

Only As Strong As Her Mast

Roamin' Around...



Editorial...

Off On The Wrong Foot

It may be that a request put forward by a newly-organized ratepayers' group in Markham Twp. was mis-interpreted by the council at a meeting on Friday, but it was evident that it created resentment with councillor Cleary Palmer, and perhaps other members as well.

If we understood the submission correctly, the organization, to be known as the Markham Twp. Citizen's Committee, wishes to be briefed on the intentions of the council with respect to certain pending issues and problems.

If this is the expectations of this committee, then we feel that they are expecting too much. No council is obliged to divulge this type of information and we feel that it would be an improper policy and practice to start. One representative or the entire executive for that matter can

attend all public meetings and hear the discussion that revolves around issues of importance. It is common practice too, for minutes of all council and planning board meetings to be forwarded to the secretary of such groups and we feel this is fine. Anything more, in our view, would be out of line.

Members of such organizations should realize that a council is not obligated to any individual or group of individuals. As well-meaning as they might be, any exertion of pressure is resented and only leads to hard feelings and bitterness.

We have seen many ratepayers' organizations come and go. The majority have killed themselves by dictating rather than suggesting their plans before council. We wish this group well but our impression on Friday was that their first step was off on the wrong foot.

Acting Childish

The raising of Canada's new Maple Leaf Flag, an act officially recognized after Monday, Feb. 15th, has aroused some controversy in several municipalities. What should be regarded as an important chapter in our country's history has, in some centres, been handled like something sinister and foreboding.

The childish behaviour that occupied the time of Parliament for so many days and weeks has settled in on some lower levels of government, making them look even more immature.

Whether the new flag should be raised at all. Others have agreed to carry out this duty with as little fanfare as possible. We feel that such an attitude is nothing more than disgraceful and persons so biased should be ashamed.

The trouble with many Canadians is that we have no real pride in our country. You can bet if the Stars and Stripes was being inaugurated in the United States, it would be a red letter day on every calendar. In Canada, it's treated like a day of mourning. And we wonder why we do not remember Sir John A. Macdonald?

How Much Weight Will Ice Hold?

It's wise — and could save your life — to know just how much certain thicknesses and types of ice can hold — before you trust your weight upon it.

Slush ice, for example, is only half as strong as clear blue ice. Clear river ice is 15% weaker than clear lake ice.

A sudden application of brakes on a fast-moving vehicle will increase its weight pressure on the ice in proportion to the rate of decrease in speed of travel. Continuous travel over the same area of ice will weaken it, much like metal in springs, so that it gradually loses its original

strength.

Following are ice strength figures tabulated by the Lumbermen's Safety Association showing what maximum weights various thicknesses of ice should be able to carry:

Inches of Ice	Safe Load
2	1 person on foot
3	Group in single file
7 1/2	Car (2-ton gross)
8	2 1/2-ton truck (gross)
10	3 1/2-ton truck (gross)
12	8-ton truck (gross)
15	10-ton
20	25-ton
25	45-ton
30	70-ton
36	110-ton

If Canada Annexed The U.S.

One of the current topics on the international griddle is the proposed amalgamation of the United States and Canada. It isn't exactly new. It has been suggested before. Most recently, however, Ed Lamb of Toledo, a man with a hand in many business operations in the U.S.A. and in Canada, made a speech in which he advocated such a merger. He said annexation was the answer.

"I was in Canada for a few days recently and asked some Canadian friends what they thought about annexation. Strangely enough, they seemed resigned to it. They consider annexation to be inevitable and have roughed-out some thoughts on the matter.

"For example, they are pretty well agreed that Texas should be a separate province instead of being grafted to one of the present-day provinces. This will make 11 separate units of government in the new alignment.

"Otherwise, the Canadians told me, they are willing to extend the borders of their provinces straight down to the southernmost tip of what we now call our United States.

"Thus, Cleveland would become part of Ontario and Quebec would inherit most of New England and New York City. This is based on the supposition Quebec still would be part of Canada at the time Canada annexes

the United States. If Quebec, in the meantime, seceded from Canada, then presumably it would operate as an independent nation, like Mississippi.

"Annexation of the United States would mean some rearrangement, of course, otherwise most of the provinces would be bottom-heavy, speaking of the geographical weight of population. Most of the Western Provinces would be light at the top, the northern end. This would make it necessary to relocate millions of people in order to even up things. The entire State of Kansas, for example, may be transplanted into one of the upper Territories.

"The seat of Government naturally will remain at Ottawa except for the winter months, when it will be transferred to Mobile, Alta. A far-Western branch of the Government would maintain quarters at Los Angeles. Washington, D.C., would be preserved as a huge museum.

