

The Liberal

The community newspaper serving Richmond Hill, Thornhill, Oak Ridges, King City, Maple and Concord.

MAIN OFFICE: 10101 Yonge St., Richmond Hill, L4C 1T7, Ont. Telephones 884-8177 and 881-3401

BRANCH OFFICE: 301 Markham Rd., Richmond Hill, L4C 1J2, Ont. Telephones 884-1105 and 881-3373

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Enforcement Is The Answer

Richmond Hill Town Council recently agreed to investigate the possibility of reducing the speed limit on all residential streets to 25 mph in the interests of safety. At present the speed limit on these streets is 30 mph.

We are as concerned as anyone in the municipality with the safety of its residents — of the school children and adults who must walk along the roadside because of the lack of sidewalks in a great many areas of town, of the elderly people who must cross busy thoroughfares on their way to shop or to attend church or other meetings, — but we believe that the answer lies in a more stringent enforcement of the existing speed limit, rather than in reducing it by five miles an hour. We believe that the

reduced speed limit will be no more effective in curbing speeding on our residential streets than the existing one unless it is enforced — and enforcement is a costly proposition.

It is not the motorist who is observing the 30 mph speed limit who strikes terror into the hearts of pedestrians and of parents of small children. It is the motorist who travels over residential streets at speeds of 50 and 60 miles or more an hour who is the culprit. And he or she will continue to travel at those speeds whenever the opportunity occurs, no matter what the speed limit is.

Enforcement of the speed limit is the answer. Are we prepared to pay for it?

Uneven Hand Of Justice

In one Ontario court the other day a man was sentenced to a total of 16 years in jail for robbing two stores of \$410.

At almost the same moment in another Ontario court not far away there was the case of a motorist whose carelessness cost the lives of four people plus counted thousands of dollars in damage and injuries.

That motorist didn't even have to be in court for his sentence. He was too busy to come and sent his lawyer to hear the judge levy a \$100 fine. The judge mentioned the alternative of 30 days in jail in the remote event the fine wasn't paid.

That justice must sometimes appear to be inconsistent because of distance, community and social differences, or for other reasons, perhaps must be a factor taken into account. In the sentencing of people for crimes and other things there must be some inadvertent variation from time to time.

But this recent example of two simultaneous cases hardly more than commuting distance apart is a glaring and unfortunate example of how uneven the hand of justice can get.

Granted, it must be taken into account the motorist apparently was previously a citizen of unblemished character while the robber had a long record of thefts in another country. But on the other hand, to be a little romantic, there is quite a factor to be considered on the side of the robber. He was stealing the money to get back to England to marry his fiancée.

And perhaps the hand of justice was a little upset by the cost and inconvenience of extraditing this rather petty store robber from Europe to Toronto. Of course, the 16 years in jail for the robber is divided up into three concurrent sentences. The longest he can serve will be six years. And parole could well reduce that.

Still, the two different penalties are far from being in balance with the relative harm perpetrated by the two offenders. One judge was passing sentence in a Metro court while another was sitting in nearby Bracebridge.

It is clear the left hand of justice can very easily lose touch with what the right hand is doing. But surely they should not be so far out of touch as this.

Alcohol A Real Problem

One in 12 in a recent survey of night drivers in eight Canadian provinces were found to be legally impaired according to a recent announcement.

The federal survey showed that about one quarter of the 7,013 drivers interviewed had been drinking. About one-third of these had blood alcohol concentrations at or above the legal limit of .08 percent or, in other words, one in 12 drivers were impaired.

In conducting the survey the interviews were conducted between 10 pm and 3 am Wednesday through Saturday between April 17 and June 15 at 500 locations across Canada.

A report released by the Ontario Addiction Research Foundation at the same time said that 36% of drivers killed in this province in 1973 were impaired. Another 16% had blood-alcohol readings below .08%.

News from the U.S. surgeon general reveals that about 350,000 Americans died in 1972 from causes attributed to alcohol. That same year the country's drug addicts were estimated at 350,000 to 500,000. These statistics caused social analyst John Rublowsky to say: U.S. drug enforcement spending is upside down, with multi-billion outlays annually to combat narcotics — unsuccessfully — while alcohol consumption is generally accepted as a mere social amenity, writing in The Stoned Age.

While the emotion and dollars go to trying to curb narcotics use, alcohol continues to outperform

drugs as a killer and home and heartbreaker, he claims. Some 80 million Americans drink alcoholic beverages more or less regularly, and six to eight million of them are classified as alcoholics.

On a population basis the comparative figures for Canada would probably be about nine million users of alcohol and about a half million alcoholics.

