

Crawford adventure wasn't underhanded

Justice must not only be done; justice must appear to be done.

It "appears" York Regional Police Chief Bruce Crawford has pulled a fast one, and nipped off for a few days to an American amusement park, courtesy of Family Leisure Centres.

Chief Crawford's mistake — if you can call it that — was flying to Cincinnati, with Family Leisure Centres paying for the trip.

The story came to light last week, thanks to a front page article in the Globe and Mail, which said the Ontario Police Commission was not impressed by the actions of the York police chief.

He, and another police officer, visited the American city, to observe security techniques, preparing for the opening of Canada's Wonderland, a huge amusement park in Maple, in 1981.

The inference, of course, is that because Family Leisure Centres paid for the trip, it's natural that York Regional Police will tend to overlook any misdemeanors that may occur.

We have more faith in York's police chief and his force than that. We believe there was nothing underhanded or sneaky about the whole thing.

And we believe that holds true for the principals involved with Canada's Wonderland.

Unfortunately, on the surface, it "appears" to be a less-than-pure transaction, and one that the chief should have depended on the public to pick up the tab.

ENERGY SAVERS

Richmond Hill Councillor Al Duffy contributed a small but meaningful energy saver that doesn't cost anything but will probably end up saving a lot if everyone gets into the habit.

In his office in Thornhill all members of staff turn out lights in their office when they leave for meetings and lunch as well as at the end of each work day.

Xerox copying machines and drafting machines are also turned off when not in use.

If you or your firm has an energy saving idea in operation, tell us about it. We're at Box 390, Richmond Hill.

Police officer uses his cruiser to stop runaway car on Yonge

A Liberal reporter found out the hard way what it's like when a mechanical failure gives a car a mind of its own.

Millie Stewart, of Oak Ridges, was southbound on Yonge Street from Aurora Thursday, when an accelerator linkage jammed, sending the gas pedal to the floor.

Only the quick-thinking efforts of Oak Ridges Ontario Provincial Police Constable Phil Shrive saved the woman and the car from possible tragedy.

The police had been notified when a passing motorist heard Ms. Stewart's screams for help as her car, at speeds up to 90 miles per hour, hurtled itself down Yonge Street.

Constable Shrive chased the Stewart vehicle and overtook it

south of the Stouffville Road. By lining up bumpers, Constable Shrive used his cruiser to provide brakes for the runaway auto.

"It worked," Ms. Stewart said. "I hit the cruiser and its brakes stopped me. When I turned my car off, great puffs of black smoke poured out from the tires. I was sure it was going to blow up."

With her mind racing as fast as the car, Ms. Stewart had attempted to stop the vehicle with the brakes, but that burned the brakes out. She tried the emergency brake, but that didn't work either.

Why didn't she turn off the key? "You're the 200th person to ask me that," she said. "I just never thought of it."

Teachers get extension to submit final offer

The provincial team negotiating a contract for York's high school teachers has been granted an extension until Thursday (tomorrow) to submit its final position to the board's salary negotiating committee.

The contents of that submission will determine if chief negotiator Bill Monroe will call a special board meeting before the next scheduled full session of August 27.

"It all depends on what they send back to us — it could be a whole new offer or just their final position on the salary grids or other individual issues," he said.

In a story last week, The Liberal quoted Mr. Monroe as saying the teachers deserved to be locked out of their schools if they participated in sanctions to the extent they did on the final two days of school in June.

Clarifying his statement, he said the possibility of a lock-out exists only if the membership strictly follows a District 11 list of forbidden activities.

