

# The Stouffville Tribune

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## NOTES and COMMENTS

### In a Small Town

The other day a prospective resident from the city asked the question, "How do you live in a small town, because we can't see what we will do if we decide to buy in Stouffville?" We felt like answering him by asking him another question. "How do you live in the city?"

How do they live without neighborliness; how do they live in their cramped apartments where one has to step out into the hall to change his shirt or his mind; where everyone is hurrying to get some place and they can't because they have to jostle their way through crowded streets. Where everyone wears a harried look as though a bill collector was following on their heels trying to collect the instalment on the folding bathtub or the chiffonier-kitchen cabinet. Where you have to wait minutes before you can make a mad rush across an intersection. Where pavements get so hot and tempers get hotter. Where walls are so thin that you can hear your apartment neighbor and his wife bickering over which small town they will visit next Sunday. Where people dash into a lunch room at noon, grab a sandwich and cup of coffee, and then hustle back to a two-by-four office to swelter for the rest of the afternoon. Where the working girls have to spend their hard-earned shekels for make-up to make them look like rosy-cheeked small town girls.

Is it any wonder we looked surprised when asked what we do in a small town. Out here we have so much to do our head could be in a whirl all the time, but most people know enough to stay at home and take it easy, live longer and happier. Have the joy of a garden, neighbors, and the thrill of "hello Bill," and "how are you Jane!" and such other intimacies as we might mention.

True, there is town gossip, but somehow it keeps folks alive, and they thrive on it. Where they all know the town council and the village reeve, tear him to pieces, declare him the worst ever to hold office, then ask him to accept another acclamation. Yes, sir, the small town is the place for worthwhile living, and if you are so minded, to enter into membership of all the societies and organizations, you'll find my city friend, that seven nights are just not enough in the week, to get you around to all the demands on your time. If you don't believe what we have written, move to Stouffville, and you will be convinced.

### Encourage Thrift

Thrift is taking a bad beating these days. Hence it is encouraging to note that the Kitchener Public School Board is considering adoption of a school banking system such as that recently approved by the Windsor Board of Education. It would take the place of the Ontario Penny Bank scheme which was discontinued some time ago.

Never have children needed a lesson in thrift so urgently as now. A few decades ago a nickle a week allowance for the small fry was bountiful. They usually earned it at some menial task and took their own sweet time in spending it.

Today, a youngster without little less than "folding money" allowance is a sulky individual. Parents see reflected in their largess proof of the adage, "Easy come, easy go." The young buck of today can "shed" himself of a dollar as easily as a molting bird sheds feathers.

And what does he have to show for it? A comic book, a bag of chocolates, a wad of gum, a few sodas and a stomachache the morning after.

### Wanted: A 'Minimum' Automobile

One of the results of Mr. Abbott's sudden announcement lifting the austerity taxes has been a "readjustment" in the price of automobiles. This is supposed to have made the new car dealers happy and the used car dealers unhappy. Whatever the case, Mr. John Public is, as ever, confused: unable to decide whether to order the "1948" model now and wait three months; to hold off for the "1949's" and wait until 1951, or go on rattling about in the atrocity which he bought from "Honest Joe" at secret price two years ago. Mr. Public is still wondering what happened to the "brave new world," with a helicopter in every garage.

Not all the motor manufacturers have made public their new "readjusted" prices—sans austerity tax, but still with a stiff 18 per cent tax. But from what we have seen, one thing is abundantly clear: The good old days when you could order a family sedan ("any color you like, mister") for \$875 FOB Windsor have gone, if not forever, at least for a good long time.

The "cheapest" car on the market seems to run close to \$2,000, plus spare tire, radio, air-conditioner, sun-visor, fog lights and special chrome trim, with which, mysteriously, they all seem to come equipped nowadays. The low-priced English or continental car may fill some of the demand, but many people still prefer the larger North American type. Who, then, is going to give Canadians a "minimum automobile"—a neat but not gaudy model, without the nice, but not essential, gimmicks and gingerbread? Which motor manufacturer is going to have the initiative to turn out a "standard" car, and not a super-deluxe-custom cruiser? It may be too much to expect that the prices of the 1930's will return. But what has happened to the "dream car" for those of modest means?

### Odd Case

A magistrate in Cobourg, Ont., had a difficult task to perform in court last week. Before him charged with breaking and stealing was a man of 74 years of age. He had been released from Burwash last January. Up to that time, 32 years of his life had been spent in prisons of the United States and Canada.

The magistrate sentenced him to ten years in the Kingston Penitentiary.

A strict penal institution does not at first seem to be the right place to send a man who has passed three score years and ten. Yet we suppose that if a man steals in his 74th year, justice demands he pay the penalty in his 74th year.

