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Ban Strikes In Essential Public Services

During the past few months the people of Ontario have had to cope with a national postal strike. They are now called upon to contend with a strike in the provincial hydro system. Both the post office and hydro are vital public services and it seems unthinkable that their employees should be allowed to strike and create undue hardship, and in some cases chaos, for the vast majority of our citizens.

People employed in such essential public services as the post office, utilities (hydro, water and sewage) police, fire, transportation and garbage should not be allowed to strike but instead should be compelled to settle their differences through compulsory arbitration. In order to be fair, such a ban would have to be accompanied by guarantees assuring the civil servants of satisfactory wages and working conditions.

The federal administration of former Prime Minister Lester Pearson was in error when it granted the civil service the right to strike. Hugo McPherson, the former president of the National Film Board who at one time found himself the centre of a controversy with four unions who were battling it out for the right to represent film board personnel remarked, "I think Ottawa never understood what it was getting into when it decided to unionize the public service and my personal impression is that the post office is the first and horrible big test of power. The

other unions are all watching. The federal government is in a bad position. The unions are not going to mediate and it'll end up, I'm sure, with the government having to say 'bang, this is it'."

Speaking at the annual convention of the Canadian Bar Convention Judge John Parker, chairman of British Columbia's mediation commission, said civil servants should "under no circumstances" be given the right to strike. Judge Parker called the law which allows federal civil servants to strike the "most incredibly inept legislation ever passed in Canada."

The principle of compulsory arbitration for public services that are essential to the community's survival should by now be well established. The federal and provincial governments should waste no time in enacting the necessary legislation prohibiting strikes in certain vital services.

Once such a list is prepared, the unions involved should be warned that strikes will be prohibited and compulsory arbitration imposed if normal collective bargaining procedures break down. Our elected representatives should not be deterred from their appointed task by political pressures exerted by certain irresponsible elements in the trade union movement.

The alternative is a continuing series of emergencies and a continuing war of nerves in those basic services on which the community's survival depends.



Local Squadron Wins Trophies At Trenton

Richmond Hill's 778 Squadron Air Cadets came home from a two week training session at the Canadian Forces Base in Trenton loaded with honors. About 30 boys from the Squadron, which was founded just a year and a half ago, won the overall sports award in track and field and swimming meets. They were among the 1,700 air cadets from across Ontario who took part in the rigorous two weeks' summer training program with mornings devoted to drill and classroom lectures covering such subjects as water safety, armament, leadership, guidance, citizenship and service information.

Afternoons were packed full of such activities as field sports, sailing and flying. They were taken on tours of CFB Trenton, visiting the fire hall, control tower and hanger line, and there were tours to Ottawa, Kingston and Upper Canada Village.

Pictured above (left to right) Commanding Officer Major Robert McMeekin and Flight Sergeant John Mills of 778 Squadron receive a trophy from Lieutenant Colonel J. M. Donnelly at the conclusion of their two week stay at Trenton.

Music Director At Seneca Plans Free Concert Series This Fall

Extra-curricular activities at Seneca College are being extended this fall to include a musical program, and a director of music has been appointed to get under way.

Heading the music department at the Willowdale-based community college, which conserves the County of York and the Borough of North York, is William McCauley, formerly of York University, a well known composer, conductor and arranger of musical scores for films, television shows, concerts and symphony orchestras. Dr. McCauley will concentrate on his new role at Seneca, but will also maintain his interest in a similar capacity, as director of music at O'Keefe Centre, a post which he has held since 1960.

Dr. McCauley plans to launch a series of weekly concerts at the college, featuring all kinds of music, individual artists, groups, brasses, choirs, orchestras, bands and rock groups. The series is due to start early this fall, soon after Seneca classes begin, and they will be open to staff, students, and to the public at no charge.

When Seneca's new 1,100 seat theatre-auditorium opens later this fall, some of the concerts will be scheduled in it. "The new auditorium is a great facility," says Dr. McCauley. "The semi-circular seating capacity goes right down to the stage. It is one of the best I have seen."

