



The Tribune

Established 1888

CHARLES H. NOLAN, Publisher

JAMES THOMAS, Associate Publisher and Editor

ROBERT McCAUSLAND, Advertising Director

Published every Thursday by Inland Publishing Co. Limited at 54 Main St. Stouffville, Ont. Tel. 640-2101; Toronto phone 361-1680. Single copies 15c. Subscriptions \$7.00 per year in Canada, \$16.00 elsewhere. Member of Audit Bureau of Circulation, Canadian Community Newspapers Association and Ontario Weekly Newspapers Association. Second class mail registration number 0086.



Editorials

Too clean a sweep

When Bill Davis 'cleans house', he does it with a broom, not a whisk.

The Premier's latest 'sweep' was necessary; indeed it could be the clue to his Party's success when the people again trek back to the polls.

One change, however, must be questioned.

Robert Welch had assumed the Housing Ministry with some authority, a challenging task at the present time.

A priority project was Cedarwood and for him, it was "full steam ahead". Now, he's gone and a total stranger takes over. Where

does that put the Minister; the residents? Right back on square one.

We had a similar situation at the federal level. Don Jamieson was the Minister of Transport and supposedly the 'take charge guy' in the Pickering airport project. What happened? Just when plans were at a peak, he was replaced, and the 'learning period' began all over again.

Many people may not have agreed with Robert Welch. But at least, they knew where he stood. For murder, it seems, is a way of life in many U.S. cities and states. We live too close, not to be concerned.

In our opinion, Welch should have stayed. But Wells... that's a different story.

