



The Tribune

JAMES THOMAS
Editor-in-Chief

Established 1888
CHARLES H. NOLAN
Publisher

BARRE BEACOCK
Advertising Manager

EDITORIAL DEPT.: Jim Holt, Jim Irving
DISPLAY ADVERTISING DEPT.: Lois Wideman, Rod Spicer
CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING-CIRCULATION: Joan Marshman
OFFICE MANAGER: Dorcas Deacon
BUSINESS OFFICE: Eileen Glover

Published every Thursday at 54 Main St., Stouffville, Ont. Tel. 640-2100; Toronto phone 361-1680.
Single copies 25¢, subscriptions \$12.00 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, Burlington Weekend 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

Toss-up for top Town post

The most exciting municipal election in the Town's history is shaping up.

The three-way fight for the mayor's chair sets the stage for a keen contest. Without this, even with candidates running in five of six wards, it would have been a ho-hum affair.

But not any more. We've got a horse race on our hands with the winner, at this point, very unpredictable.

There are clear cut differences between the candidates, however. The incumbent, Eldred King is tough. He talks tough and acts accordingly, giving no ground unless forced to do so. He dislikes division within his Council yet, by virtue of his unwillingness to bend, has created division. He's an excellent chairman, following parliamentary procedure to the letter of the law. He's a frugal spender, demanding a dollar's value for every dollar expended. This policy, however, has proved counter-productive in many areas where services are at stake. With respect to residential growth, he's anti-development. This will cost him support in the business community but could be more than offset by those who feel as he does "that bigger isn't necessarily better". While his public relations leaves much to be desired, he's respected by those who dislike him. Even though he divides his time between a farming operation and the municipality, his presence has been apparent at most public functions. His attendance record, both locally and at the region is excellent.

Mayorality candidate Becky Wedley will do well in her own ward where she's worked extremely hard over the past six years.

She's highly regarded in the Ballantrae-Musselman's Lake communities, but beyond? Not likely, because she's not well enough known. Because of her resolve to look after the interests of residents in Ward 2, she's made few public appearances elsewhere, including Stouffville. This will cost her votes. Councillor Wedley possesses an indepth

knowledge on "what makes the Town tick" and can chair a meeting well. She has the ability to offer solutions to most problems, mainly because she does her homework. Unfortunately, she limits this expression of opinion to issues within her ward. An avowed Christian, she allows her personal convictions to surface, being firmly convinced that morals can be enforced through legislation. They can't. Being a people oriented person, she'll undoubtedly wage a well-organized campaign that could raise her stock in areas of the municipality where she's known only by a name.

Ged Stonehouse is, to political circles, the "new kid on the block". However, at this point, the unfamiliarity ends, at least in Stouffville. As the Immediate Past President of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce, he's used his abundance of energy to promote and publicize the Town like no one has done in years. An expert in public relations, he firmly believes that much can be accomplished through co-operation rather than confrontation. While perhaps an "unknown" in parts of Whitchurch, he has the ability and the personality to weld the rural and urban areas into a single cohesive unit. He also has proven capabilities as a meeting chairman.

Lack of political experience could present a problem, particularly at the Regional level where it's strictly "big league". In the weeks ahead, he'll have to convince the voters that he can not only do the job but do it better than his opponents. Although a workaholic, he's a firm believer in delegating authority. This could get the entire Town more involved as individuals and committees share in "a piece of the action".

Ged Stonehouse is an "idea" man, with far-reaching visions of what can be accomplished if everyone pulls together.

In the final analysis, it will be youth vs. experience. The electorate will make the choice, Nov. 10.

Sixteen weeks of waiting

On a night back in June, York Regional Police, responding to complaints, raided a property on the 7th Concession (McCowan Road), Markham, and arrested several persons.

Two of those charged were Edwin Hoover and Willis Shank, both well-known in the community and members of highly-respected families.

