

# The Stouffville Tribune

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## NOTES and COMMENTS

### Election Costs

How much do elections cost? The 1945 Dominion general election cost the Dominion government \$2,850,000. With 255 M.P.'s to be elected at the next vote, the cost is estimated to run about \$3,000,000.  
 Of course, this sum does not include what the various candidates spend in their efforts properly to approach the voters.

### Mr. Atkinson of The Star

The most outstanding fact about the career of Joseph E. Atkinson, who died last week, is that his great material achievements were the product of personal resourcefulness and enterprise, so declares the Financial Post editorially. "The newspaper publishing house he built up," says The Post, "which has been estimated as worth \$10 to \$20 millions when he died, was an outstanding example of the individual opportunity system which for decades The Star daily decried."  
 Joseph Atkinson started in a \$6 a week job. He came up "the hard way." His great chance came when a group of what the Star last week called "influential financial magnates" bought the struggling young Star for a song and put Mr. Atkinson in charge. In time, he got control of the paper. He borrowed money to buy the shares and his note was guaranteed by one of his associates. In time he became one of the richest of "influential financial magnates."

The career of this strange, retiring man provides an example of what can be done by personal drive and business genius. The sincerity of his zeal for social reform, of his interest in the underprivileged, of his humanitarian concern for minority groups is not challenged.  
 But seldom, in his long journalistic career, did Mr. Atkinson credit other successful business men with motives as high as his own. Day by day, in subtle intonation of headlines and editorial phrase, he tried to build up, in the public mind, the idea that business success and malefaction are synonymous. The more he attacked business achievement, the greater his own wealth grew.  
 Such was the lifetime contradiction of his astonishing and dynamic career.

### Calendar Reform

Mark Twain might have taken in quite a lot more territory than he did when he made his famous remark about the weather. There are a lot of things that "everybody talks about but nobody does anything about." One of them is our present Gregorian calendar. Accountants, comptrollers and boards of directors have lamented for years our inconvenient, awkward and unwieldy system of reckoning dates. Not only are the months unequal but so are the quarters and half years. Holidays run the gamut from Monday to Sunday and, except for a few fixed ones like Civic Holiday and Labor Day, never fall on the same day of the week twice in succession.

There is in existence a calendar designed to overcome all these inconveniences and discrepancies. Fourteen nations have already officially approved its adoption and are waiting for one of the Great Powers to take the initiative. The United States Department of Commerce has gone on record as being "favorably disposed" toward it. At least one Canadian labor union favors it and so do a surprising number of business and professional men in this country. Peru has placed it before the UN Economic and Social Council for consideration.

Known simply as the World Calendar, the new system overcomes many of our present calendar's most objectionable features. Each quarter has 31 days in its first month and 30 days in the remaining two. Each quarter begins on a Sunday and ends on Saturday. Each month has 26 week days plus four or five Sundays. Each year begins on Sunday, Jan. 1 and ends on Saturday, Dec. 30. Month dates always fall on the same week days—thus Victoria Day would always fall on Friday and Christmas Day on Monday.

This is accomplished by giving January, April, July and October 31 days each and all the other months 30. The four 91-day quarters make up 364 days of the year. The 165th is called simply "World Holiday" and observed between December 30 of one year and January 1 of the next. Every four years a second world holiday to follow June 30 takes care of leap year.

Advocates of the new calendar have been active in support of their project since 1937 when fourteen nations endorsed the World Calendar at the League of Nations. Aside from general convenience, they point out, it will facilitate comparative statistics, computations of interest, budgets, pay rolls, costs and the many other operations of which time is the essence.

