

# Editorial

## How Much Can People Handle?

There is a great deal of overlapping of "weeks" and "months" in this country so that sustained interest in everything is almost too much to expect of people. In the month just concluded we have had "Heart Month" and in the middle of the month came "Brotherhood Week" and "Boy Scout Week," to say nothing of our local hospital campaign and sales of draw tickets for one event and another.

Undoubtedly those who foster and sponsor these "weeks" and "months" as well as the local drives

for one thing and another, all worthy, are quite sincere in their efforts to call attention to various organizations. However people can only absorb so much propaganda in any given time. Wouldn't it be in the interest of all concerned to space these things out so there wouldn't be such a conflict of interests? In many instances this shouldn't be too hard to do since the premier in which many things are observed is called upon to give the project his official blessing. He would simply have to say, "sorry folks, this week or month is spoken for . . . try to choose another."

## Red Cross To The Rescue

The wonderful work of the Red Cross, both on a local and international scale has become a symbol of aid, the world over. When this helping hand is extended from one municipality into another within hours of the reported occurrence, then the impact of the organization's program is revealed in reality.

On Monday afternoon of last week, two families, including ten children were made homeless when fire swept through their rented two storey home at Bloomington. The embers had not cooled before plans were being formulated by the Red Cross Centre in Toronto and a branch executive in Pickering Township to take care of the immediate requirements of the destitute.

In addition to personal contact

with the families themselves, the Red Cross also was in touch with the Ladies Auxiliary of the Stouffville Legion, the Stouffville Lions Club and interested individuals. Through their swift action, the wheels were put into rapid motion to take care of the parents' and children's needs.

Every year, the Pickering Township and Village Branch of the Red Cross makes a complete canvass throughout both these municipalities for financial assistance to carry on this marvellous work. Without doubt, there are many channels where these funds can be spent right at home, but the Pickering executive has seen fit to extend its aid into another township and county. March is Red Cross month across Canada. What an excellent advertisement.

## How Far Can We Go?

Residents of Stouffville will read this week with particular chagrin about the heavy boost in taxes which they will have to shoulder this year. For some years the town has been fortunate in being below average in taxes for the facilities provided. However, the time has arrived when the local tax burden is beginning to hurt and hurt seriously, not only the private home owner but the businessman as well.

From all appearances this is not the end, and next year the rates could be even higher. How far can we go along this line? If one equates all the facts there appears to be only one conclusion—this is that government must step into the picture to give either a different system of assessment or a takeover of certain facilities which the municipalities themselves can no longer pay for.

Of all the money collected in taxes, less than half is controlled by the local council, in fact some councillors contend that there is less than a hundred thousand dollars which they can juggle about for any savings.

The opinion that government must take a hand has been expressed officially within the last couple of weeks in both Markham Township and Stouffville councils. Biggest drag on the municipal tax bill is education over which the council has little or no control, and likewise with the county spending.

For their part, the school boards cry that they are caught in the squeeze, their obligation to provide educational facilities for all the pupils in the area, and the outcry and criticism of the taxpayers who must foot the bills. The School Boards say they can do nothing. They claim the teachers' union is milking the law of supply and demand to the very limit and teachers who could not even rate a B category with an inspector can demand and get a fantastic salary despite a poor record.

The situation is serious and, despite the government's multi-million dollar grants, they are still far short

of keeping pace with the expense. Government must put on some curbs, and cover as well, the city boards who continue to build and provide all types of glorified facilities for their buildings.

It appears that the local council is realizing the seriousness of what's happening to the tax rate as they practically turned thumbs down on any residential development which could do little but add to town expense. Industrial and commercial additions are a must at this stage where assessment is top heavy with homes, more than 75%.

It would appear that we are beset with new and added expenses on all sides. The current federal election campaign has brought out further suggestions which while assisting the country as a whole, will further aggravate the educational expense. The suggestion has been to extend the "baby bonus" in order to keep students in school. By so doing it is hoped to not only give new members of the labor force a better education but to keep students out of the labor force as an assistance to unemployment. While we doubt if an extra \$120 a year government handout to low income families would be much of an encouragement to keep Johnny in school, it doesn't take much of an imagination to see what it could do to the already strained school budgets.

