

THE STOUFFVILLE TRIBUNE

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NOTES and COMMENTS

Annual Reports Reveal Churches Not Declining

In these days when cynical writers are declaring that Christianity is on the decline and that the church is losing its power to influence the lives of people, it is encouraging to note the nature of the reports which are emanating from the annual meetings of churches in Stouffville and surrounding district.

To sum up these reports, one cannot escape the belief that these churches, regardless of their denominations, are growing in strength, and bringing out in their people the spirit of Christian stewardship and sacrifice. The figures of contributions to the many funds both here and abroad is strong in many congregations.

The Christian Church will continue to be a force in the community as long as there are so many willing to work and sacrifice for it.

They're the Same the Country Over

It is a peculiar fact that whether it be in the town or in the township the newcomers to the community are the most free with their advice and their criticism. We have sat through council meeting after council meeting when practically everything from the color a neighbour painted his house to the noise the children make, has been criticised by newcomers to the municipality. Markham Township has been bombarded for two or three years by complaints from newcomers on every minor detail in the book.

From those staunch citizens who have spent the best part of their time, their talents and their money to bring it to the point where they are proud of it today, one hears few complaints.

It appears the newspapers as well as the municipal officials reap these same complaints. Only last week The Tribune was the target of such criticism claims that this newspaper had failed to ever champion a worthwhile cause. Contrary to such a claim, the writer could cite a longer list than needs to be quoted here, of causes which have been successfully fought by this newspaper, and which stretch far back beyond this newcomer's short tenure of residence.

However, even in such a short space of time as our letter writer may recall, is a new arena, a new high school, a public utilities commission and a planning board, all improvements and advances for the citizens of Stouffville and all of which the newspaper can take considerable credit in promoting.

Even to the matter of sewers which appears to be most "gripping" to our writer, we have had much to say in urging that a survey be taken followed by a vote of the people.

Beards an Oddity

Women judges of a beard-growing contest in an English mining town went all out to award the prize to a young miner who grew a three-inch goatee. It was doubtless the romantic appeal of the goatee on the young man's well-chiselled chin that moved the women to make him the winner.

Beard growing in competition was a novelty for the miners. It is strange that in this day beards are an oddity among men.

Beards were an adornment of the age of romance. That age has definitely passed. The romantic has been ruled out in our time from the arts, literature, music, painting, sculpture and architecture.

Whether we accept it or not, the present century is the century of the pragmatist. It is an era of revolt against tradition. Traditional forms in art, in manners, in thinking are taboo, so that the mind of the 20th century may be free to develop its own art, architecture and manners.

How much genius it has developed to its task is unanswerable now. Its pragmatism has at least shaved beards from males, and perhaps manly chins.

Clearing the Land Entailed Hard Work

An Aylmer district farmer recently presented to the Aylmer Historical Society an ancient stump-puller invented by his great-grandfather in 1829. This pioneer device went out of use with the advent of dynamite.

The old stump-puller is a crude contraption compared to our modern farm implements, but it served its purpose at a time when stumps presented one of the greatest obstacles to clearing land.

Those were the days when the settlers used to hold logging bees. It was a laborious task to transform the virgin forest into a productive farm. The large trees were felled during the winter and cut into lengths with axes as cross-cut saws were a rarity. In the spring a day was appointed to hold a logging bee for the clearing-up of the land. Friends and neighbours in the district helped in the work. Those who could do so brought oxen to drag the heavy logs into piles. Oxen were in great favour among the early settlers. Horses were scarce and very dear and besides, if necessary, the oxen could be turned into beef at the end of the season.

When all the workers had assembled, the field to be logged was divided into two long strips. To each strip was assigned a yoke of oxen and a number of men. All started at one end of the field and proceeded to drag all the logs and brushwood into great piles in the centre. Rivalry was keen as to which gang would first complete its part of the task, and the race was very often exciting. The logging was generally followed by merry-making at night.

Removing the stumps was a back-breaking job. The green stumps would not burn and it took a strong levering device to pry the matted roots from the earth.

Thus the land was cleared by herculean effort. The few stump fences that still remain are mute reminders of the hard work required to transform a wilderness into productive farms at a time when dynamite and the bulldozer were yet to come.

