

Editorials

Tribune

No Such Thing As Temporary Tax

The year 1967 was Canada's one hundredth anniversary, but most will not remember that it was also the fiftieth anniversary of income tax.

are quite different. In 1917 a married man without family earning \$6,000 a year was required to pay \$120 — he would now pay roughly \$600.

Teacher's Federation Softening

For what seems years now the powerful high school teachers union has operated on a policy of more money for every teacher, good, bad or indifferent.

It seems most likely that the new government policy of a hundred school boards for all Ontario is directed toward more strength at the bargaining table when salaries are a question.

Let's Hope We Qualify

At a meeting of Stouffville Council, Thursday evening (tonight) Reeve Ken Laushway will present a motion, requesting the Ontario Housing Corporation to conduct a survey here, to find out if a need exists for a government-sponsored apartment for senior citizens.

commodation far exceeded the supply, and a lengthy waiting list has been recorded.

Reeve Laushway attended the official opening in Newmarket and was most impressed with the beauty of the structure, the obvious contentment of the residents. We viewed the one at Richmond Hill and were similarly impressed.

With Council's blessing, the request for the survey will be submitted to Queen's Park later this week. A qualified government official will then obtain the necessary information. We can only hope that we qualify.

Headed Pickering's Path

Deputy-Reeve Sidney Gadsby's verbal tirades within the council of the Township of Markham, are being viewed with some concern by many ratepayers in the municipality. And rightly so. Last week, the clash between Mr. Gadsby and councillor Alan Sumner became so personal, that Reeve Stewart Rumble adjourned the meeting and vacated the chambers.

almost nothing, then it's time for individuals to take stock of themselves and think before they speak.

If Mr. Gadsby's vociferous debate of last week was prompted by his desire to assist the Markham taxpayer in some way, then we would be the first to commend him. But this was not the case. Instead, he was taking an employee to task for not providing him with information when he wanted it. Now, isn't that a major issue to get all steamed up about.

As Chairman of Planning Board, Mr. Gadsby did an excellent job. It was presumed that his energy and experience would make him an asset to Council.



ROAMING AROUND

What The Children Say

There's a song, currently popular in the Country and Western hit parade, called "Skip a Rope." It's a rather soul-searching number that relates conversations between children at play who honestly confide in one another concerning problems within their own homes.

What do the children say? Any teacher, particularly in the primary grades, could probably write a book on family relationships right here in Stouffville, as innocently told to her by her pupils over a period of weeks and months during the year. Yes, truth is surely stranger than fiction. For Mom and Dad it can be embarrassing too.

Away from the school, the second most prominent listening post is the Arena. Every Wednesday afternoon, dozens of boys and girls head for the rink for an hour of skating enjoyment. The dressing rooms are hives of activity. There, some of the strangest tales unfold, humorous and otherwise. We attended one of these discussion periods last week and took careful note of the conversations. They went something like this:

"How come you're so late getting down today?" "I had to stay in."

"What did the teacher do?" "Nothing very much. She just sang the whole time. It was awful. Boy, was I ever glad to get out of there."

"Do you know what? My Dad had to go into the Marguerite Shoppe this afternoon to buy something for Mom."

"What's so strange about that? What was it?"

"My Dad called it a corvette. He seemed kind of embarrassed."

"A Corvette? That's a Chevy sports car. You must mean a corset."

"I'm not sure. It sounded like Corvette. Anyway, it must be sort of small. I heard Dad tell Mom it took her a heck of a long time to get into it and just as long to get out."

"I can hardly wait till Saturday. Dad's bringing home a new color TV, so as he can watch the Leafs play Pittsburgh. I don't think we're going to keep it, though. Mom said we still owe quite a lot, yet on our old black and white set."

"It's going to be an awful weekend at our place. We've got company coming from the United States, a whole carload. Their relatives we haven't seen for a while. I know Mom doesn't want them very much, I could tell from the sound of her voice after she hung up the phone. Dad says they got lots of money and we must treat them nice."

"We're going to have an addition to our family too. Mom's an awful size."

"Do you want a baby brother or sister?"