According to a list of drugs in order of physical danger to humans compiled by Dr. Samuel Irwin, an outstanding drug researcher, alcohol is Number 3, cigarettes are Number 4, heroin and related narcotics are Number 6, LSD Number 7 and marijuana is Number 8. Glue-sniffing is Number 1 on the danger list.

Education programs for young people and for all impaired drivers, rigid enforcement of the law in the case of all drivers who drink before they drive, are the only means available to curb this growing threat to the safety and lives of all who use our highways.

The great American and Ontario experiment of banning all alcohol only served to prove that making it hard to get did not prevent anyone who wanted to drink from drinking. Instead, particularly in the United States, it led to gangsterism, where those who saw an opportunity to make a fast buck were determined to make it no matter what means they had to employ. By the time of its repeal the gangsters were so firmly entrenched they simply moved into other fields.



Music Complements Art At McMichael Gallery

"Summer Strings '74" are providing a pleasant diversion for visitors to the McMichael Canadian Collection in Kleinburg. Four University of Toronto fine arts students — Sharon Fraser, Faith Farr, Barbara Nose and Vivien Loader — formed a quartet under a grant from the Opportunities for Youth program and are entertaining in senior citizens homes, libraries, hospitals and community centres during the summer months. The McMichael gallery's

natural setting was brought to life dramatically by the melodic sounds of the string quartet.

"Summer Strings '74" will be performing at the McMichael Collection again on August 20 and the 27th. A showcase of uniquely Canadian works of art, the McMichael Canadian Collection in Kleinburg is open every afternoon except Monday and there is no admission charge.

Danson Worried About Decline In Rental Home Construction

New Urban Affairs Minister Barney Danson MP, York North, told his first interview with the Canadian Press at Ottawa the other day that the decline this year in rental housing construction is serious.

The House of Commons representative for this area told a national press agency staff writer he is troubled by the general high cost, tight housing picture, but is most concerned about the lack of rental apartment units which is reaching serious proportions.

The 53-year-old Urban Affairs Minister who is also responsible for the National Capital Commission in the federal Cabinet, said he wants to meet industry representatives and urban affairs department officials to discuss the problem.

Danson said the rental housing construction decline could lead to a "really high pressure situation in the major cities, especially." Enthusiastic about his new job, he joked that he "feels like an alcoholic let loose in a liquor store."

APARTMENT SCARCITY
He noted last month's Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation residential market survey showed the

average apartment vacancy rate for 22 metropolitan areas in mid-June was 2.4 percent, down from the mid-1973 average of 3.3 percent. Federal housing experts have said a vacancy rate of three to four percent generally yields fair rents to tenants and is attractive enough for builders to put up more apartment buildings. Below the three percent vacancy level apartment owners could safely push up rents, they say.

Urban Affairs Minister Danson said he is also disturbed by the decline in single family dwelling construction as well, but feels the drop in demand for mortgage loans probably will mean mortgage rates will eventually level off. At the same time, high mortgage rates may also make government programs for low cost housing more attractive to builders, he said.

DECLINE IN STARTS
The high cost of borrowing money and high building material prices are probably big reasons for the slow-down in apartment construction this year, it being down 2.5 percent, he said.

New unit starts this year are down 8.9 percent from last year.

European Earwigs Hit York Region

By MARY DAWSON

Three years ago, a warning was issued by the Ontario Department of Agriculture that infestation by European earwigs could soon reach epidemic proportions in parts of the province.

