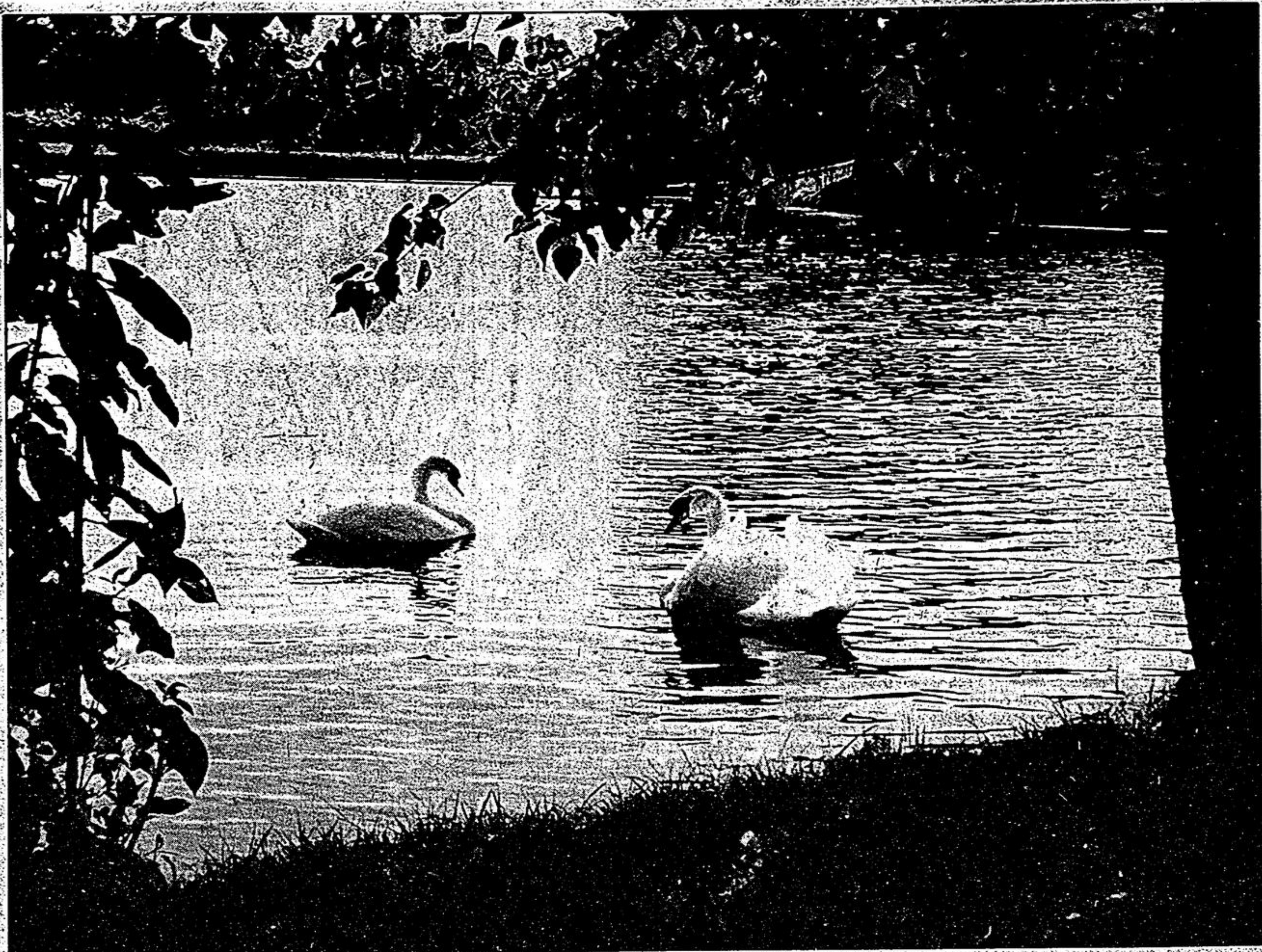


Editor's Mail

Negative response

Dear Editor:
 In the weeks ahead, your newspaper will probably be inundated with letters similar to mine. Because mine is the first, I trust you'll see fit to publish it.
 I feel the Progressive Conservatives face an uphill fight, and the polls seem to bear this out. In spite of this, I thought Larry Grossman's reaction to the calling of an election was not only surprising but pathetic. Mr. Grossman dealt mainly with the negative, complaining that an election was a waste of money, etc. etc.
 He almost seemed surprised that Mr. Peterson had made his move despite the fact the media had been second-guessing the election date for months.
 In my opinion, Mr. Grossman would have been much more impressive if he had come out and said: "Mr. Peterson is in for the fight of his life. We may be down but we're not out. The Liberals pulled off an upset in 1985. We can do the same in '87."
 Confidence builds confidence. By criticizing Premier Peterson for calling an election, Mr. Grossman appeared disappointed that an election had been called; in short, he seemed beaten before he began.
 Larry Grossman is undoubtedly a clever man and could possibly make a fine premier. However, as leader of the Tory opposition, he's been a dismal failure. In contrast, Mr. Peterson has been brilliant, making all the right moves at the right times.
 I believe the Liberals have honestly earned the right to form a majority Government and I think they will.