"I want a brother. I've got one sister that's enough."

"My Dad can't have any more kids."

"Your Dad can't? You mean your Mom?"

"No, my Dad. I was with him at the hospital to take home my baby sister and I heard Dr. tell him that he thought six was plenty."

"Do your folks fight much?"

"No, not really only when they get mad."

"How about yours?"

"Not much during the week, 'cause Dad's away a lot. But on Sunday mornings, when Dad won't get out of bed and take us to church. Mom gets real angry."

"Last Sunday when he wouldn't get up, she stuck a whole ice cube down inside his pajama top. Boy did that wake him up in a hurry!"

"Did he take you to church?"

"Oh yes, but he might just as well have stayed at home."

"Why?"

"'Cause he slept through the whole sermon."

"Do you go to church?"

"No, just to Sunday school. In the winter, Dad drives me there; then comes and picks me up. In the summer, I walk."

"Don't your folks go to church?"

"No, Dad plays golf."

"Is ever going to get it tomorrow?"

"Why, what did he go?"

"He threw a snowball and hit Mr. (teacher) right on the back of the head, then he ran."

"He'll probably be off sick."

"If he's smart, he'll be real sick. Was Mr. ever mad. I bet he couldn't do it again if he tried."

"Did you see that skirt had on today. Boy was it short."

"What about it? She's away older than us. In Grade 8 they can get away with lotsa things."

"My mother says that her mother oughta be ashamed. Boy, am I glad I'm not a girl!"

"Me too."



SUGAR AND SPICE

Have A Great '68

By BILL SMILEY

Whatever you want most in 1968, I hope you get it. But don't count on it. There's nothing much you can be sure of except those old reliables, death and taxes. And with the government taxing us to death, the twain will soon be one.

When you're young, a year seems an age, and each new year is filled with promise and hope of new experience, new adventure. As you get older, the years begin slipping past like the pages of a book, and you realize that the new is going to be pretty much like the old one.

There'll be wars and rumors of wars. There'll be one crisis after another. There'll be scandal in high places. There'll be race riots and protest marches. There'll be a lot of rotten TV fare. Canada will be llected in the world hockey playoffs.

And a lot of the other old inevitables will be there: higher taxes and lower morals; shorter skirts and longer faces; louder music and softer bellies; more people and less housing; great political promises and minuscule political action. And so on. Make your own list.

On the personal level, the picture is about the same. If you're a man you're probably going to lose some hair and gain some girth, pick up another ache or two, grow a little more grouchy or pompous and wonder loudly what the hell the world is coming to.

If you're a woman, you're probably going to lose some shape and gain a chin, pick up a few more furrows in the face, grow a little more bossy, and nudge your husband another degree toward an early grave.

Whatever your sex, if you're over 30 you're going to find that a little more of your get-up-and-go has quietly got-up-and-went.

But don't worry about that. Gird up your loins, seize fortune by the forelock, spit in the face of fate, get some hormone shots and face another year with courage, dignity and bursitis in both shoulders, like me.

For, whether we like it or not, we happen to be living in one of the most exciting times in human history.

Many of us often wish we could be living in a simpler age, when black and white, right and wrong, were clearly established. Alas, we ain't.

But perhaps, when we feel a tinge of

regret, we should also remember that in those 'good old days' it was every man for himself. The rich were richer and the poor were starving. The strong grabbed from the weak. The white used the black as an animal. The mentally ill were swept under the carpet. And closets were crowded with skeletons.

Now, today's technological advances are frightening, but fascinating. Everyone's going to the moon. Personally, I don't want to be on the first scheduled flight, but the very idea is staggering in its reflection of man's eternal curiosity and ingenuity.

But even more exciting, in my opinion, is the social revolution that is sweeping our world. Modern man is examining himself as he never has before. He is literally picking himself up by the heels and shaking. As a result, long-held ideas as revered as poppy-cock, rigid dogmas are shattering like shards.



THIS WEEK & NEXT

U. S. Squeeze Will Hurt

By RAY ARGYLE

The gathering storm over the world's financial horizons spread to Canada last week with them warning from Washington that the U.S. might impose a tax on exports.

