

# Editorial

## Bankruptcy Laws Very Slack

In this day and age when bankruptcies have become a common occurrence it has become apparent that the laws governing such operations are much too lenient. Unsuspecting suppliers can be fleeced out of thousands of dollars in just a few months. The latest tabulation of such operations show that bankruptcies left the public "Holding the bag" in 1961, to the tune of \$30,000,000.

Laws against this reckless disregard for creditors should be tightened. The manner in which the law

works today, a man can be driving a Cadillac and living in a \$50,000 home. He puts his business into bankruptcy, after drawing a substantial salary for some time. His creditors lose money. He still retains his home and car, and is free to start another business again the next morning.

The loss of a few thousand dollars may be quite incidental to a large corporation but the same loss can wipe out a small businessman. We think it's time steps were taken to stop this legal robbery.

## Let's Get Out of the Railway Business

The MacPherson Royal Commission on transportation has advocated the freeing of Canada's railways for a competitive battle for existence which is a justifiable policy but one which we don't believe goes far enough to cure the sickness of our Dominion's railways. Here is the government again in competition with private enterprise, and in a business which today is going to have to look sharp to survive in competition against other means of transportation. We say, let's get out of the railway business, let's amalgamate and we could have some real savings.

The people of Canada are being called on to put up millions each year to keep the business afloat. The problems of operating in this transportation business and making a profit are great enough, with trucks, cars and planes cutting a big bite out of the business, but when we must compete with another private firm in the same business, we think it's well nigh impossible.

## No Hair-Pulling Please!

More than a decade of man's complete mastery in the sport of hockey will be challenged on Friday, Feb. 16th, when eleven Stouffville girls, rigged up in all the latest regalia will take to the local ice lanes in a thirty minute match. A group of girls from Uxbridge will provide the opposition.

The contest will be a fore-runner of an exhibition benefit match between the Uxbridge "Black Hawks" and a picked team of Stouffville Community League All-Stars.

The Stouffville girls, eager for the fray, have already lined up their contingent of players. A list of the roster appears on the sports page of

## Farmers To Have Their Say

Are the bulk of farm residents in the Township of Pickering unfairly affected by the recently completed land re-assessment program in the municipality? Have Pickering's farm folk just cause for concern over their individual assessments? If the first question brings forth a resounding "yes", then we can expect that the Brougham Hall will be filled to capacity for the federation meeting on "taxation and assessment", Thursday evening (tonight), Feb. 1st. If the second question carries an affirmative reply, then the air may be cleared when the matter is placed on the council agenda for the regular meeting on Monday, Feb. 5th.

There is no doubt that the recent writings of Mr. Robt. G. Roy of Claremont has stirred up considerable interest among Pickering's farm

## Millions of Dollars Into Space

Perhaps the news story last week, concerning the United States' missile shot into space, supposedly aimed at the moon, but missing its target by a mere 25,000 miles, may have quickened the pulse of millions, but to this writer, it was just another million dollars shot down the drain. While this race between Russia and America continues for the right to slice off a hunk of green cheese, other more worthwhile projects are allowed to suffer for lack of funds.

When one considers what progress could be made in the field of cancer research, heart fund campaigns, slum clearance, education and hundreds of other channels that are continually crying for financial assistance instead of tossing money into thin air, it just doesn't make sense.

