

Editorial

Next Monday Time of Decision

Next Monday, April 8th will be Canadians' time of decision, the date of one of the most important elections in Canadian history. Most Canadians are hoping that a majority government is at the helm following next week's vote-casting. However, present indications do not point to any party coming out with a clear mandate. Responsibility for this state of affairs can be taken by the lack of leadership at the national level and the divided nature of the Canadian electorate.

This writer has divided opinions as well — opinions both for and against Mr. Diefenbaker and Mr. Pearson. Prime Minister Diefenbaker had a real opportunity in 1958 to come up with some forceful leadership. He had an overwhelming majority and while much good legislation came out of the House, there was no positive direction by the government. The public reaction to this was to reduce the PC majority. On the second try, Mr. Diefenbaker again failed.

In his campaign, artful politics has been played to the full. The Prime Minister says the Bomarcas and other nuclear carriers acquired during the Conservative regime are no good, but in the next breath he says he is ready to negotiate for stockpiling across the border for the event of an attack. He says the budget was ready to bring before the House but on the day of dissolution he asked for more time to prepare the budget. He talks more and more of legisla-

tion which he had ready for approval but none of it was on the House agenda.

The resignation of his Cabinet Ministers cannot be passed over lightly. Should he be returned in a minority position we can see little chance for improvement, but a good chance that the PC party might sink to a new low.

And how about Mr. Pearson? The reaction he is getting at public gatherings is not entirely one of victorious enthusiasm. His performance as the opposition leader left much to be desired. We are always a bit leery of the power hunger of the Liberals which became so pronounced in the last year or two of their reign that the Canadian public gave them a thumping rejection in 1957. The public finds it hard to accept the Liberal attitude of "rule we must."

Nevertheless, the public may consider that two chances for Mr. Diefenbaker are enough and may well give Mr. Pearson the opportunity to show what he can do.

In the local ridings of York North and Ontario, Mr. Addison, Liberal, will be difficult to unseat until he is at least given one term to prove himself. Mr. Starr who has been a popular member of Mr. Diefenbaker's Cabinet, will likewise be hard to dislodge. What a stronger NDP vote which is expected in these heavy urban ridings will do to these sitting members, is anybody's guess, but we doubt it will be sufficient to upset either of them.

Lawyer McCallum Wasn't Fooling

When solicitor Jas. McCallum announced several weeks ago that he had obtained inside information pertaining to a pending change in the Provincial Assessment Act, there were many, including this writer, who felt he was merely delaying the dropping of the axe. Now it appears certain that Mr. McCallum was basing his suggested postponement of the Pickering Twp. Revision Court on fact and not a pipe dream.

Mr. T. D. "Tommy" Thomas, M.P.P. for the Oshawa Riding, speaking before a public gathering of the Rural Ratepayers Association last week agreed that amendments that would improve the position of the farmer were before the present sit-

ting of the Legislature. This information has also been supported by the Hon. W. J. Spooner, Minister of Municipal Affairs.

It must certainly be gratifying to Messrs. Elliott Harrington, Joe Tran, Reg. Hoskins, Fred Puckrin, Grant Burkholder and other members of the Pickering-Scarboro Farmers' Committee to see some results for their labours. As the Assessment Act was altered in 1962 to ease the tax burden on the part-time farmers, so it would appear that a change is on the way to aid the full-time rural landowner.

Here, once again, it has been proven that only by banding together can the farmer hope to have his problems aired and his grievances settled.

What Goes Up — Doesn't Always Come Down

The amount of poster advertising that has inundated the local landscape throughout the whole of North York Riding has aroused some criticisms among town and township residents during the past pre-election weeks. We are not quite sure what can be so offensive about these placards. We feel that they add a little touch of colour to an otherwise bleak election scene.

