

Editor's Mail

A concern

Dear Editor:
The subject of head lice among children in our town has become a serious concern. Because lice are not a disease and thus not contagious from a Public Health standpoint, the responsibility for control and elimination rests with parents only.

The staff at Summitview School, for example, have gone beyond the call of duty in trying to control it. Public Health nurses, volunteer parents and staff alike, are all working very hard to abate and stop this irksome problem.

The parents, whose children have been sent home two, three and four times, may justly feel outraged. But are they sure they know enough about elimination of lice from the household?

Head lice are NOT an affliction of the unclean. They actually prefer clean scalps. The only way to stop this epidemic is to check one's children every morning and every night. If you don't know what you're looking for, ASK!

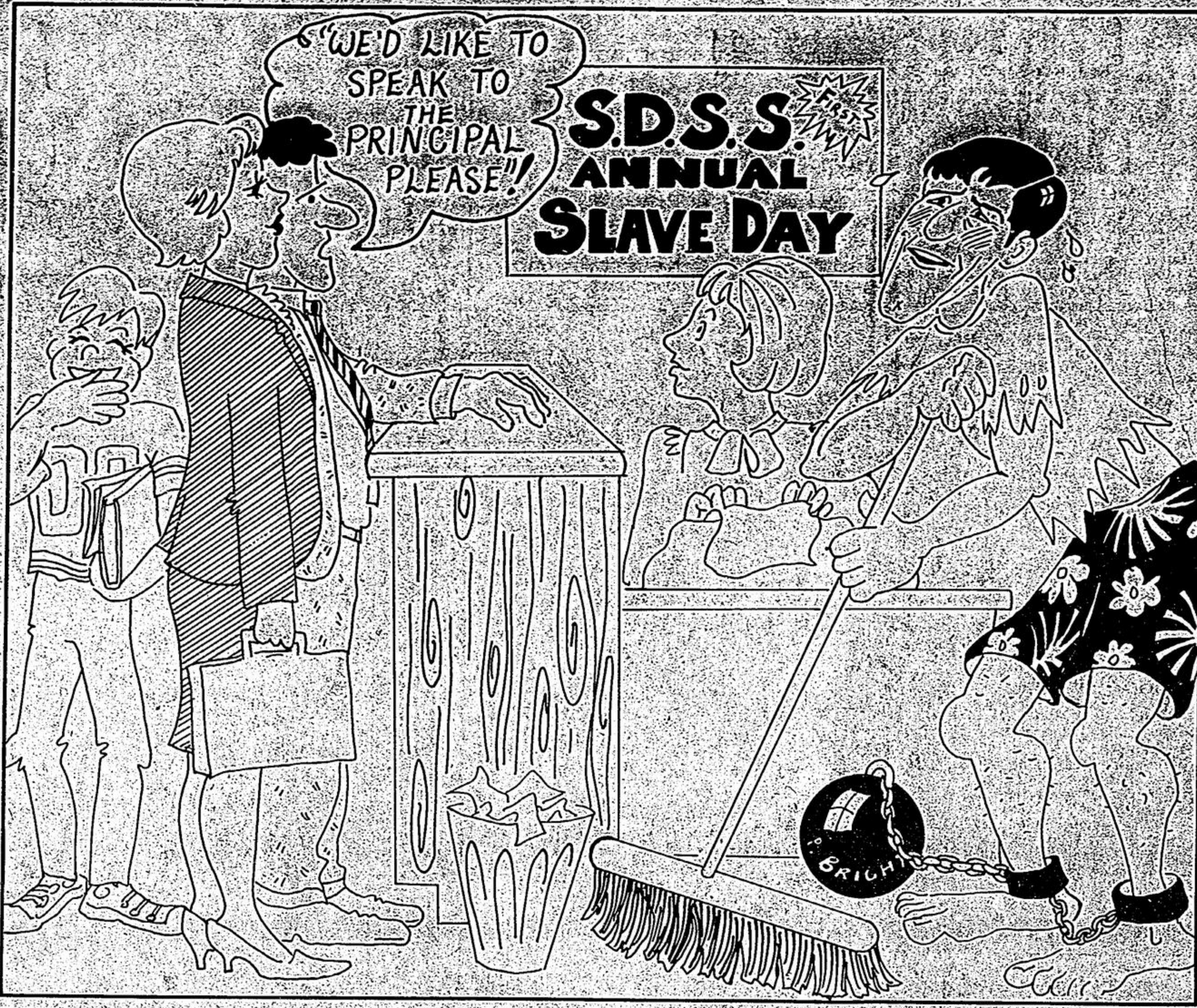
Mr. Boadway has been professional and caring enough to issue many statements on the subject and has even invited parents in to inform and answer questions.

