

The Stouffville Tribune

Established 1888
 Member of the Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association
 and Ontario-Quebec Newspapers Association
 Issued every Thursday, at Stouffville, Ontario
 Subscription Rates, per year, in advance:
 In Canada \$2.00 In U.S.A. \$2.50
 A. V. Nolan & Son, Publishers

Notes and Comments

Memorial Hall Should be Supported

The ratepayers and others in and around Stouffville are asked to support a project for a memorial hall in Stouffville. If the people had asked for a hall when the war was on and the services of these men whom the hall is intended to commemorate, the funds would have been subscribed almost overnight.

Let us hope that none of us will forget the service and at the same time not overlook the fact that the district is terribly in need of a public meeting place such as this hall would provide. Total cost of \$16,000 should not be a formidable sum to raise if persons are willing to subscribe as they can afford.

If \$10,000 is raised by public subscription the ratepayers of Stouffville will be asked to furnish the remaining \$6,000 by debenture. Public subscriptions will be sought first, since it is reasonable to suppose that if \$10,000 is raised in this popular way, the voters would not let the boys down for the balance. \$6,000 on debenture would not necessarily affect the tax rate spread over perhaps ten years.

Now We Have Two Poor Examples

Members of Parliament who seek salary raises or tax concessions at this time are setting the country a poor example in the opinion of The Financial Post. Editorially it states: "As expected, the ill-timed action of Dominion members of parliament in voting themselves a tax-free boost in salaries has stirred up similar desires elsewhere. The members of the Ontario Legislature now seek to have their \$2,000 indemnity freed of income tax."

"Not only did Dominion M.P.'s set a shocking example by raising their remuneration at a time when all salaries were supposed to be frozen, but they set a most dangerous precedent by claiming for themselves a tax exemption which is denied the private citizen."

"There is little doubt that members of parliament are underpaid and until this situation is corrected we run the risk of not attracting the best citizen into public life. But offering a tax concession that is denied everyone else is certainly not the way to handle the problem."

"The whole success of the income tax hinges on its equal distribution. Provided all share equally in the burden then it will be borne. If some are granted relief then the flood gates are open to every sort of pressure and abuse."

Why Whitchurch County Rate Down And Stouffville's Up

The reeve of Stouffville anticipated being questioned by ratepayers as to why the county tax rate in Whitchurch dropped one mill this year while the rate for county purposes in Stouffville advanced a mill. Not one citizen so far has taken the reeve to task on this matter, which would have been a justifiable thing to delve into.

Whitchurch tax rate for county purposes for 1946 shows a sharp drop of almost one mill. Stouffville's county rate at the same time is increased one mill but it is not as serious for the ratepayers of Stouffville as it appears on the surface.

It is all brought about by the change in the school act. True, the county general purpose rate has sharply advanced as has the cost of grants to public hospitals. Whitchurch, Stouffville, and all other municipalities must bear this increase equally.

Reason for the apparent difference in the two rates falls in the category of the school grants. A municipality in a non-high school area pays for the cost of education of its high school pupils through the county levy, while a municipality in a high school area such as Stouffville, pays for the cost of its high school pupils direct. Therefore, the municipality paying for the cost of education of its high school pupils through the county levy would naturally receive the benefit of the government's substantial grant through the county levy for education. That is why Whitchurch rate is sharply down.

Stouffville reduction came direct through school grants and was passed on to our ratepayers last year by reason of a three mill drop in the tax rate.

When the cost of education for Stouffville is lined up with the rates paid in Whitchurch, it will be seen that Stouffville is benefiting on the same ratio as Whitchurch or any other municipality. In fact Stouffville tax payers benefited a little better than almost any other municipality in the whole county last year, for the rate was reduced by three mills, which no other place equalled. The cut this year may not be so great, but that is not apparent yet.

