

CASTOR COMMENT



"MOOSE...? NOPE! NOBODY HERE BUT BEAVER AND TREES"

Correspondence

Editor, Castor Review,

Initially, allow me to say that in many decades of reading Canadian newspapers — dailies, weeklies, bi-weeklies, monthlies, ad infinitum — I have never been as moved as I have been by my perusal of the Castor Review. It has been my recent good fortune to come into the possession of several back copies of your remarkable journal, and within ten minutes I found myself in tears, in the grip of very nearly hysterical laughter, and several stops in between. It is a heart-warming experience. The journalistic style of your contributors indicates their experience, expertise, sensitivity, and general all-round sense of — what? — discretion? reality? humour? All of those. It's terrific.

As an exiled Eastern Canadian, putting in my declining years on this western island in the Pacific, braving the rigours of early-morning fog, fierce breezes off the ocean, and several storms during the whole month of December each year — I can scarcely tell you what a marvellous relief it will be to receive my monthly copy of the Review. I enclose my cheque in the amount of \$3.00 (three dollars) and will await — eagerly — the next issue.

Perhaps you might include a rate card? In my dotage I have taken to record production, and sense a large untapped market in your readership.

My dear sir, please accept once again my sincere admiration and my heartfelt thanks.

Yours truly,
An Anonymous Victorian

Editor, Castor Review,

Enclosed herewith is my check to cover my renewal to your excellent publication. I look forward to its arrival most eagerly . . . I wish it were a weekly! As I grew up in Russell, it has always been dear to my heart; many happy years did I spend there. My best wishes go forward to my friends there, and especially to those former pupils of mine who are now playing a prominent part in the activities of the area.

I am retired after 32 years with a textile company, 20 of which were spent as sales manager of the 17 Western States with headquarters in San Francisco. May your every effort be attended by success.

Sincerely,
Donald MacKeracher,
Menlo Park, California

'Love and Laughter'

What to-day? ah, let me see —
The housework, yes, but what
will there be
Of love and laughter?

Oh joy! I remember, a note to
write,
A friend to call, a meeting
tonight —
And all of these things will leave
the glow
That follows after.

It isn't the word in the note, just
right,
On the telephone or at the
meeting to-night —
It's something deeper.

The housework flies, the pies are
done,
What makes the difference? and
there's the sun!
It's the people involved, the after-
glow —
Of love and laughter.

Thyra Warner Hudson
Ottawa

A little law and order

On two occasions recently, once before Hallowe'en and once after, windows were broken after dark in the home of the editor of the Castor Review.

This will not prevent this publication from continuing to speak out against lawlessness and violence in this village. We hope that the decent people of Russell, those who pay taxes and have a stake in the community are sick and tired of these goings on as we are. We hope they will lend their support to those who want to uphold the law in this community.

If those who care nothing for law or decency or the rights of others are allowed to have their way, life will not be worth living in his village and the progress of the past few years will fall by the wayside.

Whatever may be the outcome, the Castor Review intends to keep up the fight for law and order.

The OMB decision

The Ontario Municipal Board has produced a report which has the effect of limiting growth on the periphery of Ottawa to two areas, Barrhaven on the west and Orleans-Queenswood on the East. For all practical purposes, growth has been restricted South of the city. The Carlsbad Springs satellite City once again has been rejected.

The effect of the report is that planners and subdividers will have difficulty getting approval for new projects south of Ottawa, since the OMB has decided that future growth will not be welcome in that direction.

We find the decision high-handed and based on incomplete understanding of the facts. It is largely the result of lobbying by people in protected communities south of Ottawa who do not want their amenities interfered with. We can understand why such communities would not want an upsurge of growth in areas already overextended. We can even understand why the OMB would use a temporary curtailment of suburban growth due largely to high interest rates and unconscionable gasoline prices as an excuse for going along with the high-profile lobbying groups in the southern suburbs.

