

The Stouffville Tribune

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C. H. NOLAN, Publisher

I. A. S. THOMAS, Editor

OUR EDITORIAL COMMENT

Lifeguards Inadequate At Some Local Lakes

There was a time when the north and south shores of Musselman's Lake were two of the main weekend bathing centres in this area. On a warm Sunday afternoon, visitors would lie on the broiling sand like so many sardines in a sizzling frying pan. Having experienced such large crowds on their beaches, both owners, Mr. Vern Davies and Mr. Stewart Patrick have taken certain precautions to lessen the danger of drownings. When one considers the number of persons who weekly flock to Musselman's Lake during the summer months, the record of water accidents is surprisingly small. It is quite possible that adequate lifeguard facilities have, in part, been responsible for comparatively few drowning incidents.

During the past decade other promoters have decided to share in the lucrative beach-bathing market. As a result, every "frog pond" in the area has been transformed into a weekend swimming centre. The rapid growth of the city of Toronto has provided plenty of gullible patrons to keep the easy-money business rolling in high gear.

The sad story about this sudden

beach-bathing boom is, that the owners or operators have failed to expand their lifesaving facilities on a par with the influx of patrons. On Sunday afternoon, at Island Lake, a nine year old boy lost his life. It occurred on a signed public beach where no lifeguard is employed. To date this summer two have died at Shadow Lake Park. According to reports, one lifeguard, only one, is on full-time duty. He is required to watch over the safety of an estimated 1,000 bathers. He is not located on an elevated stand.

Although we feel, to a certain extent, that swimming, like walking or driving, involves a certain amount of personal risk, we contend also that unless adequate safety precautions are taken, all public bathing beaches should be shut down.

An inquest has been ordered into the drowning death of the young lad at Shadow Lake on July 19th. Another may be requested into the death of a boy at Island Lake on July 26th. It is regrettable that two lives must be snuffed out before more rigid safety measures are enforced. It is our hope, that if nothing else, this may be accomplished.

Tribune Adds An Issue

After many years of turning out 51 issues of The Tribune each year, The Tribune management has abandoned the annual summer close-up, and will give subscribers fifty-two issues. As with many firms, staff holidays during the summer have always created a mid-season slow-down, and The Tribune has carried on a plan of closing down one week each summer.

However, with a full-time staff of eleven persons, this plan has been abandoned and holidays are being

Whitchurch Takes Step Forward

Whitchurch Township took a definite step forward last week in opening the first stretch of permanent paved roadway in the municipality. In beginning a program of annual paving, Whitchurch has joined the group of municipalities in close proximity to Toronto which have decided that such a program must be introduced if the ever-increasing wear and tear with its accompanying maintenance expense on roads, is to be beaten.

This newspaper has advocated such a program for some years, and in the case of Whitchurch, the 9th concession leading to Musselman's Lake, has been a prime example. We venture to say that enough money has been spent on this heavily-travelled road in the past fifteen years, to have put a permanent hardtop from the townline to the lake, a distance of four and a half miles. Each spring, and even before spring,

the road is completely wrecked and severely pot-holed, and the whole program of grading and oiling has to be done over again.

Markham Township has gone into the program of doing a stretch of permanent pavement each year, and Stouffville too, began such a program this year. Over a period of ten years under such a scheme, many of the most heavily-used roads, will have good pavement, necessitating only minor patching. In addition to the taxpayers having a much more pleasant surface on which to drive, the annual bill for gravel and oiling maintenance should be reduced.

In the case of Stouffville, where all new land is under sub-division control and the developers must pave the streets, the amount of gravel roadway in town should be greatly reduced in a few years if council continues the program.

More pavement and less gravel should be the slogan from now on.

BETWEEN OURSELVES

BY Chester Wallace

Dearest Enemy

In a recent biography of the famous British writer, Hugh Walpole, the author says that Walpole divided all the people he knew into two groups—friends and enemies. There were no neutrals; people he thought, either liked him or hated him. Naturally he himself had strong likes and dislikes. He could work himself up into violent moods over very little.