Obvious solutions to these problems will not be easy. One thing is sure, we are getting near the end of the line so far as municipal taxation goes. Local municipalities such as ours can help some by making the build-up of non-residential assessment their number one effort. However, we don't think this will be enough as only moderate success can be hoped for in this connection, and it will remain with the provincial government to come up with some intelligent planning on what can be done to keep its local municipalities out of the red.

## Go Home Young Man

Ken Zeller, grade 12.

How often have you stood on the street, sat at home in a chair, or as a matter of fact almost anywhere and heard young people from ten to eighteen years of age repeat the old worn-out phrase, "I wish I had something to do."

Well, in this day and age there are many many things you could be doing. Have you helped wash the car lately, or have you helped with the dishes?

How long has it been since you did a favour for someone? A little visit to a friend who is ill, or helping an elderly person pass an hour or two

listening to your dreams of how you're going to alter the universe when you get older. This is a land of golden opportunity, whether you be ten or sixty.

Before you repeat, "I wish I had something to do," STOP! and think. All around you is plenty to do! The world doesn't owe you a living; therefore your town doesn't owe you entertainment.

So stop crying and get busy today. The reward will more than triple your small donation from day to day, and when you reach your twenties you will remember how vital these trivial things were.

## Editor's Mail

Stouffville, Ont.

The Editor, Stouffville Tribune.

Dear Sir — Having read your editorial comment last week, and other letters in the editors mail, I feel it is about time someone expressed an opinion, that might be in support of the council's decision.

It is not my intention or desire to start a controversy over the way our council handled the resignation of one of our police constables, but rather to express an opinion as a taxpayer.

I personally attend a number of the regular council meetings during the year. I have always felt our council handles the town's business in a right forward manner. I don't always agree with all their decisions and would be the first to say so. When I do agree I should support them.

Having attended the regular council meeting when the resignation and delegation in question was finalized, I should like to support the council 100% in the way this matter was handled.

I do not believe that public matters should be done secretly but I do suggest to you, it is not always in the best interest to "Head Line the Paper", with certain information that does determine the action of council or any elected body dealing with public matters. The resignation was read at the meeting by the clerk, I cannot see how the council had any other alternative but to accept it.

If they had refused to accept this resignation, they would have been doing an injustice to ask one to continue on, in an environment that was not satisfactory to himself. After all we are supposed to have freedom of choice.

If council had requested his resignation that would have been a far different picture. I believe the officer has done a good work with the young lads and I am sure there are many parents who appreciate his efforts.

I have every respect for the group of young people who were present to present a petition to council. In my opinion, under the circumstances this petition should have been presented to the officer, asking him to reconsider his decision. This would have placed the council in a much different position.

In closing I should like to ask you, the taxpayer, how can we expect good men to devote their time and talent to the town's business, if all we give them is criticism.

I suggest to you it is becoming increasingly more difficult to get men to stand for these positions. If we are not willing to stand behind and support them as our representatives.

I predict the time will come when we will have to find some different system of control, which will be more expensive and of a remote nature.

Signed, W. D. Atkinson.

## ADDISON NAMES PARTY OFFICERS

John Addison, Liberal candidate in the April 8, federal election, met with his Liberal workers at the Compass restaurant last week to discuss the future campaign operations. About 145 campaign workers attended. Fred Hare, Temperanceville, was named campaign manager and George Richardson, Newmarket, area chairman.

## Orchard Park Public School Needs A Gymnasium

Rodger Mole, grade 13.

The town of Stouffville has three schools. The main difference in these three is the fact that Orchard Park Public School has no gymnasium for its students. On the other hand, Summitview Public School has a gymnasium for its girls and boys, and the high school expects to have a double gymnasium in a year.