Anyone who has done much travelling south of the border knows that this type of publicity is put into constant practice. The posters do not publicize the people who have political

ambitions but merchandise and products. The roadside billboards promote everything from brasseries to brylcreem and to our knowledge, no government legislation has ruled it illegal.

We don't care if the candidates hang their nameplates from the tree-tops but we do think it only proper that they should be removed when election day is past. The Liberals' John Addison has promised to do this after April 8th as he did following his election last June. Who knows—the way things are going, all the bills and banners may be needed again before too long.

Not Such A Good Argument

A good many prominent citizens are quoted from time to time these days as stating that Canadians can either reduce their luxury spending or be prepared to pay more taxes.

Recently the statement was made by Senator Donald Cameron that Canadians spent \$719,000,000 on tobacco and \$921,000,000 on alcoholic beverages in a year.

"So long as we are spending more money on these two items than we are spending on education, then I think we are not in a position to say

that we are unable to meet the increasing costs of education," the Senator told his audience.

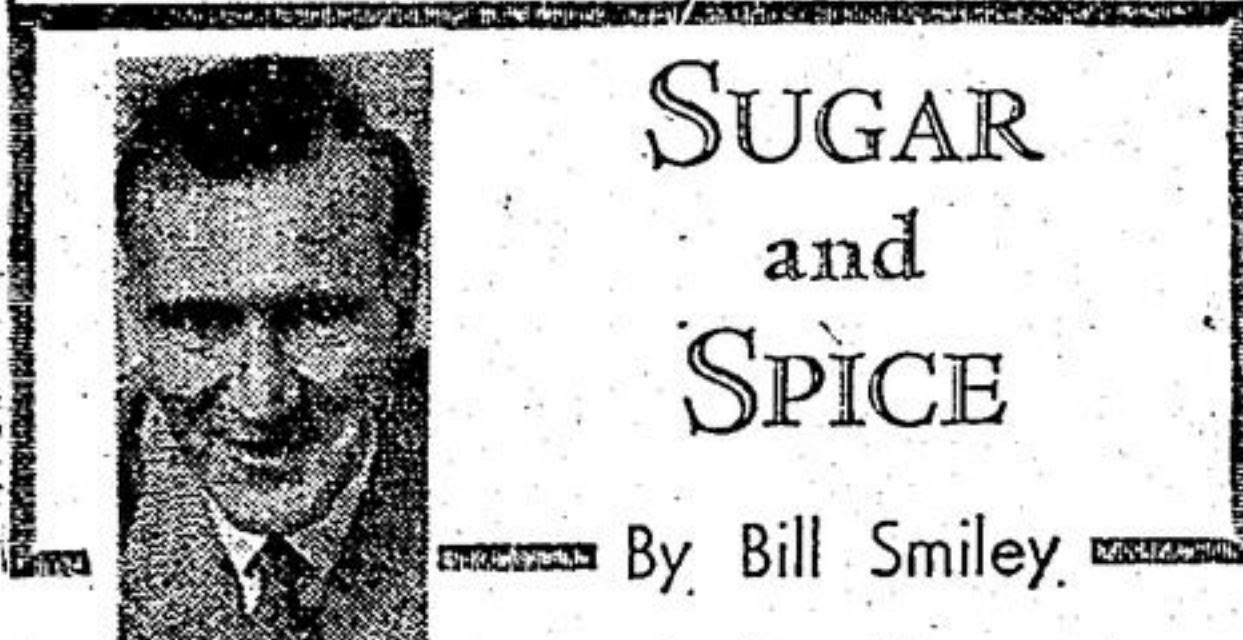
He was using an old argument which fails to become any more convincing by repetition.

Nearly four-fifths of what Canadians spend on liquor and more than half of what they spend on tobacco are taxes.

It could be that we Canadians smoke too much and drink too much, but if we didn't the governments would have to find substantial alternate sources of revenue.



BRAND "X" IS BEST - TRY IT MONDAY!



Something unprecedented, uncalled for, and unmistakable is happening to our good, gray Canadian people. Their feelings are showing.

