

# Editorial

## Forest Conservation Recognized Here

Last week was Forest Conservation Week in Canada. Here in Stouffville, and particularly in the Townships of Whitchurch and Uxbridge, quite a bit is known about forest conservation. These two townships have many hundreds of acres devoted to reforesting, and the growth and activity surrounding these areas has been familiar to local citizens for many years.

Forest conservation in recent years has been coming more and more to the forefront, and a new insight has been given into the value of our woodlands to the economy. Not only has the public been learning of the value of pulpwood as one of Canada's top three money-makers, but it has learned more and more of its value as a means of conservation and flood control. At the government level and in the educational field, forest conservation has gained in prominence. Those of us who have lived here

for many years are proud of the great tracts of reforested land just to the north of town. They are a thing of beauty and value to be seriously guarded.

Canada is a forest nation, yet each year the people of the country cause thousands of forest fires. In 1961 more than 9,000,000 acres were burned over as a result of human carelessness. The Canadian Forestry Association claims that only 19% of all the fires in our forests start from natural causes such as lightning.

The government (and this includes our own local government) spends a great deal of money on protecting the woodlands against fire, insects and disease, and is doing everything possible to promote improved forest management and reforestation. The least the public can do is to use a little discretion when in the woods.

## A New Look

There are many rural public schools in this area that have served their communities for almost one hundred years. Some have even surpassed the century milestone. In the majority of cases, unless more modern additions have been erected, these structures are beginning to show their age with interiors that are not in step with the times. Disfigured desks, unlighted blackboards, small windows, archaic heating, no running water, etc., are the meagre facilities existing in many country communities. It is both costly and sometimes difficult to modernize an old building. Some trustee boards have been hesitant to make any move of this kind until, through increased enrollments or health hazards, they are forced into a face-lifting program. This has not been the case at a little one-room rural school located on conc. 9, Markham (S.S. No. 19) three miles south of Stouffville.

With the exception of a new front entrance, the exterior of the structure

is little changed. Inside, however, the Board have completed a re-modelling job, not comparable in sections of a similar size.

The cost of this project may have been rather extensive but in a strictly rural area of this type where an influx of student personnel is unlikely on any large scale, the school board has a building that will serve the section's needs for many years to come. In an effort to keep the price of the program down to a minimum, we understand that the trustee members, themselves, rolled up their sleeves and completed some of the redecorating work.

After viewing this project last week, we can readily understand why the board would be reluctant to favour any scheme that might lead to public school consolidation in their area. S.S. No. 19 has made its move and other sections facing limited growth but out-dated facilities might be well advised to look it over.

## Don't Let It Die

It would be most regrettable if the Stouffville Home & School Association should be allowed to die for want of interest by the parents. A meeting is being held this Wednesday evening to decide the fate of the organization which has become very shaky, due to lack of interest.

Smaller centres by far than Stouffville, have live Home & School organizations which contribute a great deal to the place taken by the school in the community, and it seems strange if a town with three thousand persons, two public schools and more than six hundred pupils, can't muster sufficient interest among parents to keep such an organization going.

We know that the group had difficulties in the beginning in trying to persuade citizens to take responsible positions, to give leadership. However, the basis for trouble at the moment appears to be a sense of disinterest by rank and file members.

From an outside reporter's standpoint, it appears that more effort

should be put forward by male members, and if there are not sufficient of these, endeavor to see that there are. The organization has held many good meetings, both interesting and informative. Oft times, no doubt, too much time has been taken with questions of a petty nature and of little consequence, and these, particularly to men, can be most boring and should be kept to a minimum. This is not meant as any criticism of the organization but only as a helpful hint to keep members more interested.

As we pointed out last week, the breakup of the group could mean: no more graduation dinners for the Gr. 8 pupils; no Grade teas where the parents have an opportunity to meet with the teachers; and no opportunity for the teachers to inform the parents of changes in the curriculum and new systems being proposed.

This should not happen here — it's up to you, Mr. and Mrs. John Public, parents of Stouffville's six hundred public school pupils.

