Terrace Bay Schreiber

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Breath of relief

The most important event this year, and perhaps in many years, has taken place. The most controversial and newsworthy event in Terrace Bay has been laid to rest- for now.

The event is of course the public input session concerning the new Draft Control Order given to Kimberly-Clark of Terrace Bay by the Ministry of the Environment.

Residents had their chance, and still do until March 4, to make further recommendations on the order. And concerned individuals certainly did make their opinions known at the meeting.

The general consensus is that K-C be left to do what they have to. Politicians, media and environmental groups have been given the message that the attention they have given this issue is unwanted, to say the least. But how could an issue of this magnitude not receive attention?

Kimberly-Clark was on one side, groups like Pollution Probe and Greenpeace were on the other, and who was in the middle? The employees. The perfect ingredients for a controversy.

It is the employees who suffer the most. The feeling here has been said best by MPP Gilles Pouliot- never again should the residents be subjected to this climate of anxiety.

But how can the climate of anxiety disappear when K-C has retained the right to close the mill if the company cannot meet the requirements?

The next couple of years are critical ones and the possibility of closure will always be just around the corner during this time.

To an extent, the past should be laid to rest (but not forgotten) and the emphasis now should be put on the present. What is done is done.

Let's hope (and pray) that Kimberly-Clark will be successful in its efforts to meet the new Control Order.

Kimberly-Clark has improved in all three areas of toxicity, biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) and solids since 1985. According to a chart released by Kimberly-Clark, the company now has one of the best ratings for solids out of 19 pulp operations in Ontario.

There has been a dramatic improvement in BOD since that time. Toxicity is also improving, but not as dramatically.

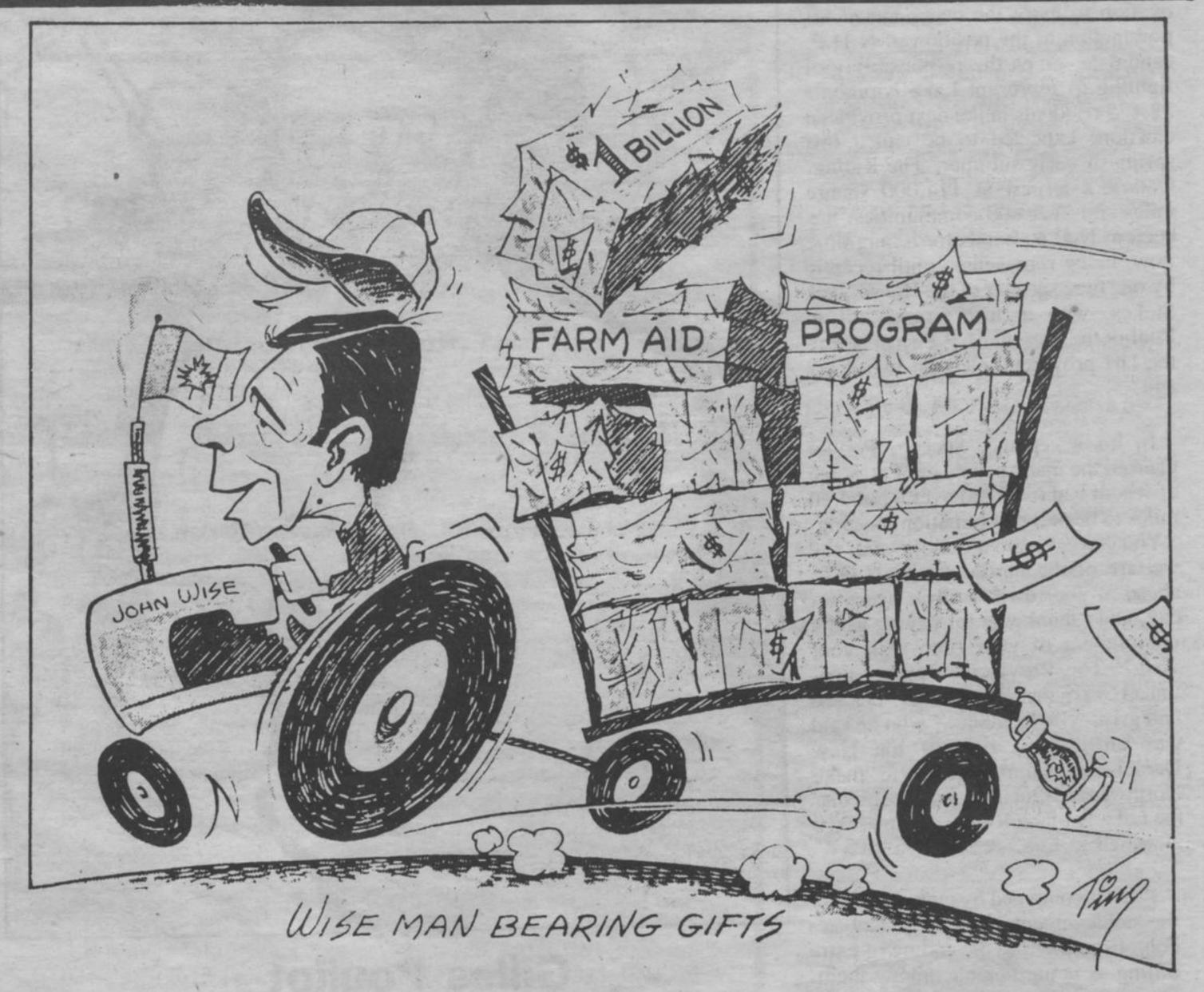
Obviously, improvement is ongoing and hopefully will continue.

