Spanking

and church

beat drugs

(From The Journal of the Addiction Research

Parents who want their young children to avoid drug and alcohol abuse in later life should spank them

occasionally, send them to

church, and not let them

drink alcohol until they are

These are the recom-

mendations of Dr. Forrest

E. Tennant, Jr., an MD

and Ph.D. professor of

epidemiology, University of

California at Los Angeles.

The advice may sound old-

fashioned but is based on

results of Dr. Tennant's

study of more than 5,000

Most of the men who did

not use drugs or alcohol

went to church regularly as

children or were spanked

occasionally. Another factor

that correlated was drinking

at an early age, before

Out of a battery of possible factors, these three

were the only ones that

correlated and Dr. Tennant

thinks authorities should

recommend that parents discipline their children

accordingly. To sceptics he

says: "Show me your data."

results would bear out the

idea that if children were

taught to play a lot of games

and participate in sports,

they would build self-esteem that would help them refrain

from drinking in later life.

But this was not the case.

According to the data, childhood games, parents'

drinking habits, marital

bliss and a number of

similar factors did not

correlate with use of drugs

and made absolutely no

Approximately 70 per cent of those who did not use drugs went to church as

children or were spanked

difference.

At the beginning of the study, Dr. Tennant expected

young U.S. soldiers.

at least fifteen years old.

Foundation of Ontario)

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Markham election ? situation unique

A recent article in Time magazine describes the battle of the recounts in a New Hampshire riding for a seat in the U.S. Sentate.

It seems last November Republican Congressman Louis C. Wyman was declared winner over Democrat John A. Durkin by 542 votes out of 236,140 cast.

However, a subsequent review put Wyman out in front by two. As a result, Durkin has now petitioned the Senate to review the contested ballots, while

Wyman has asked that thestate's courts call a new election. As Time points out, all this disorder could have been avoided if more people had got out and voted, instead of just the 49

percent that did. While the story was about a situation in the United States, it could just as easily have been about one in York Region. And that one, of course, is the recent civic election, which at first saw Councillor Ron Moran of Markham 'edge out councillor Alma Walker by 15 votes.

However, a recount three weeks later gave Mrs. Walker the lead by two points.

As it stands now, Moran has indicated he will fight the matter all the way to the Supreme Court if necessary.

Still, Councillor Moran, despite everything, took the oath of office last week and plans to take his seat on both town and region councils.

Basis for his appeal is that proper care wasn't taken of the ballot boxes following the elec-

So far not many traditions

around Richmond Hill council

chambers have fallen like Goliath

at the hands of little Mayor David.

two years to change the time of

the inaugural meeting, after

tradition in The Hill to call an 11

am, Monday meeting. Originally,

as the story goes, the time was

established to accommodate the

farmers who wanted time to finish

the morning chores and get into

their Sunday-go-to-meetin' suit.

economy as it is, the farmers have

daytime jobs to make ends meet

and it is difficult to get time off —

even for an auspicious occasion

Mayor Schiller was quick to

repent for not thinking of an

evening meeting. He knew he had

made a mistake a week before the

like the inaugural.

But now with the state of the

For years, it has been the

muffing his chance this year.

Mayor Schiller will have to wait

tion, as is required under the municipal election act.

"I'm not arguing they were tampered with," Moran said. "I'm just saying not enough caution was taken to prevent tampering."

It is not a pleasant situation. Moran, who is out, is in. This while Mrs. Walker, who is in, is out.

The democratic process has taken a beating and two good people - both Councillor Moran and Councillor Walker served well on council - are still battling. And will be battling for

percent of the voters could be bothered to get out in New Hampshire. But that was a stampede compared to the puny turnout in Markham.

Only 31.8 percent of the eligible Markham Town voters exercised their franchise. That doesn't cover much territory and it's a good bet, as expressed in the U.S. case, had more people voted they wouldn't be battling these few votes back and forth in ping pong fashion until one or the other of the participants finally throws down the bat.

As it is now, Supreme Court decision or no, there's still a good possibility the person who does finally get the nod, may not be the same person that those 31.8

And that's definitely wrong, of votes or so.

Only Hill holds

morning inaugural

JOHN S. STYGA VI5/75

some time yet, over something that was supposed to have been settled way back on December 2. Time lamented the fact only 49

percent of the voters elected.

even if it's only wrong by a couple

Viewpoint from the regional desk

BY JIM IRVING

were meeting at night. So he has to get elected again next term to get another whack at this tradition.

inaugural when he read in the

paper all the other York councils

However it is likely the alternate daytime council meetings of the previous administration will be done away with soon. In this respect Richmond Hill will be setting a good example for most other councils in York.

