

**CNA The Liberal**

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## Resist Pressure

We commend Richmond Hill Council's Planning Committee for reaffirming its decision to require a secondary site plan for the area bounded by King Sideroad, Bathurst Street, Bloomington Sideroad and Yonge Street before entertaining applications for development.

The developers of the proposed Beaufort Hill Subdivision north of the Cashway Lumber on Yonge Street had earlier agreed to do the secondary plan at their expense. But they told the committee last week they didn't want their proposal which would bring 276 single family homes into Richmond Hill eventually to be held up while this secondary plan is being developed.

Since a secondary plan is the document which outlines the specifics for an area of a municipality, to see that only a desired type of growth takes place, that the terrain is suitable for that growth and that it ties in with present and future development, planning committee's decision was essential. It will ensure that overall planning of the area is done first and that this and subsequent applications can be measured against the guidelines set by the secondary plan.

The Beaufort Hill application is not the only one from the area in

the hands of the planning committee, it was noted.

Although waiting for the secondary plan for the 1,000 acres may cause a delay of six months or so for their development, and although any major delay tends to increase the price of the finished homes, six months is a short time in the life of a municipality. It is planning committee's and council's duties to make certain that in the long-run, 20 or more years, they or their successors will not be regretting the decisions made today. They must set up guidelines and policies against which every application can be weighed — for the benefit of the whole community, of every resident and of every taxpayer.

Present zonings and Official Plan policies set out for the area were established when it was a part of King Township. Probably they were quite applicable at that time and under those conditions, and may still be so. But the area is now a part of Richmond Hill and the future development must be considered in light of the town's thinking and policies.

We are indeed pleased that council's and planning committee's decision has indicated that they are aware of their responsibility.

## Walking The Beat

Is a policeman on the beat more effective than one in a patrol car? At least two citizens were of this opinion last week when they made separate representations to the York Region Police Commission on matters of law enforcement on Newmarket and Woodbridge streets.

A news report of the meeting in "The Liberal" cited the theme as being "A cry to return to the old days when the cop on the beat patrolled the streets of a town and everybody knew he was around and felt a little better because of his presence."

The plea for foot patrols brings to mind those old Hollywood "B" movies typified by the Irish Cop whistling along on his beat and hailing citizens by their first names and being hailed by his in return.

Those days are disappearing rapidly if they exist at all and perhaps, just perhaps, society is a trifle worse for it. It's not really only a question of whether today's policeman is doing a better job than those of yesterday.

Under the York Regional Police setup, as in other municipalities, there are statistics galore citing the increase in arrests and convictions for criminal acts all pointing to a greater efficiency and there is no reason to discount this.

But is the fact that police are more efficient than ever the only thing that should have a bearing on the case?

## Alcohol Is A Killer

Alcohol was involved in every traffic death of youths between 16 and 18 years of age, a recent study conducted in Saskatchewan has revealed. And examination of statistics in Ontario for 1971 has shown that alcohol was involved in two-thirds of the high-way fatalities of those between 20 and 24.

It is estimated that more than 55,000 people will die in North America motor vehicle accidents this year and alcohol will be a major factor in at least half of them.

In an effort to reduce this lamentable toll, a compulsory re-education program for those convicted of impaired driving is proposed. In such a program drinkers must attend weekly lectures on drinking and driving.

But the traffic accident is not the only means of killing which may be attributed to alcohol. Many Canadians each year die from cirrhosis of the liver after many months of suffering, loss of jobs and community prestige. And there are other physical conditions for which alcohol is responsible. An Ottawa doctor has warned that the earlier drinking begins, the more disease there is after the age of 50.

Dr. Ian Henderson, associate professor in the departments of surgery and pharmacology at the University of Ottawa, criticized governments which lower the drinking age to 18. This simply means, he says, that people even under the legal age begin to drink.

