

SOCIAL EVENING

Markham Township
Federation of Agriculture

EUCHRE CROQUINOLE FILMS
Come and Enjoy Community Spirit.

Tuesday, February 26

8.15 p.m.

Prizes — Refreshments

School Staff Provides Home & School Program

A large gathering of parents were present last Wednesday night at the school to attend the Home & School meeting planned by Mr. Boardway and staff.

Following the business period, presided over by the President, Mrs. T. Wedseltoft, Mr. Boardway introduced Miss Mona Armstrong, music supervisor. She led the Grade 8 Choir in singing the two selections, "Canada" and "Somewhere a Child is Singing" and a Triple Trio Choir singing All Through the Night. The selections were very much enjoyed and Mrs. Bacon extended a vote of thanks to the students and gave them the H. & S. best wishes when they go to Toronto on Feb. 22, 1957, to compete in the Kiwanis Festival. It is the first time that Stouffville has competed and we of the H. & S. are indeed proud of them and of the efforts of their principal and music supervisors.

In keeping with National Health Week, our guest speaker was Dr. F. Hutchison, M.O.H. of Newmarket. Miss Brooks very capably introduced him, telling of his medical experience and that he was Vice-President of his H. & S. Association. Dr. Hutchison commenced by saying, "I'm not going to speak to you as a Minister of Health, but as a parent." He chose as his theme "The changing picture on the health and welfare of Canadian children." He quoted several interesting statistics.

In 1927 there were 1400 deaths from diphtheria, 1600 from whooping cough and 900 from measles. For every 1,000 births 168 died before 6 months of age he said. In 1956, 30 years later, there were 208 cases of diphtheria with only 15 deaths, 11,600 cases of whooping cough with 91 deaths and for every 1,000 births the death rate had dropped to 64.

In 1955, 2,000 children died from accidents. In the 5-14 age group more children died from accidents than from the nine leading illnesses and infections. The causes vary either directly or indirectly, due to motor vehicles, drownings, fires, poisonings or falls.

He spoke about mental health. "Today we have a 60-75% recovery rate in 9 months time, 25% of all admissions are discharged in one month."

"It is the emotionally unstable child who grows up, marries and has a mental breakdown," Dr. Hutchison said. "The prevention of this lies in the home. Mental illness is traced to certain unhappy situations in the home in the formative years."

Killer whales, among the fiercest of all sea creatures, actually are dolphins. They hunt in packs swallowing small seals and porpoises whole. Although these bloodthirsty marauders grow to only 30 feet, they will attack and kill large whales.

Report from Parliament

By Michael Starr
M.P., Ontario Riding

Observers here are convinced that the General Election may come earlier than the June date which has been generally expected. The display of tempers in the House of Commons and the exchanges across the floor during the Question periods, which are held daily at the opening of each sitting, are responsible for the new uncertainty. The Prime Minister is experiencing some difficulty in keeping his anger under control.

The theory at the moment is that if the lengthy barrage of questions continue for long, he may blow up and call a snap election without warning. The possibility of an early dissolution of this Parliament under such circumstances is real enough. None of the parties have as yet completed their election preparations but the Opposition parties are satisfied that they are now as ready as they ever will be, so the policy of "needling" during the question period will continue.

There is some likelihood that Mr. Diefenbaker, the new Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party, plans to make the question of Senate Reform a bigger election issue than it has been at any time since the late W. L. Mackenzie King used it with such success. Mr. Diefenbaker is known to have endeavoured to institute greater use of this Senate-reform issue of a number of years ago, but he was not able to sell the idea to others.

The Government, through its Agricultural Price Support Board, is buying eggs early this year in an attempt to prevent further price declines. This policy was made clear in the House of Commons a few days ago in answer to Opposition Members' questions about declines in egg prices in recent weeks.

In the Dominion Bureau of Statistics Bulletin dated Feb. 8, it has been noted that new residential housing units built last year reached a record total of 135,700. This was an increase of six percent over 1955.

Per capita weekly wages and salaries in industry reached a new high average figure of \$66.22 at November 1st, 1956. This was 15 cents higher than a month earlier and \$4.25 above the average at November 1st, 1955.

According to the latest figures released, as of January 1st, 1957, Canada's population rose to an estimated 16,344,000 — an increase of 516,000 over the corresponding date in 1956. The total number of immigrants arriving in Canada during 1956 was 164,857. This constitutes the greatest number of post-war arrivals since 1953.

An official of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics stated that the population increase during 1957 will probably be as much or perhaps more than the increase last year. If we had a similar increase during 1957, it would place our total population by next January 1st at about 16,870,000. This could be even a little higher if immigration exceeds last year's total. At this rate we should have a population in this country by the summer of 1958 somewhere around 17 million.

A Supply Motion was introduced by the Government on Monday, Feb. 11th. The purpose of the Supply Motion was to introduce for discussion and eventual passing the Estimates of a number of governmental departments. It affords an opportunity to the Opposition to introduce an amendment to the Motion and this amendment is usually one of non-confidence.