The new music director is looking forward to developing Seneca talent, but admits, "We have got to find out what talent is here first."

"I'm really impressed by the great feeling of excitement around Seneca," Dr. McCauley

continues. "The pioneering spirit of a new challenge attracts me."

In addition to composing music for films which have won at least 70 national and international awards, Dr. McCauley organized and conducted three years of young people's concerts at O'Keefe Centre as well as concert series at York University for four years. He has conducted the Toronto Summer Symphony Orchestra, the Toronto Symphony and the Irish Radio Symphony.

His own compositions include Concerto for Horn, winner of the Alberta Centennial Award, and numerous works based on Canadian themes.

Born in Alberta, Dr. McCauley started his musical career before he was five years old, had his own orchestra at 17, and in years past was associated with some of the best known orchestral names at the Royal York, Banff Springs and other well known Canadian hotels.

For more than ten years he was composer and director of music for Crawley Films, a leading Canadian producer of documentaries and other motion pictures. He holds the ATCM, and has received both masters and doctors degrees in musical arts from the Eastman School of Music, Rochester, N.Y.

While director of music at York, choirs under his direction won many festival awards, and in 1968 the Lincoln Trophy, the highest choral award in Canada.

In 1969, taking a year's leave of absence, he undertook special projects creating musical scores for the Ontario Expo '70 film and Hudson's Bay Company tercentenary film directed by Christopher Chapman.

In the Spotlight



By MARY MONKS

Eddie Midmer's Dancing Career Had Unusual And Painful Beginning

My first contact with Eddie Midmer was about seven years ago when the Curtain Club enlisted his help as choreographer for a Christmas pantomime. I remember the way in which he produced an effective dance routine by teaching the youngsters, most of whom had no previous experience in dancing, a few simple steps. He understood their limitations, and with considerable patience had a well-drilled chorus line in a very short time. Since then, the name of the Midmer Dance Academy has appeared many times in print in connection with various entertainments, and many young dancers to whom I have talked, and who are now successful professionals, owe their training to the Midmer Academy.

Eddie Midmer's career had an unusual (and painful) beginning. He was advised to take dancing exercises when, as a boy of twelve in England, he was confined to a wheel-chair with crippling rheumatism. It is unnecessary to add that his recovery was complete. Having once become interested in dancing, he studied at the Cunard Studios in London, and after getting his teacher's certificate from the Imperial Society of Teachers, opened his own dancing school in East Ham, London.

Eddie performed as a solo dancer in most of the Odeon Theatres in London and at the famous Leicester Square Theatre, and he met his wife Minnie, also a dancer, when they worked together professionally.

He joined the army in 1939, and throughout the war was entertaining troops in England. In

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Ward System Needed

For several years the Township of Markham and the Town of Richmond Hill have elected councils by wards. The practice has proven very successful, since it assures that every section of the municipality has a voice at the council table. The new Towns of Markham and Richmond Hill will continue to use the ward system for elections, with three members of the municipal council (including the mayor) who will sit on the regional council and representatives on the two school boards, being elected over the whole municipality.

Vaughan Township and the Village of Woodbridge, on the other hand, had never introduced the ward system and so, on the advice of the steering committee set up to study the impact of regional government, have decided to continue to elect all representatives on a municipality-wide basis.

The new Town of Vaughan, under regional government, will be composed of the present township less the mile and a quarter strip between Yonge and Bathurst Streets and between Highway 7 and the Vaughan-King Townline, and plus the Village of Woodbridge. The steering committee was composed of representatives of both municipalities — Administrator James McDonald, Treasurer Howard Burkholder, Reeve Garnet Williams and Councillor John Gilbert for Vaughan and Reeve John McLean, Deputy-reeve Ab Hollingshead and Clerk-Treasurer Bert Young for Woodbridge.

