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A Momentous Decision

Municipal politicians in this area of Central York will be faced within the next few months with making a major decision on the province's proposal to provide Lake Ontario-based water and sewage services. This decision will have a permanent effect on all future development.

After reading the report given June 16 by Minister of the Environment James Auld, we believe that the municipalities really have no choice. If they are to continue to develop, an adequate supply of water and increased sewage disposal facilities are a must.

The Minister's statement, based on a report by Gore and Storey, points out that the water table level is constantly dropping in this area and that ground water is not available in sufficient quantities to accommodate expected growth. Unless a supply of water is made available from Lake Ontario, the problems of water shortage throughout the southern portion of the Region of York, which have plagued residents for the past few years, will be magnified many times.

Adequate sewage treatment facilities are also of paramount importance. But whether or not the Minister's recommendation for a treatment plant on Duffin's Creek, to which all sewage from Woodbridge to the proposed new international airport and new 200,000 city of North Pickering will be channelled, is the best solution is a debatable point. Certainly, it is recommended by Gore & Storey, recognized authorities. But other equally reputable engineering consultants have argued that sewage will not travel that far without turning septic, unless some primary treatment (which is not specified in the report) is given.

Gore and Storey in mid-1967 presented similar recommendations for this area, which municipal councils found themselves unable to endorse because of the cost factor. Now the recommendations have been extended to include the airport, the new town and other areas in Pickering Township, Aurora and Newmarket, and the cost is still a discouraging factor.

Since both water and sewage disposal services are self-sustaining, the greatly increased costs will be assessed back to those who use them. The charge on sewage is on gallonage, which emphasizes the need for the study of ground water infiltration of the system recently approved by Richmond Hill council. Residents must not be charged for the process-

ing of one extra gallon of water which may be prevented from entering the system.

The extension of services to the airport and North Pickering and of sewage disposal to Aurora and Newmarket, also raises questions. Will the people of this area, in fact, be subsidizing the people of those areas?

Another question which is raised by the report is whether the location of the airport determined the location of the new town or was it the other way around? Was this a perfect opportunity for the provincial government to implement a recommendation of the Toronto-Centred Plan for encouragement of growth to the east of Metro and the establishment of satellite cities?

Does this report by the Minister of the Environment add further rigidity to the population figures set out in the Toronto-Centred Plan? Minister of the Treasury, Economics and Governmental Affairs Darcy McKeough has repeatedly stated that these figures are negotiable, but all that has happened since the plan was first unveiled two years ago are minor adjustments in the figures. But these are the population densities on which the plans for trunk sewers and water mains will be based, which would lead one to believe that they will stand unchanged.

Richmond Hill will reach its 67,000 top figure within the next few years with the development of already approved subdivisions and some infilling. Is the town to stagnate until the year 2,000? The Towns of Markham and Vaughan face similar limitations.

The province will contribute only 15% of the total cost of the two projects, the rest will be assessed to the municipalities in the gallonage charge, but the facilities will remain the property of the province for all time. Besides this charge, the municipalities will have to maintain the internal distribution and collection systems and pay off the existing capital costs.

It's an expensive picture! Is there room for any negotiation?

These questions will have to be answered by the local politicians in arriving at their conclusions, and we believe that they can only agree to the proposals, however expensive they may be. After all, the OWRC must approve all water and sewage construction and can hamstring the municipalities by refusing its consent to wells and upstream disposal plants.

Where Socialism ENDS

(GUEST EDITORIAL — WINNIPEG FREE PRESS)

A future British Labor Government will drastically increase government expenditures, liquidate all private wealth and bring about a levelling of incomes. The program has been outlined in a pamphlet published by the Labor Party and written by Michael Stewart, formerly an economic adviser at the treasury and a senior economic adviser to former Prime Minister Harold Wilson.

Full employment and redistribution of income should be the main economic objective of a Labor Government. It would include fierce taxation of wealth and savings, heavy indirect taxation on "trivial" goods, restriction of advertising and further wholesale nationalization. Mr. Stewart argues that the program should be based on the levelling of incomes rather than on future growth, and that government expenditure is the best form of redistributing incomes.

This indeed is the policy pursued by the Olof Palme Socialist Government in Sweden, a policy of pure Socialism that has succeeded in sending \$3,000 people a year to mental hospitals and is responsible for the world's largest per capita consumption of alcoholic spirits.