## Let Them Be Seen On The Screen

Has the current pre-election speech-making started your political blood to boil? We would suggest that the ordinary run-of-the-mill citizen does not become overly enthused about the campaign until the candidates round the turn and head for the wire. Many poorly attended meetings in numerous local ridings would indicate that a large cross-section of the electorate have little interest, to date, in the whole affair. With the exception of placards, newspaper pictures, etc., many voters will not even catch a glimpse of their candidates prior to the June 18th trek to the polls.

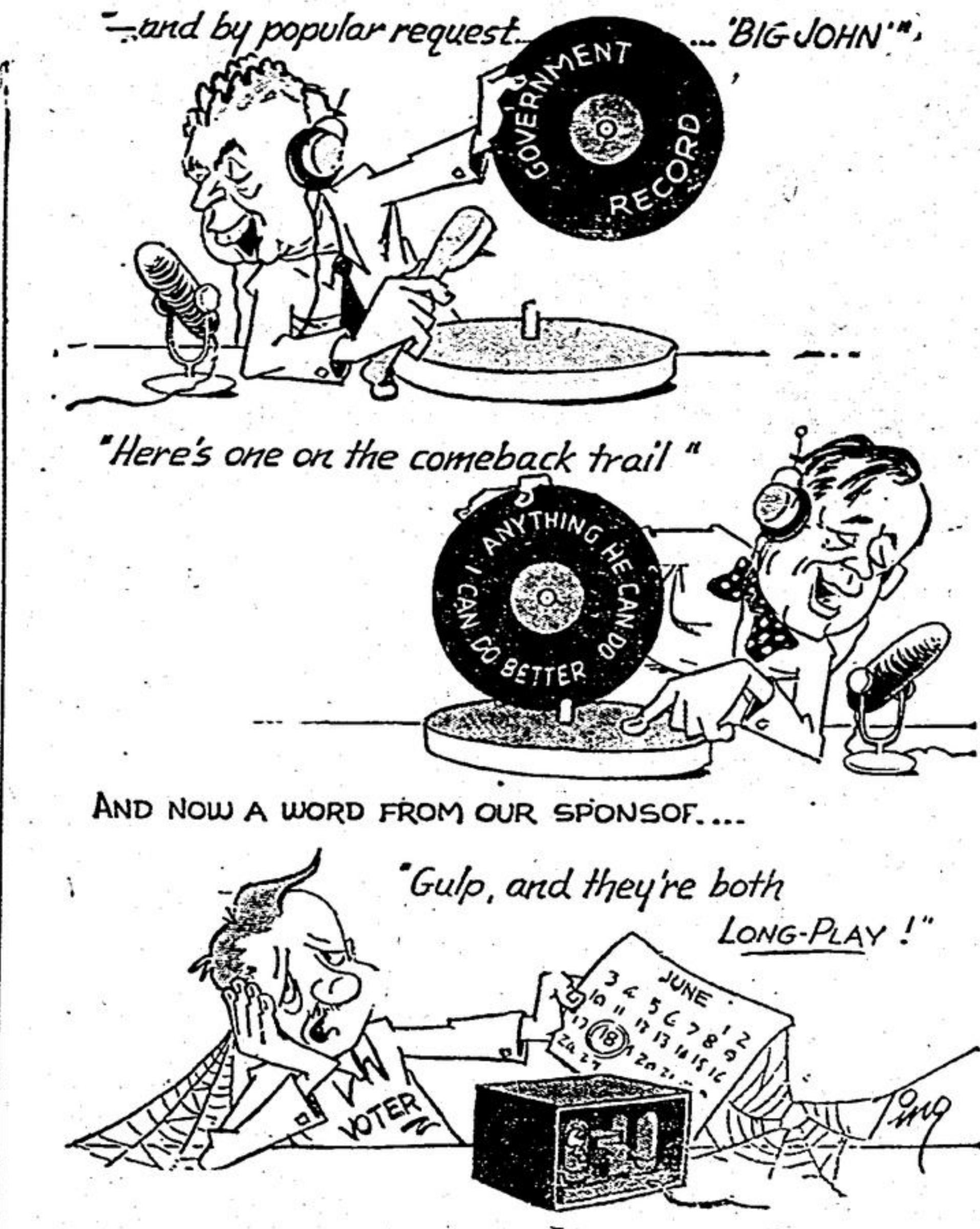
It is unfortunate, we believe, that the Prime Minister has turned a deaf ear to Liberal leader Pearson's suggestion to hold a T.V. debate to stir up a little pre-election interest and acquaint the people with the various party platforms.