Don't Hit the Bank Teller

If you cash a cheque at a bank where you aren't well known, don't resent it if the teller puts you through a searching catechism as to who you are and how you got the cheque. He's only trying to protect you and himself and the drawer of the cheque from possible loss and trouble later on.

Cheque forgeries have increased enormously in recent months and tellers generally are on their guard, because if a forged cheque is cashed it's their responsibility.

Every week, dozens of forgeries are reported to bank head offices. Many are government cheques and in the majority of cases the forger is under 25; often under 20. Many during the war were working in war plants at large salaries. Unable to get the same income now, but having a wartime spending standard, they turn to forgery.

The road was made easier by the tremendous number of government cheques issued. Including family allowances, soldiers' dependents' allowances, gratuities, and clothing allowances and income tax adjustments millions are going through every month; and as government cheques are not likely to be questioned as regards the drawer's signature, the forger's task is limited to duplicating the signature of the payee. The methods used are so much alike in all cities that some bankers feel a ring of forgers is operating.

Apartment houses are favorite places for forgers to work. It is quite easy to steal cheques from apartment mail boxes. Then it is only necessary to convince the bank teller that the party presenting the cheque is entitled to payment. The criminal may forge the signature of the payee; may get someone else to endorse it by forged signature and then offer to endorse it himself as a double safeguard, offering identification by a bogus registration card or fake telephone call.

Company cheques are often forged, also. In some cases where a company has its own cheques, forgers get duplicates printed and then draw a cheque payable to themselves, forging the names of the secretary or other officers who would normally sign it.

Where a fraud is committed the bank officer, if he cannot show that he has used reasonable caution, may be held responsible. So don't blame him if he is extra cautious, especially as forgery insurance is carried by only a few, if any, banks.

Uncle Hy. Says

I like the April sun because, I'm tired of winter's ice and snow, and overcoats and flannelwear, and mornings with their ten below, soon now I'll leave the idle crowd, and plant my feet where fields are plowed.

I like the April winds because, they bring us back the woodland choir, the oriole to the orchard tree, the martins to the old church spire, the blue birds to the fence and lea, the robins close to home and me.

I like the April rains because, their warmth will reach the woodland glen, and tell the wild flowers sleeping there, that spring is in the air again, along the road the peepers wake, and water fowl are on the lake.

of months in order that these may be adjusted to be in accord to the changing conditions. Indeed, the dissatisfaction over the claims of the cost-of-living's rise and the index of such changes in the Government's cost-of-living index has become so acute that a demand for a Royal Commission to investigate it is being urged at the present time.

A member of Parliament, Phileas Cote, Liberal-Matane, has proposed that Premier Mackenzie King should be nominated the chairman of the Peace Conference in Paris, France, expressing the hope in the House of Commons that Canada's Prime Minister may become the president of a universal government or world government. The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation will soon produce the first opera in Canadian literature and music, it has been disclosed in Ottawa by the youthful chairman of the CBC, A. D. Dunton, who indicated that this opera, "Deirdre of the Sorrows," is to have its premier performance over the Canadian network in April. One of the highest posts in the Canadian diplomatic service will be "open" in May when Rt. Hon. Vincent Massey will give up formally his job as Canadian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom. Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, Hon. Thibaudeau Rinfret, is this country's Administrator until the new Governor-General designate, Viscount Alexander, takes over the task since the Chief Justice was sworn into office just as soon as the Earl of Athlone had departed and he will carry on until the new Governor-General accepts formally his office in Ottawa. Incidentally, a new and thorough spring cleaning is taking place in this capital in preparation for the new Governor-General, with workmen cleaning and decorating the Union Station here and Parliament Hill receiving a similar treatment. And while on the subject, the famous French town planner, Jacques Greber, officials of the Government, and Premier King, have held a meeting in Ottawa in



OTTAWA LETTER

by
 "Jack" Smith, M.P.
 North York

It is hinted in Ottawa that more news for farmers may be coming in face of the virtual deluge of such news lately on account of the Federal Government's desperate drive for more and more food production as well as exportation in answer to an urgent appeal from abroad.

