

THE STOUFFVILLE TRIBUNE

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NOTES and COMMENTS

The Approaching Elections

Notwithstanding the fact that municipal elections are less than two months away, one notes a definite lack of stir on civic matters, and this is particularly true of Stouffville. Only in Markham Township is there talk of an uproarious election with a flock of new candidates in the field.

It is perhaps quite correct to say that very little actual criticism has been heard so far of the present Stouffville Council which has carried out extensive sidewalk and water improvement projects. There are, no doubt, some who feel that the town is spending too much money and that it is time to apply the brakes, particularly in view of such future expenditures as the new high school and a sewerage system. Those who hold this view can make it known by getting themselves nominated for public office nomination night.

We have stated before, and we repeat, that with so many demands for new services, and extensions to those existing, it is hard to keep expenditures down. Economic enthusiasm often generated at the first council meetings soon cools off as the year progresses, and it becomes harder and harder to turn the deaf ear to those who want this and that at the town's expense.

Every ratepayer should make it his or her duty to be out on nomination night to hear the story of what has been done this year with their money. This is the place to get all the necessary information, and not on the street corners.

No great election issues for 1953 have as yet been trotted out unless it be dissatisfaction with our municipal policing system or the possible sewerage vote. There are whisperings of several new council candidates for the new Hydro and Water Utility Commission who will also be nominated this November. However, they are little more than whisperings so far. There is still time, and it is hoped that there will be greater interest than ever in town affairs before election time rolls around.

Government Competition Unfair and Dictatorial

Governments have no right to compete with private enterprise in any shape or form. However, right or not, they're doing it, both in the Dominion and the Provincial spheres. The Dominion government is much the greater offender as they add insult to injury by not only competing with certain industry, but taxing this same industry in the bargain, to carry on this unfair competition.

No more blatant example of the dictatorial manners of the Ottawa government can be had than the very existence of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and its latest orders to private radio in an attempt to dictate what programs they shall or shall not use.

Certainly in the sphere of television, the CBC cannot point to its activities with any finger of pride and it is the generally accepted belief that had private stations been allowed to proceed as only private industry can proceed, Canadian viewers would be enjoying much more from their sets today than they are getting from the CBC.

Ron Poulton of the Toronto Telegram took up the cause of private broadcasting stations last week in the following words:

"Private radio station operators are hopping mad — and justifiably so — over the latest squeeze play planned by the CBC. A flock of new proposals came out of the Government's tallest ivory tower, but the nub and rub lies in a CBC move to force all radio stations to broadcast a stipulated amount of Canadian programs.

"The CBC dares this move not because of bravery but because its girth has grown so fat with pampered living that it can't see that its feet are treading totalitarian ways. Quick cabinets and slumbering parliaments have made it overlord of an industry which provides information and entertainment and, therefore, should have the same rights of expression as any media doing the same.

"No other industry in Canada is legislated more strictly than radio. And it's liable to remain that way for quite some time since private industry must, in the finish, get its support from the public, and the public has been too apathetic to get sore about it. It has been much simpler to turn the dial to a U.S. network and avoid the broadcasted results of the CBC-PTE fight.

"You might ask what's wrong with getting more Canadian programs? Nothing on the surface; in fact, it could be all to the good. It's the undercurrent that's dangerous. And the undercurrent is propelled by the fact that CBC can "force" a private operator to follow its dictates at will.

"Or as the Canadian Broadcaster, watchdog of the radio industry, says: 'There isn't anything in these orders we wouldn't follow ourselves if we ran a private station, but we would resent being told we had to do them. Such orders are totally dictatorial.'"

Events of Bygone Days

From the Files of The Tribune
40 Years Ago

The engagement of Miss Florence Mills of Toronto, to Mr. Oliver Madill of Stouffville, has been announced. The wedding to take place on November 20th at the home of the bride's parents, 16 Grant Street, Riverdale.

28 Years Ago

About eight o'clock in the morning while threshing operations were underway on the farm of Patrick Young of Ballantrae a flame suddenly shot out on the stack, believed from the blower and almost instantly the whole surrounding area was in flames. By strenuous efforts on the part of the threshers, the stack was removed as well as the threshing machine. Some 1200 bushels of grain were burned and a stack containing nearly as much more unthreshed grain was also lost. The threshing outfit belongs to Chas. Preston.

The Friday afternoon half holiday in Stouffville continues throughout the month of October. When business places are closed it certainly gives the town a dead appearance.

At Fannings' cattle sale in the Mansion yards last Friday, milch cows sold around the \$100 mark.

A subscriber has submitted a page of the Toronto World dated 1895, twenty-nine years ago, for a comparison of prices then and now. Among the items are granulated sugar 20 lbs. for \$1.00; tea at 15c; coffee at 25c; 5 lbs. of raisins for 25c; 6 bars of soap for 25c; hardwood (real full cords) cut and split \$5.00; coal per ton \$3.75 and so on. One coal merchant advertises that "not till apples grow on lilac trees will prices be lower."

