

Editorial . . .

Private Meetings Back-Fire

Little by little the business of municipal council in Markham Township is passing from public scrutiny, and is kept away from public discussion. Operation by committee is the best way of handling municipal business without public interference or knowledge. This is the way in which this township is run.

The township council has evolved a system of two meetings a week. The one is held on Monday and is advertised as a public meeting, and at which little takes place in the way of discussion, and there are few council opinions expressed. The second meeting held on Wednesday, is virtually a private meeting, and at which all topics are discussed and councillors freely express their opinions. Here there are no listening public ears and projects can be wrapped up neatly ready for the rubber stamp approval of council at the public meeting on the following Monday.

Last week this system back-fired, and this was not the first time. One

member of council failed to make the private Wednesday meeting, with the result that on Monday night he was completely in the dark and protested vigorously at what his colleagues had done without his knowledge. Despite argument the four who had discussed the project fully and had made the decision, would not give way and the opposition was defeated.

It is no secret that some members of this council hold to the view that the less the public knows about what is going on, the more easily the business will be accomplished. This is rule by committee and is about as far as council can go at keeping rate-payers in the dark.

Markham Twp. council has worked the system up to a point where, as was the case last week, they are even keeping each other in the dark.

The system is unfair to the rate-payers directly and is a direct stumbling block to the press whose duty and job it is to report to the people on the conduct of township affairs.

Support Your Home And School

On Wednesday evening, November 10th, the Stouffville Home and School Association will hold its first meeting of the fall term.

The attendance at some of these meetings in the past has been rather disappointing, so much so that at one time, some thought was given to disbanding the organization altogether. In some communities, this has actually happened.

The day is past when men and women will join such groups just as a matter of course. They demand good reasons for joining.

There are such good reasons for belonging to the Home and School. Where else can parents learn what is expected of their children under the present educational system? Where else can parents learn how they can stimulate their children to work to the best of their ability? What better organization can there be for parents of similar interests to meet

together to study the child and problems in education which will lead to higher standards — both in the home and at school? What better organization is there for parents to meet together with a common interest, to arrive at an understanding of a possible solution to community problems which affect our children and youth?

The list of advantages of being a member of Home and School could go on and on.

The Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations is looking for a 20 percent increase in membership to help build for the future, an organization that is progressive in its thinking — in its actions. Each and every child in the community will benefit as the local Home and School Association becomes stronger.

A parent's interest today will brighten a child's future tomorrow.

Attend the meeting on Nov. 10th.

Ten Million Can. But Will They?

Latest figures from Canada's Chief Electoral Officer Nelson Castonguay give 10,091,825 Canadians eligible to vote on November 8th. Some increase is expected in this figure prior to election day.

In the last election there were 9,910,757 persons eligible, and slightly more than 79% exercised their franchise. Elections are important and it behooves every citizen to get out on Nov. 8th and vote for the candidate or party of his choice. This is a serious matter.

We have predicted as have many others that the electors will boycott this vote in many areas where they are convinced the election was not necessary. However, as the big

day draws nearer, interest is bound to heighten and no doubt many of those who have boasted most about not voting, will show up first at the polls.

The fact that leadership has loomed so large in this election has left many voters in a quandary. They are settled in their minds concerning who is the best candidate in their riding but they are dead set against the leader represented by this party. This is a point that is raised time and time again as one talks over the election with friends. There is little doubt but that the final result might be quite different if persons were each to cast a ballot for the leader of their choice.

People Don't Scare Easily

Although there has been an ever-growing link between cigarette smoking and certain illnesses, it would appear from personal observation and figures just released, that anti-smoking campaigns may be going up in smoke.

Latest statistical report shows that in the first six months of this year a record 21,000,000 cigarettes were on the shop-keepers' shelves and in vending machines across the country. During all of 1964 Canadians puffed away about 40,000,000 cigarettes. This consumption was up 60% over 1955 while at the same time the

population has grown 25%.

Behind the growing use of cigarettes is the increased use by the teenage population. Warnings by both public and private agencies that cigarettes may be injurious to health are apparently not getting through.

