Moving a wall or two would make it great

By SHARON BRAIN

I was taking my once-a-week drive

Wednesday when it happened. Our family may never be the same. But let me begin at the beginning.

First of all the nicest street in Thornhill is just that because of all the cunning little houses, all the white picket fences, all the window boxes, all Eaton's catalogue. the secret backyards.

It has remarkably little traffic, and most of the cars that drive along it go very slowly because the drivers and passengers are looking at each place in turn and oohing and ahing, too pleased

For my money, the only thing that this street lacks is me.

The present residents may not feel the lack all that keenly, but I do.

AND THEN And that's where the problem began. Because last Wednesday, there appeared on this exact street, An trouble.

Opening. An Opportunity. Or to be concise, a For Sale sign. I braked to a stop, seriously startling the car that was following me. Oblivious to the honking, I sat and

stared. I couldn't believe I could be that lucky.

I memorized the phone number on the sign and rushed off home chanting it under my breath.

know how she could eat at a time like read.

floor smoking cigarettes and generally indulging in all the trade marks of nervous anticipation.

The phone rang. "Hello. Mrs Brain?"

I didn't correct her, although I had specified the radical without - the -r drafted on that afternoon. 'Ms', when talking to the receptionist. Maybe this street had something against feminists. I was taking no chances.

She gave me the details. One of these was the price. **FASTING FOREVER**

If we gave up holidays, dinners and newspapers for the next 30 years, we could manage it easily.

"When can I see it?" Five minutes later, I met her on the

doorstep. We cased the outside. The house was newly painted. The lawn was healthy. The lot was charming, albeit rather hot-

of our tax dollars

to each other, before the spend respectively 12.5 of my tax dollar.

from Mayor Schiller August, that in our by 43 per cent.

one particular such at- tasks carried out by the decided at all.

County Board of democracy and very bad Treasurer's Department

almost incredibly I personally feel no by other outside bodies

over the decision to give cents of each tax dollar I and all the Richmond Hill

1. His Administration utterly irresponsible as Ontario Legislature will appears to have per- the facts revealed in your give this matter his

formed well in dealing report would indicate. consideration and seek to

2. His Administration Government, which is cratic and unsatisfactory.

School property for \$10. Board which displays authority nor control.

the meeting of York This is very poor addition

certain ill-considered neither an elected nor an prices.

and then to draw a con- each tax dollar levied.

3. The news report of bodies.

Education detailing the business.

shows three facts:

with high costs and

dog shaped.

Unfortunately the driveway between down the nicest street in Thornhill last the house and fence was too narrow for our car, but no matter.

> So was the garage it led to. Out behind the garage was a small discover some of the books on local Canadian us. white building with horseshoes over the things that have built this History - beginning with For many of us, our It is time to get a door. I opened it gingerly, expecting to find someone sitting there reading the

> Empty. A tool shed now. But no something that many fathers of over a century To attend one, it is throws mud gets his wonder the bathroom looked to be a people receive with ago - our own flesh and understood that one must hands dirty. So much for recent addition.

Inside, the house was built for people the world. of limited stature. I could touch the ceiling of the living room with the palm supposes that Canadians almost unbelievable — behaviour, to quote one to industry for better with what they see to speed carelessly of my hand, of the bathroom with my have behaved themselves the human endurance newscaster on the radio is levels of production.

One entered the cellar through a trap wherever their duties survive. door in the front bedroom.

· A RIOT TO FIX

head," said the real estate agent. Cerebral walls are very simple to maintain that ideal. move. Plaster ones are a touch more

"This place would be a riot to fix up," McEachen, when as a result of the Highland tradition that sounds are - people's lives being she added.

Some people are easily amused. We parted company. I went home and history in the U.K., did Selkirk Settlers landing at herd of elephants. sketched floor plans, moved walls, something to give that Fort Churchill on the No one seems to ad-uring? Perhaps lifted roofs put on additions.

By five o'clock, I knew the house had grand style. great potential. It needed my touch to bring it to such of pitch of perfection, dignitaries of that stories of similar high Who is responsible to public.

Chatelaine would do a cover story. "Two hands and chisel make this The agent was out to lunch. I don't shack a palace," the headline would

That night I met the man in the I waited for her call and paced the family at the subway and drove him

right to the house. NOT BIG ENOUGH He refused to see its potential.