OTTAWA LETTER

By Michael Starr, M.P. Ontario Riding

The much discussed and debated Bill which was introduced in the House of Commons regarding salaries of the Members of the House of Commons Cabinet Ministers and Members of the Senate, has now been passed and Parliament has again taken on seriously the work of legislation.

One of the first items to be brought up was the Post Office Act and the discussions will continue on the Second Reading of the Bill. Many contributions have been made in this debate in regard to the amendment which will increase the postage from four to five cents, and no doubt many more will be made in an endeavour to persuade the government that it is not necessary to raise the rate on first class mail.

A week or so ago we had a one-day debate on external affairs. This foreign policy debate was one of the dulllest in recent years. It brought along at a time when there was not a single controversy in the field of international affairs in which Canada was directly and intimately involved. External Affairs Minister Pearson's debate-opening address for that reason contained nothing to enliven the proceedings. He did not say in his speech that the world is still an unsafe place for the weak, the weary and the unaware. This statement contained his general theme.

The Prime Minister has left on his world tour. The main object of this trip is to visit Asia. He will spend over three weeks in the East and will be flying home from Tokyo, arriving back about March 17th. Anything Mr. St. Laurent can do to strengthen the unity of purpose of India, Pakistan, and other countries of the Commonwealth, will help advance the greatest international experiment that has ever been carried out successfully in the history of the world, the British Commonwealth.

Unemployment hit directly at Labour Minister Gregg two weeks ago. The Minister left hurriedly for his New Brunswick riding of York-Sunbury to inquire into the closing of the district's biggest industry, Canadian Cottons Limited, a textile plant at Marysville. The Company announced that the plant was being closed indefinitely because of difficulties in meeting United States competition under the present tariff system. It has employed 550 persons in the town just outside Fredericton.

There has been a great deal of controversy in the House of Commons and elsewhere over the Government's decision to move the Film Board from Ottawa to Montreal. A contract amounting to \$5,230,000 for the construction of the new National Film Board quarters in Montreal has been let to a Toronto contractor. There seems to be no valid reason why this move has been decided upon and the Government has not come forward with any valid reason. It seems foolhardy to spend this sum of money for a new building in a new location when the Film Board is already housed in the City of Ottawa.

Quite recently the C.C.F. made a proposal for a 60% increase in Family Allowance payments. This proposal was opposed very strongly by the Government because they say it might jeopardize proposed expansion of social security measures. Health Minister Martin, in speaking on this proposal, stated that it lacked any serious practical quality in the light of what the Government is doing in other fields of social welfare. The increase would cost between 170 and 190 million dollars. Mr. Martin added that the proposal showed no appreciation of what it would mean in additional tax burdens. The debate on this proposal continued until adjournment of a Wednesday half-day sitting. This means that the proposal was talked out and is unlikely to come up again this season.

There is some speculation as to when Mr. Abbott will be presenting the Budget - this year. He brought down the 1953-54 Budget on February 19th but it is expected that it will be later this year.

Other legislation still to be introduced by the Government includes Health Minister Martin's Bill to pay pensions to disabled Canadians on a 50-50 basis with the Provinces. It is expected that these pensions will amount to \$40 a month and will be granted on a meanest basis. Within the last two weeks there has been a meeting of the Ministers of the Provincial Departments of Welfare in Ottawa, over which the Honourable Paul Martin, Minister of National Health



For Parents Only

ST. VALENTINE'S FUN

By Nancy Cleaver

Roses are red, violets are blue Honey is sweet and so are you. Everyone knows this old rhyme and there are few better ones to print or write on a Valentine. But how about trying to make up an original short rhyme or poem? Mother, or grandmother would get a thrill out of a verse a child wrote all himself, even if it were "doggerel."

Making Valentines is great

and Welfare, presided. The Province of Ontario Bill, which is now in existence, and which embraces disabled Canadians from the age of 18 to 65, will be adopted by the Federal Government and the jurisdiction and the workability of this Bill will be left entirely in the hands of the respective, provincial governments.

Besides the legislation outlined in the Throne Speech, the Government is expected to introduce a Bill to merge the Departments of Trade and Commerce and Defence Production. The new Department is expected to be called Trade and Production.

The bulk of the Government's legislative program is now before the House of Commons and most of it still remains to be approved. During the 29 days that the House has been in Session only a handful of bills has been passed. The Order Paper now contains 17 items of Government legislation, most important being the revised Criminal Code. In order to expedite the business the Government no doubt will curtail private members' sittings and proceeding with Government business instead.