One of the things I've always admired about us Canadians has been our dour lack of response to any of the usual standard emotional stimulants: Queen, country, flag, anthem, politics, religion.

Latin races are expected to be excitable, emotional, voluble and revolutionary. Nobody is surprised when a Teuton wants to beat you up one minute and sob over a song the next. Scandinavians are noted for their moodiness. Slavs are explosive. Asians form shouting mobs. Africans are unpredictable.

Not us. At least, we never were before. Compared to us, the Yanks have always been a wildly emotional nation. Even the British, who pride themselves on their reserve, are sloppy and sentimental compared to us. Or at least they used to be.

We have always been thorny, owly, surly, ornery, independent and deeply unenthusiastic people. We have been unimpressive, perhaps, but also unimpressed.

Other nations have had processions and parades. The people turn out in hundreds of thousands to cheer at the eop of their voices, wave flags, surge against the police lines.

We have had our parades, too. If it's not a nice enough day to go for a picnic, or play golf, or go fishing, or work in the garden, Canadians will turn out in their handfults for a parade.

They will stand in their scanty ranks, stonily watching anything from a prime minister to a Santa Claus parade. Occasionally, if it's the Queen or Winston Churchill or somebody of equivalent rank, there might be a gentle patting of handclapping. Once in a while, some eccentric will actually cheer—once little hurrah! He subsides immediately, horribly embarrassed, while everyone in his vicinity stares at him coldly.

In other countries, university students write poetry, join parties, man the barricades, march on the palace, die for their ideals. In this country, the university students write letters home for money, go to parties, man the bars, march to the folknik joints, and die at a ripe old age, usually for their high living.

But things are changing. The solemn, cynical Canadian is being swept out of his quiet backwater into the seething mainstream. His ink-like blood is abol. Strange, savage snarls are escaping his thin lips. Deep within him, a Beast is being aroused. He's prying up the stones of his patio to hurl at somebody, though he isn't quite sure who it is.

Gone is his decent reserve. Vanished is his phlegmatic calm. Ripped to ribbons is his ancient fear that somebody might think he was displaying emotion. A new, strange violence surges through his knotted veins. There's going to be terror in the land. I can feel it.

"Nonsense," you say. Oh, yes, I can hear you. "Piffle and poppycock," you sneer. All right, don't believe me. But don't say I didn't warn you.

Just take a look at your daily newspapers. It's all right there. Your fellow Canadians have gone haywire. "PM JEERED BY STUDENTS," says the headline. "HECKLERS DISRUPT MEETING," it says. "SPEAKER HOWLED DOWN," it gloats. Isn't that enough evidence for anybody? The Canadian public, famous for its total, soporific calm during election campaigns, is aroused. The tiger is loose.

Canadian standing up and asking questions at a political meeting, unless he was drunk? Can you imagine sensible Canadian voters cheering, except at a hockey game?

The 1963 election is going to go down in history. It may not solve anything, politically. But emotionally it will symbolize the time when the wild, free spirit of the Canadian people burst loose, and we were revealed for the tempestuous, exotic, romantic race we really are.

It's beautiful, somehow. And, somehow, sad. For generations there was nobody like us. And now we're just going to be like everybody else.

EDITOR'S MAIL

Aurora, Ont. Editor, The Tribune, Stouffville, Ont.

