

Editorial

Courtesy Appreciated

Two pedestrian crossing zones have been established on the Main Street in Stouffville. They are located at the corners of Market and Civic Streets. During the past few weeks, the majority of motorists, including the drivers of both cars and trucks, have displayed an admirable act of courtesy by halting their vehicles in order that people might cross.

In case local pedestrians should attain a false sense of security at these intersections, we point out that these zones are not legalized crosswalks. Due care and caution should be taken since motor traffic is not obliged to stop. We would urge the walking public to use these zones but not abuse them. With the continued co-operation of the motorist, the end result of this safety system could easily surpass the aims of the oft-criticized cross-walk program.

Not Elected as Employees

While we do not pretend to comment on the pros and cons of the present discussions on the operation of the Stouffville Public Utilities Commission, we do take issue with the member of the Commission, and any other member, for that matter, who thinks that his position requires him to do manual labor along with the employees of that body.

In the first place, this is a throw-back to horse-and-buggy politics when some reeves thought it their duty to get out with pick and shovel to do municipal work. In the second place, there is some dignity attached to these offices that is certainly not enhanced by such operations. Members of these elected bodies, Commissions and Councils, are elected by the people to see that the business of the municipality and its utilities is handled properly and to see that the proper employees are engaged to carry out this work. They are not elected to shoulder shovels, drive trucks or other equipment. Certainly they are not paid for such work, although this is not the point we wish to make. As far as we are concerned, any ratepayer who thinks this is a fine thing, to elect someone to office as a free employee, should get himself another "boy". This is not what he is voting for.

For strangers, or anyone else for that matter, to see members of council or commission, with their coats off, working in excavations for which they were elected to hire help, does not enhance the stature of the municipality, but rather lowers it.

Missing the Point

There is something about provincial playoff competition that separates the men from the boys. Whether it be baseball or softball, peewees or seniors, the contests possess that certain tang of excitement that will stir up the interest of even the most lethargic fan.

form. Suddenly, out of the stands, in a voice that could be heard up on Main Street, an adult spectator belatedly "Leave the player alone, ump, and pay more attention to the game". This fan was obviously quite ignorant concerning the requirements of a competitor under O.B.A. rules and regulations. In some leagues, a player may take to the field in his bathing suit and will not be criticized. Not so, however, in any Ontario Association. If a boy, a girl or a man wishes to play ball, he, or she, must look like a ball player and not like some refugee from the hills. This one lad, a Bowmanville boy, had been given his orders and complied without protest. One spectator, however, has some lessons yet to learn.

We are inclined to support this Province-wide rivalry, not on the merits of the two teams involved as much as on the strict rules and regulations under which the clubs must abide. This fact was brought home to the writer last week during an O.B.A. Bantam contest between Stouffville and Bowmanville. The plate umpire had halted the game on at least two occasions to ask a player to make some minor adjustments to his uni-

Typical of Anti-Fluoridationists

A Stouffville lady phoned the Public Utilities Commission the other day, gave the Commission a piece of her mind, and stated that she had not been able to drink the water since they allowed the council to put that chemical in the reservoirs. She went on further to say that she had signed a petition going around to have this thing stopped.

They develop such an anti feeling against any new step, that it affects their thinking to the point where, as in these cases, they imagine all sorts of foolish things.

This is typical of some of the irresponsible propaganda that makes the rounds on such subjects as fluoridation. It is also typical of many of the people who sign petitions — they have little or no idea of what they are signing and can give you the most nonsensical excuses for having done so.

Down through history the story has always been the same. Most of the greatest discoveries for the good of mankind have been scoffed at by the skeptics. It is their policy to be against any new project even though it could be for their own benefit. We have no doubt that if a move was made for a donation of \$100 to everyone in town, these small minds would operate in the same way. Hitler proved the value of propaganda just as Krushchev is doing to-day. Just how easily people will "fall for propaganda" has been proved once more by the number who have signed the anti-fluoridation petition, and it demonstrates, too, how well those circulating the petition have done their job.

The same type of protests took place when the Department of Health ordered the chlorine in the water — people protested the taste before the equipment had ever been installed.

Laff Of The Week



"If I keep answering your questions, you'll be a know-it-all—and if there's anybody people can't stand, it's a wise punk!"

Old Stone Piles

It is sad to think of the toil and sweat of mankind having been wasted. Yet there is evidence of this wastage in some parts of Ontario. Tourists to such areas as the Bruce Peninsula and eastern Ontario, will have noted the evidence.