In our growing community the need for recreational facilities is increasing — especially in the winter months. Although both public schools have skating rinks and regular recesses, proper training can be given only in a supervised classroom or gym. Orchard Park has neither of these.

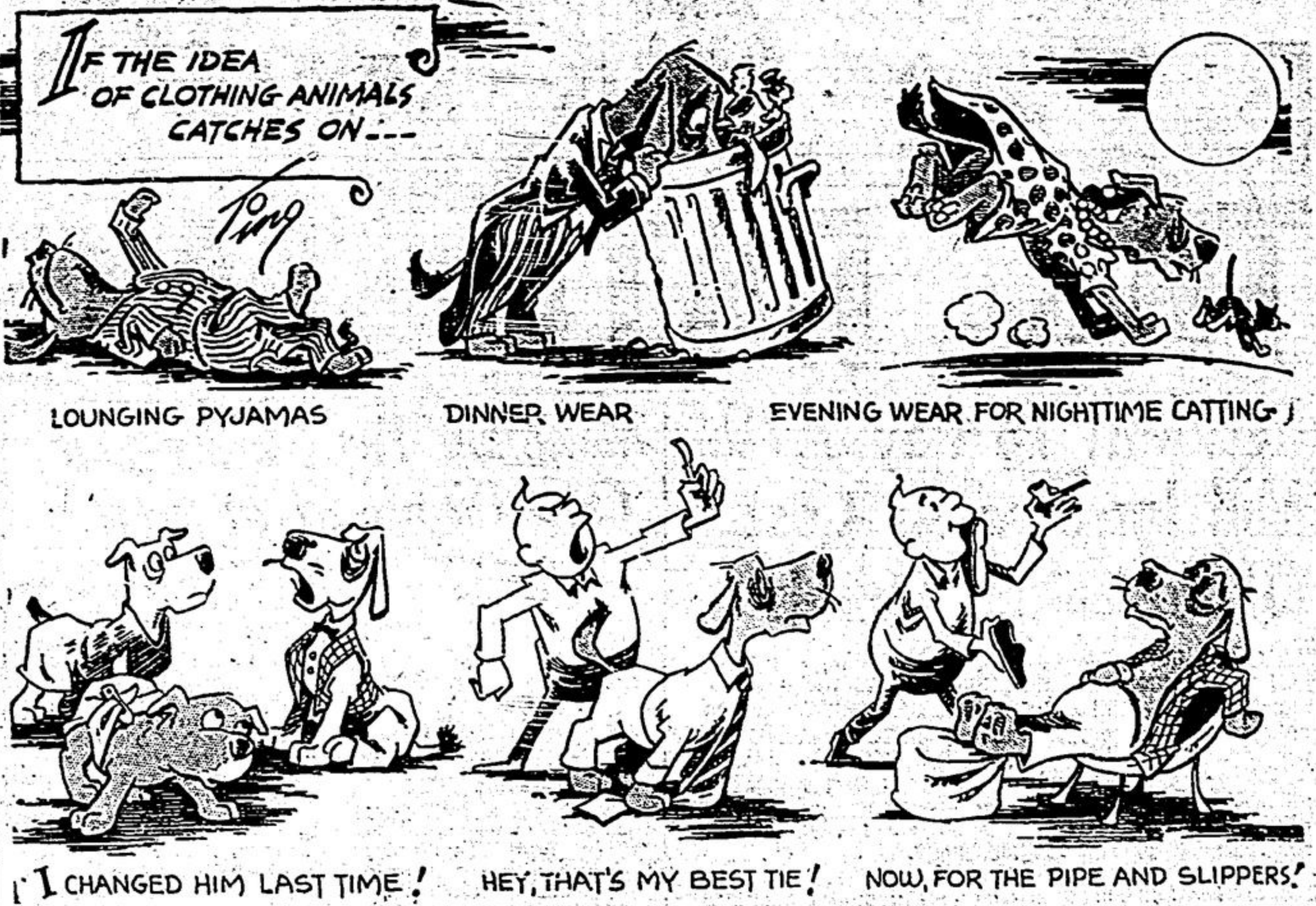
About five years ago the building for Orchard Park School was planned for grades one to six and kindergarten. It may have been thought, at the time, that a gymnasium was not a necessity for the students.