There is an interesting sidelight to this continued smoking, in the case of women. They smoke for a specific reason. Welfare Minister Judy LaMarsh says: "I've sacrificed my figure for my country. I have gained 40 pounds since I stopped smoking 2½ years ago in support of the anti-smoking education program."

Magistrate Explains Revised Law

RICHMOND HILL—Magistrate Russell Pearce took time out from his daily proceedings Friday to explain a newly revised law in the Highway Traffic Act.

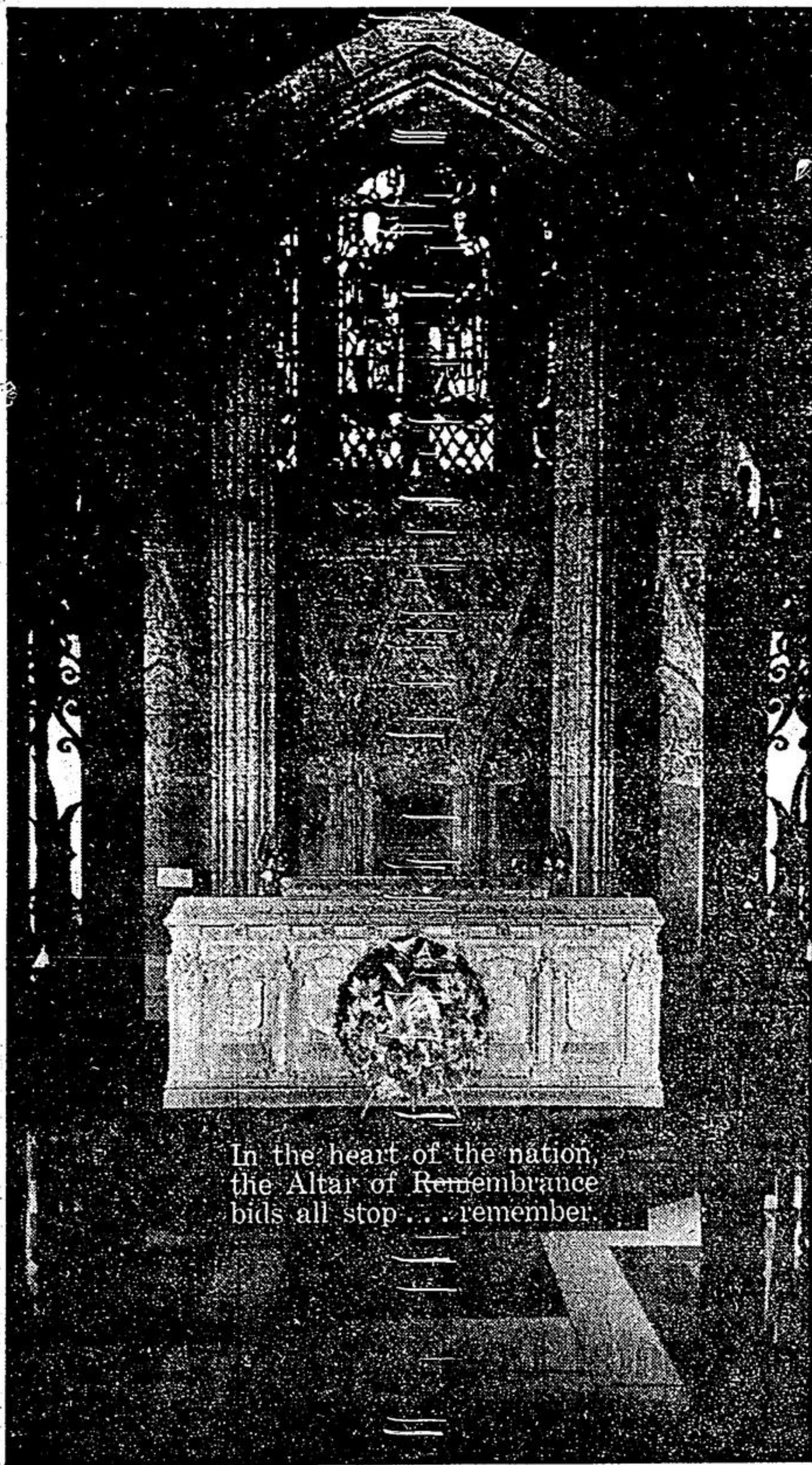
Mr. Pearce wondered how many people were aware of the new ruling regarding the times when car lights must be turned on. He told the half-filled court that before the law was amended, drivers were required to have lights on a half hour after

dusk and a half hour before sunrise.

