

More mail

Student strapping 'barbaric'

Dear Sir,
As a resident of York Region, I was profoundly disappointed when I read that the York Region Board of Education voted to retain the strap. While progressive boards throughout the province have rescinded this barbaric practice York Region has not only condoned it but has dug it out, dusted it off and imbued it with new vigour and dignity.

superimpose physical abuse on top of this psychological abuse could be the final coup de grace that turns the vulnerable child to mental illness or delinquent behaviour.

Children lack reserves of self esteem to sustain them under humiliating conditions and the sophistication of adults to cope with an attack on their dignity. They will either acquiesce and succumb to depression and mental illness or they will fight back in ways unacceptable to the adult.

One additional danger in any policy condoning corporal punishment is that it leaves room for individual interpretation. A few years ago a principal in York Region threw a six-year-old child to the floor, kicked him and tore the sleeve from his shirt in the name of corporal punishment. Certainly not what a "judicious parent" would do but one sick mind's interpretation of "corporal punishment". In any barrel of superb, dedicated teachers, there

will always be a few rotten apples.

If the school is experiencing adverse behaviour that is endangering the safety of the child or other children they should report it to the parents and allow the parents to deal with it. To contemplate strapping a child without first informing his parents, as one trustee suggested, is unthinkable.

If the child's behaviour has deteriorated to the point where he merits this severe disciplinary measure, the parents should have long since been involved. Moreover, what of the epileptic child to whom a strap induced seizure might mean irreversible brain damage. I'm not suggesting that parents should never resort to physical punishment as long as it is dealt in an atmosphere of love and discipline and what is considered to be in the best interests of the safety of the child and others. But there is a vast difference between a child being punished by parents who normally

show him love and affection and the callous, calculated strapping by a school official who to the child is only a symbol of societal authority.

Schooling is society making a deliberate and highly organized intervention into the child's growth process during a time when that child is both most malleable and most vulnerable. Surely in a civilized society, if we are going to require by law that a child sit in school from ages six to sixteen, we have a responsibility to ensure that this is a positive kind of intervention. The knowledge is available now to allow us to meet the needs of exceptional children. We have a large surplus of teachers, many of whom are trained in special education. We have empty classrooms begging for small self-contained classes to meet the needs of the 20 per cent or more of our children who had the misfortune, through no fault of their own, to be born something other than our concept of "normal". We have money for just about

anything else you'd care to mention. Surely with all these resources at our disposal, if we cannot meet the needs of these children—if we therefore frustrate, embarrass, humiliate, or in a hundred other ways provoke these children to act out—surely the last thing we should do is to beat them.

To protect our children from physical abuse I would urge every parent of every exceptional child to direct a letter to the Director of Education forbidding the use of any form of corporal punishment and subsequently to lay an assault charge if their wishes in this respect are ignored.

There will be a municipal election this fall. I would further urge these parents to request from the board office (887-5931) a list of the trustees who voted to retain corporal punishment and to actively campaign against the reelection of these trustees.

Sincerely yours,
Rosemary Underwood,
Reg. N. B.Sc.
Executive Director,
Ontario A.C.L.D.

Desire for simpler lifestyle isn't return to 'hells' of past

Now, Now, Mr. Editor, it is not fair to you to assume that concern over the modern trends of society and a desire for a simpler and more natural way of life would mean a return to the various hells of the past.

We would surely have enough sense to retain what was good in the matter of sanitation, nutrition, and scientific use of resources.

If we recognise the hazards of today we must deal with them from experience and when we find ourselves off the track on the road of social progress in a wilderness of doubt and difficulties we should retrace our steps to find where we took the wrong turning.

In his comprehensive study, "The Crisis of Our Age" P.A. Sorokin differentiates between the physical materialistic and the

ethical idealistic aspects of social change and sees hope only with a return to the latter.

The English jurist Veale in his history of wars "Advance to Barbarism" shows how the last world war was a downgrading trend from the wars of the Age of Chivalry, when the victor was magnanimous.

Our leaders must now see how in fear and panic they accepted as an ally the would-be world dictators of the future. Now when all our politicians cry "Peace Peace" we are turning our ploughshares into bomber planes because, of course, we must find work for our unemployed.

Andrew Glen
Locust Hill

Ed. note: When it comes to victors being magnanimous there never was an Age of Chivalry.

THE FOURTH QUARTER

By LESLIE HOLBROOK

My series on shelter for seniors has practically put me in the real estate business - and me without a realtor's license.

Something similar is happening with my "travel in Canada" columns where readers are trying to turn me into a tour counsellor. (Please contact a travel agent for specific trip prices and other details.)

Although most of you are trying to continue living in the old family home (as we discussed recently) there is a growing interest in modular (so-called mobile) housing.

Unfortunately, quality modular housing communities are still few and far between in Canada. This seems particularly true in Western Canada.

Mrs. A.F.B., Burnaby, B.C. is a case in point. Because of her struggles with stairs she is looking for a non-basement, single-dwelling home. She wants to move to Alberta; to search the Alberta market she subscribed to papers there.

So far, she reports, she has found no mobile home buyers' information services in those papers. If there are operators of adult parks who think they can offer something suitable ("within the city" preferred) let me know.

I suspect that the flight of the elderly to sunny U.S. states in winter is not as great in the West as in the rest of Canada. After all, B.C. boasts of mild winters and the well-to-do find such places as Hawaii considerably closer than eastern folk.

