

regional viewpoint

By Jim Irving

If At First You Do Secede A Two-Minute Play in Three Acts

Scene - (Office of the Prime Minister of Canada. The prime minister is sitting behind his desk. His secretary enters. It is 1997.)

SECRETARY - The ambassador from Quebec is here, sir.
PM - Send him in. (Ambassador enters and PM rises.)

PM - Bonjour Monsieur le ambassador.
AMBASSADOR - What? PM - Oh, I'm sorry, I'd forgotten you don't speak French anymore.

AMBASSADOR - (Draws his words) Well, it has been 20 years since we seceded and, well, you know how the AMERICANS insist on everyone speaking AMERICAN.

PM - It's just as well; my French is a little rusty, too. Margaret and the kids never speak it. They even turn the cereal boxes around to the side that's in English.
AMBASSADOR - Yes, yes, I know. One gets so behind. The other night when my wife said "Ouvrez la porte," I opened the wine.

PM - Quelle dommage?
AMBASSADOR - No;

no damage, we planned to have it later anyway.

PM - Hmm, yes, I see. Well, tell me, what was it you wanted to see me about?

AMBASSADOR - (gravely) Mr. Prime Minister - (sighs) we want to become a province of Canada again.

(PM's mouth opens and he drops back into his chair.)

End of Act I

Act II

SCENE - (Caucus room, where emergency meeting of cabinet is in session. PM is banging his gavel and calling for order. With order restored, member from Saskatchewan speaks.)

MEMBER FROM SASK. - Mr. Prime Minister, these people have been out of Canada for 20 years; they obviously no longer think of themselves as Canadians.

VOICE - If they ever did.

MEMBER FROM ST. BONIFACE - Naturellment. As the member from St. Boniface, I speak as one who knows. We of the French tongue have always considered ourselves French-Canadians. Par example, I, myself, am the great-great-great grandson of French

If at first you do secede

people who came over here in 1617. So, naturellment, although I was born here, I can hardly think of myself as pure Canadian.

PM - What do you think of yourself as?
ST. BONIFACE - French-Canadian, of course.

PM - As opposed to...?
ST. BONIFACE - English-Canadian, of course. All those people who don't speak French.

PM - I see. Such as all those Englishmen from Hungary, Italy, Greece, China, Portugal, Arabia, Georgia and even Britain.

ST. BONIFACE - Exactment.
PM - Well, enough of this identity business. We must decide this question before us.

MEMBER FROM ONTARIO - Mr. Prime Minister, we could extract every possible concession from Quebec at this time, but the situation would still revert to the same old English-French question again. Quebec would soon want all nine provinces to speak French to conform to them. The old establishment will tell us nothing. We must look to youth. (To secretary) Bring in Raymond doo Valleyer. (boy of 16 enters). Gentlemen, this is Raymond doo Valleyer,

son of the Quebec ambassador. Tell me, Raymond, why do you want to live in Canada?

RAYMOND - Well, as you know, sir, I'm 16 now and can leave home on my own and, well, your welfare scheme is among the best in the world, your unemployment benefits are the highest anywhere, you have co-ed dormitories in all your youth hostels, there are no compulsory subjects in the schools, students have their own marijuana smoking room, they get three months paid vacation every summer and five weeks at Christmas, and, well, the most important thing; didn't my Dad tell you?

ALL - What?
RAYMOND - This is the only way we'll ever get back to speaking French again.

End of Act II

Act III

(Prime minister is on his way out of his office. Seeps to secretary.)
PM - Oh, Miss Burnside, the ambassador from Quebec is calling around at noon to get my answer about Quebec coming back into Canada. I'm going away for the weekend, so when he arrives, tell him, please, to live Le Quebec Libre.



sharon's sunshine

By Sharon Brain

Once upon a time, long ago, my boyfriend and I would drive out to the spanking new Toronto airport. We stood on the decks to watch the planes take off and land.

We would wander about and dreamily listen to boarding calls for distant places. We would choose our destinations and talk about where and when.

I still spend a lot of time at the airport. But now I'm dropping him off or picking him up. It's not quite the same.

I no longer think being a stewardess is glamorous. I've watched them sipping drinks to crabby business men on the five thirty flight to Montreal.

I no longer think any place is better than here. I've been to Calgary.

Men's breaks

But even so, when I drop my husband at the airport and head home, I'm not thinking about the joys of my own fireside. I'm thinking about how business men have all the breaks.

