

"Yoo Hoo! Guess Who? It's Me! I'm Back!"

Editorial . . .

Many Have Confidence Shaken

There is no question that confidence in the leadership of the United States has never reached such a low ebb as today. Even in a small town such as ours, since modern communication has brought day by day world affairs to our doorstep, one hears street corner talk which is anything but complimentary to our neighbor to the south. Since even we who are so closely bound to the Americans by race, geography and economics, are having our doubts about the quality of their leadership, it cannot be surprising that the underdeveloped countries such as the African states are quite alarmed. They are apprehensive even though they have received massive aid from the United States.

Serious minded people in the

West as well as those behind the Iron Curtain have been shaken by American action.

More and more there is mention of the American president's inability to get along with the press, both at home and abroad. He becomes irritated and impatient with their questions and seems to overlook the fact that these newsmen and women represent the public both at home and abroad.

While there has been little in the way of actual facts come out of the meeting, it seems apparent that these attitudes were encountered by our own Prime Minister Pearson when he recently approached the President with what most believed to be sensible suggestions for easing world tension.

Closing The Poorest Schools First

Although plans by the four local area boards to close down several one-room schools in Markham, Pickering, Whitchurch and Uxbridge Twps., may not find favour with all ratepayers, we believe that the policy adopted by the trustees is a good one. The shutdown at the end of the June term will take place at schools where conditions are unsatisfactory or enrollments are small.

We visited some of these properties last week and, for the most part, we agree that a major move of this kind is overdue.

It would appear that the boards

are reluctant to close schools where additions have been recently erected or where interior improvements have been made. The life of these buildings, at least for the present has been spared.

The trustees in the four areas have taken on a big chore and, in only five months have much to show for their work. How the ratepayers will take to the current trend will be better known next December. So far, their actions that would have raised a storm of protest two years ago, have been accepted with no noticeable signs of complaint.

Spectators Make The Game

On Sunday, June 6th, Intermediate baseball will return to the Stouffville Park. Ajax will provide the opposition in a regular league game.

The revival of Intermediate ball here will bring back several over-age juniors plus a few of the boys who once called it quits after competition became something less than competitive.

Don Haynes and Rodger Todd have been two of the main sparkplugs behind the re-organization of the Intermediate Club and their efforts will not have been in vain if local fans will give the team their support.

During the past few seasons,

summer sports in Stouffville have dropped to a low ebb. This was not due entirely to a lack of interest among spectators but due to the fact that there was no one to play against. With both Junior and Intermediate ball here this summer, the park should be buzzing with activity all season.

Remember, the Juniors make their home debut against Port Hope on Monday evening, May 31st at 7 p.m. The Intermediates will go against Ajax on Sunday afternoon, June 6th at 2 p.m. Spectator interest makes an interesting game. Try to attend.

Conservation Park Is Taking Shape

On Sunday afternoon, we paid a brief visit to the former Bruce property in Markham Township, the site of one of the region's newest Conservation Areas.

The location is ideal for the intended purpose with a nature-made stream, bush and picnic area. A large dam has been constructed, forming an artificial lake. A main road is in the making that will provide an entrance or exit onto the Markham-Whitchurch townline. Nothing has been done to re-activate the old water-powered grist mill. This will likely take place in the future when

the necessary funds are made available.

An official of MTRCA announced recently that the Bruce Area would be opened to the public this year. We feel he's overly-optimistic. There is still a great amount of work to be done and it would be sheer folly to open the gates at a pre-mature stage of completion. A mass cleanup offensive could alter this view, however.

We feel that the Bruce Park is a wonderful project, only a stone's-throw from Stouffville. If dad grows tired of picnicking with the kids, he can always shoot a 9-hole game of golf on the course next door.

Eye-Opening Comparison

Last week, the Police Committee of Markham Twp. Council made public some facts and figures that proved extremely interesting to us and likely to many readers also. It was a comparison of per capita cost of police services in Markham and other municipalities in the Province.

In each case, Markham's per capita rate was less, including areas served by the O.P.P. When we say less, we mean over \$5.00 per capita under that of the total municipal and

O.P.P. expenditures and almost \$3.00 per capita less than municipal forces only in Ontario.