So just once more here are additional comments from eastern letter writers.

Mr. and Mrs. A.T., Ottawa, believe that the case I cited of a life-time guarantee of \$50 a month maintenance fee in Florida is exceptional. (I'm putting them in touch with the Peterborough couple who reported this.)

munity have had to pay \$200 to have city sewage put in even though we had a fine sewage plant of our own. Now the city is trying to force us to have municipal garbage pickup, though we have our own satisfactory system," they write.

These additional letters emphasize that, east or west, this type of living - presented as ideal in the glossy brochures put out by the developers - is not all fun and games.

But then what is? On the plus side I open a letter from a

mobile homes operator in Ontario's Haliburton area who quotes attractive prices and describes good facilities in this popular vacation district. This man also has started "a Christian retirement park in Florida." A stamped, self-addressed

envelope will bring you his name.

Send comments and questions (long, stamped addressed envelope for reply) to The Tribune, c/o P.O. Box 1506, Guelph, Ontario N1H 6N9

GUARD YOUR FAMILY'S HEALTH AND BUDGET

GUARDIAN DRUGS

Prices Effective Until AUG. 5th.

SUMMER SAVINGS!

RAID HOUSE & GARDEN BUG KILLER \$1.99	RAID MOSQUITO COILS \$1.33	KLEENEX FACIAL TISSUES 2-Ply White 100's 3 BOXES \$1	CREST TOOTHPASTE Regular or Mint \$1.44
BAND-AID 100 plastic strips \$1.44	NAIR DEPILATORY 57 & CREAM OR 125 ml Lotion \$1.33	Clairol FINAL NET HAIR SPRAY \$1.59	MAALOX 340 ML SUSPENSION OR 50 TABLETS \$1.88
MISS CLAIROL SHAMPOO FORMULA HAIR COLOR \$2.27	Coppertone TROPICAL BLEND LOTION \$2.49	ULTRA BAN ROLL-ON ANTI-PERSPIRANT \$1.27	LISTERMINT MOUTHWASH AND GARGLE \$1.44

Widdifield DRUG STORE

OPEN MON thru SAT 9 A.M. to 9 P.M. OPEN SUN 11 A.M. to 6 P.M.

Barbecue

Fresh Chicken Legs or Breasts

\$1.19

LB.

CUT FROM CANADA GRADE "A" BEEF Rib Steaks

\$1.99

LB.

Hamburg or Wiener Buns

35c

PKG. OF 8

<p>CUT FROM CANADA GRADE "A" BEEF</p> <p>Beef Short Ribs 1.17 LB.</p> <p>Beef Steakettes 2.39 2 LB. CRIN.</p> <p>Side Bacon 1.59 1 LB. PKG.</p> <p>Wieners 1.09 1 LB. PKG.</p>	<p>CANADIAN QUEEN</p> <p>Pork Sausages 1.09 LB.</p> <p>Bologna 69c LB.</p> <p>Sandwich Meats 55c 6 OZ. PKG.</p> <p>Potato Salad or Cole Slaw 59c 12 OZ. TUB.</p>
---	---

<p>Lay's Potato Chips 79c 2.25 OZ. PKG.</p> <p>Flaked White Tuna 99c 6 1/2 OZ. TIN.</p>	<p>IGA Ketchup 39c 11 FL. OZ. BTL.</p> <p>Sunlight Detergent 79c 24 FL. OZ. PLASTIC BTL.</p> <p>Boutique Paper Napkins 99c PKG. OF 150.</p> <p>Aluminum Foil Wrap 1.09 25 FT. ROLL CUTTER BOX.</p> <p>Welch's Grape Juice 79c 12 FL. OZ. TIN.</p> <p>Whole Kernel Corn 79c 2 LB. POLY BAG.</p> <p>Natural Cheese Slices 89c 5 OZ. PKG.</p> <p>Fleischmann's Margarine 2.29 2 LB. CATN.</p>
---	--

<p>Ontario Summer Salad '78 July-August</p> <p>Ontario Potatoes 1.39 10-LB. BAG.</p> <p>Celery Stalks 49c EA.</p> <p>Field Cucumbers 2 FOR 49c.</p> <p>Green Onions 2 BUNCHES FOR 39c.</p>	<p>PRODUCE OF U.S.A. Red Cardinal Grapes 79c LB.</p> <p>Bartlett Pears 69c LB.</p> <p>Bunch Carrots 3 BUNCHES FOR 99c.</p>
---	---

<p>Swan's Down Bathroom Tissue 99c 4-ROLL PKG.</p> <p>Peek Frean Biscuits 55c 7 OZ. PKG.</p> <p>Whole Kernel Corn 3 \$1 12 FL. OZ. TINS.</p> <p>New Freedom Maxi Pads 99c PKG. OF 12.</p> <p>Ultrabrite Toothpaste 99c 100 ml TUBE.</p> <p>Scope Mouthwash 1.59 500 ml PLASTIC BTL.</p> <p>Quikki Utility Bags 2 PKGS. \$1.</p>	<p>IGA Beans with Pork 3 \$1 14 FL. OZ. TINS.</p>
--	--

STOUFFVILLE — IGA

Open Mon. to Wed 6 P.M. Thurs. & Fri. til 9 P.M. Sat. 6 P.M.