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The children all seem very happy,
That Halloween time now, is here;
Tho' ghosts and goblins, then gather,
Wee tots do not show any fear!

Sleek black cats, dash thro' the shadows,
While nosy owls perch, in the trees;
Fierce witches are chased by red goblins,
With eerie laughs, in the Autumn breeze!

Orange Jack-o-lanterns grin broadly,
In the bright windows along the street;
As the children pass, with their baskets,
Crying shrilly, to all, "Trick or treat!"

Some very thoughtful lads, and lassies,
Beg for pennies, to help sick and weak;
They feel, they have so many blessings,
That, to help the needy, they gladly seek!

MARY HONEY BROWN,
160 Essex Avenue,
Richmond Hill.

In the Spotlight



By DIANA COOK

400 Volunteers Play Important Role At York Central Hospital

In 1962, 20 months before the completion of York Central Hospital, the first meeting of the hospital auxiliary was held, and it's been going strong ever since. Now in its eleventh year of operation, the organization consists of approximately 400 women volunteers whose aim it is to "supplement but not supplant" the paid working staff, and to bring to the patients "a warmer, friendlier atmosphere." There are no set requirements in order to become a member, other than time to give a few hours a week in helping the community.

Perhaps the best way to describe the auxiliary's numerous functions is to give an account of the various committees which make up the whole. The most important of these is the finance committee. Being totally self-sufficient, the auxiliary aims to spend as little on "housekeeping" as possible, so that more money can go towards the purchasing of new hospital equipment. Over the past year alone \$2,000 was collected by such means as the annual White Rose Ball, house tours, afternoons of bridge, handicraft or bake sales, raffles, and the hospital gift shop.

Another important source of revenue is the annual membership fee of \$3. for active working members and \$10. for associate members, (or those who would like to help out but are not free to do physical work.)

The program committee plans the dates for the monthly meetings of the executive and board, as well as those open to the public. The next such open meeting is scheduled for November 15, at the Summitview Gardens Restaurant when the speaker will be Patricia Cluff, a Toronto architect who specializes in designing buildings that are comfortable for the handicapped.

With the completion of the new addition to the hospital in January, 1974, the auxiliary will need to expand its present 400 members to about 700. The planning committee has been set up to deal with this prospect. Although at present the auxiliary has no permanent quarters in the hospital the new addition will include a meeting and work room, library, and office for the executive.

The volunteer service committee is made up of women who assist in the process of delegating the much needed new members. They do this by supplying any interested person with a card on which they indicate what duties they are prepared to perform. Director of Volunteers Joyce Studly is in charge of organizing the work hours and responsibilities of the volunteers inside the hospital.

Nine times a year the public relations committee publishes the "Coralier", a newsletter which goes out to all members. The group also has a historian in Marjorie Barker, who is now on her second scrapbook full of clippings that deal with the hospital. Mary MacKenzie is the social photographer while Ruth Coxford takes the baby pictures.

The Death Penalty

As the result of state-wide plebiscite the State of California has restored the death penalty as a device intended to give criminals a reason not to kill. Clearly the new legislation is designed to protect the innocent.

It is not intended to inflict terrible punishment on those who kill while high on alcohol or drugs, or those who kill while enraged or inflamed with emotion, but is intended to give cold-blooded criminals a valid reason not to kill. The principle at the root of the California law is not revenge or primitive blood lust, but a logical defence against murder.

Here, a criminal committing a robbery, kidnapping or rape knows his chances of acquittal or of escaping apprehension are better if he kills any witnesses who can testify against him. Canadian law — in practice if not on paper — gives him no incentive not to kill. He might just as well and profit by it by eliminating witnesses, for there is no severe penalty for murder in this country.

Here the Trudeau Cabinet has commuted all death sentences since taking office in 1968.

Thursday evening of last week a majority of the Members of Parliament (115-78) voted against an amendment, proposed by a Liberal MP, to the proposed bill to

extend a ban on capital punishment in Canada for a further five years. The ban covers all murderers except those convicted of killing either a policeman or a prison guard on duty. The amendment would have made the death penalty mandatory for anyone convicted of a rape-murder, kidnap-murder or the abandonment of a rape victim that led to death.

Another amendment, proposed by Conservative MP Allan Lawrence, would have extended capital punishment to hijackers who kill or those who are convicted twice of any class of murder. It was rejected 114-75.

The votes, in which members were free of party discipline, provided some interesting results. Conservative backbenchers were almost as solidly in favor of the proposed extensions of capital punishment as the Liberal Members and Cabinet was against. Conservative Leader Robert Stanfield, however, was among those who rejected the amendments. The Socialist NDP as usual supported the Liberals.

These decisions and the eventual passing of the bill which will extend the ban on capital punishment in Canada for a further five years, can lead only to an increase in violent killings — since there is no deterrent left.

Why Bother To Work

Unemployment is down, but benefit claims are up, according to the latest figures out of Ottawa.

And in fact, if the rate of increase — 17 percent over the first seven months of the last year — continues for the remaining five months of 1973, the total increase in UIC costs would be in the range of \$350 million.