The picture of life in this Western Socialist paradise has been described by Dr. Hans Lahman, a Swedish psychiatrist, commissioned to investigate the growing deterioration in the Swedes' mental health: "Mother and father awake at 5:30 am in their cramped, barrack-style apartment, drag the children to a foster home and then stagger bleary-eyed to the factory. There for almost nine hours the attempt to fulfill sometimes impossible production norms. At night they slump, exhausted, in the silent underground cars that whisk them home to a dinner of sausage and boiled potatoes. Food prices being the world's highest, this is all

they can afford."

The society is harsh, and the citizens are required to work even harder to pay for the heavily taxed consumer goods and exorbitantly priced government-owned housing. The heavy taxation provides "levelled-up" income for the increasing number of drop-outs. The more drop-outs the harder the rest have to work.

Everything is public knowledge, all income tax returns are on public record, all private initiative is severely discouraged. Anybody wanting to own his own home has to fill in no less than 192 forms and, if a permit is granted, permission from the government is required to paint it a color different from that prescribed for the district. All private schools are being closed down.

In short, what the levelling and "redistribution" of income really means is that "Daddy Bureaucrat" knows best. By different levels of taxation he tells the people what they can and cannot have. Life becomes dreary beyond measure. It is a strange attribute of all Socialist societies, be they behind the Iron Curtain or in Scandinavia, that strong drink — vodka or schnapps — becomes the only release that makes the computerized, regimented life bearable. Yet the planners, the "human engineers" and the utopian-mongers will not learn. They want a society that is absolutely equal, something contrary to human nature. What's more, they don't understand the society they are creating, nor the one in which they live. A Swedish psychiatrist, who has treated a number of senior government officials, says they collapse when their belief that one person functions exactly like another is shattered by experience. "They become bewildered, pained and even indignant."



Inspection RSCC "Patriot" And NLCC "Compass Rose"

Officers and cadets of RSCC "Patriot" and NLCC Compass Rose, Richmond Hill welcomed inspecting Officer Lt.-Cmdr. J. K. Steele, CD, at their annual inspection held June 12 at Wrixon Hall. An enthusiastic audience of parents and friends witnessed an exceptionally fine turnout in addition to well executed drill and seamanship exercises. The evening concluded with refreshments and an "open house" inspection of ship's quarters. The above picture was taken during the inspection of RSCC "Patriot".

The Sea Cadet Committee welcomed the following dignitaries: Barney Danson MP, York North; Garth Lorrain and Lt.-Cmdr. Joseph Duffie, CD, directors and Lt.-Cmdr. Joseph Jeffries, CD, provincial secretary Ontario Division Navy League of Canada; and Herb Walton, past president Kenora-Kewatin Branch.

In an address to the corps the inspecting officer said that as a career sailor it was very easy to get too close to the woods to see the trees and that it was indeed a refreshing experience to see at first hand what a group of young volunteers was doing. He offered special congratulations to officers and cadets for their high level of enthusiasm.

Receiving attendance awards were Petty Officer John Evans, Petty Officer 2nd Class Nicholas Cardwell, Leading Cadet Andrew Paterdorfer, Leading Cadet Wayne Tutt, Leading Cadet Dale Doige received the attendance prize; Able Cadet Leonard Harron, the executive officers prize; Leading Cadet Jim Prier, the seamanship prize; Petty Officer 2nd Class Cardwell, the leading cadet award; and Leading Cadet Michael Knee, the captain's prize.

Letters to the Editors

IN DEFENSE OF TEACHERS

Dear Mr. Editor:

I must say that I take considerable exception to your article by John MacRae entitled "Teachers' Games", in the June 29 issue of "The Liberal". I am not aware of the writers, but judging from the article I would gauge him to be a frustrated elementary school student.

This sort of destructive criticism is of no value and does a considerable disservice to the teachers who do their best to perform a difficult task well. Nobody would deny that there are good and bad teachers, any more than one could deny there are good and bad writers. I suppose the ratio is much the same in all occupations, but as far as end of term "teachers' games" are concerned, any continuity of education is destroyed once the report cards have been handed out, and yet the teachers are expected to teach in the elementary schools to the bitter end.

I personally get very tired of this continuous sniping at the teaching profession, although not a teacher myself, particularly at a time when parents have relegated to these teachers more and more of their former responsibilities in the rearing of our future citizens. We, as parents, should surely be supporting and helping the teachers and not constantly criticizing. They do a difficult job that very few of us would care to take on in their place.