Mr. Boadway and staff have done more than required. Please, it's adversely affecting our children's health and education.

Target groups such as day-care centres, sports clubs, etc., must ALL take appropriate action NOW!

Ten minutes' time, morning and evening is not asking too much. Begin immediately!

Tricia Rock,
Church Street North,
Stouffville.



The Tribune
ESTABLISHED 1888

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The Stouffville Tribune, published every Wednesday and Saturday at 54 Main St., Stouffville, Ont., is one of the Metroland Printing, Publishing & Distributing group of suburban newspapers which includes: The Action Free Press, Ajax Picking News Advertiser, Aurora Banner, Brampton Guardian, Burlington Post, Etobicoke Advertiser Guardian, Georgetown Independent, Markham Economist & Sun, Milton Champion, Mississauga News, Newmarket Era, Oakville Beaver, Oshawa Whitty This Week, Richmond Hill Thornhill Vaughan Liberal, Scarborough Mirror, Topic Newsmagazine, Willowdale Mirror, Metroland Printing, Publishing & Distributing is a division of Harlequin Enterprises Ltd. Single copies 50¢, subscriptions \$21.00 per year in Canada; \$55.00 elsewhere. Member of Canadian Community Newspaper Association, Ontario Weekly Newspaper Association, Ontario Press Council and Suburban Newspapers of America. Second class mail registration number 0896.

640-2100 649-2292

ROAMING AROUND

Choosing a vocation

BY JIM THOMAS



One evening, following a function in the Stouffville Legion Hall, (Appreciation night for Fire Chief Walter Smith), Eldred King, Chairman of the Region of York, came over to where I was standing.

"You missed your calling," he said, "you should have been a minister or a politician."

At first, I took the comment as a compliment. After all, Chairman King isn't one to waste words. He says what he thinks.

Later, however, I began having second thoughts. What did he REALLY mean?

Did he see in me a Richard Nixon? Maybe a Gary Hart?

Was he likening me to a Jim Bakker? Maybe an Oral Roberts?

Then again, maybe he meant none of these.

Perhaps he was tactfully suggesting far better to have been a politician or a minister than an editor! Or more bluntly, "far better to have been anything than an editor!"

I trust this wasn't his thinking. For journalism is what I enjoy doing most—I think. I've never really tried anything else. So how can I know?

Maybe Eldred, from his seat in the audience, saw in me a future John Diefenbaker or a Pierre Elliott Trudeau.

I doubt it. Maybe he had visions of another Robert McClure.

I doubt that too. But who's to know?

The truth is, we all see ourselves in others. And we pose the question "what if?"

That's what I asked myself, Saturday. I attended a service of ordination for the Toronto Conference of the United Church of Canada near Orillia. Eighteen ministers were ordained. One of these was a nephew, John Tapscott of Epsom, a rural community south-east of Uxbridge. I was impressed, not with the ritual, (there was none of that), but with the sincerity. Trappings, sometimes associated with such occasions, were thankfully absent. The message as I heard it was "the academics are over the field work begins."

It's an open-ended field with no headlands or fences.

I know not what prompted John's decision to enter the ministry. An honors graduate from Queen's University at Kingston, he had established himself in

an excellent position with an insurance firm in Toronto. For most, that would have been enough. But not for John. He had a wider vision, one that few of us see.