### Blue Tomatoes

The inventor who says a plant has been developed which will bear blue tomatoes will probably make them more acceptable to the public if he can show that they have any particular advantage over the common red ones.  
 The yellow tomato has been raised for some time and while it is not sold as widely as the common variety, it is very palatable and some people like it fully as well as the regular type. The chief resistance to overcome is the eating habit. The public has long been accustomed to red tomatoes, so it is a matter of educating the eye as well as the palate if the introduction of multi-colored tomatoes is to be a success.  
 But it is not so very many years ago that tomatoes were not considered fit to eat in any color. Consequently, it is possible that the blue tomato, if practicable, may be as popular in time as any other variety. —Boston Post.

### Meat Prices

The all-party parliamentary committee under the chairmanship of Hon. Paul Martin, minister of national health and welfare, has been delving into the reasons for spiralling food prices. At present the committee is trying to find out what has been causing meat to become almost too expensive for the average wage-earner's table. Apparently the price of beef is headed for still higher levels.  
 Witnesses from Canada Packers have been putting the blame on the consumer for the higher price tags on beef, saying in effect that public demand has been mainly for this type of meat with the result that supplies have been little more than meeting the demand. On the other hand, they say there is a surplus of pork.  
 The inference is that surplus automatically causes prices to drop. All which doesn't sound at all convincing on being told that present pork prices will continue through 1948 even though there is a surplus.  
 It is all very puzzling to the Canadian consumer. Even members of the parliamentary committee are somewhat nonplussed.

## Health Unit Would Cost Area \$26,679

### Five of 14 Municipalities in the Northern Part of York County Vote Against Proposal

Employing a part-time medical officer of health is like running in a circle with little gain to the municipality, several community officials agreed last week during a committee meeting held in an effort to form a health unit for 14 northern York county districts.

Nine of the municipalities declared themselves in favour of the proposal, while five turned it down. Two of the negative answers were doubtful and both East Gwillimbury and King townships asked for more time to consider the matter.

"You hire a part-time MOH to uphold the interests of the district, but often forget that he has his own bread and butter to make," Reeve C. W. Reesor of Markham, chairman of the committee declared.

The reeve said that on many occasions he has gone to the MOH in an effort to clear up various situations and has been unable to obtain the satisfaction he wanted.

"The first thing you know there is a case where the doctor is asked to investigate one of his regular patients," he continued. "He may not refuse the request, but he is likely to fall down on the job."

The chairman then pointed out the advantages of a full-time medical officer under the health unit

system, claiming that the aforementioned obstruction will be abolished with the inauguration of a unit.

Warden of the county, Reeve K. L. Thompson of Weston, also declared that this trouble has been noted in his municipality. Weston is not interested in this particular unit, he said, and he is only interested because the county is paying the expenses of the committee.

"This has been going on for well over a year and the committee has not yet reached a decision," he said. "If some definite action is not forthcoming this session of council will be forced to disband the committee."

The districts in which the unit would operate are: Aurora, East Gwillimbury, Georgina, King, Markham township, Markham Village, Newmarket, N. Gwillimbury, Richmond Hill, Stouffville, Sutton, Vaughan, Whitechurch and Woodbridge.

With a population of 41,046 the unit would cost a total of \$26,679.90 annually, according to the committee report. The total assessment of the area is \$502,051.04.

Declaring Whitechurch township residents to be in exceptional health for an area that size, Reeve L. P. Evans said as far as that township is concerned they are not interested in spending the taxpayers' money on what they consider a non-essential.

## Whitchurch Home Near Aurora Scene of Fire

Damage estimated at \$8000. was caused to the home of Victor McCutcheon, 3rd concession of Whitchurch, south of Aurora on Wednesday, when fire which started through a short circuit got beyond control.

A painter, W. J. Foxley, of Langstaff, who was helping to remodel the home, was burned on the hands and one foot. He returned to work after seeing a doctor.

The Aurora Fire Brigade under Chief Harry Jones, was too late to control the blaze, which caused a minor explosion when the new paint ignited.

After hosing down the barns surrounding the burning building, fire men stamped out sparks on the ground which had showered hundreds of yards from the fire.

Another alarm, later in the evening brought the brigade back when the smouldering embers ignited again. The second fire was quickly extinguished.