"It's not big enough for two people,"

He was blind to the addition I had his ceilidh. "Who's going to do all the work?"

What work? Is tearing off the back end and rebuilding work?

"We don't need a house." That's un-Canadian. Everyone needs

We will start speaking again soon,

But that day would come a lot faster if one of you would call the real estate

agent and buy that house. If it were sold, we could hardly argue

about buying it. And it's not a bad price, really. Not Dalmatian, has hitherto when you consider the window boxes across the road.

It was a refreshing change for one who, as a been dogged by rather spotty luck. We have lost control

I am, of course, very happy to be part of Richmond Hill's fire department, with my own truck (License K-9), and to help combat muscular dystrophy.

There is, however, no truth in the unworthy Your issue for Wed- each tax dollar levied. to which all local tax- allegation that a major nesday, November 2, has 3. Regional Govern- spending bodies had to reason for my happy three items which I would ment and County School submit and justify their tailwaggery is the inwish to place, in relation Boards demand and demands for their share creased availability of fire hydrants. people of Richmond Hill; cents and 52.5 cents of There has been no in-

However, one imcrease in the assessment clusion which calls for I reiterate the com- of my house over the last perfection in your ment, made in a letter four years, but the tax coverage of the story 1. The very clear letter which you published in demanded has increased makes me demur, or paws, in giving complete defending the Town current system of local This cannot be justified approval, namely, the description of myself as a Administration from government there is by the general rise in "Dalmation", incorrect attacks on its financial administrative body. There is no authority to for someone whose origin was Dalmatia, now part whose duty it is to which I can go to get a 2. The factual letter evaluate the relative justification for this inof Yugoslavia.

from the Town Treasurer social values and money crease; it has, in fact, Would you, Mr. Editor, offering corrections to costs of the different never been calculated nor like to be called "Canadion"? Somebody various local government It just "happened" has to bone up on his-her as the result of simple spelling.

I send you this letter by the hand of an anonymous of the "demands" made collar, as no one would irresponsible behaviour confidence at all that 52.5 over which the Treasurer find it other than incredible that a dog would be able to deliver his own away the Alexander Muir pay is being spent by a taxpayers have neither

Mayor Schiller's letter such lack of control and I hope that our Operating a typewriter, had manners and is so representative in the well, that's no problem.

Most pedigree dogs run true to type, and you can certainly expect a fire. keeping taxes reasonably confidence if the Rich- which is clearly un- hall dog to do asbestos he mond Hill Town businesslike, undemo- can.

Roxxie, Richmond Hill Fire Department

Letters

Federal politicians ignoring real problems that face us, he says

nation, Canada.

respect in many parts of blood.

called them.

but do something to the aftermath

About a couple of years the U.K. initiating a program of Clearances

country at the start of drama negotiations rejected the 1 remember Dr. J. Has it come to the time the Canadian dollar is the British dignity.

square yard, I believe, ago lie buried. was the tradition.

He was right and he got Canada today.

Thank you for the front-

page treatment

(photograph and write-

up) given me in your

issue of November 2.

Roxxie barks

story approval

For the past several It warms the heart actions of our highest But I almost forgot months it has been my when one thinks of the court in the land is a something. There is to be personal interest to try to number of excellent devastating shock to all of an election in a year or a pioneer times.

Canadian, I find, is they were our grand- Magistrate's Court.

rather well in the past required in order to "a Kindergarden School The people of Canada

studies in Canadian Sutherland, and the resemble a thundering Or is the talk mostly

Many of the homes in the one who is trying to very few — but it is utter Of course, the high this fair land could supply make a speech.

proposal with well-known Scott, Veterinarian of when a quad of "boun-lowest since the Maple, telling of the cers" should give the old Depression. Not to be outdone, he quarantine island in the heave-ho to Members who It would seem that replied that "we own a St. Lawrence River have no courtesy and do economists think matters hunk of that Castle, where many would-be not know how to behave? will not improve for three (Edinburgh)": one immigrants of a century There are some things to five years, if then,

The televising of the this is old tradition.

acquaintance with the pepped-up campaign of was not to be. To say that one is a These are valuable, for Courts of Law may be a smear tactics rolling.

be on their best behaviour political tradition. Many of the things they — "Silence in the Court". Incidently, currently

of smart-alecks" My people came to Apparently we were not when it is clear the real

"I've been moving a lot of walls in my let this high image down, Napoleonic wars when in really is, since some were standstill. a reported running around Does anyone really depression had set in in to fill empty seats "on care about such vital camera".

in permitted which ruined?

keep order in that place?

