

The Liberal
 An Independent Weekly: Established 1878
 Subscription Rate \$4.50 per year; to United States \$5.50; 10c single copy
 Member Audit Bureau of Circulations
 Member Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association
 Published by Richmond Hill Liberal Publishing Co. Ltd.
 W. S. COOK, Publisher
 "Authorized as second class mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa"

Legislation Against Vandalism

Vandalism continues to be a problem throughout this province. Outbreaks of teenage hooliganism in parts of York County have resulted in damage to public and private property and injury and hardship to our citizens.

Delegates to the recent convention of the Ontario Municipal Association held in Toronto suggested two ways in which to combat this lawlessness. They criticized the trend to provincially-appointed police commissions and asked Queen's Park to restore police control to the municipal councils. With the exception of the big three southern municipalities of Richmond Hill and the Townships of Markham and Vaughan all the municipalities in York County still control their own police forces. In these three areas the police will shortly come under the control of three-member police commissions, two members of which will be appointed by the Attorney-General's Department, Richmond Hill, Markham and Vaughan were among nine more municipalities named by Premier Robarts earlier this year to be added to the list of Ontario municipalities where police affairs have been placed under control of an appointed commission. The commissions are composed of a judge and magistrate named by the province and the head of the municipality concerned which is either the mayor or the reeve.

Toronto Controller William Archer, chairman of the resolutions committee of the OMA, blamed loss of municipal control over police matters as one reason why so many municipalities have been unable to meet the problem of rowdiness and teenage gangs. He maintained council control of the police is a more effective way in which to deal with the problem. Not everyone will agree with Mr. Archer's arguments on the merits of a committee of council as against an appointed commission. The whole question likely depends on

just how efficient any committee or commission is in carrying out its responsibilities.

In the second recommendation the delegates asked Attorney-General Arthur Wishart for extra powers to impose curfews, restrict motorcycles and send special police units into areas controlled by unruly youths. The convention also called for severe penalties for assaults on policemen. The association authorized its executive to name a committee to study the problem and prepare a brief for presentation to the Attorney-General and the Legislature's Select Committee on Youth.

The move came after Sandwich East Township appealed for protection against growing teenage terrorism in the Windsor area. Sandwich East's resolution said groups of youths under 16 are showing an increasing disrespect for property and the rights of others. Hoodlums are becoming more difficult to curb because persons are afraid to be identified and testify the resolution said. Gangs force people off the sidewalks and both citizens at drive-in restaurants, dance halls and parks throughout Essex County.

Reeve M. L. Swart of Thorold Township said there is increased vandalism and disrespect for the law not only by youths but also by adults. He cited several instances in which citizens had refused to come to the aid of police. Cars and motorcycles are used to antagonize and disturb whole neighborhoods.

A feature article appearing elsewhere on this page tells of the problem of teenage vandalism in the Cities of Oshawa and Ottawa. The municipalities through their association are forcibly bringing the matter to the attention of the provincial government. The Legislature should now strengthen the hands of the municipalities in order that they may deal more effectively with this growing challenge to law and order.

Sensible View Of Policemen

Delegates to the recent Police Association of Ontario Convention in Hamilton decided that they should not take a stand on the question of capital punishment. Their decision was very sound, and is particularly welcome because of the ill-advised statements that some police officials have been making on the subject in recent months—including the Canadian Police Association, which at its Edmonton meeting the other day urged retention of the death penalty.

It is understandable that policemen would have personal views on proposals to abolish the death penalty for murder in this country. Those who have spoken out on the subject have usually supported retention of the death penalty.