One wonders, though, just what this veteran criminal was expected to do on being released from jail in January. Find a job? We venture the opinion that he had no old age pension cheque to cash. That was partly his fault for being in jail

## THE OLD HOME TOWN By STANLEY



## Editor's Mail

Brampton, Ontario,  
 August 10th, 1948.

The Editor,  
 Stouffville Tribune,  
 Dear Sir:

I read with some interest your editorial in a recent issue of your newspaper regarding "dear sweet boys" who were unfortunate enough to be in first year Osgoode. While I realize that the function of an editorial in a newspaper is to provoke thought, I also feel that both sides of the picture ought really to be disclosed.

It will be remembered that a large proportion of this class is made up of veterans of this last conflict and who have served long and dangerously for the preservation of our democratic way of life. It would seem to be somewhat harsh that some of these gentlemen who have endeavoured sincerely to re-establish themselves, after being so severely disrupted, to have their ambitions thwarted by an unconsidered decision.

I do not suggest, in fact I verily believe that the decision as made to "flunk" this proportion of the class has been on the contrary very much considered before being announced. But to have these gentlemen described as "dear sweet boys" would appear to lead one to think that their complaint is completely unjustifiable and groundless, and your recent editorial has kindled and fostered such an interpretation.

It will be remembered that this class is unfortunately large and that it is not difficult to imagine that the competition is very keen. Had these classes been proportionately spread over the six years of the war, as no doubt they would have been but for the war, then the numbers attempting to be called to the bar in any one year would be much smaller and hence a few more would ultimately reach their goal in their chosen profession. Your suggestion that some of them may seem to feel that examinations are really so much more of a "red herring" and that they feel that all should pass is rather presumptuous. The "dear sweet boys" know only too well that not all are to be lucky but only ask for a "fair break."

I, as well as yourself, feel that the results as shown, are probably as fair as they could conceivably be under the circumstances. But is it not a little unfair to chastise the sentiments of the fallen without recognition of the duress encountered.

Yours truly,  
 A Recent Graduate,  
 R. E. Prouse.

## OPTOMETRICAL

E. A. GRUBIN, R.O.  
 OPTOMETRIST  
 Picton, Ontario

No visits to Stouffville office during July and August. Repair work mailed to Picton is promptly taken care of. 11-1f

## Closed Because of Taxes

Last week we said something about a "tax crazy-Ottawa." Anyone who thinks that Ottawa taxes, income and a dozen or two other forms of taxation are not a hindrance to business, should reflect on the case from Trenton which came to light last week.

One of Trenton's leading industries for the past 35 years, the Benedic-Proctor Manufacturing Company, maker of silverplate, is shutting its doors Friday night, August 20. J. H. Craddock, president of the firm, says the plant will be closed because of the high retail tax and ineffective labor at high hourly rates.

The plant employs 130 persons of whom about 90 are married men with families. Some of these men have been employed since the business was established. The annual pay roll is in excess of \$200,000.

Mr. Craddock explained that out of every dollar of silverplate sold, trays, tea services, trophies etc., the government take 33 per cent. in taxes, 25 per cent. luxury tax and eight per cent. sales tax. "This leaves only 67 cents of the dollar and 58 per cent. of this goes for labor, 38 per cent. goes for raw material and only four per cent. remains for the management, office staff, sales force, maintenance and taxes. The four per cent. is not sufficient to make a margin of profit," he declared, "and we lost \$28,000 last year and \$26,000 so far this year."

## PREACHES LONG AND LOUD, PARSON FINED

In view of the fact that the reeve of Stouffville came in for some mild form of criticism recently when he took action to silence a loud speaker that was in use by an evangelistic group preaching on the street one Saturday night. The amplifier was so loud it drowned out voices of clerks and customers in the stores nearby. Because of the situation which stirred some local people to question the action of the reeve, a similar situation in Port Hope may prove of interest here. In the Port town residents are not even as considerate as the situation was proven to be in Stouffville.

That's what Reverend M. S. Winger, visiting pentecostal minister, found out last Wednesday when he was fined five dollars and costs by magistrate R. B. Baxter. The fine was meted out for—and we quote—"preaching in a tone of voice calculated to disturb the inhabitants." Magistrate Baxter was quick to point out that the fine had nothing whatever to do with Reverend Winger's religious activities—only that he preached too loudly and disturbed the neighbours.

Said the magistrate—again we quote—"It must be borne in mind that a religious denomination is not being charged here. One man is before the court for the manner in which he shouted while conducting a religious meeting."

Surely it would have been enough to order the minister to lower his voice, or silence it, but perhaps that was done, a point the news has no information on.

## SHOT STEER, SOLD IT 2 JAILED 18 MONTHS

Sentenced in Pembroke by Magistrate W. K. MacGregor, John Klamann, 21, and John Kedroski, 21, both of Renfrew, were given 18 months for illegally shooting a steer on July 19.

According to the evidence, they shot the steer and skinned it, selling the carcass and hide for \$140. Both pleaded guilty.

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