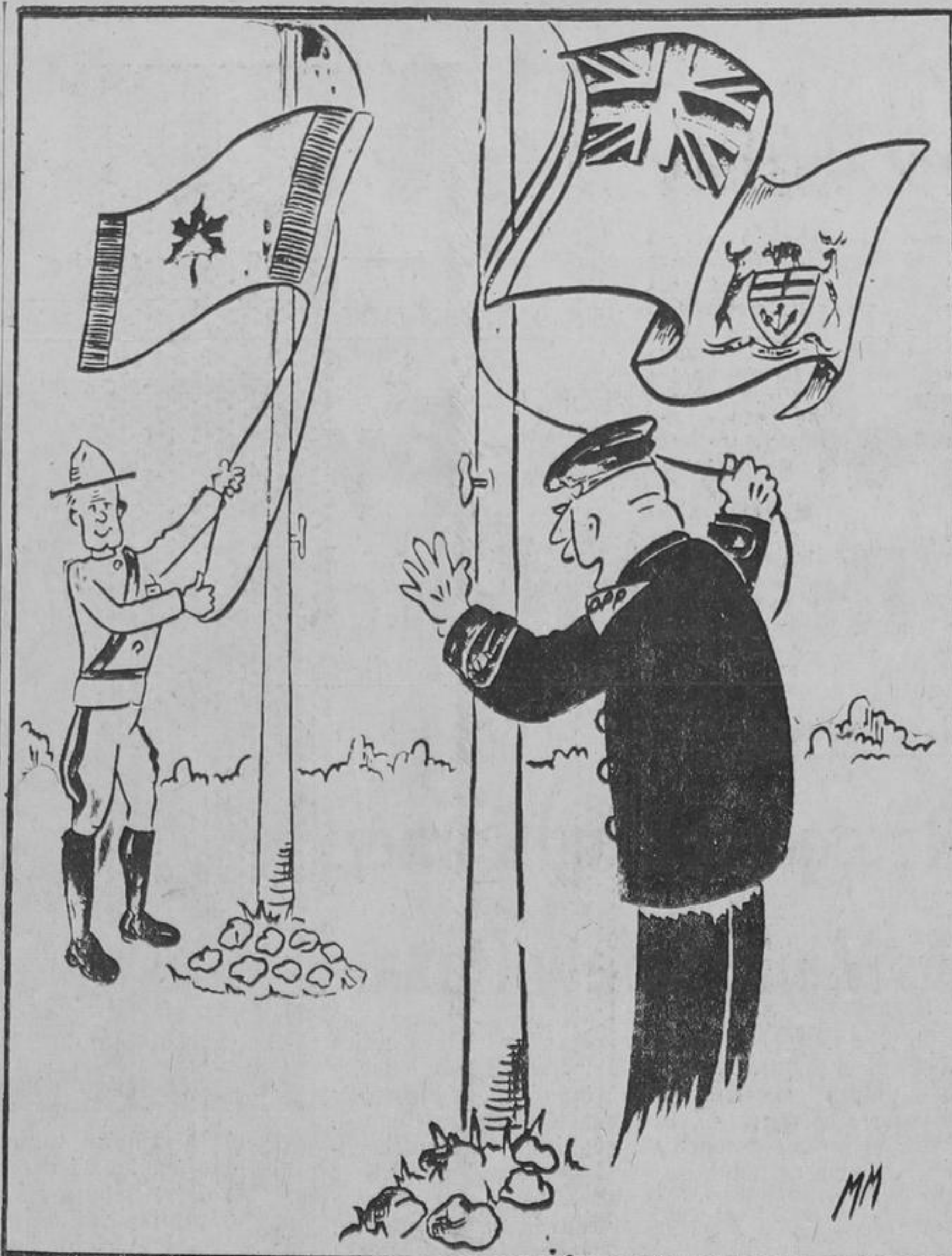
CHRISTMAS GIFT CAMPAIGN

Dear Mr. Editor:
 York County Branch of the Canadian Mental Health Association wishes to thank you and the people of Richmond Hill and Thornhill for the warm response to our appeal for Christmas gifts. This need for gifts

by the Canadian Mental Health Association was well presented in "The Liberal" and the people in the Richmond Hill and Thornhill areas were most generous. As a result of your aid and their generosity no patient was overlooked this past Christmas. We can indeed assure you that hope, encouragement and cheer were brought to many.

May we again say many thanks for your efforts on our behalf and extend best wishes for 1965.

Sincerely,
 FAYE C. O'CALLAGHAN,
 Convenor, Xmas Gift Project, 1964,
 York County Branch, CMHA,
 Box 492, Stouffville, Ont.



