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NOTES and COMMENTS

Those Rusty License Plates

A news story in the Globe and Mail calls attention to the fact which was mentioned in these columns some time ago, that many of the 1951 license plates now in use on motor vehicles have become badly rusted and defaced. It suggests that owners of vehicles on which the plates are hard to read because of rust and impairment of paint may save themselves a one dollar fine by touching them up with paint.

The article suggests that owners of cars might with some degree of safety from the law undertake to touch up their license plates with white and black paint. But the catch in that is that it is an offence under the Highway Traffic Act to interfere in any way with license plates once they are issued, and many people construe this as a prohibition against the repainting process. The closing sentence of the article is this: "If you get tagged for painting over your old plate, your lawyer should have an interesting case to handle."

That is all very well, but no one wants to take a chance on being brought before the magistrate just to give lawyers interesting cases. There is a very simple solution to this problem. All that is necessary is for the Department of Highways to announce that motor vehicle owners may retouch the figures and background on their rusty plates and that there will be no prosecutions for doing so. We venture to suggest that such an announcement would send thousands of motorists scurrying for paint pots and brushes.

Council Could Take More Positive Action

Stouffville Municipal Council is fast approaching the time when it may be necessary to hold two council meetings per month rather than one. However, this situation could be partially remedied if council would take more positive action in clearing up business as they go along. Members met for more than three hours on Monday evening and all the business accomplished could have easily been taken care of in less than two.

This year's town budget has been holding fire for nearly four meetings while council awaits certain departments to see if they might wish to up their expenditures. It was stated at the last meeting that no one could find out how large the park budget was to be. It would seem that in a year such as this when the tax rate is due to soar at least ten or eleven mills council should be more positive about such departments as parks and state definitely what they are prepared to give the park board not wait for the board to establish a figure. While this is no doubt putting the cart before the horse in budget planning, taxpayers would benefit if council appeared a little more "two-fisted" and set a definite figure which they are prepared to spend. Departments would then have to curb their spending accordingly.

Tell the Tourist the Truth

A report circulated Monday and credited to the Ontario Department of Highways declared that "the roads in the Province are all ready for the tourist rush." The report went on: "The department says the early spring has allowed it to finish maintenance work one month earlier than usual. Resurfacing and patching of potholes has been carried out on a number of stretches that broke up during the winter."

To anyone travelling from Stouffville to the Haliburton holiday country it is apparent that the aforementioned report is largely fictional. There are many roads which have had no attention whatsoever this year yet—provincial highways too. There is at least one main tourist highway under construction at the present moment—Highway No. 7 west of Oakwood and there are others which have not been patched following the spring break-up.

Just why the Dept. of Highways would authorize such a misleading statement concerning provincial roads to be circulated is difficult to understand. If it is designed to encourage the tourist to visit the province at an early date then the department had better hustle up and finish its repair and replacement work, otherwise the move will backfire as word gets around that many Ontario highways are in bad condition.

No propaganda is more potent than that spread via the grapevine and for this reason official pronouncements to prospective tourists should be strictly factual—not fictional. Failure to observe this principle could result in exceedingly harmful grapevine reports being circulated among the tourists.

Government Must Realize Trend Is Against It

The Progressive Conservative victory in Ontario Riding in the recent by-election was not the only positive indication on that day that the trend of public opinion is against the government. There were six by-elections. Four of them were won by the Progressive Conservatives and two by the Liberals. Three of the seats won by the Progressive Conservatives were formerly Liberal, as were the two retained by the government party. The other seat was formerly Progressive-Conservative, and was retained.

It was to a large extent a personal victory of Oshawa's popular and capable mayor, Michael Starr, over two comparatively little known candidates. That same personal element, however, is not likely to have been the deciding factor in all of the government defeats. The loss of three seats, one in Ontario, one in New Brunswick and one in Quebec shows clearly that the support which gave the Liberal party its overwhelming majority in 1949 is declining sharply.

Even in the riding of North Waterloo, Ontario, which the Liberals won, the majority of over 10,000 gained by Louis Breithaupt in 1949 was cut down to a mere 1500 by an aggressive woman Progressive Conservative candidate.