While I'm driving Highway 7 between Thornhill and Woodbridge, he's hopping jumbo jets.

While I'm deciding whether to have canned spaghetti or canned tuna, he's eating fancy little sandwiches served by fancy little stewardesses.

I try to fight it. But envy is hard to beat. I remind myself air travel is a blend of boredom and terror with a large dollop of frustration thrown in.

I try to remember that every time I travel, something goes wrong.

It happens

Sometimes it happens right at the start. There was the time I looked out the window as we taxied down the runway. I saw a man loading suitcases just like mine onto another plane.

They were mine. Four days later they showed up.



yesterdays

by mary dawson

Vaughan Township was the recipient in pioneer days of four cultures; Pennsylvania German, English, Scottish and Irish.

So wrote James McDonald in a section of "A History of Vaughan Township", compiled by Dr. G. Elmore Reaman and published in 1971.

Each of these had a background of many centuries in Europe. Although there might be similarities, there were many strong differences.

For instance, there was a difference in religion.

German heritage

The Pennsylvania Germans were Plain Folk. They were interested primarily in agriculture and in maintaining their religion, customs, language and family relationships.

They, by and large, were averse to holding public office.

Conversely, the English were anxious to duplicate in Upper Canada governmental procedures which, they thought, proclaimed them as belonging to a superior way of life.

Scottish tradition

The Scottish brought with them their love of learning, a frugality, and a capacity to win their way to the top.

The Irish, on the contrary, brought their love of life and people and the ability to adjust to new situations. Of these four groups three were Protestant.

One - the Irish - included many Roman Catholics. It's members were late comers to the province.

English religion

The English, belonging to the State Church in England, tended to look down on other religions.

The Scots were Presbyterians with a determination to establish their beliefs in Canada.

The Pennsylvania Germans were content to worship in each other's homes. They shut themselves away from the world in general.

The Irish for many years, because of their scattered numbers, were without much help and guidance from their church.

Glamor isn't in air travel

Sometimes things go wrong at the end of the trip. There was the time I waited 12 hours in an airport for the airline to find a window to replace the one a suicidal bird demolished.

Then there was the four-hour flight with an 18-month-old child. He has forgotten, but I haven't.

The last time I flew, we had a white-knuckle landing in Buffalo in the height of a snowstorm. When the stewardess came on the PA to tell us we were the first plane to land in hours, I wasn't all that proud.

But I think the lady throwing up behind me helped dampen my enthusiasm.

The inevitable

I don't know why I can't remember from one trip to the next where I will probably end up sitting.

It'll be beside someone who will want to talk when I want to read, want to smoke when I feel sick, and want to go to the washroom when I want to sleep.

I've tried to stop believing that flying is a delightful adventure, a romp through the clouds, an escape from all that is humdrum and drab.

But I can't. So I head to the airport to pick up my returning traveller. I race up to him and ask enviously, "How was it?"

Eyes bleary

He stares at me through eyes bleary from a smoke filled cabin. His stomach is upset from too many drinks going down, and too many air pockets going up and down.

He's eaten too much to pass the time. He's napped with his shoes on, his head flopping over onto the stranger sleeping beside him.

He's been interrogated at customs and enraged at the baggage pick-up.

He picks up the suitcase he's been dragging around since he left his hotel at eight that morning.

"It was lousy," he says wearily. "Let's go home."

Vaughan's 4 cultures

Yet, in most cases, the Irish remained loyal to it. There were also differences in language, food, building, farm practices and folk arts generally.

Cultural differences

The earliest settlers' (the Pennsylvania Germans) typical home was a log building which was soon extended into a house - frame or brick - with one section set aside for the parents when they gave over the farm. This was known as the "Daddy" house.

Across a stoop from the main house there was a separate building, called the summer kitchen.

This was used to keep the heat out of the main house in summer. It was often used as storage space in the winter.

There was a brick bake oven, also by itself, and often a shop for the making and repair of articles.

Most of the furniture was handmade. The barn was usually a bank barn with a basement for cattle, always with an overhang.

English brick

The English, coming after 1815 in numbers, soon built brick houses to surround the furniture they brought with them.

Often they landscaped their homes into places of beauty reminiscent of the homes they left behind half a world away.

They adopted the bank barn idea from their neighbors, having been used to shedlike shelters for cattle in England where cattle did not need to be housed indoors in the winter.