UIC officials say they don't expect the big increases in payouts to continue, but figures now available indicate that an increase in the rate of employee-employer contributions is inevitable for next year.

So there you have it: more money to sweeten the welfare pot.

And even though unemployment insurance is not, strictly speaking, a handout, as employees contribute against that time they might suddenly find themselves without a job, the government by its handling over the years, of what was originally a sound scheme, has done much to make it more convenient for many not to work, than to work.

After all, why should one submit to the drudgery of a routine job at minimal pay, if one can sit at home and collect a better stipend? This seems to be the reasoning on the part of much of Canada's not-so-willing work force.

A good point, on the other hand, those paying into the fund will probably be questioning why they should be paying more and more all the time just so they can guarantee a short holiday to anyone who works a few weeks and then quits his job.

Nobody begrudges paying into

a fund that might some day be the means of keeping him alive until another job comes around. But one does object to the Trudeau Government making the UIC Fund, along with its welfare fund, more and more attractive for all those who feel the community owes them a living, as soon as they are old enough to step out of their front gates by themselves.

At present, Mr. Trudeau must find a lot more than the \$890 million budgeted for the government's share of the cost of the program and to make up for the difference between employee-employer contributions and the portion of the cost allocated to them.

To balance the account, these contributions would have to increase to at least 50 percent, and the government must decide by next month whether it wants to take more money out of the weekly pay cheque and from the employer.

If the government feels this latter course is the only course, it must also make it a little less easy for the short termers to play in and out with the scheme.

It might start by increasing the waiting period for benefits — two weeks from the start of the claim — for these casual contributors, and also make the qualifying period at least a minimum of a year, instead of eight weeks as it is now.

The average person's take home pay is getting smaller every week thanks to soaring taxes and his benefits aren't necessarily increasing as a result.

Show Of Art By John Joy At Gibson House, Willowdale

The latest exhibit of watercolors and oils by John Joy, a founding member of the Society of Canadian Artists, is on display this month in the lower gallery of Gibson House in Willowdale.

Born in Metro, Joy has been a painter for 30 years, and within the past year has spent time painting from coast to coast in Canada. One of his watercolors is used as the "Introduction to Ontario" in the World Book Encyclopedia, and in 1972 Joy's watercolors were used

on the face of Christmas Cards for the Canadian Save The Children Fund.

The exhibition is of landscapes of various parts of Canada, with emphasis on Ontario and Metro, and opens today (November 1). It will be on view to November 25.

Total 89.4 % York Simcoe Citizens Want Death Penalty Restored

SINCLAIR STEVENS MP
York Simcoe Riding

First Amendment FOR death penalty	PC	Lib.	SC	NDP	Ind.	Total
FOR	58	12	7	0	1	78
AGAINST	17	69	0	29	0	115
						193

Second Amendment FOR death penalty	PC	Lib.	SC	NDP	Ind.	Total
FOR	54	12	7	0	1	74
AGAINST	17	68	0	29	0	114
						188

Government of Mr. Trudeau is out of step with the world in trying to bring in an abolitionist measure. The UN Report shows that contrary to the public view which people like to express, especially the academics, the world in fact is not becoming more and more abolitionist. It points out that most published studies on the death penalty issue have taken their data and orientation from the developed world and largely from the western world. The result has been a rather misleading picture which has frequently given unwarranted universality to values, theories or practices prevalent in the west. It notes that in academic circles it has sometimes become unfashionable to support capital punishment: civilization is tolerance and severity in punishment a sign of backwardness

and regression, and so liberal thinking and the abolition of the death penalty are expected to coincide.

The report goes on to say that such studies on the death penalty sometimes leave the impression that there is a certain inevitability about the movement to more "civilized standards"; that throughout the world there is an irresistible and ineluctable trend toward abolition of capital punishment. In fact, the report continues, the world picture provides no such assurances. If one spreads consideration to include developed countries of both the east and west and the wide range of developing nations in Asia, Africa and Latin America, the picture changes appreciably and it is extremely doubtful whether there is any uniform progression toward the restric-

tion of the use of the death penalty. *****

Of the 132 member countries in the UN, 102 are retentionist. In other words, 77.3 percent of nations belonging to UN have the death penalty for many ordinary crimes as well as murder and treason.

It is also important to note that only nine UN member countries have TOTALLY abolished the death penalty in their legal systems.

The United Kingdom is often mentioned as a country that has abolished the death penalty. It is interesting to note, however, in a vote on restoration of the death penalty at a recent Conservative Party Conference in that country, 1,404 were in favor of restoration, 1,228 were against, and the motion was carried.

Likewise, the United States is having serious misgivings concerning the abolitionist stance in many of the states and of the federal jurisdiction itself. California, with a population approximately equal to that of Canada, experimented with abolition of the death penalty for murder. In a referendum conducted last year, Californians voted by approxi-

mately 67 percent to restore the death penalty in their state.

