

# Tribune Editorials

## Shouldn't Move Too Fast

The decision by the Board of Public School Area No. 2 in Markham Township to embark on a system of consolidation in September constitutes, in our opinion, a move that is premature.

We arrived at this conclusion after attending a public meeting at Cedar Grove and later inspecting the site of the Varley Village Subdivision at Unionville.

The structure is still in a very early stage of construction, in fact, we had to inquire as to its location to even find it. Although we do not profess to be an authority on projects of this kind, we would suggest that nothing short of a miracle will see its completion by November 1 or even this year.

We have heard very few critics of the board's ultimate plan. That is, to close many of the one-room rural schools and bus the children to better equipped and better staffed buildings in the Area. But why try and meet a deadline of September, 1966? No one, to our knowledge is forcing the board to

make this major move, so why not wait until there is sufficient accommodation to handle the influx of children during regular school hours.

The board members obviously have some very good reasons for promoting this program now. Parents, it seems, are willing, possibly with some reluctance, to bow to the shift system for one month or even two. But for children to endure this problem into the mid-winter season is expecting a little too much.

At the meeting on Thursday evening, one mother stated that her 8 year old girl would be on the road at 6:40 a.m. to catch the bus at 7. No system, regardless of academic benefit is worth this kind of sacrifice.

As we said before, we hold little sympathy for inconveniences caused to mom and dad for education's sake but when John and Mary are subjected to hardships, created through a premature, hodge-podge plan, then the system becomes a hindrance instead of a help.

## Everything Flew But The Flag

Friday was Dominion Day. What a joke. Everything was flying through and around Stouffville except our country's flag.

It's just another holiday, but this year it proved an inconvenience to some and a benefit to others. Merchants were torn between closing up their stores and remaining open. Some did both.

Parents were divided on whether to escape to the golf course, fight traffic to and from the cottage or just lay

around home. Some did a little of each.

But patriotism for Canada, a nation that provides such benefits of cars, cottages and cash to buy them — we hardly give it a thought.

One Stouffville merchant said that he didn't sell a single Maple Leaf emblem and another said he sold one, for a motorboat.

At least there's a new one flying from the pole above the post office — or didn't you notice?

## Delay Was Not Necessary

A few days ago this year's Grade 13 high school students were cheered to learn they are only required to get seven credits instead of eight to win a diploma. There must be quite a number of them who are wondering why the announcement could not have been made several months ago.

The official reason for withholding the word until after exams is that if it had been made before, many students in difficulty with one or more subjects would have been encouraged to drop

studies in one altogether and have concentrated on improving their knowledge in the others.

If this is the serious reason it looks to us more like reasoning for making an early announcement than supporting what it has done.

As it is, students must feel in many cases they wasted time on subjects which they do not intend to pursue at the sacrifice of work that might have been done on those they will follow in university.

## Not A Chance To Stop

From time to time, we have been mildly critical of the 'courtesy walk' system employed at two crossing areas in the Main Street business section of Stouffville. Although the 'wing and a prayer' plan here may have its drawbacks, we can assure both drivers and pedestrians that the legalized crosswalks as used in Metro Toronto also leave a lot to be desired.

Last week, while driving west on Eglinton Avenue, two boys, walking along the sidewalk, suddenly, without hesitation and with arms outstretched, strode onto the roadway in a marked

zone. We couldn't stop and didn't even try. Fortunately, we were travelling close to the centre line and had sufficient time and room to get by.

Personally, we don't like pedestrian crosswalks. Too much responsibility is placed on the driver who, in today's traffic has enough trouble watching out for other cars without worrying about people on foot.

We still say that a highway is the automobile's domain and persons who venture into that area, except at lighted intersections, do so at their own risk.



"Why worry about an election — Declare yourself emperor."



## SUGAR AND SPICE

### A Stranger Called Summer

By BILL SMILEY

In about the last three decades, the face of a Canadian summer has changed almost beyond recognition.

Think back to your summers as a child. The sights and the sounds, and the smells have all changed. You'd scarcely know you were in the same country.

Summer itself has not changed. As a nation half-frozen after a long, weary winter and a cold, wet spring, we still greet it with rapture and incredulity. It is the celebration of the season that has been transformed.

Thirty years ago, summer was a quiet time. The pace was leisurely. The mood was one of peace. Today, it's just the opposite. It is the noisiest time of the year, the pace is frantic, and the mood is jazz.

In those days, summer pleasures, for the working staff, were simple. And for a couple of good reasons. He worked nine or 10 hours a day; and he didn't have any money.

