

Letter to the Editor

Police action criticized

Dear Sir:

I wish to complain about a constable in the York Regional Police Force.

In the morning of March 13, 1976 I was on the Main Street of Stouffville and witnessed a police constable from car 134 give out two parking tickets and while doing so he himself broke the law three times.

The first time he parked in front of a driveway where he wrote out the ticket and left his car to put the ticket on the happening, there was a

car waiting to pull out of the driveway onto Main Street. The ridiculous part about this situation is that he could have backed his car up a few feet so that he would not be blocking the driveway but doing so would have taken him out of full view of the licence plate of the car which was illegally parked, thus causing the constable to get out of his car, walk across Main Street in order to write down the licence number.

The second time the same constable spotted an illegally parked car on the corner of Main and Mill Streets. The constable pulled onto Mill Street, backed onto Main Street and parked, just as illegally, on the east corner of Mill and Main streets. After the constable had written out this ticket he pulled ahead, blocking the Mill Street entrance onto Main

Street, got out of his car and put the ticket on the windshield of the parked car. Again, as in the incident cited above, he was blocking a car trying to pull out onto Main Street!

You may feel this is not an important incident but I feel this constable was setting a very poor example to young people thinking of obtaining a driver's licence and also to the other drivers on the road.

It has been pointed out on many occasions by the downtown merchants of Stouffville that the consumer in this area but going elsewhere. Well, I can hardly blame them when there is so little parking space plus having police cruisers adding to the problem.

I realize the police are only doing their jobs when they ticket illegally

parked cars but why can't these police constables be on foot instead of adding to the amount of traffic. Having police constables on foot would also put the police on a more personal basis with the civilian.

MARY LOU McINNIS
R.R. 3, Stouffville

Traffic light irks resident

Dear Sir:

I am approaching my second anniversary as a Stouffvilleite next month, and for a growing town only 20 miles from the Big Apple, Stouffville might as well be located somewhere north of the Arctic Circle for the thought and research its town council puts in to the town.

Our town council is to me a set of traffic lights placed in the middle of a business block, with no purpose other than to let residents and shoppers cross from one side of the street to another.

Have you ever attempted to drive off of a side street in Stouffville on a Saturday at noon hour with all the traffic pouring in and from the Sales Barn? Maybe I grew up in a too progressive city, but any traffic lights I encountered there were just that—traffic lights, utilized to control traffic flow along busy streets and not people lights for crossing over streets.

I believe the residents of this town would be astounded to discover what their \$85-\$100 crosswalk cost to be replaced by our first set of traffic lights and with December elections coming, maybe they should find out.

DAVID SIMPSON

Tribune Book Review

3 books on native rights

By WAYNE MOORE

The construction workers must stand as Canadian classic in native rights and northern resource development.

We are fortunate that Richardson has recorded with wit and compassion, a story the media chose to dismiss after a multi-million dollar settlement, which in the eyes of many quieted the claims. Only time will tell what we have learned from the costly and demeaning exercise.

Howard Adams is a Saskatchewan Metis who has written a book that calls into question most of the myths surrounding the opening of the west and its historic development. No longer can the cliché "Go west young man", roll off the tongue and not bring to mind the true role of our pioneers and government in western settlement.

"Prison of Grass" is a relentless attack on the white man, his laws, his government, his priorities and even his way of life. What is most disturbing is that Adams seems to hold little hope that a solution can be found within the framework of our present society and he lays many of the native problems in the hands of liberal bureaucrats, politicians and educators. This book will not rest well with most readers for it strikes close to the very pillar of our misconception and that is ominous. The issues Adams raises demand immediate attention. The tragedy is that it is late in the day and a start has barely

been made. The Harrowing of Eden, by J.E. Chamberlain also looks in detail at the interplay of dialogue and action between white and native North Americans. Drawing on early records, Professor Chamberlain compares Canadian and American attitudes on native issues and exposes many of the traditional beliefs that have been part of our

education and our way of life. Dr. Chamberlain's book is an objective and worthy contribution to an understanding of ourselves as well as Canadian native peoples. There is much to dwell upon in these three books and it is time we re-examined our premises about society and ourselves and started considering the planet as a whole with all its races equal members.

J. E. Chamberlain, Author of The Harrowing of Eden will be at JOHN LORD'S BOOKS, 36 Main St. E., Stouffville, Friday, April 2nd 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

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