

Letters

Gray Coach drivers may lose jobs, reader says

On June 15, Mr. Ross Bayley expressed in a letter to the Aurora Banner his concern regarding the possibility that employees of Gray Coach may lose their jobs in the Newmarket and Aurora area.

Or at best, forced to relocate in an attempt to keep their jobs due to the Ontario Highway Transport Board granting Greyhound a license to operate over the most profitable routes, previously exclusively serviced by Gray Coach.

The Ontario Highway Transport Board was requested by Mr. James Snow, Minister of Transport and Communications to review their decision.

On July 21, the board released their report to the minister recommending its decision on Nov. 22, 1976 should be affirmed.

Because of the decision and the probability the Ontario cabinet will uphold the board's report, we would like to direct a number of questions arising from the July 21 report to our Member of Parliament, Bill Hodgson.

1. How many jobs will be lost in the Newmarket-Aurora area?

2. How many drivers will be forced to relocate in an attempt to keep their jobs?

3. Is GO Transit presently building their own maintenance garage and also purchasing their own rolling stock, to become self-sufficient? If so, would this not be further lost revenue for Gray Coach?

4. The report constantly mentions that competition by Greyhound, on the specific routes will improve the service to the travelling public. It does not emphasize the large

portion of freight that is available. Would it not be reasonable to assume that one of the main reasons Greyhound applied for these specific routes, was for the large international freight from Buffalo to Toronto and also the domestic freight moving from Toronto to Sudbury which would connect with their affiliate company to Western Canada?

5. Why was Greyhound allowed to service only the express routes and not forced to accept local service routes as well?

6. Did the president of Greyhound actually state during the hearings that Greyhound would not run local service routes as it is impossible for these routes to be compensatory?

7. The report states that drivers who lose their jobs could be rehired by Greyhound. Is it not true that the Union local for Greyhound is located in Calgary? Would this not require Greyhound to hire from that area first before they could recruit drivers from the Ontario local?

The report continuously states Gray Coach is inefficient.

The report also states the President of Gray Coach, who is a part time appointment, by the city of Toronto, averages only one day per week.

The board suggests Gray Coach employ its own board of directors separate from the Toronto Transit Commission.

Its own executive team, a set of objectives that allows to make clear trade offs between service and profitability.

If their findings are correct, why was Gray Coach not allowed to reorganize?

We feel, allowing Gray

Coach this opportunity should have been the first step, before issuing the license to Greyhound.

Discussions with our local bus drivers, they are confused and very upset. They believe Gray Coach is as efficient as any other operator.

They would like to challenge all bus companies to operate an express service and local service and local service routes, and be more efficient.

Mr. Hodgson, the most disturbing fact during our discussions with the local drivers, is the young people of their families.

They were unable to understand why the Ontario government would allow an American bus company to jeopardize their fathers' job.

JIM WILSON
York North
Liberal Association



yesterdays

by mary dawson

Those delectable goodies which were taken to picnics and church suppers in pioneer days and which the family often enjoyed at home were made by mother and daughters who were being taught the fine art of cooking.

By the time these daughters had married and had families of their own they often didn't need a recipe to follow as they "just knew" how to cook — the feel of a just-right pie crust, the look of a perfect cake batter, etc.

Back in 1850 a housewife asked for her recipe for ginger cake which always received high praise, replied, "I always take some flour, just enough flour for the cakes I want to make. I mix it up with some buttermilk, if I happen to have it, just enough for the flour. Then I take some ginger, some like more, some like less. I put in a little salt and pearl ash (a type of baking soda, crude potassium carbonate),

and then I tell John to pour in molasses till I tell him to stop."

I wonder what would have happened to the cakes if the housewife had become distracted and John had gone on pouring molasses — and pouring molasses — and —

The same women's recipe for doughnuts was just as vague. "Take some cream in a bowl. Break in an egg or two, and some sweetening, then put in one thing and another till it's just right. Have your lard real hot, and if you use your judgment they'll be good."

Another recipe from The Liberal files of December 7, 1889, told how to make a plum pudding in more explicit fashion.

"One pound of baker's bread cut in slices and placed in a deep dish, one-half cup butter (spread each slice with the butter), one cup raisins seeded; mix with the bread. Into one quart of milk put one-half cup sugar, two-thirds cup of

Ladies knew cooking art

molasses, three eggs well beaten, small teaspoonful vanilla, pinch of cassia, nutmeg and salt; turn this mixture over the bread; steam two hours and a half. Sauce — cream one-quarter cup of butter with two cups powdered sugar, flavour with vanilla.

A recipe for ginger-snaps, published that same year, read: One cup molasses, one-half cup sugar, one tablespoon vinegar, two tablespoons warm water, one teaspoon soda, flour to mix so can pat out in hand, one tablespoon ginger.

For dumplings the housewife was advised to take one egg, half cup sweet milk, two teaspoons baking powder, pinch salt and flour to stiffen.

