



# The Liberal

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## Early Solution Needed

The York Central District High School Board and the four councils concerned are facing a real crisis with the news that an extra \$300,000 in debentures are needed if the proposed Don Head Secondary School is to be built on schedule.

When tenders were opened last week for the 600 pupil school it was found that the total cost would now be \$300,000 more than the total of the local debentures and provincial grants already approved for the building.

As forecast, costs have risen considerably since the school was first proposed by the board in December 1964. The school has increased in cost from \$3,500 per pupil space to \$4,100.

The whole sad story of this school since its inception over three years ago provides a stinging indictment of the Robarts Government and its failure to provide either leadership or sufficient financial resources in council-school board relations and education costs. Negotiations between the councils and the high school board has been a long drawn-out affair and now with the need for an extra \$300,000 the school could easily be delayed further.

It is a classic case of what is happening in so many communities across Ontario today. On the one hand, the councils, hard-pressed to find money for badly needed community projects other than education, are touchy over the repeated demands of school trustees for more and more money when the major share of local taxes is already going towards the support of education. On the other hand, school trustees are endeavoring to build an educational system to meet the challenge of a rapidly changing world.

In the case of the Don Head School, instead of stepping in and speeding up negotiations, Queen's Park as usual, adopted a "hands-off" policy. The situation was allowed to drift

until finally a 75% grant under the federal-provincial vocational training plan was lost. The grants were phased out in March 31, 1967 and all the approvals were not received from the municipalities in time.

Secondary school education in Southern York County is going through an extremely demanding period in its history.

Former Board Chairman John Honsberger speaking at a joint meeting of councils in 1966 stated that a new school or a major addition would be needed every two years for the next decade. What has the province done to alleviate this problem? Its chief economist H. I. Macdonald warned in March 1965 of "unimagined expense" for education in the years ahead. The province has increased its grants somewhat but for the main part the problem is unsolved. The municipalities are still short of funds and the school boards have the responsibility of providing educational facilities. There is often a lack of understanding between the councils and school boards, and the province remains aloof.

The municipalities can assist the situation in a real way by directly controlling residential development in their communities. New housing obviously means that school boards, both elementary and secondary, will have to provide extra facilities to meet the growth. Trustee John McKay in February 1966 told Markham Township Council bluntly, "if you are not prepared to support school debentures you shouldn't sign subdivision agreements".

We hope a spirit of goodwill and mutual understanding will prevail between the councils and the high school trustees when they meet to discuss the additional \$300,000 in debentures needed for the Don Head School. Only in such an atmosphere can there be any hope that the problem can be resolved.

## Chief Survives Real Test

Former Conservative Leader John Diefenbaker was at his best at the Ottawa press conference he held following the June 25 election. Although the conference was held ostensibly to discuss Mr. Diefenbaker's forthcoming trip to Scotland, it was really an opportunity for him to tick off the Tory leadership for its inept handling of the campaign. Of all the senior party people who contested the leadership last September only Stanfield, Diefenbaker and George Hees survived the Trudeau tide. Mr. Diefenbaker's arch enemy Dalton Camp again went down to defeat while the man he ousted from the party leadership was winning handily in Prince Albert, something he has been doing continuously since 1940. The party that was so ready to "dump" the old chief did even worse under its new leadership, dropping 23 seats.

A great deal of what Mr. Diefenbaker said at his press conference makes sense. Of all the leadership hopefuls last September he and he alone had opposed the "deux nations" concept, a concept that spelt disaster for the Stanfield forces. Mr. Diefenbaker was severely criticized at the leadership convention by the Quebec wing of the party for his uncompromising stand for a strong united Canada. Among his most vocal critics was Paul Trepanier, the retiring national president, and now a twice defeated Tory candidate in Quebec.

Events proved Mr. Diefenbaker right as Prime Minister Trudeau used the theme of one Canada with no special status for Quebec with telling effect across the country. Even in Quebec both the Liberals and the Creditistes, the two parties that stood for a strong central government, all but wiped out the Tories and their allies the Union Nationale. The Conservatives are now reduced to four seats in Quebec — under Mr.

Diefenbaker who was supposed to be hated in that province, the Tories captured seven seats in 1965.

He can no longer be blamed for the party's failure to win seats in Metropolitan Toronto. If urban dwellers had failed to understand Mr. Diefenbaker they understood others less. "I never understood urbanization," said he, quoting his critics. "Apparently the present Conservative policy was developed on a Chinese laundry ticket."