The Minister of Trade and Commerce, Hon. James A. MacKinnon has already made a very important statement in Parliament in regard to special measures aimed to bring about an increase in wheat deliveries in Western Canada and to indicate his Government's 1946-47 program for oats, barley and oil needs. "While we have been working on a very large wheat and flour export program during the present crop year, we hope to be able to increase shipments over the quantities originally planned."

Whether this is due to so-called hasty "war marriages," merely coincidental, or any other cause, it is a fact, nevertheless, that there is a flood of unusual proportions sweeping into this capital in applications for divorce before the Senate Divorce Committee at this session, presumably wholly from Quebec, if not all, since the province has no divorce courts. Complaints have been made again and again against the present procedure in past sessions but nothing much has ever been done in this respect, though numerous proposals have been made from time to time to change this system of granting divorces to Canadians from Quebec. Indeed, this system has even been termed "scandalous" by critics who have urged a drastic change

in procedure as well as a general widening of the grounds for divorce presently restricted to infidelity in Canada, especially since divorce laws have been widened in other lands.

"There is no probability that the Alaska Highway will be open to the general public in the near future," said in Parliament Canada's Minister of National Defence, Hon. Douglas Abbott, in explaining that this 1,250 miles road of the greatest possible strategic value will be taken over by the Canadian Army from the United States Army about April 3, with information in Ottawa hinting that it will be used for training purposes. "There are no facilities for servicing motor cars and supplying them with gasoline and so on," he continued. "Consequently, it will not be possible for the Canadian Army to undertake the responsibility of permitting ordinary civilian travel on the road to the immediate future. We shall have to look into it further after we have taken it over."

With various causes contributing to its origin, including claims of prevailing employment conditions, a lowering of take-home pay for many workers, a rise in the cost-of-living, constant demands of changes in the price ceilings, etc., it is learned in Ottawa that, as a result of a meeting here of the wage coordinating committee of the Canadian Congress of Labour Unions the prediction has been made that a large number of Canadian workers may be involved in the next couple

New Playing! Friday and Saturday - April 5, 6
 "MAN ALIVE" with Pat. O'Brien
 "HIGH POWERED," Phyllis Brooks

Monday and Tuesday - April 6, 9
'WONDER MAN'
 VIRGINIA MAYO AND DAN. KAYE
 Selected Shorts

'FOTO-NITE' Thursday!
 GEORGE WHITE'S SCANDALS
 JOAN DAVIS AND JACK HALEY
 Selected Shorts
 Wed. and Thurs. April 10 and 11
\$335.00 OFFER!

Friday and Saturday - April 12, 13
 "ESCAPE IN THE DESERT"
 Helmut Dantine—Philip Dorn
 "RIDE RANGERS RIDE"
 Gene Autry
 Selected Shorts

STOUFFVILLE STANLEY Theatre of the Stars!
 Monday and Tuesday - April 15, 16
 "LEAVE HER TO HEAVEN"
 Gene Tierney—Cornel Wilde

Coming!

arranging plans for creating a beautiful nation's capital. The critical shortage of housing materials was emphasized in Ottawa when it became known here that the War Assets Corporation announced a program of dismantling surplus buildings on military establishments across Canada so that these may be made available to authorities of the Veterans Land Act and Wartime Housing building plans. The United States Government has scrapped all their disposal procedures and set up the exact machinery which Canada has been using for the disposal of war assets, even adopting the same name, War Assets Corporation. This has been made known in this capital.

Send the Tribune to absent friends.

Stouffville War Veterans MEMORIAL HALL

Campaign for funds opens on April 15th

**Do Your Share
 Give All You Can Spare
 Match Their Deeds
 with Your Dollars**

This space donated by
RICHES HARDWARE
 and
CENTRAL FEED STORE