

The Tribune
 Established 1888
 JAMES THOMAS Editor-in-Chief
 CHARLES H. NOLAN Publisher
 BARRE BEACOCK Advertising Manager

EDITORIAL DEPT: JoAnn Thompson, Jim Holt
 DISPLAY ADVERTISING DEPT: Lois Wideman, Marie Emmerson
 CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING-CIRCULATION: Joan Marshall
 OFFICE MANAGER: Doreen Descon
 BUSINESS OFFICE: Eileen Glover

Published every Thursday at 54 Main St., Stouffville, Ont. Tel. 640-2101; Toronto phone 361-1680.
 Single copies 25¢; subscriptions \$11.00 per year in Canada, \$30.00 elsewhere. Member of Canadian Community Newspapers Association and Ontario Weekly Newspapers Association. Second class mail registration number 0896.

The Tribune is one of the Inland Publishing Co. Limited group of suburban newspapers, which includes the Ajax/Whitby/Pickering News Advertiser, Brampton Guardian, Burlington Post, Etobicoke Gazette, Markham Economist and Sun, Newmarket/Aurora Era, Oakville Beaver, Oshawa This Week, Mississauga News, Oshawa This Weekend, Acton Free Press, Milton Canadian Champion and the Georgetown Independent.

640-2100 361-1680

Editorials

Question salary increase

On Dec. 31, 1979, Ralph Corner, the clerk-administrator for Whitchurch-Stouffville retired. His service to the village, now a town, spanned twenty-three years.

Those who worked for and with him, tell of his excellent administrative capabilities, particularly during the change-over period when the Twp. of Whitchurch and the Village of Stouffville became one. Only Ralph himself will ever know the countless hours of extra time required in bringing the two municipalities together.

But all that is now history. Or so it seems. The council is making a fresh new start. Or so it seems. They've approved the hiring of an administrator (not a clerk-administrator), with a lot less experience for several thousand dollars more than Ralph Corner received when he left.

The decision, while by no means unanimous, makes no sense. The only conclusions one can draw are: (1). The past administrator wasn't adequately performing his duties. (2). The past administrator was grossly underpaid. (3). Experience counts for nothing. (4). The new administrator will be saddled with responsibilities above and beyond what was expected of the previous employee.

Our bewilderment at this decision should not be taken as a personal criticism. Quite the contrary. From what we've been told, the Town has made an excellent choice. However, to pay more for less, makes us wonder what economic wizardry was employed. Thirty-five thousand dollars, by Whitchurch-Stouffville standards, is a pretty lucrative figure for someone who may need a road map to find Main Street.

Town made excellent choice

The choice is a good one and almost automatic. On Feb. 4, Walter Smith takes over the post of Fire Chief in Whitchurch-Stouffville on a full-time basis.

For the Town, the appointment is overdue. Chief Smith admits this. However, any delay in filling the position has obviously worked out best for both sides.

For the next few months, the chief will be a busy man. He has some catching up to do, particularly in the field of inspections. This means he won't be in the office every time the phone rings. But he'll be on the job just the same.

Having "grown up" with the department

here (in his 34th year), he knows what's been done in the past and what needs to be done in the future. However, he has no intentions of going too far, too fast. "We can't do everything all at once," he said.

It's safe to say, though, that one full-time man is only the start. Others will be added as the need arises.

What's most important at this stage is the spirit of co-operation so apparent between the Chief and his men. Such might not have been the case had the Town seen fit to hire an 'outsider'. Nor might it go down too well if 'outsiders' are hired in the future. Let's hope this never happens.