To the average ratepayer, a budget total of \$106,000 seems like a lot of money, and it is. But when one considers that the Markham Twp. Department has a staff numbering 19 full-time men-plus cruisers and equipment, the figure is by no means out of line. By comparison, on a per capita basis, Markham folk should consider themselves rather fortunate.

Compulsory Road Checks Good Idea

The beginning of compulsory vehicle checks is one of the best campaigns yet instituted in the cause of road safety. Highway safety weeks and other publicity campaigns have not been too successful, and certainly something is needed with more teeth in it.

Defective cars and careless drivers cause accidents. Mechanical defects are more easily detected than those in drivers, but it makes a good starting point. Current plans will keep these checks going until July 23rd when the results will be assessed. The advertising of this closing date may not be such a good idea. Let the checks continue indefinitely so that owners of jalopies of question-

able worth may not hide out until it is safe to take to the roads again.

Certainly the time is past for voluntary tests just as it is past for voluntary breathalyzer tests. The carnage on the highways certainly warrants some real compulsion. These steps could be followed by the passage of a law requiring all vehicles to have an adequate amount of insurance before they are permitted to use the roads.

This latter move will require some real-political courage, although it could be less right now than government members believe. It is hard to believe that any party, or any large percentage of the motoring public, would oppose such a measure.



NEW POSTAGE STAMP PROGRAM LAID OUT FOR 1966

Eleven commemorative postage stamps will be issued by Canada in 1966. This announcement was made today by the Honourable Rene Tremblay, Postmaster General.

The series featuring the official flowers and armorial bearings of the provinces and territories will be concluded next year. Alberta and Saskatchewan will be honoured on January 19th and the newest province, Newfoundland will be commemorated on February 23. Florals for the Yukon and Northwest Territories will be issued on March 23rd.

Mr. Tremblay explained that this sequence is one of the ways in which the Post Office Department is marking the Centennial. The series began on May 14th, 1964, when the Maple Leaf Unity stamp appeared. Ontario and Quebec were featured on June 30th, 1964, followed by Nova Scotia and New Brunswick on February 3rd, 1965. Prince Edward Island will be similarly honoured on July 21st, 1965.

The three hundredth anniversary of the arrival of La Salle in Canada will provide the subject for another 1966 issue. The stamp will go on sale April 20th. May 18th has been selected as the date of issue for a stamp to focus attention on Highway Safety. The Postmaster General explained that traffic deaths are increasing alarmingly each year and expressed the hope that this issue will serve to make people more aware of this needless tragedy.

Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy will be the theme of a stamp to appear July 20th. The date was chosen to coincide as closely as possible with the opening of the CANDU reactor at Douglas Point, Ontario which has been scheduled for the summer of 1966.

The third stamp in a series honouring the major steps which culminated in Confederation will go on sale September 7th. The London Conference will be the subject. The first such meeting honoured by the Post Office was the Charlottetown Conference, featured on a postage stamp which went on sale July 29th, 1964. The Quebec Conference issue was released on September 9th, last year.

For the third consecutive year Canada will have Christmas stamps in 1966. Mr. Tremblay explained that they will be of the three cent and five cent denominations, the most commonly used for Christmas cards and letters.

All these stamps, except the three cent Christmas issue will be five cents in value.

Two farm boys who had never been far from home enlisted in the army and were on their way overseas. As their ship left harbor, they stared in amazement at a lighthouse.

"I'll be darned, Tommy," said one finally, "isn't that one heck of a place to put a silo."

SUGAR AND SPICE by Bill Smiley



MAKES YOU WONDER . . .

Is everything cut-and-dried, black-and-white, for you? Or do you sometimes wonder? I do. Here are some of the things I wonder about. Maybe you can supply the answers.

What is it about spring that turns normally tolerant, sweet-faced, mild-eyed women into tail-twitching, yellow-eyed tigers who prowl the premises in a perpetual rage, snarling, "Lift that barge, tote that bail, wash those windows, paint that trim?"

Second question. Why are normally devil-may-care, lion-hearted chaps, who would mix it up with an adult male gorilla if they didn't like the look on the ape's face, frightened white, at this time of year, by these 110-pound tigers?

How do you tell a nice mother, wearing rose-coloured glasses, that her son, whom she insists is going to be a brilliant surgeon, will be lucky if he catches a job at the supermarket meat counter?