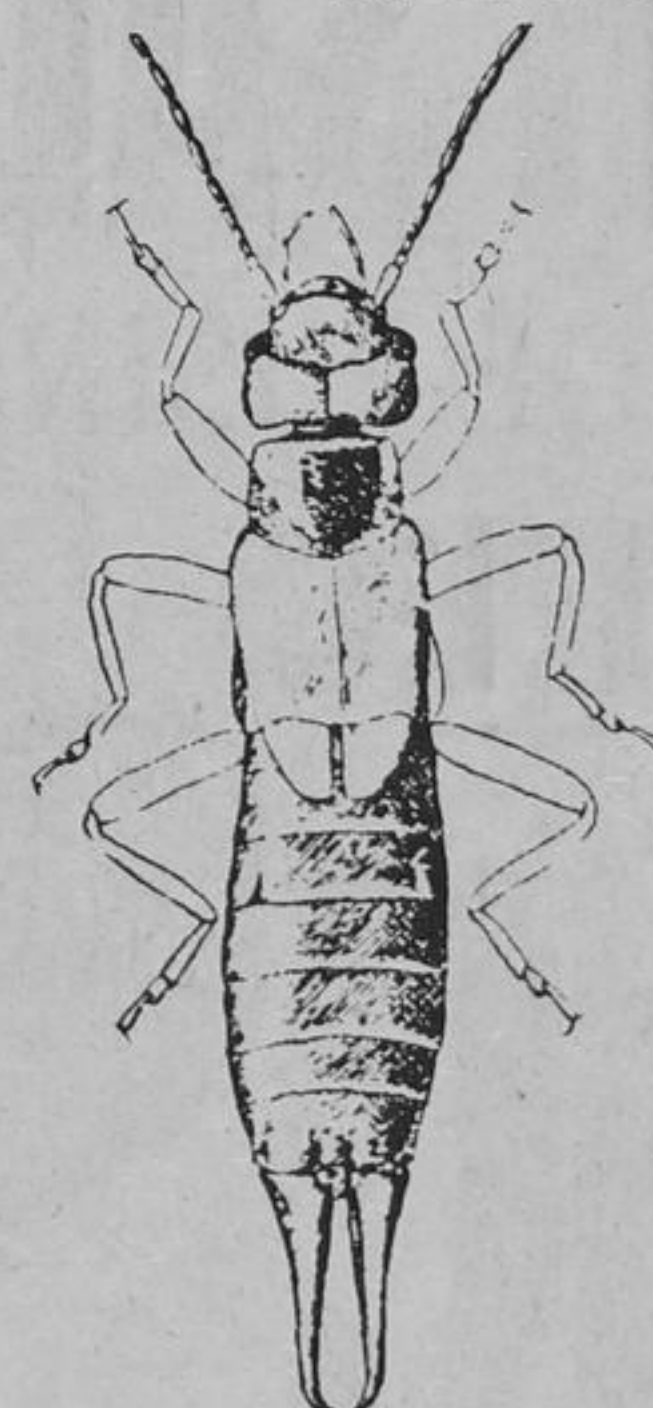
According to residents of Richmond Hill, that day has arrived. We are told that in some Richmond Hill gardens this year, they mounded the plants they were so numerous. The earwigs were accidentally imported from Europe in lumber and wood products.

Earwigs are reddish brown and about three-quarters of an inch long, with a pair of forceps-like appendages at the hind end. On males these are curved, on females they are straight. Young earwigs are smaller but look like the adults. The forceps are harmless but the insects will try to pinch with them when picked up.

or sprays or dusts of chlor-dane, malathion or carbaryl. These should be applied in June or early July when the earwigs are small. Treatment in August after they are in homes is less effective.

The poison bait, spray or dust, should be applied along building foundations, fences, woodpiles, garages and around and on the trunks of trees and any other suspected hiding place. Better results will be obtained if neighbors co-operate and treat a whole neighborhood, to prevent reinfestation from neighboring gardens.

NEIGHBORHOOD PROJECTS
If it is necessary to spray or dust in the house, spot-treat along baseboards, drapes and under the edge of carpets and rugs. Do NOT treat furniture or floor areas where small children play and do NOT use the



READY FOR BATTLE IN SPRINGTIME

ACTIVE AT NIGHT

The European earwigs are active only at night when they crawl in all directions in search of food and possibly shelter. They climb fences, trees, walls, etc., and, if plentiful, as they are in sections of Richmond Hill, some will find their way into houses. By daybreak most have disappeared under ground cover or in cracks or crevices, probably the reason they are not noticed until they reach epidemic proportions.

They eat the vegetables and flowers in the gardens and may be found under the husks of sweet corn when it is being husked, one of the ways they find their way into the home. They will not harm people or items in the house, the Department's literature says.

Earwigs lay eggs in groups of about 60 in a nest in the top two inches of soil. The mother tends the young in the nest for the first two weeks. The young and adults become noticeable by June. It is at this time that the injury to plants occurs. House invasion is likely to be from July into the fall.

Parasites have been released in some areas of the province to control this pest. However, in many cases infestations will require control beyond this biological method. The Department advises a poison-bran bait,

bran bait in the house.

The recipe given by the Department for the poison bait is: 12 lbs. of bran, 1 lb. of sodium fluoride and 1 quart of cod liver oil. Or sodium fluosilicate can be substituted for the cod liver oil and fish oil for the cod liver oil. Sodium fluoride may be obtained from drugists and cod-liver oil and bran from seed and feed dealers.

Mix the bran and sodium fluoride first, then add the cod-liver oil slowly and mix until the oil is evenly distributed and not lumpy. Broadcast the bait in the evening especially along the foundation, under boards, and in all places where earwigs hide.