One evidence is the presence of big piles of stone in long-abandoned fields. The early pioneers laboriously cleared the forests only to find the land full of stone. By the almost superhuman effort they built stone fences and, where they had a surplus of stones, simply put them in big piles scattered about the fields. Yet they never could obtain more than land and finally they, or their descendants, just quit it.

There were few more back-breaking jobs on the farm than digging out big stones, rolling them on stone-boats and carting them to a fence or pile. Many fine fields resulted but in others the job was just about impossible.

Nowadays a farmer can get a man with a bulldozer. He can dig out more stones in a day than a whole crew of men could have done in a week 50 years ago. That is all right where the stones are relatively few. It still can't make fertile land out of fields which contain more stone than soil.

—Windsor Star

"Lemme see now, 3 per cent of . . ."



EDITOR'S MAIL

120 Maytree Ave. Stouffville Sept 1, 1961

To the Editor, Dear Sir,

Would it be so very wrong to be able to give all children the advantages of fluoride? It is true that most parents are concerned over the health and well being of their children but there are others who are not. Perhaps they lack the understanding or they just don't care, or perhaps they can't afford to buy the extra things that are sometimes needed. As all our doctors are agreed on the benefits of a fluoridated water supply, is it fair to make these children suffer because of their parents? If the water is fluoridated those children, in fact all children, would benefit.

Yours truly Carol Roper

349 GLAD PARK AVE. Stouffville, Ont.

To the Editor,

Due to the controversial issue of fluoridation in the Village of Stouffville I feel it my obligation to point out a few pertinent facts concerning the use of fluoride in the prevention of tooth decay.

It is a scientific fact that fluoride combines with calcium in the body to form calcium fluoride on a complex thereof which becomes part of the tooth enamel, producing better formed teeth which are harder and more resistant to decay. Fluoride in the water is tasteless and odourless and most effective in preventing tooth decay in children 10 and under. It also gives them lifetime protection and makes the tooth enamel more resistant to decay in older children and adults. When in the body in sufficient concentration there is approximately a 60% reduction in dental caries (tooth decay). Local application of a fluoride solution may be used, but it is only 40% effective and much more expensive.

Thus it has, by scientific observation, been proven that fluoride helps prevent tooth decay and the most practical and economical method of ensuring that children 10 and under benefit from it, is by fluoridation of our water supply.

Sodium fluoride is a poison if taken in sufficient dosage, but so are a great number of daily used drugs. The greatest cause of infant death by accident is overdosage. In the U.S.A. and Canada is "Baby Aspirin." Severe symptoms, e.g. nausea, vomiting, etc., from sodium fluoride result with the intake of 25 one hundredths of a gram. With a fluoridated water supply of 1 part per million, you would have to consume 1300 glasses of water. The amount of water consumed daily in temperate climates is about 8 glasses.

There is no possible method of consuming (drinking, cooking, food etc.) enough water to even become mildly ill from a fluoridated water supply.

To get lethal quantities of fluoride you would have to consume 20,040 glasses of water a day. One part per million fluoride concentration is really not sufficient by itself unless 8 glasses of water are consumed daily, but along with the normal daily intake of fluoride e.g. 12mgm fluoride per cup of tea, plus a fluoridated water supply you should receive enough of the fluoride daily to help prevent

tooth decay.

Many of the people of Stouffville will ask what right have I to express my opinion concerning something which will affect the lives of their children when I have only lived here for one year myself. I believe that I have as much right as anyone else because, although I am a recent resident here, my heritage goes back two generations.

The fluoridation issue was not forced upon you as some people have suggested. If a new school were needed, would not the town council go ahead on its own? They would, because they know it would be a necessity for the welfare of our children. Why should they not go ahead with fluoridation which is just as important to our children? It is not only their right, but their moral obligation and duty to do whatever is best for our children.

Just think, there will be none, or relatively little tooth decay in your children's teeth once the water is fluoridated. Louis Pasteur had the same opposition to overcome when he tried to introduce pasteurization of milk, but now, who drinks unpasteurized milk?

Why not have your children come home and say, "Look mommy, No Cavities!"

Yours truly Doug. Widdifield BSc Phm.

August 31, 1961

The Editor, Stouffville Tribune

Dear Sir:

It has come to my attention that following the recommendations of the Committee on Fluoridation appointed by the Ontario Government, the Town Council of Stouffville has been wise enough to propose the fluoridation of Stouffville's water supply.

