The Stouffville Tribune

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C. H. Nolan, Publisher

Jas. Thomas, Associate Editor

OUR EDITORIAL COMMENT

Merchants Have Saved Situation

Last week this column carried a creary note on the drab appearance of our Main St. for the Christmas Season. The good to be gained by all and the warmth of a decorated Main St. were pointed out as well as the reluctance of town officials to move quickly and without reservation on the project.

While this column was being read, a number of merchants volunteered to foot the bill for the pur-

chase of a number of strings of coloured lights, and these have been installed. Their installation has given a real boost to Christmas in Stouffville. It is hoped that next year additional lights will be added to give a real fine festive showing.

The bill for the small amount of power used by these very important lights, we understand is going to be paid for by the municipality as part of the street-lighting account, and this is as it should be.

This is a tricky question; and

nobody wants unnecessary restraints

on nonular freedoms, including free-

dom to try out unorthodox systems of .

healing. Yet it would perhaps be.

generally agreed that the state has

a right, even an obligation, to save a

child's life against his parents' wish-

practice a belief in the living sacrifice

of the first-born, the state would

a fireproof Christmas tree, there are

treatments of trees brought into the

home for Christmas decoration that

greatly reduce the fire hazard. The

fresher the tree, the less the likeli-

hood of some careless act igniting

dry, brittle needles. Between now and

Christmas, advice will be given on

how best to set up the tree to prevent

candles on a tree, but frayed or dam-

aged wires and connections, hot bulbs

touching dry needles and overloaded

circuits can be just as dangerous. If

you have more than four strings of

lights on one circuit, for example, you.

are creating a dangerous overheating

situation in the wires. Decorations,

costumes, even Santa's beard, should

be flame-proofed. Cigarets should be

forbidden or used with extreme care

anywhere in the vicinity of combust-

care to avoid Christmas tragedy.

so easily. Men like weekly newspaper

publisher Charles Allbon, who rebuilt

his plant destroyed in a major town

fire between the two disasters, are

not going to abandon Springhill to the

others who want to see a revitalized

Springhill. The Nova Scotia Govern-

ment, the Atlantic Provinces Econo-

mic Council and others are taking a

direct and practical interest in

Springhill. Dominion Coal and Steel

Corporation, which has announced

the mine will not be reopened, is will-

ing to do what it can to help Spring-

people of Springhill need outside help.

But most important is that they have

the will to help themselves. It is not

going to be easy for men who know

nothing but mining to turn to other

fields of endeavor; but we believe that

the people of Springhill would rather

submit to this transition than leave

the town with the main street which

thousands of Canadians can feel bet-

ter in the knowledge that through

donations they have helped make

things a little easier for the people of

Springhill. This will be a dull Christ-

mas there. Memories are too recent.

Hardship is too great for it to be any-

tion, for those of us who live else-

where, let us remember that the

origin of Christmas was the birth of

One destined to suffer greatly. He

overcame many crises before that

Good Friday when a cross was erected

on a hill to bear His body. His birth

mas season of 1958, hope and pray,

that the coal-blackened town of

Springhill, in Nova Scotia, will arise

again to its place of importance, and

that in the years to come Christmas

will be a time of great rejoicing there

Let us, then, during this Christ-

was a time of great rejoicing.

But during this time of celebra-

As Christmas approaches, many

winds up and down the hill.

thing else.

once more.

These are all good signs. The

And they are being joined by

It takes only a little thought and

ible material.

vultures just yet.

Springhill Will Survive

A Special Report from a New Brunswick Editor for Canada's

By J. Louis McKenna, Editor, The Sussex Kings Country Record.

Weekly Newspapers

No one would put open-flame

hardly tolerate that

If any sect proposed to put into

Parental Rights

The law of the land is self-contradictory in what it says about the rights of parents.

If they keep a child away from school, they may be fined and perhaps even imprisoned for repeated offenses.