Today the headquarters of the parties are manned by bright young men who are supposed to be experts on running smart, slick campaigns. An example of their thinking is the questionnaire that was sent out to all the Conservative candidates. Mr. Diefenbaker poked fun at one question that asked for the candidate's main criticisms of the Liberal Government's five years in office, then allowed only three lines for an answer. His favorite question was: "Have you ever had a heart attack, cancer or nervous breakdown?"

Fortunately for the Liberals, the Tory leadership refused to listen to Mr. Diefenbaker and his chief lieutenant Gordon Churchill and their call for a snap election when the minority Liberal Government of Lester Pearson was experiencing real difficulty in its inept handling of a tax bill earlier this year. Yet Mr. Trudeau turned around and called an election in April and with a clever handling of issues swept into power with the first majority government we have had since 1958.

By a cruel turn of events Mr. Diefenbaker was pilloried and humiliated by the Camp forces last September. Now he can return to Parliament in triumph with the one basic satisfaction that he can at least do something his critics couldn't do, and that is to get elected, which of course is basic to the whole democratic process.



John Tate (left) and brother Frank, a resident of Richmond Hill reminisce about their many years of hydro service.

## Tate Brothers Have 95 Years Hydro Service

Two brothers have compiled what may be a record for Hydro service. They have worked for Ontario Hydro and a radial power company, the power service of which was eventually taken over by the Commission, for nearly 95 years.

John Douglas "Jack" Tate, assistant manager of Sutton area, has had over 47 years of continuous service with Ontario Hydro and the Toronto & York Radial Railway Co. His brother Frank R. Tate, also had over 47 years with Ontario Hydro and the Toronto & York Radial Railway Company. Frank Tate, a resident of Richmond Hill, is now 80 years old and retired foreman.

Jack Tate, who will retire on November 1 this year, had served as a lineman, then a sub-foreman with the former Bond Lake rural power district. In July 1930, he was transferred to the Keswick rural power district now Sutton area, as general foreman. He held that position until his appointment in 1956 as assistant area manager. Jack Tate and his charming wife and daughter are residents of Sutton. He has been prominent in community and club affairs for many years. He was a director of Sutton Agricultural Society for a number of years and was president for ten years.

Frank Tate, who looks like a vigorous man in his sixties and has perfect eyesight and hearing, is very alert and walks with a springy step despite his eighty years. He began his career with the Toronto & York Radial Railway Co. in 1905 and became a line foreman in 1908. When hydro took over the power service of this former railway, he was made a line foreman. In 1948, Frank Tate was promoted to general foreman and continued in that position until the end of 1952 when he retired.

Frank Tate has been a widower for the past eleven years and lives alone on Church Street South in Richmond Hill. He has a daughter and two grandchildren in Ottawa and frequently drives his own car there to visit them.

He has never drunk or smoked. His philosophy for living a long life is "plenty of hard work."



By JOAN HAROLD

Entering the Court House Theatre in Niagara-on-the-Lake for the first time somehow reminded me of the very early days of the Stratford Festival — the days when it was all still new and exciting and striving for permanence in Canada's cultural life.

Nobody can deny the architectural beauty and overall success of the Shakespearean Festival, but the old original tent even on a hot sultry night with hail stones bouncing off the canvas with deafening thuds, created for me a certain glamour and excitement that I have never felt in the new theatre. Weren't we all a little sad when we received a tatty piece of canvas in the mail to remind us of the pioneer days of Tom Patterson?

Now that the Shaw Festival after five years of steady progress has established a building fund, the days of the Court House Theatre are numbered, and yet it is so perfectly in keeping with the little town of Niagara-on-the-Lake steeped in Canada's earliest history.

Perhaps one day a postscript will be added to the historic plaque that informs us that this is where the first provincial parliament was formed in 1792 by Colonel John Graves Simcoe. It may tell us that here the theatre of Canada took a giant stride forward when Brian Doherty created the Shaw Festival in 1962.

One can imagine the inadequacies of the present theatre from the production side of things, but for the audience there are only minor discomforts. Entering and leaving are slightly hampered by having to filter through narrow halls and staircases, and once in the theatre I must confess to a few uneasy moments when I was unable to spot well marked fire exits — and the wooden chairs arranged in tiers something like the Curtain Club, even though they were fitted with pads, did become a little uncomfortable after three hours. And this brings me to the play — George Bernard Shaw's "Heartbreak House", considered by many including Shaw himself to be his greatest play. Unless one is a Shaw addict who resents one single word of his philosophies being deleted, one longs, especially in

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## Slate Parkway Belt And Country Residences For County Of York

(The following article on the far reaching MTARTS study written by William Newman MLA (Conservative) for Ontario South appeared in a recent issue of the Stouffville Tribune.)