Such a measure, accurately described by Finance Minister Mitchell Sharp, "a reprehensible kind of border warfare," would be the second stage of President Johnson's drive to bring into balance U. S. spending abroad.

The United States has been fighting to maintain the world value of the dollar ever since Britain devalued the pound a month before Christmas.

To do this, the U.S. must improve its international balance of payments. At the present time, the U.S. is spending three and one-half billion dollars a year MORE abroad than it takes in from other countries.

This cannot go on indefinitely. Unless the drain on the dollar can be stemmed by the steps taken so far by President Johnson, the U.S. will have no recourse but to lower the value of its dollar in comparison with foreign currencies.

This is devaluation, and it was the course forced on Canada in 1962, and twice on Britain since the last war, all because expenditures abroad were outpacing revenues from other countries.

There are two main reasons for the U.S. deficit in foreign exchange.

First is the vast foreign investment which U.S. business has been making in Canada, western Europe and other non-Communist regions.

While it is true such investment eventually brings foreign funds by way of profits back into the U.S., the last ten years has been a record American investment abroad in buying up companies and starting new businesses.

Profits have started to flow back to the U.S., but not yet in sufficient volume to offset the original investment.

It was for this reason that President Johnson on New Year's Day announced curbs on American investment abroad. He called for a halt to U.S. private investment in western Europe and said investment in Canada, Britain and Aus-

tralia would be limited to 65 per cent of the amounts invested in 1965.

Curiously, this program met with mixed reaction in Canada and elsewhere. While U.S. investment has always spelled jobs and higher incomes in Canada and elsewhere it also has carried with it the spectre of U.S. economic domination. Many Western Europeans, particularly the French, welcomed President Johnson's investment curbs.

In Canada, Mr. Sharp's first reaction was that Canada would not be seriously affected. But this was before the threat to tax imports.

The second — and major — reason for the U.S. dollar drain is of course the war in Vietnam, where some \$25 billion is being spent every year in a war which is becoming increasingly hopeless.

Not all the \$25 billion is of course expended abroad. The vast sums poured into military equipment goes primarily to U.S. industry and the bulk of troop wages remain in the country. According to the U.S. secretary of the treasury, Henry Fowler, Vietnam is responsible for about one and one-half billion of the three and one-half billion dollar deficit.

The U.S. financial storm will endanger Canada's economy both in the strength of the dollar and in our ability to maintain a high level of exports.

If the U.S. devalued, Canada would have to follow suit. But because the respective values of the two currencies would probably remain relative, the effects would be minimal.

It is the import tax, however, that sends shudders up the spines of Ottawa politicians and Canadian industrialists.

The U.S. is Canada's best customer — just as Canada buys more from the U.S. than from any other country. If Washington imposes a levy of two to three per cent on imports from Canada, it will either price Canadian goods out of the U.S. market or force Canadian industry to accept lower prices.

Editor's Mail

The Important Thing

Dear Editor: With regard to a letter published in a recent issue of The Tribune concerning our present trend toward anecdotal report cards rather than graded ones, I feel that the parent was a little hasty in his or her conclusions.

To a five or six year old unable to read, the report itself means nothing. It is the parent's reaction to this report that bears influence, good or bad, on the child.

If progress has been good, and the child is praised and encouraged, this is the important thing, not a row of A's or B's.

Our principals and teachers are doing an admirable job. Let's stand behind them, not against them.

Sincerely, Rose Barry, Main Street, Stouffville

Worthy Suggestion

The name I suggest as worthy to receive a Centennial Medallion is that of Miss Margaret Hosie, a "more or less retired" school teacher in Stouffville. Many a parent, and countless students (some of whom were previously unable to adjust to school standards) owe her a great debt of gratitude.

Janet Brodie, Rupert Avenue, Stouffville



A Scenic Setting In Any Season

Anyone who has ever travelled the 6th concession of Uxbridge Township, will recognize this particular location. Banked by trees on both sides, it's a scenic setting in any season.

—Staff Photo

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