Never in its long and marvelously successful record of 72 years has the Markham Fair scored a greater triumph than that of Saturday afternoon. There were over 10,000 people on the grounds and the cash gate receipts will total \$3,500. The Stouffville Creamery occupied space in the hall as did the Ringwood garage and Baker Bros. of the Standard Garage who held a demonstration of the Star Car.

During the severe electrical storm which passed over York County early Sunday evening, lightning started several fires,

mostly to the south of Stouffville. Although the town escaped any serious damage the rain came down in torrents and the lightning flashed in an alarming way, such as has not been seen here for a long time.

The farmers complain that there is considerable rot among potatoes. The crop is an excellent one, but the chances are that it will be greatly reduced by decay. Tubers are now selling for only 50c a bag. Fire drills were held in the Stouffville Public School last week. It just took one minute and five seconds to clear the building of nearly two hundred pupils. That's moving lively and the principal states that they can do even better.

Last Thursday, Stouffville again stood true to its tradition of being a dry town of temperate people. Out of the 625 votes polled on the plebiscite, 411 were cast in favour of the continuance of the Ontario Temperance Act.

17 Years Ago

It looks as though the only way to protect freshly laid cement sidewalks in Stouffville from being mutilated or defaced by youngsters, is to police the area over the first night on which the walk is laid.

While operating a gasoline engine cutting corn at the premises of Jas. Melton, south-east of town, Walter Byer sustained a double fracture to his left arm as a result of coming into contact with the drive belt.

Last Friday at Markham Fair the Stouffville baseball team won a \$25 prize by defeating the snappy Pickering line-up by three runs.

After one or two years rest, Lloyd Turner returns to the competitions this year at the annual plowing matches to take his former position as a prize winner. Last week at Orillia in a large field of contestants he carried off first prize in first class sod, winning the championship cup along with another prize for the class.

Unloading gravel on the Glasgow Hill the other day, Walter Todd had an exciting experience. As he was about to dump the load from the rear, the weight of the gravel proved to be more than the engine and front end of his truck, with the result that the

MT. PISGAH

(Thursday, Oct. 16)

Mrs. Gohn of Unionville, Miss Ada and Mr. Arthur Gohn of Toronto had Sunday dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Les. Smith and family.

Rev. Wesley and Mrs. Wesley were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Smith on Sunday. Rev. Wesley was in charge of the Thanksgiving service. There was a good attendance and a bountiful supply of fruits and vegetables for the Fred Victor Mission was received.

Mr. Emmerson Stiles, Toronto, visited his sister, Mrs. John Ash and Mr. Ash for a few days last week.

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Montgomery were guests at the wedding of the latter's niece in Midland last Saturday. They returned home on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Deeks and family of Kitchener spent the long weekend with the Norman Browns. Mr. and Mrs. Metro Sudeyko and family were Sunday supper guests of Mrs. Malayny in Toronto.

Mr. Jackson and daughter Vera and Irene and Mr. Dave Howard all of Richmond Hill, were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ross Smith and Mr. W. H. Smith on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Broome and family of Concord were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Meredith Ash and Sheila.

Mr. R. C. Baycroft received word last Saturday that his mother, Mrs. Baycroft of Aurora had been taken to a hospital in Toronto. Best wishes are extended to her.

There were eleven representatives of Gormley Women's Institute at the York Pioneer and Historical Society monthly meeting in Toronto on Tuesday night, October 7th. They report a most interesting evening with the guest speaker, Mr. McQuat, speaking on "Our Provincial Archives."

front wheels left the ground, and the driver was suspended in the air until the balance of weight was in his favor.

When cauliflower is a good price the grower has a menace which does not confront him when the price is low. Thieves have been making off with the crop belonging to Brillinger Bros., but the other night a culprit was almost caught with the goods in the bags. While he made a clean get-away it was only poor marksmanship that prevented him from taking along something he had not anticipated. With cauliflower selling at \$1. per doz. the crop is a valuable one and Brillinger Bros. intend to protect it.

OCTOBER WOODS
October crowned with garlands gay,
October's bright blue weather
Call me to walk the woodland way
Where good friends meet together.

The birch and beech in yellow dress'd,
And maples rich in gold and green;
Sumacs in scarlet look their best,
And blushing oaks in crimson sheen.

Tall, purple loose-strife in relief,
Wild asters chic in turquoise blue,
With golden-rod in tawny sheaf,
To bid lost Summer fond adieu.

Oh yes, October's woods are rare!
With Beauty resting on her bier,
In pensive mood I homeward fare;
In silence drop the wanton tear.
From Mixed Diet — J. E. Kidd.

CIVIL SERVICE RECORD SET

More persons are working for the federal government this year than ever before.

Figures issued by the Bureau of Statistics last week showed the civil service at a peak of 131,646 on March 31—up 7,066 compared with a year ago, topping the wartime high of 115,908 and almost tripling the prewar 1939 figure of 46,106.

The chief increase during the year were in departments associated with the defence program, the bureau said.

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THE OLD HOME TOWN By STANLEY

