

THE STOUFFVILLE TRIBUNE
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Editorials

Driver at 4 1/2
A "children's special" class at the North York plowing match had a 4 1/2-year-old boy driving a tractor. In Ontario, during recent months, the number of tractor accidents has been great, and the victims have included several children.

Twice Champion Plowman
A North York plowman, aged 28, has won the Canadian championship, and this for a second time, Robert Timbers, who farms near Stouffville, on the Markham-Whitchurch line, headed the championship class the other day in the international contest at Blytheswood, Essex County, and with a Manitoba expert will represent the Dominion at the fourth World Plowing Match near Oxford, England, a year from now.

Bob Timbers will not be competing in the world match for a first time; he was a Canadian representative last year in Ireland, and placed 13th. He won the Dominion title in 1953 at Cobourg, where the World Match was held that year. He comes of a family of prize-winning plowmen and has a long list of honors to his own credit.

The record is unique. In a highly competitive field, Bob Timbers has proved himself a master of the straight furrow in sod or stubble, with tractor power. He has brought honor to his native country and is well qualified to represent Canada abroad next October.

Grandmother Did Her Own 'Packaging'
Grandmother never knew anything about home freezing nor did she have any idea that the time would come when many items of food would be packaged, ready to heat and serve.

In those days there were few short cuts to the preparation of good meals; and as for storage, there were no electric deep freezers for home use. But grandmother had a wonderful place to keep a winter's supply of all sorts of good tasty food. Not even glorified by the name "basement," it was simply the cellar, reached from outside the house by rather steep wooden steps.

It was not a dingy or musty room, for grandmother kept it spotlessly clean and neat. Shelves hanging from the ceiling were filled with small items such as glasses and jars of preserves and jelly. On tables beneath the shelves were crocks of apple butter, pickled beans and sauerkraut. Shelves around three walls were laden with many kinds of canned vegetables and fruit.

All summer long, grandmother worked at the task of filling this storage space. Besides doing the preserving, she baked bread, cakes, pies and cookies for daily use — and not a single bit of it came from what we now call "package mix."

Yet grandmother loved to cook. Her mind wasn't cluttered up with such things as balanced diets, vitamins and calories, she merely followed sound common sense — and the likes and dislikes of those for whom she cooked.

And it must be said that not one member of the family ever suffered from a malady caused by lack of good nutrition.

A new type turntable arm permits the playing of records even in the roughest weather aboard ship. The record player can be tilted as much as 45 degrees and still play efficiently. All but 23 miles of Oregon's coastline is public property. Even the walls and doors are carpeted in the communications room at New York's International Airport — to muffle the clatter of the teletypes and other equipment. Two thousand pounds of tin a year have been used by the United States mint in the last five years in making the alloy for pennies — 95 percent copper and 5 percent zinc and tin.

LAFF OF THE WEEK



"Benson, how can you sit there calmly stringing beads with out-grade learning over our heads?"



For Parents Only
Home Atmosphere

By Nancy Cleaver

Is there any better question for a father and mother to ask each other at the beginning of Christian Family Week than: "What kind of atmosphere is there in your home?" Of course your family has its ups and downs, the children have their rivalries and quarrels but is there a bed rock of real affection between the members of your household? As parents, do you place a priority on encouraging the growth of understanding, consideration and sympathy in yourselves and your children?

What are some of the plains by which parents can do their part to provide a home which has a fine atmosphere? Fathers think in terms of a sufficient income to provide for the necessities and perhaps a few of the luxuries of life. Mother's mind naturally turns to an attractive, orderly home, where there is warmth and shelter, good food and suitable clothing for every member in the family. But what of the spiritual qualities which produce a strong family bond?

First and most important of all is the relationship between the father and the mother and each child in the household. The presence or absence of that intangible thing called love makes all the difference between a happy or an unhappy home. Love is the cement that binds all the members of the family together. The Old Testament writer points out that God hath set the solitary in families. Is your family in its loving atmosphere fulfilling the purpose of the Great Creator?

A medical adviser at a large Juvenile Court said recently, "I have yet to meet a boy or girl in trouble with the law who came from a united harmonious family circle."

These are plain words from an authority who sees the heartache and waste which result in adolescence from homes which are not homes in the true sense. The right kind of family attitudes are more important to the building of character than a new TV set, a "deep freeze," an electric refrigerator, or any other material possessions in homes.

An unhappy home atmosphere is hard enough for the husband and wife, but it is stark tragedy for a child. Take a scene in a modern home where mother and dad have quarrelled. Heated words have passed between them and now the husband sits in his chair in the living-room angry and moody. A few feet away, the wife is on the chesterfield. Her manner is aloof, indignant, pitying herself. But what of small Junior, who has overheard the disagreement and now squats on the carpet, gazing with utter desolation in his face at his dad?

He is just a little chap and his parents make up his small world. If there is disharmony between them, one of his most precious possessions, his sense of security, is shattered. He cannot understand this dispute, but he can feel the hostility between his mother and dad.