The fact that an organized attempt appears to be underway in Stouffville to discredit fluoridation is no reason why Stouffville should not proceed to fluoridate at once.

I have read several letters in the Stouffville Tribune attacking fluoridation. Without exception these letters are characterized by mis-statements calculated to delude the public. One letter signed by a Russell E. Osborn, N.D. — and heaven only knows what N.D. means — states that Sweden and Switzerland have rejected fluoridation. Our information is that fluoridation is proceeding slowly in both of these countries. In May 1959, the Health Journal of Great Britain stated that "fluoridation was commencing in the town of Aigle. Plans are also under way to fluoridate in Basle and Berne. In the meantime, in Switzerland, fluoride tablets are distributed in schools."

Anti-fluoridationist correspondents are very careful to leave out of their letters attacking fluoridation the fact that fluoridation has been endorsed without qualification by virtually every qualified medical, dental and public health organization in North America.

Russell Osborn states that "fluoridation is designed to find a lucrative market for a waste product of industry." He refers to the Aluminum Corporation. This is a malicious misstatement. The Aluminum Corporation denies manufacturing any product which could have any possible relationship to the fluoridation of water. Mr. Osborn should be sure of his facts. Another ridiculous statement is

to the effect that children fed a diet of bone meal will not develop tooth decay. Your correspondent fails to inform your readers that bone meal contains a great deal of fluorine itself. This is the factor which prevents dental decay.

Another correspondent, namely: W. D. Atkinson, is also misleading the public in suggesting that the servicing of fluoridation equipment will cost too much.

The cost of dental care to the average Canadian family is approximately \$30 per year. The cost of fluoridation per person is between 5c and 10c, much less than the cost of a package of cigarettes.

As to the damage which might be done by fluorine, there is not one particle of evidence that fluorine in approved quantities has ever done anything but good. The only difference between areas where there is no fluorine in the water and areas where water is fluoridated by nature or by the Department of Public Health is that where fluorine is added people's teeth are better.

The maladies which may afflict the human race as a result of bad teeth are many. The cost of dental care is enormous but the cost is not only in terms of dollars and cents but in the terms of human misery. It is high time that some person take some steps to prevent the irresponsible distribution of pernicious and malicious misinformation on the part of misguided people.

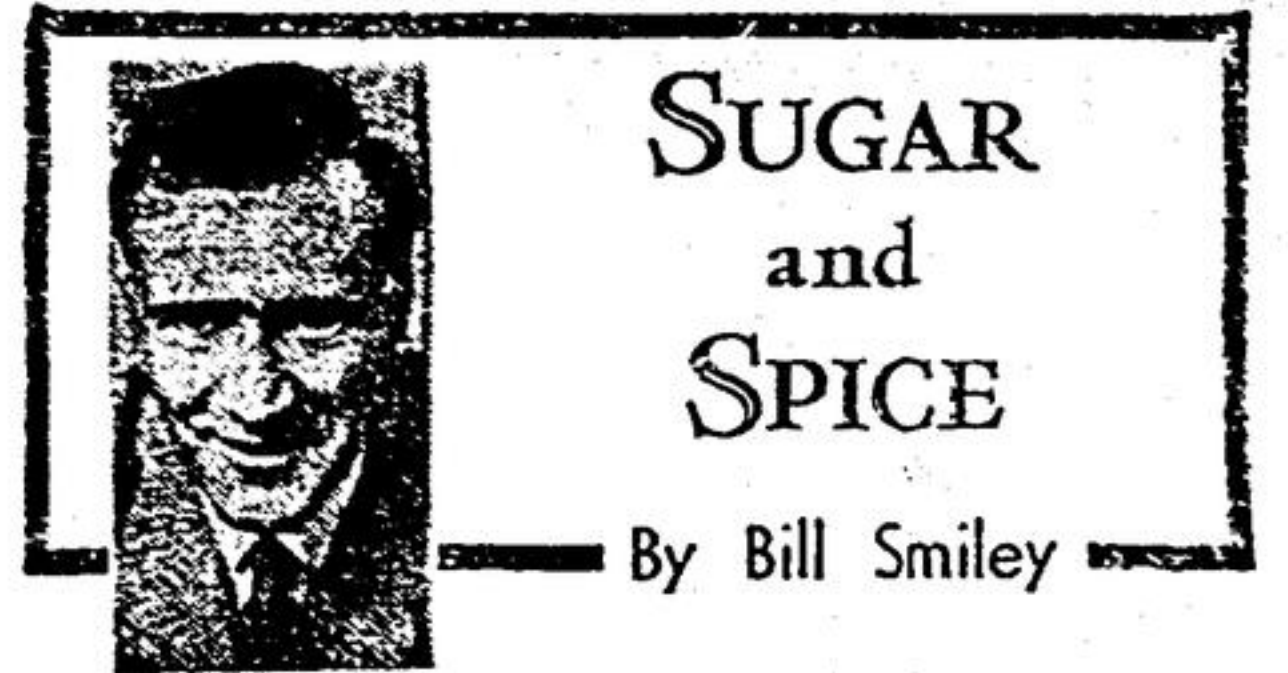
I have in my hand, also a copy of a document called "Fluoridation News." This I understand, has been peddled from door to door by anti-fluoridation fanatics who are doing the public of Stouffville a bad service.

