

CNA The Liberal

An Independent Weekly: Established 1878

Subscription Rate \$6.00 per year; to United States \$7.00; 15¢ single copy
Member Audit Bureau of Circulations
Member Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association
Published by Richmond Hill Liberal Publishing Co. Ltd.
W. S. COOK, Publisher
"Second class mail, registration number 0190"



Let's Save Sunday Rest

The fast pace of development here in Southern York Region is going to put increasing emphasis on a number of social issues, not the least of which is the question of Sunday closing regulations for stores and other commercial endeavors.

Therefore, a recent decision of the Alberta Supreme Court has considerable significance for Southern York residents and could even play a part in forcing the issue to some sort of conclusion here and elsewhere in Ontario.

Probably the large majority, rightly or wrongly, would agree Mr. Justice Harold Riley of Alberta has properly ruled that working on Sunday isn't a crime, despite the provisions of the 1906 federal Lord's Day Act. The Alberta Judge was right when he said the 66 year old law is archaic in the eyes of society in general today.

But this doesn't mean the effects of the court's decision are going to be desirable in Alberta, or here either, if our Ontario courts follow this precedent. The old law is gradually going out of existence by default and there is nothing to replace it. The result is a vacuum in which suffering and social wrong may thrive.

On previous occasions we have advocated urgently that this problem should be given the attention it deserves. But it seems to be a nettle which our legislators fear to grasp. Granted, it is a complex issue fraught with emotion and differences of outlook. Coming to a new legislative consensus on Sunday closing could make the long battle over liquor laws look like a Sunday picnic. Nevertheless the matter must be resolved.

The matter of Sunday closing hasn't proven to be a very large problem here as yet. But with continued

growth the handwriting is on the wall.

More and more the big stores and shopping complexes are moving toward staying open at times when they have traditionally been closed. This is a further threat to family and community life, tending to fragment individuals into unrelated age groups and surroundings. It threatens the ties that buttress our lives against anti-social behavior.

Workers should be free to attend church or be with their families and neighbors on Sunday. It isn't a matter of forcing religion on anyone when stores are forced to close. But when business concerns on Sunday stay open, it is a matter of forcing people to work every day of the week. And the people put in this unhappy position are most often likely to be those already having the most difficult time, the people who are the lowest paid or marginally employed, the people who are least able to defend themselves.

Legislation to replace the Lord's Day Act needn't close up everything on Sunday so people are deprived of emergency necessities or recreational activities. Corner stores and drug stores can still remain open to cater to immediate human needs while major commerce ceases. Commercial and manufacturing activities could be allowed to carry on on Sunday for emergency or essential reasons, as long as workers are assured sufficient extra Sunday pay and benefits to normally discourage Sunday work. Somehow the slow creeping destruction of our Sunday rest day must be stopped. We hope this Alberta court decision striking down an archaic law will be the event which will bring about a new and better law. Let it not be just another step in the destruction of our traditional day of rest.



Milktops And Ontario Place

Up to their necks in success, Ontario Place Milk Booth Attendants Sue Green (left) and Donna Davis stand under a shower of some of the 3/4 million milktops received during the Ontario Milk Marketing Board's Ontario Place promotion this year. Approximately 50,000 people

exchanged 15 milk proofs of purchase each to gain free admission to Toronto's waterfront fun spot during the promotion which lasted from July 1 to August 15. This was 6,000 more than last year's promotion which ran two weeks longer.

Letters to the Editors

OPPOSES FURTHER FINANCIAL AID TO MP'S

Four years ago, three candidates seeking federal office spoke at King City Secondary School, of the three, John Roberts seemed to have the most vitality and life and he got our vote. Shortly after the federal election, we heard of the passing on of Senator Wallace McCutcheon who was also one of the three 1968 federal candidates for York Simcoe Riding.

Evidently our initial evaluation of John Roberts the winner was very wrong for during this term of government we were wondering if he had not suffered the same fate as the Senator. We were certain that if he had, we would have heard the news so we assumed that Mr. Roberts was following in the footsteps of his leader Prime Minister Trudeau and was probably off vacationing somewhere. But now, lo and behold, with the rumblings of another federal election afoot, we have received a few pamphlets and now a poll to fill out.

After having read the poll, we were appalled at the hint that public funds should be available to pay the election expenses of federal candidates who seek a position which pays them almost \$30,000 annually from the public treasury.

Some nerve! After taking us for a ride, he wants a free ride to take us for another ride. CARL and JANE MULCAHEY, Oak Ridges.

POLITICIANS SHOULD HEED PEOPLES' WISHES

Dear Mr. Editor: Many families are dismayed at the application of Buttonville Airport for the extension of their facilities. Further, it is my opinion that Markham Council has been too deaf for too long for the requests and sentiments of the people to carry out the force of listening to a jet aircraft taking off and landing as much concerned with noise as it is with revenue — getting it would have already restricted the use of Seabee aircraft and Harvard aircraft and one or two other aircraft.