But our concern is should not have to accept will continually rise with the explanation that inevitable.

organized gang warfare. them.

year and a half's time.

However, he who

Immediately one accomplished seem But at Ottawa, the appeals are being made

are sadly short changed Therefore we must not Canada after the to see Parliament as it work of Parliament is at a

themes as unemago, the Hon. Donald My wife's people came It also seems to be a ployment, inflation, jobs

window-dressing, postproject a send-off in Hudson Bay and all that. dress the chair, except filibustering is fun to a nonsense to the Canadian

At present the value of

the Canadian public In the meantime, taxes

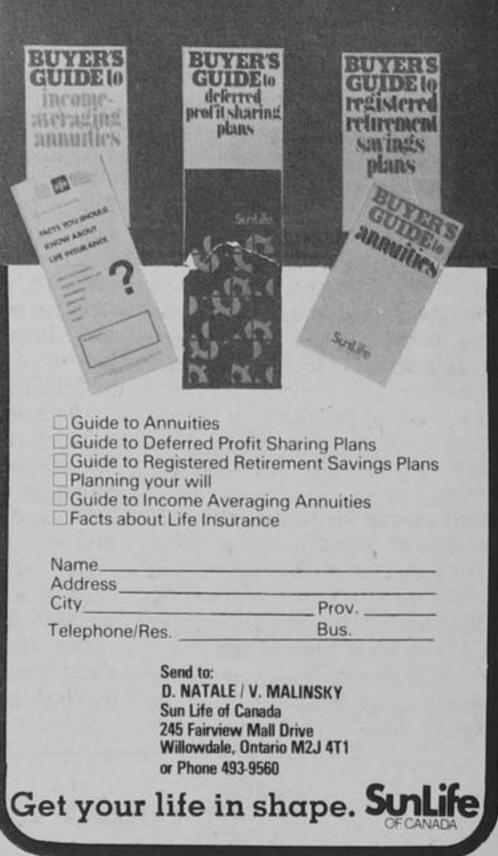
Still Canada has This is why I believe the tremendous potential.

TV broadcasts should Our people are made up continue; let us see some of many tongues and dignity for a change; not origins. They bring the the manoeuverings of old world charm with They

fascinating, loveable. We need the spirit of a yes. Lester Pearson to take us But what can save into a happy future; yet Canada? when he was alive, that

God save the Queen,

Rev. B. F. Andrew Maple.





TOWN OF

TO ALL INHABITANTS OF THE TOWN OF RICHMOND HILL

ENTITLED TO DIRECT TAXES FOR SCHOOL SUPPORT PURPOSES am in receipt of a list supplied to me by the Assessment Commissioner under Section 23 of The Assessment Act, R.S.O. 1970, as amended, which shows the school

support of every inhabitant who is entitled

to direct taxes for school support purposes. The list was publicly posted in my office on the 26th day of October, 1977. You are hereby requested to examine the list for any errors or omissions in my

office at the Municipal Offices, 10266 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill. The last day for the filing of applications

for the revision of the list is November 11th, 1977, as required pursuant to Section 516 (2h) of The Municipal Act, R.S.O. 1970 as amended. I shall attend at my office on the 26th day of October, 1977, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. for the revision of the list and shall continue to do so from day to day, except Saturday and Sunday, until all applications filed on or before November 11th, 1977, have been disposed of. C. David Weldon,

Town of Richmond Hill 10266 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill, Ontario. 884-8101 October 26, 1977

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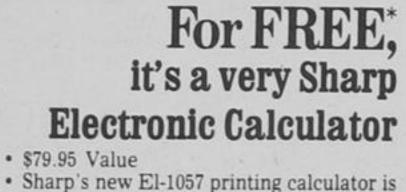
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