Among other things, this publication undertakes to attack the credentials of Dr. Hall, President of Western University and a former associate of Sir Frederick Banting, one of the best known of our scientists, simply because he was a member of the Morden Commission on Fluoridation.

One would do well to examine the credentials of the peddlers of such misinformation. At the present moment I don't know a single medical officer of health in Canada who is not in favour of fluoridation. It has been endorsed by medical, dental and public health associations all over North America. If we are not to trust the doctors and the dentists and public health people who are trained to preserve our health, who are we to trust?

I would suggest that if the people of Stouffville have any doubt they should obtain a copy of the Summary of the Report of the Royal Commission on Fluoridation issued by either the Health League of Canada or the Ontario Government. I observe that the doctors and the dentists in Stouffville are unanimously in favour of fluoridation of water. This is true in virtually every community in Canada.

One is reminded of the words of the great Franklin D. Roosevelt in the depth of the American depression. He stated that "The American people had nothing to fear except fear." I think the people of Stouffville have nothing to fear except the fear in the minds of these timid mortals who, with all the evidence in front of them, still persist in anticipating some dreadful result which might happen some hundred years from now. But it never has happened to the



Remember a couple of weeks ago, I was telling what a wicked place The City has become? And of the dreadful pitfalls into which a steady reliable chap can stumble, particularly if he's at the dangerous age? I promised to continue the confession of my wild adventures that night, in the next column, but I just couldn't bring myself to do it. After serious thought however, I've decided it's my duty to reveal the perils and the perils that exists in the hope that you may be saved, should your foot slip from the paths of righteousness, as mine did.

You'll remember that, torn by who knows what strange and wayward desires, I had already been clipped at a honky-tonk piano joint. And then been shorn at one of those wicked foreign movies in which the actors seem to think sex is funny, not sinful, as we all know it is.

Well, I escaped from there determined to go straight back to my room and read a pamphlet called The Teachers Superannuation Act, in an attempt to pull myself together.

But I fell. It was a warm seductive, summer night, remember. Just as I walked past this narrow old house, it happened. The door was open, young people laughed and talked in the dimly lighted hall, and from the depths of the house, faintly came a sweet song and the tinkle of a guitar.

I couldn't help it. I turned and walked straight in. I must have thought I was in another incarnation, as a sailor on a street in Marseilles or Shanghai, rather than a staid thoroughfare in what was not long ago the dustiest city in Christendom.

A darsky handsome young fellow barred my way and asked me, pleasantly enough, if I was a member. When I shook my head, mouth open, he suggested I might like to join. It could have been the Foreign Legion, for all I cared. Forging over the modest fee, I almost knocked him down as I hastened through the door, anticipating mystic rites, cabalistic ceremonies, exotic dancing girls and, if necessary, a pipe or two of opium.

It was dark inside. On a small lighted platform in the middle of the room, in the centre of the gloom, stood a very pretty girl with deep red hair and white skin and white teeth that gleamed as she sang.

Sad songs and love songs and old songs and funny songs she sang, picking them out as daintily and strongly as she picked out the accompaniment of her guitar. And that was my introduction to The Purple Onion, and the world of folk music, blues and jazz that comes to life in The City when everything else is going to sleep.

On the surface, these clubs — there are a half a dozen of them now — look like dens of iniquity. They are shabby, dimly lit. There is exciting music, and in

millions of people who have been drinking fluoridated water for many years, some during their entire lives.

Yours sincerely, Dr. Gordon Bates General Director Health League of Canada

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