We fail to see, however, why these arguments, both specious and self-serving, should be applied to limit growth south of the suburbs, extending all the way down to Metcalfe. Our society will accommodate to gas prices by developing and using smaller, compact cars. The trouble in the economy will not last forever. Nothing, in fact, can permanently cripple development in the very desirable and highly accessible areas south of the city, particularly in those areas outside the purview of the Regional Government, whose existence has distorted the natural growth pattern around Ottawa.

We are not terribly disturbed by the OMB position because we are convinced that it will not materially or for long affect the logic of the situation which impels that the natural development route, south of the Capital to the Seaway should be followed. No matter which way the planning cookie crumbles, whether east or south, the Castor area stands to benefit. We hope that the Ontario government is closely watching the situation and that the decisions of the OMB, which appear to owe as much to politics as to planning logic, will not be permitted to create a permanent distortion in the development pattern.

Bull and more bull

Seldom has there been such a storm in a teacup, or a bull ring, as that which has been raised over the Ottawa Winter Fair Grand Champion Steer, purchased by Dominion Stores for \$9,760. The fact that the steer which was a first-class animal in every respect, was raised and shown by Susan Kingsbury of Kenmore, does not in any way affect our appraisal of the hand-wringing and breast-beating being done publicly and more particularly in the pages of the Ottawa Journal by the Fair directors and officials of the Dominion Stores who were chagrined beyond measure when the steer graded out as Grade B meat after it was slaughtered.

Since Dominion Stores can be presumed to have bought the animal largely as a publicity gesture, we don't think they have anything to complain about. They have certainly received publicity. There is hardly anyone in the country now who is not aware of Dominion's policy of not selling Grade B meat.

Nothing can take away the fact that the Grand Champion Steer raised by Susan Kingsbury at Kenmore was judged finest animal in the show by a qualified judge. The fact that it graded out Grade B instead of Grade A may be the fault of the grading system rather than any lapse on the part of the show judge. We hope that all concerned will view the matter in the light of the observable facts and contain their petty breast-beating. Please, gentlemen, no more beefing.

A letter from Santa Claus

North Pole

Dear Gaston:

As you know, I have turned in my sleigh for a pickup truck and this may cause me considerable difficulty in getting to Russell Village this winter over the Great North Road.

After Donder got sick and Blitzen was put out to pasture, Prancer and Dancer weren't up to pulling the sleigh by themselves and so I had to let them go. They are presently enjoying a well-earned retirement in Lapland.

I managed to get hold of a used pickup in good condition but I am afraid that if something is not done about the North Russell

Road, you had better not expect to see me in Russell Village this Christmas.

I know that the road was built up and gravelled and graded but all that has worn off. It is almost continuous washboard from the end of the pavement up to Boundary Road. There is not much point spending a lot of money on crushed stone and gravel and grading unless you are going to pave. The crushed stone just ends up in the ditches, where it is now.

Please, Gaston, if you expect to see me at Christmas, do something about the N. R. Road.

Your friend,
Santa Claus

Attention Subscribers

Starting this month, renewal forms will be mailed to Castor Review subscribers as their subscriptions become due. The forms should be filled and returned to the Castor Review, Box 359, Russell, Ont., payment included. The subscription rate stands at \$3 per year.

Well warned

The OPP warning about break-ins (see page 1) comes none too soon . . . just ask Evelyn Dey. Mrs. Dey was upstairs in her Russell home when she thought she heard the front door "click". She descended to find her wallet containing \$80 missing from her purse. It goes to show you can't be too cautious these days.



CASTOR REVIEW CHRISTMAS GIFT CERTIFICATE

This Certificate entitles the recipient to a one year subscription of the Castor Review. Just write the name and address of a friend you especially want to please on the Christmas Gift Certificate and mail promptly along with your cheque or money order for \$3 per gift. Before Christmas a gift card inscribed with your name will arrive. Say Merry Christmas to a friend or friends with a Castor Review gift subscription. Send to the Castor Review, Box 359, Russell, Ont.

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