WILLIAM HARRIS, 407 Becker Road, Richmond Hill.

SIXTY PLUS

Dear Mr. Editor:

"The Lord helps those who help themselves", sure he does so why should we lament about the so-called indifferent society. Let's show society what we can do for ourselves. I am a widow age sixty-six and not so very robust, but I look forward to each day. I have my sight and my hearing and can still get around just fine despite arthritis in my knee. I believe in doing my own thing, life is a challenge.

Recently I thought I would try my hand at writing an article. After many rejection slips, one editor saw some merit in my work and accepted it. What a thrill to be competing with clever educated people and winning through. I thought this might be a fluke but no, just before I came to Canada for a prolonged visit, I had another article accepted by the same editor. This was particularly gratifying since the magazine is an exclusive tourist one and distributed in many countries. The nostalgia in my writing was evidently what the editor had been looking for. He felt it might appeal to the many Scottish exiles scattered throughout the Commonwealth.

Now I have given up my home in Glasgow and sometime in August I will be on the Island of Islay, helping my son and his family to build up a business which he has just recently acquired. Oh yes, there has been a lot of headshaking over my decision but right now I am 'rarin' to go. I have no doubts, God will help me as he has always done. So you see the longest journey begins with the first step and you alone must do that. Without being aggressive we, the senior citizens, can be independent, self reliant people and perhaps by becoming part of society again it will not seem to be so different.

MRS. ELIZABETH JOHNSTON 15 Rothsay Road, Thornhill.

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In the Spotlight



By MONA A. ROBERTSON

Tally Ho! And All That!

The other day I was standing on the front steps of the town hall admiring the beautiful blue Colorado spruce — which, along with the colorful rose garden, graces the town's main street — when a voice nearby exclaimed, "Isn't it a beauty?"

Turning to agree, I noticed a tall, jolly senior citizen-type, who identified himself to me as the "former owner" of Richmond Hill's glorious (Christmas Tree) spruce. Sid Cropley is his name. And later, when I visited Sid and his wife Dorothy in their Richmond Hill home, I discovered "happy is his name" — due to a serene and attractive wife, and a lifetime lived to help and serve others.

How did the tree come to be planted where it is? Sid Cropley told me: The municipal tree started off as a seedling some years ago, when Sid and his wife resided at Lake Wilcox. (I thought, "What a coincidence" — for this was long before regional government enveloped the "Lake" area within the boundaries of the new Town of Richmond Hill in 1971).

Sid said it was a fine, strong little spruce tree, and when the Cropleys moved to Benson Avenue in Richmond Hill, they transplanted the small tree there.

Time passed and eventually their home on Benson Avenue gave place to an apartment building. At this time the tree, still small enough to be moved, had its final relocation when Sid presented it as a gift to the town.

Many now stop to admire the great, tall, beautiful blue spruce which has flourished in its present location, and around which the landscaping for the town hall has been planned, over the years.

As we stood chatting I discerned Sid was an eloquent speaker. Not only that, but when he briefly spoke about his offer to the town of some of his antiques for Centennial Year 1973 — I arranged there and then to visit his home, meet his good wife and put them "In The Spotlight". (Also, I was in-

(Continued on Page 14)

Province Has Final Say Lake Erie Plans

The province will have the responsibility of implementing any new development plans for the Lake Erie Region, James Wessinger said in London recently.

Mr. Wessinger, a senior provincial planner, said, however, the government hopes to establish guidelines for the plan which would not interfere with local planning responsibilities.

At the same time, Premier William Davis, speaking in the Legislature, said that Ontario will speed up the long-term expansion of local government by creating larger operating units.

Mr. Davis said development had been urged for an area northeast of Toronto, which involved some 200 municipalities.

Wessinger outlined three alternative development proposals for the Lake Erie Region, on which the province is seeking public opinion. The proposals have been under considerable fire from local municipalities since first being announced in April by Provincial Treasurer Darcy McKeough.

He said that support seemed "almost even" among the three plans, although there were many who would like to see a deliberate concentration of growth in a limited number of centres, with London and a new community at Nanticoke dominating the region, as proposed in one of the plans.

Another alternative calls for modification of present development trends, with London forming the hinge

of the "Big L", with St. Thomas forming the short southern leg of the L, and Woodstock forming the longer, easterly arm.