If the company cannot meet the toxicity requirements by 1989, both company and ministry officials have said that alternate methods of reducing the toxicity will have to foundeven if it means closing the mill. To that, the best of luck to Kimberly-Clark- you have the support of everyone here.

Quote of the Week

"When a lot of remedies are suggested for a disease, that means it cannot be cured."

-ANTON CHEKHOV 1860-1904



Letters to the editor

To the editor:

As Mr. Leblanc, I too have a son who plays Novice hockey and he has also come home upset that he has to miss a game.

When my son is not scheduled to play, he even has to go to the game whether it is in Terrace Bay, Schreiber, Marathon or Red Rock.

I happen to be one of my son's coaches and as every other player on the team, he has had to sit out games this year.

As a coach, one of the toughest things to do is tell an eight or ninevear-old child that he will not be playing, and we have had to tell every boy that he will have to sit out whether or not he is a star or a coach's son.

As we have explained to the players and parents since the start of the season, we have 24 novice players and not all can dress for a game.

When we tell a player he is dressing for a game he plays a regular shift in that game whether we are winning or losing.

Throughout the regular North Shore season, the coaches stressed that winning is not everything.

The North Shore playoffs were a single elimination format and it was impossible to dress all players.

Even though we did not win the playoffs, we have so far had a very successful season and have actually managed to win some games this year and have a good time playing hockey.

As a parent, you should know that we are volunteers and are not experts on hockey as most people in Terrace Bay seem to be.

We put in at least three hours per week at practice and this year we have already given up nine weekends for North Shore games and tournaments.

Parents seem to be quick to criticize, mostly behind our backs and not to our face.

The number of times a parent actually thanks a coach for the job he does are few and far between.

In closing, please remember to take your complaint to the coaches and if you are not satisfied, go to the Minor Hockey Executive.

It is impossible to please every parent and player. As a coach, I am prepared to accept criticism. If I

were not, I would have quit coaching long ago.

However, when people complain to the press or behind your back, it is difficult to remain enthusiastic about hockey.

Let's have some faith in the volunteer coaches. yours truly,

John Vandergraaf.

Save a cat-bang your car hood As soon as the cold weather ar-

rives, cats become more susceptible to a painful death or injury; being literally 'ripped to shreds' in the fan or fanbelt of a vehicle.

During cold weather, cats tend to huddle around the engines of vehicles in a desperate attempt to keep warm.

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Arthur Black

By Arthur Black

I wonder why we humans have such a penchant for misquoting ourselves? Some great thinker chews on his beard for a decade or two, comes up with a profound jewel of insight worthy of living one's life by...but instead of embracing the entire stone we just break off a carat or two and try to live by that instead.

Example: An American politician on The Journal a few nights back declared "Our Constitution guarantees every citizen the rights of life, liberty and happiness...