"There would be no language problem because United States residents already have a working knowledge of English. The baseball situation would be clarified because baseball would be supplanted as the national game by ice hockey.

"All in all, my Canadian friends were of the opinion annexation was none of their business but if we were in such desperate shape as to need it, they would co-operate by taking us under their wing."

Parents Get Ammunition for Driving Offspring

Parents are continually being badgered by their children for permission to drive the family car, and last week were provided with some good rebuttal ammunition by a large insurance company.

The survey suggests that only a limited use of automobiles by students is desirable, otherwise school marks suffer.

School proficiency, it said, drops when the car is used more than two days of five during the week. On the other hand, it showed that students who do not drive at all, or those whose driving is limited to weekends,

have the best grades.

This firm urges parents to be firm in restricting their children's use of automobiles, to ensure that studies come first, and in addition, that the prospective young driver gets proper driving training. Their figures showed that students who passed proper driver-training courses have 50% fewer accidents than the untrained of the same age.

"It's up to the parents to keep cars and school work in their proper perspective and to provide the guidance and example in the use of the car," insurance officials say.

SUGAR AND SPICE

by Bill Smiley



FROM EVERYWHERE THEY COME

I've had a preview of what I'm going to feel like when my fighter is married. I've just been through two piano recitals. Not by Glenn Gould, or Van Cliburn, or Arthur Schnitger. No. By Hugh Smiley.

Marrying off your daughter must be just like it. A heady brew of emotion and exhaustion, bills and bouquets, that leaves you feeling like a caterpillar that has been run over, but not quite killed, by a tractor.

In short, you wind up absolutely flat, but rather proud that you're not dead.

The first recital was at the Conservatory, in the city. We picked the date six weeks before. And, boy, can we pick 'em. It was 18 below zero. And the humidity and wind gave it a discomfort index of 47 below.

The Old Girl was sick. Physically, mentally, spiritually. I was sick sympathetically. We figured 35 relatives, tried and true and five friends to whom I owed money, would turn up.

Bless the human race, and all dear friends. We had 150 bodies in the place, straggling in, on such a night, from all over the country. Some made a round trip of 500 miles to hear the kid play.

It was a curious combination of characters in the audience. Basic were the relatives who live in the city, and their friends. They made up the two score we had expected.

But then they started to trickle in: old college friends; old fighter pilots; old weekly editors; my son's former public-school principal; the chap who has the mortgage on my house; the fellow who handles my column; the orthodontist who straightens my daughter's teeth; a girl I hadn't seen since we went skinny-dipping at a beach party 20 years ago. And they all, bless them, brought their wives, and or husbands, children and friends.

Last but not least came my sisters. One drove for 6 hours, in 20-below weather, with her daughter, to make it. The other came the same distance by train, with two kids. Neither knew the other was coming. Neither had seen the great artist since he was picking-up-and-kissing size.

It was heart-warming, to say the least. And I was a very proud father and husband, when it was over. A proud father because my son showed a poise and polish I wish I'd had at that age, and a competence I've never had at any age. A proud husband, because my wife had crawled out of what she claimed was her death-bed; to get there, and looked better than anybody, despite the facts that she's lived with me for 18 years, and coached the kid for ten.

Next day at noon, we hiked for home, 90 miles, and went through the whole thing again that night. A recital in the home town: It was not 20 below, for a change. It was 30 below. But 500 people left their television sets, and shivered through the knifing night to hear my young virtuoso, as he doesn't like to be called.

What impressed me most about the whole weekend was the kindness of people. My sister-in-law wanted to hold a reception for the whole mob, in the city. Our neighbor insisted on making the sandwiches for the bash at home. Even my wife got carried away and told me, during one lapse, that I was a good husband and father, which shook me up a bit.

The only thing that's bothering me is the kid's attitude. One of my misguided friends sent him a bottle of champagne. A dear lady sent him ten bucks. And perhaps worst of all, he got a clutch of fan mail.

After the weekend, we had a heavy fall of snow. I told him to get out and shovel the driveway. I handed him a shovel. He handed it right back and asked, "How many fan letters did you get this week, Pops?" I shovelled.

Editor's Mail

Stouffville, Ont. Feb. 15, 1965.

The Editor, Stouffville Tribune.

Dear Mr. Editor,

That great man, the late Sir Winston Churchill had many things to say on many subjects and when he spoke the world listened.