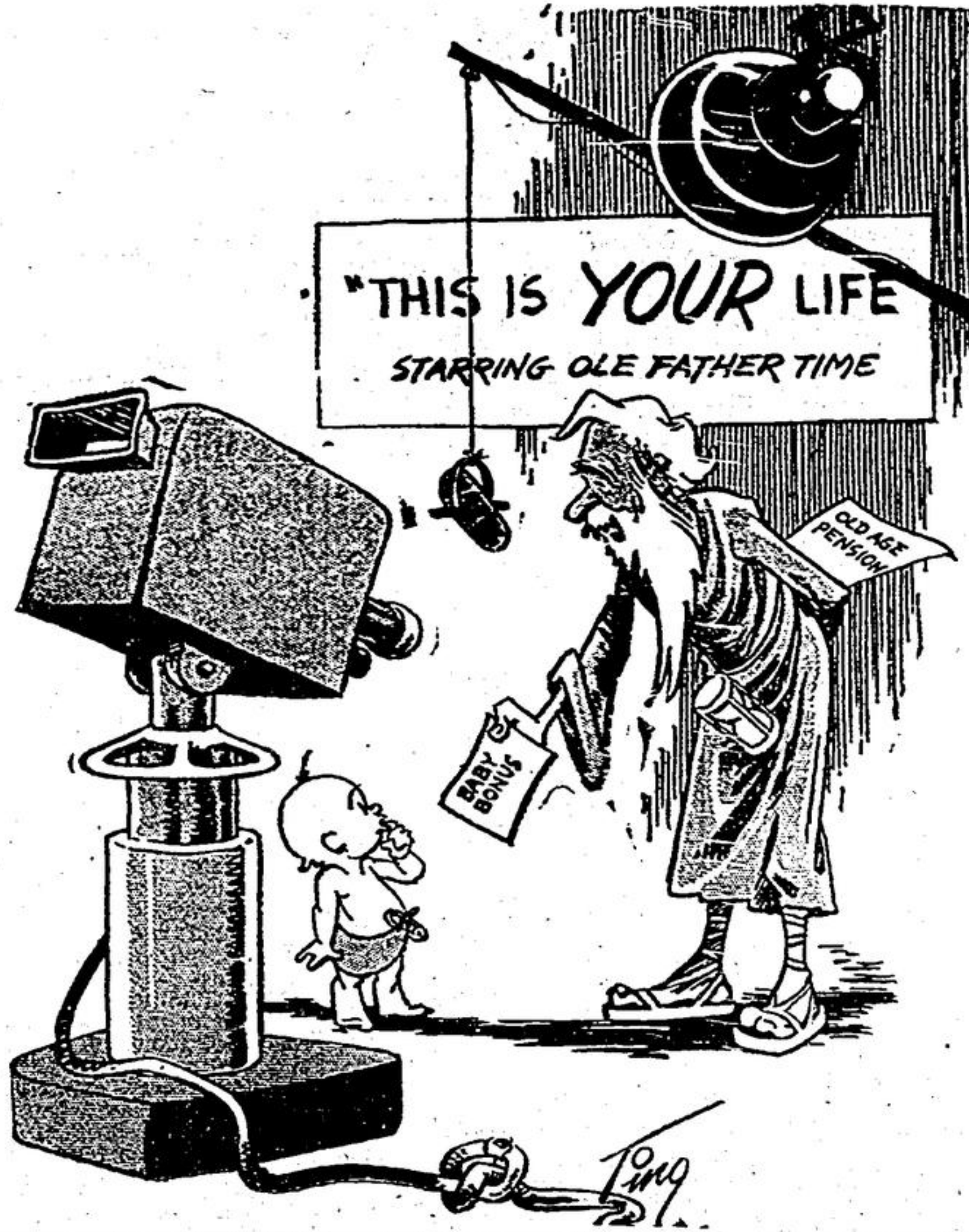
When any world power has satisfactorily solved all its problems on the home front, then indeed, the green light should be their's to travel farther afield. For the United States, and Russia too, for that matter, the goal is a long way off.

places added duties on the trustees. I sometimes wonder if the unpaid and seldom thanked board members don't just hire the one who is the handiest rather than take the time and gasoline to investigate further.

Not all ratepayers are capable of taking their turns and a school might have a better business administration if men or women who were really interested, were given enough pay to cover their expenses.

Signed, — A Reader, all-out for fair play.

"You have just won six dollars, would you like to try for 65?"



### SUGAR and SPICE

By Bill Smiley

Sometimes I wonder whether I'll ever reach that high plateau of peace and quiet and gracious living that beckons from afar. Or is it only a mirage?

When the kids were little, I used to console myself, as I staggered around in a welter of bottles and diapers, illnesses and accidents, that everything would sort itself out when they got a little older. I could picture a pleasant sort of life when the youngsters ceased being so dependent.

It was the same with my job. As a weekly editor, I was convinced that no other occupation was so devouring of one's time and strength, so intrusive into one's private life. I could think of 44 other jobs that would be easier, more remunerative, and more productive of leisure for peace and contemplation.