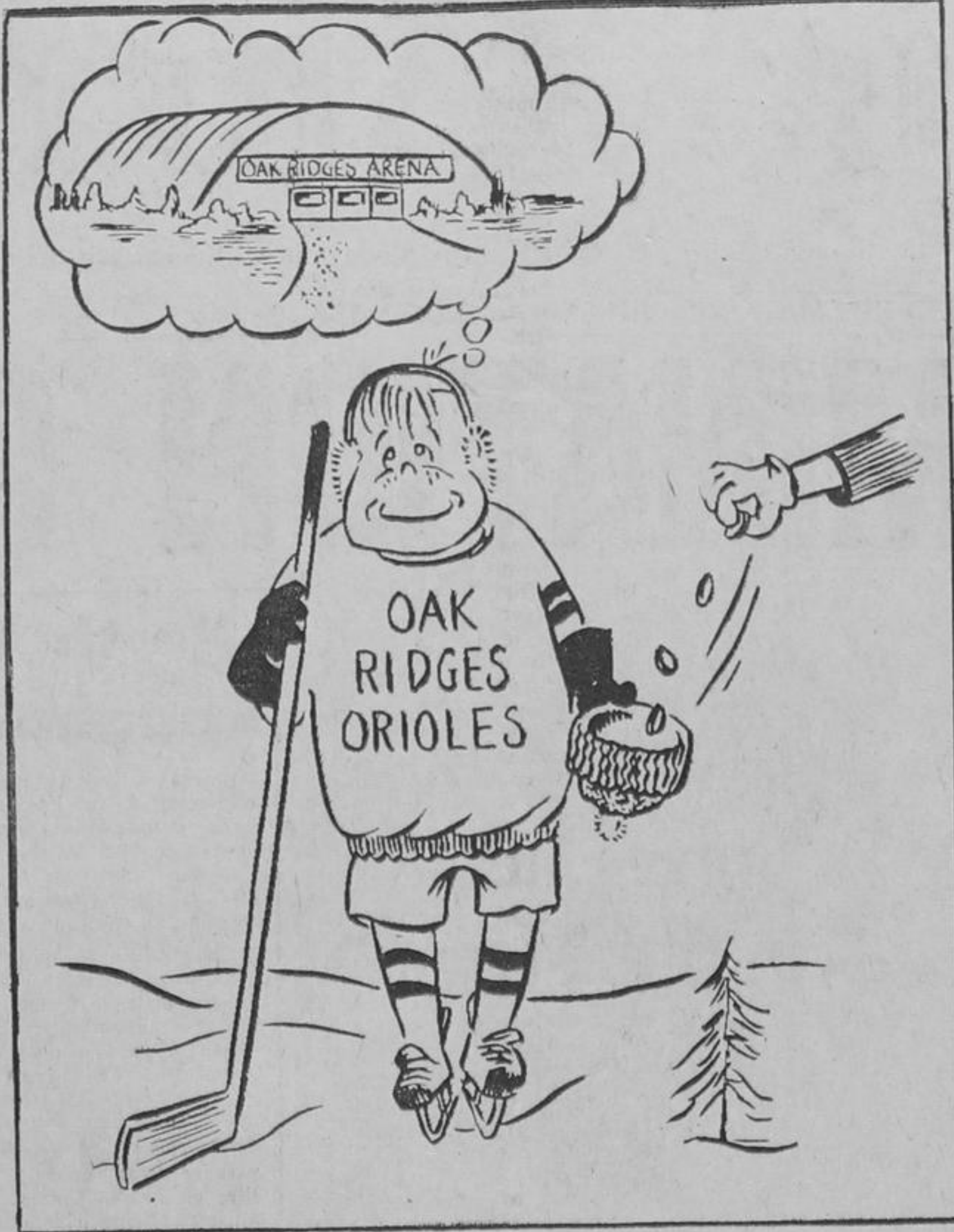
However, this is not an issue on which law enforcement authorities need take a stand. The statement of one of the delegates at the Hamilton convention reflects some mature thinking: "If we demand that the death penalty be retained, it places us in the position of catching the

murderer and then saying that we want him hanged. We have then taken the court's job away from it and added it to ours. We have elected representatives to make the laws which we enforce and live by. Therefore we should let them make the decision."

Certainly the public does not want its police forces to become involved in the debate over whether or not a man convicted of murder should pay the supreme penalty. Opinion is sharply divided in Canada on this question. Canadian MPs are now considering the pros and cons of capital punishment in preparation for a free vote on the subject when Parliament reconvenes next month.

When it comes to giving direction in this field, that is the responsibility of the federal government. But so far Mr. Pearson has given no indication that he intends to take a stand when the capital punishment debate opens in Parliament. The government should make its position known on so important an issue.

—The Ottawa Citizen



"Let's Make His Dream Come True!"