Last year, however, new additions were constructed to provide classrooms for students of grades

seven and eight, and the auxiliary class. The new facilities showed the increasing number of older public school students and the increasing need for physical training. Yet, there was no gymnasium included.

Since physical education is compulsory in high schools and the responsibility of physical training not only in the ability of the teacher, but also in the hands of the parents, the parents should promote a gymnasium. Emphasis regarding the matter could be shown at the Home and School meetings.

It seems, however, that people are afraid to put the physical training of their children ahead of a few more dollars on their taxes. The majority of the parents unfortunately do not realize the problem, and the training their children need before entering high school. Orchard Park Public School students will not get the proper physical training they need while growing unless that school gets a gymnasium.



## BY THE WAY

Although citrus fruit juice prices have soared in recent months, due, primarily to the severe frost damage to Florida groves, there is no need for consumers to panic. We can get all of our Vitamin C requirements from our own Canadian apple and tomato juices . . . so says the Consumer Section, Canada Department of Agriculture. Practically all of the apple juice on the market is vitaminized now, and it must contain definite standards of Vitamin C — three ounces of the juice will provide the daily requirement. Tomato juice has less Vitamin C than citrus juice but if you drink an 8-ounce glass you will get your daily quota.

The recent Florida fruit "freeze" has helped to point up the increasing trend among Canadians to purchase imported fruits and vegetables. For example, our per capita consumption of citrus fruits is one of the highest in the world, but our per capita consumption of apples is one of the lowest. This is hard to understand in an apple producing country like Canada. In 1960 our per capita consumption of citrus fruits, divided almost equally between fresh fruit and juice, was about 66 pounds. At the same time, apple consumption was only 27 pounds, of which 8 pounds was consumed as juice. If we ate apples at the same rate as we do citrus fruit, it would take care of the average Canadian crop. If we ate an apple a day, not only would we keep the doctor away, but production would have to be doubled to meet the demand. Something to think about isn't it?

Apples are good caloric investment for careful dieters. One medium-sized apple contains only about 60 calories. This not only satisfies the appetite for desserts, but provides the needed acids to aid good digestion. The sugar in the fruit is readily absorbed and supplies the body with energy. Apples also contain some minerals and vitamins. Because of their crisp texture, eating raw apples provides exercise for the jaws and at the same time helps to stimulate the gums and clean the teeth.

When apples are taken from our modern "controlled-atmosphere" storage plants, they are as good as the day they went in, so we can enjoy them at practically every season. However, after being in a cold temperature, they won't stay crisp and juicy very long if they aren't kept cool at home.

Why is it that we Canadians don't eat more apples? Surely we must be taking this faithful friend for granted. Or perhaps its importance is overlooked in the maze of attractive packaging and advertising of other products, all competing for our attention. Whatever the reason, it's time for us to take another look and eat an apple every day.

Does the Stouffville district need a musical festival? After listening to some of the classes last week at the Lions Third Annual Music Festival, I am convinced that we do indeed have a great deal of talent here. Perhaps no potential Glen Gould, or Teresa Stratas, though who knows? The contestants certainly impressed the adjudicators with the quality of their performance. Our teachers, both private and class instructors, are to be congratulated for the high standards resulting from their efforts.

But what happens to the folks who should have been there to encourage and support the competitors? And what happened to the competitors? In the Choral Singing and Choral

Speaking classes for urban or grade schools, our two local schools were well represented in most classes, but why was there no competition from Markham or other schools in the district? The only entry in Junior Church Choirs was from Central United Church at Unionville. No other junior church choirs in existence? What a shame!

When we are fortunate in having the adjudications of the calibre of Mr. Florence Aymong of Toronto University, Mr. Eldon Brethour and Mr. John Weatherseed of the Royal Conservatory of Music, all of whom adjudicate at major city festivals across Canada, it is disappointing to them, to the Lions Club and to the young artists, that there isn't greater interest and more competition in every class.

