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Misleading Information

In February the Canadian National Railways announced that tickets would no longer be on sale at the Richmond Hill station and all inquiries about fares and times would be handled from their Toronto offices. At the same time rumors were prevalent that the CNR was taking one more step to the closing of the local depot.

After contacting two senior men in the CNR organization, we were referred to the company's publicity department, and were told emphatically that the CNR had no intention of closing the Richmond Hill station — that express and freight services would still be handled from it.

Less than two months later the depot is closed and an express office has been opened on Enford Road, in the industrial area. Local commercial enterprizes have expressed concern to town council that this is the first step in a reduction of services available locally.

Council has decided to protest these moves to the Board of Transport Governors and has enlisted the support of John Addison MP, York North and Donald Deacon MLA, York Centre. Further action has been referred to council's industrial committee with the suggestion that a poll be made of industrialists and commercial operators to determine their reaction to the railway's action.

Although some members of council felt the town's official protest would have little effect, Mayor Thomas Broadhurst pointed out that such railroad efforts had been successfully fought by other municipalities.

In an attempt to learn what effect discontinuing the sale of tickets would have on the public, we asked the CNR how many passenger trains made scheduled stops at Richmond Hill depot. Three hours later we received the reply that only one train, northbound Northland made a scheduled stop here.

One of our readers, William Griffith of Newkirk Road, questioned the

truth of this statement, telling "The Liberal" that he had on more than one occasion boarded the southbound Panorama at Richmond Hill depot at 6:15 am and arrived at the Union Station at 7 am. A further enquiry to the CNR brought the reply that it was quite possible Mr. Griffith had boarded the train here as it is listed as a flag stop and if passengers from beyond Armstrong wished to detrain here a stop would be made.

Mr. Griffith refuted this information, claiming that Richmond Hill is listed as a regular daily stop for the Panorama, one of the two transcontinental CNR trains (the northbound Panorama and both Super Continental trains are routed through Maple, Aurora and Newmarket). Study of the latest CNR timetable shows that Mr. Griffith is right — that any resident of this area can board the CNR Panorama at Richmond Hill station at 6:15 am any morning of the week and arrive at the Union Station three-quarters of an hour later (if the train is on time).

Unfortunately this time table is valid only until April 27, and the summer table may make some changes in times. Heavy summer traffic also often causes the transcontinental trains to run late. But no other means of public transportation available at present will take a passenger so rapidly to the heart of the city.

By giving out false information, did the CNR believe it would lull residents of this area into inactivity while the complete closure of the local station was quietly accomplished? Did they think that any objection to their moves would then be too late to be effective? It appears that way to us?

We heartily endorse council's protest and urge its members to continue the fight to ensure that industrialists already located here and those who may locate here in the future will have express and freight service readily available locally.

Don't Pick the Trilliums

If you have ever wondered why some people say "Don't pick the trilliums, you'll kill them," the answer lies in the fact that it is impossible to pick the blossom without taking the leaves. And if this is done, the plant loses its ability to store food necessary for the following season's growth. As a result, reckless picking of Ontario's official floral emblem could ultimately result in the complete destruction of entire trillium colonies.

The trillium is a tuber-like, rhizome-rooted plant with three broad, deeply-veined green leaves growing closely beneath the star-like, three-petaled white blossom, centred by a cluster of yellow stamens. The

flower was recommended as the province's floral emblem by the Ontario Horticultural Society, and was officially passed by the Legislature in 1937.

The trillium abounds in Ontario's deciduous forests and woodlands during late April and early May, depending on the weather conditions. Because it bloomed when the first robins appeared in spring, the trillium was originally known by the name of "Wake Robin". To ensure that Ontario looks its best during the years to come—all of us should remember the old saying: "Please don't pick the trilliums."

Archie Crosier Honored By R. Hill Cancer Society

Archie Crosier, who has served as treasurer of the Richmond Hill Unit of the cancer society for six years, was recently presented with a silver Caduceus pin, the emblem of the society. The presentation to Mr. Crosier, who has been transferred to Ottawa by the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, took place at the regular monthly meeting of the unit held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Phillips, Sugar Maple Lane, Pleasantville.