Debentures for Oak Ridges proposed new arena will go on sale October 1 in district stores. The shares will sell at \$1 each, as decided by the executive of the Oak Ridges and District Arena Fund, to help make the project a community venture, rather than a municipal one, which would only increase the tax rate.

Oak Ridges and Lake Wilcox have been without artificial ice since Aurora Arena burnt down last winter.



Rambling Around

by Elizabeth Kelson

Three Score Years And Ten

By the REV. HOWARD J. VEALS, B.A., B. Paed.

This is a simple life story of a missionary and minister from 1894 to 1964 and his wife Edna May Bousfield Veals from 1921 to 1965, stretching from the horse and buggy days and sedan chair days to jets, rockets, telstar and what next? This story was written by Mr. Veals, for his daughters, grandsons and anyone else who may be interested.

In the story, Mr. Veals begins with his early life as a boy on a farm near the Village of Omeme and deals at some length with his family and student days. In September, 1915, when war broke out, he joined the eighth brigade of the third division in the Canadian Army. After his war experiences, Mr. Veals relates his first tale of missionary endeavor to China, interrupting only to take special courses and to take his furloughs from time to time.

After he received his B. Paed. he returned to China a teacher and continued his mission work in the great Province of Szechwan with its seventy million people for thirty-one years.

The bulk of his manuscript deals with his descriptions of Chinese life in the towns and villages; his work in the mission field and his marriage to Miss Bousfield. They were married at Chengtu. His furloughs in Canada and family experiences are also recorded.

Mr. Veals said that the mission schools of China were pioneers in the establishment of modern schools. The vast majority of the teachers were Chinese with the missionaries helping and directing them. Two daughters, Katherine and Marion Veals

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Vandalism: A Continuing Problem For Ontario Cities

Damage to property, foul language and excessive noise late at night in Woodview Park, Oshawa, are causing nearby residents much concern, that city's council learned recently.

As spokesmen for a group of 14 residents from the area, James Major told council the neighborhood is continually pestered by singing, swearing teenagers (male and female), often late at night. Another matter for concern is lacrosse balls thrown into gardens and property damage done by boys retrieving the balls. He reported that one property owner had moved away because he couldn't stand it any longer, adding "I don't think the rest of us should be forced to move."

He said police have been called on many occasions but the noise and damage continues unabated.

The city's mayor, police chief and recreation director are trying to come up with some answers to the

problem with an alderman suggesting a night police patrol of the area which might frighten away the teenagers. The same alderman suggested a high wire fence to prevent lacrosse balls from ending up in private property.

It was noted that a city by-law prohibits anyone from being in a park after 10:30 pm and that presumably, persons found in the park after that time could be prosecuted.

More serious vandalism is worrying authorities in Ottawa. At the air service area of Uplands Airport vandalism and theft are endangering lives of those using the aircraft of six firms.

The thefts and vandalism have been spread out over the last two years. They include the theft of thousands of gallons of aviation gas — drained from airplane tanks and storage depots — missing parts, stolen tools, damaged premises. One operator lost \$500

worth of gasoline recently and \$400 worth two years ago. Another operator has lost \$300 worth and experienced a great deal of vandalism. "Doors standing open that should be closed, misplaced tools and missing parts all indicate someone has been inside the hangars or has tried to get in."

Although tampering with an aircraft is a federal offence, Ottawa Police are responsible for the protection in the area occupied by the air service operators. The city's police force, however, hasn't sufficient men to make a constant guard possible, the operators report and the suggestion that a private guard be hired has been made.

A prowler was discovered by an alert commissionaire late one night, but escaped when surprised by RCMP and Gloucester Township Police.

Air firm owners have been patrolling the area themselves, but no results.

FLASHBACK

In Years Gone By

On the Lot (No. 51) on the northeast corner of Yonge Street and Elgin Mills Road, Surveyor John Stegman had his humble home, William Harrison recorded in "The Liberal", in his historical articles which appeared in 1888 and 1889. He noted that the Elgin Mills Road had been a plank road for several years in the early days.