He believed that a certain book-reviewer disliked him and ridiculed his books. He made a vicious attack on this man in a public lecture. Some friends of his were able to prove that this reviewer had really recommended Walpole's books and boosted him. This was too much for the writer; he said: "Please, don't take away my enemy!"

Hugh Walpole, besides being one of the ablest writers of his generation, was a likeable man with many excellent qualities but enjoyed having feuds, real or imaginary. Enemies were an essential part of his life; he didn't seem to be able to get along without them.

When Christmas came, he received scores of presents from friends, and admirers; instead of enjoying these tokens of friendship he made a list of those who hadn't sent him anything and tortured himself by asking, over and over, why they had neglected him. He would dwell on this so much that the gifts were forgotten and Christmas, instead of being a happy occasion, became a season for morbid thinking.

The desire to please people has its perils. Amiability may become a vice. They who endeavor to be amiable under all circumstances often do so by the sacrifice of principles. There is always the danger that anxiety to please may be substituted for the obligation to serve. Ex-President Eliot of Harvard University is credited with saying that the most essential quality in a college president is "the capacity to inflict pain." He was thinking of that strong quality which enables men to speak and act even when they know that what they say and do will excite opposition and cause pain. This is the meaning of that saying: "God loves some men for the enemies they make."

"You have no enemies, you say. Alas, my friends, the boast is poor. He who has mingled in the fray of duty that the brave endure, must have made foes. If you have none, you've hit no traitor on the hip; you've dashed no cup from perjured lip; you've turned no wrong to right; you've been a coward in the fight!"

While admitting all this, however, it is not a healthy frame of mind to be ever on the lookout for trouble with other people. Most of Hugh Walpole's enemies were imaginary and, like a vast number of others, he became an introvert, as George Eliot said about a character: "His eyes were turned inward." Most of our enemies are the creations of our own minds. We dwell on minor incidents and make mountains out of molehills. There probably is hardly a village or hamlet without its petty jealousies; futile and foolish. A better knowledge, a fuller understanding of our dislikes would vanish as mist before the rising sun.

After the first world war, a group of Canadians visited Bavaria to see the Oberammergau play. One day they were seated in a restaurant and being waited on by a mature, sad woman. When she learned who they were, she said to a friend of mine, who was one of the group: "Are all Canadians like you?" He replied: "I think we're fairly typical." She was deeply moved and went on: "My husband and two sons were killed fighting against your country because we believed you were a terrible people. If they had known the truth, they would not have been willing to fight. It was a terrible mistake."

The way out of the mess of misunderstanding in the world today, is not easy to find, but a good start can be made by each of us realizing that when we hate, we are wrong; when we love and pity, we are right.

Our quotation today is from a writer of antiquity: "The sweetest of all delights is to forgive."

Editors believe Royal Visits well received

Most of Canada's weekly newspaper editors believe that Royal visits are welcomed with enthusiasm by the people in their communities.

This was evidenced by a poll of delegates attending the 40th annual convention of the Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association at Regina, July 15-17.

Asked if they felt people in their communities were enthusiastic, indifferent or antagonistic about Royal visits, 59 editors rated their communities' attitude as enthusiastic; 35 as indifferent and none felt there was antagonism.

Fifty-three editors felt that people in rural areas were more interested in a Royal visit such as the current tour of Her Majesty and Prince Philip than residents of large cities. But 21 felt that rural and smalltown people were less interested in the visits and 18 considered there was no difference between city

and country people's attitude towards the visits.

Many editors were extremely upset about being asked to comment on the subject and said they felt that daily newspapers, radio and TV stations had given much too much publicity to the controversial aspects of the Royal Family's visits to Canada.

KEEP ELDERS IN OWN HOMES

By Mary E. Jones
Every effort should be made to keep elderly people in their own homes if possible. They should not be separated from the community in which they have spent their lives unless there is no alternative, in which case the type of care should be suited to the individual, in the opinion of Alice Taberner, Australian nurse in the field of geriatrics who is on an extensive tour that has brought her to Canada and United States.