He quoted the revision from the 1965 edition of the Highway Traffic Act that reads: "When on a highway at any time from one half hour after sunset to one half hour before sunrise, and at any other time when due to insufficient light or unfavourable atmospheric conditions, persons and vehicles on the highway are, not clearly discernible

at a distance of 500 feet or less, every car shall carry three lighted lamps in a conspicuous position, one on each side of the front of the vehicle, which shall display a white or amber light only, and one on the rear of the vehicle which shall display a red light only."

The Magistrate added that a person should not be allowed to drive until he knows every law in the Act, some 700 of them.



In the heart of the nation, the Altar of Remembrance bids all stop... remember.

Service of Remembrance

Next Sunday, Nov. 7th, the Stouffville Remembrance Day Service will be conducted in the Veteran's Memorial Hall at 2:30 p.m. The parade of Legion, Ladies Auxiliary and town youth organizations will be led by the Caledonia Pipe Band. Following the service, wreaths will be placed at the Memorial Park Gates and the Legion Cenotaph. The public is invited to attend.

SUGAR & SPICE

by BILL SMILEY

THAT COLLEGE EDUCATION

It's not until you get a son or daughter off to college that you learn what a simple, unsophisticated, reactionary, narrow-minded, old-fashioned peasant you really are.

He, or she, will make it all quite clear to you on that first weekend home from the hallowed halls of learning.

Every fall, the blood pressure of countless fathers sky-rockets, the tender hearts of hordes of loving mothers shatter, when the freshman student, beloved and cherished these 18 years, waltzes in with a bag of dirty laundry and a swollen ego.

We've had quite a fall of it, in our neighbourhood. With a sigh of relief, we shipped our gawk of a boy off to one university, and amid floods of tears, the people next door sent their darling daughter to another.

Both were home last weekend. And both sets of parents spent the entire visit, alternating with fury at the kids and shame of their own ignorance.

There's no question about it. A college education is a wonderful thing. In a matter of three or four weeks, small-town kids who barely staggered through high school, and barely knew enough to change their socks or blow their noses, are transformed into pipe-smoking playboys or dashing, desirable women of the world. Imagine what a whole year will do.

The boys nonchalantly toss off a remark or two about beer parties, the girls light up a fag right there, while father's frown deepens and mother's jaw falls wider and wider.

The boys, with a solid basis of three weeks' lectures in political science, curtly enlighten their dads on the asinine political ideas the latter have cherished for 20 years.

The girls, secure in their three weeks of psychology, put their mothers into shock with casual comments on the necessity of a full sex life before marriage.

Both explain kindly to the old folks not only that all's wrong in the world, but also that God is no longer in His heaven. In fact, He isn't anywhere. He's just a "anthropomorphic projection of the need for a father image."

Both point out that the capitalistic system is driving us into a neurotic pursuit of the materialistic, that the dollar is essentially an evil thing. And both pocket, without comment, the extra 10 bucks you slip them on departure.

Our kid has discovered a new system, in which you can get along on four hours sleep at night. This is done by sleeping all day, which he did on the weekend. He assured us that he had worked out a rigid work schedule, which begins at 7 a.m. daily. But a few minutes later, he let it slip out that he scarcely ever ate breakfast at the dininghall, because he slept in.

The girl next door nearly finished off her father. He gave her a blank cheque, the dope, to pay her first term's fees and residence dues, hoping he could scrape up the second term when it arrived. With admirable sangfroid, she filled in the cheque for the whole year's fees. Next day he received a call from his banker. He had to sell his last bonds to meet the overdraft.

Young Hugh is letting his hair grow long, has taken a lead role in the college revue, plays flamenco records at car-splitting volume and is just busting to get in on a sit-in or lie-down or some other form of civic disturbance, so he can be arrested.

