



The Liberal

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Second Thoughts Are Best

We commend Richmond Hill Town Council which, on second thought, decided in special session Friday afternoon to permit a building to be erected on Yonge Street north of Elgin Mills Road to house the provincial courts. Monday evening, council by a 4-2 vote had turned down the application by William McCord and Robert Tompkins, who have in hand a 10-year lease from the Ontario Department of Public Works.

The majority of council, determined that the courts should remain in Richmond Hill and not be transferred to Newmarket, Aurora or Victoria Square, recognized that present zoning regulations in that area were designed for a municipality of 20,000 people with a limited area and that the next few months will see that area balloon and the population almost double.

We recall that when the provincial government was planning to build retail liquor and beer stores here some years ago they would have preferred to locate out of the central core of the town. But pressure was brought to bear on Queen's Park and the stores were located on the corner of Yonge Street and Crosby Avenue, up to then a very quiet intersection. No sooner had the stores been built and in operation, when those who had brought the pressure to bear, who had declared loud and long that this development was needed to revitalize the town's core realized they had made a mistake. The intersection became a nightmare for the police as they strove to handle the increased traffic and this

same traffic interfered with other businesses in the area. Passing years and increased population have added to this serious traffic problem.

It appeared for a time that we had forgotten that lesson — that government agencies responsible for buildings such as liquor stores, beer stores and court facilities have learned, through bitter experience, that they must be located outside the central core of a municipality, where ample parking space is available and where traffic problems may be kept to a minimum.

Unfortunately there were still two councillors Friday, Lois Hancey and David Schiller, who took exception to the approval being granted — on the grounds that such development should be contained in a civic centre proposed for the southwest corner of Vaughan Road and Yonge Street and included in the long-range BAIF plans. Since the BAIF principals have been working on their plans with Vaughan Township since 1963 and have yet to get a shovel in the ground or to ensure an adequate supply of municipal water, it is unlikely that this 99-acre site would be available for several years, we believe.

Crowded conditions in the present courtroom in the town building and lack of essential facilities for daily court proceedings makes the need for roomier accommodation and ample parking immediate and urgent. If they are not built here, they would be built elsewhere, inconveniencing our citizens, our lawyers and our police force.



(Photo by Stuart's Studio)

Thanksgiving — 1970

Next Monday is Thanksgiving and in most cases families throughout York County will be enjoying the traditional Thanksgiving fare of roast turkey with all the trimmings.

Scouting In Action

Well over 600 residents of the Hill dropped in on St. Gabriel's Anglican Church at Bayview and Crosby Avenues on the weekend of September 25-27 to see an example of Scouting in action. The more than 100 Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and leaders of the 3rd Richmond Hill put on a dynamic display of the values of Scouting.

The annual event started on Friday night when the Scouts and Venturers put up a gate over the church driveway. After they had finished, about 20 boys stayed the night in tents on the church lawn.



to sink the bean pot into a specially prepared hole. Then 240 pounds of beef were put onto spits and into ovens. Forty chickens and ten rabbits were prepared for the Scouts to cook when dawn came. Peace until dawn.

Then with the light the boys got up and made fireplaces and put the chickens and rabbits onto homemade spits. At 10:30 am a special church service for Cubs, Brownies, Scouts and Guides was held. Vernon Stringer read the Scripture lesson.

Upon completion of the service, dinner began. At least 400 people ate in Scouter Riley's outdoor kitchen.

Several local dignitaries were in attendance at the dinner, among them Mayor William Lazenby, Deputy-Reeve Ivan Mansbridge and Councillors David Schiller and Lois Hancey.

Even though the group committee will have to absorb a slight loss there is no doubt in anyone's mind about the success of the show, and it is sure to be back next year. Don't miss it.

Studded Tires On Ice

(Hamilton Spectator)

Ontario intends to ban studded tires, over the objections of tire and stud makers. The government's case, on the surface, is strong if it holds up under the fire it is sure to draw, no amount of pressure should push the government off course.

The government says, in effect, road damage caused by studs creates more dangers than those that studs are claimed to overcome. In the process, studs grind up a lot of costly pavement that taxpayers must replace. The cost could run to \$127 million in the next 10 years, provincial engineers estimate.