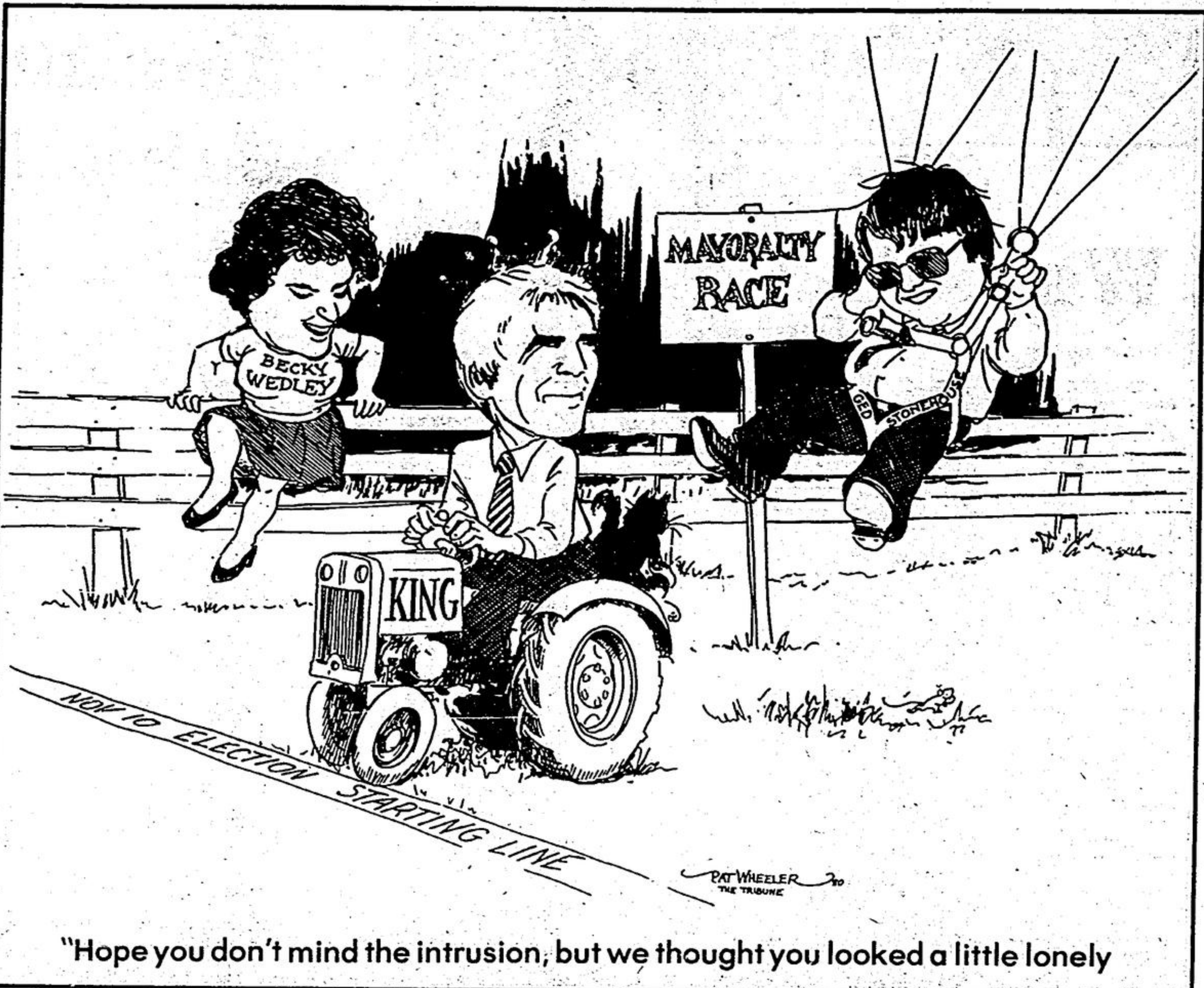
The men protested their innocence at the time but to no avail.

Since they were scheduled to appear in court, June 3, this newspaper carried the story (complete with names), in its June 5 issue. Unfortunately (for them), the case wasn't heard until Sept. 26. So, for sixteen weeks, these men stood condemned in the eyes of the public. Yet, as far as Judge Russell Pearse was concerned, they had done nothing wrong. Evidence, he said, did not support the

police claim that officers had been obstructed.

What happened on that night we don't know. The evidence as to why the arresting officers (including a superintendent and a sergeant), acted in the manner they did, remains unclear. What is clear is the fact two innocent people were humiliated. What is also clear is the fact it took four months for the courts to wipe their slates clean.

While no apology may be forthcoming from York Regional Police, this newspaper expresses regrets for its part in the case. Except for crimes of a major nature (also covered by the dailies), The Tribune does not reveal names of the accused until they appear in court. This policy was, in fact followed. However, who was to know that sixteen weeks would go by before the case would be heard? This shouldn't happen but it did; an unfortunate set of circumstances all the way round.



"Hope you don't mind the intrusion, but we thought you looked a little lonely"

Roaming Around

Red ribbon for anonymous pet

By Jim Thomas



Nothing breaks up a family like the loss of a loved one — a pet.

Yes, we've been through these sobbing sessions more times than we want to remember — goldfish, turtles, rabbits, white mice, a canary, a gerbil and two beagles.

With the sudden passing of 'Prince', we said, that's it, no more dogs, no more fish, no more anything — for awhile. The word "awhile" was supposed to mean a year; at least until spring. We knew it would take that long to dry out all the towels and replenish the Kleenex closet.

And we meant it — no discussions, no arguments; we had put our collective feet down — together.

On previous occasions, it had been soft-hearted father who had given in. In fact, it was soft-hearted father who, in most instances, had gone out and bought the pets in the first place; irrational decisions that later brought grief to everyone.