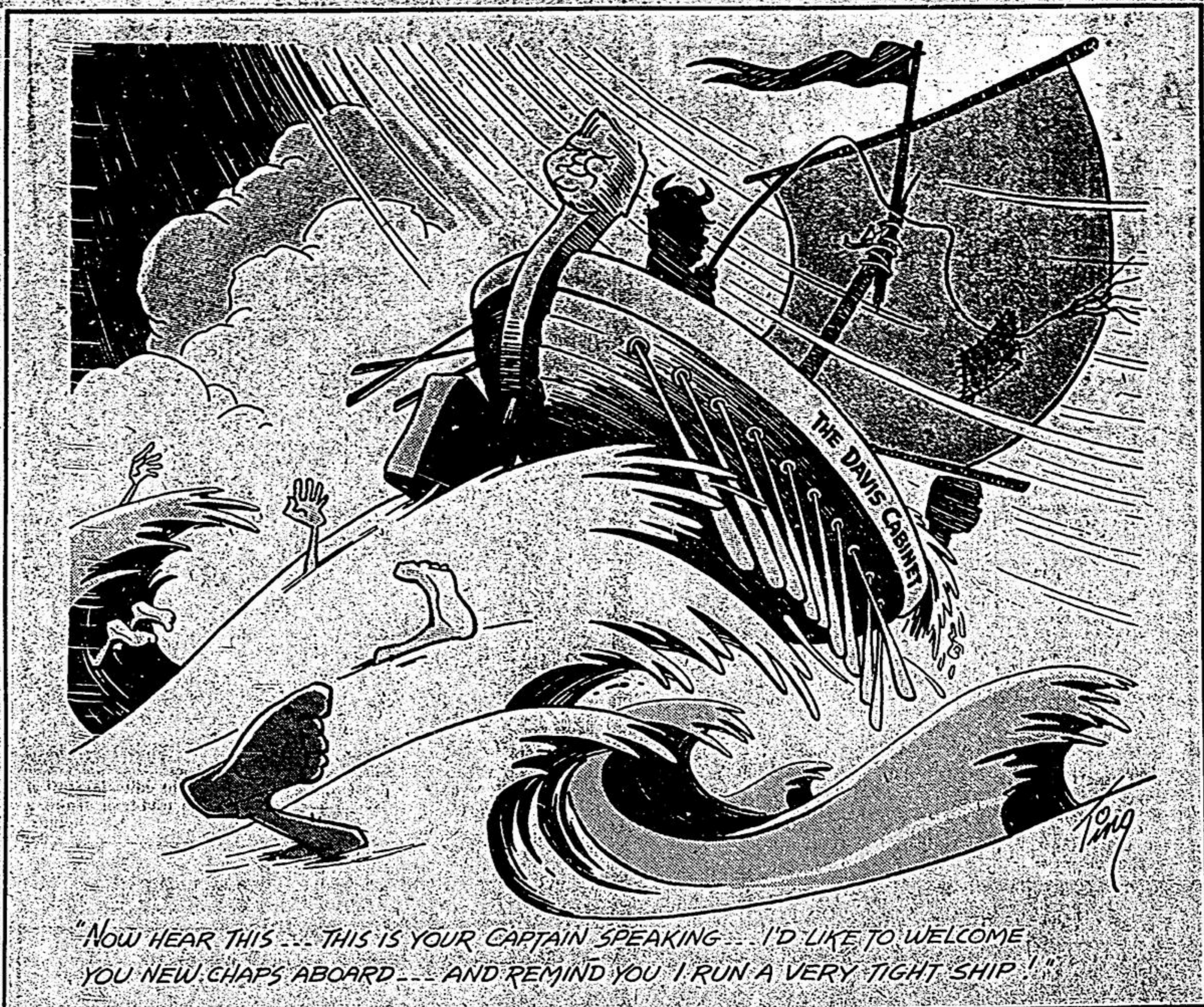
A gun-crazy country

The cold-blooded killing of a 17 year old Mount Albert boy, on a highway in Dayton, Ohio, last week, points up clearly, the kind of gun-crazy country, the United States has become.

Here was a boy, riding his motorcycle home, following a holiday trip to Florida. Suddenly, with no apparent reason or warning, he is gunned down and left to die on the

road. The assassin, one of several occupants in a car, sped away.

Canadians must surely shudder at this senseless kind of thing, particularly when the victim resides so close to home. And well we should. For murder, it seems, is a way of life in many U.S. cities and states. We live too close, not to be concerned.



SUGAR AND SPICE

The old 'bandits' were more colorful

By BILL SMILEY



Have you noticed the big change in the world of big capitalism in the past couple of decades?

The personnel in the inner sanctum of high finance is just as practical as that of the robber baron days, but the things they wheel and deal in are vastly different.

The bad old boys, the Fords and the Rockefellers, the J.P. Morgans and the Andrew Carnegies, were giants of finance, and a pretty unscrupulous lot, from all accounts.

They dealt with solid, tangible assets: steel and coal, oil, minerals, railways and banks.

Their techniques were roughly similar. Get hold of something as cheaply as possible, and dispose of it for as much as possible. And never pay a working man more than the absolute minimum. A simple formula, but it piled up millions, then billions.

Today, their names are connected with great philanthropies, but when they were alive, their names produced more curses than blessings. They fought the unions bitterly. They bribed and bullied and stole.

They'd have laughed at the idea that their depredations were destroying the ecology. They'd have had apoplexy if someone had suggested something as ridiculous as fringe benefits.

It's probably just as well they have gone, though they were a colorful lot of bandits.

Today's entrepreneurs seem to be just as arrogant, greedy and ruthless, but the things they deal in have changed almost completely.

Banks and railways and airlines are still highly profitable, but they are no longer the financial playthings of a few men. They have

become exceedingly dull, huge bureaucracies with little life or colour in them.

The new breed of banditti steers clear of them. Oh, your modern wheeler might take a flurry in oil, but it's more likely to be floating a stock issue than getting the stuff out of the ground.

Today's financial magnate is far more interested in the half world of sports and entertainment, than he is in just old things, like mines and such.

He still goes where the big bucks is, but the action has changed. Nowadays, he's more likely to own a prize fighter or a string of horses than a chunk of a copper mine. Today's big money is in publishing, radio and television, and sports.

And the really big money is in land speculation. Your old-time financier would have been stunned, and envious, could he see the doubling and tripling of money in the buying and selling of plain old land.

So, it's in the areas mentioned that you'll find the modern sharks, in large schools gobbling up the little suckers and regurgitating them for all the slightly larger suckers.

Another big change is in the publicity involved. The magnates of yesteryear were very close-mouthed. They kept their private lives as secluded as possible, retreated to vast homes and tried to keep the press at arms length.

Today's maggots (oops, a Freudian slip) glory in the limelight. They are never happier than when they have the media speculating about their next deal. They manipulate the press. After all, every story, every picture, drives up the price of whatever they're selling, and is also great for the ego. They'll call a press conference to discuss a pending

operation for, an in-grown toenail.