It is little wonder that the terror he feels over his parents' quarrel is carried from day time to sleep time. In the middle of the night, the household is awakened by Junior's screams.

In later years when Junior is old enough to start a new home, because of his own background, he may be cynical about love and marriage and hesitate to "take the plunge." If he does marry, his chances of happiness are less than if he had grown up in a united happy home. Statistics show that "history tends to repeat itself" in the pattern of married life.

How different is the scene in another household where, after supper, dad joins in a romp with little daughter Tommy, who has been playing with his blocks, looks up and laughs at their fun. Mother is enjoying the family frolic, too. Tommy knows Dad will give him a ride on his back when his turn comes. He has no reason to be jealous of little sister. No favoritism is shown in this household. That night Tommy goes to bed tired but happy. Before he climbs into bed he can echo Christopher Robin's words "Thank You God for a lovely day."

Does your little child end his day with a prayer on his lips? Do you? Dr. Frank Laubach, the famous world educationalist, has called Prayer — "The Mightiest Force in the World." Is it at work in your family? It can do wonders in the atmosphere of your home if you will only give it a chance!

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EDITOR'S MAIL

October 27, 1955
Editor, The Tribune, Dear Sir:

Your editorial in October 27th issue of the Tribune and numerous articles of late have, I feel, not only been unfair to the members of Council who were present at the meeting when the Ontario Provincial Police contract was terminated, but also to the ratepayers as a whole. At the regular meeting of the Council held October 3rd, 1955, Councillor Ratcliff was present when the letter from Commissioner E. V. McNeill, of the Ontario Provincial Police was read notifying of the increase in rates, it was as you know decided that this matter would be dealt with at a special meeting to be held October 17th. Councillor Ratcliff was not present at that special meeting, for reasons not known to me and he apparently did not feel it important enough to notify the ratee that he would be unable to attend. Councillor Timbers, Chairman of the Police Committee, was either too busy with his subdivision or judging plowing matches to be in attendance at the regular meeting held Oct. 3rd, and as a result did not know of the special meeting. Numerous attempts were made by the ratee and myself to contact Mr. Timbers by telephone to notify him of the special meeting to be held in the evening of the 17th, without success. However, since it is my duty to notify Councillors of



in STOUFFVILLE on Saturday, November 5th

meetings, I will accept the responsibility for Councillor Timbers not receiving notification of this meeting. I can assure your letter writers who did not have the intestinal fortitude to have their names published with their letters, that it was not a stunt on the part of the members of Council to obtain votes.

I believe, Mr. Editor, you did not give your readers a true picture of the situation since it was not definitely decided by Council that they would only engage one man. One would be led to believe from reading your articles that the Ontario Provincial Police have been patrolling the streets, have been checking the business premises in the middle of the night, have been catching all the stray dogs and have been helping with the school crossing, etc. However, I cannot agree with you on this matter. To bear me out in this matter I would like to point out to the ratepayers that it will cost approximately \$400 this year in addition to what we are paying the Ontario Provincial Police, to provide a school crossing guard. It is my feeling that conscientious police officers would have assisted in the matter of the school crossing.

At several meetings of Council held this year the Police Committee were asked to check with the police on certain complaints. However, I feel the committee could answer better than anyone else just how much supervision has been given by them this year. Just as a passing thought it might be interesting for people to look at the minutes of the corporation for this year and see for themselves the attendance record.

Let it be understood that I believe it is necessary to have two policemen in Stouffville and the costs will be high. No one would argue that at present the costs are not high and what isn't today? However, I personally feel that we the ratepayers of Stouffville are not getting what we are paying for.

One of the main oppositions to the decision made by the Council seems to come from a group of merchants and possibly some of these people who are complaining are unaware that for certain periods this year they have only had the protection of one constable. It is my personal feeling that if assessments in the business section were at the figure they should be, enough extra revenue would be provided to more than pay for the costs of additional police protection. Possibly, Mr. Editor, this strikes a little too close to home to receive an answer.

In these paragraphs I have tried to explain as best I can, my personal convictions concerning the problem so prominent in our minds at this time. I may be badly disgraced but I am still in the fight. Yours truly, Garfield D. Brown

Oct. 27, 1955

Mr. C. H. Nolan, The Stouffville Tribune Dear Sir,

I have noted with interest the reaction of the news contained in your last issue, of the dismissal of the Provincial Police. Believe me, I was quite perturbed when I read the news and wondered if someone would not voice some opinion. I commend you on your editorial comment on the matter, and in passing, mention the excellent way in which your paper keeps us, as ratepayers, posted on council affairs. I can follow your line of reasoning perfectly as regards the single policeman idea.

Businessmen tell me that at a meeting they held last week they were given no assurance but that, only one officer was to be hired. I think personally, that they will have to hire two men; they will be forced into it by public demand.