The girl next door is disgusted that her mother can't read Chaucer in the original and believes the story about Adam and Eve. Her mother was weeping when she left. With rage.

Oh, well, I guess it's all worth it. Our grocery bill has dropped by \$12 a week since Hugh left. And we'll have the last laugh next spring, when exams start.

Choosing A Leader

(By Eric W. Baker)

The Stouffville Tribune has won the respect of this Columnist by its handling of election comment.

After these columns started appearing in the Tribune, citizens suggested that they be offered to other weeklies in the riding — and this was done. However, the results show that some publishers have party preferences so strong that they do not admit comment which might not support that preference.

Such bias is acceptable if there is a competitive publisher such as in the big cities; otherwise it is not only invited competition but is unfair to the reader.

Evidence of newspaper influence was given by the last Federal election where all three Toronto Dailies — for different reasons — opposed Mr. Diefenbaker. Hindsight proved Mr. Diefenbaker's political judgment to be better than his critics admitted. But it also showed the influence of Toronto papers had little quarrel with Mr. Diefenbaker.

In saying "no" too often, John Diefenbaker made enemies while demonstrating his sense of responsibility as leader, but he did protect his party and his public from the grey politics now in the headlines.

In saying "yes" too many people, Lester Pearson wins friends and builds up future problems. For recent example, every Liberal Candidate seems to have won from Mr. Pearson, a promised plum for his area to be paid for after the election — even though not processed through Parliament.

Both extremes are bad, but Diefenbaker's extreme hurt Diefenbaker personally, while Pearson's extreme hurts the people.

And the latter's record of softness contradicts his own talk about strong leadership of a majority. A majority only means more demand for favours.

It now appears that many voters will look beyond the personalities of the present leader and weigh the personal and regional influences behind them.

Those who look at the ideas behind the official leaders will find themselves choosing between Walter Gordon and Alvin Hamilton.

Some local Liberals are wondering whether they can continue to support a party which will be so obviously dominated by Quebec.

Have you seen the wonderful new Smith-Corona electric adder for only \$119.00. For home or light office use it's a real bargain.

Roamin' Around . . .

Few persons perhaps realize the many miscellaneous matters that, in a week or even a single day, are dealt with by officers of the Stouffville Police Department. The majority can be considered as "routine." By that, we mean, infractions under the criminal code, the highway traffic act, or the liquor control act. On Wednesday afternoon of last week, Chief Orland Keating and Constable David Hadden were faced with a problem of a much different nature. It concerned a lady — and elderly lady of about 75 years. She was found by some folks on the easterly edge of town in Uxbridge Twp., trudging through a field. They took her in until police arrived. Chief Keating brought her to his Stouffville Office. This was about 5:15 p.m. Two hours and five long distance telephone calls later, she was still there and, except for a few minor details, the police were no wiser. For the lady spoke only Greek, a language that is not too common in this area. Calls were put through to the Greek Consulate, University Avenue; the Greek Community of Metropolitan Toronto, Bond Street; the Department of Citizenship and the Department of Immigration on Bedford Street but without much luck. It was learned that her name was Efronini Reggi but little more. Finally, as the police were preparing to find her a place to spend the night, the Malton Branch of the Dept. of Immigration telephoned to say that a visa, on file, had turned up a next of kin. They referred to a Mr. Johanus Rusch at RR 3, Stouffville, a son-in-law, and a call to his home, brought him immediately to the station. In a roundabout way, the family was reunited. There are still a lot of unanswered questions concerning Efronini Reggi but the police have no intentions of delving any deeper into her personal problems. Three hours to learn a name and address is quite enough time spent on one person in one night.

The personnel of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation were in Stouffville on Friday in a big way. The centre of attraction was the home of Mr. Allan Sangster, O'Brien Avenue and Mr. Sangster himself along with Mr. Herman Geiger-Torel, General Manager of the Canadian Opera Company. The interview was for the well-known program "On The Scene," a half-hour show on channel 6 every Tuesday evening at 7:30 p.m. In addition to several truckloads of equipment, an estimated 20 C.B.C. employees were required, arriving here at 9:30 a.m. and leaving at 5:30. The title of the show is "Two For Music." Mr. Sangster's part in the program is centred around his cross-Canada C.B.L. broadcast that he started back in 1952. Cameramen also took several shots around the town on Friday, to be included in the production but somehow they missed Magistrate David Coon, riding his bicycle up Church Street.