Image distorts the man

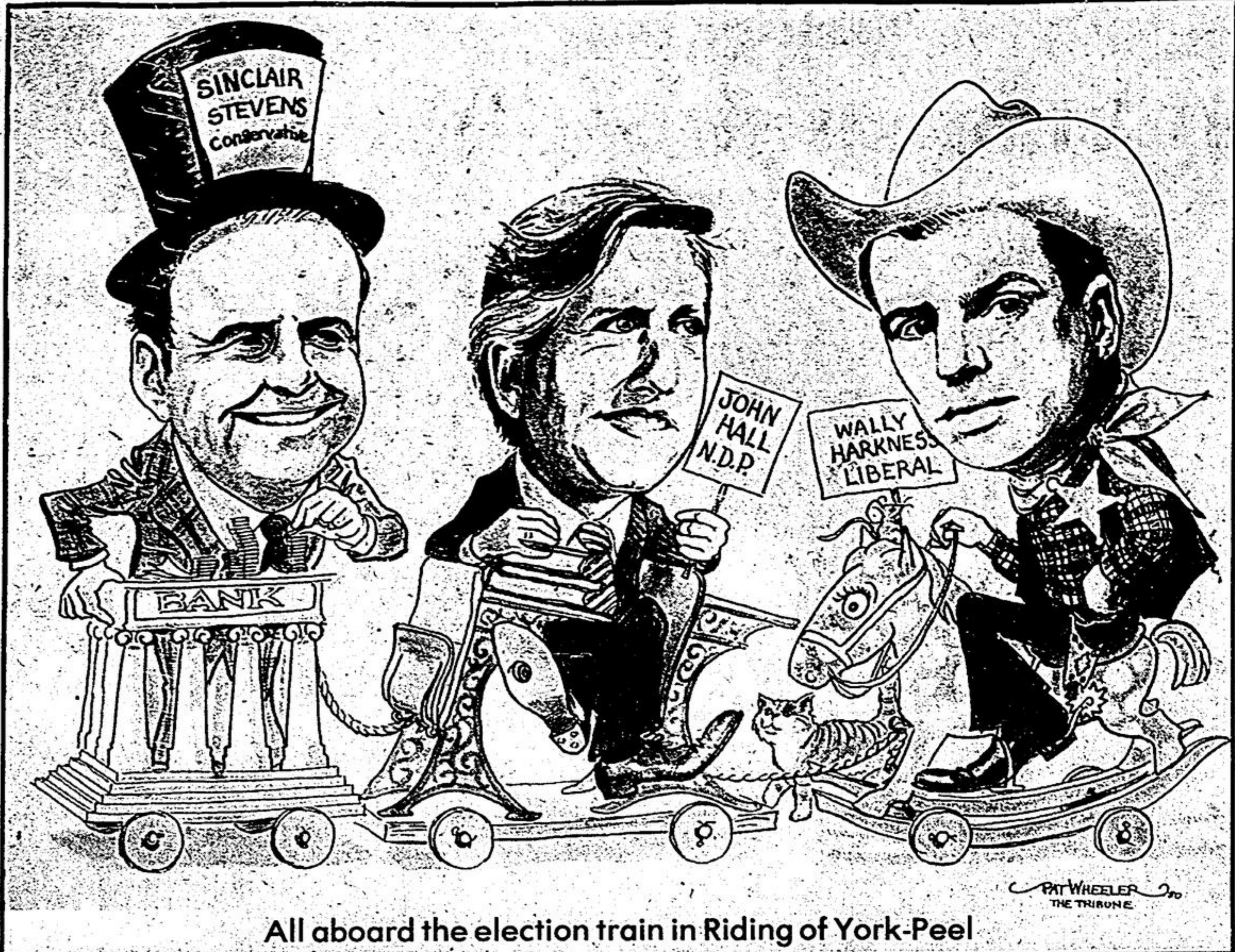
Prime Minister Joe Clark who has been struggling against a negative image in numerous quarters, can impress. We can attest to this fact since we had the honor and pleasure of chatting with him last week.

At the conclusion of our conversation, we immediately recalled a quote from the Prime Minister himself, "if you get to know me, you'll like me." Even in such a brief meeting as we enjoyed, we can believe his statement. Television exposure is not necessarily a

compliment for everyone. While general appearance and gestures of the person on the screen are very clear, personality and sincerity do not always come through.

Prime Minister Clark can answer questions without hesitation, and with a directness which belie charges of fumbling sometimes levelled against him. There is no aloofness which can come with high office.

In our view the Prime Minister is very approachable - we were impressed.



All aboard the election train in Riding of York-Peel

Roaming Around

Like I'd known him all my life

By Jim Thomas



In this weird and wonderful world of journalism, we folks in the weekly field (and daily too, I suppose), tend to rub shoulders with all types of people, some weird, the majority wonderful.

Most we know or at least recognize. However, not everywhere is this so. Main Street, Stouffville is hardly comparable to Dixon Road, Mississauga. My 'compatriot', the editor of the Mississauga News, for example, isn't likely to tip his chapeau to every person he meets between home and work, much less call each by name. But out in the hinterland of Whitchurch-Stouffville, things are different, although changing too. Here, we stare at the faces we don't know rather than those we do. It's less obvious that way.

On occasions, however, we do stray from the beaten path that leads to the arena, the firehall, the bowling alley, the post office and the restaurant. And it's during such times we see those folks we read about, talk about, maybe even write about, but seldom meet personally.

I can think of dozens and likely you can too. Those who come to mind immediately are - Leslie Frost, John Roberts, Bill Davis and Pierre Trudeau; Guy Lombardo, Jane

Morgan and Bob Goulet; Turk Broda (remember him?), Ted Kennedy and Eddie Shack, to mention a few. Each to me, in his (or her) own way, was rather special, so much so, the exact time and place of our meeting has remained firmly entrenched in my mind.

On Thursday, it happened again, another milestone down memory lane. The editors (and publishers) of all thirteen Inland newspapers, had an opportunity to meet and talk with the Prime Minister of Canada.