When he got home, he was whacked. After supper, he might water the lawn, or do a little weeding, or just sit on the front porch until dark. Occasionally, he'd take in a ball game, or maybe drive the family around for a while, and buy everybody an ice-cream cone.

When his holidays rolled around, he didn't do much. Puttered around, painting the trim on the house, or worked in the garden. Maybe took the family to visit relatives for a few days.

In those days, summer cottages, and power boats, and resort hotels and golf were for the wealthy.

What a difference today! The working stiff gets home, and his day has just begun. He has a golf date. Or the family wants to go out in the boat. Or the kids demand he drive them for a swim. Or his wife has asked somebody over for drinks and a barbecue and he must don the apron and get to work.

When his holidays come around, the pace triples. No puttering about the house for him. No sitting in the backyard, under a shade tree, and restoring himself.

It doesn't matter what has been planned for his holidays. Whether it's a mad motor trip of 3,000 miles, or a cottage at Crud Lake, or a tenting excursion, he's going to have to be a human dynamo for about 18 hours a day.

What's happened in three decades? Cars, affluence, desire for status, and women.

Cars, and the subsequent highways to accommodate them, have opened up the hinterland. Beach areas that used to be quiet, little summer settlements, at the end of a rugged gravel road are now roaring, raucous neon jungles by night, flesh strips and screaming motors by day.

Virgin lakes, not long ago accessible only by canoe and portage, are now laid bare by developers, and the bulldozers are at work, and everybody wants to own his own plot, though prices have sky-rocketed.

Affluence, combined with the never-never-land of the finance company, has made its inroads. Today the working man owns his own cottage, or cruiser, and belongs to the golf club. The big resorts have been taken over by the moderately well-to-do. The rich, in disgust, fly to Europe.

## LOOKING BACKWARD

April 4, 1935

The Ladies Bowling Club elected officers on Monday evening after reporting a most successful season in 1934. The officers for the ensuing year are: President, Mrs. Jas. Ratcliff; 1st vice, Mrs. M. E. Watts; 2nd vice, Mrs. A. Grubin; secretary, Mrs. George Storey; treas., Mrs. T. B. Rae.

May 2, 1935

Sam Armstrong and Charlie Ward motored to Hawk Lake for the weekend, not so much to enjoy a fishing outing, but rather the trip was something of an exploration one, to test the roads and view conditions of the Lake. Mr. Armstrong intends to erect a cottage at Hawk Lake this summer which is near Hall's Lake where E. A. Button intends to build a cottage.

The eternal pursuit of status in our society has played its part. If that crumb next door can afford a cottage for two weeks, Joe can afford a flight to the West Coast. If he has a 50-horse motor, Joe needs a 75-horse. If his kids are going to camp for two weeks, Joe's are going for the whole of August.

And women? Ah, how they have helped change the face of Canada's summer! They used to be content to stay home, look after their gardens and put up preserves in the summer. They

used to be happy with a family picnic on Sundays. They used to enjoy making a pitcher of cold lemonade on a hot summer evening, and bringing it out to the porch.

Now they want a cottage for two months, or a new and bigger boat, or a second car, plus a membership at the golf club, plus a new patio, plus a couple of weeks at a swank resort.

It's no wonder poor Joe is a whimpering shell at the end of the summer, exhausted, broke and frazzled.



## THIS WEEK & NEXT

### Wheat: No Cold War Weapon

By RAY ARGYLE

Canada's huge new wheat sale to the Soviet Union has renewed the debate on the wisdom of this country's readiness to trade with Communist nations.

There is, of course, no debate among Western farmers who will benefit from the three-year pact which will see the Russians pay 800 million dollars in hard cash for some 336 million bushels.

Coming just a month after completion of a deal with Peking to sell China from 168 to 280 million bushels during the same three years, the Russian trade agreement assures Canadian farmers of a ready export market.

The Russian deal, announced with great fanfare in Moscow by Trade Minister Robert Winters after protracted negotiation by trade department and Wheat Board emissaries, will have other far-reaching effects.

Aside from stimulating consumer buying on the farm, the sale is good news for farm machinery manufacturers. The sales will strengthen Canada's foreign exchange position, reducing Canadian dependence on the U.S. money market.

The sale will also have international repercussions. In the long run, the most important of these will be to encourage Washington to liberalize its trade policies with Communist nations. The New York Times has already berated the American government. "The chances to build bridges with the Russians should not be fumbled again," the Times declared.

In the short run, the sales to China and Russia will push international wheat stocks to a low level. Crop failures in Russia, Argentina, India and Australia will ensure a ready market for U.S. grain. U.S. and Canada had a carry-over of only about 550 million bushels each at the July 1 crop year-end.

The policy of wheat sales to Communist nations, particularly China, was initiated by the Conservative government shortly after John Diefenbaker came to power. Faced with tremendous wheat surpluses, Mr. Diefenbaker may have initially undertaken the sales as a political strategy to maintain his popularity with prairie voters. If so, the strategy worked, but the successful continuance of the policy by the Liberals has not noticeably improved Liberal party fortunes in the West.

The Canadian public has indicated quite conclusively, however, that it supports both Conservative and Liberal governments in their attempts to broaden our export markets.

The American public is still far from sympathetic to large scale attempts to trade with Communist states. For one reason, the U.S. is far less dependent on exports for prosperity than is Canada. Its domestic market is 10 times bigger than Canada's. The U.S. also was far more infected by the Cold War virus than Canada, and its current involvement in Vietnam makes it difficult for Washington to undertake an objective appraisal of the problem at this time.

Those who oppose trade with the Communists do so on the grounds that it strengthens nations dedicated to the destruction of our way of life, and that it makes us dependent on Moscow and Peking for our prosperity.

# ROAMING AROUND

## When We Were A Couple Of Kids

The past few days have been filled with nostalgia for many rural folks. The inevitable has happened and most have accepted it without complaint. On June 27, classes were dismissed for the last time in many of the area's little, red brick school buildings. Only the future can tell if such facilities will ever be needed again. Educators say no.

Outside of home itself, nothing kindles the spirit of regret more, than the passing of the country school as a 'way of life' in a country community.

We are able to speak with some personal experience on this subject for only last week we learned that our own little school on the Ninth Line of Markham had served its time. We visited the property where, thirty years ago, we could hardly wait to leave with the ring of the four o'clock bell. Now, how we'd like to return, just for a day or even an hour.

It is rather surprising how rural ratepayers have swallowed their pride in things past and accepted the trend toward school consolidation with little criticism or complaint. Perhaps the new system is an improved system and wholly acceptable to one and all. When it is a proved system, we'll all be the judge.

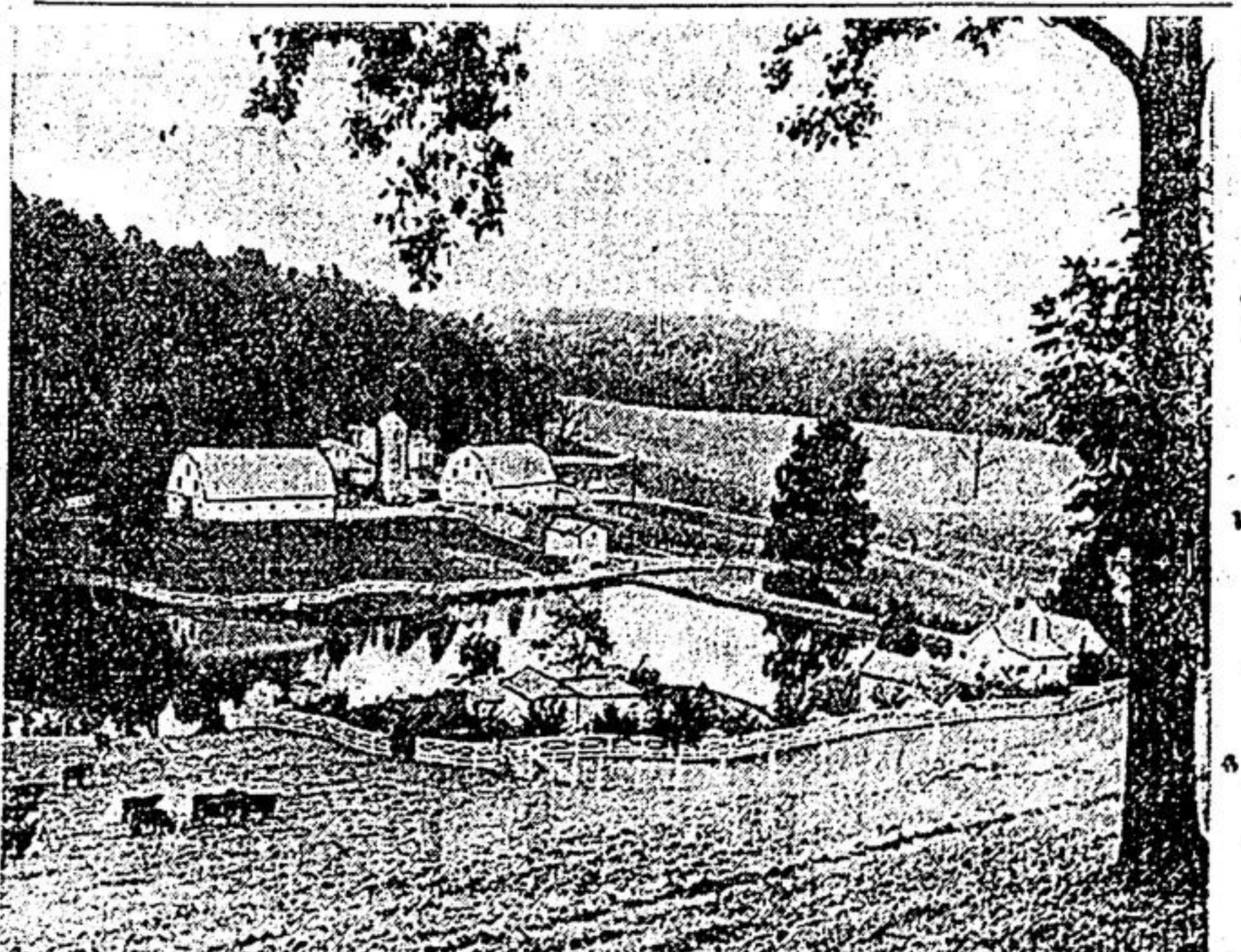
We tip our hat this week to Mr. Weitse VanDolder of Ballantrac who brought his ponies to the Stouffville Park last week and didn't charge the Lions Club a single cent for this service. Dozens of kiddies enjoyed the rides and the crowd was the largest in several seasons.

Linda Sargent of Grade 11 had the highest standing of any student in the Stouffville District High School. Her average was 89.8 percent.

We noticed this ad in the Globe and Mail last week. It read in part: \$100 reward for finder of aircraft door, lost in flight about five miles north-west of Goodwood from a height of 6,500 feet. Size — 33 inches wide, 66 inches high and 2 inches thick. Anyone around Sandford, Siloam, Vivian or Mount Albert that may have spotted an unidentified flying object in the air, it's only a door but still worth \$100 to its owner.

Coffey and Bartley Motors in Stouffville are now agents for Texaco products and an introductory offer is bound to catch the interest of the housewife or even the bride-to-be. With every purchase of gas, a card is punched and when completed (\$30 worth), the holder is awarded a one-piece place setting of Rogers Bros. stainless steel flatware. Sounds like quite a bargain and it is.

Boxer Travis Sudden of Bethesda will be married on August 6. His bride-to-be, Miss Vallerye Hazel Wynn of Unionville, denies that there is anything included in the wedding vows that demands that she love, honour, obey and assume the role of a permanent 'sparring partner'.



## The Countryside In Summer

With the haying season in full swing and the countryside looking its best in spite of a mid-summer heat wave, it's nice to take a drive through the rural areas and view the scenery. This farm setting is located in Uxbridge Township.

# The Tribune

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EDITOR'S MAIL  
Public School Shift System  
By OUR READERS

Dear Sir:  
The change in the lives of families sending their children to school an hour earlier may for some just be an inconvenience.

may be considered of temporary duration, there is the possibility that the problem will still be with us in the winter months. The travelling time then is of more concern.

men and women, will conduct government with business-like methods and inspire it and people to develop strength of heart, and mind great enough to prevent corruption, fraud and usury undermining the nation.

However, what the "shift system" means to each family of the T.S.A. 2 of Markham varies tremendously. It is being offered to some families living a 15 minute walk from the school. For others a longer walk. Still others have this walk and then a bus ride varying from 10 minutes to an hour.

It is little wonder that the first meeting was somewhat stormy. Perhaps the Board and parents can come up with a more acceptable solution with future meetings.

The financially high standard of living now precipitated ought not to be blindly accepted as the only and best ways and standard by which to live. Social affluence and money evaluation did not create this world, its food and other elements, mankind and the universe, and human worth should be valued by more than monetary standards.

It is the travelling time added to the class hours that makes the shift system possible or impossible as a solution to the over-crowded school population. It may be 6 hours or it may be 7 hours between meals. This becomes a concern for the health of the children rather than for convenience to the school children or their families.

Nancy White.

There is much to be discovered in achieving human betterment, and freedom from ill-health, injustice, human cruelty, despotic and cunning behaviour. Integrity is the ingredient to worthwhile living and government.

While the shift system

to the Editor: Although government facilities have greatly assisted the development of this nation's natural resources, land, commercial enterprises and foreign trade, the time has come to add more to governing and living than what money-minded measures and their controls can accomplish.

It is hoped that future government of, for and by

MARSHALL