Further, regarding airports, most people in this area are not of the grass-cheating variety from Beamsville as the politicians might think. We are not fooled by the two airport meet-

ings — the Pickering and Buttonville Airport being arranged on the same day at different places. It appears that while many politicians today outdo Belshazzar's feast with banqueting and wine-drinking they are blinded and cannot read the writing on the wall.

In case you have forgotten you are servants of the majority of the public, and not lackeys to a few poor wilted individuals with a lot of money.

Isaiah in his day addressed a political rally as follows. You will find it in Chapter 36 and Verses 10 and 11. "His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, that cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber. Yea, they are greedy dogs which cannot have enough, and they are Shepherds: they cannot understand: they all look to

their own way, everyone for his gain, for his quarter." You will appreciate that a dog is dumb because he is friendly with the person or situation and concurs with the comfort, or alternatively is being fed and is not useful for the duty he is called upon to do. It is about time the politicians dealt with the specialists so-called and held the pigs at bay before we in our country see celebrated another Bay of Pigs, which was laid on for J.F.K. Eisenhower had the spotlight laid on for him also by specialists. It nearly caused World War 3.

FRANK TUCKER, Headford.

BEAUTIFYING YONGE STREET
Dear Mr. Editor:— The widening and beautifying of Yonge Street is slowly improving the look of Richmond Hill.

With the Centennial Year approaching and with our claim to be a rose capital, there are some "eyesores" that could use a rose bush or two.

Specifically, some of the buildings on Yonge Street North could well afford to reflect a little of the beauty of the grounds at the Municipal Building.

MRS. BERNICE LEVER, 79 Denham Drive, Richvale.

OTTAWA WASTES OUR TAX MONEY

Dear Mr. Editor:— According to Department of External Affairs figures, the Liberal Government spent over \$1,011,157 on parties, entertainment and "hospitality" during the fiscal year ending March 31, 1972.

These included parties in 105 overseas embassies at a cost of \$708,504. Also \$24,579 was spent on parties for diplomats visiting Canada — which included the arrogant "all-French" concert and banquet on Dominion Day,

July 1. Wine, liquor and champagne at this little "do" cost taxpayers \$2,300.

Another \$327,574 was spent on "hospitality" for visiting heads of state, international conferences, cultural visitors and members of the foreign press.

In view of our continuing Marie Antoinette attitude, one might be tempted to suggest another Opportunities For Youth grant — this time to collect scraps from government banquet tables for distribution to our old age pensioners. Or isn't that a far-out enough project?

PATRICIA YOUNG, Vancouver, B.C.

Why We Need An Election Now

Will he, or won't he? As Prime Minister Trudeau reconnoiters the political terrain, the question whether he will call a fall election remains unanswered. He will no doubt make up his mind after discussions with the Liberal Party's campaign committee in a few days. Meanwhile, the arguments for an election this year rather than next remain strong.

Mr. Trudeau has cited national unity, the economy, foreign relations, and pollution as the issues he sees in an election campaign. These are all cogent, if by foreign relations he means foreign ownership. But other issues are being raised. They deserve to be debated within an election campaign framework, which gives the public a chance to pass a verdict.

The tax structure, which allows concessions to industry as a presumed trade-off for jobs, is under heavy attack by New Democratic Party Leader David Lewis. Mr. Lewis has also opened a can of worms with his disclosure of the full Dennis Report on Housing. The regional incentives program has seen a series of blunders, resulting in grants to industry that are questionable.

Both the policies and the competence of the federal government are at issue. After more than four years since the last election, the traditional right of the public to have its say should be exercised.

Huron Indian Village

A Huron Indian Village that once existed on the Black Creek in North York will probably be reconstructed as a result of action taken by the Metro Conservation Authority.

The authority's executive committee has agreed to accept the 5.9 acre site from the Borough of North York and continue its development as an archaeological site and eventually reconstruct at least part of the village.

The suggestion to purchase the site was first made to the Authority in 1962 by Prof. J. N. Emerson of the University of Toronto who had been investigating the site for some years and used it as a dig for his students. However, attempts to raise financial assistance from the federal and provincial governments and to have it designated a historical site were unsuccessful, and plans to acquire it were abandoned.

In 1969 the site was acquired by the North York Parks and Recreation Department when the area was being subdivided, and has been left largely in its natural state. The parks and recreation department has now indicated it would like to have

the conservation authority take over the area and develop it.

Russell Cooper, administrator of the authority's historical sites division, says that one of the first steps after the area is acquired would be to start an archaeological dig to outline the various buildings, and that under proper control the visiting public might be able to participate in the digging.