For the past four years representation on the Vaughan Township Council has been fairly widespread, and all areas, rural and urban, front, centre or back have been reasonably well represented. This has not always been the case. Rural voters have been in the habit of going to the polls, have kept up with the transactions of council and have gone to the polls in larger numbers than those living in built-up areas, so that for many years the farming community held the balance of voting power and elected more men to council than did the urban community. It was only the concerted effort of a number of concerned people to get out the voters in the built-up areas, which corrected this imbalance.

The danger of a recurrence of the unfair distribution of council seats remains, however. This year's protest against the greatly increased taxes in urban areas has awakened an interest in local politics in these parts of the township. The people living in the built-up areas now are aware of what goes on in the township and of the fact that they can by hard work and determination be represented where the action is. October 5 gives them an opportunity to wield their newly-found power at the polls. This could mean that the agricultural areas are left without representation.

A ward system for elections would have protected the new Town of Vaughan from such an unfortunate state.

Uniform Building Code Must Allow Prefabrication To Cut Home Costs

Uniform building standards for Ontario will be a very healthy thing.

But they won't cut housing costs very much unless they are modernized and streamlined to recognize new methods of prefabricating homes.

So says Napier Simpson Jr. of Thornhill, architect and chairman of the Markham Township Planning Board.

Mr. Simpson was commenting on a recent announcement by Municipal Affairs Minister Darcy McKeough.

Mr. Simpson told the Ontario Municipal Association annual convention this month in Ottawa that the Ontario Government will implement uniform building standards in the province as soon as possible.

Labor Minister Dalton Bales told the convention his department will appoint two review committees to work out the practicalities of implementing uniform building standards.

Also commenting on the cabinet ministers' announcements, local Developer Camillo Milani said the government moves aren't going to solve the housing problem because land and service costs are mainly responsible

for pushing up housing costs.

He added that unions won't allow housing costs to come down too much, since union salary pressures have been eating up cost savings shortly after savings are accomplished.

Mr. Milani agreed with Architect Simpson that standards allowing housing prefabrication would be one of the keys to cutting home costs. He said Aluminum Company of Canada tried to break into the housing market in Metro with prefabricated homes, but couldn't because of building requirements.

Prefabrication could help some, but land costs will still have to be dealt with, Mr. Milani said. He is president of Milani and Milani Holdings Limited, a firm with major development interests in Vaughan Township after having run out of development land in North York.

Mr. Milani said one of the reasons for higher housing costs today is that there is no competition in land. The municipalities and the province restrict land use. Speculators grab all the available approved land, assemble it and control it.

He said another higher cost factor stems from the fact that lot services now

must be paid for in cash, rather than being amortized over 50 or 60 years as they were in the community of past years. The Ontario H.O.M.E. program was a beginning in solving this problem, he said.

Metro has continually been 10 years behind in the provision of development land. What has been lacking in the last five to seven years has been freedom for the housing industry to plan and program work. This is because the industry is controlled by municipal and provincial planners, Mr. Milani said.

Markham Township Planner Simpson said he hopes uniform building standards come sooner or later. Already many Ontario municipalities go along with the National Building Code, either fully or partly.

But most larger municipalities, including the cities, vary in their requirements. These different standards grew up through municipal history and tradition, but they interfere with such things as contract tenders, he said.

"The building standards around Metro are all kind of 'nuts'," said Mr. Simpson.

For instance, in Metro no

direct door between a house and garage is allowed. This is allowed in most areas outside Metro.

In Toronto cedar shingles are allowed on roofs, but not in North York, he said.

Nearer home, the building requirements in Vaughan Township are absolutely different from those in Markham Township.

Architect Simpson said adoption of a uniform provincial building code will also be important for rural municipalities that haven't yet gotten around to adopting the National Building Code or any other modern standards. The construction of shacks in rural areas would be restricted.

But uniform building standards must allow more prefabricated frame construction of homes if costs are to be reduced very much, in his opinion.

"The only answer for lower cost housing is some form of mass production. For instance, to my knowledge Alcan prefabricated homes aren't accepted anywhere in the Toronto region," Mr. Simpson said.

In announcing plans for developing uniform Ontario building standards, Munic-

ipal Affairs Minister Darcy McKeough said the efficiencies implicit in a system of uniform building and fire safety standards should alleviate some of the serious housing problems now being faced.