PREPARE FOR 1975
We are offering this advice now so that residents of this area can be prepared for next year when the scourge may spread more widely.

AURORA: Larma Investments Limited, is proposing to build a \$5-million enclosed shopping mall here. It would be two-thirds the size of Newmarket's Upper Canada Mall, one-third the size of Richmond Hill's Hillcrest Mall and contain a major department store, a major food outlet, two levels of retail outlets, two cinemas and a community area. The major entrance would be from Orchard Heights Boulevard.

Junior Rangers Program Employs 1,493 This Year

An Ontario Government program which has provided summer employment opportunities for the province's youth for the past 30 years is the Junior Ranger Program. It provides these young people, 1,493 17-year-olds this year, with an opportunity to gain a knowledge of the management of natural resources through a working and learning experience. As a result, the young people become better equipped to evaluate and participate in the decisions made with respect to these resources.

There are 64 Junior Ranger camps in Ontario with 1,325 boys located in 57 of them, while 168 girls occupy the remaining seven.

These young people perform a variety of resource-oriented tasks for which they receive \$5 per day plus room and board. The work includes: thinning and pruning timber stands, collecting cones for seed extraction, planting trees, cleaning nature and snowmobile trails, cutting out portages and creating water access points, developing and improving campsites, cutting, splitting and piling firewood, park maintenance work, road maintenance and camp maintenance.

RESPECT FOR RESOURCES
The Junior Rangers learn to recognize and understand the value of Ontario's nat-

ural resources and the part the Ministry plays in managing them. Tours and field trips to local wood operations and points of interest are arranged where practicable. Safety on the job in the outdoors is emphasized with hard hats and safety boots mandatory. Safety during recreation periods is also stressed.

The Junior Ranger camps are well-constructed, efficiently organized and located as near as possible to the work program. They are usually of cabin-type or mobile timber construction, complete with heating units, electricity or propane lighting and sanitary facilities inspected and approved by the Ministry of Health.

JOB REQUIREMENTS
Students accepted for the Junior Ranger program must be 17 years old, physically fit and prepared to work. Students are usually assigned to camps as far away from home as possible. But strangely enough by the first week in August this year only three girls and 19 boys had been unable to cope with life in the camps and had left.

For those who have been turned on by the Junior Ranger experience — and hundreds have been since 1944 — there are unlimited career opportunities in resources and environment related fields.

Letters to the Editors

NEED MORE CITIZENS— READY TO LEAP FORTH

Dear Mr. Editor —
Last week "The Liberal" reported on a long list of complaints aimed at the parks and recreation operation and the new parks by-law as voiced by a Mr. Tom Graham.

I was most intrigued by this citizen's indignation that he may no longer, legally, take his dog to the arena.

What this town needs is more public spirited citizens who will leap forth and defend the rights of our town dogs to see the hockey boys in action.

We are in the midst of a silly season as young girls

swim Lake Ontario upside down and backwards, motorcycle riders leap tall trucks in a single bound, and people like Mr. Graham cry out for equality for all dog hockey fans.

Unfortunately, Mr. Graham aired his complaints before the Town Council and not the Parks and Recreation Committee, and a large part of his presentation takes on the appearance of grandstanding.

Our Parks and Recreation people are attempting to serve the entire population of Richmond Hill and not just the small segment which falls to Mr. Graham's limited view.

Robert Thompson,
173 Trayborn Drive.

Stouffville Rd. Speeders

By FRED SIMPSON

Residents along a segment of the hilly Stouffville Side-road running east off Yonge Street North in Richmond Hill are continuing to be harassed by speeding motorists.

Latest complainant is Mrs. William Downs who lives on the road, also known as Stouffville Sideroad. She's located on the north side between Yonge Street and Bayview Avenue.

"Our particular difficulty is that we're in a gully and our driveway is such that we have to back out onto the road due to trees on both sides," she said. "This is particularly hazardous because of the speed of motorists along this road. Most of the residents have the same difficulty. Their houses are back from the road in wooded areas and cars just don't see their driveways."

Mrs. Downs stated that the speed limit is 40 miles per hour "in the area but to most drivers this means they can go between 50 and 60."

"When we back onto the road, the cars shoot over the hills and are on us before we know it. There's going to be a very serious collision there if something isn't done. It would be okay if motorists stuck to the speed limit... they don't."

Mrs. Downs said that the York Regional Police had cracked down on speeders for a period of seven to 10 days and "it was something to see."