Meanwhile, in the middle of a debate last week, Mayor Schiller casually pulled out his favorite pipe to light up. No one said anything. Only a few eyes zeroed in on a plaque which commemorates the passing of Bylaw 88-73 — to prohibit smoking in the

chambers. So even though he got off to a slow start, the mayor may yet be known as David the tradition

There was a kind of combined carnival and cathedral-like atmosphere at the beginning of the inaugural meeting of York Regional Council last week in Newmarket. A bit of solemnity mixed with occasional

hustle, and the whole place lined with wallto-wall people. So it made the chambers, which usually have all the atmosphere of an outback railroad depot, less gray than usual, less

forbidding, less intolerant. The place instead was more like a theatre on the eve of the opening night of a longawaited play; all those people, and all

looking so prepossessing.

The men had their hair combed and wore jackets - some members of the press gallery almost went unrecognized for a moment because of this sudden slip into respectability on their parts - and the women appeared freshly coiffed and sparkling in the way only women can when they want to straighten out deluded old male chauvinists, or decide such weighty issues as to who's going to wash and who's going to

So it seemed the proper place to be on the

afternoon of January 10; obviously something was going to happen.

WATCHDOG

PUBLIC FUNDS

THE QUICK BROWN FOX JUMPS OVER THE LAZY DOG, AGAIN, AND AGAIN, AND AGAIN, &

AGAIN, AND AGAIN, AND AGAIN, AND AGAIN, AND AGAIN, AND AGAIN, AND AGAIN, AND

But it never did.

Oh, a color guard from the Queen's Own Rangers did its best to scrape off some of the plaster from the ceiling with the top of its flagpoles. And later, Chairman Garfield Wright managed to place Councillor Bob Adams of Markham, in the Town Vaughan when he introduced him. But the big battle many people thought was going to take place for chairman, and which they had all come to see, never got past the wishful thinking stage.

Chairman Wright's name was the only one put forward. And even though there was a lot of throat clearing and doodling with their pencils by the other council members, no more was said. This until finally Councillor Mrs. Lois Hancey got up and suggested Bob Vernon the clerk, who was acting chairman, put an end to the charade by making a couple of more pitches for names. And if none was forthcoming to call a halt to nominations and give Chairman Wright back his gavel.

Mr. Wright acted suitably humble about the vote, calling the moment "electrifying" as if he hadn't really expected the honor. And then he proceeded to pull out an 11-page speech of acceptance from his pocket, in which he predicted the region would continue to blossom like the Garden of Eden,

Gardenias for the ladies

every meeting, Mr. Clerk

although at a more belt-tightening pace. After that, it was all a bit anti-climactic. Councillor Adams fired what turned out to be a dribbler, after the chairman had finished his address, criticizing Mr. Wright for discussing a possible site for a new regional building on his own. It was a decision that rested with council, Adams

"No question about it," answered Wright immediately, leaving Adams standing there

tugging at his ear. It was a good reply by the chairman, but it also was the kind of non-combative rejoinder that ruled out any kind of beginning excitement or entertainment for the overflow crowd, which by this time was starting to wonder if there'd be a bar, or just tea and cookies at the reception afterwards.

And so, even if Wright found his election

"electrifying", that same sort of electricity didn't exactly race through the crowd.

But maybe that's not so bad either. Perhaps there shouldn't be too great an air of expectancy where such things are concerned. Maybe if the members of council just heed the words of Reverend Robert Shorten of Richmond Hill United Church, who gave the invocation, that will provide its own sort of spark.

Mr. Shorten stressed the servant aspect of the work, something that is all too often forgotten by our "public servants."

They are there to serve: if they ever have doubts about their roles, they can check

Romans and Matthew. And besides, the meeting did end on a positive note, with Mr. Wright showing he

can fill that big chair when he wants. That was when Mayor Mrs. Gladys Rolling of East Gwillimbury got up to thank whoever it was for the gardenias which had been presented to the ladies on council.

taking," said Mrs. Rolling. "Gardenias every meeting, Mr. Clerk," guipped back the chairman.

"Why, they were positively breath



SINCLAIR STEVENS **REPORTS**

slaver.

SINCLAIR STEVENS MP YORK SIMCOE

There may be a new holiday in Canada during the three month wintery period between New Year's Day and Easter if the

Optimist Clubs of Canada get their wish. In the last Parliament, three bills were introduced (including one by myself), proposing the establishment of such a new national holiday.