"We know that it doesn't present the only solution to the housing crisis, but it is another decisive step in the right direction," Mr. McKeough said.

The government has decided to place the responsibility with the Department of Labor.

According to Labor Minister Bales, one of the committees to be established will be responsible for drafting appropriate legislation. It will examine existing legislation in Ontario and resolve differences that exist between municipal building by-laws, provincial standards, the National Building Code and the National Fire Code.

"The second committee will advise on the necessary organization for effective inspection of building standards, approval procedures, uniform interpretation and enforcement, and developing staff, training and education programs," Mr. Bales said.

He added that a great deal of detail work has to be done

before uniform standards can be introduced. "We will proceed with this as rapidly as possible," he promised.

"We will need to test and discuss the programs these committees develop, on both the public and private sectors, to ensure that all possible difficulties are adequately resolved before legislation is implemented," the labor minister said.

Mr. McKeough said the idea of a universal system of building standards has strong appeal and will result in substantial efficiencies in the planning, design, administration and construction of buildings, as well as in the processing and stocking of building materials.

The Municipal Affairs Minister indicated the matter of cutting housing costs through prefabrication and mass production is one of the things the government has in mind.

Among the benefits resulting from the adoption of uniform standards should be that Ontario technology will be more capable of producing buildings of architectural and functional quality in mass volume, he said.

"It should also mean that industry will be able to reduce and streamline our

present system of complex, multi-purpose inventories, and expand its techniques for manufacturing buildings that are portable, demountable and increasingly adaptable," Mr. McKeough said.

In March 1968 Halton East Tory MLA Jim Snow, a general contractor, urged the Legislature to adopt uniform building standards.

Mr. McKeough in September 1968 set up an advisory committee under an engineering consultant to explore the subject. The Carruthers Committee reported back in January 1970. Among its recommendations were the following:

- Adoption of the National Building Code of Canada 1970 and the National Fire Code of Canada 1970;

- Development of an Ontario Building Code during the transitory stage to include necessary standards not now incorporated in the national codes.

- A review of present legislation and the development of new legislation where necessary;

- The appointment of two interim review committees;
- The establishment of building inspection training and certification.

Susan Brown Writes Of Life In Japan

This is the tenth in a series of feature articles by Susan Brown who is spending the summer in Japan. Susan is a resident of Maryvale Crescent in Langstaff and a third year Honors BA student at Trent University, Peterboro.



Susan and her girl friend are spending the summer tutoring English at a school in Osaka called Osaka Eigo Gakko and living with a Japanese family. They plan to live in this traditional family setting for seven weeks and then spend the last three weeks touring the country especially Hokkaido in Northern Japan.

This year marks Susan's second trip to Japan. She first visited the country in the summer of 1968 at which time she took an introductory language course in Japanese.

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It is hard to believe that we will be leaving Osaka to visit Northern Japan by the end of this week. I feel as if I have been here for ages, but we have been so busy that the time has passed too quickly and I shall be very sorry (sniff!) to say sayonara to all my friends. It's no wonder that at the moment I am remembering many of the little things that made life here so wonderful . . .

We first let it be known that a couple of gajims (foreigners) were in town by going to the local combination department store - supermarket to buy some strawberries. The variety of merchandise was fascinating and ranged from clothing and cosmetics to raw fish and all sorts of weird foods I've never seen or heard of before. Each stand is privately owned like in a market, and regardless of what you buy, it will be wrapped individually and dropped into the shopping basket that you bring from home. As we wandered up and down the aisles wide-eyed with curiosity, we were stared at from every direction. And the fact that we actually bought something was the gossip of Tadaoka for the next two days! How to create a sensation without even trying!

Despite this, my girl friend and I were undaunted and we decided to join the natives in the bimonthly summer "happening" called night shopping. I can best describe this as a mini CNE in which open air stands sell toys, fans, and plants as well as candy floss, corn on the cob, and cuttle fish on a stick. Besides regular carnival games, both young and old can test their skill in the greatest event of all - catching goldfish!