SIR: Has the Government left the country in such a mess? The Telegram of Feb. 5, states that the percentage work climb is the highest since 1949. (And which Party was in then?). This in spite of the coldest winter in 30 years and the New York newspaper strike, both of which affected our work forces, through no fault of the Conservatives. Last June Mr. Pearson and Mr. Addison were preaching from every stump in North York that devaluation would bring disgrace and economic

ruin. We don't hear much from them on this subject now. I wonder why? The fact is that Canada has, since these predictions, been leading in percentage increases in economic output of goods. Even President Kennedy has told his Congressmen that they had better watch Canada for leads in sustaining economy and prices. The Globe & Mail of Sept. 14 says: "The Canadian economy is rolling, and our net performance reflects great credit on the Government in Ottawa." Are these statements all wrong, and the Liberals alone correct? In these days of automation, the Diefen-

baker Government recognized and gripped the problem by offering to all Local School Boards one hundred percent financial assistance in building or adding to schools for Technical Training. Tangible evidence of this may be found in the schools of Sutton, Newmarket, King City, Markham, Stouffville, Thornhill and Bayview in North York alone, amounting to over seven million dollars. Dominion scholarships may be awarded to any student from these parts who shows promise, and such have been awarded in North York. While the Liberals have been promising, the Conservatives have gone ahead and done something about education. Canadians should think it over before they allow others to condemn our Government as "indecisive" or "do nothing," in the face of the facts. The Conservatives surely cannot be expected to undo or correct in five years the damage which the Liberals did in twenty-two.

R.K. Smith

The Editor, Stouffville Tribune, Stouffville, Ont. Dear Sir:

The confrontation between Kennedy and Khrushchev over Cuba on October 27, 1962, projected into stark reality the one critical issue for all governments and all peoples today: human survival. It is vitally important that this message be clearly understood. All other questions by comparison are either transient, or irrelevant or dishonest.

There is only one solution. The explosive situation where human survival depends on the sanity or emotional stability of two men, two fingers on two triggers, must be replaced by World Government. Only in this way may International Law be enforced by supra-national force. The rule of Law is the only answer to homicide be it single or mega-death. It is now no longer a question of whether we ought to have World Government, but how quickly can we make it work.

International Law backed by effective force is the only hope for rescuing a humanity otherwise doomed. In today's world of mega-tons, mega-deaths and overkill, all discussion of national defense in a Nuclear War is irrelevant and time-wasting.

Each voter should demand a clear answer from each candidate to this question: "What will you do to promote World Government as a first priority in your programme?" The answer to this question transcends party loyalty. It is simply not true that a multi-party parliament, without a clear majority, defeats the parliamentary system. There is no reason why "the boys in two or three backrooms" cannot reach agreement providing there is intelligence and integrity.

I would vote for anyone, irrespective of party, who clearly declared that human survival was the dominant issue today and promised primary effort toward the creation of World Government.

Otherwise we may well be caught fiddling with Bomarcas and Honest Johns when the world around us explodes.

Alan A. Klass, M.D.

Today there is no cure for leukemia, a cancer of the blood forming tissues, but the lot of the leukemia patient can be made more comfortable and his life can be prolonged. Further research to find the causes and a cure for leukemia will be made possible by your contribution to the Canadian Cancer Society.

Pain is seldom an early symptom of cancer. But many cancers can be detected by a doctor during a physical examination. More and more cancers are being caught at the earliest stages due to the educational programme of the Canadian Cancer Society.

By the way...

Anne Ross

Church choirs everywhere are busy practicing special music for Easter, and with the exception of some Christmas music, there is none, to my mind so beautiful as the Easter Cantatas, Oratorios and Chorales.

Of all the inspired, and inspiring music that has been written by the masters for the solemn commemoration of the crucifixion and the glorious promise of Easter, probably none is so well known throughout the Christian world as "The Messiah." Few of us have not been moved by the poignancy of such portions of the oratorio as "He Was Despised" . . . "Behold and See If There Be Any Sorrow Like Unto My Sorrow" and "Surely He Hath Born Our Griefs" . . . nor have we failed to exult with the triumphant "The Trumpet Shall Sound" . . . "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth" and the majestic "Hallelujah" chorus.

Most of us know little about the man who composed this tremendous musical masterpiece of the birth, passion and promise of Christ . . . altogether fifty-eight arias, recitatives and choruses, which he wrote in only 24 days, during which time he never once left his room, often forgetting to eat, at times mingling his tears with the ink on the pages of his manuscript.