All three bills were referred to the justice committee of the House of Commons which in turn recommended that a holiday — to be known as Heritage Day - should be proclaimed to fall on the third Monday of February each year. If the legislation had been passed, the date for the holiday this year would have been February 17.

It was suggested a different subject, group or event should be singled out for recognition each year on Heritage Day.

It could be the Fathers of Confederation one year; another year it might be the early explorers or our native peoples; while other years might be designated to honor those who have made important contributions in the fields of science, art, religion, education, sports or business.

The theme each year would be chosen by a joint committee of the Senate and House of Commons to be co-chaired by the

Speakers of the two Houses. Parliament has taken no further action

Region Optimist Clubs go all out for Heritage Day

on the matter.

Clubs get interested

The Optimist Clubs, hearing of the proposal, have prepared a Heritage Day planning guide which describes the types of activity that could take place in Canada each year.

Bill Leedham of Queensville, president of the Newmarket Optimist Club, states he intends to raise the matter at the February 1 Zone 9 meeting of local clubs which include Newmarket, East Gwillimbury, Innisfil, Barrie, Keswick, Midland and North Bay.

He proposes that eventually the Optimist Clubs across Ontario and possibly Canada, petition Ottawa to institute the holiday.

Markham too Bruce Russell of Stroud, president of the

Innisfil Club, intends to back up the Newmarket position at the Zone 9 meeting. Meanwhile, Aurora president Omar Khamissa intends to press at a similar Zone 8 meeting (which includes Toronto, Aurora and Markham) for the establishment of the holiday. "The country needs this type of holiday," Khamissa said. "the Optimist Clubs are for it."

Dave Fisher, president of the East Gwillimbury Club stated he intends to bring

the matter up at their meeting on January

In their planning guide, the Optimist Clubs hope to be able to participate along with civic, church, fraternal and social groups in local observances of Heritage Day. They point out such activity will help to accomplish one of the purposes of the Optimist Clubs - the promotion of patriotism.

In addition to possibly holding prayer breakfasts, parades, dances, and fireworks displays, the clubs believe citizens' programs could be organized which would include presentations of awards to local Citizens of the Year. There could be community clean-up projects, essay contests, art contests and even a Miss Heritage contest. All to make us a little prouder of Canada.

On February 23, 1973, I introduced a bill proposing the establishment of Discovery

At that time I stated in the House, "The purpose of this bill is to establish Canada's 10th statutory holiday which will be the only holiday break in our long winter season. The holiday will afford Canadians an opportunity to pay tribute not only to our pioneers of the past 500 years but to reawaken interest in discovery, both present and future. Both Newfoundland and the Yukon have such a holiday. This bill lets the rest of Canada catch up.

The Optimist Clubs may succeed in rekindling enthusiasm for the establishment of this holiday. Let's hope so.

Heritage Day is a similar concept.

Speaking of heritage, Saturday marked the 160th anniversary of the birth of Sir John A. Macdonald who was born in Glasgow on Januaary 11 in 1815, just five months before Wellington and Napoleon met at Waterloo.

At the age of 29, Sir John A. became a member of the legislature. He was in public life for nearly half a century, a cabinet minister for 30 years and prime minister for 20 years.

If there was one father of Confederation it was Sir John A. Macdonald. When Sir John A. died in 1891, wearied in the service of his country, it was his French-speaking opponent who pronounced the most eloquent tribute.

Of him Sir Wilfrid Laurier said, "Sir John Macdonald now belongs to the ages, and it can be said with certainty the career which has just been closed is one of the most remarkable careers of this century. Before* the grave of him who, above all, was the father of Confederation, let not grief be barren grief.

Recently the body of another who gave of himself in the service of his country -Corporal Robert Wayne Miller of Aurora, one of three Canadians killed on Christmas Eve while on peacekeeping duty in Egypt was returned to Aurora. Wayne's father, Les Miller, met the plane carrying the body at Malton, accompanied by Councillor Norman Stewart of Aurora, Col. F. A. Tilston VC, Bruce Heise, president of the Aurora Legion and myself. An honor guard from Downsview Military Base was present to pay tribute.

As the body was transferred from the plane in a casket draped with the Canadian flag. I felt how unfortunate it was that a young Canadian should lose his life in what appears to have been an unfortunate traffic accident.

His family and wife Shirley have the consolation of knowing, however, that his presence along with Canada's 1,100-man peacekeeping force in the Middle East, helped to prevent the outbreak of hostilities in that area, an outbreak which would have resulted in the death of thousands.