Why does the sun beat down unmercifully when I wear a raincoat while trout fishing? And why, when I don't take a raincoat, and the inevitable cloudburst comes, am I always a mile and a half down the stream from my car?

What kind of nuts is the world producing these days? First example. The other night there was a teenage rumble near here. Police and firemen broke it up. One kid was handcuffed and stuffed in the police car. The cops jumped out to aid fellow officers. The kid jumped out the other side, presumably to aid himself. Four days later, he turned himself in, still handcuffed. What did he do during those four days? I mean, did he ever try to . . . uh . . . well, you get the idea?

Second example. May be you read this in the paper. Fellow named George Wilson was arrested. Why? Because he had just thrown Harold Wilson (no relation) through a plate-glass window. As Harold lay there in his own blood, he protested vigorously the arrest of George. "Hey! You can't do that! He's my buddy." Figure that one out.

What, short of going up and strangling the lot, can I do about the black squirrels who hold bowling matches, foot races, country-style hoedowns, and hootenannies in my attic, in the dead of night, every night?

Why are 14-year-old daughters so dreadful? They are sullen, sulky, stubborn, slouchy, grouchy, pouty, resentful. They fight with their mothers. They wreck the third pair of nylons in three days. They weep wildly at the slightest admonition.

Why are 14-year-old daughters so wonderful? (This is the next day.) They are sunshine, not showers. They are helpful, not hopeless. They are sweet, and shy and funny and full of vitality and eager to learn and idealistic and you wonder what you did to deserve such a bundle of blessedness.

Why do 17-year-old sons think their parents should be put in wheelchairs and trundled off to an institution for the feeble-minded? And why do they get that long-suffering look when dad is telling them something extremely important, like how hard he used to work in school? And why do they laugh tolerantly when mother, whom they tower over, is dispensing pearls of wisdom, like if you don't get enough sleep you won't grow up to be big and strong and wise like your father?

Why do wives think their cancer, or their heart attack, or arthritis, or piles, or whatever they have every morning at breakfast, is so much more serious than the genuine ailments of the poor wretch hiding behind his paper, across the table?

And why do all wives, everywhere, think they can't trust their husbands with liquor; other women, the children's upbringing, or the best china?

This is the age of questionnaires. I'm sure you have some of your own.

Send them along, and we'll make up the first sensible questionnaire in the 20th Century, even if nobody in the world knows the answers.

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Roamin' Around . .

George Prentice, an 18 year old grade 13 student, is one of Markham Dist. High School's foremost athletes. His first love is the pole vault and on May 19th at the Eckardt Meet held in Aurora, he soared to a height of 11 ft. 3 1/2 inches. At 5 ft. 11 and 160 pounds, he has the perfect athletic build with broad shoulders, muscular arms and strong legs. For George Prentice of Markham, it's been a great comeback. For it was back on July 6th, 1959, that a tragic accident on the Kennedy Road, south of Unionville, almost ended his athletic and academic career before it really started. While delivering papers on his regular route, he was struck down by a hit-and-run driver. George and a companion, Douglas Norris were left for dead in a roadside ditch as the motorist sped on. He was 12 years old at the time. He suffered a fractured wrist, 2 fractured leg, a broken pelvis, a collapsed lung and a bruised kidney. For a week he remained on the critical list in the Sick Children's Hospital, Toronto. Aside from a four inch scar on his left arm, George appears none the worse for his experience, a case described "as one of the most callous" ever to come before the courts. "I can still remember it well," he recalled, "he came across the road right at us." He suggested that a newspaper bag slung over his shoulder absorbed a portion of the impact. He was able to give police a good description of the vehicle and the driver was arrested a few hours later. George claims that the injuries suffered six years ago have, in no way hampered his athletic endeavours. His brother, John, is also an accomplished track star. He placed second in the Senior 880 yards in the Georgian Bay Finals at King City on Saturday and will represent Markham High at the All-Ontario Meet in East York on May 29th. They are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Clarke Prentice, No. 48 Hwy., north of Markham. Due to major construction at the school site, no pole vaulting pits are available. George has done most of his practicing at home. "I don't have much time," he admitted "final exams begin on June 8th." Following graduation, he has his mind set on a course in engineering at the University of Waterloo. George will not attend the All-Ontario finals this Saturday. Although he placed second in the Sr. pole vault at King City, he was required to match the qualifying mark of 10 ft. 8 inches. His best was five inches short. "Things just didn't go right," he said, "I guess it was just one of those days." He offered no excuses. "I guess I've come to the end of the line as far as high school competition is concerned," he said, "It's surprising how fast the time goes." For 18 year old George Prentice, the end of the line could have come back on July 6th, 1959. He couldn't be beaten then and still possesses that same will to win. He's a credit to his school.