By-elections serve a very useful purpose as straws to show which way the wind is blowing. They can also be useful in indicating to the government whether its policies are being met with approval or otherwise. These results should be a warning to the government that its record of the last three years has not been such as to maintain a high level of public support. It has lost seats consistently in by-elections. It looks as if there will have to be a re-assessment of both policy and performance if the government wishes to retain the confidence of the people to a greater degree than was shown in the by-election of Monday.

Oshawa Times-Gazette

ATTRACTIVE WESTEND HOME OFFERED FOR SALE



The above modern, new ranch-type home, the property of Mr. and Mrs. Achilles W. Turner located on Orchard Park Blvd., Stouffville, is offered for sale. It is an ideal west end location on a lot 60 feet by 189 feet in depth with landscaped front and back lawns and a very attractive, fertile vegetable garden. The

home itself of white stucco has weighted windows with a large thermo-pane picture window. The house is thoroughly insulated being roofed with dipped and treated best British Columbia cedar shingles. The layout is most pleasing with a living room measuring 13 feet 6 inches by 22 feet while the dining room, kitchen and bedrooms with

their 8 foot 6 inch ceilings make them large and roomy. The hot water convector heating system with oil makes the house most comfortable. There are many specials that go with this property. The floors of the main hall, living room and dining room are covered with wall to wall broadloom while the remaining floors in the house are quarter-cut oak and

modern tile. The venetian blinds, all stationary electric fixtures and awnings go with the property. As the owners are leaving Stouffville this presents an exceptional opportunity for prospective buyers to pay the place a visit and size up the situation. For appointment Phone Stouffville 133V2. No quotations over the phone. (advertisement)

FOR PARENTS ONLY

(By Nancy Cleaver)

THROUGH YOUR CHILD'S EYES

In one of the most popular of new non-fiction books "White Man Returns", Agnes Newton Keith tells of going back to Borneo with her husband and her seven year old son George. In it she comments: "When George came back to Borneo with us, we reckoned it was not a matter of ourselves showing Borneo to him, but of Borneo seen anew by us, through George." She mentioned special experiences such as the taste of tropical food, the effect of a tropical climate, speaking other languages, Oriental pastimes and the companionship with Asian children.

Parents do not need to travel to a far-away corner to experience the thrill of catching a glimpse of the world through the eyes of their child. This is one of the delights of parenthood which compensates for the many disciplines which life brings to a father or mother.

Young children have a quick and natural response to the beauty of the world out-of-doors. Arthur Thompson, the great British scientist, said once that wonder was the true beginning of the search for knowledge, the quest for origins, the compilation of facts in scientific research. The "little people" of the earth have not lost their capacity for wonder.

Fathers and mothers are pre-occupied with earning a living or looking after a home. Every day is crowded with tasks. They find it hard to take their eyes off the immediate job before them and look out on the world or up at the sky.

Gregory Clark in "So What?" that delightful collection of fishing yarns and adventure tales, has a striking little piece, "Night and the Stars". In it he relates his two year old's reactions in the autumn when daylight saving had ended. One evening he went outside with his dad just before bedtime.

The child was amazed that the bright world which he had been accustomed to see had been swallowed by the darkness. Then suddenly he saw the stars—"First one, then another, and then in all their countless millions. His little face raised and still, he turned slowly on his heel and gazed at this luminous inspiration of countless ages of human heart."

Not in many words, but nevertheless quite clearly, all the same,

Gregory Clark implies that for a father to be with a little lad on a moment like this is indeed a high occasion. Gregory Clark was suddenly seeing the dark curtain of the night pierced by the blazing stars through the eyes of his little son.

Agnes Newton Keith and Gregory Clark, two very different parents, as well as two very different writers, both experienced this sensation of glimpsing what their child saw. How did they do this?

For one thing, they both spent time with their son. They shared their precious leisure with the little chap who had come into their home. How many parents, especially fathers fail to do this! They have other interests to occupy their spare moments—clubs, politics, golf, hunting—adult pursuits, all very important, but activities in which there is no place for a youngster.