He also criticized the present tendency to follow the "continental" drinking pattern being adopted by many Canadians, particularly the young. Advocates of this type of drinking have prob-

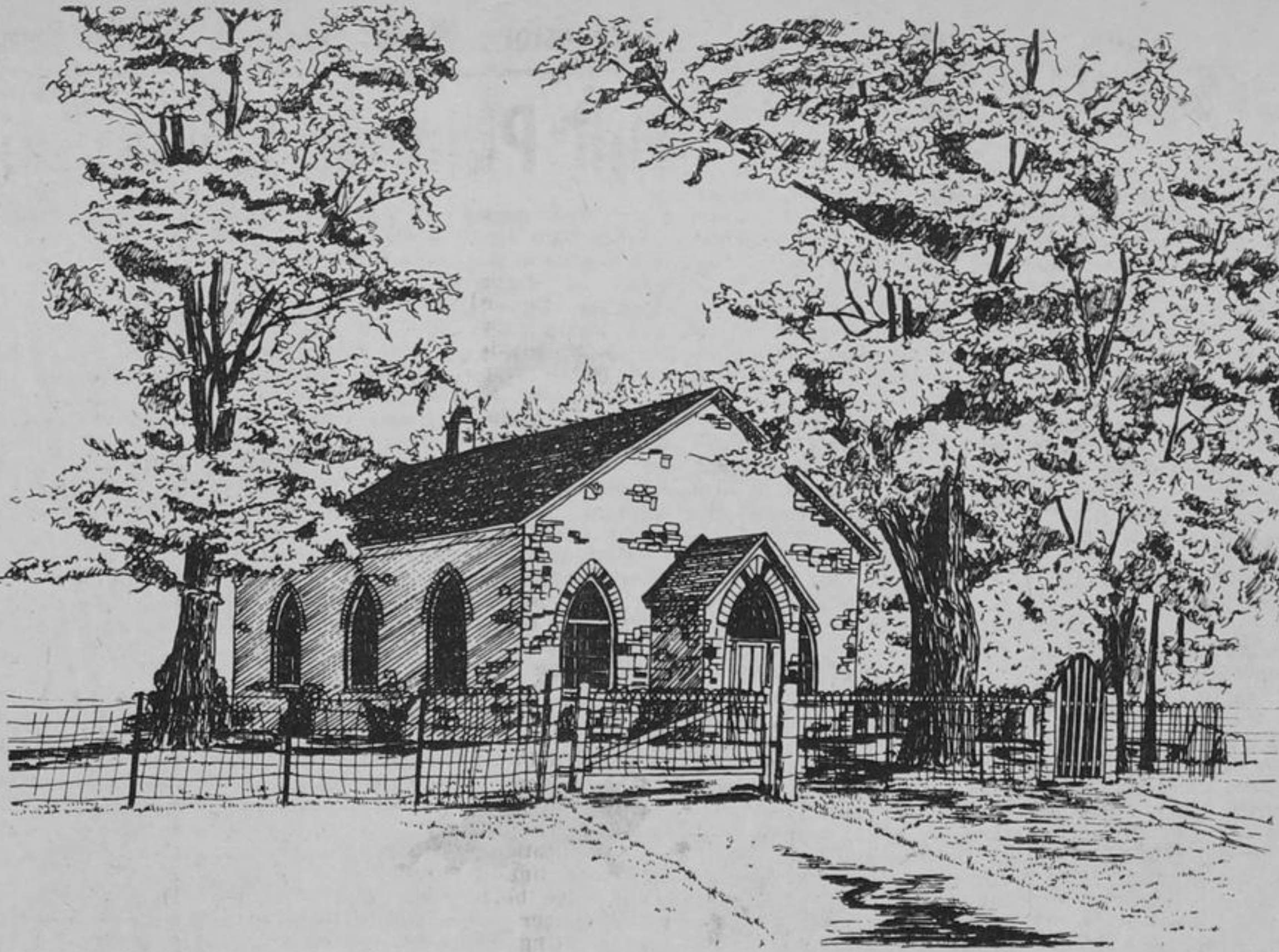
ably visited Europe and have seen little drunkenness. Or they have heard and believed that this is so. But the doctor points out that damaged livers and other physical damage can occur without drunkenness.

He also points out that France, where wine is drunk in great quantities and where it is often given to children, has the highest rate of alcoholism in the world. He said 44% of all hospital beds in that country are occupied by people with alcohol-related conditions.

There is also a great danger of reactions between alcohol and other drugs, such as tranquilizers, which can result in death also, a fact which is not publicized.

Overt drunkenness is not always a sign of over-drinking, the doctor says, pointing out that in Finland there is a lot of sporadic drunkenness with associated behavior which results in arrests, but the Finns consume only about two gallons of absolute alcohol a year per person and there is only a low rate of cirrhosis of the liver there.

For years we have been alarmed about the use of drugs by young people, but the fact has been established that alcohol consumption by young people is now the major problem. The sad thing is that parents, educators and the general public are inclined to accept this as normal, since they, too, indulge. What would any social gathering be without a glass of alcoholic beverage in one's hand at all times? It is as easy to become addicted to this drug as to any other and it can do as much harm as any other, particularly since it has legal status and is readily available.