Sorry, senator, that's not how it reads. It says "life, liberty and the the pursuit of happiness." There's a big difference between being happy and

chasing it. Example two: a blow-dried, polyester bedraped TV evangelist on my boob tube last Sunday intoning, "Annunnd as it says right here in the Good Book, muh frayunds... money is the root of all evil."

Nope, it doesn't. In I Timothy 6:10 it says the love of money is the root of all evil. Big difference there, too.

I have a third example of popular misconception sitting on my desk right now. It's a Toronto newspaper with a big black headline that reads: AIDS EPIDEMIC IS HERE.

That's not true either. We don't have an AIDS epidemic. Nothing like it. Four hundred and thirty-five Canadians died of AIDS in the past five years. Eleven thousand, four hundred and forty two Canadians died of lung cancer in the last year alone. We might be able to talk about a lung cancer epidemic, but not an AIDS epidemic.

Nevertheless there is something very like an epidemic brewing out there -and it is related to AIDS. It's not the disease itself however. It's the fear of

We are about to see the blooming of a full-scale, coast-to-coast outbreak of

AIDS paranoia. As a matter of fact, it's already here.

The same newspaper with the abovementioned headline carried a small story that told of a dilemma faced by Toronto police. They don't know what to do with a pair of blood-spattered handcuffs.

Doesn't seem like a big problem -just wash 'em off and stick 'em back in your belt, right? Not with these handcuffs. They'd been worn by a drug addict who went ape and had to be subdued by the police. Problem is, the suspect was subsequently tested for AIDS and came out positive.

So now there's a pair of handcuffs that were around a man's wrists and no one knows what to do with them.

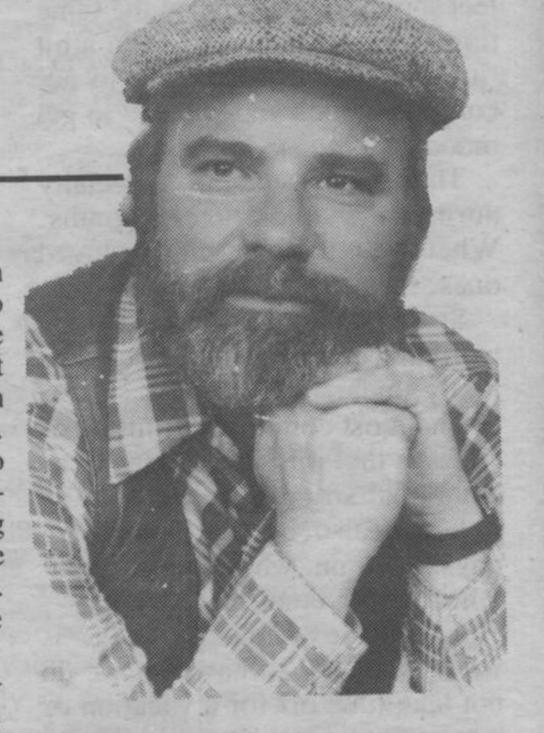
It's not the first piece of police paranoia concerning AIDS. Remember that ridiculous media circus that ensued when a Toronto prostitute and suspected AIDS carrier was arrested a few weeks back? Ever wonder how that little carnival got started? It was because a radio news reporter was monitoring the police radio band one night and heard an all-points bulletin warning all Metro Toronto units not to go near a certain police station because "an AIDS carrier" was being brought in. That turned what should have been a routine bust into a media Mardi Gras.

Easy for a newspaper columnist to sit back and snicker at police overreaction of course, but I'm not laughing at the police. I don't know any more about this creepy disease than they do. And scare headlines don't make

either of us any smarter.

Not that AIDS paranoia is an affliction reserved for Canadian policemen. The 3,000 soccer clubs in Britain have all been told to give up drinking from communal victory champagne bottles ...and to refrain from hugging and kissing each other when they score goals. The reason? Fear of AIDS.

Americans are, if anything, even more spooked by the disease. A recent newspaper poll shows that ten pecent of Americans believe AIDS can be contracted from handling money.



When Halley's comet appeared in 1910, many people thought it was the end of the world. A 1938 radio broadcast about a supposed Martian invasion caused the same hysteria. Both reactions seem quaintly hilarious now.

Maybe in a few years we'll be able to look back and laugh about The Great AIDS Panic of th'80's.

I sure hope so.