In making the presentation Chairman William Kedwell paid tribute to Mr. Crosier's contribution to the society and extended best wishes to the Crosier family in their new home.

Mr. Crosier then introduced his successor, Kenneth Rintoul, who took over the manager's duties at the Yonge Street branch of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce April 5. He will take over the duties of treasurer of the unit.

The retiring treasurer reported that at the end of March 1968, \$3,233.31 had been received as "In Memoriam" gifts. This amount has been forwarded to headquarters as the initial payment on the \$27,800 which is the unit's quota for this year's campaign.

One thousand volunteer canvassers are at work in Richmond Hill and surrounding territory on behalf of the society. Campaign Director Munroe Ashkanase reported. Donations to date include \$555 from Markham Area Hydro Association and \$200 from Thornhill Secondary School students.

Director Mrs. Mary Follows reported 913 dressings and 684 colostomy bags were made and

delivered during March. Mrs. Cecil Nichols of Victoria Square branch said that at four meetings during the past month 15 volunteers made 480 dressings to be distributed free to cancer patients.

Mrs. Mona Robertson was appointed official volunteer canvasser for the Don Mills industrial area in Markham Township and reported 9,000 church bulletins sheets were used in local churches on Daffodil Sunday.

Bearded David DePoe Vivid Evidence Of Generation Gap

By FRED SIMPSON

Brown hair, brown beard, and brown corduroy-jacketed David DePoe was in Richmond Hill April 10 and his appearance was vivid evidence of the generation gap existing between the young and the old of today.

The youthfully-mature, articulate David DePoe was one of a three-member panel arranged by the York Centre New Democratic Party Wednesday evening of last week in the Richmond Hill Public Library.

Other members of the panel were NDPers Peter Burnett and Maurice Windatt. Moderator was Bea Bryant.

The topic was "Democracy, Do We Really Have It", but the sparse audience — centred most of their attention on Mr. DePoe who is a Yorkville-in-residence member of the Company of Young Canadians organization.

The general conclusions about youth and adult alienation in today's supercharged society were more muddy than clear but added up to an interesting confrontation.

Mr. DePoe, who maintained the democratic system and the people governing it have been clinging to out-moded concepts in a fast-changing society, was pushed into the background at times. Doing the pushing were two or three members or ex-members of the teaching profession who clashed with some teenagers currently attending high school in Richmond Hill.

One youth complained that there "are two kinds of students in school today, the good guy and the bad guy. The good guy is the one that goes along with everything, the bad guy is the one who has a mind of his own and questions or disagrees."

Another said that in the high school he attends in Richmond Hill there "are only about 10 teachers out of the 63 on staff who are individualists and not afraid to go their own way, come up with some ideas of their own that conflict with the general ideas handed down to them."

A former teacher disagreed stating she had never been restricted in her handling

Letters to the Editors

TEENS WANT ACTION

Dear Mr. Editor:
Having read the article by Margaret McLean (April 18) about the situation of young people in Richmond Hill, I feel, as a teenager, that I must write and express my views.

I fullheartedly agree with the article that boredom causes vandalism, pot smoking, etc. I myself have not reached the same extreme as some teenagers, but I am bored.

What is there to do on a Friday or Saturday night? Of course there is the show, but one gets tired of the same thing. Fridays, the Richmond Heights Centre is open but we aren't supposed to hang around there because the management doesn't like it. Saturday night there is "The Hole Thing" at Richmond Hill United Church but after a while, it can get boring if there is nothing exciting happening. Many teenagers can't hop down to Toronto to get a piece of the action because their financial situation does not permit it. So what else can we do but turn to something which is in some sense exciting?

So, ask yourselves how to solve the problem. For a start, take a survey to determine the tastes of local teenagers. This, I feel, is the first step. Once this is done, get a young person who knows "where it's at". With his young ideas, he possibly could get some form of activity going for teenagers.

But a word of advice: don't make it a club with all kinds of restrictions. Make it open to everyone. Also, make sure it can serve at least 75% of the teenage population.

A word about the sidewalk cafe as suggested by Judge George Sweeny. I think it is a great idea. It could be a place for us kids to go and have a soft drink or a coffee, to sit and talk with friends without having to get out after a certain period of time.