This is the very thing that is needed here in Canada to stimulate some much-needed enthusiasm across the country. Instead of talking to dozens, hundreds or thousands at pre-arranged stop-off points, the party chiefs could be seen by millions right in the comfort of their own

homes. The T.V. media could be further employed on a more local level with a debate between candidates in individual ridings.

Mr. Diefenbaker's refusal to defend either his program or his platform in a toe to toe debate via the television screen, is most unfortunate. Just because the leaders debate continuously on the floor of the House of Commons is no reason to think that all such arguments are seen and heard by the voters. As the "champion" rather than the "challenger", the P.M. would, of course, be running the risk but as the leader of this Dominion, he should be prepared to defend his policies and his programs against any qualified challengers.

In verbal combat, Mr. Diefenbaker is a vigorous warrior. He has proven this in the House of Commons and we feel he could be equally effective on television. He has been handed the opportunity on a silver platter but has abruptly rejected it. This is regrettable. Not only would it add some much-needed colour to the campaign but it would be most effective in helping the voter to make his decision.



"Here's one on the comeback trail"

AND NOW A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR...

"Gulp, and they're both"

LONG-PLAY!"



## SUGAR and SPICE

By Bill Smiley

I am observing a birthday this week. You'll notice I didn't say celebrating. No, at my age you don't celebrate them. You merely observe them, with a dim view or a wistful look.

In an effort to prove that there's plenty of life in the old boy yet, I am taking on a pair of huge mortgages the day before my birthday. They say there's nothing like a fat mortgage to make a fellow hustle. If that's true, I qualified years ago for membership in The Hustlers.

I knew the hair was getting thinner, and the teeth scarier, but I haven't much of a pot yet, and figured I was in pretty good shape for my age. A couple of experiences on the recent holiday week end destroyed this illusion and left me convinced that I'm a pretty good age for my shape.

First of all, the two old side-kicks dropped in for a visit, with their families. The three of us joined the RCAF on the same day, and we've kept in touch since. In those days, we could make the old welkin ring right merrily all night. You should have seen us, Saturday night, trying to maintain the old traditions.

It was more like a wing-ding

at the Home for the Aged than a reunion of warriors. One of the boys was in great pain. He had pulled a muscle in his back while trying to tie his shoelaces without putting his foot on a chair. The other divided his anxiety equally between his ulcer and his high blood pressure. And I fell sound asleep right in the middle of telling our wives what hellers we were in the old days.

The second incident to emphasize my increasing senility was a challenge from my daughter. She's practising for a field day at school and wanted some competition. Despite the fact that I nearly burst a blood-vessel over it, she beat me handily in both the broad jump and the hop-step. This hurt, but after all, she's in training, and 30 years younger. What really destroyed me was the Old Battleaxe tried it, and beat both my marks without even breathing hard.

I don't really mind getting older. But I certainly resent the fact that they're making all the stairs steeper and the garbage cans heavier these days.

been fortunate enough to live in one of the most exciting eras man has ever experienced.

Just think. The war to end wars was over. George V was on the throne of England, and the sun never set on the British Empire. In those 40-odd years, we've had a far bigger war, George's granddaughter is the Queen, and the Empire has almost vanished.

When I was born, there were no jet engines, television commercials, rocket missiles or nuclear weapons. In other words, things were pretty quiet. Income tax was only a cloud on the horizon. No one had climbed Mount Everest or run a four-minute mile. Tuberculosis was a dread disease and lung cancer had not been invented yet.