If they prevent a child from having a blood transfusion when it's needed, the authorities must stand by helplessly while the child dies. This happened in Manitoba recently, but was over-ruled in Ontario on Saturday, and a child's life was saved.

It may be argued that a child's need of blood is a debatable medical opinion. True enough, but his need to go to school is a debatable pedagogical opinion.

Hazards of Christmas

Soon we will be putting Christmas trees in our homes, and decorating both the homes and the trees with gay lights, tinsel and so on. The decorations are part of a merry Christmas, but they can also be the cause of a tragic Christmas if we are careless with them.

Ontario Fire Marshal W. J. Scott has pointed out that Yuletide fire losses follow such a consistent pattern year after year that they can be closely predicted. In 1957, during the period containing the holiday season, fire took 58 lives in Ontario and caused nearly \$10 million property loss in over 5000 blazes.

"No one wants to do away with the many age-old and beautiful traditions of Christmas trees and decorations," Mr. Scott said, "but we can reduce their potentially high fire hazard in a number of common sense

While there is no such thing as

Only a few weeks ago, sight or

sound of the name Springhill would

cause millions of Canadians, Ameri-

cans, Britons and many others to

turn their eyes to their newspapers,

or their ears to radios. But today,

Springhill doesn't mean too much to

there was a rumble in the town of

Springhill, a mining town of some

7,000 people in western Nova Scotia.

As the earth tremored, it conveyed a

special meaning to the townspeople

while dishes zattled on tables and

shelves. Almost to a man, to a woman,

to a boy, and to a girl, they left their

homes and made their way by every

means possible to the pithead of the

one coal mine which, to that moment,

back. There is no need to recount the

grim drama which went on during

the next ten days, before all hope was

abandoned for the miners trapped by

the bump. Two weeks later, when all

bodies had been removed, 74 brave

men who had earned their daily bread

below ground had been buried in man-

what of their spirit? Springhill was

dependent almost 100 per cent on the

mines for employment. Nine hundred

of the townspeople were on the pay-

roll. Other small industries, and com-

mercial enterprises, were dependent

upon the money the miners received

bump above ground for the entire

community. It left saddened families

without wage earners. It left retail-

ers without customers. It left what

could be the beginning of a ghost

become a ghost town. The spirit

which sent men back into the mines

again after a similar disaster claimed

more than half the number of lives

of the 1958 bump can't be disposed of

Yet we doubt if Springhill does

The underground bump was a

Their bodies were buried, but

That was Springhill a few weeks

One evening in late October.

those same millions.

had been in operation.

made graves.

for their livelihood.

BETWEENTOURSELVES In any comparison of relative weight, many people would rate the medical higher than the pedagogical view of what's necessary and desir-Maker Maline able. Survival comes before literacy, though both are recommended.

Bearing Others Burdens

"My dear, mobody would DARE hargh at il!"

OF THE WEEK

At the turn of the century, a lad named James McCord, living in Illinois, decided he would like to be a doctor, preferably in Africa. His father was a hard-up minister with just enough income to meet the family needs, and hardly that. Jim spent much of his time working on his grandfather's farm, and one day in the hayloft he tried to figure out how he could possibly get the required education.

It seemed hopeless; there was no money at home and he couldn't see the way clear to earn much, and he almost gave up. Writing of the experience later in life he said: "I decided to put my dreams away in mothballs." Actually he succeeded in getting the necessary education, and sailed for Africa in 1899 to begin a medical career of extraordinary usefulness. He built clinics and dispensaries, established a school for training native nurses and a college for training Zulu doctors. Later he built the now famous McCord Zulu Hospital in Durban. All this is told in a fascinating book entitled "My Patients Were Zulus".

The chapters which make up this book were written for a chain of newspapers, with the intention of encouraging those who have had to meet frustration and disappointment and have put their dreams in mothballs. Not always has their patience and endurance been rewarded as was the case with James McCord.