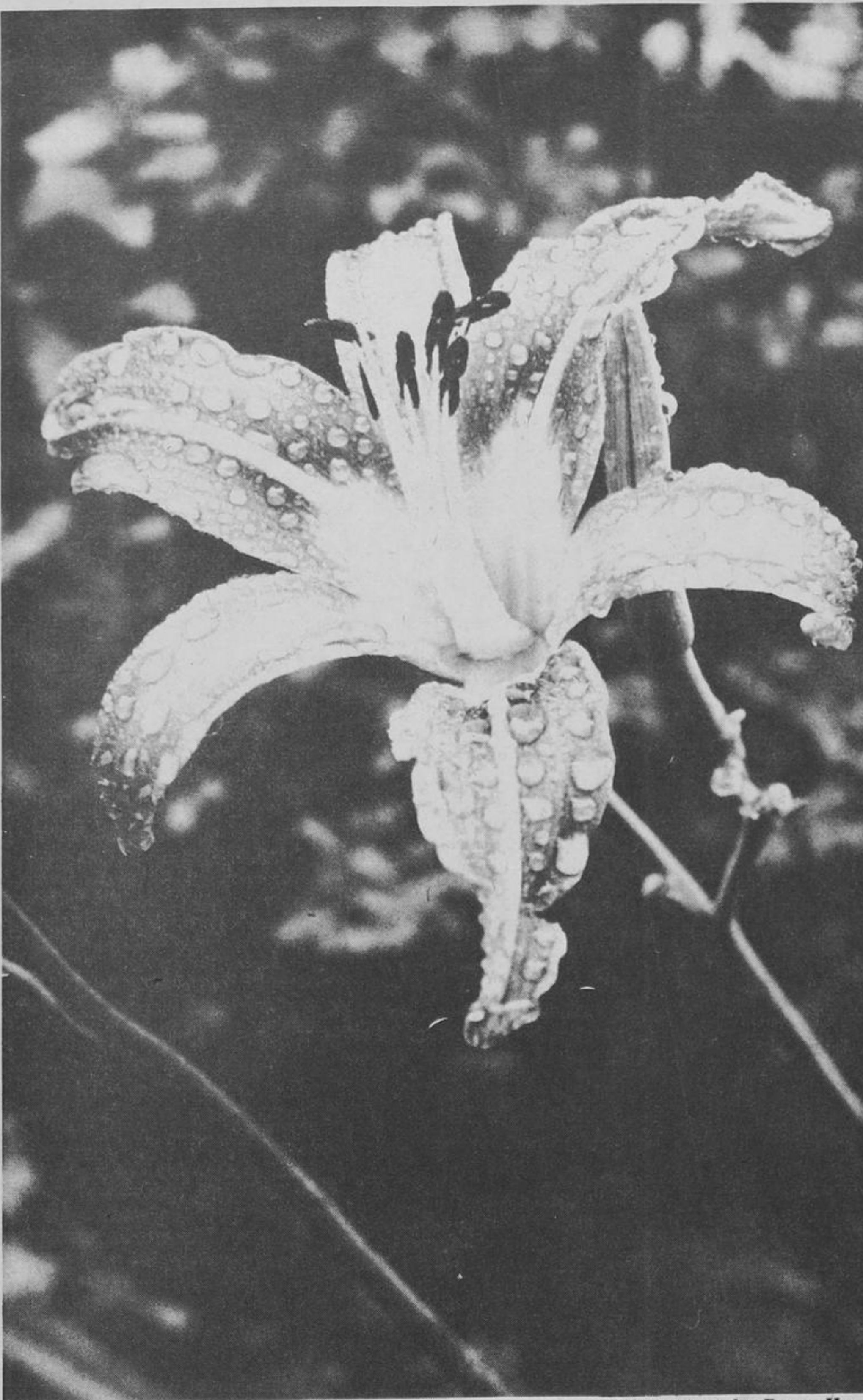
"If the teachers are as co-operative in September as they were on those two days, I don't see any justification in locking them out at all," he said.

"I'd just like to see the teachers stand up and be counted, they shouldn't let the takeover team dictate to them what they can and cannot do. It's all in the hands of the individuals."

The board will likely know where it stands on the lock-out issue and final position by Friday.

Mediation broke down July 9 following a regular meeting when trustees announced it was willing to submit outstanding salary issues to binding arbitration — something it formerly refused to do. The teachers' team refused to go to arbitration when their demand that 20 per cent of their unassigned time could not be written into the new contract.

A District 11 spokesman later denied that was the sole reason for the breakdown in negotiating.



Liberal Photo by Bruce Hogg

By BOB RICE

Summers simply are not free

One month down and one month to go. All across the country harried mothers are keeping a close watch on the calendar as that wonderful day fast approaches . . . Back To School Day.

It isn't that they don't love their children. They merely long to hear the pitter-patter of little feet running off to the institutes of higher learning.

The main problem is that, try as they might, the kids always complain that there is nothing to do!

As July bites the dust and August looms large on the horizon, the average mother is scraping the bottom of the barrel in an attempt to keep her little ones happy.

Since the doors of the little red schoolhouse closed in late June the children have been to the Ontario Science Centre (\$12.50), visited Ontario Place (\$21), spent two days at the Metro Zoo (\$13.75), scaled the CN Tower (\$14) and explored every inch of the Toronto Out Islands (\$11.20).

According to my own, scientific, clever and never to be faulted survey, the average houseful of little ones have already consumed 18 meals at McDonalds (\$108), seen 11 movies including Superman twice (\$122), gone through seven Doodle Arts (\$34.95) and swam in the family pool four times (\$7,699).

Keep 'em happy

In an effort to keep the smiles on their wonderful faces, the mother of '79 has driven them to visit their friends and relatives (\$213 including gas, oil, tax, licence and depreciation), stocked the freezer with ice cream, popsicles, and dreamsicles (\$82), encouraged their understanding of literature by purchasing comic books, teen publications and the latest copies of Mad Magazine (\$45.70) and ensured an unending supply of licorice ropes, candy bars, Smarties and jelly beans (\$31).

On those two days a week that Dad has not been busy slaying the dragon, he has added to his off-springs' summer fun by taking them to Niagara Falls (\$67.80), taking them to Collingwood (\$51.50) and escorting them to a lion safari in deepest, darkest Ontario (\$25.).

Cottage

In addition to all of this, the average family will have spent two weeks at a cottage (\$420), rented a boat for those 14 days (\$150) and have entertained all of the other kids at the resort at least three times (\$41.90).