When the Attorney-General for California was asked if the death penalty was a deterrent, he replied, "Yes. The rise in the homicide rate during the last ten years, the experience of jurists and persons in law enforcement, and common sense indicate that it is." He then gave the following statistics: From 1956 to 1962 there were between five and eleven executions per year in California. During that time the wilful homicide rate fluctuated between 3.5 and 3.7 wilful homicides per 100,000 persons. Since 1962 when the courts effectively abolished the death penalty in California, the wilful homicide rate increased to 8.7 per 100,000 persons.

The same alarming trends have appeared in Canada. 1971 statistics demonstrate that the rate of murder in Canada has more than doubled since 1956 and now stands at 2.4 per 100,000 persons.

No doubt the proportion of Canadians who would favor the restoration of the death penalty would be sizeable. The Gallup Poll last year indicated that

63% of Canadians favored the restoration of the death penalty, a rise of 10% over the poll taken on the retention question in 1966. In York-Simcoe, 89.4% of those who responded to my poll, asked for the death penalty to be restored or retained.

Surely, the question of the abolition of capital punishment or its retention is something on which the government in power has a responsibility to take a stand. Instead, it is indirectly attempting to bring in an abolitionist measure which it does not have the courage to sponsor.

Further, the Trudeau Liberals have given the impression that there is to be a free vote on the Bill. Clearly, Bill C-2 reflects government policy and there will be a free vote only in the technical sense. This was confirmed by the Solicitor General, Warren Allmand, in response to my remarks when he stated in the House last Thursday, "For the members of our party and all other parties, as far as we are concerned it is a free vote, but not for the government, meaning the Cabinet. This is a Cabinet, government bill."



(By Ethel Snow and Estelle Barker)

Octagonal Residence At Maple

Octagonal buildings were more popular in the 19th Century than they are today. It was believed that the space available could be better utilized, and central heating was an asset.

The octagonal home in the sketch was built on the Maple Road (Major Mackenzie Drive) around 1837, on Lot 21, Concession 4 by the Rupert Family. All lumber used was said to have been cut on the property and prepared at a nearby sawmill. All the bricks

were baked on the property. The skylight or lantern on the roof is typical of octagonal houses and was used for light and ventilation. The front entrance has an attractive venetian doorway with a semi-circular transom and straight sidelights.

Gilbert Mathewson lived in this fourteen-room residence for over 60 years, and it was later occupied by his son Emery before becoming part of the Shur-Gain Research Farm.

Letters to the Editors

FAVORS MODULAR HOMES

Dear Mr. Editor—
I have just read the article in "The Liberal" of October 8, concerning a proposal for a modular home development which would be situated on the north side of 19th Avenue just east of Bayview Avenue, and wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the planning committee of the Town of Richmond Hill for their foresight in giving this proposal consideration.

We are all aware of the fantastic rise in the cost of living and that the only alternative at present available to relieve this serious situation would be to permit the development of a modular home park, which would permit the average citizen to maintain his independence

and live in a respectable home at a price he could afford.

I have a small acreage and would certainly appreciate being made aware of any developments of this nature. My family are grown up and it would be my intention to sell my small holdings and move into a modular home development with my wife and 17-year-old son, who would still be at home.

I have visited friends at Sandy Cove, and was most impressed with this type of housing and I would certainly welcome a similar development as proposed by Bayview Estimates Limited, for the Richmond Hill area.

KEN HARMON,
RR 2, Gormley.

BUMBLING VAUGHAN COUNCIL

Dear Mr. Editor—

We would like to join with the Maple Against Dumping Committee in deploring the ineptitude of both Metro Toronto and Vaughan authorities in dealing with this problem. It is a well known fact that Metro has been trying to dump its problems on various surrounding municipalities in recent years. It is perhaps less well known that over the last four years numerous plans have been put forward to Metro for solving the garbage problem once and for all by using recycling methods. Some of these proposals have already proven themselves in other cities across the world.

The bumbling of Vaughan Council in dealing with the allegedly illegal activities of Disposal Services Limited is even less excusable. As residents of Richvale, which is served by the wells that might be poisoned by Norman Goodhead's profitable garbage business, we strongly oppose any future dumping in this area. If Vaughan Council is not prepared to take immediate legal action, we would support any citizen's action that is proposed. MR. AND MRS. RICHARD MANSFIELD
126 Westwood Lane, Langstaff.

Fewer Nasty Messes

(Brockville Recorder and Times)

Port Credit has just passed a bylaw that provides for a fine of \$300 for letting a dog foul public or private property. Several cities in Canada and United States have similar laws. Ottawa, in an attempt to keep its parks clean, now hands out a "Dog Dirt Destroyer" to everyone out strolling with a pet on parkland. The "Destroyer" is a plastic bag and the pet owner is required to pick up the dog's droppings.

Numerous cyclists and pedestrians in Ottawa parks have complained of the dog's dirty habits. The bags handed out in Ottawa also contain a disinfectant powder. The dog owner places his hand in the plastic bag like a mitt, places the powder on top of the offending excrement, and then picks it up, turning the bag inside-out as he does so. It's all very sanitary, Toronto is watching the Ottawa experiment.

We feel Brockville should also.

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