(By Ethel Snow and Estelle Barker)

## St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

This charming little Scotch Presbyterian Church at Eversley still stands on Dufferin Street north of King City.

Formed as early as 1820 as a mission field, the congregation built the first log church in 1834.

The present beautiful structure, built of field stone of Gothic architecture, was opened for worship in 1848. Both English and Gaelic was used, but by 1890 Gaelic became unnecessary.

Rev. John Tawse, an early school teacher and minister of the Church for fifty years, is buried at Strange.

Henry Frost, originator of musical education in Ontario Schools, was buried at the age of thirty-five in the little churchyard nearby.

The church has not been in use since 1958. It was finally purchased by Lady Eaton, who in turn gave it with an endowment to the York Pioneer and Historical Society, by whom it is being carefully preserved.

## Need \$20,000

# YWCA Launches Local Fund Raising Drive

Richmond Hill YWCA is launching a drive for \$20,000. In a report to the public, the Y states that \$15,000 is needed to continue its present level of services and an additional \$5,000 will be needed to extend service to meet the needs of an expanding community.

From its headquarters building at 25 Yonge Street North, the YWCA offers opportunities for the physical, mental and social development of boys and men as well as girls and women, and opportunities for involvement in community growth. Executive director is Mrs. Doreen Wright, and Mrs. Gwen Halliday is program director.

During the year January to December, 1972, 1,480 children six to 13 took part in physical programs or crafts; 348 children six to 13 attended the Park Y Day Camp; 138 persons 13 to 19 took part in leadership training programs; 950 men and women took classes to learn new skills; 59 adult classes were offered; 95 mothers and pre-school children took swim classes together; 140 pre-schoolers received child care services while their mothers attended YWCA daytime classes.

The Y's resale shop (used clothing store) was open for business from September 1972 through June 1973. The shop, at 21 Yonge Street North, reopened early in September and is well stocked with women's and children's clothing appropriate to the season.

Program brochures are printed in the fall and in the spring, and the four Y staff members, with volunteer assistants, handle mail distribution to interested persons and answer telephone enquiries regarding programming.

Specialists in various fields are hired to conduct many of the programs, often assisted by volunteers. The Y's volunteer board of directors, chaired by Mrs. Claudine

Wallace assisted by staff, review programs before laying out new programs, attempting to meet demonstrated and anticipated needs in the community.

Many activities take place away from the Y office, in churches and community halls, taking the programs to where the people are — such as the TAB (take-a-break) groups for women in various parts of the new, enlarged Town of Richmond Hill.

Recreation programs for children are conducted in neighborhood schools and a recreation instructor's subsidy is received from the town's Parks and Recreation Department. Part of this subsidy comes to the town from the provincial government. About five percent of the 1973 budget comes from this source.

To meet costs, registration fees are charged for programs and child care, and membership fees are received from individuals who believe in the YWCA purpose.

Special fund raising events of a social nature are carried out by Y volunteers through the year, and an administrative grant was received from the town in 1972 and again in 1973. Ten percent of the 1973 budget will come from this source.

These sources, however, fall far short of what is needed to maintain programs and services that will fulfill the recreational and social requirements of the community.

With its objective of 20,000 members and volunteers of the Y are looking to the public for substantial financial support. Cheques may be made payable to the Richmond Hill and District YWCA. Receipts for income tax purposes will be given for donations of \$5 or more. The drive is being spearheaded by Finance Committee Chairman Mrs. Maureen McGraw.

## Letters to the Editors

### MODULAR HOUSING

Dear Mr. Editor:

Your editorial concerning the modular home development on 19th Avenue, east of Bayview, in the November 8 issue of "The Liberal" will no doubt find a great number of admirers among the voters of Richmond Hill.

There is a need for considerable time to study all the alternatives of low-cost housing in connection with the general overall plan for Richmond Hill.

There are elements of the municipal council who are endeavoring to pressurize Planning Director Hesse Rimon and the planning staff into a quick report on this modular home concept.

The more time the planning staff have to consider this matter the more satisfactory will be the result for all the people of Richmond Hill.

Thank you for your concern.

CHARLES PEACOCK,  
RR 2, Gormley.