The study and its future implications are of special interest to all residents of York County — Editor.

The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Transportation Study (MTARTS) was tabled in the Legislature, June 13, by Irwin Haskett, Minister of Transport. At the same time the report was presented to several hundred persons, representing municipal and other interests in the region at a meeting in the Queen Elizabeth Building, Toronto. Premier John Robarts was in attendance and addressed the gathering.

He pointed out that the Ontario Government was responsible for the orderly development of the resources and wealth of the province and for carefully planning the use of our land.

The Premier stated that the publication of the MTARTS Reports represents the completion of the first stage of an important planning process for the rich region of Southern Ontario surrounding Metropolitan Toronto. It has already borne fruit in the establishment of the GO commuter or rapid transit service, which was a special portion of the study.

Goal Plan One calls for a giant, lake-oriented regional city stretching from Oshawa to Hamilton.

The centre of the area would be Metro, with a population of 2,750,000 at the core and another 1.5 million in the surrounding Metro fringe. As "terminal cities," Hamilton would have a population of 695,000 and Oshawa would contain 430,000 persons.

This is one of four plans proposed by the study. Between Hamilton and Toronto, there would be three "corridor cities" (Burlington (295,000) Oakville (430,000) and Port Credit (500,000)).

A high-speed rail and highway system would traverse the lakeshore corridor and would speed commuters from the central city to smaller regional shopping and residential areas.

Industries would be scattered along the corridor to provide a wide range of employment opportunities. The whole regional megalopolis would stretch back from the lake for five miles to a second corridor called a "Parkway Belt." This belt would provide the northerly transportation route to relieve pressure on the high-density southern routes. It would provide a convenient, readily accessible outlet for the casual family picnic, as well as space for outdoor sports areas.

Beyond the Parkway Belt, the study sees a ring of fine homes and cottage districts called "Country Residence" areas which would be within 50 miles of Lake Ontario. These areas in quiet highland settings would be near wooded areas and lakes and streams. Each would be accessible to the central city by highways and rail lines and would be connected by county and township roads.

The report designates some 23 localities north of Metro as county residence areas, each of which would accommodate between 15,000 and 25,000 residents.

## Hungry Vietnamese Children Supported By Local Couples

For \$16 a month you can help to lessen — even if only a little — the misery of one Vietnamese girl, one human, struggling to survive one more hour in an ugly world she never asked for or made.

That ugliness might be war, hunger, death or, as too often the case, a combination of all three.

It might be Vietnam or any other underdeveloped country in the world.

At least two families in the Richmond Hill area are currently doing their share to lessen the miseries of underdeveloped children by way of contributing money to the Foster Parents Plan of Canada in Montreal.

They are Mr. and Mrs. E. R. T. Park of 260 Weldrick Road, Richvale and Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Little of 54 Arnold Street.

The Parks — comprising children, Robert, 16 and Barbara, 18 at home — have been the foster-parents of Nguyen Thi Thu Thanh.

Thanh is a Vietnamese girl described as a "most appealing little miss, having soft brown hair and a fair complexion and dark eyes."

The Parks have been contributing monthly payments to Thanh for almost a year now and up until a few months ago were exchanging letters regularly.

"We haven't heard from her for quite awhile now," said 16-year-old Robert. "Of course, she's in the midst of the fighting there and she might not have a chance to write. She might even be dead."

Does Thanh really need help?

Thanh's father served two years in the South Vietnamese Army at a salary of \$34.53 a month. He developed an infection in the liver and was taken into a military hospital. He died two months later on May 22, 1967.

The mother was paid an indemnity of \$69.06 from the father's service unit and used it to start a small business. She peddles fruit from door to door bringing home 86 cents profit at the end of a day. The family lives in Saigon.

Thanh attends the first class of public primary school for two hours a day. She has learned to read and write letters in the short time she has been in school. She has three younger children.

Thanh lives in the back of a house in an area measuring 10 feet by 15 feet. The construction consists of iron and floor of beaten earth. The furniture: a bed, a table and small chest for storing left-over food.

The Littles have sponsored nine-year-old Nguyen Thi De since October of 1967. The role of foster parents

isn't a new one for them.

They've been foster parents since 1945 to children living in France, Lithuania, Greece, Italy, and now Vietnam.

Cost of sponsoring Thi De is \$17 monthly or \$204 annually. Of this amount \$8 is a monthly cash payment with the balance administered by the plan in the form of food, clothing, and educational costs.