In those four decades and a bit, Canada's population has doubled. The telephone has replaced the back fence as a gossip-monger. The automobile has gone through the stages of a curiosity, a luxury, and idol, a necessity, and a monthly millstone around our necks.

There weren't any Communists—just Bolsheviks. Socialists were "Reds". Whisky was stronger and a heck of a lot cheaper. Women were dressed much as they are today, and were just as neurotic. Oil heating, deodorants and tranquilizers were unknown. Nobody was trying to get to the moon. Fifty dollars a week was big money.

By golly, that was a long time ago, wasn't it?

Watch out for the fellow who always pushes himself into the limelight. He may turn out to be a lemon.



Mrs. George H. Lidster, 90, a reporter for *The Dullon Advance* for over 40 years, is the recipient of the Ontario Hydro award for excellence in rural news reporting in 1961. Presentation of the plaque was made by R. J. Smart, (lower right) Hydro's Public Relations Officer in the Western-Region, at the annual convention of the Ontario Weekly Newspapers Association at London on Saturday, May 19. Shown also with Mrs. Lidster are H. C. Campbell (left), publisher and editor of *The Dullon Advance* and Werden Leavens (right), Secretary-Manager of the O.W.N.A. Still "on the go." Mrs. Lidster, who resides near Tyrconnell, was at one time a school teacher. She has three sons, one daughter, 24 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren. This is the second time she has received an Ontario Hydro award. —Ontario Hydro Photo

# FOR PARENTS ONLY

by Nancy Cleaver

**EXAM TIME THOUGHTS**  
 "Exam time again! Why does it spoil every June?" a young scholar asked his parents. His father tried to be reassuring. "You have planned your studying and are carrying out your schedule. When it comes to your exams, you'll have to remember the motto a sporting page used to carry, 'A man can but do his best.'"

Exam time is hard, and this is particularly true for parents of high-strung youngsters in the upper grades. Many a child just does not do his best under the strain of writing an examination. The larger the population, the bigger the school, the more complex the educational structure, the more difficult it is for a boy or girl to be confident and relaxed as he faces this final hurdle of the year's work.

Many boys find the literature and composition examinations something to dread, no matter how hard they have worked. These are papers where inevitably the marker's likes and dislikes color the grading. There can be no debate about the correct answer to a question of algebra, but how can a fair judgment be made of an essay, if a topic is chosen by the student which appeals to him, which has no interest for the examiner?

Many girls have a particularly trying struggle with higher mathematics. In a recent survey of hundreds of pupils, an equal number of boys and girls, writing final examinations on mathematics on the Grade 12 level, three times as many girls failed as boys. Who sets these papers? Have women teachers an equal say with men teachers in this area of study at top levels?

Parents are told that they only confuse their children if they try to coach them in their work. Teaching methods have changed and the content in subjects, especially in science, is now much more complex than

two decades ago. But parents are concerned with the terribly high failure rate in the upper grades at College and the first years of University. A student who does not pass is not just part of a set of statistics, he or she may be their own son or daughter, on whom a lot of money has been spent to keep them in school. Adolescents are urged to get all the education they can, but the hurdles are so high that many pupils who work hard, who have medium ability, end up with a failure.

Mother will want to send a son or daughter off to an examination in as confident a frame of mind as possible. Avoid all unnecessary conflict or argument. A boy or girl will appreciate some extra, different touch to breakfast, because appetites under nervous strain are fickle. But a pupil cannot do his best through a long examination on an empty stomach. Teachers usually give pupils instructions on how to write an examination, but no one method suits everyone. It is only sensible for the student to keep calm as possible and read and follow all directions carefully. For most it is a good idea to read the whole examination paper through. Mark the easiest parts and those which count for most marks, and plan to do these first.

"What does this question really ask?" a student should puzzle before dashing into an answer. Jotting down a few notes, while planning the answer is a help. Keeping an eye on the clock is no easy matter during an exam. But a scholar must strike a balance between not wasting time and not being in too much of a rush. A short period to read over what has been written and catch misspelling or mistakes or omissions is essential. Last but not least: Consider the poor marker and write legibly. How a student writes is important as well as what he writes.