George Frederick Handel was born in Halle, Lower Saxony, on February 23rd, 1685. His father, a combination surgeon-barber was so fearful that his son would slide down the social ladder and become a lowly musician that he kept young George out of school, lest he learn the notes of the scale. However, a kind friend smuggled a clavichord in the Handel attic where the boy, then only seven, tinkled away undetected until he had taught himself to play. Herr Handel need not have been so concerned, for his son enjoyed one of the most worldly as well as brilliant careers in musical history; made his fame and fortune in a foreign country; and when he died at the age of 74, was buried in the Poets' Corner of Westminster Abbey.

At 21, without patron or scholarship, he composed his way slowly through Florence, Venice, Rome and Naples. Most of his career was spent in England, where he dropped the German spelling of his name, and became a subject of King George I.

There was something about Handel that made the English admire and look up to him. This stolid, fleshy German seemed one of themselves in so many ways. He went about town in a velvet greatcoat and a fine ruffled shirt, carrying a walking stick with a knob of gold. He enjoyed the society of the rich and the great, and frequented their houses; but unlike most musicians of the subservient day and age, he never curbed his temper for them, and would swear at the ladies of the Prince of Wales' court if they chattered while he was conducting.

His early years in England were largely devoted to operas. He composed them, conducted them, and lost two fortunes producing them. Worn out at last by the battle against creditors, deserting singers, and shifting popular taste, Handel turned more and more from opera to oratorio. His religious feelings, while deep, were neither complicated nor mystical, and his religious music held significant appeal to people in every walk of life. However, it was not until he was 53 years of age, and had suffered a severe stroke that Handel came to write all his great oratorios — The Messiah, Judas Macca-baeus, Susanna, Solomon — which for the most part met with instantaneous acclaim. As he continued to pour out his masterpieces of sacred music, he worked against almost insurmountable adversities — his fingers could scarcely hold a pen . . . his eyesight was falling . . . his last years were spent in complete blindness.

When The Messiah was first performed, the audience, including the King, was so exalted by the Hallelujah chorus that it rose spontaneously to its feet. The custom of standing during that noble storm of song has continued unbroken in England to this day, and has extended to most parts of the world wherever this stirring anthem is performed. The words are an inspiration to Christian people everywhere — "Hallelujah The Kingdom of this world is become the Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever, King of Kings and Lord of Lords, Hallelujah!"

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If you're still confused by party claims and promises, yet are still planning to vote N.D.P. . . .

Ask Yourself These 3 Questions

1. Do I really believe in Socialism, in a party that advocates and means state control?
2. Do I believe Canada can and should withdraw from the Atlantic Defense Alliance — Communist's sole bulwark against Communist aggression?
3. Do I believe another minority government is good for Canada?

If you can answer "Yes" to all of these questions then it is your right and privilege to vote Socialist.

If your answer to any one of these questions is "No", you should vote for the one party which represents all parts of Canada - the Liberal Party - the only party which can gain a majority vote over the others, sufficient to govern. Vote ADDISON, John X

(Inserted by the York North Liberal Association)

GREEN RIVER

Mrs. Wm. McLeod of Aldergrove, B.C. is visiting with her sister and brother at Wilson's Park.

Mr. and Mrs. Allan Michell and family of Cannington and Mrs. D. Shank had dinner re-

cently at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Austin Pearce.

Miss F. Weeks has returned to her home in Toronto following a visit at the home of Mrs. P. Catterton.

Miss Ruth Hutchings was a guest at the O'Halloran-Dietz wedding on Saturday conducted

in the Armour Heights United Church, Toronto.

We are sorry to hear that Mr. R. Hamilton had the misfortune to break a number of ribs in an accident recently.

The Happy Hour will meet in the Sunday School room on Saturday afternoon at 1:30 p.m.

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