What is he like, I mean, what is he REALLY like? This was the one question I asked myself. Why? Because experience (twenty-nine years of it) has taught me that the packaged image and the real person can be two very different people.

But not so with Joe Clark. He was exactly as I had imagined - immaculate in his appearance; quiet-spoken but straight-forward in his replies; friendly in his manner (he called me Jim and I called him Joe); a genuine gentleman that I liked the minute we met.

What impressed me most was his sincerity; his honesty, plus the fact he didn't attend the gathering all gift-wrapped and tinsel-taped. I saw no entourage of chauffeur-

driven limousines (just six ordinary Chevrolet); no wailing of police sirens (no police at all); no henchmen checking the points on our pencils or aides offering unwanted assistance.

It was a refreshing change from what I had seen previously; from what I had expected earlier. Joe Clark, like the man who gathers up the pork and beans after the bottom falls out of your grocery bag; like the official greeter inside the front door of Churchill Baptist Church; like the service station attendant who cleans off the rear window of my stationwagon - that little extra.

I was impressed.

Plain people



JEAN MANN
 Orchard Park Blvd., Stouffville
 Jean Mann, Orchard Park Blvd., Stouffville, has provided an invaluable service in the work of the Girl Guide movement here. She currently holds three positions - leader of the 2nd Guide Company; Stouffville's District Commissioner and Deputy Division Commissioner for York North. In November, she was honored at a banquet and presented with her Ten Year Bar. Jean's association with young people started back in the 50's when she assisted with a girls' ball team that went on to win an Ontario Title. Later, she helped head up the Sunday School at Christ Anglican Church. Her involvement in Guiding included three meetings each month, a meeting every week plus 'extras'. During the past nine summers, she's been a chief overseer at Camp Adelaide near Halliburton and this winter will assist with separate Brownie and Guide camps at the Claremont Conservation Area. In spite of all this, Jean's modest in any assessment of her accomplishments. "I couldn't have done it without my leaders," she says. Jean's a director on the York-Markham Hospital Board and a 20-year worker in the Overseas Booth at the Royal Winter Fair. She holds a Bronze Medalion and her Lifesaving Certificate. Jean's proud of her family that includes one son Rick, in his third year of medicine at Queen's University and two daughters, Debbie, a graduate of St. Lawrence College, Kingston and presently working in Ottawa and Marianne, a fourth year student in a Bachelor of Science of Nursing degree course, University of Toronto. It's because of people like Jean Mann, Whitchurch-Stouffville's a better place in which to live.

Editor's Mail

Firemen keep out

Dear Sir:

I was astounded to learn, last week, that a Member of the Provincial Legislature was planning to present a Bill, giving local firemen sweeping powers, including the right to enter private citizens' homes.

In my opinion, this is something the people of Ontario can do without. To me, it would be another wedge driven into private citizens' rights.

If my memory serves me correctly, a former attorney general wanted to introduce a Bill giving police similar sweeping powers. His resignation was demanded by the public, the press and the premier.

The same should apply to this man. His efforts would be better spent educating the public on the proper use of wood stoves and the dangers of smoking in bed, the causes of most fires today.

H.I. Jones,
 Stouffville.

Dear Jim:

The Stouffville-Sweden Committee wishes to thank The Tribune for its very special coverage of the visit by the Haninge Sweden Midget Team to Stouffville. We feel a very special thanks should go to you and your staff, and especially Jim Holt for the excellent reporting of the event.

Your publication brought the Swedish visit to homes of everyone in Stouffville and helped make their stay a memorable occasion. Our Swedish friends took many copies of The Tribune home to Sweden as souvenirs of their stay in Stouffville. Once again, thank you very much.

Mr. John Hutchinson
 Chairman
 Stouffville-Sweden Committee

Dear Sir:

My wife and I own a small home in Stouffville and we are presently renovating as no doubt many persons who own older homes are doing. While shopping for suitable carpeting we decided to try local merchants as well as out of town companies. From the beginning when we visited the Girard Carpet Sales showroom in Stouffville, through the selection process, purchase and finally the

installation, we found their staff helpful, interested and very professional. We found out later that this is a family operation with fathers, sons, uncles and cousins working side by side. No doubt mothers and daughters are there as well. We think it is a good operation giving value for a fair price.

It is reassuring to see quality of material and responsible attitudes still existing these days.

Jim and Bonnie Heldema
 RR 2, Stouffville.

Dear Jim:

I seldom read obituaries, mainly because the deceased is rarely someone I know.

The late Ivan McLaughlin would fall into that category. I thought I knew him, but I really didn't know him at all.

To me, he was a good farmer, a good plowman, a good councilman, a good neighbor, a good friend.