And it was the same with the Old Girl. As she harried me from pillar to post, from basement to bathroom, as she tried to improve my character, as she flew into rages, I comforted myself, "She'll simmer down after a few years. She'll stop shoving me, her temper will improve, and she'll realize that you can't make a perfect husband out of a pig's foot."

Well, the kids are bigger and older, I got one of those soft jobs, and the passing years have passed. And the only appreciable difference is that despite my failing faculties, I'm running faster than ever, and that calm, peaceful existence seems farther away than ever.

Oh, I know what you're thinking. You're thinking "He's just saying that. I'll bet his kids are polite and nice, and everybody knows teaching school is a snap, and I've heard his wife is a lovely girl in every way."

Well, let me tell you something. My kids are more trouble

now than they were when they sat in highchairs, hurling pabulum all over the kitchen, and filling their diapers every time you turned your back. Coping with 170-odd lively teen-agers every day is a short-cut to the cemetery. And my wife has just finished bawling the daylight out of me for the same old reasons.

Let me give you a run-down on the serene, sedentary life of a middle-aged school teacher. Just a sample. A typical week. Monday, I worked all day, came home and did my lesson plans, wrote my column and let Piper the cat out, about 2 a.m.

She didn't come back, though I went four times to the back door, the last twice in my pyjamas, and hollered into the snowy wastes. Kim, who had brought her home as a stray kitten a year ago, wept bitterly all next day, and blamed the whole thing on me.

Tuesday, I came home from work, shovelled snow for an hour, did the shopping, ran Kim over for her music lessons, shovelled more snow, picked up Kim, looked for a dam cat, prepared lessons and went curling. My wife gave me a horrendous blast for loitering a couple of hours at the curling club.

Wednesday was much the same, alternating snow shovelling with looking for cat. We discovered that the tom from next door had also vanished. I consoled Kim with the suggestion that they'd eloped. Bed at 1 a.m.

Thursday night was Parents' Night at the school. Oy! "I simply can't understand John's English mark. He works so hard, every night. And he's such a good boy!" A little questioning reveals that John hasn't missed a television program in four months, except for the three nights a week he plays hockey.

Friday morning, the cat turned up, looking ashamed. After school on Friday, we took two busloads of kids to the city to see a play. On the way home, the bus broke down and we sat on the highway in a blizzard for two hours. I delivered the last student to her home at 3.30 a.m.

Four hours later, the alarm called me to greet the same day,

get Hugh's breakfast and drive him to the bus stop, where he embarks for his music lesson in the city. Sunday was pretty quiet. Just a communion breakfast at 9 a.m., a trip to the ski club with Hugh, dinner to prepare while the organist took off for a special service, and lesson plans into the wee small.

Only break was a half-hour telephone conversation with a mother, who thought the teachers were picking on poor Sandra, because poor Sandra's best mark was 19.

Thirty years from now, if you happen to see a wizened up little old man going to beat hell in five directions at once, you'll know it's Bill Smiley, running his grandchildren all over the place, pursued by the admonitions of his wife and still dreaming of the day when life will be calm, gracious and dignified.

### For Parents Only

By NANCY CLEAVER

**BELONGING—THE MIRACLE ADHESIVE**

"The yearning to belong is part of the plot in every normal individual's life. It is the miracle adhesive of the family, the city, the state." — from A Few Buttons Missing, by Fisher and Hawley.

This quotation from the case book of a psychiatrist is one of the many sensible comments on human relationships in a very readable volume.

Children can be terribly aggravating, their actions can try the patience of their parents to the limit but no matter what a child does, the child must never be rejected by the parents. Every child has the right to know that, come what may, mother and dad still claim him as a member of their family.

A child desperately needs the security, the courage, which comes from his feeling of belonging to a group. In the old days when families were larger, this sense of family unity seemed easier to achieve. In the one or two child homes, this "community of children" is missing.

Special occasions such as a family celebration of a birthday strengthen the family bond. Any activity, whether it is singing songs, or playing games, or listening to a radio program, going to the movies, or on a picnic, in which the members of a family plan and carry out together is very worthwhile. If all the members of a household plan to sacrifice some treat, forego some favourite expensive dish so they can contribute to a needy cause such as World Refugee Fund, this too aids the family.

## REPORT FROM PARLIAMENT

By Michael Starr, M.P., Minister of Labour

I am very happy once again to utilize the medium of this column in order to report to the residents of Ontario County on what is happening in the House of Commons at Ottawa.