I have been advised that I am on two Standing Committees of the House this year, the Industrial Relations Committee and the External Affairs Committee. Although no meetings have been called as yet of either of these Committees, I expect that sittings will begin very shortly and we will be attending them regularly and faithfully.

ren that the member's of one's family, even if some of them are "grown-up" enjoy getting Valentines too. Why not make a Valentine place card for each person in the home and then put them on the table at supper time on February 14th.

If there are young brothers or sisters in your home, do let them share in Valentine making. They may be too little to cut out a well shaped heart from red cardboard. But they can find scissors and paste and look for prett colored pictures in magazines or seed catalogues.

An old sample wall paper book is another wonderful place to search for attractive Valentine decorations. If you ask the merchant who has sold wall paper or paint to you to keep an out-of-date sample book, he will likely be glad to oblige you. With a little direction from you, a younger child can put paste on the back of a cut-out picture and choose where it is to be placed on the heart.

Small brothers or sisters will need assistance in making Valentines. Mother will help them work together happily. If she has any paper doilies, perhaps she could suggest a paper lace edging for the nicest Valentines. They can be pasted on the back of the red cardboard with small plait, making a frilly edge.

The children might decorate ordinary paper serviettes with some red hearts which they drew and colored with their crayons or cut out from red paper and pasted on them. Mother might have a good idea about a pretty table centre piece, possibly using a little man and woman salt and pepper shakers as the two central figures. One family made a charming decoration for the fun and everyone likes to receive pretty cards from their friends. Suggest to your child-able out of plasticene figures using four contrasting colors. Likely mother will plan the first course, but perhaps either she or big sister could make

OFFICE CAT

Tux - I've finished with that girl.
Tuxedo - How come?
Tux - She asked me if I danced.
Tuxedo - What's so insulting about that?
Tux - I was dancing with her when she asked me.

Today's Smile

"Dad, I've got my first part in a play," said the young would-be actor. "I play the part of a man who has been married for 20 years."
"That's a good start," encouraged his father. "Maybe one of these days you'll get a speaking part."

heart-shaped cookies. Red gelatine jelly is an attractive dessert. A school age child can make it himself because the directions are so easy to follow.

This fourteenth of February half way through the long winter months can be a very jolly time for everyone, if each member in the home co-operates in making Valentine Greetings and in the preparations for a Valentine Home Party. These special occasions in family life provide a feeling of belonging. They are also very nice to remember when little folk are grown and away from home.

EDITOR'S MAIL

January 27, 1954

The Publisher, Stouffville Tribune, Stouffville, Ontario Dear Sir:

You will be pleased to hear that the public response to our annual Christmas Appeal was successful. We received about 10% more than the amount which was asked—the excess will help in a small way to offset shortages in the years when because of Building Campaigns, no Christmas Appeal was made.

On behalf of all the children who are being helped as a result of your efforts, may I thank you for your assistance in bringing the Hospital's work and needs to the attention of the public upon whose generosity we must depend.

May I express the personal appreciation of all the Trustees of the help you have given The Hospital for Sick Children. Yours Sincerely,