The Progressive-Conservative Party, who are the official Opposition, introduced an amendment calling for immediate adoption of a national development policy. This policy is being supported by the C.C.F. and Social Credit Members of the House of Commons.

It calls for more processing of raw materials in Canada, reduction of Canada's unfavourable balance of trade, and a wider participation by Canadians in resources development and greater job opportunities for our growing population.

Mr. Diefenbaker in leading off this debate stated that he found it strange that so far the Government showed only condemnation for the agricultural recommendations of the Gordon Royal Commission, which last year was regarded as the chart and compass for Canada's next twenty-five years.

This amendment was voted on Tuesday evening and was defeated by the overwhelming majority of the Liberal Members.

The Government has estimated recently that Canada's economy will continue to expand during 1957 but the rate of growth will be down substantially from the peak rush of 1956. Inflationary pressures are expected to ease towards the latter part of the year and those who have the information say that, in turn, could lead to a relaxation in Federal credit curbs and tight money policy. Spending is estimated to increase for pipelines, hydro power, factories, shops, schools, hospitals and churches. The major anticipated reduction cutting into the expansion is in house building, where spending

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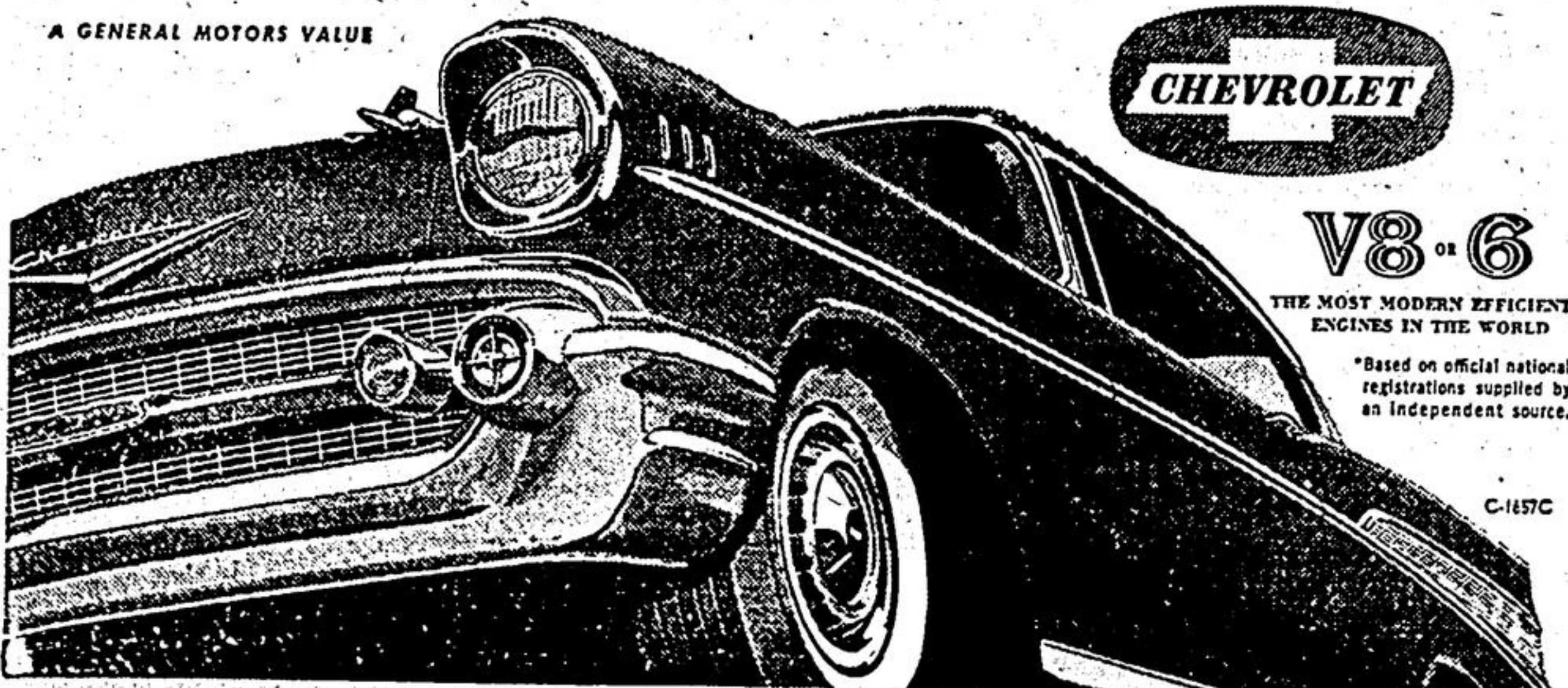
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is expected to drop by \$292 million. The most important matter under speculation and discussion in this present Session of Parliament is the Old Age Pension. There is no doubt in anyone's mind that the Federal Government has agreed on the principle of improving Old Age Pensions but no announcement has been made on this matter up to the present time. It is felt that consideration by the Federal Government should include all pension groups, such as blind pensioners, disabled persons, veterans, widows living on

disability pensions, and war veterans' allowances. Although Government will consider the matter in this light, since they must also consider tax cuts in the income tax field.

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