In this day when there is a systematic and deliberate attempt to discredit the Bible, when it is being taught that Genesis is composed of myths or parables, it is very revealing and heartening to read what Britain's greatest statesman, Sir Winston Spencer Churchill had to say on this very matter. He wrote as follows:

"We reject with scorn all those learned and labored myths that Moses was but a legendary figure upon whom the priesthood and the people hung their essential social, moral and religious ordinances. We believe that the most scientific view, the most up-to-date and rational conception will find its fullest satisfaction in taking the Bible story literally. We may be sure that all these things happened just as they are set out according to Holy Writ. We may believe that they happened to people not so very different from ourselves, and that the impressions these people received were faithfully recorded, and have been transmitted across the centuries with far more accuracy than many of the telegraphed accounts we read of goings-on today. In the words of a forgotten work of Mr. Gladstone, we rest with assurance upon 'The Impregnable Rock of Holy Scripture.' Let men of science and learning expand their knowledge, and probe with their researches, every detail of the records which have been preserved to us from those dim ages. All they will do is to fortify the grand simplicity and essential accuracy of these recorded truths which have so far lighted the pilgrimage of man."

(Quoted in Bible Handbook by Halley, (page 151). Sincerely, M. E. Batt

RINGWOOD

A number of folk attended the opening of the new "First Baptist" church in Aurora, on Sunday afternoon. A former member of the Sunday school and church, Rev. Dana Flyer is the minister of this church.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Steckley and family of Hamilton spent Saturday with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Steckley to celebrate his dad's birthday.

Mrs. Tom Forsyth, formerly of this village, passed away in London, Ont. on Saturday. The funeral was on Monday afternoon from O'Neils Funeral Home. Sympathy is extended to the family on the passing of a one-time neighbour.

Mrs. Jos. Fockler visited her mother, Mrs. Harry Preston, Pine Orchard on Sunday afternoon.

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A sure sign that spring is on the way, is the appearance of extended auction sale registers in The Tribune. Of the five listed last week, four are in this area, and all should attract record crowds. The first, on the Moses Norton farm, lot 11, conc. 4, Uxbridge Twp. will lead things off on Thursday, Feb. 25th. This property has been in the Norton name for the past 70 years. The 100 acres has been sold to John Kaplyn of Willowdale and surveys have already been completed to divide the land into 10 acre building lots. Mr. and Mrs. Norton will move to Claremont. Norm Faulkner will handle the gavel at this one and bidding will begin at 1 o'clock with the furniture to go at 4. The list of items looks excellent including a like-new Massey Ferguson tractor and many pieces of farm equipment. Cows, heifers and pigs will pass over the auction block plus a 1/2 ton '63 Chev. truck, driven only 4,000 miles. In case you become cold, hungry or thirsty, the U.C.W. of the 5th Line will look after your needs.

The next auction swings south to the farm of John and Rod Torrance, at the corner of conc. 10, Markham and Hwy. No. 7, on Tuesday, March 2nd. Ken and Clarke Prentice of Markham are in charge and the sale will begin at 12 o'clock noon. Possession of this property in the Torrance family goes back to 1917 with Alex Torrance and now his son, John and grandson, Rod. The remaining 13 acres has been sold to Dr. Richard Allman of Toronto. The rest has been split into 10 acre lots. Mr. and Mrs. John Torrance will take up residence in Locust Hill. Mr. and Mrs. Rod Torrance already live in a spacious new home on the farm, fronting on No. 7. A total of 65 head of registered and grade Holstein cattle will be sold plus about ten young cattle. The equipment includes a 36-cv electric bulk cooler, tractors, a combine and many other items of first class machinery.

The following day, Wednesday, March 3rd, a large auction is listed for the farm of Charlie Reynolds, conc. 7, Pickering Twp. Mr. Reynolds holds the crown deed on the 225 acres that dates back to Sept. 4, 1860. His father, Fred, purchased the property in 1921. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds will take up residence in Stouffville. When Mr. Reynolds claims he has everything from the day of the Indian, he means just that. He has retained several old Indian stones that were once used in the grinding of corn. Walter Atkinson is the auctioneer and, in spite of the 12 noon starting time, it will take some fast talking to finish it up in half a day. In addition to a large herd of Holstein cattle, the list of machinery is extensive and includes no less than four tractors, a combine, baler, hay conditioner, 2 spreaders, power hay mower and many other articles too numerous to mention. Several items of farm equipment are nearly new. Two auctioneers will be set up to handle the cattle at 3 p.m. The furniture will go at two o'clock. A refreshment booth will be set up on the grounds.

On Thursday, March 18th, Walter Atkinson will once again enter the auction ring to take the sale on the Gordon Wagg farm, lot 1 conc. 10, Whitechurch Twp., 1/4 mile east of Stouffville. Here, the cattle will provide a big attraction with 70 head of registered Holsteins up for bids. In addition, buyers will be eyeing the new self-propelled combine and hay conditioner plus a power mower, power fertilizer drill and many other good pieces of machinery. The property has been sold to Mr. Frank Vivian. Mr. and Mrs. Wagg and family have already taken up residence in their new home, just east of town.