So you think that everyone in Stouffville uses either oil or gas these days. Well you're wrong. Stiver Bros. report that in a single year they will sell from 15 to 20 carloads of coal or approximately 800 tons. The price for hard coal is \$29 per ton.

There's always a first time and Mongolia general store-keeper, Jim and Mrs. Cowan hit the jackpot on Oct. 4th. They attended the "Take A Chance Show" at channel 9 and were awarded merchandise valued at over \$300. Mrs. Cowan's ticket was drawn by another Stouffville "district" lady, Mrs. Dave Ratcliff. Their prize included — an electric knife sharpener; an electric Mix-Master; a lady's and man's electric shaver; an electric toaster; an electric frying pan; an electric hair dryer; an electric heater; an electric steam and dry iron; an electric waffle grill; an electric blanket; an electric egg-cooker and an electric deep fryer to mention a few. There's no reason to be either cold or hungry at the Cowan home unless, of course, the power goes off.

Several weeks ago, while commenting on the recreational benefits of the Bruce Conservation Area, west of Stouffville, we noted that there was a lack of playground equipment to occupy the interest of the children and keep them out of their parents' hair. Well, we've been set straight on this score by Robt. Nesbitt, deputy-reeve of Uxbridge Twp., and a municipal representative on the M.T.R.C.A. Mr. Nesbitt claims that "conservation areas" are just that and nothing more. Although their program does include such side attractions as swimming, fishing, tobogganing and camping, they are not "parks" in the true sense of the word. "We cater to a particular type of people," he said. He said that while others preferred locations with slides, swings, etc. there were private parks in most municipalities to serve this purpose. He noted that by expanding the Cons. plan to include these facilities, the Authority would be using park land tax monies to put the park owners out of business. Mr. Nesbitt has proved his point.

It was a rather strange sight to see golf enthusiasts out on the greens at Sleepy Hollow on Saturday with snow still lying in protected areas.

In the coming events department, keep in mind the date for the Stouffville Players program in the Legion Hall — Thursday, Nov. 18th and Friday, Nov. 19th. Tickets are now on sale.

It's hats off this week to the staff and students of St. Mark's Separate School in Stouffville. The still unfinished condition of their school building has not hampered Principal Condon and his pupils from setting up a full program of activities, including the publishing of a school paper, that rolled off the duplicator for the first time on Friday. It's called the Saint Mark's "Chronicle." A cartoon in the paper by Robt. Danielis caught our eye. It's the face of a boy, minus many of his dentures and the caption reads — "My group had 42% fewer cavities, mainly because we had 84% fewer teeth."

Halloween is now past and local home-owners welcomed the usual array of witches, ghosts, etc. on Saturday night. We kept track of the visitors this year and counted no less than 57 boys and 36 girls. There were more after that but we had already run out of candy and the supply of UNICEF money was running low. Besides, it was nearly time for the N.H.L. game to start. In touring the town, we noticed more artificial jack-o-lanterns in windows this year than last but the carved-out-kind still hold a big lead. Our first prize selection would have gone to the McWhinnie family on Westlawn Crescent. They had a pair of the largest pumpkin faces anywhere and the lighted handiwork could be seen a block way.

Stouffville Has A Birthday

Possibly only a very few readers who are residents of Stouffville, realize that their municipality has just had another birthday. Stouffville was incorporated as a village in the fall of 1877. The village derives its name from Abraham Stouffville, the original owner of this site. The history of the name was for some time unsettled, the family name often appearing as "Stover" or "Stofer," and the locality being known as "Stoverville" or "Stouffville."

One hundred and fourteen years ago, before the village was born, it had 350 inhabitants, a grist and oatmeal mill, foundry and tannery and Congregational Church. This was in 1851. After that time the place grew steadily, and the census of 1881 Communicationwise, Stouffville began as a stop on the Toronto and Nipissing railway. The Lake Simcoe Junction Line connected with the main line at this point.

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