## On The Farm Front...

A. A. WALL, Agricultural Representative, York County

Large numbers of corn growers in York County are switching over this year to complete weed control with chemical sprays. The herbicide being used is Atrazine. Atrazine on demonstrations last year gave good results. High yielding crops of corn were harvested last fall that had no cultivation. There is a rumour going around this year about the danger of residue from Atrazine. The fear is that in the year following its use, there will be enough residue left in the soil that forage legumes can't be grown. From experience, mental work, there is no truth in this rumour. Atrazine may be used at up to 4 lbs. per acre without any danger to a succeeding forage crop. Actually, oats are more susceptible to residues than legumes. One point on Atrazine this year, however, is worth knowing. With very dry soil conditions, there is a real danger that it will not kill weeds as well as a soil application. This year, it will likely do a much better job if it is put on as an

early post-emergence treatment. The best advice is to spray when both the corn and weeds are showing nicely and the rate used should be 3 to 4 lbs. per acre. There is real cause for concern over crop prospects this year. A lot of rain is needed to bring hay and pasture fields along. As well as low moisture, frost in early May froze back alfalfa and clover and recovery is very slow. Nothing can be done to improve moisture but it is possible to manage crops to get the most possible feed value out of them. For instance, this is a year when rotational grazing or strip grazing will really pay. It has been proven over and over again, that splitting a pasture field in three or four sections and moving cattle from one strip to another, increases substantially the total amount of pasture the field will produce. Another idea to consider this year with a short hay crop predicted, is to put a field or two of green oats in the silo. The oats will supply just as much, if not more, feed value as silage and it can be fed in August and September when the pasture situation may really be critical.

## Editor's Mail

Claremont, Ont., May 26, 1962  
 Editor, Stouffville Tribune, Stouffville, Ont.  
 Dear Sir,  
 In reference to the present discussion between the Medical Profession and the Saskatchewan Government. Why are the doctors complaining? Being university graduates, they are intellectuals and should be thoroughly familiar with the principle. "Every Special Favour asked of the Government whether it be by bankers, businessmen, labor, farmers, or Professional Groups, Imperils the Liberty of All". They asked and obtained the "special favour" of setting up a governing body, "The College of Physicians and Surgeons" by which they could regulate, restrict, or expand, those permitted to practice. Now the same body that gave them this "special favour" are going to make a demand for a return favour. To the doctors: you are only the beginning of state control; the other groups that have asked for special favours are going to feel the loss of liberty in the same manner, as time progresses. Do not forget, a license or permit automatically makes all men honest, proficient, and law abiding. All we need is a license to cover every phase of human endeavour and we will have a country whose citizens are all of the highest character. Well did Euripides say, "Those whom the gods would destroy they first make mad."

JOSEPH LIBERTY, John Hayward, F.A.E.

## New School Bus Regulations

Starting June 1, motorists in Ontario will take their cue from the flashing lights when following or approaching school buses. Amendments to the Highway Traffic Act, taking effect that day, place the onus on the driver of the school vehicle to actuate his signal lights when discharging or picking up school children. Buses or vehicles used strictly for the transport of school children on roads which permit a speed in excess of 35 mph, must after June 1 be marked on the rear end with the words: "Do not pass when signals flashing." The changes, introduced at the recent session of the Legislature by H. L. Rowntree, Minister of Transport, clarified this law and will help reduce the toll of accidents particularly rear-end mishaps involving school vehicles. A recent survey indicated that school vehicles are involved in 20 times as many rear-end collisions as ordinary rural buses. When a school bus stops on a road permitting speeds in excess of 35 mph, and begins flashing its lights, motorists following must stop and must not pass until the lights have been extinguished by the operator. Additionally, when drivers in oncoming traffic approach a school vehicle whose signals are flashing, they must reduce to a "reasonable and proper" speed at least 100 feet past the bus. (This regulation does not apply to roads separated by a median or boulevard.) It is exceedingly easy to thumb a ride on the road to ruin.

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