"The police officer was so busy nailing speeders that he barely had time to write out the stickers. It was almost laughable. Then the police disappeared and the speeders had a free race track again."

Mrs. Downs recounted several harrowing close-calls to illustrate the traffic problems including near-misses

with dump trucks, cars, etc. "On one occasion recently one of these trucks came east off Yonge Street behind me and he was going so fast I was unable to make the turn into my driveway. I had my left signal on but he didn't appear to even see it and didn't slow down a bit."

Mrs. Downs described how an out-of-town guest at her home decided to take a walk up Bayview Avenue and was almost struck by a speeding vehicle as he walked along the shoulder.

"The obvious answer," she said, "is for the police to have more regular speed traps along the road. I realize they can't be there 24 hours a day but there should be some regular system of speed traps instigated on the road."

Mrs. Downs said every resident along the road is fearful of the potential accidents due to the speeders "and we intend to approach the police."

"The powers-that-be finally got stop-lights at the intersection of Yonge Street and Stouffville Sideroad but it took two or three fatalities to do it. We don't want to wait for a similar tragedy for stricter control of speeders on the same road."

NEWMARKET: This town's firefighters answered 62 calls during May and June. Biggest blaze was the May 13 one which destroyed the Bosworth potato storage plant at Pine Orchard. There were 18 false alarms, 11 rubbish fires, five car or truck calls, three grass and one tree fire.

KESWICK: Cottagers who section off their own little portion of lakefront on Georgina Township road allowances at Willow Beach and Paradise Beach will be billed for the cost of tearing the fences down in the future, council has decided.

New Trustee On Catholic School Board

Malcolm Massie, chief librarian at Keswick, took the oath of office and declared allegiance to Queen Elizabeth II to become the Geor-

gina Trustee on the York County Roman Catholic Separate School Board at its August 20 meeting. Mr. Massie will fill the unexpired term of Frank

McElroy of Sutton who was elected to the seat in 1972 for a two-year term, but who resigned effective June 30 as he was returning to Ireland to live.

ROCK TALK

By PAUL JONES
Mick Who?

Under the conditions now persisting, it would be impossible to interview such celebrities in rock music as Jimi Hendrix, Brian Jones, Janis Joplin and Mick Jagger. But anyone, after following any particular star's music, might just be able to imagine what that star would say in an interview. Because the first three names mentioned have gone to that "rock and roll heaven" (or at least that's what the Righteous Brothers called it in their 'single' record, currently dieing on the A.M. charts) this interview will be done with Mick Jagger.

Mick Jagger is a very significant person when considering the financial success of the Rolling Stones. Mick is also widely known for his vanity which he, on many an occasion, has talked about quite openly. And because this is an imaginary conversation, what you will see is not what Mick Jagger has said, but what he might have said if he was actually being interviewed.

ROCK TALK: "Of all the rock bands currently existing in the world today, the Rolling Stones have achieved the greatest success. The main reason for this success can be attributed to their leader — Mick Jagger."

MICK JAGGER: "Thank-You. But you didn't mention why!"

R.T.: "Oh yes: The Stones are successful because they, like Mick, believe that consistency in music is the key; thus playing the same music year in and year out for as many years as possible."

R.T.: "Oh, by the way, is it true you married Bianca because she looks like you?"

M.J.: "Not really. I married her because she looks like me."

start writing your own songs in the near future?"

M.J.: "They're true, I am planning to write myself. But right now I'm waiting for Keith Richards to teach me, and until he learns how to play himself..."

R.T.: "As I understand you follow politics quite closely in Great Britain, I was wondering what your feelings are towards the trouble in Ireland, and if you think the trouble is getting out of hand?"

M.J.: "Well, not really. Now that Prime Minister Nixon has quit, I'm sure they'll lower the price of grapefruit in Siberia."

R.T.: "Oh really? Well, what do you think of Canadian music?"

M.J.: "I think it's great! I used to really like the Beatles; but I could never figure out why they never made it."

R.T.: "I suppose the final question is, are there any ambitions you seek to accomplish?"

M.J.: "Yes, I'd like to see the day when people who appreciate good music will appreciate the Rolling Stones' music. I would also like to have wall to wall mirrors installed in my mansion, and star in a five-star production. This movie would only be a six-hour film featuring a day in the life of Mick Jagger."

R.T.: "Wouldn't that be monotonous?"

M.J.: "Not any more than the music the Stones have produced."

But in all honesty, and contrary to the general belief, Mick Jagger isn't entirely like this. It's persons like Mick who have made rock music what it is today, and that is what counts. Right?

(Next week — Hudson & Ford.)