Another thing they had in common was the ease with which they identified themselves with their child. They recalled their own childhood—they knew what it was like to be small and inexperienced. They were like Thomas Hood, the early nineteenth-century poet, who had a vivid memory of the zest with which a child greets the morning. This is reflected in the lines beginning:

"I remember, I remember
 The house where I was born
 The little window where the sun
 Came peeping in at morn;
 He never came a wink too soon
 Nor brought too long a day."

The years of childhood pass so swiftly. When boys and girls reach adolescence they are busy at school, at part time work and off with their own chums, in their leisure hours. This is part of growing up—of the natural urge to shake off the direction of their parents.

But while they are still small, a little child's fingers slip easily and trustingly into a parent's large hand. For such a short time, mothers and fathers have the privilege of seeing the world through their child's eyes—What a pity if they miss this opportunity—because there are few experiences in life which match it!

(Copyright)

If a man has always believed the moon is made of green cheese and he is more than 40 years old, it would be a complete waste of time to teach him astronomy.

DAYS of YORE

From the Files of the Tribune
 20 Years Ago

Lacrosse enthusiasts are looking forward to the opening game in the Stouffville league on Saturday. The arena is expected to be crowded for the occasion. Goodwood and Altona will stage the opening contest while Stouffville and Claremont will battle it out in the closing game.

The village smithy, William Griffith and another of our citizens Mr. Lud. Hoover, are sharing the honor over the performance of a big Rhode Island Red hen. This motherly biddy has just hatched twenty live chicks from twenty eggs set, a record in numbers hard to surpass. Mr. Griffith loaned the setting hen to Mr. Hoover who judged her ability correctly when he entrusted twenty eggs with her.

The Bank of Nova Scotia intends to move into their new premises this month one door east of Button's hardware. In the absence of any pink tea to mark the event, Manager Marshall might serve "greenbacks" to just as appreciative lot of guests.

A citizen stepped into the Tribune office the other morning with a small two pound cabbage under his arm. He paid about 20c for the head, or at the rate of \$200 per ton. Now if our producers could get a quarter of this price for their cabbage what a happy lot they would be. Just what is so fascinating about Uncle Sam's cabbages that people will pay such exorbitant prices we cannot see.

Crops are very late this spring locally. This time last year spring grain was up five inches but this season it is just nicely covering the ground with its greenness.

Wheat is selling locally at 55c per bushel.

Buy a new guaranteed Goodrich tire as low as \$1.20 at J. H. Silverthorn's Central Garage, Stouffville.

The prompt action of Master Alex Logan, son of our storekeeper at Bethesda, saved the life of little Irene Staley from a watery grave over at Preston's Lake, Vandorf on Saturday afternoon. The boy plunged into the water from where he was fishing off a log and brought the little girl to land. The lad is only fourteen years of age.

The park commission observes with appreciation the splendid work done on the baseball diamond in Memorial Park by Mr. Bruce Lehman and the baseball boys.

The local bowling green is the centre of much entertainment following its official opening of the season on Monday. The pre-scheduled tournament attracted over 30 players.

It is doubtful if there is a geranium anywhere that could compare with the beautiful plant at the home of Mrs. Ab. Lehman. The giant geranium stands about eight feet in height and has displayed as many as fifty blooms.

VOICE OF PROPHECY
 BIBLE QUESTIONS
 AND ANSWERS

Question—How can I be sure that a man is teaching Bible truth when I hear him?

Answer—Isaiah 8:20: "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."

Q.—Does Psalm 118:24 refer to the Sabbath day?

A.—This scripture reads as follows: "This is the day, which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." It is quite evident that the psalmist is not writing any definite day of the week, but rather about the day of salvation. In the preceding verse David, regarding this wonderful work that God had done to save men through Christ, said, "This is the Lord's doings; it is marvelous in our eyes." So he was really speaking about the same thing that the apostle mentions in 2 Corinthians 6:2: "For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." This is also what Christ spoke of in John 8:56: "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad." Well, how did Abraham learn of Christ's day? Read Galatians 3:8: "And the Scripture; foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed." And so it was the glorious day in which men could be saved through faith in Christ that was foreseen by these men of God.

Sure, money talks. The dollar is again saying, "I want to be a loan."

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