If there is any healing in these pages I shall be grateful.

For Parents Only -

Christmas Everywhere

by Nancy Cleaver

minister who wrote the words an Italian sings, "Oh! Night of the hymn, "O Little Town of Among the Thousands," a Pole ployees. Bethlehem," for his Sunday sings "In a Manger He is Ly- New Appointees School boys and girls as he re- ing," a Frenchman sings "Bring is this holy celebration.

trees and pine, Christmas in lands of the palm-

trees and vine. Christmas where snow-peaks stand solemn and white, Christmas where cornfields lie sunny and bright.

Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight."

·Christmas is the time when memories of childhood come crowding to the minds of grownups. For the over a million immigrants who have come to our land since the Second World War, how rich and varied are these scenes! Every country has celebrations, and many New Canadians will be homesick for their own country and the old ways among familiar faces.

Over forty nationalities have come to Canada. The largest

Surely, with the approach of another New Year, we "old" Canadians can think of ways in HORSE THING OF THE PAST the months that lie ahead, to ex- IN WOODS press our friendliness to the "strangers within our gates!" Then they will no longer feel like strangers but like friends.

In one Northern Ontario centre in a course for immigrant home-makers, special attention have drastically reduced the ity in making people take a was given to spices. The women, number of horses, and now test and obtain a licence," he accustomed to European cook- comes a report from The Ont. said ing, used more seasoning than Paper Company's woodlands de- A Good Thingthe average Canadian, recipe partment at Heron Bay that this He said high school driver edcalls for. These New Canadians year, for the first time in its ucation was a good thing. Exwere eager to discuss their cook- history, there were no horses amples of its success in the

We Canadian women could de- ical equipment. light our families if these new- The horse, like the bucksaw, In answer to a question askcomers would share some of is almost a thing of the past ing whether the government their baking secrets with us. in the woods industry. was considering making auto-In return we could have them sample one of our popular dish-

a large number of songs come not to defile the air. from other lands! Once we had a Latvian mother with her two children as guests, and they the first commercial trade ag- ed out. "I can't see any governcould sing, "O Christmas Tree," reement between the two countries. The pact, running through sory insurance plan than is paid through the Un-satisfied nation clause with respect to dutie and consular taxes.

If a Swede sings, "The Happy duties and consular taxes."

If a Swede sings, "The Happy duties and consular taxes."

If a Swede sings, "The Happy duties and consular taxes."

If a Swede sings, "The Happy duties and consular taxes."

Philips Brooks, the beloved | Christmas Comes Once More,

Many homemakers have been "Christmas in lands of the fir- neighborly to New Canadian person can read and understand women who have settled near the traffic signs. them. One Scandinavian woman difficult, but this is especially been anticipated. true in moving from one country to another.

Because "the begin is hard!" handicraft, the ideas and meth- tern, he pointed out. ods in new industries, of the

out our Dominion among all and organize their efforts." our people in the country and groups are: British, German, in the city. Let us all do our although no unified power exist-Italian, Dutch, United States part to bring "Christmas Everywhere!" this yuletide. (Copyrighted)

time before horses vanish completely from the pulpwood oper- lessly in 1958," he said. ations in northwestern Ontario. Most pulp and paper com-

ing methods and compare their used in its logging operations. United States indicate it is a recipes with favorite Canadian | Dobbin, once an integral part good idea and it was successin the movement of the pulp- fully tried in Kingston. "We Europeans have a real flair wood harvest, is today almost need a way to finance a course for original and tasty cooking, completely replaced by mechan- of this nature - before too

A Tibetan greets one of higher | Dr. Dymond said not at the position with protruding tongue moment. The five dollar charge Enjoyment of food and also and hissing intake of breath. ! levied against uninsured drivof singing belongs to every Extended tongue shows respect, ers is a step to make the Unland. In the carol services, what sucking gasps indicate a desire satisfied Judgment Fund sup-

mond, speaking at the Ontario of court." tive Association's annual meeting, pointed out that a Supreme York Branch United Court ruling, given earlier this week, was being appealed.
"If the appeal is disallowed," he said, "the federal govern-

he said, "the federal govern- The first monthly meeting of ment will pass legislation to the York branch of the United was speaking in reference to a president Mrs. A.W. McLennan. ruling handed down by Chief The members were most forcause it trespasses on criminal government.