To keep the family comfortable and in good health during these two months, mom will have purchased new sneakers for each child (\$42.75), socks, shorts and spray, (\$131), suntan lotion, insect sprays, calamine lotion, bandages, splints and crutches (\$32.67) and a case of Quench to ward off the summertime thirst (\$36.95).

While the entire family is enjoying the cottage, the pets have been boarded (\$70), the house watched (\$5) and automatic timers set up in each room to make everyone think that they are still there when they really aren't (\$19.95).

Yet to come before the return to the classroom is the CNE (\$55), four more movies (\$44) and back-to-school clothes and books (\$321.88).

When it's over

By the time the hallowed halls once again echo to the happy cries of youth, the mother of the average family will be teetering on a nervous breakdown, the father of the average family will be broke and the children of the average family will be glad to hit the books . . . especially when they take into account that all summer long "there wasn't anything to do!"

Mill Pond Philosopher

The ol' Millpond Philosopher once said: "A parent is just a grown-up kid who wants his kids to grow up and act like a parent!"

Patrick Trant
Thornhill

LIBERAL SPRINKLINGS

My big chance to be an editor

By MILLIE STEWART
Liberal Reporter

Summertime, and the livin' is easy . . . for some people maybe, but for others, things just get more hectic every day.

The Liberal office started the summer off in grand style by moving to a new location. Now we wallow in air conditioned comfort instead of sweltering claustrophobia, and it's so nice.

But with the big move, something else happened at the same time to create the hectic pace. Vacations started.

Every person on the staff has a full schedule of events to cover every week, and when someone is away, the rest of us double up to make, sure you get the news.

One of our sister papers, The Woodbridge and Vaughan News, has a one-man editorial staff.

Jack is reporter, sports editor and editor, and he seems to handle it all well.

When he went on vacation a few weeks ago, The Liberal replaced him with two people; not because it took two to do the job, but because the first person went to Woodbridge for a few days, and then he, too, went on vacation. Some people have all the nerve.

This was going to be my big chance. I was going to be an editor for two whole days, and I was going to show everyone I knew what I was doing.

But first, I had to find the Woodbridge office. Never having been out there, I didn't have a clue where it was.

MAJOR DECISION

Our editor at The Liberal gave me directions and promised his assistance, and I was on my way to stardom . . . or so I thought.

When I arrived in Woodbridge with my chest puffed out with my new importance, the first major decision was

whether to change the light bulb in the editor's office.

How funny . . . when I was going to be so important, I found myself in the role of janitor.

The actual work didn't frighten me a bit . . . well maybe just a tiny little bit, but I knew I could handle that part of the job.

After about an hour of editing and writing and deciding what was going to go where in the paper, I got the shock of my life.

I realized I was also expected to look after sports.

SPORTS? What the heck did I know about sports? In soccer they wear those cute shorts, don't they? And in baseball everyone tries to hit some poor fellow with a ball.

Some sports I do like. Gently tossing a frisbee around the back yard, or maybe for a little more exercise, a quiet game of badminton.

But soccer and baseball . . . Oh Lord, was I in trouble.

That was about the time the great leader back in Richmond Hill probably regretted ever knowing Millie Stewart and ever having heard of The Woodbridge and Vaughan News.

The telephone lines from Woodbridge to Richmond Hill reached combustion point as I pleaded and begged for help.

IT LOOKED OKAY

He did say he would help in any way he could and I needed it at that point so badly.

A couple of good cries later, things settled down.

The paper actually went to press on time, in spite of my bumbling stupidity.

And if I do say so myself, it didn't look too bad.

I would like to leave this parting thought with all editors planning vacations. My services as a replacement can be rented, but you must apply through my manager . . . and I do Not do sports . . . Never again.

THE Liberal

VOLUME 102, NUMBER 5

TELEPHONES

Editorial, Display 884-8177
Classified 884-1105
Circulation 884-0981
Toronto customers 881-3373

Subscription rates. By mail \$13.00 per year in Canada \$26.00 per year outside of Canada. By carrier 80 cents every four weeks. Single copy sales 25 cents. No mail delivery where carrier service exists. Second Class Mail Registration Number 0190.

Ron Wallace - Editor
Larry Johnston - News Editor
Fred Simpson - Sports Editor

The contents, both editorial and advertising of The Liberal, Richmond Hill are protected by copyright and any unauthorized use is prohibited.

METROSPAN

Printing & Publishing Ltd.

METROSPAN - NORTH DIVISION

John C. Fergus, Publisher
Ray Padley Jr., Advertising Director
Norman Stouden - Production Manager
Denis O'Meara - Circulation Director
Rose Reynolds - Accounts

Metrospan Community Newspapers publishes The Richmond Hill/Thornhill Liberal, The Banner, The Oakville Journal Record, The Halton Consumer, The Mississauga Times, The Etobicoke Advertiser/Guardian, The Etobicoke Consumer, The North York Mirror, The North York Consumer, The Scarborough Mirror, The Scarborough Consumer, The Woodbridge & Vaughan News and The Bonton Enterprise.