While on the subject of sports, it's interesting to note that a young Thornhill girl by the name of Carol Martin tossed the discus a total distance of 125 ft. 5 inches in the Intermediate class at the Eckardt Meet in Aurora. She beat the best of the Sr. boys by 12 ft. 8 inches and topped the closest girl competitor by no less than 40 feet. Her mark, a new record, topped the old figure by 5 ft. 7 inches. If she can also play hockey, perhaps Harold Hodgson should get her signed up in a hurry.

Bill Crothers will be the guest track star at Markham High School's annual Athletic Banquet and Awards Night on Friday evening of this week.

There sure isn't any resemblance between Frances Farr of Church St., and a Polar Bear in Riverdale Zoo but we understand that she was the first in the pool this spring and that was a couple of weeks ago. She said that she had to "break the ice" to get the season off to an early start.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Dafeo have made marvellous improvements to their Main St. W. restaurant. Their day begins at 5 a.m. and believe me, a cup of coffee at that hour goes pretty good, whether you're heading to or away from home. They close at 12 midnight.

Two new officers will be added to the Markham Township Police Department as probationary constables as of June 1st. They are Albert Geo. Anderson and John Boyd Morrison. This department has established quite a record over the past 14 years. Since 1951, there have only been four resignations from the force and only one of these took another police position. Many police forces have experienced a similar turn-over of personnel in a single year. Someone must take the credit for this kind of smooth operation.

Roller skating will begin in the Markham Arena on Saturday evening of this week. Skates will be available on a rental basis or persons may bring their own.

Construction of homes continue in the Dunkeld-Pearce subdivision on the Pickering-Markham townline. Several houses have been completed and another is going up. The four remaining front lots have all been sold. A service road has been built to allow access to the rear. Each of these homes is more than 2,000 square feet and set back 150 feet from the road.

After many seasons of faithful umpiring in the Claremont Community Softball League, Gord "Swiftly" Todd of Goodwood has retired from active duty. Cliff Dunkeld, who teamed up with "Swiftly" on the bases, has also called it quits.

Good news for the residents on the Altona Road, south of Whitevale. The Miller Paving Co. has received the contract to complete the re-construction of this road this year at a cost of something like \$500,000. The majority of land purchases have been completed. Residents to the north are hoping that it will not be too long before this thoroughfare is extended to the Uxbridge boundary.

One of the most attractive announcement boards is located in front of Second Markham Baptist Church.

Members of Whitchurch Twp. Council can rest easy. We have learned on good authority that a Nudist Camp will not be located at Shadow Lake. Instead, the property may become a summer playground for retarded children. This sounds like an excellent project and we hope it is followed through.

This year, an estimated 1,200 persons will drown in Canada. Almost half of these water accidents will occur in Ontario. What are the chances of recovery? The St. John Ambulance provides the following information: 2 minutes after breathing stops, 98 out of 100 could be saved; 2 minutes after 92 out of 100 could be saved; 3 minutes, 72; 4 minutes 50; 5 minutes, 25; 7 minutes, 8 and 12 minutes, 1. The importance of speed in the application of artificial respiration is illustrated by these figures.

The old story about being penny wise and pound foolish has been clearly illustrated in the Stouffville Park this spring. Previously, local plumber, Wm. Malloy looked after all water shutoffs prior to the winter freeze-up. His fee for this service was something like \$15. This practice was discontinued and the cost in repairs to damaged pipes, etc. could run past the \$200 mark.

Mr. E. R. Good, Baker Ave., has compiled information relating to descendants of Henry and Sarah Good, a history that goes back ten generations. Much work has gone into the preparation of this 40-page book and we found it rather interesting reading although we form no part of the Good family tree.

Have you ever heard a tobacco auctioneer in action on either radio or T.V. Well, in our opinion, they haven't a thing on local dollar-caller, Norm Falkner of Stouffville. We watched him in action on Friday night at the Coffey and Bartley auto auction and were rather amazed at his ability.