A word to Leon Kumove: Sure, we kids are noisy, but remember that we are bored! When one is bored, the obvious thing to do is to create some excitement. Even noise is more exciting than what we have here now.

May I leave this letter anonymous, Mr. Editor, as it is written for all teenagers, not just myself.

"ANONYMOUS TEENAGER"

SUGGESTS CHANGES NON-RUSH HOUR TTC SERVICE

Dear Mr. Editor:

I believe that when the TTC look over the arrangement of transportation of passengers from Richmond Hill, there may have been some formal agreement that restricted certain changes in transportation arrangements.

It would be a pity that any such arrangement would come ahead of serving the public of this area, since the purpose of any transportation system is to provide GOOD service to those requiring this service.

Other than at rush hour periods, when the buses are frequent and well-filled from Richmond Hill to the subway station, the service has much to be desired.

On non-rush hour periods the buses are very infrequent (every 40 minutes), are usually quite empty, and are usually seen following those buses from Steeles or Finch, which are also usually quite empty. Buses from Steeles in the non-rush hour period, could quite easily take the passengers from the Richmond Hill bus at Steeles thus shortening the route (non-rush hour only) of the Richmond Hill bus, and also stepping up the frequency of passenger pick-up in the Richmond Hill - Steeles area without any additional cost. It seems very uneconomical to have a number of almost completely empty buses go from between Steeles and Yonge and Yonge Subway Station on the non-rush hour periods. The area along Yonge, north of Steeles has developed greatly

I Thank Thee Father

I thank thee, Father, for the friends
Who, like Thy sunshine's rays,
Shine on this darkened world of ours,
And brighten up our days.

Their presence, with a heartening grace,
Brings miracles to view,
They leave a laughter in our eyes,
They ease our burdens too.

Their own sweet smile's a pleasant break
Made in a leaden sky;
Which lets a warmth and glory shine
Upon the passer-by.

Their gentle words and winsome ways,
Help beautify the hours,
For 'long the paths I chance to roam
They are . . . the 'flowers'.

For such dear souls I thank Thee Lord —
Because of what they do.
—Flowers at my feet, warmth in my heart,
And o'er my head some blue.

REV. M. R. JENKINSON,
Headford and Victoria Square.

over the last few years, but the same type of service is provided by the TTC as was provided 20 years ago.

I am sure that you will agree with me, that the bus for Richmond Hill to the subway station if routed on the non-rush hour period from Richmond Hill to Steeles Ave. station, that you would provide a much more frequent service of pick-up of passengers, which should be your number one priority of serving the public without additional costs.

Surely we should not let an old time agreement be the possible cause of providing inefficient service to an area.

Yours truly,
R. A. MARQUIS,
46 Roosevelt Drive,
Langstaff.

(The TTC has informed Mr. Marquis that any suggestions for changes in the present schedule will have to come from the three municipalities that form the North Yonge Bus Line.

The line is owned by Richmond Hill, Markham and Vaughan and is operated on their behalf under agreement with the TTC—Editor.)



(Canadian Forces Photo)

Richmond Hill Sailor In New Orleans

An artist indicates the fine points of one of his paintings to Leading Seaman Donald Alexander of Richmond Hill, at a sidewalk art display in the French Quarter of New Orleans.

Seven Canadian naval ships were on a recent week's visit to the port to participate in "Canada Week" in honor of the 250th anniversary of the founding of New Orleans.



Rambling Around

by Elizabeth Kelson

This Teenager Is A Boy Soprano

A singer is a musician of a special order. To become a great singer is a privilege reserved to only a few people in any generation. To become a good singer is not easy. With some aptitude and plenty of self-discipline, it is not impossible. In a good choir one learns the fundamentals of a singing technique and also the sense of achievement that comes from artistic production.

Bruce Longstreet sings in St. Clement's Anglican Church Choir. He is 14, a grade 8 student at Royal Orchard Public School, Thornhill North. Last August, Bruce and his family moved from Toronto to Wild Cherry Lane in Thornhill North.