However, it wasn't until I read last week's Tribune did I learn that he had served as a foster father to so many children through the years. This 'memorial' was given priority, even over Ivan's other accomplishments, and rightly so. The farming, the plowing, the politics and even the friendships will pass away but the home life provided children with no homes, will long be remembered.

Sincerely,
 A good friend.

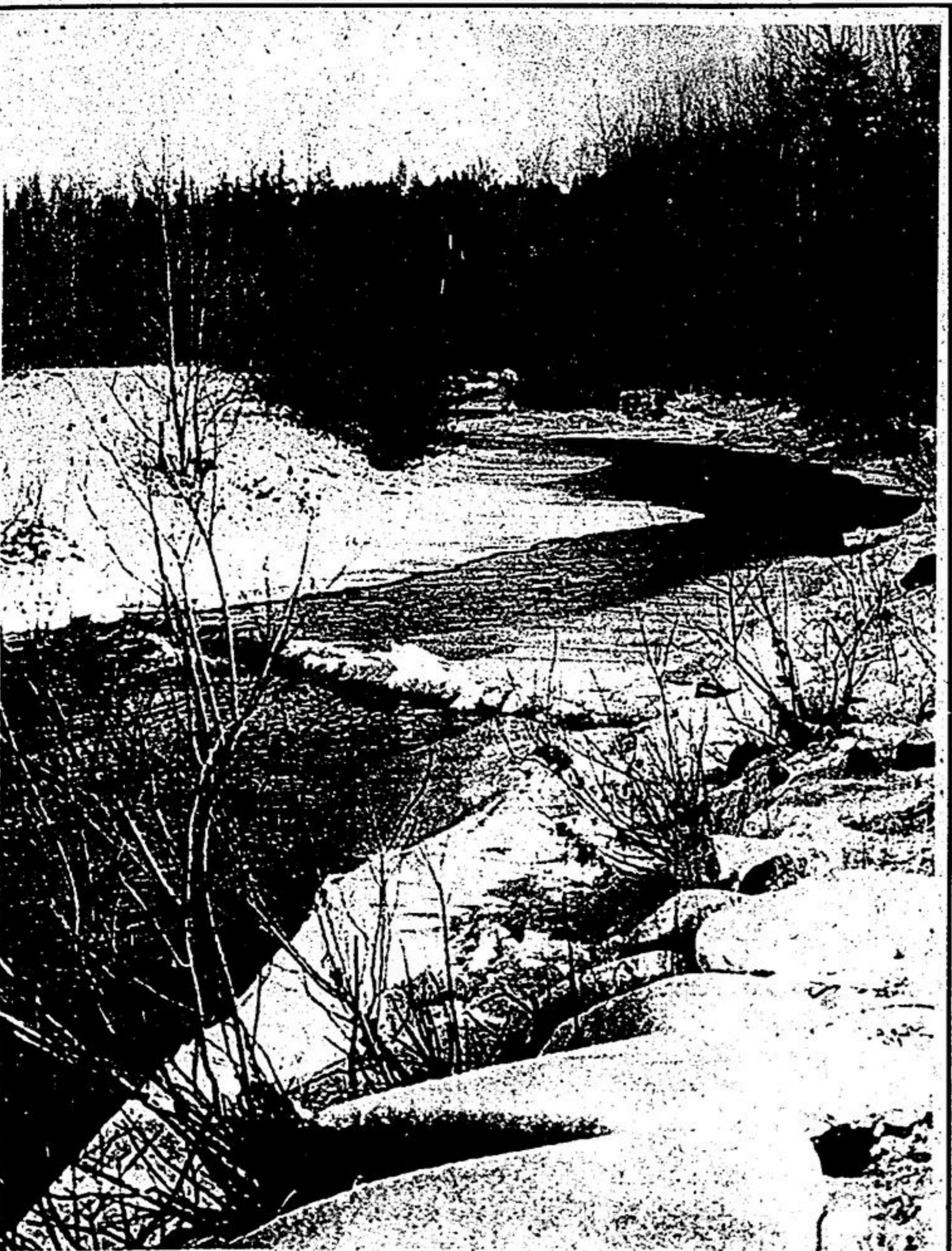
Dear Editor:

Through your newspaper, I'd like to congratulate the fire committee and council of Whitchurch-Stouffville on their decision to hire Walter Smith as our first full-time Chief.

It is indeed refreshing to learn that the municipality (on this occasion at least) did not see fit to go outside the Town to fill this position. Such has not always been the case elsewhere with the end result being continuous friction and turmoil.

Chief Smith, I'm sure, will do an excellent job, particularly with 20 volunteers to back him up.

Cecil Rowan,
 Stouffville, R. R. 3.



Spring scenes keep re-appearing all winter

The beauty of nature. This scene was captured by reporter-photographer JoAnn Thompson during one of her sojourns

around the country. The location is a branch of Duffin Creek near Cherry Downs Golf and Country Club, Conc. 7, Pickering.