Plan Quarantine- "

Dr. Dymond discussed the lems. new demerit system which goes ing into them. Accidents are a disaster. like a disease. That is why we | The speaker did not minimize are putting the demerit system the weakness of the United Natinto effect - to help quarantine ions and the difficult problems accidents."

Clean Record Liberty magazine discussing the encies in the fields of food, demerit system. "Everyone will health, educational and technistart with a clean sheet when cal assistance. the system begins. "They will . A plea was made for a wider not be given 12 points to begin will have a clean record."

The Transport Minister explained that a driver is permitted to have 12 points against his driving record before his licence is suspended. A designated number of points are charged against the driving record of each person who commits an offence-when these total 12 -the person's license is sus-

pended for three months. When the three month suspension has ended, the person starts with a fresh record. Once ond violation during the two ver.

year period, these additional points are added to his record. Each time a driver is charged, lo, mushrooming at the rate of the points are added to his rec- 35 new buildings a day, now

points on his record in March | 000 people. It hopes eventually and in May another three points to surpass. Buenos Aires, busy are charged against him, he has capital of Argentina and South a total of six. Two years after America's largest city. he was charged with his first violation, the original three points charged are taken off his record. The remaining three are not removed until two years after they were added.

Dr. Dymond predicted that by the end of 1959 all appointee driver examiners in the province would be out of business. By then all persons applying for licenses will be given examinations by specially trained em-

"There are presently 10 excalled his visit to Christ's birth- a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella," or amination centres across the place the year before, also wrote a Ukrainian sings "Ring Christ- province now," he said. Fortya lovely poem called, "Christ- mas Bells," they are repeating seven percent of the people apmas Everywhere." In the first the carols which belonged first plying for licences are failing. verse he pictures how universal of all to their own native lands. Another reason for stiffening the laws is to make certain a

> In answer to a question about admitted to her visitor, "The the legality of passing on the begin is hard!" For anyone mov- right hand side, Dr. Dymond ing into a new area, the adjust- said the right hand passing legment to new surroundings is islation was not doing what had

He said his department was going to "take a long look at it." It was not intended to allow by being hospitable at Christ- a driver to pass on the shoulder. mas time, we can make it eas- This is a violation and could ier. Our nation has been en mean marks against a driver's riched by the music, the art, the record under the demerit sys-

"The function of the Transnewcomers to our shores. Our port Department is highway home life will be enriched, too, traffic safety," the minister said. its own distinctive Christmas when we invite New Canadians "Fatalities are decreasing - acto be our guests this Christmas cidents are on the increase. What we want is a decrease in Cordial and widespread hos- accidents. Our purpose is to pitality will spread the Christ- consolidate the numerous safemas Spirit everywhere through- ty groups and to co-ordinate

Dr. Dymond pointed out that ed before his department was established, these safety groups had 'done a most worthwhile and successful job. The traffic death rate is down

108 from Dec. 1, 1957, "Even if It appears only a matter of we maintain this record, more than 1,000 persons will die need-"Remember, driving is a priv-

ilege, not a right. If it were a panies, operating in the region, right, we would have no author-

long," Dr. Dymond said.

mobile insurance compulsory, plement itself.

More than 90 percent of the Cuba and Israel have signed drivers have insurance, he point-

Dymond Sounds Warning Careless Driving Charges

Ontario's Minister of Transport, in an address at Sunderland last week, cautioned his audience not to be "lulled into a false sense of security" about what they have read in the newspapers concerning the long of careless driving.