He also suggests that Indians could be employed during the reconstruction period, and also to portray the living history of their ancestors once the village was restored.

He visualizes the village as a true historic reconstruction without any embellishments or attempts at glamorizing the life of the Indian. He says that some of the things that could be demonstrated for visitors are hunting and trapping methods which could be shown along the Black Creek, farming, the making of pottery, cooking, tribal religious customs and festivals, living conditions, bone carving and leather tanning.

The authority will attempt to obtain financial assistance from the provincial government to develop the village when the property is turned over to them.

Count Basie, Marceau In New Seneca Series

Count Basie and his orchestra and famed pianist Marceau Marceau will be among the 12 attractions to be presented at Seneca College Theatre for its first full-season series for 1972-73.

Opening the series September 12 at the college's 1,116-seat Minkler Auditorium, will be Virgil Fox, master virtuoso of the electric organ. Mr. Fox will also appear on the 14th.

Also appearing throughout the year until March will be Ballet Theatre Contemporain, October 13, 14, 15; Basie, November 15; Marceau, January 10; Rob McConnell and the Boss Brass, February 21; The Romeros, First Family of Guitar, March 4.

Other attractions in the Seneca Theatre program for 1972-73 include Estelle Craig's World Adventure Tours, plus several film series. Among these are: Seneca Theatre Films, a weekly program of 30 outstanding screenings every Monday starting September 11; special studio films in the college's new theatre to open in October; children's films in French and English; and a special Christmas variety show December 16.

Additional information can be obtained by calling the theatre box office at 491-8877.

Lewis - Style Taxes Could Mean Fewer Jobs For Canadians

(NDP Federal Leader David Lewis has launched a bitter attack on the Canadian business community charging them with not paying their fair share of taxes. In a recent feature story in the London Free Press, Editor John Elliott refutes Mr. Lewis' charges and explains what their effect could be on the economy if implemented.—Editor.)

Canadians appear to be in for a replay of the tax reform record. Since the Carter Report brought in its discovery that "a buck is a buck", the federal government has tried to work out compromises, first in a white paper and then in legislation. Now NDP Leader David Lewis is starting it all over again.

In one way it is hard to blame him. He has so many problems within his party, what with the Wafflers and one thing and another, that he had to find some way of going on the offensive and proving that he was really no Tory in disguise, but a rip-roaring radical. Accordingly, the discovery of "corporate welfare bums" seemed made to order. It is a somewhat belated discovery. A decade or more ago, Prime Minister Diefenbaker

set up the Carter Commission to look into the problems of inequity which had crept into the haphazard tax system.

The Carter Commission took a long look and came up with the logical conclusion that everyone should be taxed equally on every dollar of income from whatever source.

Politicians discovered there was more to the problem than logic. Taxes are levied primarily to meet legitimate expenses of government—or at least the expenses which a majority of Members of Parliament consider legitimate. If that were the only reason for levying taxes, the idea of equity laid down long ago by Adam Smith, would be the prime consideration. But taxation is also a means by which the government can regulate the economy—a principle with which Mr. Lewis as a long-time socialist must be quite familiar.

By increasing or decreasing the weight of certain forms of taxation the government can stimulate or put brakes on the economy. Concessions to corporations, like grants, are used to persuade them to expand and produce more jobs. Mr.

Lewis has long been attacking governments for not trying to reduce unemployment. Concessions to corporations are intended to attain this end.

While debate on tax reform measures was under way, corporations held back on expansion plans. Recently, with the uncertainty removed, they had gone ahead. The special measures introduced by Finance Minister Turner in his first budget seem to be producing plans for even greater expansion in the next year.

It is true that, in spite of the concessions, unemployment persists at a level generally regarded as unacceptable. Governments are blamed when this condition exists just as they claim credit when unemployment is low. It is up to Mr. Lewis to show that hitting corporations harder would not result in fewer jobs.

The question of who pays corporation taxes is one which has never been satisfactorily settled. Either they are passed along to the consumer in prices—which is probably the general case and which helps boost the consumer price index—or they are deducted from dividends paid shareholders.

Shareholders, in turn pay income tax on dividends. In fact, the recognition that to some extent corporation tax is a double tax on income from dividends is the reason tax credits are accorded taxpayers who receive dividends from tax-paying Canadian corporations.

"Soak the rich" has always been a popular slogan for demagogues. If it can be shown that the ordinary taxpayer—who forms the vast majority of the electorate—has to pay through the nose while the big fellow escapes relatively more lightly, the political consequences are obvious. Recent tax reforms laboriously worked out in Canada were a recognition of this basic political fact. Undoubtedly they did not go as far as they were originally designed to do in achieving equity. But they did go as far as seemed possible without destroying incentives to expand.