Thi De lives in Hue and is one of a family of five. She is now back in second grade at school after being forced to drop out because of financial difficulties.

Thi De, who would like to become a dressmaker some day, is described as "clever, polite and quite attractive, with a round face and intelligent dark eyes."

Her father has bad health. He's employed as a coolie for 68 cents a day.

Every moment is a dangerous one in Hue with the Viet Cong lurking everywhere.

Thi De lives in a small, dilapidated hut containing meagre essentials and rest on an earthen floor.

She corresponds with the Littles every month writing her own letters.

"Our association via let-



## Rambling Around

by Elizabeth Kelson

### Markham All Set For Summer Recreation

"We're not going to be a glorified baby sitting service," said Sid Armatage, Markham's personable recreation director for the summer. "We want children to come because they want to come. We will try to give them a varied program with plenty of challenge and hope they will learn something at the same time."

Mr. Armatage said that his job was not to run a program but to get people interested in working at it. He would like young persons interested in playground activities to phone him at his headquarters, the North Thornhill Community Centre, 889-8811.

The playground activities are held at five different areas, Crosby Park in Unionville and four elementary schools, Henderson Avenue, Woodland, Bayview Glen and Royal Orchard.

The supervisors on the playground areas are young people of the highest calibre. They are Karen Heenan, of Henderson Avenue, Linda McCartney of Woodland, Jan Farquahson of Royal Orchard and Rosemary Leek of Bayview Glen.

These leaders have attended a training course at a North York playground June 24 to 26.

The playgrounds are open for action from July 3 to August 15.

### A VARIED BUT LOOSELY STRUCTURED PROGRAM

The program will be set up for children six to 15 years. Children should have at least one year at elementary school. Plans are not made this year to include pre-schoolers in a regular playground program because they are unfamiliar with group program situations which require self-discipline.

"Perhaps another year," said Mr. Armatage. "There just isn't enough staff at present."

The actual program runs Monday through Friday from 9:30 am to 12. Children go home to lunch, come back at 1 pm and stay until 4:30.

"The programs will be in keeping with the needs of the children," said Mr. Armatage. "There will be active games and quiet periods, playtime, drama, arts and crafts, sports, hikes and many other activities."

Mr. Armatage said that along with his playground supervisors he hoped to interest boys and girls from 12 to 14 years of age.

"We hope to have lots of activity for that age group and the more of them that come out the better."

This invitation is for boys and girls who have no alternative but to sit around all day.

There is a registration fee. The first member of the family will pay a straight \$2 and each additional member will pay \$1. The registration forms have been sent out to each of the playgrounds and registrations took place there, Tuesday, July 2 from 10 am to noon. The activities began the following day.

Once a week there will be a special event, usually on Friday. It could be anything from a hike to a carnival.

In case of cold, wet weather, playground activities will be cancelled. If the weather clears up by noon, activities will be resumed. In the event of rain occurring after the program is begun, the children will be sent home immediately or retained under shelter until a break occurs and then sent home.

### THE QUESTIONS PARENTS ASK

Is the playground program compulsory? No, it isn't. Children can come when they like and leave anytime they like. If they are going away for a week or so, it would be nice if they let their instructors know but they are free to go to other activities. Daily registrations are maintained to keep track of the number of children attending the program.

Do children have to make a choice between swimming and playground activities? No. Children can come back for part of the morning, go for a swimming lesson and then come back and rejoin the program.

If a child drops the program after a week or so does he get his money back? Sorry, the \$2 is a set fee for every child regardless of attendance.

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## Grant Nighswander's Pickle Jar

The Richmond Hill Public School Board meeting was proceeding smoothly June 27, when suddenly someone noticed that item 25 on the list of capital equipment to be purchased was a \$35 pickle jar.

Everyone checked their lists and sure enough, hidden among the filing cabinets and geography desks was pickle jar No. 84603. For a flurried moment, confused trustees asked each other which school would ask for such a thing, and why. For that matter, \$35 does seem a little stiff for a pickle jar.

The matter was straightened out when Trustee David Service explained that it was requested by Grant Nighswander, principal of McCaughey School, and was meant to be used as a container for a substance to clean projector parts.

"It's not actually a pickle jar, but they couldn't think of a better word for it," Mr. Service said. Later when the entire list was approved Chairman Deena Simpson observed, "We'll carry the motion to purchase the equipment, even the pickle jar."



NGUYEN THI THU THANH Supported by the Parks



NGUYEN THI DE Supported by the Littles