Another strong point: last winter's studies showed icy conditions in which studded tires gave their best safety performance averaged only 1.1 per cent of total day-miles.

The government's research and conclusions can and, no doubt will be argued and rightly so. The ban would affect about a third of Ontario's motorists, all of the taxpayers and the life-and-death business of traffic safety; therefore its validity ought to be beyond doubt.

Manufacturers, dealers and a million motorists might like and want studded tires but the question isn't a popularity contest. Quite a few people would vote to get by without licenses and speed limits, given a chance.

There may be scope for moderation in the original proposal. An Ontario Motor League spokesman said a prohibition is valid in the south but "Northern Ontario is a far different story."

The league and other interested parties should be given a chance to submit evidence before a province-wide prohibition is imposed.

There's time for solid research on both sides and time to compare findings, since the government doesn't intend to abolish studs until next April 30.

If the final analysis bears out the government's original contention — that studs destroy road surface and create more hazards than they prevent — Queen's Park should ban studded tires on schedule.

MONGOLIA — The famous elm tree on 18th Avenue, Markham Township, west of here, may be dead but the history will live on. Town native residents of the area are preparing a plate with an engraving of the tree and information.

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF BOOKS

RICHMOND HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Plan Busy Fall-Winter Program

Summer time brings many personal and very special pleasures, but to patrons and staff of the Richmond Hill Public Library it also means an added delight in the sight and perfume of the many lovely floral arrangements displayed during the past few months by members of the horticultural society. Once more the flower beds in the front of the library have been ablaze with color all season, through the generosity of the society who have undertaken this beautification project for many years.

The Richmond Hill Naturalists enjoyed a display of seventy four books at their monthly meeting held recently in the library auditorium. This wide selection of books on birds, mammals, insects and plant life were donated to the library by the Naturalists and are now available for use by both adult and juvenile library borrowers.

Would you like to improve your knowledge of life in the insect world? Then why not take a few minutes to stop by the library showcase wherein specimens, collected by children attending the YWCA summer camp, are displayed. Everything from a whirligig beetle to a pine sawyer are artistically arranged, and, if you are inspired to start your very own collection, why not take home one of the recently donated books, "Insects", by Herbert Zim. A wonderful source of reference.

Fall and winter library activities get into full swing on October 17 with the first of the season's story hours held for children each Saturday morning from 10.30 am to 11.15 am. An exciting programme of films, crafts, singing games, stories and special guest visits has been planned for the coming months in the Gordon McLaren Auditorium.

If you are interested in discussion and would like to join a small group of people participating in a "Great Books Programme", we invite you to call the library at 884-3563 for further information.

Letters to the Editors

STUDED SNOW TIRES

(The following letter by Keith)

(leby resident G. E. Watson has been sent to Highways Minister George Gomme at Queen's Park.)

Dear Sir:
A recent news item has it that studded winter tires are to be banned on all roads in Ontario after April 30, 1971. This would be a gross injustice to many rural dwellers.

For my wife and myself, a four-wheel drive jeep with standard snow tires only just makes it, and can be condemnably dangerous. The same jeep, be-studded on four wheels, enables us to be agile and safe.

Since much of our winter driving is done off paved roads it is difficult to believe that we are causing expensive damage to road surfaces in our area.

Many of our neighbors, like ourselves, feel that the cost of an extra set of wheels to carry studded tires should be allowed to amortize over some years. Also, in considerations, is the cost of the studded tires themselves.

Only a few years ago we were told that the police recommend studs. Do they still? We were told that the Department of Highways approved studs. Don't they? We, the motorists, bought, and now stand condemned. Why?

In the name of maxi-taxed, mini-privileged motorists of Ontario, I ask, please: tax studs if you must; but let not the curse of "total ban" fall over so many people whose only fault can be "we only do as they recommend".

G. E. WATSON,
Hemlock Hill,
Kettleby.

Barber Shop Singers Meet Competition

The Barber Shop Singers' Ontario District Fall Convention and Contest will be open to the public this year, and the convention's public relations chairman, Albert Cushing of Toronto predicts a "real harmony weekend."