"YOO HOO ... ME TOO"



Rambling Around

by Elizabeth Kelson

Our Calendar ... A Gift From The Past

New calendars are being hung up in every home. It has become a very ordinary though necessary piece of household equipment to most of us yet it is steeped with history. The calendar is believed to have been introduced into Egyptian civilization in 4241 B.C. and even earlier in ancient Babylon. Here the New Year began when people beheld the bright dog-star Sirius rising in the west.

The Ancient Greeks inherited the custody of our civilization from the Egyptians and they advanced the science of the calendar in this respect; they fixed the official year at 365 1/4 days with a leap year in which an additional day was inserted every fourth year. However no practical use was made of this calendar until the Romans made it law under Julius Caesar, 46 B.C. Caesar made many improvements in the calendar and it was further improved under Augustus A.D. 8, the first of our modern leap years, and at the same time the months were given their present names and order.

January suggests the twin deities of Janus and Jana; February is for a Sabine word signifying cleanliness; March is for Mars, the God of War, April (Aprilis) for budding plant life; May for the goddess of growth, Maius, and June for Juno, consort of Jove. July and August were of course named for the two Caesars, while the months September through December have numerical names. It was the month of March which issued in the Roman New Year, and it wasn't until a few years after George Washington's birth that January was selected as New Year's Day. Even the name calendar comes from the Romans. It originally came from "Kalends" or "call days" on which astronomers heralded the rising of the new moon. So we owe a real debt to the past for our present calendar. Just think what would happen to our sense of time without it.

Barby Peirce, The Original Rose of Richmond Hill

It was a great surprise to Mr. and Mrs. Wm. E. Peirce, parents of Barby Peirce, the day she won the publicity contest run by Allencourt Plaza. The object of this contest was to find a little girl to be the Rose of Richmond Hill that year. So it was that Barby went to get her picture taken and ended up being the "Rose."

The outcome of this sudden revolution in the life and times of Barby Peirce was to be invited to open the Patti-lu fashion show as the Rose of Richmond Hill which was held in the Hill, Maple and Buttonville. From there she went on to model in a progressive fashion show at the Nortown Plaza. Barby can thank disc jockey Johnny Williams for recommending her to Molly Tetty, agent of Producer's Services, for her lucky break. The result was that Barby appeared in 6 television commercials for Imperial Oil, toothpaste and cereal companies.

"After that," said Mrs. Peirce, "everything snowballed for Barby. She has appeared in a great many commercials."

Then Barby became Miss Bonnie Blue for Blue Chip stamps for British Columbia. Mrs. Peirce and Barby made the trip to Vancouver so Miss Bonnie Blue could speak before 250 salesmen.

When she was seven and a half years old, Barby enrolled in a drama class under Josephine Darrington of Toronto. After six months she began acting on TV drama. Her first appearance was in the pilot film for the "Littlest Hobo" which was made in Kleinburg. Two years ago she was in a play called the "Enchanted" which ran at the Crest Theatre for 3 1/2 weeks. During the Scarlet Hill serial she appeared in two of the stories in the role of Vicki. Following that she appeared in another

(Continued on Page 13)

Flashback

In Years Gone By

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

The Richmond Hill High School District Board (later to be named the York Central District High School Board) held its first meeting on January 6, 1949.

The new school area embraced the Villages of Richmond Hill and Woodbridge, the whole of the Township of Vaughan and a portion of the Township of Markham in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th concessions.

Members of the new area board included Dr. Frank S. Hogg who represented the Richmond Hill Council and was elected first chairman of the board. Miss Lola Jones, who had been carrying the double position of secretary of the school board and secretary of the high school was appointed secretary of the new district high school board.

Other members of the board were Walter Mason, Wilfred Dean, Paul Fox, Harry Charles, Morley Kinnee, Robert Watson, Harvey Colliard, James Maw and William French.

There was one high school in the district, that at Richmond Hill, with other students attending Weston High and Earl Haig High in Willowdale. The new board agreed that pupils attending these schools would not be compelled to change over to Richmond Hill High School unless they wished to do so.

Principal A. S. Elson of the local high school and Mr. Dean both expressed concern over the increase in population and the

prospect of future overcrowding in the school. Mr. Elson reported that in the fall of 1948 90 new pupils had started in the local high school and there were actually nine classes being held in the eight classrooms.

Mr. Dean described the increase in the public school in Thornhill. The board there anticipated the necessity of adding one new classroom per year to look after additional pupils.

Clerk James M. MacDonald of the Township of Vaughan acted as temporary chairman until all members had subscribed to the oath of office and had appointed a chairman. Rev. W. F. Wrixon of St. Mary's Anglican Church held a brief devotional period at this first meeting.

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