## Pay Raise By Subterfuge

(Kitchener-Waterloo Record)

In April the federal government floated a trial balloon in the form of a suggestion that members of the House of Commons should be allowed \$8,400 each, out of public funds, to cover the cost of offices in their constituencies. The idea got a cool reception from the public. This newspaper and others at once pointed out that it would open the way to patronage jobs.

It would be almost inevitable that a sitting Conservative MP, with money to spend on salary for an office worker in his constituency, would want a loyal Conservative in the job. So would any Liberal or New Democrat. Public funds would then be helping with the tence-tending chores that would help the member get re-elected.

The proposal was generally condemned, because it looked very much like a roundabout way to give MPs a pay raise. The \$8,400 would be helping them with normal duties which they already perform, in one way or another.

Tucked away unobtrusively in supplementary estimates put before the Commons this week is an item of \$930,000, to provide constituency offices for MPs. The estimate is for part of a fiscal year; the rates pro-

posed would call for about \$2 million in a full year.

This may be a shrewd way to try to get the funds voted without attracting too much attention. The supplementary estimates call for spending slightly more than an extra billion dollars in afterthought items not included in the regular estimates. One million among one billion is in the proportion of one cent to \$10.

If enough attention is attracted to the \$10, the one cent could slip through unnoticed. In this case, it shouldn't. The arguments against providing this indirect bonus to sitting MPs are just as good now as they were seven months ago.

It is obviously in the interest of the 265 people now in office as MPs to see this item slide through unopposed. It will make it easier for them to get re-elected and, correspondingly, more difficult for a rival candidate to unseat any of them.

Fortunately, the estimates do have to be debated. There is still time for MPs who would feel embarrassed about this side-door hand-out to speak up for straightforward dealing.

If MPs do need more money, as quite possibly they do, they should get it by the honest method of salary increase, not by subterfuge.

## Horse Show For Handicapped Riders

Horseback riding can be therapy as well as recreation for many disabled people, and for this reason the Community Association for Riding for the Disabled was organized in 1968.

On November 24, CARD is having its third annual "Mini-Royal", its most important fund raising project of the year, at L'Amitie Stables on Concession 5 and the Gormley Sideroad, one concession east of Don Mills Road and 11 miles north of Highway 401.

Judges for the show will be James Elder of Aurora, Moffat Dunlop of Gormley and James Day, formerly of Aurora — all members of the Canadian Gold Medal Equestrian Team.

Most of the 80 riders come from the Ontario Crippled Children's Centre in North York, Bloorview School for handicapped children in Toronto, High Point residence for the mentally retarded in Markham, the Canadian Institute for the Blind in North York, Sunnyview School for the deaf in Toronto and others who have physical, mental or serious emotional handicaps.

Trophies, ribbons and the sponsoring of classes are all being donated, and there will be a refreshment table and bake sale. The show will also provide

an opportunity for the public to see how the handicapped are helped by the volunteers of CARD who give their services all year round.

The association was formed by friends and relatives of disabled people, both children and adults. The children they try to help are spastics, victims of polio, cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, etc. and many of the adults are paralyzed by strokes, cerebral trauma or as the result of accidents.

The four good legs of the gentle horses at L'Amitie Stables replace the two unsteady legs of the disabled, and riding gives the person the incentive to use every scrap of nerve and muscle left to him. He learns to compensate for the weak or paralyzed muscles, thus often gradually building up and strengthening the body, especially the back and abdomen.

In addition to the stimulation of exercises supervised by a physiotherapist, the disabled person is cheered by the opportunity to make new friends with similar problems and is encouraged by the understanding and enthusiasm of the volunteer instructors, drivers, and the mutual trust and respect that is built up between human and

animal.

In addition to riding, the disabled and volunteer helpers have the use of an indoor arena and lounge facilities in the stable. Riding is done under the guidance of experienced instructors and other trained personnel.

Specially schooled horses and ponies are chosen for their quiet nature, and the rider is assisted by trained volunteers. They mount from special mounting blocks and are accompanied by two volunteers, then led around the ring until they have sufficient confidence and training to manage on their own and eventually to participate in short trail rides.

There is a never-ending need for volunteers to serve in various capacities, either at the stable or on the trail, or even to serve as volunteer baby sitters for volunteer drivers and instructors.

For further information contact Mrs. Walter Pady, Long Reach, RR 2, Aurora, 727-9014, or call 447-9388. Financial assistance is also essential (the horses have to eat) and cheques may be sent to R. Bulgin, 38 Kirkbraden Road East, Toronto 18. A receipt for income tax purposes will be issued.



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