Contests will take place in the Concert Hall of the Royal York Hotel October 16, 17 and 18, beginning with quartet semi-finals and dance at 8 pm October 16.

The following afternoon there will be a chorus contest, and in the evening quartet finals and show.

Members of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America will be coming from all over Ontario. Tickets for convention events may be obtained in advance from Arnott Curtis, 251 Empress Avenue, Willowdale.

A meeting was held September 21 in Thornhill Community Centre on Royal Orchard Road to organize a SPEBSQSA chapter in the Thornhill-Willowdale area, and Mr. Cushing reports that a Richmond Hill Chapter is now in the process of being organized.

Enterprising Man Of Business

Democracy is a form of civilization that has evolved from the experience of mankind. It thrives on its freedom to revise its laws as new forms develop. The transition of humanity from cave dwelling to civilization has been slow and tortuous. Some areas are still enduring slavery under despots and in others there are varying degrees of regimentation devised by bureaucratic socialist and communist governments. Freely elected democratic governments of statutory tenure, based on individual freedom within the law, have proved to be the most rewarding to humanity both materially and spiritually.

Freedom within democracy encourages everyone to develop to his potential and to express his opinions. It is fitting that the gifted few among us with the imagination to conceive, the capability to organize, and the executive talent to manage successfully should be encouraged.

While happiness is not entirely dependent on material factors, good food, clothing, shelter, and a few amenities do help. It would be well for us to stop taking the general availability of these things for granted, and realize they exist primarily because of the ability of these few men capable of originating, organizing and managing our affairs.

It is regrettable that there is not a greater awareness and appreciation of their importance. It is also regrettable that their incomes should seem so noteworthy. Considering our huge production of goods and services, the percentage these men consume is infinitesimal, and does not deprive anyone. Their critics would

be fewer and less concerned if they were more generally known what a large percentage of their income and accumulated wealth is returned to the state in income and estate taxes.

The significant consideration should be to keep the special privilege "carrot" large enough to be effective in keeping them interested. The much maligned profit motive is still the best method. Eighteen-hour days, tension-induced ulcers and fore-shortened lives, surely entitle them to any extras they may acquire. The fewer goods and perquisites the rest of us have are still substantial and rather wonderful, and in comparison our relaxed lives seem infinitely preferable.

It behoves government and organized labor to stop taking these gifted men for granted. They should rather be concerned by the danger of losing them. The handicap to their efforts imposed by excessive taxes and untimely labor demands may well drive them to greener pastures. Industry in Canada's economy has almost overnight become the dominant segment, and the comparatively small internal market makes exports vital.

It is imperative that profits be made, and enough retained to enable management to purchase improved machinery and build the efficient plants that are necessary to insure our products are competitive and employment secure. We desperately need these men capable of originating, organizing and managing as never before, and if we lose them the yeast will truly have gone from our national bread.

Old Records Show Teacher's Pay \$450 At Lemonville School In 1912

In 1912, Lemonville School Teacher Mary Cook received \$450 in salary, and by 1916 her earnings had gone up to \$565.

These facts, and much more interesting information came to light recently when a York County Board of Education maintenance man heard a radio broadcast asking that old records from county schools be turned over to the board.

The staff member recalled seeing old records at Lemonville School, now closed but used for equipment storage.

These turned out to be old registers and account books dating from 1893, for School Section 9, Township of Whitchurch.

A quick examination revealed that in 1912 income of the school section was \$710.22, including \$36 from the Clergy Reserve Fund, a legislative grant of \$65, a county grant of \$20.70, and tax receipts of \$408.53. This makes the provincial contribution less than ten percent, compared to the 47 percent received by York County this year.

The records reveal that in that year, Miss Cook was paid \$36 in June, \$65 in August, and

the "balance of teacher salary" on December 24. Presumably she was a good manager and was able to live on past savings for the bulk of the year.

By 1924 the teacher's salary had gone up to \$1,000, but then came the depression, and in 1930 the salary was cut back to \$850, to \$700 in 1932, to \$600 in 1933, and hit a low of \$500 in 1934.

An old log book entry for 1937 reports that "The new inside toilets were approved by Dr. Williams, MOH, Aurora, and a sanitary drinking pail was installed."