Originating in ancient times, this form of entertainment can be very frustrating since the fishing apparatus is only a piece of paper-like material attached to a round metal frame. Nevertheless, the oriental people appear to get quite a kick out of 'fishing', even if the sleeves of their yukatas (summer kimonos) do get wet! The terrific Japanese enthusiasm plus their colorful traditional dress even made all my mosquito bites (itch, itch) worth while. There is only one thing I don't understand. Do all

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Collectable Canadiana At Black Creek Area

A four-faceted display of "collectable Canadiana" which should be of interest to the collector of early Canadian household equipment is being exhibited in the Dalziel Barn Museum at Black Pioneer Village.

The displays feature household gadgets, drug store glass and old remedy bottles, Canadian-made china, and tin utensils.

The items shown are not antique by age but represent many of the everyday items manufactured in Canada around the turn of the century.

The Barn Museum is an interesting repository of pioneer artifacts and is one of the many places of interest to visitors to the pre-Confederation community located at Jane Street and Steeles Avenue. The village is being developed by Metro Conservation Authority.

Library At Don Mills Shows Browndale Art

Acrylics, water colors and pen and ink drawings are included in an exciting display this month in the downstairs auditorium of the Don Mills Library, 888 Lawrence Avenue East, a couple of blocks west of the Don Valley Parkway.

Average age of the artists is between 13 and 15. They live in the Port of Sydney, Muskoka branch of Browndale. The main branch of Browndale is located at Oak Ridges.

The art these children have created is of an exceptionally high standard. Many pieces are so colorful and joyous most viewers will be surprised to learn that the youngsters came to Browndale because they were considered so severely emotionally disturbed they could not function in society.

The display is the result of an art program at Port Sydney, not an art therapy group. It is under the direction of talented therapist Bill Urban, who is not a therapist or an analyst. The display, a reflection of the emphasis of enjoyable, interesting and good artwork, which happens to have been produced by children who have been classified as emotionally disturbed.

AURORA — One-year-old Caroline Brown, foster child of Mr. and Mrs. E. Atkinson, of Glenview Drive was found dead in her crib recently. It is believed the child had been asphyxiated by her blanket, since she was found with it wrapped about her neck.

Should Holiday Weekends Become Thing Of Past?

(Barrie Examiner)

Are such holiday weekends as Labor Day, etc., going to come to a head? And if they do, would it be such a bad thing? This question was asked editorially by the Owen Sound Daily Sun-Times.

The Civic Holiday Weekend saw many large retail stores in full operation. Reports indicate that business was very good. In Toronto, both Eaton's and Simpson's reported their initial experiment in business as usual on Civic Holiday paid off. Other stores attracted thousands of shoppers.

"In this area summer resort operators look for big business on such holiday weekends," reported the Owen Sound Sun-Times. "Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday proved ideal for such purpose. Tens of thousands of people flocked into the area, overtaxing resort accommodations. In fact, hundreds had no accommodations. A great many of them were young people, including girls who have joined the ranks of hikers. Monday saw Labor Day weather, chill winds, huge waves and, generally, weather not ideal for beach life. As a result, many holidaygoers went home early, particularly those without accommodations."

The great crowds are splendid for resort businesses who profit by transient trade. Those who provide actual living accommodations no doubt also profit, but not to anything like the same degree.

One must wonder whether, on the over-all basis, it is worthwhile. This is particularly so where the hazards to the moral lives of young people are considered. Not many who influence the general atmosphere of such holidays give such matters any consideration. There is no financial profit in it. Yet there can be no doubt such open holidays take a severe toll. Even police court records which follow give clear indication that such is so, though they by no means give the full picture.

The extremes are those who, seeing easy big profits, organize what they call pop festivals. Here young people are encouraged to concentrate in great numbers, given a free rein as to how they conduct themselves, as long they pay their entry fees and have money for liquor and drugs.

Perhaps, in fact, the big stores have the right idea, there should be business as usual on those days now designated as public holidays.