Even P.T. Barnum, the greatest con man of them all, would be green with jealousy if he could see the way some of the modern con artists use every trick he ever knew, and some they've invented, to sucker people into watching a third-rate sports team, or a third-rate prize fight.

There's one other aspect of the great scramble for the buck that has changed drastically. That's the relationship with the people working for the big dealers.

In the bad old days, when laissez-faire reigned supreme, it was the accepted custom to grind the worker down, and sweat the very life-blood out of him, to wring the last cent of profit.

Today the worm has turned, particularly in sports. All you need, if you're a pretty good athlete, is a good lawyer, and you can put the boss through the wringer.

Can you imagine the look on the face of J.P. Morgan if someone could tell him that athletes, mere bodies, were pulling in salaries in six figures?

This last aspect would seem to be a matter for sheer joy for most of us — watching the bosses being squeezed by the workers.

But alas, it won't do us any good, fellow sucker. The boss will merely raise the price of admission and won't lose a nickel of his own money.

Sounds like the government, doesn't it. When everything costs them more, they raise our taxes to pay for the increases. When everything costs us more, they raise the taxes as a curb against inflation.

Get in line, sucker, for the next increase in the price of tickets.

Somehow, with all their faults, I like the old bandits better.

Editor's Mail

At last - the facts

Dear parents-students:

During the past few months, you have heard little of a specific nature from Secondary School teachers regarding our long drawn-out contract negotiations with the York County Board of Education. There were several reasons for silence. First, we did not wish to jeopardize these discussions; secondly, we did not wish to be accused of using students as a captive audience and finally, we were afraid to express the mounting dissatisfaction and frustration that led to taking the drastic step of resignation.

Why afraid? Because, in the past, open resistance to, or criticism of, this Board's policies as implemented by its chief administrators, has all too frequently brought swift retaliation to those who dared to resist or criticize. Now, however, we feel we must speak.

Contrary to a letter sent home with students by the Board, Jan. 31, it must be pointed out that 'salary' is NOT the only issue here. Job security and classroom conditions are equally important.

What are the contentious items? Significantly, one is a grievance procedure which would give teachers redress against arbitrary Board decisions. For example, the Board, through its director, chose to change arbitrarily the interpretation of certain clauses in our 1973-74 agreement. This resulted in some teachers being reduced in category and hence in salary. We feel this is unfair; an agreement should be binding. Another item of concern to teachers is our present lack of an effective voice in determining educational policies. The matter of pupil-teacher ratio is an example. York County's P.T.R. is among the highest in the province, and while not every classroom is crowded, under the present system no teacher can be sure he or she will not be faced with a class so large that effective teaching becomes impossible.

Let us consider the state of schools in York County since Jan. 31. Yes, they are 'open' but not 'operational'. We want the schools to be fully operative. It's up to the Board to act responsibly and do the one thing that will make the schools operative, namely, agree to negotiate ALL contentious items.

If you, as students and parents, are alarmed over the present school situation, as you have every right to be, may we encourage you to make your feelings known to your Board trustees. If the Board shares our desire to restore the schools to a state of normalcy, if it cares about teacher, student morale, let it agree to negotiate fully and fairly, and in so doing, win back the confidence of its teachers, the students, and the public.

E.L. Herbert, Stouffville.

(A teacher in York County for the past 20 years.)

Dear Editor:

The prolonged teachers' strike, now over (I hope), has taught many of us a lesson.

It has focussed attention on education (and related issues), like nothing else has ever done.

It has made us realize how human teachers are; how mature many of our young people are; how slow to action government is; and how weak and impersonal our area system has become.

It's unfortunate so many had to suffer so that others could learn a lesson.

Here's hoping we've learned it well.

Mrs. Joyce Leary, R.R. 2, Stouffville

ROAMING AROUND

A \$15 topless rub - what a bust!

By JIM THOMAS



For several weeks now, this newspaper has been publishing an advertisement, proclaiming the personal benefits provided by a city massage parlor.

It's a harmless looking little ad, so small, in fact, I skipped right past it the first time around.

Some readers, however, were more observant. The phones started ringing two hours after The Tribune was on the street.