Drop off teaspoon into boiling chicken or beef stew and let boil with pot covered for 10 minutes.

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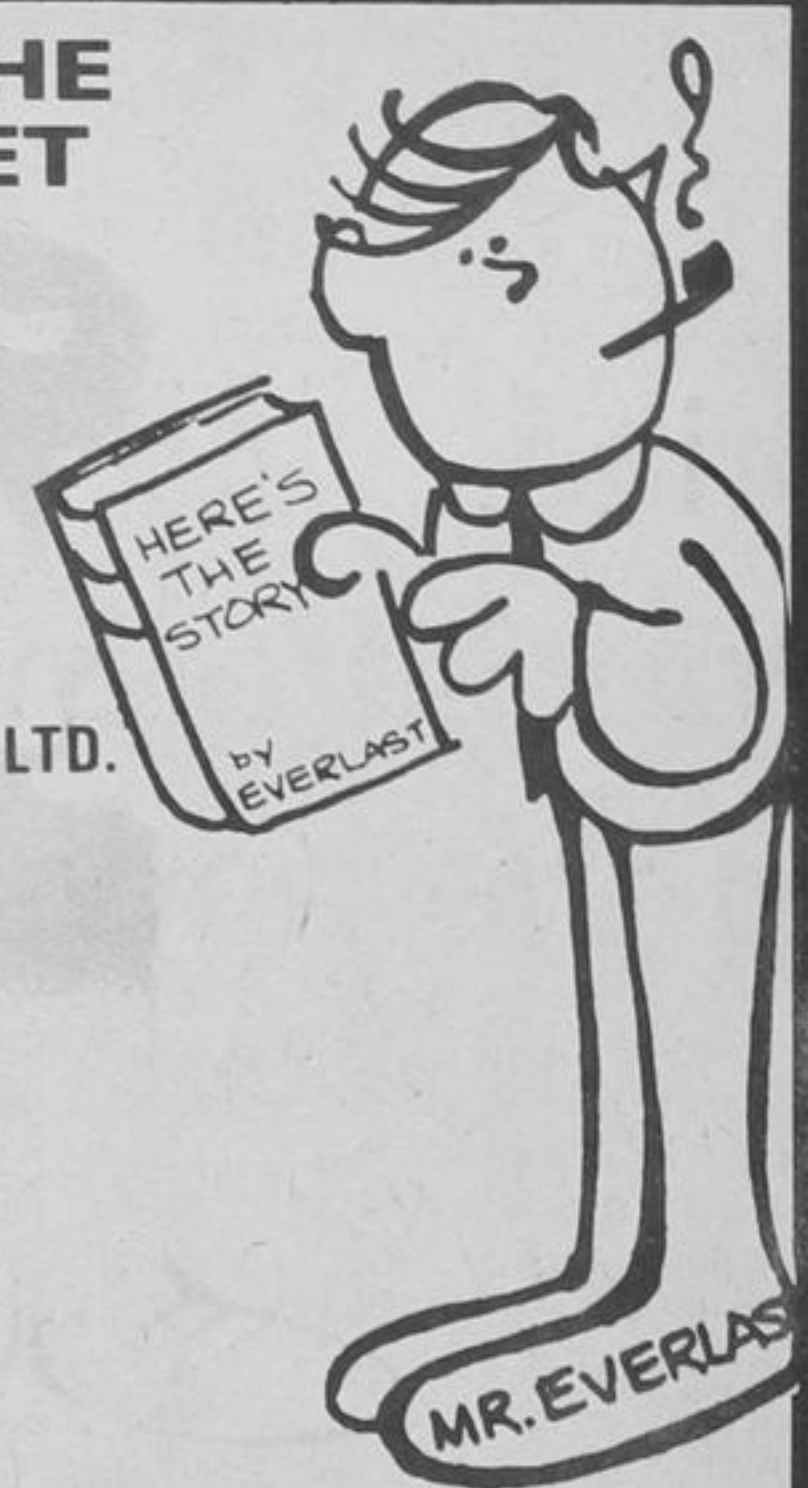
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Temple to host our orchestra

My husband, Guy Saunders, is the President of the York Pioneer and Historical Society.

As you know the Society owns and operates Sharon Temple Museum at Sharon, Ontario, two and a half miles north of Newmarket on Leslie Street.

On Sunday, August 7, and again on August 28, the York Symphony Orchestra is performing an afternoon recital of Haydn and Mozart in the Temple.

There will be a trio and quartets featuring Eileen Bourdessa (violin), Betty Thomas (cello), James

Knowles (violin) and Karl Rohowsky (flute).

The time for the recitals will be 3.30 p.m. The charge will be the regular admission to the grounds, \$1.

Also, on the grounds and in the log cabin and in Doan House there will be demonstrations of Pioneer crafts, spinning, rug hooking, open hearth cooking, rug weaving, chair caning and quilting.

Refreshments will be available. The grounds are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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