Books for 1911 to 1917 were signed as audited by H. C. Burkholder who is thought to be a relative of present Vaughan Township Treasurer Howard Burkholder, whose family comes from the Bethesda area in Whitchurch Township.

The board is still looking for old records of schools or former schools in the county, and anyone with knowledge of their whereabouts is asked to contact Communications Officer Margaret McLean, Box 40, Aurora, 884-8131, or 727-3141.

Thanksgiving Dinner

If you want to enjoy a real, old-fashioned family Thanksgiving Dinner this fall but don't want to do the cooking yourself, then the Half Way House restaurant at Black Creek Pioneer Village is for you.

This authentic recreation of a pre-Confederation inn will be serving an old-fashioned turkey dinner from October 10 to October 12 between 11:30 am and 5 pm each day, for only \$4.50 per person.

Black Creek Pioneer Village is located at Jane Street and Steeles Avenue.

Reservations to savour this delicious home style meal can be made by phoning 481-3233, extension 29, on weekdays, or 636-4713 on weekends. The

Half-Way House is open on weekends at this time of the year if you are planning to visit it at another time. Menu for this year's Thanksgiving feast is:
MAIN COURSE
Spiced Apple Cider
Crusty Loaf of Bread with Butter
Upper Canada Pea Soup Supreme
Tossed Garden Greens
Thanksgiving Roast Turkey with Old Fashioned Stuffing
Cranberry Sauce
Mashed Potatoes
Glazed Squash
Tea or Coffee and Mints
DESSERT
Spiced Pumpkin Pie with Maple Syrup



Don Deacon

MLA York Centre
Reports

Assessment Appeals

The assessment notices were mailed to all property owners in mid-September. In most cases, the assessment is much the same as a year ago when the "market value" assessment policy was first made effective in this area. However, some land, particularly near Yonge Street, has been subject to a sharp increase this year due to sales which occurred in the neighborhood during the past year.

It is important to understand that the basic principle of assessment valuation under the new Assessment Act is the full CASH price you can reasonably expect to receive for your property. If you believe the cash value you could obtain for your property is less than the assessed value you should appeal the assessment. This is done by signing and returning the assessment notice where indicated as soon as possible and, in any event, not later than 29 days from when it was mailed

to you. Send your appeal by registered mail and keep a copy and the mail receipt. It is important to remember that land and buildings are not being valued separately. If you believe the assessment value of "land locked" parcels of land (that is surplus land which cannot be divided for building purposes) is based on land sales nearby where development is permitted, you should appeal it. Remember that the cash value which you can expect for the entire property is, including land and buildings, is the criterion.

Appeals to the county judge of last year's assessment (or which 1970 taxes have been based) are finally being heard. Municipalities will refund any overpayment of taxes resulting from reduction of the assessment. Don't wait until you receive next year's tax bill to act on this year's assessment. The time to act is now.

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THORNHILL 889-1059

Credit Union Week PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the credit union movement is now in its second century of service, and
WHEREAS, credit union members throughout the world will celebrate International Credit Union Week during October 11-17, 1970, and
WHEREAS, credit unions provide an invaluable means whereby consumers may pool their savings, and assist themselves to fill their needs for credit at a low cost, and
WHEREAS, credit unions have proved an effective and versatile tool for combating usury, unfair credit practices, educating consumers, and encouraging thrift, and
WHEREAS, these credit unions not only promote the economic security of their members, but also strengthen democracy, promote consumer education, encourage individual responsibility and the practice of true brotherhood and thus benefit our entire community, and
WHEREAS, the Province of Ontario has 1,500 credit unions whose combined membership totals 1,100,000, and the Town of Richmond Hill has a community credit union with 700 members;

I DO HEREBY PROCLAIM October 11-17, 1970 as Credit Union Week

to be observed in Richmond Hill and urge our people to give fitting recognition at this time to the many benefits brought to them through credit unions.

AND ON THIS OCCASION, I extend to the leaders and members of the credit union of Richmond Hill my greetings, congratulations, and sincere wishes for continued success in serving their fellowmen.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Town of Richmond Hill

William C. Lazenby
William C. Lazenby, Mayor

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN