

Tribune Editorials

Prohibition Not Control

Judging by the centennial events that have taken place and the bustle of the few days left before July 1, when Canada officially becomes 100 years young, many folks will be so busy that they won't have time to ponder what all the fuss is about.

There's nothing wrong with this, of course. For in those days 100 years ago when the Citizens of Canada were preparing to celebrate the formation of the Canadian Confederation, their concern was not necessarily with historical significance, but with the best way to enjoy the immediate occasion.

That's what Canadians will be doing now and July 1 weekend, if the Stouffville program is any example. There is a great variety of offerings, ranging from parades, to sports, to dancing and church services.

The special day or special weekend will be marked by some massive community events so that few people will remain uninvolved. This is the immediate aspect.

For those who want to refresh their minds with thoughts of the important political union which took place in 1867 there is plenty of opportunity, and for those who revel in nostalgia of home there is plenty in this issue of The Tribune, Press, library, radio and TV all give the essential happenings to Confederation.

It may be that Canadians still are not as familiar as they should be with the effort and imagination which went into the making of their country. But at least, as a result of the centennial, they have a much better chance of achieving this goal.

Centennial Takeover

A decision by the council of the Township of Whitchurch could put many of the present-day dog kennel operators out of business. A recent bylaw, reconsidered and upheld, will impose a per animal charge instead of a flat \$10 kennel rate.

The proposal brought a storm of protest from an estimated forty ratepayers, when first revealed more than a month ago.

We feel that the fee, which in some cases totals many hundreds of dollars, represents a form of prohibition in-

stead of control.

We feel that the new bylaw is not needed. Perhaps more rigid controls are. Instead of 'soaking' the established operators the council should give more thought to future applicants, in particular, to their proposed locations.

Present kennel owners in Whitchurch ventured into this business or hobby in good faith, knowing that the flat rate fee was within reason. Now, they find, with very little warning that they must either pay up or close up. We don't think it's fair.

Project Moving Ahead

Stouffville's centennial project, a mid-town Civic Square, is well on its way. It won't be completed by July 1 as had been initially anticipated, but already the improvement is noticeable. All eyes will be watching its continued progress with interest.

To say that the receive and members of council are relieved to know that the beginning of the work means an eventual end, is putting it mildly. Only those close to council activities can know the days and weeks of frustration that this project has caused. But never once did

they consider turning back although it could have been an easy way out.

There have been many critics of this undertaking. There still are. We feel that if completed properly, it will constitute a downtown beauty spot, similar to the 'squares' that are so prominent in many cities and towns in both Canada and the United States.

Our only fear is that the council will be required to implement short-cuts to keep the cost within the original estimate. This would be regrettable for, in our opinion, half a job would be worse than no job at all.

Death By Bow and Arrow

An Unbridge Township resident had his request for a bow and arrow deer shoot in that municipality, rejected by the Council at a meeting June 12. Although reasons for the rejection were not clear, it was just possible that the members didn't wish to blindly approve such a venture without knowing more about the problems that could occur.

The spokesman, in conversation with The Tribune, indicated that in spite of the Council's ruling several bowmen might still proceed with their original

plan. We hope that this would not occur.

Like the majority of councillors, our knowledge of bows and arrows is nil. We would contend, however, that to maim a wild animal and then let it bleed to death, is surely not the most humane kind of sport. The fact is, it sounds too cruel to be allowed, bylaw or no bylaw.

Our opinion on the matter is subject to change however and we would welcome comment from persons more experienced in the field.

The Tribune Is An Institution

Institutions often outlive those who create them and occasionally grow beyond their most hopeful dreams.

The Tribune, now in its 79th year of publication has for many years been an institution in the community. Not only in the town in which it is published, but in the surrounding rural area.

Stouffville and the area have grown and The Tribune has kept up with the pace.

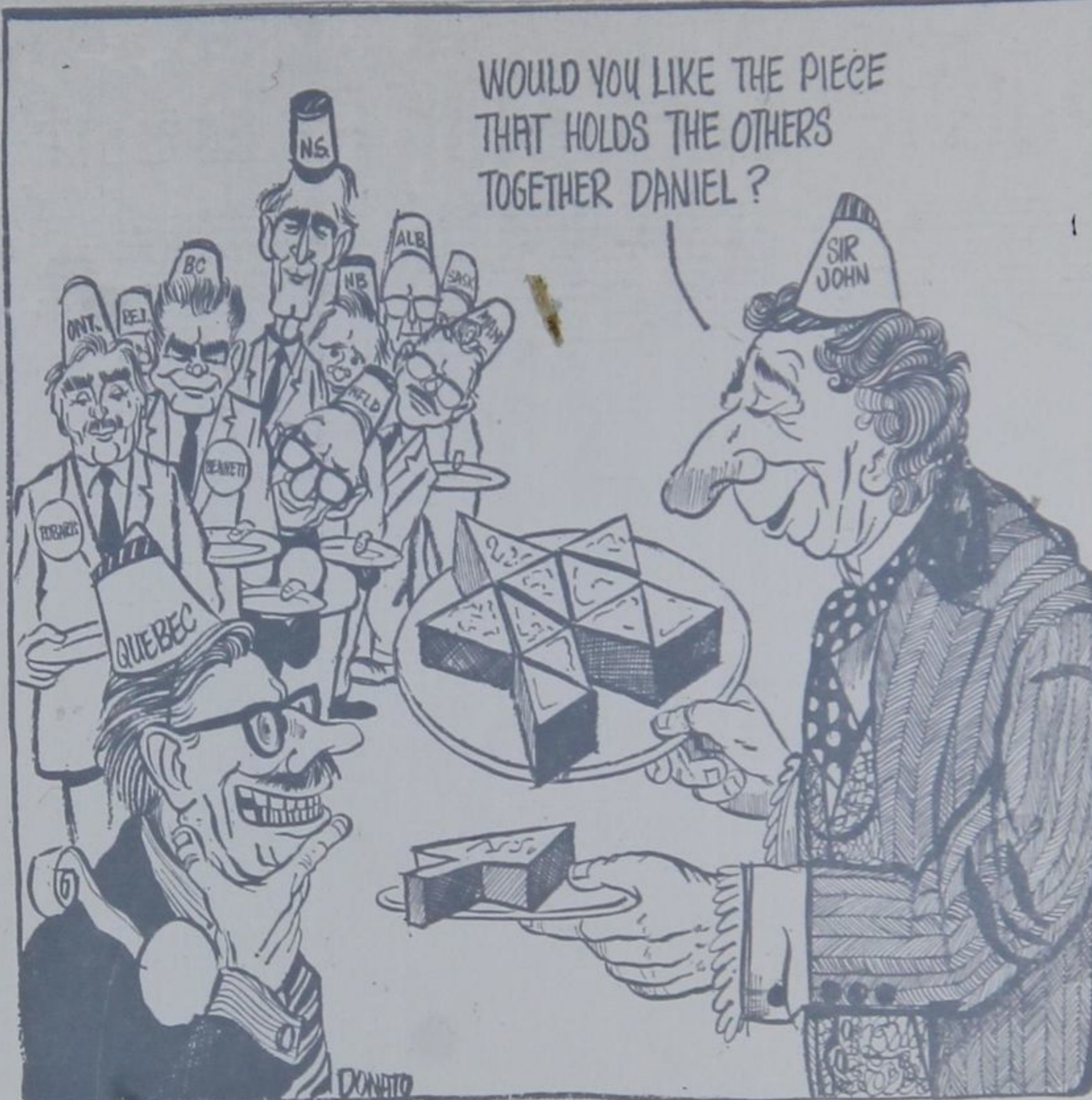
Today, this newspaper with its staff and many contacts throughout the nearby countryside, is among the most active enterprises in town.

There have been ups and downs and many changes and improvements made, but this newspaper has come through them all with colours flying higher than any time in its long history.

The hand-set type has long been replaced by mechanical composing machines which shortly will give way to even more sophisticated methods of reproduction.

The Tribune is turning out more than 312,000 papers a year besides several million impressions in commercial work. The Tribune is a symbol of the town today and we intend to keep in on the forefront of progress in the future.

C. H. NOLAN
Publisher



SUGAR AND SPICE

It's A Great Country To Live In

By BILL SMILEY

Since we are 100 years old this week, I should be grinding out an Ode to Canada. But it's so hot, the very thought of it makes me feel about 100 years old. (Come on Smiley, it ain't that hot.)

Instead, let's have an honest look at ourselves, to find out what kind of a tribe those ten decades produced.

Trying to pin down the Canadian national character is like trying to thread a needle in the dark, blind-folded and half-stoned. Trouble is, any way you add up the individual characteristics, they come out spelling schizophrenic.

For example, the experts tell us that we are an extremely inarticulate people. That means we don't talk much. Maybe it's because we haven't anything worth saying and are too proud to show our ignorance. But at the same time, we are the world's champion yakkers. According to the telephone companies, Canadians spend more time on the blower than any other nation, proportionately. Yes, Jack, my wife does too. Undoubtedly this is a backlash from pioneer days, when women often went for weeks without a chance for a good talk with another woman. They're trying to catch up.

Another contradiction. In pioneering exploring, wars, we have shown ourselves bold, adventurous, brave. Yet we are timid about investing our money in Canada, and we also buy more insurance, per capita, than any other country. Why this caution? There's something Freudian about it: mother-country; breast-fed too long; return to the womb or something. But we haven't time to figure that one out today.

We are as materialistic as we could be, and with some reason. It takes more than a century to get from sod shanty to sonata, from barn-raising to baller. At the same time we are extremely culture-conscious, and we are secretly delighted with the Stratford Festival and the National Ballet and our sprinkling of symphony orchestras. As long as we don't have to attend.

Despite our reverence for culture, we refuse to read. The quickest way to lose your shirt in Canada is to open a bookstore. In a population of 20 million, a new book that 10,000 copies is a runaway best-seller. It must be a

hangover from the pioneer attitude that a person should be "doing something" and that reading doesn't come in this category. Or is it because we have too much money and too many toys?

Something else we refuse to do is walk. Europeans enjoy walking. Englishmen love it. Why won't we? Our trouble probably is, in equal parts: too far to anywhere; wanting to get there in a hurry; car worship; and plain laziness.

We are heavy boozers, as the statistics show, and can't hold our liquor, as a glance around at the next party will show. Why? Do we drink so much because we are so dull we can't stand each other without the grape? Or is it because drink has always been associated with sin in this country, and man is born to sin?

Yes, we play hard, and most of us work hard. The sad thing is that the only reason we work hard is to enable us to get the things with which to play hard: boats and barbecues and built-in bars; cottages and cars and curling membership.



THIS WEEK & NEXT

Changes Are A Must

By RAY ARGYLE

Canadians this weekend celebrate the greatest event in their country's history, but there will be no frenzy of national emotion or outpouring of flag-waving patriotism.

Instead, the Centennial of Confederation will be marked across the land with harmless amusements... balls and barbecues, field days and fishing.

For those who care about such things, the great remaining task in the Canadian Confederation is the creation of a new constitution to replace the British North America Act.

At the heart of this question is the relationship between the provincial governments and Ottawa, and the roles that each should play in Confederation. It is because these governments have been unable to agree on how changes should be made in the BNA Act (note that I said how, not what changes), that Canada has left the BNA Act to this day in the hands of the British Parliament.

But it seems evident that the final re-writing of substitution of the BNA Act with a distinctively Canadian constitution will be achieved in the next decade.

The plain fact, of course, is that this would have been done a long time ago but for the special position of one province: Quebec. And Quebec no longer thinks of itself as an ethnic minority but instead as a "majority society" in that part of Canada with complete control over its own social structure.

The process of obtaining complete control for the French Canadian society or "nation" in Quebec began when Quebec withdrew from federally-financed programs in fields which under the BNA Act, come exclusively under pro-

vincial jurisdiction. By giving up this federal aid, Quebec obtained the right to levy a larger percentage of the province's taxes.

The aim of Quebec today — and this will likely remain no matter which party is in power — is to win absolute control over education, old-age security, family allowances, health, labor matters and cultural affairs. This includes the right to do business directly with other governments, be they Canadian or foreign, within these fields.

Having set out these boundaries of influence, one can expect Quebec to extend its horizons as its primary aims are achieved.

Is Quebec to be given a special status not enjoyed by other provinces with Confederation? Or in order to maintain all provinces on an equal level, must the powers of the Federal Government be curbed by giving to all provinces the rights which Quebec insists must be its?

Opponents of the special status idea say this would prove intolerable to the rest of the country; that "the rest of the country would have nothing to say about what went on in Quebec; but Quebec would have just as much as ever to say what went on in the rest of the country."

It appears equally obvious, however, that the transfer of added powers to all provinces — or defederalization, as it might be called — would produce economic and political disarray in Canada.

Then, there are those who would leave things just as they are. But obviously this is not to be done. That which has endured a century cannot be expected to last another decade without drastic changes.

If Animals Could Talk

It was a walking, waddling, tail-wagging menagerie of birds, animals and fish at the centennial pet show held in the Stouffville Park, Saturday afternoon. The baseball infield could have been mistaken for the gangplank of Noah's Ark. There were 79 entries, everyone of a different size and description. Each was kept under tight rein by its handler and not a single skirmish occurred. How dogs, cats and rabbits could suddenly become such amiable companions was a mystery to all. It still is. Even the noise was restrained to a few excited woofs and vaps. Each, in his own way, however, had a story to tell. A brief biography of the seven winners describes them as follows:

'Speedy' the raccoon, entered by two-year old Edwin James Wilcox, Stouffville, R.R. 3, won the Personality Award and was crowned king of the entire contest. The two-month old pet was one of six that was caught. The others were given away. 'Speedy' was raised on a bottle and only now is beginning to eat solid food. He sleeps in a litter box, once occupied by the Wilcox' family cat. A second award also went to a member of the Wilcox family. Five-year old Vivian Ann caught the judges' eye with her pet 'Joe' the crow. He was named the Most Unusual entry. 'Joe' was one of a family of four baby crows that nested in a tree in a bush on the Wilcox' farm. A few days after it had hatched, it became a member of the Wilcox family circle. It possesses a huge appetite and consumes everything but bread and milk to earthworms. 'Joe' sleeps in the woodshed at night and is free to fly during the day. It never leaves its foster home. The children also have a pet pig they call 'Arnold' but its debut in the show ring will have to wait until next year. 'Lady', an eight-year old Clydesdale and Welsh bred mare, owned by Bill, Kim and Jackie Hassard of Stouffville, won the Largest Pet Award. Mr. Hassard purchased 'Lady' at the Stouffville Sales Arena 1 1/2 years ago and she's been the pride and joy of the family ever since. Twelve-year old Billy takes good care of her. In the winter, she's housed in the Schell barn, south of Stouffville and in the summer, shares company with other horses on the Schell Ranch near the Park. 'Andy', the goat, judged the Best Dressed Pet, was entered by Teddy Mann, Stouffville, R.R. 1. Actually 'Andy' was never expected to live so long let alone win a prize. Now ten weeks old, it was given up for dead when acquired by the family. It was put on a baby's bottle and soon began to thrive. It now spends as much time in the house as outside and will even lie down on the chestfield. There was no doubt about the Friendliest Pet in the show. It was 'Fifi', a three-year old Poodle, shown by five-year old Harvey Schell of Stouffville. 'Fifi' has been a member of the Schell family household since she was two months old. Harvey was all dressed up for the occasion in top hat and tails, made by his mother. Two individual awards went to 8-year old Terry Cairns and his sister, Rose-Marie, 7, Ninth Line North, Stouffville. Terry had the Smallest Pet in the show, a tadpole named 'Jimmy'. He caught it only two weeks ago in a pond south of town. He now has ten in his collection. Rose-Marie entered the pet with the waggiest tail. It was 'Shadow', a part Collie and Spaniel. Her parents, Ron and Kay, picked it out for the family at the Toronto Humane Society. 'Shadow's' pro tail-wagging demonstration won a unanimous vote from all four judges, Jean O'Neil, Frank Sigala, John Foulds and J. S. Northover. The Master of Ceremonies and chief organizer of the show was councillor, Jim McKellar.

FROM A BOY TO A MAN

The aging process is supposed to be slow. On Saturday, we saw a boy become a man in a matter of minutes. It was the conclusion of the Centennial Track and Field Meet at St. Mark's, Stouffville, and the competition in the Junior Boy's class was extremely keen. A Stouffville lad in the thick of the race, looked on as the total points were tabulated. To his disappointment, instead of taking the Title, he had to be satisfied with second best. He cried openly. A pat on the back and a few words of encouragement from P.T. Instructor, Gary Grundy, was the only remedy required. The boy had become a man.

LIKE OLD TIMES

Principal Lorne Roadway and the staff and students of Summit View Public School in Stouffville, turned back the pages of time for the hundreds who attended the open-air concert on Friday evening. The entire program, from Derek Gooderham's rendition of 'Bessie The Heller' to the singing of strawberry shortcake, was reminiscent of the 'good old days'. The audience loved every minute of it. The talent displayed by the pupils was all the more commendable since classes range only from Kindergarten to Grade 6.

GETTING BIGGER

'Anything you can do, I can do better' would appear to be the motto of leghorn hens out Gormley way. Mr. and Mrs. Herb Oliver of Vandonf report that a feathered member of their flock produced one that tipped the scales at 4 ounces and measured 8 1/2" one way by 7 inches the other. 'Agnes' as the hen was called, survived the ordeal to lay again.

Saturday is B-Day (Beard Day) in Stouffville. But in spite of the robot of having completed the six month ordeal, it is hoped that not every entry will rush home for his razor Saturday night following the judging at 4:30 in the afternoon. Think of your wife's embarrassment at having to re-introduce you to your pastor on Sunday morning just to prove that she's keeping steady company with the right man.

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