However, the moratorium was supported

by other reasons, the most significant being an unsavory interior smell; like the Metro Zoo. While sometimes difficult to detect, those visitors with senses unfamiliar to canine fragrance were quick to notice. Mind you, they never said anything, they didn't have to. The haste with which they left was quite enough.

But not any more, at least not until two weeks ago Saturday. That was when Neil and Paul went up to the Stouffville Sales Barn and purchased a pup. They pooled their resources, three dollars and two dollars each.

The response from their parents was what they expected. It ranged from irritation to anger. For it was only a few days before that their mother had wiped clean the last vestige of urine from the carpet and their dad had tossed out a pair of chewed Sunday socks found under the bed.

I promptly packed Neil and his furry 'friend' into the car and drove them back to the Sales Barn, but too late. The guy was gone.

So what to do next? To call Canine Control seemed kind of cruel but to keep it (her), was out of the question. So we advertised — "Free To A Good Home" notes for the bulletin boards in the I.G.A. and the A & P. No response.

This makes me think we're stuck; one pup that looks like a cross between a beagle and a St. Bernard. At this stage, it's hard to tell.

However, little "no name" has kind of made amends for all the trouble she's caused.

On Friday afternoon, Mary-Lynn entered her in the Pet Contest at Markham Fair and would you believe it? She walked off with a red ribbon — smallest dog in the show.

So now, Miss Anonymous thinks she's got it made. She struts arou. The house like she owns the place. And she does, each one of us, in heart and soul if not in spirit.

So come see for yourself; behold a champion at no charge, with nose pegs provided on request.

Window on Wildlife

Bluebird births on increase

By Art Briggs-Jude



Since early spring their sweet "Tru-alay" notes had echoed up and down the valley and every summer day the sun shone it caught their flashing wings of blue. With such displays of sight and song, we were extremely happy to count 12 pairs of these desirable birds using the nest-boxes we had put up for them on our farm. This figure was just double the number of breeding pairs we recorded last season and when coupled with eight pairs having second broods, it meant our particular bluebirds had raised over ninety young.

Yet this encouraging increase had not come without some effort on our part. Starting late last winter, we had cleaned old mouse nests and other debris from the boxes making them readily available for the bluebirds spring appearance. We had built and erected another 15 units, bringing the total available nesting sites for bluebirds up to 50. Some of the existing boxes that had no tenants last season were moved to more favorable locations. In addition each nest-box was checked at least twice a month for parasitic screw-worm larva and given the necessary dusting with Rotenone powder.

But despite all our precautions and watchfulness, we still experienced some losses. Days when our records show, "All nestlings destroyed" or "5 eggs not hatched, nest deserted", or again "All four young dead on the nest". It seems that even after 20 years experience and nearly 2000 nest-boxes erected for bluebirds, we still have a few things to learn. One lesson for example is the need for a double thickness of wood around the 1½" entrance. This gives the hole a tunnel effect and helps prevent grackles, cats, and raccoons from reaching down and pulling the fledglings out. Another feature that helps in this regard and one that also keeps the young in the nest a while longer, is building the boxes an inch or two deeper. And while I have always advocated a depth of 6" from the hole to the floor, we have now found a 7 or 8 inch measure gives the young an extra margin of security. An extension of three feet above the regular four foot fence post, when wrapped with light tin or heavy plastic also helps to keep losses from predators down.

But now the arrow flocks of wildfowl were on the wing. The forest green was showing touches of orange and gold and each gust of wind shook a few more acorns from the sturdy oaks.

Near the house a small flock of bluebirds appeared and perched for a time in the branches of a dying elm. They busied themselves at the water fountain then

gradually disappeared down the valley to the south. Yet one bird remained. He flew to the nest-box on the nearby fence post and uttered a few plaintive notes. He hovered at the entrance hole for a moment, then slipped inside. Only weeks before it seemed he had shared the task of rearing four speckled youngsters at that same site? But now they were on their way and with one final "Tru-alay" he too swept out over the garden and disappeared.

Editor's Mail

Change present system

Dear Editor:

I appreciate very much your paper's up-to-date coverage of the Christian School issue in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

While I can well understand the concern among many parents, I'm wondering if the withdrawal of their children from the public system is the answer. What about the kids who are left? Don't they matter or is everyone who's not in total agreement expected to make the change too?

And what of "the real world" that these young people will eventually face — in college, university or business? Who will protect them then?

Rather than "go it alone", the Missionary Church board would, in my opinion, be better advised to pressure for change in the system we now have. A delegation of 100 people, armed with a petition signed by one thousand, would undoubtedly make the Board sit up and take notice.

The solution as I see it is "get involved" — not as individuals but en masse. You might be surprised what numbers (plus the media coverage that would result) can do.