Judgment Fund must pay the money back. It is just a loan fund. Under the new legislation passed last May, it takes only legislation passed last May, it takes only last that some day unsatisfied judge.

Denmark is in danger ing one of its most pletter. charge of careless driving. that some day unsatisfied judg-The Hon. Dr. Matthew B. Dy- ment claims will be settled out

allow it, or amend the criminal Nations Association was held on code. The Transport Minister December 8, at the home of the

The members were most for-Justice J. C. McRuer, of the On- tunate in having as their speaktario Supreme Court, Wednes er Mr. Herbert Mowat from the day. The Chief Justice ruled National Executive of the Unithat the Province's "careless ted Nations Association of Candriving" charge is invalid be ada. Talking on the United Nations and World Forces Mr. Mowlegislation passed by the federal at brought to his audience his wealth of experience in world affairs and United Nations prob-

Describing in realistic terms into effect in Ontario in Febru- the probable devastating conary 1959. "We cannot legislate sequences of nuclear war, he good into the people." he said, put the first aim of the United "Nor can we legislate good driv- Nations the preventing of such

it faced in reconciling political, national and racial tensions. Mr. Mowat also dealt with the pos-He termed "inaccurate" an ar- itive work and achievements of tirle in the December issue of the various United Nations Ag-

public interest in the United with, as the article states, but Nations, especially in our Scho-

> The meeting concluded with a question period in which the pressing issue of the entry of "Red" China into the United Nations was discussed.

A tape recording of Mr. Mowat's talk is available to interested groups. Speakers on United Nations affairs are also available on application to Dr. Underhill, King City.

The precious noble metals are a driver is charged and points so defined because of their beauare added to his record, he be- ty, excellent physical properties gins a two-year period. If his and resistance, to corrosion and total points reach 12 during this oxidation. They are platinum, period, his licence is suspended. palladium, rhodium, ruthenium. If he is charged with a sec- iridium, osmium, gold and sil-

Booming, industrial Sao Pau challenging Brazil's largest city, Hence, if a driver has three Rio de Janeiro, home of 2,650,

Denmark is in danger of losing one of its most picturesque sights—the top-hatted chimney sweeps. The soot-grimed sweeps are not seen treading the rooftops very often these days. New methods of heating and a shortage of apprentices are the main reasons for their disappearance. Denmark's thousands of chimneys are kept clean and in good repair by about 500 skilled sweeps, who may be among the last survivors of this centuries

As the old buildings disappear and chimneys become fewer, the sweeps have dwindled and it becomes more and more difficult to get a chimney swept. Records of the sweeps' own guild, an association of employers set up in 1778, show that there are today fewer than 200 master sweeps, about 300 journeymen and some 80 apprentices.

There is still a fair amount of work for them, although Denmark prides itself on being one of the most modern countries

when it comes to heating houses and apartment buildings.

Danes have to import their coal, mainly from Britain, and this comparatively costly fuel is therefore never used in the home. What coal is imported is used by the gasworks from which housewives buy coke with which to stoke the stoves of their central heating plants. And coke is giving way to oil.

There are also district-heating plants in Copenhagen, among the largest in Western Europe. These heat some districts by steam, others by hot water. The heat is produced at three electric power stations and represents a great saving in fuel

From these central plants, heat is supplied to hospitals, schools and factories in the thickly populated areas of the cápital

Peat Used-In north Jutland and in many farming districts of Zealand, the easternmost Danish island, on which Copenhagen stands, peat is still the main fuel.

A chimney sweep in Denmark can still earn good money, especially as computition dwindles in his trade. A top hat is not merely a colorful headdress for the sweep. It is a most useful item of equipment. For generations, they have tucked their personal papers and small personal belongings into their tall hats, under which they wear a tight-fitting skull-cap.

And no other form of headgear, they say, is as effective as the wide-brimmed top hat in keeping soot out of a chimney sweep's eyes.

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