Scottish stone

Many of the Scots were stonemasons by trade. So they built large stone houses.

Most Scots were more interested in acquiring more land than in building elaborate houses. They were quick to learn from the Germans the techniques of farming needed in this part of the world.

The Irish frequently worked as laborers for the British until they acquired property of their own.

Many of them went into business of some kind where they were usually successful.

Now is the Time to

Insulate

Your Home with our High Performance Fibre Insulation

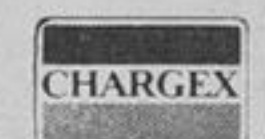


UPPER CANADA

INSULATION LTD. A Local Company Using HIGH PERFORMANCE CELLULOSE FIBRE

BANK FINANCING AVAILABLE

OR USE YOUR



FOR FREE ESTIMATE CALL Bill Dodds or John MacDiarmid 884-5230 - 884-3905



Travel From Waddell's World of Travel Ltd.

ALL ABOARD FOR THE RAPIDS!

You may have seen them on TV or on a movie screen - big inflatable rubber rafts filled with laughing, screaming people joyously getting splashed as they ride roller-coaster-like through churning, foaming water. It's called a river trip or just plain "run", and it's the newest - and called by those who've done it - the GREATEST of vacation thrills!

"Wild" doesn't begin to describe a river trip, and no amusement park can duplicate the gyrations of the rafts over the rapids. Climbing and falling over the waves is hard to describe - it must be experienced. Tours can be arranged to run either the Colorado or the Salmon

River ("The River of No Return,") and they feature overnight camping and stops along the way for photography, swimming, exploration, and hiking. Remember, these river trips are not special, custom arrangements for just a few people... any one can go on them, and that includes YOU! Stop in and let us give you all the details about schedules, costs, leaving dates, etc. We can put you in one of those fabulous rafts!

WADDELL'S WORLD OF TRAVEL, LTD., 10084 Yonge St. Richmond Hill. Phone: 884-9271 - 889-2882. Let us show you the world! See you next week. BONDED REGISTERED TRAVEL AGENCY NO. 0007853

SUNRISE AUTO ELECTRIC

55 NEWKIRK ROAD, RICHMOND HILL

SPECIALIZING "IN EUROPEAN CARS!"

ROLLS-ROYCE, JAGUAR, AUSTIN, TOYOTA, DATSUN, VOLVO, VOLKSWAGEN

"ELECTRICAL TUNE-UP"

STARTERS, ALTERNATORS, WIPER MOTORS, LIGHTS, POWER WINDOW MOTORS, COMPLETE AUTO & TRUCK REWIRING.

"WE SPECIALIZE IN BRAKES"

REGULAR & DISC BRAKES WE ALSO HANDLE ALIGNMENTS!

FOR APPOINTMENT CALL: 884-2581 223-7759 223-7519

ASK FOR FREE ESTIMATE OPEN DAILY MONDAY TO FRIDAY 8 a.m. TO 5 p.m.

THE YORK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION AREA # 4

REGISTRATION OF Kindergarten Children for September 1977

Children who have not already been registered and are eligible to enroll in kindergarten in September 1977 should be registered in the schools serving the area in which they reside during the week of February 14th.

All children whose fifth birthday falls on or before December 31, 1977 are eligible to attend kindergarten, beginning in September 1977.

PROOF OF AGE IS REQUIRED FOR EACH CHILD AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION

Parents should contact the principal of their local school in order to secure details regarding registration.

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------|----------|
| Baythorn | W.T. Higginson | 889-7993 |
| Bayview Fairways | H.D. McCaw | 889-1858 |
| Bayview Glen | G.H. Fisher | 889-2448 |
| Franklin Street | L.J. Abernethy | 294-3562 |
| German Mills | D.G. Maunder | 889-8776 |
| Henderson Ave. | W.S. Caldwell | 889-3132 |
| James Robinson | N. Davison | 294-3484 |
| Parkview | R. Stover | 297-2172 |
| Reesor Park | J. Peters | 294-6558 |
| Roy H. Crosby | J.L. Canning | 294-2910 |
| Royal Orchard | E.N. McFadden | 889-6272 |
| E.J. Sand | W.T. Cober | 889-2753 |
| Stornoway Cres. | D.W. Painter | 889-9535 |
| Thornhill | J.T. Martins | 889-1566 |
| Unionville | D.J. Young | 297-1824 |
| William Armstrong | A. Boynton | 294-1262 |