Strathroy Mayor Larry Condon objected to his town's exclusion from the "Big L" Plan, and suggested Strathroy think about splitting with Middlesex County and joining with smaller municipalities in the west.

The third alternative would see the development of a second transportation corridor similar to the 401, and running from St. Thomas through to Simcoe and the Lake Erie shoreline.

In Toronto, Premier Davis also implied Ontario would be moving toward an Official Plan for the entire province. He said the existing sys-

tem of 10 economic regions adopted by the province in the mid-50s would go, as it was no longer adequate for regional development purposes. The province would be split into five planning regions effective January 1, he said.

London would be included in the Southern and Western Ontario Region, and Northeastern Ontario and Northwestern Ontario making up the four other areas.

The Premier said the province planned to work closely with municipal governments in the regional development programs. But he said it was unlikely that the establishment of regional municipalities would be necessary throughout the whole province.

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF BOOKS

RICHMOND HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Summer Fun For Children

Mrs. Frances Kucera and assistant, Miss Anna Marchione, staff of the children's room of the Richmond Hill Public Library are busily preparing for summer activities guaranteed to ensure lots of fun and reading for local children staying in the Hill during the coming vacation.

The regular Wednesday afternoon storey hour for pre-school children will continue each week at 2:30 pm with a programme for the very young of easy crafts, films and picture book stories. On the same afternoon, at 4:00 pm, members of the book club, children in grades 2 to 8, meet for an hour of book reviews, discussion, crafts and films. All children are most welcome to attend these programmes.

Local day camps and organizations have allotted time to visit the library for tours, varied programmes and of course to enjoy a selection of books to browse through on those, dare we mention it, rainy days!

Mrs. Suzanne Turner of the film department will continue to visit the parks and recreation summer playgrounds throughout the season with a varied selection of films from the library collection. Any member of the library staff will be happy to give you further details. Please call 884-9288.

Public Safety Must Come First

(London Free Press)

Although the successes recorded by Ottawa's liberalized prison-leave and parole program far outnumber its failures, the failures have been frequent and appalling enough to command the review ordered by Federal Solicitor-General Jean Pierre Goyer.

The tragedy in British Columbia—the sex-slaying of a seven-year-old girl—which resulted in a murder charge against an imprisoned sex offender, recently free on a three-day leave, left Mr. Goyer no choice but to cancel all leaves for dangerous sexual offenders. The public would have demanded it. In fact, during the reassessment of present practices, leaves should be suspended for inmates with violent backgrounds of any kind.

The program must be strengthened and more safeguards added for the public. This will inevitably mean more restricted use of temporary leaves and parole for individuals imprisoned for violent crimes. They cannot be viewed merely as unfortunate victims of social circumstances who were driven to violence. In some cases, they are individuals with uncontrollably violent impulses and society must be protected from them. Human lives are at stake.

Guilt has not been established in the B.C. slaying — as Mr. Goyer was quick to admit. That is for the courts to determine.

There was earlier evidence to indicate that the policy of granting temporary leaves, if not the whole federal parole system, required re-examination: the celebrated case of convicted wife-killer Yves Geofroy, who was given leave to get married and promptly disappeared; the Londoner, serving a life sentence for a brutally-plotted murder committed as a teenager, who shot and wounded two men after overstaying his prison leave; the disappearance on leave of the convicted murderer of an elderly Ottawa-area woman who was stabbed 80 times.

Canadians should no longer be expected to accept with forbearance the unnecessary risks involved in Ottawa giving temporary leaves or parole to offenders who have clearly demonstrated violent tendencies. They must be confined.

The problem is to determine who should be kept behind bars and who should get a break through temporary leave, day parole or full parole. Such judgments are especially vulnerable to error when a prisoner has a record of violence.

SELL YOUR UNWANTABLES

PHONE 884-1105

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

In the Estate of KAARINA RITCHIE, deceased. All persons having claims against the Estate of KAARINA RITCHIE late of the Town of Richmond Hill, who died on or about the 30th day of November, 1969, are hereby notified to send particulars of same to the undersigned on or before the 21st day of July, 1972, after which date the Estate will be distributed, with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice, and the undersigned will not be liable to any person of whose claim he shall not then have notice.

DATED at Toronto this 28th day of June, 1972.

RUDDY RITCHIE
by his Solicitors
RAYMOND &
HONSBARGER
85 Richmond St. W.
Toronto 110, Ontario.

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