Mr. Stegman had been a lieutenant in the Hessian Regiment at Louisburg (the fort on Cape Breton now being restored under the direction of John Lunn, a resident of Richmond

Hill for some years). With this regiment commanded by Major General Loos, Mr. Stegman served during the whole of the American Revolution which began in 1776, until the

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AURORA: Councillor Jim Murray has been undergoing tests in York Central Hospital, where he was admitted with stomach pains.

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Dear Mr. Editor

"STOP METRO DUMPING"

Dear Mr. Editor: As a property owner at 43 Keele Street N., Maple, I want to thank you for your editorial in "The Liberal" about the Vaughan dumps. We enjoy reading your paper so much. Yours sincerely, MR. & MRS. LLOYD KERSWILL, RR 3, Stayner.

WINTER RECREATION

Dear Mr. Editor:

I wish to congratulate the Richmond Hill Recreation Committee which is sponsoring a winter recreation program for children aged 8-13.

This program is long overdue, but happily it is being started. However, I am sorry to say, this will not cover the full need. We should also have those from 13 to 19 years of age looked after. I hope the recreation committee will see fit to expand the program to take in this age group as well.

GAYLE POWELL, Richvale. *****

ELMER SAFETY CONTEST

Dear Mr. Editor:

The Elmer Summer Safety Contest is over for its 7th consecutive year and once again it was a resounding success.

Children entering the contest demonstrated a thorough knowledge of the safety concept involved. Possession of this knowledge indicates to us that parents and community agencies are doing an excellent job in teaching their children the art of safe living.

We feel that the Elmer contest plays an important part in

keeping children reminded of traffic hazards during their summer vacation and we hope for its continuance.

The success of this contest is due mainly to your generosity in donating so freely of your space in "The Liberal". Sincere thanks from the Ontario Safety League for helping to make this summer safer for Ontario children.

Yours sincerely, GEORGE G. HAM, Child Safety Director *****

STOP METRO DUMPING

Dear Mr. Editor:

It was a delight two weeks ago to note your editorial — "Stop Metro Dumping". From your thorough understanding of the current controversy in Vaughan Township, we read a deep concern, personally. Certainly all expressed.

Last week some of our neighbors expressed themselves and with considerable restraint. With what result? SILENCE!

What interpretation are we, the citizens of Vaughan, to put upon this lack of action?

Allow me to say that people who have entered into this controversy, are not objecting for the fun of it. For us there is a principle involved. The future of this area is at stake particularly relationships with Metro. The longer the silence, the more ominous the truth in Dr. Armitage's letter of last week and of Wm. Davis' letter.

Meanwhile, tension mounts.

Sincerely, REV. B. F. ANDREW, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Maple.

Second Thoughts

BY GEORGE MAYES

• Yesterday's news is not necessarily dead

Mr. Pearson's announcement of a November election brought reactions from everyone from Real Caouette to the Russians that it was uncalled-for. . . . But, as the legal line goes: If Not Called For In 60 Days, we're stuck with it!

The most depressing Second Thought about this election is that the leading-party leader will likely be Canada's Prime Minister through our Centennial in 1967. . . . And the comparison of the possibilities with Sir John A. MacDonald hardly seems like one hundred years of progress.

It seems like everything these days has to be tagged with an a-go-go label. (Even Pearson's Parliament.) As far as the a-go-go "dance" spots go, we're prepared to sit it out until someone opens one with a name like The Long Time A-Go-Go.

News comes from Finland that dogs are being trained to sniff out ore deposits for new mines. In Canada we have highly specialized electronic gear which does this job much better but—on second thought—we COULD use these Finnish dogs to sniff out some of our odious mine promoters.

The Kashmiri Love Song—The undeclared war between Pakistan and India really gets confusing with the news that the Pakistani and the Hindus are fighting each other with American and British weapons, while Russia—upon whom the armament was intended to be used—is attempting to stop the war and the waste.

Don't know whether our remark a few weeks ago about the Hill getting a federal hand-out for a small-boat harbour on Bayview fell on fallow ground

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Two Views On Commercialism Of National Parks

MacDUFF OTTAWA REPORT

A great battle is raging over the proper policy for Canada's national parks. On the one side is Northern Affairs and National Resources Minister Arthur Laing and his department. They want to preserve as far as humanly possible the wilderness concept of the national parks.

