

LT.CMDR.SHAVER HONOURED BY "SUPERIOR"

On Monday evening R.C.S.C.C.Superior and NLW Corps Princess Alice were inspected by Area Officer Sea Cadets (Ontario), Lt.Cmdr. C.E. Shaver, RCN, and Mr.James Crist, Provincial Secretary (Ontario) Navy League of Canada. These two gentlemen helped organize R.C.S.C.C. Superior.

Lt.Cmdr.Shaver retires from RCN this year, after many years afloat in both peacetime and war-time service. His latter years were devoted to Sea Cadet work, both in Newfoundland and Ontario.

The Sea Cadet Corps in Ontario will certainly miss his devotion to their cause.

A farewell party was held by both the officers and Navy League Executive at the home of the Commanding Officer, Lt.J.Cumming, at which time a presentation on behalf of R.C.S.C.C.Superior was made to Cmdr.Shaver.

Get Well Wishes are extended to Mrs.Grace Moores who is in Port Arthur General Hospital and to Mrs.Maisie Sutherland in McKellar Hospital in Fort William and to Mr.John Shivas in St.Joseph's Hospital, Port Arthur. Get well wishes are also extended to Mrs.May Gresdal.

Mrs.John Uschenko with children Sheila and Johnny is visiting with her parents, Mr and Mrs. Alex Marquis.

Mr.and Mrs.J.R.Marsh and daughter Jodi have returned to Toronto after visiting with their parents, Mr.and Mrs.J.Phillips and Mrs.H.Marsh.

THE PRESSURES OF SOCIETY ON THE INDIVIDUAL TO CONFORM TO ACCEPTED STANDARDS

By Deborah Stewart - Terrace Bay High School

"It is said that if Noah's Ark had had to be built by a company, they would not have laid the keel yet: and it may be so. - What is many men's business is nobody's business. - The greatest things are accomplished by individual men."

Why then in our society is individual thought suppressed? Why are radicals condemned? Why are men encouraged to conform to present standards?

Look at the great individuals who have gone before us. Men like Newton, Copernicus and Einstein, who revolutionized the field of science, were ridiculed for years, in some case centuries, before their theories were accepted. Galileo was accused of church heresy in voicing a theory on sun spots.

Sir Winston Churchill, though not ELECTED to govern England, was asked to accept the office of Prime Minister when the Second World War broke out. He made many pertinent decisions which had a direct bearing on the course of the war and final victory of the Allied Troops. However, he, like the American War President, Franklin D.Roosevelt, was condemned for decisions which he made after the war was over. The individual thought was accepted by society in time of national peril but in time of peace the accepted political procedure was demanded by the people.

We all have innate qualities of individuality and leadership. These characteristics, though, are recessive in some of us and this fact leads to the rise of conformity. TO CONFORM is to judge, believe and act in agreement with the judgment, belief and actions of the group. I must distinguish between two terms, conventionality and conformity. Conventionality is the adherence to established solutions to problems. These standards of social conduct must be accepted if one is to live with minimal conflict. For example; if a man wears trousers, he is not necessarily a conformist, he is merely being conventional. For if he chose to wear skirts, he would immediately be labelled as odd and, rightly or wrongly, identified with being mentally unbalanced. We therefore should not confuse conventionality with conformity which is a yielding to group pressures.

I do not wish to condemn conformists in our society for every good leader needs ten, hundreds and thousands of good followers to succeed. But the individuality characteristic should not be subdued to a degree where we become like the proverbial sheep and follow strong leadership blindly. In group situations, a delicate balance must be maintained if the objectives of the group are to be met. For the confrontation of two people with a high degree of individuality and inflexibility can result only in stalemate. This situation is detrimental to the group.

There is always a danger, if a person accepts the concepts of non-conformity, which is individuality, in that the philosophy must be kept within realistic bounds. Non-conformity for non-conformity's sake is senseless. RATHER, non-conformity should be cultivated as a personal philosophy to counter-act against the human tendency to accept the easy-way-out approach to live and the inevitable drift toward mediocrity. It is only when we look at problems and situations with a non-conformist, individualistic view can we reach the new and innovative solutions to our problems.

In summations, it is my hypothesis that in the trend toward the socialistic society there is a grave danger that individual thought may be subdued by pressure exerted by the masses. This cannot be allowed to happen for as John Stuart Mill once said, "The worth of the state in the long run is the worth of the individuals composing it."

FREEDOM - By Ken Wood - Gr.12

Freedom expresses a type of government,
But we're not free, our minds are still bent
To be free of men and society,
And be what nature is to me.

To have no worries have no cares,
And no material things to leave our heirs,
Now I'm sorry my friends but until today,
No person has been really free I'd say.