Janet Ridley,
RR 3, Stouffville.

Ornament is disgusting

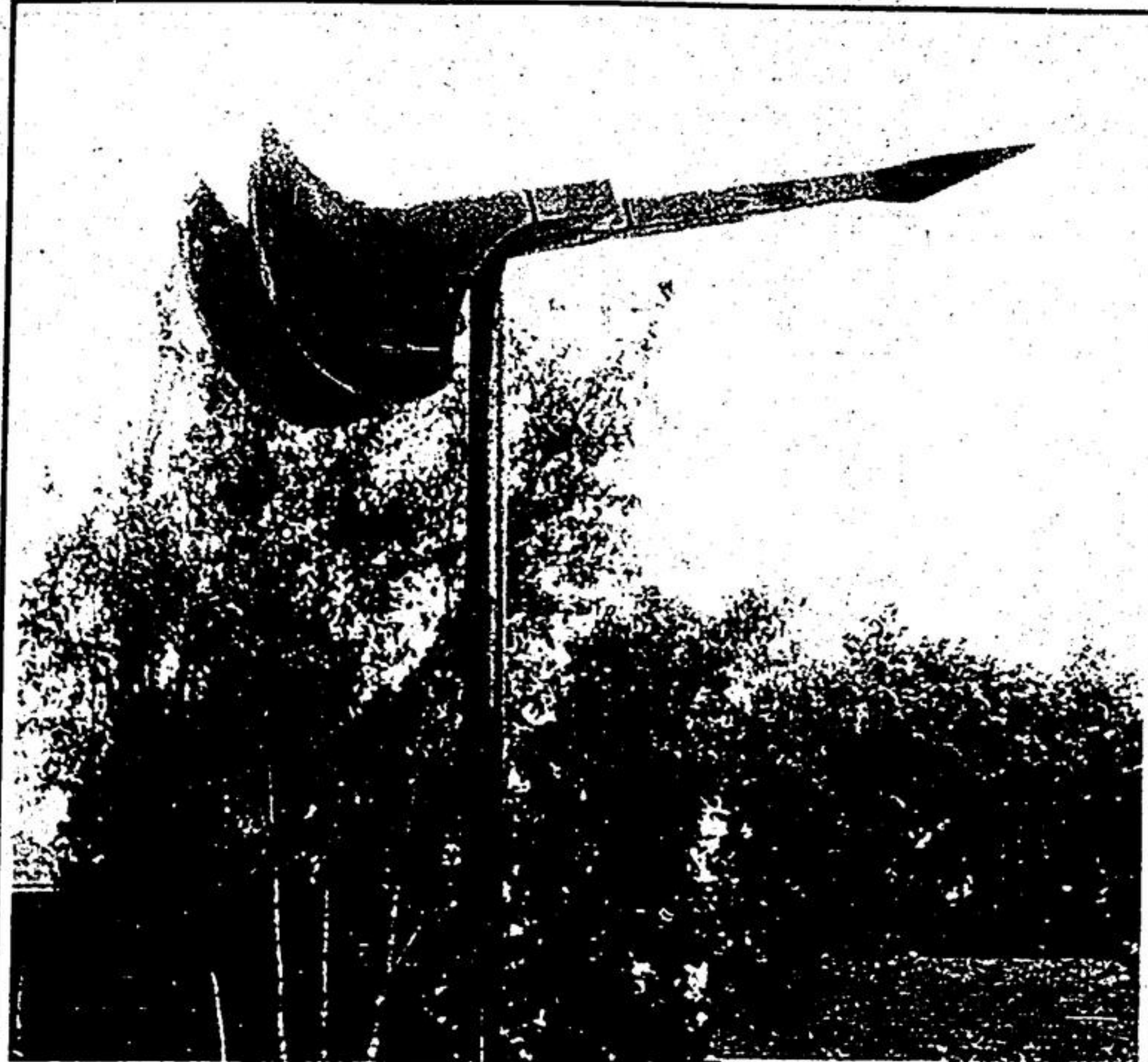
Dear Mr Thomas:

What is it? I'm referring to that so-called "work of art" that now stands in front of our beautiful Library, north of Main Street.

On whose authority was such a 'thing' erected? Is it a permanent fixture? If not, how long must we bear it?

While the Board (or whoever) may consider it clever to erect some oddity, then hold guessing games to give it a name, I consider it an affront to the intelligence of all library and gallery supporters.

Gordon McNeil,
Albert Street,
Stouffville.



Conduct contest to name "The Thing"

It's called "The Thing". The sculpture, created by Ron Beard, is located near the entrance to the Whitchurch-Stouffville Library. In an effort to give the object a

name, the Board is conducting a "Name The Thing" contest. The winner will receive a trophy at the sculpture's dedication, Oct. 28. Jim Thomas.