I immediately grabbed a copy from the counter to find out what the fuss was all about, and yes, there it was, in full view of everyone: "Be pampered," it said, "treated like a King, etc. etc."

Okay, what's so shocking about that? you ask.

Nothing, I suppose. There are dozens of body-rub businesses scattered through the city. But this one is different. The receptionists, you see, perform their service in varying degrees of undress, depending, of course, on their patrons' ability to pay.

This is the thing that disturbs people, at least some people. But not me, and I don't profess to be any more tolerant than the next guy.

What's so morally wrong with a topless masseuse?

What's so indecent about an advertisement, publicizing this kind of vocation? Plenty, complained several callers, and subsequent letters said the same.

"I like to think of The Tribune as a 'clean newspaper'," said one lady.

"By advertising it, you're condoning it," claimed another.

"Think of our young people," said still another.

Caught a bit off guard, I could do little else but listen. It's difficult to either condemn or approve something, you know nothing about. But I decided to find out.

The opportunity occurred, Feb. 15. I was in the downtown area with an hour to 'kill', so decided to look the place up. Some job. With so many back alleys and one-way streets, I was travelling around in circles. Finally, in desperation, I parked the car and walked.

The location, I discovered, was in a rather ram-shackle building, off Adelaide, east of Yonge. It was eerie (at night anyway), hardly the dashy-flashy spot I had expected.

Three times I walked in the front door, and three times I walked out. My heart was pounding so hard, I had to keep swallowing to hold it down.

Then I stopped, looked the 'welcome' sign square in the eye and said: "Jim, (I talk to myself occasionally). If you're really the 'super-snooper' you claim to be, then check the place out and see if it's up to snuff!"

"Okay," I answered, "here goes."

The winding wooden stairway led to the third floor. In the darkness, to the right, I saw

a flickering red light, and a girl seated behind a desk.

"Hi," she said, "what would you like?"

"I'm not sure," I answered, "it's my first time."

"Oh, I see," she replied, "well, it's \$15 topless; \$20 totally nude or our special 'double delight'."

"Double delight," I answered curiously, "what's that?"

"That's two of us, for an hour," she smiled.

"Heavens," I said, weakly, "I couldn't stand that. Give me your cheapest."

"Fine," she agreed, "that'll be \$15."

"Oh no," I protested, "I want to see the girls first. There's supposed to be a choice."

"There is," she said, "but two are busy. Won't I do? I'm more than just a receptionist, you know."

I was caught and she knew it. I had to think of something, anything, fast.

"How long will I have to wait?" I asked.

"Maybe twenty minutes," she answered.

"Sorry," I said, "I'm in a bit of a rush."

So, readers, I mean ran — down three flights of stairs, two steps at a time without stopping till I reached the street.

So, readers, I'm really no wiser, but richer.

Fifteen dollars! For that kind of money, I can buy enough oil to drown in the stuff.

Students held for ransom

By C. H. Nolan

Should the schools of York re-open this week, the bitterness and ill-will that has been engendered by the protracted teachers' strike will long remain. The acute losers are the students whose education is being held for ransom by the teachers. A wishy-washy provincial government, frightened by the teachers' union, has failed to act in any decisive manner. Even the Premier, himself, earlier set deadlines for action which have long since passed without a move.

In our opinion, the mass of ratepayers believed that the trustees whom they elected were expected to operate the schools, which includes hiring the number of qualified teachers they deemed necessary for the job. However, it now seems that the teachers don't go along with this mandate given the Board, as they themselves continue to press that they, the teachers are to control the operation. They wish to set the pay they are to receive, the number of students they will teach, and

what is to be taught. We presume the Board could handle the caretaking operation.

The Board too has been lax, and is just now getting around to making moves towards hiring new teachers to replace those who have resigned, something they should have done much sooner. Some are talking of resignation to force the government to act.

However, all the while this procrastination has been taking place, the students have been receiving nothing, a deplorable situation. Parents have been riled and even threatened to withhold school taxes with full justification. Both bodies which were voted responsibility by the people, have failed, the government and the School Board. Both have had the power to act and have not done so. The teachers for their part, were hired to do a job, and they too have failed, and have even gone so far as to quit. The teachers' union has said, meet our demands or the students will have no education, and this is intolerable.