Bruce began his singing days in the Woodbridge United Church Choir six years ago. Five years ago, when the family moved to Toronto, he joined St. Clement's. He goes to choir practice twice a week, on Tuesday and Thursday.

However Bruce may not be a soprano much longer. He expects his voice to change within the next year.

"One big advantage of choir training," said Bruce, "is in learning to understand music. To get into St. Clement's I was given a test and another one three months later."

Strangely enough, there are no girls in this choir. John Sidgewick, the choir master, is sceptical about the value of a young girl's voice in his choir.

CHOIR SINGING, A WAY OF LIFE

"Sight reading is very important," said Bruce. "We get harder music all the time. Every one in a while Mr. Sidgewick takes a few boys off in a group, gives them a piece of music to read, and it is usually sung the following Sunday."

At the actual practice, the routine is to sing a scale, start off with a few easy numbers for five or ten minutes, then work into the hymns and anthems.

The hymns are sung mainly by the junior choir. Bruce began as number 19 in the junior section and ended up in the number two position in the senior choir, where he sings psalms and anthems. Most of these are in four part harmony.

As a member of the choir, Bruce is part of the recitals, when St. Clement's visits another church. Recitals have been held at Eglinton United, St. George's United and St. James' Cathedral.

So far, Bruce has sung five solos and taken part in five or six duets. The last duet was in March.

Last year, Bruce took private singing lessons (Continued on Page 14)

In the Spotlight



By JOAN HAROLD

Happiness is seeing a play that wildly surpasses one's expectations, and sitting down at the typewriter to write a review. Such happiness is mine now as I report to you on the completely successful opening night of Berkeley Square, presented by the Richmond Hill High School Drama Club.

The play is an adaptation by John Balderston of a novel by Henry James, in which he has retained the essence and weirdness of the original story, but made it into a highly entertaining vehicle for both actors and audience.

Briefly, it is the story of Peter Standish, a young present-day New Yorker, who inherits a house in Berkeley Square, London, England. He becomes fascinated by a portrait that hangs in the living room, and this fascination gradually turns into an obsession. One night the subject of the portrait, the Peter Standish of 1784 appears, and they exchange centuries.

We follow the modern Peter through his anguish as he goes back in time and falls in love with Helen Pettigrew, instead of her sister Kate to whom he is supposedly betrothed. Helen is able to see into the future which frightens and disgusts her, and Peter in turn abhors the past life he has moved into.

"God, how the eighteenth century stinks!" he exclaims to Helen.

They realize that the two souls of Peter Standish will be in everlasting conflict, and after promising Helen that he will visit her grave, Peter returns to the Twentieth Century. The play ends on a very poignant note when Peter visits the cemetery and reads the epitaph — In eternal hope of resurrection — Helen Pettigrew, age 23.

The production opened with a beautifully danced Sir Roger de Coverly on the floor of the auditorium. As we watched the six bewigged couples, the ladies exquisite in lavish gowns, and the men in elegant brocades, lace cuffs and buckled shoes, we became aware of the carefully selected horspichord music that was to filter in during the play, and we were immediately caught up in the manners and artificiality of the eighteenth century.

It was an inspirational introduction to the play, added only the day before by Director Roy Clifton.

Mr. Clifton's ability to create atmosphere, his sense of timing and grouping were apparent throughout the play, and in each scene the tension built to a certain that left the audience longing for more.

It is impossible to pick a star from the cast of fifteen. Mr. Clifton's three and a half months of coaching showed in the way every one of them moved with ease in the period costumes, and handled such properties as fans and snuff boxes with confidence. The two things that impressed me most were the teamwork — something that is very often missing from professional productions — and voice projection. It was a joy to hear these teenagers master the arts of diction and enunciation, and even Barbara Jo Loftus who is only fourteen and appearing in her first play, never once committed the sin (Continued on Page 14)

PROCLAMATION

Whereas

MENTAL ILLNESS disables more people than all other diseases combined, and should be the concern of every citizen.

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Garfield E. Wright

WARDEN

OF

THE COUNTY OF YORK

Do hereby proclaim

May 1st to May 7th, 1968

to be

"MENTAL HEALTH WEEK"

Garfield E. Wright,

Warden, County of York.