C.A. Cribar Chairman S.L.G. Chapman Director

THE RICHMOND HILL WINTER CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS their sincere thanks

To the following for their support given to the Winter Carnival

| | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Wm. J. Klees & Son Ltd. | Elk's - Richmond Heights | Bork Jewellers |
| Dynes Jewellers | Richmond Heights Interiors | Barrell Pizza Parlour |
| Rice's Flowers | The Man's Shop | Windham Manor Dining Lounge |
| H.J. Mills Florist | Radiant Beauty Supplies Ltd. | Rosetown Restaurant |
| Hillcrest Mall Merchants Assoc. | The Record Bar | Coro Canada Ltd. |
| Gruen Watch Co. | Luigi Grocery | McDonald's |
| Dominion Stores | Charlton Hardware | Al Fry |
| Richmond Heights Home Hardware | Elkhorn Restaurant | Three Coins Open Kitchen |
| Shields Footwear | Galaxie Restaurant | Town Auto Body |
| Kent's Clothes | Pop's Tavern | Adamo's Hair Stylist |
| Radio Shack | Kraemar Fashions | Apollio II Coiffure |
| Colozza Shoes | Studio A | Hairstylist Place |
| Allencourt Variety | Evyan Perfumes | Village Coiffure |
| Braymar Sports | Black Hawk Motor Inn | Golden Curl Coiffure |
| Regional Sports | Canadian Tire Store | La Casa Loma Beauty Salon |

Snow Queen Sue Whalen's Fur Coat Donated by Richmond Hill Furriers

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Baker's Sales & Service (1968) Ltd. | Beverley Acres Pharmacy |
| Don Little Ford Sales Inc. | Kenzie Pharmacy |
| Wilson Niblett Motors Ltd. | Allencourt Pharmacy |
| Richmond Hill Chrysler Dodge Ltd. | Allencourt IGA |
| W & P Motors (Volkswagen) Ltd. | |

PATRONS

Royal Bank of Canada, Toronto Dominion Bank, Canada Trust Company, Guaranty Trust, Victoria Grey Trust Co. The Kinsmen Club for the Bicycle Draw The Young Life for looking after the Skate Exchange The Richmond Hill Chamber of Commerce for providing us with programmes The York Central Canadian Progress Club for cooking Pancakes Sunday morning The Lions Club and the Richmond Hill Legion for entertaining our Snow Princesses The Arena Board and Ed Sackfield for arranging the Public School Hockey Tournament John Rae and "Gunner" the Frisbie Champion Dog St. John's Ambulance Travelways Bus Lines for Free Transportation Judges of the Snow Queen Contest - Inge Hammarstrom, Wayen Allison, Lauren Eccelstone, Lorraine Kelly Judges of the Snow Sculptures - Douglas Allen, Bernie Toperowski, Bruce Lloyd Gail and Ron Skinner and Jim Flett for arranging the Sleigh Ride and Dance Saturday Night Dwight Powell for organizing the Log Cutting Contest The people who donated Snow Mobiles and those who drove them The people who worked in the ticket booth and those who served hot chocolate and more hot chocolate all week end, thanks again from the

Richmond Hill Winter Carnival Committee:

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Bill Ruttle | Chairman |
| Joan Flett | Treasurer |
| Gladys Banks | Secretary |
| Evelyn Ruttle, Don Wulf | Food |
| Anja Beggs | Publicity |
| Ed Banks & John Cook | Carnival Queen |
| Ian MacLean & Bill Law | Carnival Buttons |
| Ed Sackfield | Public & Separate School Hockey Tournament |
| Bill Lazenby | Donations |
| Paul Hunter & Dave Barrow | Prizes |
| Tom Carvin | Bed Race |
| Norm McLeod | Co-Ordinator Public & Separate School Activities |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Al Fry | Snow Mobile Rides |
| Bruce Wulf | Communications |
| Warren Davey, Dalt Hicks, Kay Schell | |
| Shaun Beggs | Past President |
| High School Representatives | |
| Marilyn Grass | Bayview |
| Richard Thompson | Bayview |
| Mary Beaton | Don Head |
| Gail Amadio | Langstaff |
| Bridgit Penning | Richmond Hill |
| Carla Kisko | Richmond Hill |