Council's move certainly started tongues wagging on our street. It seems too bad the other two councilmen weren't present, as I suppose they must have been advised of the meeting. The quorum who did the job certainly took plenty upon themselves. I don't agree with the writer last week who suggested that our councillors were out "vote getting," but I do think council has been out to cut police costs even if it means little policing and it remains to be seen whether the ratepayers will go for this economy program.

Just in closing I could mention one weak argument that a business friend told me was expressed at the business meeting. It was said that this fall one policeman was off the job through illness and we got along okay with the remaining one, so why should people complain if we had only one all the time. My answer is just this: if we had only one to begin with, and he were ill, we would not have any — so then what? Not much of an argument, that. Thanks for the space in your fine paper.

J.M.

What's the Law?

What Is a Common Law Marriage?

In Canada there is no such thing as a "common law" wife or husband. In some other countries a man and woman living together as man and wife without ever going through a ceremony of marriage are regarded as legally wed. The wife acquires a right of maintenance and children of the union are legitimate.

Particularly where children are involved any Canadian Court will presume a valid marriage unless evidence to the contrary is pretty clear. In one early case a 14 year old girl was rowed across the river from Windsor to Detroit by a man who on landing proposed marriage. On the spur of the moment they found a "Judge" who after such a brief ceremony that years later the wife couldn't remember it, gave them a piece of paper. Later, this paper was lost in a fire and the "Judge" couldn't be found.

They lived together as man and wife for years, part of the time in Michigan but most of it in Ontario, and raised three children before the husband died. The widow's mother-in-law had never recognized the marriage and bequeathed her suspicions to members of her family. When the husband's estate came into Court for division these relatives said that his children were illegitimate since there had never been a valid marriage and that they were therefore not entitled to any part of their father's estate. On two grounds the Court held this marriage to be valid. First, there was verbal evidence of some sort of ceremony, vague as it was, and since the parties to the "ceremony" had lived as husband and wife ever afterward, the Court assumed it to be valid. Second, even if there had been no ceremony it was still a valid marriage because for some time the couple had lived in the State of Michigan as man and wife. And under the laws of Michigan this in itself constituted a valid "marriage".

In international law, a marriage ceremony is valid so long as it conforms to the legal requirements of the country or state in which the ceremony takes place. And of course if it does not conform to such requirements it is no marriage even if the ceremony which actually took place would have been enough in one of the parties' home country. For example, French law requires a civil ceremony for a valid marriage. A Quebec man and woman from Quebec visiting Paris decided to marry there and went to their consul who gave them a certificate. Being Roman Catholics they took this certificate to a priest who then married them according to the rites of their church. Years later when the husband's attentions strayed, the wife brought him to Court. It then appeared that the certificate the consul had given them was merely one of intention to marry. There never had been a civil marriage ceremony, and therefore no proper marriage. In Quebec the religious ceremony would have been enough. But as it was performed in Paris and not Quebec, the marriage was not a legal one.

BETWEEN OURSELVES BY Archer Wallace

SOMETHING TO DO
WHEN LADY BADEN POWELL, widow of the originator of the Boy Scout Movement, visited the Jamboree at Niagara-on-the-Lake recently, she gave an address over television. She was asked to account for the amazing growth of the Scout Movement and also that of the Girl Scouts.

It is just a little over thirty years ago that Baden Powell conceived the idea of this idealistic plan for young people, international in scope and containing within its ranks, all religions and nationalities, and now having 67 different nations all committed to high standards of living. In substance, Lady Powell said:

"IN ALL NATIONS there are high-minded young people, full of good-will toward each other and anxious to get rid of misunderstanding. They are not willing to just talk about it — they want to do something in a practical way. So today there are Scouts in nearly 70 nations solemnly united in pledges of good living for body and soul."

THERE WERE OVER 11,000 Scouts last August at the Jamboree and it was successful beyond all expectations, as for ten days these youngsters, under a thousand leaders lived together in a grand fellowship; one grand experience of goodwill. The CHIEF SCOUT of New Zealand said: "It was an inspiring sight to see boys of 32 nationalities repeating the Scout oaths. The differences among us were superficial; the high purposes were shared by all."

IT WAS A DEEPLY MOVING SIGHT and thousands of visitors drove in to see the sight — it was prophecy of the future when love shall replace hatred in the world. Every one of those 11,000 boys went back to his own country to be an ambassador of goodwill. They have seen each other and in one sense, they have become missionaries.

ONE MAN WHO SPENT a week at the National Exhibition in Toronto said: "Nothing I saw there interested me so much as the sight of over 10,000 Scouts as they marched past the grandstand. I have seen nothing like it."

THE WORDS of Lady Baden Powell are impressive. She said the young people want something to do. Each nation gave demonstrations of how things were done at home. They cooked their native foods; showed native arts, gave samples of native dances, played their own music and above everything else formed new friendships.

THERE WILL BE ANOTHER and larger Jamboree in 1959. In the meantime this grand movement continues to grow and we believe that mutual understanding will grow and the words of the prophet will come true. "Men shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning-hooks."

OUR QUOTATION TODAY is from the Bible: "Whatever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might."

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