Several residents in the Greenwood community peered from their living room windows on Thursday morning of last week to observe the rhythmic gait of Pastor Fleetham, walking gracefully down the centre of the ice-coated road, a Bible grasped firmly in one hand and an umbrella held high in the other. The mystery of the reverend's sure-footed balance was solved when it was observed that he was actually wearing skates and striding out like a veritable Donald Jackson.

The gale-force winds on Friday toppled one of the light standards from a pillar at the entrance to the Stouffville Memorial Park.

We've all been involved in minor accidents from time to time but Ronald Rutledge of North Gwillimbury doesn't believe in picking on any ordinary, every-day driver when he collides with a car. Last Thursday he backed his loaded gravel truck up on Main Street in Markham and when he heard the ominous sound of crumbling metal and breaking glass, he jumped from the cab to observe the damage. There, in startling reality, was the village cruiser with P. C. Rod Junkin behind the wheel.

Fifteen year old Rita Busato, a grade 10 student, is the new Posture Queen of Stouffville Dist. High School. She was so honoured on Friday night at a Valentine Dance in the school auditorium. Rita resides on the 10th conc. of Markham Twp. Her favourite subjects are French and Math. She plans to complete grade 13 but, has yet, not finalized her chosen profession. She studies piano. Rita has three brothers, Frank, 17, Bob, 12, Jim, 9 and two sisters, Helen, 19 and Anne, 10 months.

If you are one of those who has neglected to purchase your new '65 licence plates, remember there are only eight days left. Mrs. Marion Murphy is the local issuer at 311 Main St. E. Standing room sales will begin on Saturday, Feb. 27th. If you're wise, you'll not be caught in the lineup. I just hope someone comes around with the coffee and doughnuts while I'm standing there.

Two of the most recent members on the Whitechurch Twp. Police Department have come in for words of commendation from Chief Wm. J. Langdon of Aurora. P.C. Ronald Rankine and P.C. Darwin Paradis were on routine patrol along Yonge Street when they observed two men leaving a service station. They decided to question the pair and subsequently learned that they had broken into the premises. The incident occurred during the early hours of the morning. Their alert action was praised by Whitechurch Chief, Fred Mason.

Speaking of the Whitechurch Twp. Police Department, the annual report prepared by Chief Mason and covering seven months of activity shows no less than 1,969 bottles of liquor were confiscated by the force from June to December. This figure includes 1,921 bottles of beer, almost enough for the department to establish their own brewer's warehouse in Van-dor.

Stouffville's own Polly Minton took part in the "Clippers" practice session on Sunday afternoon and looked pretty spry despite his lengthy layoff. He and others from the 1951-52 Champion team will stage a comeback on Thursday, Feb. 25th against the Junior lads. It should be quite a contest.

While on the subject of hockey, we received a brochure from Harry Watson of Markham, Chief Instructional Supervisor and Co-ordinator at the Tam O'Shanter Summer Hockey School near Agincourt. Since quite a number of local lads attended this course last year, we will pass on this information. The camp, for boys 8 to 18 years, will function from July 2nd to Sept. 3rd. There is also evening instruction on a monthly basis. The fee, that includes sleeping accommodation, meals, hockey instruction and all facilities on the grounds is \$65 for 1 week and \$240 for 4 weeks. For the entire 9-week season, the cost is \$500. Such names as Bruce Hyland, Harry Watson, "King" Clancy, Kent Douglas, John Henderson and Jim Pappin are connected with this organization. With every application, each boy will receive a zippered hockey equipment bag. The activities are too numerous to mention in this column but it sounds like good, clean fun and recreation for any boy during the summer vacation period.

Markham's Bob Galbraith has been in and out of court so many times within recent years that he probably has difficulty in keeping his diary up to date. A rather regrettable incident occurred last week when he appeared in Richmond Hill Court on a public mischief charge and later learned that he should have been in Toronto on an appeal case that had been scheduled several weeks before. The Judge, sitting in on the appeal, ruled that he should be re-arrested and he is presently serving the remainder of his six month sentence.

Stouffville Road Foreman, Elgin Wagg and his assistant, Eddie Grimas will be hoping that they have seen the last ice storm of the current winter season. Elgin put in a total of 17 sleepless hours on the job while Eddie worked non-stop for 16 hours on the next shift.

The home of Dr. and Mrs. A. T. O'Connor, Glad Park Ave. has been "blessed" with the arrival of twins — twin lambs. The pair are currently thriving on a formula of bottled corn syrup, eggs and milk, one feeding every two hours. The chore has become a family project with even the children, Karen, Kevin, Chris and Mary Angela taking a turn, at least until the novelty wears off.

The Markham Chrysler-Dodge Co. has commenced the construction of their new garage and showroom building, west of their present site on No. 7 Hwy.