

## Editor's Mail

# Writer cries story was most "foul"

**Tribune:**  
In my 40 years of writing to many newspapers and magazines across the land, I have yet to find a fouler editorship than at Tribune (sic)!

To my mind you should fold up and go back to school to learn the job properly!

When I first saw my letter in your paper I did not recognize it, so damnably distorted it has been!

Where in writing this letter did I use the word "affect" instead of "effect" as I properly had it?

Where did you get "it is not" instead of "is it not" as I wrote?

And why did you have to use the word "terrible" instead of "awful" as I also properly wrote?

Did I ever write "however" anywhere in my letter, and why strike out the "freedom of the Press" etc which read pleasingly with absolute truth?

Was it the "time that heals" itself or the "things" as I put it?

Where did I ever use the words "offer", "assault" and "rape or rapist"? (your distortion of my own?)

Also your "necessary", "you ladies", "younger set", etc? rather than my proper identifications of same?

Was not, for instance, my definition "ungodly men" suitable enough in referring to crime, evildoers, etc.?

As I live, you can bet your right eye and hand that you will not hear from me again.

If you are in such dead earnest to see your own words published, why not put away your laziness and write your own letters, in your very own wording, instead of stealing ours so yours can "shine" (!)

Did I also ever suggest "COVER UP" (which has too much of dictatorship odor to attract attention, as titles should have?)

I could have given you a much more attractive one, had I known, but you would have struck it out anyway to put your blunt one instead!

So write your own stuff from now on, never my own!

DOLORES DEVERELL



Ready for round two

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## VIEWPOINT

# Showing restraint

BY JIM IRVING

This is going to be a most difficult column to write, as I had all my prejudices beautifully lined up before me, ready to send out and carry my message to the world.

Well, at least, to Stouffville and environs.

Now, after talking to Harry Bowes, York Region Board of Education trustee, and its former chairman, I'll have to re-think the whole thing. Toned down my prejudices a bit, anyway.

And, of course, when you're dealing with boards of education, that's not easy to do. The latter, more than any other political body, it seems, goes a little hysterical when the matter of money, and how it should be spent, comes up.

Somehow, they all seem to forget they were elected to serve the people and make the best use of their money - something like a conscientious stockbroker - instead of dunning those same taxpayers for more in order to perpetuate some grandiose scheme.

Monday night of this week - this page had already gone to press by that time - the board was to consider a motion to raise its own salaries a mere 38 per cent. I gathered it was something more or less agreed to by the entire body beforehand, and Mr. Bowes tells me it occurred in caucus, via a motion by Chairman Michael Neil, assisted by Trustee Norm Weller.

No doubt, tossed out just as the members were leaving. "Oh, by the way, gang, nothing much doing Monday night, so what say we consider boosting our salaries a bit. How does 38 per cent grab you?"

The chairman, as all we well-rounded students of civic affairs know, is supposed to lead; to set good examples; to make sure that the money entrusted to his or her keep, is spent wisely and with the best interests of the various communities at heart.

The job does not, so far as I know, entitle its bearer to put his own monetary concerns over those of the taxpayers; those same taxpayers, he no doubt got down on his knees to and begged to elect him, a few short months before.

Mr. Bowes puts it this way: "I still think of it as a community service. Your concerns should be the community's concerns."

He said he might have felt differently about a raise two or three years ago, but "this year has been the easiest yet. It's been just a rubber-stamp board."

At this point, one does not know how the board will vote - although I must admit that in my original draft of this, I had it a landslide in favor.

As I recall, I said something like: "One doesn't have to be clairvoyant, or even sift through old tea leaves to guess what the board's verdict will be Monday night."

Now, of course, after talking to Mr. Bowes and being informed that a good debate should be forthcoming, I shall be less quick to presume anything in that direction.

Just the same, don't be surprised if this column seems just a bit anti-climactic when you struggle through it Wednesday.

## Editorials

### A speck in m'lady's eye?

Justice triumphed again last week, in a hearing at Latham Hall.

The resolute lady with the blindfold, showed us once more that rules are rules, and people are merely people, and never the two shall compete.

So it was, in very short order, that an OMB hearing called to look into an appeal by the Town against its own land division committee, granted the appeal and declared that the Marra Brothers, co-owners of a property on Bethesda Rd., shall never share that land, except in name only.

"The question has nothing to do with what's best for your family. The decision has to be made on general planning for the area," said Judith Hendy, chairman of the hearing.