New C.N.E. stage cost \$450,000

The largest moveable stage in the world, which moves on and off the Grandstand playing field in under five minutes was given its first trial run this week.

The Canadian National Exhibition's stage, a 210 ton monster, moving on 10 electrically controlled caterpillars, treads lightly on the new football playing field at the Exhibition Grandstand. In spite of its size and weight, it makes less of a dent in the grass than a 125 pound woman with high-heeled shoes. The stage's pressure is only 6 1/2 lbs. per square inch.

J. Arthur, executive producer of Canadiana '59, this year's Grandstand Show, says that the portable stage is the same size as the fixed stage of other years. This was acknowledged to be the largest outdoor stage in the world.

There is 1,200 square feet of floor space on the stage and it has a proscenium opening of 180 feet and is 80 feet deep. The stage is also fitted with three turntables similar to those which existed in the former Grandstand stage.

Covering the rear 50 feet of the stage is a roof to protect the performers and settings from the weather. At this point the world's largest stage curtain hangs, 150 feet wide and 40 feet high.

Panel is built at the rear of the stage and reach to the roof which at this point is 28 feet high. The stage is completely equipped with lights, catwalks and curtain drops. Margison and Associates are the builders of the stage.

Need for the portable stage arose when the CNE signed a contract with the Argonaut football club to use the Grandstand as its home stadium for Big Four Football.

The novelty of the moveable stage is such that Jack Arthur plans on moving it off the field, with his cast in action as the finale of the show. Cost of the aluminum and steel monster was \$450,000.

The first canine obedience trial under Canadian Kennel Club rules took place in 1937. In 1946 nine were held throughout Canada. Since that time obedience classes have attracted owners of every type of dog with the result that in 1958, 91 trials were held. Apart from the pleasure of owning a well-trained, responsive dog, many animals' lives have been saved from traffic and other accidents through obedience. Write: The Canadian Kennel Club, 667 Yonge St., Toronto; for particulars of the obedience club nearest your municipality.

WORDS AND THOUGHTS

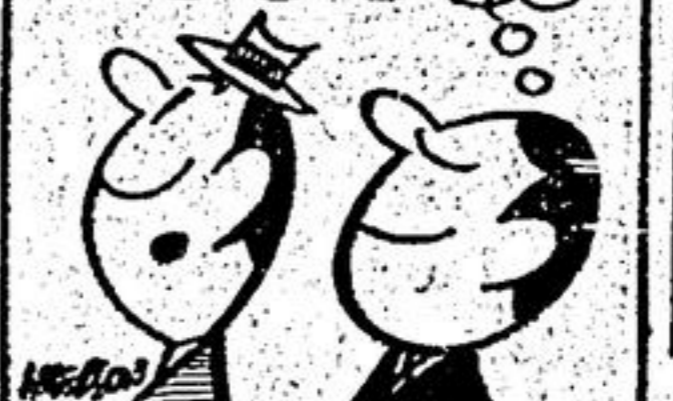
THAT'S RIGHT, SIR—YOU DON'T NEED A CENT DOWN TO BUY IT!

BOAT SALES



BUT LET'S FACE IT...

THE FINANCE COMPANY WILL WRING IT OUT OF YOU EACH MONTH!



LAFF OF THE WEEK



"Oh, dear—what went wrong at the office today?"

For Parents Only

What Do You Know About Beaver?

by Nancy Cleaver

"What do you know about beaver?" children often ask when they learn this is our national animal. When possible, take your children to see beaver at a zoo, in the wilds or at a special exhibition, so they can watch these interesting animals. Ask your public librarian what books for children can be borrowed telling about the beaver.

Parents will be interested to know that the male beaver is an admirable head of his family. In building the lodge, the dam and gathering poplar branches for the winter larder, he is by far the hardest worker. He never seems to tire, and in comparison with him the beaver wife and children have an easy life. Young beaver are as playful as puppies, wrestling with each other. They are all expert swimmers and divers, and if they fear enemies, sleep in the daytime and work or play at night.