### THORAH TWP. BARN BURNS LOSS \$10,000

Beaverton, May 7—Fire of undetermined origin has destroyed the barn of Donald Cameron, Thorah Township farmer, with an estimated loss of \$10,000. Cameron was eating dinner when a neighbor notified him of the blaze, but the heat was too great to permit rescue of a large number of livestock, including some horses Cameron had tied in just a few minutes before the fire started.

The Beaverton fire brigade answered the alarm.



Born insensitive to pain, one-year-old Beverly Smith is given a needle-jab test by Helen Zimmerman, nurse in an Akron, O., hospital where the infant's strange case is being studied by physician's. Doctors say only four or five other "painproof" children have been born in the world. The case first attracted attention when the mother, first brought Beverly to the hospital for an anti-anemia injection. Mrs. Smith revealed that the baby merely laughed after touching a hot stove.

### PLOWING OFFICIALS MEET AT LINDSAY

Representatives of the Provincial Plowing Association, were in Lindsay last week to meet with the local committees and formulate plans for the Ontario Match to be held there from October 9th to 15th.

Headed by their president, J. A. Carroll, the Provincial officials met with the Lands Committee of the Lindsay association and looked over the proposed headquarters and lands for the plowing on the Little Britain highway near the Home for the Aged.

Later the local executives, headed by president John A. Mark, together with chairmen of various committees discussed certain other matters at a meeting in the council chambers.

### JOHN WESLEY DOBLE DIES IN UXBRIDGE

Widely known throughout the township of Brock, John Wesley Doble died in Uxbridge last week. He was born in the Township of Reach in 1871, a son of the late John Doble and Margaret Doble. Early in life he learned the butcher business and later opened a shop in Sunderland where he carried on for some years, later he lived in Lindsay, Montreal and Toronto, locating in Uxbridge to live some three years ago where his wife the late Ethel Nokes whom he married in 1908, passed away in Dec. 1947. Mrs. Doble was a daughter of the veteran James Nokes, livery stable operator in Uxbridge for 50 years.

### STARTS 70th YEAR

Ebenezer United Church at Milliken reopened officially on Sunday to begin its 70th year of services to the community. The church has been closed during alterations. Plan to spend the 24th of May in monster bingo at night in the arena.

## See Your Favorite Picture First at the STANLEY THEATRE

Friday and Saturday, May 21-22  
 "Along the Oregon Trail"—M. Hale  
 "Blondie Knows Best"—P. Singleton

Monday and Tuesday, May 24-25  
 "ROAD TO HOLLYWOOD"  
 BING CROSBY AND BOB HOPE  
 "HEART OF NEW YORK"  
 AL JOLSON AND MADGE EVANS

Thursday!  
 "FROM THIS DAY FORWARD"  
 JOAN FONTAINE AND MARK STEVENS  
 Wednesday & Thurs.  
 May 26-27  
**\$345.00 OFFER!**

Friday and Saturday, May 28-29  
 "WINTER WONDERLAND"  
 Lynn Roberts — Charles Drake  
 "GUNFIGHTERS"  
 Randolph Scott — Barbara Britton

Monday & Tuesday, May 31, June 1  
 "THIS TIME FOR KEEPS"  
 Esther Williams — Jimmy Durante  
**STANLEY Theatre of the Stars!**  
 Coming!



**HEAR PREMIER GEORGE DREW DISCUSS...**

**"THE PROVINCIAL ELECTION JUNE 7"**

**Mon., May 24, 10:30-11:00 p.m.**

CBL TORONTO-740

**Fri., May 28, 8:30-9:00 p.m.**

CBL TORONTO-740

**Vote PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE JUNE 7**

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The 1948 Pulitzer prize for the best original American play was awarded to "A Streetcar Named Desire," by Tennessee Williams (above). The prize for the most distinguished fiction in book form went to "Tales of the South Pacific," by James A. Michener. Both awards were announced by Columbia University in New York.