Yes, I put myself in his place.

As he walked proudly onto the podium for the laying on of hands and vesting with a stole, I asked myself the question many others were undoubtedly asking: "Could I have done that?"

My honest reply is no I couldn't. Such a decision requires considerable soul-searching; more strength of purpose than I could muster.

No, Mr. King, I'll never make a minister; a politician, maybe, but never a minister. While I hold the profession in high regard, I believe it to be a calling, a calling of the highest order. So far, I've heard no trumpet sounds and the roll doesn't bear my name.

Editorials

Changes in education

Times are changing. Nowhere is this more evident than in education; secondary school in general and Stouffville Dist. Secondary School in particular.

On Thursday afternoon, there were happenings at S.D.S.S., touching both age ends of the education spectrum.

At one, a 39-year-old mother of four and grandmother of three, had successfully completed her Grade 12.

At the other, students enrolled in Early Childhood Education were caring for kiddies, two to five.

A trend is developing. In years to come, more and more adults will be returning to school. Some will see it as a necessity, others as a challenge. The Mature Student Program is strongly supported at Stouffville High.

Predictable too is the authorization of day-care as a specific part of the Early Childhood course of study.

Taking the program a step further, it's conceivable that a section of the High School, (all schools where space is available), will be utilized for day-care accommodation.

It'll be part of the Federation's contract.

There's nothing wrong with this, as long as the student-training and teacher-

service is provided at no additional cost to the taxpayer.

With respect to the Mature Student Program, this should be encouraged even more. Education should never end. For many, the education they need can be acquired only in the classroom.

Needed

Stouffville needs Neighborhood Watch.

Not that break-ins pose a particular problem here. Compared to some communities, we've been lucky.

However, if hamlets like Ballantrae and Goodwood consider these programs beneficial, certainly Stouffville has need of it too.

Only last week, a theft occurred at a residence on Glengall Lane. The owner was home at the time, but the culprit, gained entry, picked up an article and escaped.

This is frightening.

About a year ago, there was a move afoot to establish Neighborhood Watch in Stouffville. It was backed by several church congregations. What happened to the program, no one seems to know. It just disappeared.

Let's bring it back.

Not only does it provide police with the support they need, but makes for a closer community, neighbor helping neighbor.



Nancy was Town's first Festival Queen in 1967

On June 25, Whitchurch-Stouffville, will honor its 1987 Strawberry Festival-Canada Day queen. Back in 1967, during the Town's celebration of Canada's centennial, the judges choice was 19-year-old Nancy Wideman. The first runner-up was Linda Wright; Margaret Sheridan was selected Miss Congeniality and Trudy Cadieux won the Best Talent award. Here, Nancy receives her Pageant trophy from the evening's MC Wally Koster.

—Jim Thomas

Editor's Mail
Negative

Dear Mr. Thomas:
We citizens of Stouffville do not think your review of 'Monster Madness' was appropriate.

You didn't even mention the chorus, the stage crew and some of the actors.

When you inferred that no one laughed at the jokes or clapped when it was appropriate, we feel it's a bunch of 'ho-hum' (your word), and totally untrue.

When you were watching the play you should have woken up and smelled the coffee.

When you wrote about the Ballantrae play, it was all good things; but when you wrote about 'Monster Madness', you seemed to concentrate on a very few, (and we feel not important), negative points.

Our play had students Grade 5 to Grade 8 working together and getting along. You did not talk about a lot of things. You, Mr. Thomas, were there in body and in mind but certainly not in spirit!

Sincerely,
Young Citizens
of Stouffville
(Twenty-four students
of Orchard Park School)

Thanks

Dear Editor:
On behalf of the Stouffville Christian School, we wish to thank the many local merchants for their generous donations that contributed to another successful Spring Fair.

Thanks also to all who attended and participated in the various activities.

Approximately \$11,000 was raised from the silent auction, the public auction, the slow-pitch tournament, the various games and the food booths.

Thanks for your support. Sincerely,
The Spring Fair Committee