Beaver are such smart engineers and builders that stories about them have been told by many observers. They do not plaster mud with their tails but they do build canals, dams and lodges with great skill. Ernest Thompson Seton called the beaver the original inventor of re-enforced concrete with his mud mixed with sticks and stones. He is at home in the water and builds his lodge, often on a small island, or on the shore of a lake, with the floor well above the water. A hole is left in the roof for ventilation and he keeps his home tidy and clean.

There are two entrances under the water, one straight so that wood for food can easily be dragged through it, and the other winding for the members of the beaver family to go in and out. The beaver's lodge is 15 to 20 feet across, 3 to 5 feet high and the father, mother and kits all live together. Young beaver take two years to mature, and thus there are often new beaver babies and brothers or sisters a year old in the same lodge. In the summer the father and the yearlings go on camping trips, leaving the mother and the babies on the home pond.

The beaver is a very large rodent; the young mature beaver weigh between thirty and forty pounds while an older large beaver might weigh up to seventy pounds. The general color is a dark chestnut brown, but occasionally a very dark or a very light kit is born. In Assiniboine Park the mother beaver in captivity a year ago had one light and one dark kit. Their incisor teeth are long, sharp and of an orange shade. The hind foot is webbed and the claw on the second toe of the hind foot is double. This the beaver uses as a comb. The scaly tail is flat, horizontal and is used as a rudder in the water, a prop when cutting down a tree by biting chips out of the trunk, and as an instrument to warn other beaver of danger. To do this the beaver brings the tail down with a bang on the water, making a loud noise and then disappears under the surface. One observer tells of three beaver working together cutting down a tree. Two of them took turns chopping and the third took his position in the lake. When he saw the top branches of the tree moving, he slapped the water with his tail and his two companions immediately ran out of harm's way. Complaints are sometimes made of floods caused by too many dams built by beaver but this is a temporary nuisance. Beaver conserve the water supply in wooded country, and the forest is helped by irrigation. They keep little brooks running all year instead of only during the spring freshet weeks. Their ponds are valuable fireguards.

No one will deny the vital place of the beaver in Canada in the past but not everyone has been enthusiastic about the beaver as our symbol of Canada today. Not long ago a critic suggested that a moose would be a large and dramatic emblem. The many pronged antlers of a bull moose outlined against the sky, was considered a much more exciting and distinctive feature of a wild animal than the flat, scaly, useful beaver's tail! But anyone who has studied the beaver would surely agree that this animal is a worthy representative of Canada. (Copyrighted)

THE BAFFLES By Mahoney



Seeds vary widely in size. It takes 300,000 hemlock seeds to make a pound, but certain tropical coconuts may weigh 40 lbs. apiece.

Yangtze Pagoda Restaurant
Yonge and Oxford Streets, Elgin Mills, Ont.
Immediately North of Richmond Hill on Highway No. 11.
CANADA'S FINEST CHINESE CUISINE
Exclusive Comfortable Dining Rooms Seating 300 People
Beautiful Landscaped Surroundings Open 12 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Delicious Canadian Food Also Served
Table or Banquet Reservations A.K. 2-6666

Prominent blk. sixty yrs. ago

This substantial brick department store, now operated by Thurston Stores Limited, was erected in 1891 by Messrs. Sangster, Sanders & Williamson, and was sold to the late Fred Spofford six months after completion. This Mr. Spofford (no relation to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Spofford who recently disposed of the business to the Thurston Stores), was a native of Almlra. He came to Stouffville in 1891. At the time the store was erected, the east portion was occupied by W. L. Reeve, jeweller. The Stouffville press of 1895 had this to say of the store: "Not this side of Toronto can be found a store so thoroughly stocked, so brilliantly lighted and so well served as that at the corner of Main and Mill streets." The front has undergone several changes in 68 years, and has had a number of owners, including the late W. H. Shaw who was a prominent citizen here thirty-five years ago.