J. Grant Glasco, Chairman, Board of Trustees

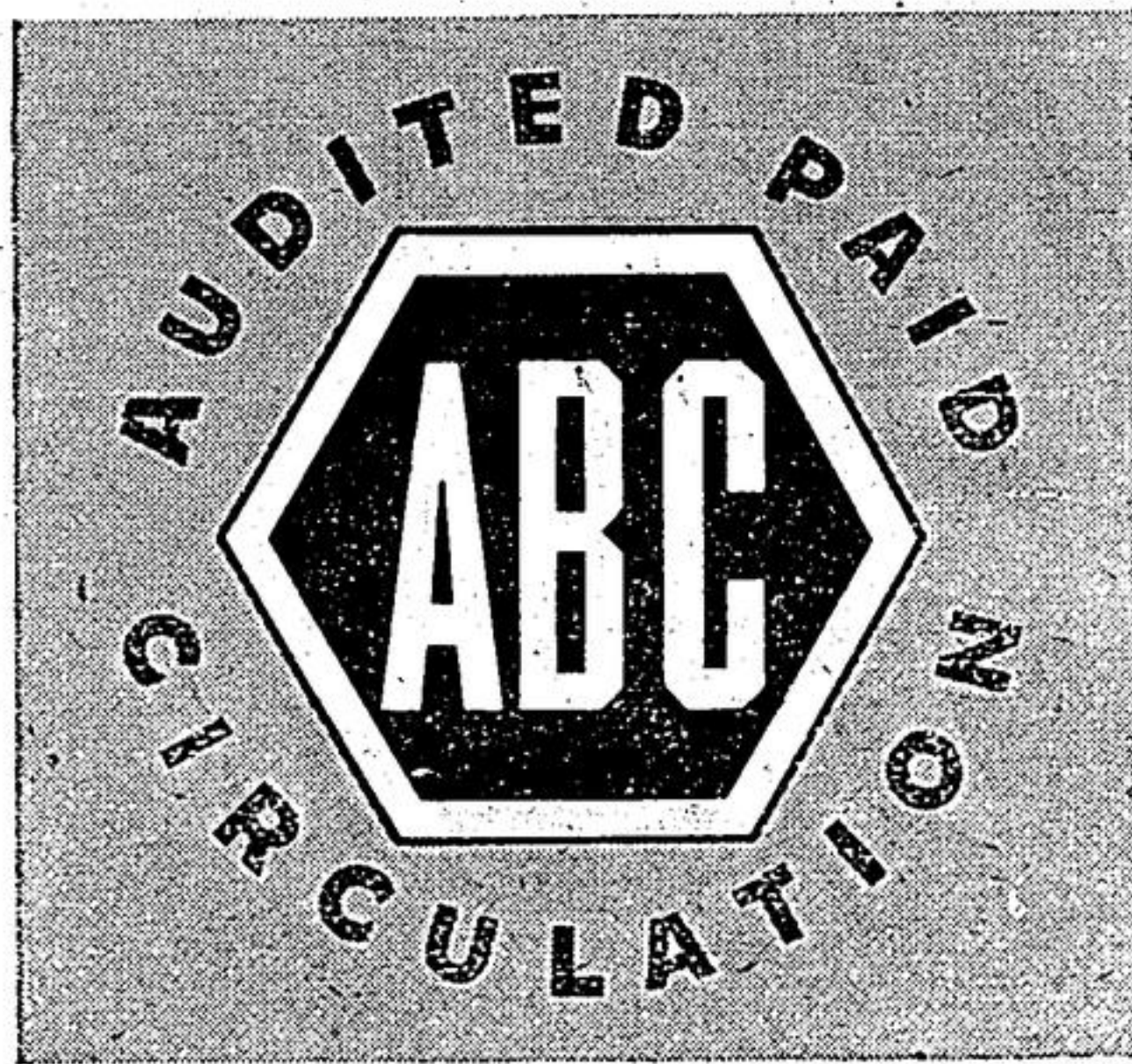
Another hard thing to do is to upset a tax set-up.

A doctor says that people with big fists also have big hearts. That, however, is not why big-hearted people make a hit with you.

THE OLD HOME TOWN By STANLEY



MEMO TO ADVERTISERS



The Hallmark of Circulation Value

In the same way that STERLING on silver signifies a standard of known value, so is the A.B.C. emblem a symbol of integrity for the circulation of newspapers and periodicals. It means that circulation so identified is measured according to the rules and standards of the AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS

The A.B.C. is a cooperative and non-profit association of 3,450 publishers, advertisers and advertising agencies. Organized in 1914, these buyers and sellers of advertising brought order out of advertising chaos by setting up standards for paid circulation and establishing rules and methods for measuring, auditing and reporting circulations.

Therefore, the work of the A.B.C., of which this newspaper is proud to

be a member, provides you with a direct and valuable service. You can buy advertising as you would make any other sound business investment —on the basis of well known standards, known values.

At regular intervals one of the Bureau's large staff of experienced circulation auditors makes a thorough audit of our circulation records. The results of this exacting audit show: How much circulation we have; where our circulation goes; how it was obtained; and many other FACTS that you need in order to know just what you get for your advertising dollars. This audited information is published by the Bureau in easy-to-read A.B.C. reports which are available to our advertisers on request. Ask for a copy of our latest A.B.C. report.