Mrs. Hendy seemed to have little patience for the whole procedure, interrupting counsel for the Marras, time and time again in mid sentence, dismissing his arguments with what seemed close to contempt, and constantly stressing that it was planning she was concerned with - nothing else.

In the end, she said the Marra proposal to

cut their 10-acre property in two - was "not compatible" with the area, and reversed the committee's decision.

Domenic Marra, one of the two brothers, seemed puzzled by it all. "We want to live close together," he told the hearing. "It's not a crime. Why can't we?"

Good question, Domenic - Why can't you?

Is there no room at all for flexibility in the community's by-laws?

One can do almost anything of a criminal nature, anymore, it seems, and the presiding judge arches both brow and criminal code book in an effort to alleviate the sentence of the miscreant before him.

That the latter may have committed the most heinous of crimes doesn't seem to matter; if anything, it's in his favor, so far as sentencing goes.

In fact, if he gets any sentence at all, he'll probably be allowed to serve it on the weekends.

Time somebody made a case for the honest citizens of the land, too.

### For parents only

It is interesting to note of late, that discussion of that taboo subject - sex - is no longer confined to the pool hall, or the weekly euchre game. In fact, the matter is bandied about as casually as one would announce the latest number of egg and tomato stains on the prime minister's private coach.

So it comes with some surprise to see that people are still demanding the schools take over in the matter of instruction.

Surely, the old folks at home have some idea of what it's all about by now, and can't be all

that reluctant to sit down with the bairns and tell them how many beans make five?

If they are still keeping the whole thing under a blanket, as it were, it's time they stuck their head outside the covers and confronted their responsibilities.

Sex education is not the job of the schools. They have enough to do just trying to teach the kids how to spell.

Surely the parents can discuss this other matter with their children at home?

They might even learn a few things.

## Markham's 170th

# A Fair to remember

"Without food, no political power can govern, no social ideal can survive, no civilization can endure. The bulk of our nation's people live in an urban setting, and there appears to be an ever-widening gap between the consumer and producer."

"This board is totally dedicated to bridging that gap in every way possible."

So says Bill Walker, president of Markham Fair for 1982. And, in order to "bring these words into reality," Walker says that two major events, which are expected to set the tone for the fair, have been arranged.

For the first time in its 127-year history, the official opening will be held indoors at the Livestock Arena, Sept. 30, at 8 p.m. Doing the honors will be provincial minister of agriculture and food, Dennis Timbrell.

"If agriculture has a message, it is appropriate that it is given by the main provincial authority," Walker said. "It is equally important that both the producer and consumer be present to hear the message, and it is the Fair's mandate to provide the facilities and the setting where it can be heard."

Walker said he and the board were looking for "a large turnout of both country and town folk to welcome the minister."

He said the livestock arena would be the scene of the Holstein cattle show, and, with seating for 1,200 people, "the evening promises to be a memorable one for the bringing together of rural and urban people for mutual awareness."

"Continuing in the same vein, a presentation of equal prominence will be Foodland Ontario's exhibit. Totally under canvas on a main thoroughfare of the fairgrounds, it will have exhibits and displays of the many varieties of farm products produced in Ontario," he said.

"The displays will feature the preparation of many delicious and appetizing dishes, with economy and utility for the consumer being stressed."

"The total affect can best be described as mouth watering," Walker said.

"Farming needs are changing with other social changes," the president said. "The Fair must constantly be aware of and address these changes in its exhibits."

"The Fair in the future will show how to consume more intelligently, as well as how to be a consumer and producer at the same time," Walker said.

"The future will depend on man's adaptability; some traditional roles will change and



Bill Walker

new ones appear. In 127 years there have been many role changes for Markham Fair, but with foresight, it keeps adapting, bringing area residents the best on the country scene."

### Devious ploy by chairman

## Public's turn is next

It is a most devious world we live in.

The federal government, while busily bankrupting the nation, tells its minions to tighten up, spend less - except in the tax department - fly right, buckle up its safety belts, and in general mixes up its monkey shines with its metaphors.

Down the block, the chairman of York Region School Board, tells his fellow robots that it's time they had a raise; the public has been docile for some time, so now's the time to strike.

With that in mind, he puts forth a motion calling for a 38 per cent raise - right in line with the government's 6 and 5 - for the members to

pretend to debate on Monday night.

'Tis as monstrous a conceit as any the public has had to suffer for a long time. And one wonders just when the voters are going to start to question some of the people they elect.

Perhaps this coming election campaign is as good a time as any.