But on the other side are the people of Banff, Alberta and others who believe that tourists travelling to visit the parks, should be provided with the type of facilities that tourists are accustomed to finding south of the border.

The Trade and Commerce Department's Travel Bureau has been spending many thousands of dollars in promoting tourist travel to Canada and inside Canada. Prominent in the literature the bureau circulates and in the advertising it places are pictures of the beautiful scenery in Banff and Jasper National Parks.

The message is clear for tourists in the United States: "Come to Banff and Jasper and enjoy the mountain scenery and get back to nature". But today the modern tourist travelling with a trailer or with a tent, or perhaps just looking for a motel, likes to do his sight-seeing during the day, and in the evening he expects to find some good entertainment and

restaurants. In Banff today at night all the average tourist can do for entertainment is walk up and down Banff Avenue. After two or three nights he gets fed up and heads for other parts. The people of Banff are determined that they should be allowed to expand facilities.

The first national park was set up in Canada in 1885 when by order in council "sale, settlement or squat-

ting" in the ten square miles around Banff's Sulphur Mountain was expressly forbidden. At present the country has 29,000 square miles of national parks and the question has arisen: What should be done about the parks.

Mr. Laing will be the guest speaker at the federal nomination convention of the York North Liberal Association. The convention will be held on the evening of September 22 at the Dr. G. W. Williams Secondary School in Aurora.

Mr. Williams is the Tory member of Parliament for Alberta's Bow River constituency which includes Banff. He contends that there is a sharp difference of opinion between the federal government's Northern Affairs and National Resources Department and the

government's Canadian travel bureau is bending every effort and spending large sums of money to persuade tourists to travel to Banff and Jasper and other national parks. But at the same time the federal government's Northern Affairs and National Resources Department has embarked on a policy of holding back in the development of adequate facilities for these same tourists.

Mr. Williams has a solution. He says the federal government should zone the parks such as Banff and Jasper. There should be one area set aside for commercial tourists development and the other areas (by far the greater proportion) should be left as wilderness in its natural state so that the tourists can get back to nature.

He argues that this could be done quite easily in Banff because the townsite is only one very small segment of the vast lands that make up the national park. However the Minister, Mr. Laing, does not agree with suggestions that there be commercial attractions such as resorts, amusement areas and that type of entertainment. He contends that the average tourist visiting Banff is more concerned with having adequate camps and picnic grounds rather than luxurious hotels or motels. He is primarily concerned with

preserving the natural beauty of the parks and wants no "Coney Island" concept to destroy their appeal for those who want to escape from the hurly-burly of modern day living.

A year ago the Minister announced in the Commons a statement of policy that those who live and carry on business in the national parks should enjoy no particular economic advantage or disadvantage because of their special place of residence or business. In general, he said, they are subject to the same financial responsibilities as those who live or carry on business elsewhere. This policy is to be applied when charges, rentals and fees paid by national parks residents to the federal government are being reviewed.

The policy was intended specifically to end trafficking in leaseholds in Banff and Jasper and generally to assure that the national parks were protected from commercial intrusion. Mr. Laing announced that in future all leases will revert to the crown as they run out. Under his policy land will be let for specific terms of up to 42 years. When the lease expires on residential lands, the lessee will be paid lands, the lessee will be paid a fair market price for his home, which will be torn down if the land is needed for another park use or become crown rental property.

If it is to be rented the former owner will be given first chance to rent it.

Leases on commercial property will be drawn up for shorter periods. Businessmen will be expected to write off the capital cost of the business during the lease term and at the end of the lease the property will revert to the crown.

This policy has had the effect of depressing real estate values. Businessmen have protested that it has ruined lifetime investments.

But Mr. Laing is adamant. Meantime the National and Provincial Parks Association of Canada has rallied to his defence. It has urged the government not to give ground in the face of a strong attack from a minority group that has a "vested interest" in the areas.

The battle rages and the tourist is caught in the middle. The solution would appear to be the compromise put forward by Mr. Williams and that is to zone the parks, one area devoted to commercial developments of special appeal to the tourist who wants entertainment provided in hotels, motels, theatres, or amusement areas and the other areas — by far the largest section — left untouched and in its raw natural state for those who want to get away from the entertainment areas, into the wilderness.

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