I was also happy during the recess to have the opportunity of visiting many friends in the County and attending a number of interesting and important functions where my wife and I had the pleasure of being present.

The opening of the 5th Session of Canada's 24th Parliament was perhaps a quieter and more businesslike affair than has been the case in the last few years.

In my estimation there were fewer visitors and the accent was on sober accomplishment rather than on the social side of things.

The Speech from the Throne, read by Governor-General Vanier, laid out the Government program for the Session—and, as has been the case in the past two Sessions, it is a comprehensive program of economic and social legislation that will entail a great deal of work on the part of all the Members.

Among the important items mentioned in the Speech from the Throne at the opening of Parliament was the municipal winter works program.

The House will be asked to approve this Session increased supplementary estimates to cover the broadened Federal Government participation during the present winter season.

The program at the present time is running well ahead of last year, with some \$250,000,000 in projects already submitted by the municipalities and approved by the Federal Government.

The Government pays 50 percent of the labour cost involved in carrying out approved municipal works during the winter

months. In Ontario, an additional 23 percent of labour costs is contributed by the Provincial Government.

Winter works in the Province by mid-January had reached a total of \$72.6 millions, compared to \$56.4 millions at the same time last year.

Meanwhile, I am pleased to report that the Vocational Training Program, approved by Parliament last Session, has now reached a total volume of more than \$207,000,000 for all of Canada, with a Federal contribution of \$141,000,000.

This includes 162 schools across Canada and I would point out that the Province of Ontario has introduced a massive program calling for 117 vocational high schools across the Province.

It will be recalled that the Federal Government reimburses the provinces in the amount of 75 percent of their expenditures on this program and that the program will run up to March 31, 1963.

A number of provinces are still working on their programs and the total is expected to rise considerably when all have been heard from.

The announcement by the Prime Minister of an increase in the old age pensions of \$10.00 a month will be welcomed—as well as similar increases for blind and disabled pensioners.

Mr. Diefenbaker explained that the increases were in line with the social justice policies he announced in 1957 and that it would continue to be the Government's policy to maintain an active concern in the situation of the pensioners.

The Prime Minister also pointed out that the present upswing in the economy had been accomplished without the usual inflation which in the past had been the inevitable accompaniment of economic booms.

It is also true that a child needs to belong to a little group of his own age. The small "neighborhood gang" of boys and girls who live in the same block and play together, the happy activity in a nursery school, all promote in the preschool child this same sense of comradeship with others.

A school age child dislikes to be so different in his clothes or in his standards of conduct, from his playmates that he is considered an outsider. He will appreciate his friends being welcome, and occasional treats of cookies or apples being available when a chum comes into his home to play.

A teenage girl does not want to be excluded from parties because the hour she must be home at night is so much earlier than the "deadline" for her friends. Parents must sometimes weigh the values of health rules with the need of "belonging" and reach some satisfactory compromise about rules.

Pride in one's own community can be fostered by parents, and years later children will have the feeling of having grown up in a desirable area. Parents who attend and support the church and give religion a vital place in their lives, also give boys and girls the sense of belonging to one of the oldest and most significant organizations in the world.

The spirit of internationalism is stressed today in the higher education of students. The threat of destruction through atomic warfare hangs over the whole civilized world. For their very preservation men and women in many lands are rising up and objecting to nuclear tests.

The Refugee problem demon-

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## Laugh Of The Week



"Okay, get your shoes off and get that gambler up here where we can get a measure on it, dear."

## Editor's Mail

R. R. 1, Goodwood, Ont. Editor, The Tribune, Stouffville, Ont. Dear Sir: The editorial in the Jan. 25th issue of The Tribune entitled "A Missing Plank in the Platform" brought to mind a "geef" I have held for some time. Yes, it's necessary to pay councilmen for their services, but not to pay them so much that they are in for the money they obtain. But why does the School

trustee shall receive no pay, nor can he do any repair or improvement work at the school and receive reasonable remuneration? Our school trustees have a very thankless job with a good many miles driven in work for the section. Our school has withheld the names of men who would have made good trustees but could not serve because they were required to make necessary repairs on the building and property when needed.

The hiring of a new teacher

## The Stouffville Tribune

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