Quite apart from the advantages of public performance, festivals can be of tremendous value in improving the standard, or level of achievement, of both performer and teacher . . . the practicing of test material; the striving for perfection; the spirit of rivalry and then the criticisms and comments of the adjudicators, all combine to develop talent and artistry, and provide an objective to reach.

We heard some excellent talent last week. Too bad you weren't there to enjoy it too. Next year we'll look forward to more enthusiastic support and greater participation in this fine proving ground of musical achievement.

To justify my temerity in making these criticisms, I sign myself

Anne Ross—L.R.S.M.



A month from now it will be all over. Have you decided yet which way you're going to vote? It's tough, isn't it? The experts tell us there's only one real issue in this election — that of nuclear arms.

Well, I'm telling them right now, if they can't think of something a little brighter than that to vote for, or against, they needn't expect me to vote at all.

Let's say, just for the sake of argument, that I'm an ordinary Canadian voter, which I am, who is flatly opposed to nuclear arms for Canada, which I am. Who the heck am I going to vote for?

Diefendummer says we won't have any of these atrocities in Canada, sort of. But if a war starts, he'll blow his whistle and stop the play while we sent a couple of trucks down to Detroit or somewhere and pick up nuclear noses for those Boneheads or whatever they call them, that the Yanks unloaded on us. Makes me go all hot and cold when I think that I voted for that fellow one time.

Then there's Lesser Person. Lesser reminds me of the girl who sang in the choir and taught Sunday School, but took a drink one night on a sleighride and now dances third from the left in the chorus line at the Purple Garter. Lesser, who once remarked sensibly that he'd rather be red than dead, who once won the Nobel Peace Prize, now wants to press those hideous heads into the hot little hands of our gallant lads in uniform. How could I vote for him?

And of course we have that new party. Tweedledum vows that the party wouldn't touch nuclear arms with a 10-foot Tory. Tweedledee says the party will accept limited use of nuclear arms. Tweedledum says to Tweedledee, "Comment ça va, Bob?" (English translation, "How's that again, Bob?"). Tweedledee informs Quebec audience that the party wouldn't touch nuclear arms with an 11-foot Tory. I'd like them to be a little more explicit. Is it to be no nuclear arms for anybody, or just a sprinkling here and there or no nuclear arms for Quebec?

There's only one party left. It's been left for years, and will probably be left again on election day. The grinning leader of the Indecpees, somewhere in there among all the jokes, has stated unequivocally that his party is against nuclear arms at home or at school, at work or at play. Does this mean that, because it's the only party that agrees with me, I have to vote Socialist, whether I want to or not?

I told you this one-issue business was ridiculous. The sooner the politicians get back to some good, old-fashioned election issues, the sooner we'll all know where we're at. You know the sort of thing I mean: higher salaries for everybody and lower taxes for all; free dentures for everybody who believes in fluoridation; government subsidies for credit card carriers; free twist lessons for all over 80; a month's supply of oil, free, on April Fuel Day. We want something the voter can get his teeth into, not this tasteless, rubbery nuclear nonsense.

What about a shot in the arm for bilingualism, and thereby Canadian unity? More French in the schools would do it. And I don't mean text books. The party that promised it would import a few thousand Parisian models and plunk them on our teaching staffs would be doing more to create national unity than all the shredded wheat boxes printed in French and English between here and Trois Rivieres.

What I'm looking for is a straightforward party of the old school that will offer a solid program of the type we're familiar with: outlawing liquor and lowering the legal drinking age; free medical care for every man who can prove, in triplicate, that he's dying of an incurable disease; polygamy, with all household expenses to be shared equally by the working wives; a chicken in every Jaguar.

Nuclear arms my foot! If they keep up that foolishness, I'll vote (and I think I can swing my wife) for Mahatma Gandhi.

## The Stouffville Tribune

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