While Canada's tax system is not yet completely equitable, nor is it ever likely to be, it is probably more so than the systems of most other countries. In the United States, for example, current tax reform proposals aim at accomplishing some of the things Canada has already accomplish-

ed. Indeed, Joseph Pechman of the Brookings Institution, who is one of Senator McGovern's financial advisers, would apply the Carter formula in all its bleak logic. However, he is realistic enough to admit that nothing quite so drastic is feasible. While everyone is for tax reform in general the number who oppose it when it would remove concessions from which they benefit is great. In the U.S., federal income tax permits deductions for interest on one's domestic mortgage and also for local taxes. To the logical tax reformer this is a special concession, but to the hard-pressed homeowner it is essential salvation.

The U.S. also has no income tax for federal purposes on interest paid on state and municipal bonds. To the reformer this is a loophole, but to the states and municipalities which are in general less generously treated than their opposite number in Canada, it is essential.

Inequity in taxation is no new thing. In ancient Greece, Plato wrote: "When there is an income tax, the just man will pay more and the unjust less on the same amount of income".

In the Spotlight



By MONA A. ROBERTSON

Yes... They Weel Cum Back...

Och Mon! York University may ne'er be th' same again... For the skirl o' the pipes has haunted th' halls an' campus sin' th' wee laddies o' th' United Kingdom (1,200 in all and comprising 34 pipe bands) were billeted there. Prior to, and during their marvelous performance in the Military Tattoo and for the Scottish Festival and World Championship contest for pipe and drum bands, held at the CNE August 16 to 20th.

We were fortunate enough to have been invited to York for dinner the Wednesday evening the lads arrived on campus. And, whereas we did not see all 600 of the pipers, plus the drummers, major dominos an' all an'... We did meet some of those from Glasgow and New Zealand. And Mon, it were reel great.

The Caledonians... who were named World Champions to a standing room only audience at the CNE Grandstand Sunday night... were also there. And the rich 'burr' of the Clan McFarlane; the Shotts and Dykehead; Muirhead and Sons; the Red Hackle, and the Glasgow Police Pipe Band were to be heard among the visitors.

The Glasgow Police Pipe Band (their visit to Canada was sponsored by the Toronto Police Band), was comprised of 19 serving policemen. Their band was formed in 1883. "The first pipe band ever to be formed in civilian life, anywhere in the wurld" ... we were told.

Later, in competition, these lads won the prize for 'Best Marching Form'. And lovely they did look in their uniforms... designed from the original Guards uniform by Major Hutcheson, 99 years ago.

Originally the GPPB was called the Govan Burgh Pipe Band. But when Govan Burgh was annexed by Glasgow they changed the name of the band too.

And for those who wonder... about the Highland bonnet that is... the Glasgow lads told us their bonnets are of ostrich feathers over a wired frame.

We thought we were seeing "Wee Geordie", when we were introduced to Casino Lawrie, the piping police officer from "A" Div. A real Scottish stalwart he stands six feet four and a half inches tall in his sock.

We also learned that the bass drummer is the only one in the band entitled to wear the leopard skin... That would be Alex Connell, leading drummer of the Glasgow Police Drum Corps from Hawick, on the south border of Scotland.

This band also had a John F. Kennedy (no relation to JFK they hastened to add), who was also a drummer.

At another table we were introduced to Pipe Major Keith Laird; Drum Major Eddie Ellis; Musical Director Willie Robertson; Side Drummers Clive Mills and Kevin Giblett; Tenor Drummer Reg Turner and Piper Bob Ashbridge, all from New Zealand's Premier Pipe Band (1972) named "The Pipes and Drums of Innes Tartan Inc."

The New Zealand Band left for Vancouver during the Military Tattoo at the CNE on the final evening of the world's greatest collection of Scottish Bands.

Formed in 1926 as the Auckland and District Highland Pipe Band, the "Innes Tartan Inc" adopted the Hunting Menzies tartan in honor of its first Pipe Major, George Cowper, formerly of Dundee City Police Pipe Band, (which also wears this tartan).

The New Zealander's tour saw them appearing at the following festivals: Scottish (Edinburgh); Inter-Continental (Toronto); Vancouver, B.C., and Santa Rosa, California.

To sum it all up... for all the visitors... Bass Drummer Bootsie Gladwin of New Zealand told us, "All the boys are absolutely thrilled with the reception they have received here, at York, and in Canada."

And perhaps the best news of all for Scots and those of us who love the wail of the bagpipes, and the swagger of the marching kilts men, "wi' their bare knees an' all" (as Jeffery Farnol once wrote), Toronto will again host the Scottish World Festival at the Canadian National Exhibition, in 1973.

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