Sincerely,
 Michael Carlin,
 R.R. 1, Gormley



Swan Lake is rural paradise in Uxbridge Township



The Tribune

ESTABLISHED 1888

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Editorials

Stevenson on his own second time around

Conservative Ross Stevenson is on his own.
 The Durham-York standard-bearer cannot and should not look to his Party leader for support. It will do him more harm than good. Let's face it, Larry Grossman's fighting a losing battle.
 Mr. Stevenson's not alone. Don Cousens of Markham is in exactly the same predicament. It's much like being an Independent. Each must be judged on his own merits rather than the accomplishments of his leader or the Party.
 And this is the way it should be. When problems occur, Riding residents look to the local MPP for assistance, not Mr. Peterson, Mr. Grossman or Mr. Rae.
 Such a situation isn't new for either Mr. Stevenson or Mr. Cousens. They faced it before under the leadership of Frank Miller; and won. Many of their cohorts weren't so fortunate.

Both Ross Stevenson and Don Cousens would be well advised 'to go it alone'. The Party's record is a millstone around their necks.
 But not so their records. Both can hold their heads high.
 We sympathize with all MPP's within the Conservative ranks. They've been abandoned; left to fight their own battles. It won't be easy; rearguard action never is. But one thing stands in their favor: They hold office. The others don't.

Liberal's Ballinger in line

Liberal Bill Ballinger of Durham-York has two pluses in his favor.
 First, he's a candidate for a Party whose leader currently enjoys tremendous popularity.
 Second, his record as mayor of Uxbridge Township is favorably remembered by most ratepayers.
 Added to these is the fact Mr. Ballinger is young, vibrant and eager to serve. He doesn't lack for enthusiasm.
 We predict Bill Ballinger will 'hold his own' on the Durham side of the Riding. His toughest task will be making himself known in York, including Whitechurch-Stouffville. Here, his PC opponent has a decided edge having 'set up shop' months before the election was called.
 If a Liberal landslide occurs as many political pundits predict, Ballinger may coast to victory on Peterson's coat tails. But don't count on it. Today's electorate tends to vote for the person rather than the Party.
 This means Mr. Ballinger must fight his own battle. May the best man win.

ROAMING AROUND

Our house is 'bugged'

BY JIM THOMAS



Our house is 'bugged'.
 No, Jim Mason, editor of the Stouffville Sun hasn't a listening device plugged into my phone. Nothing as sinister as that, but almost.
 I'm talking about real bugs, the creepy-crawly kind. They've plagued our place all summer.
 Not you too, I hear folks say. Yes, we too, but ours is worse than most. They're everywhere.
 Bug experts, whose job it is to scout such things and predict their intensity, told us (too late) the invasion was underway. Unfortunately, by then, the armada had already landed and taken up positions. They obviously selected 381 Rupert Avenue as a command post.
 Earwigs present the biggest problem and while their numbers are gradually decreasing the more persistent ones seem anxious to stay.
 Their presence inside the house was nuisance enough. But when they began gobbling up Jean's geraniums, a counter-attack was engineered. First, she purchased a can of spray. Then she placed pans of water on the porch. The two combined worked wonders. Surviving flowers were saved and dozens of earwigs drowned.
 While I detest the little critters, I draw the line at the thought of wholesale slaughter. I contend that each of God's creatures, even earwigs, has a purpose in life. At this point in time, I'm not sure what that purpose is, but careful research will undoubtedly turn up some-

thing. Therefore, I dislike mass killings.
 Jean disagrees. Any creature that makes a meal out of her geraniums, God-created or not, has got to go. So while she embarks on her daily earwig hunt, I'm scooping them up and tossing them out the door.
 Those that persist in crawling back are doomed to die. Serves them right.
 The heaviest bug concentration is in our bathroom. One must be careful where he/she sits.
 Back in June, shrieks of terror in the middle of the night were not uncommon. The screams would bring me bounding out of bed. Now I no longer move a muscle, knowing only another earwig has come to an untimely end.
 What is there about bugs that causes the female gender to take a 'hairy'? Jean and Mary-Lynn treat earwigs, (and everything else on twelve legs), with total contempt. They hate the sight of them let alone the feel. As for me, I take them for what they are, one of life's little problems that will eventually disappear with the arrival of winter.
 But from where did earwigs originate?
 Ten years ago, about the only foreign invaders we had to worry about were flies and mosquitoes. Occasionally, a June bug would squeeze in through a hole in the screen, and maybe a stray spider or moth, but little else.
 Now, we have earwigs; by the hundreds, maybe thousands.

I suspect their native habitat is Asia and one of those immigrant Sikhs concealed a pair in his pocket. Immediately on landing, he let them loose, saying "do your stuff." Have they ever!
 My fear is what's to follow.
 If we're infested by earwigs in '87, what's to come in '88 and '89? A horde of grasshoppers maybe? Perhaps, killer bees or tent caterpillars! After all, we've been less than tactful when it comes to stepping on Mother Nature's toes. This could be her way of getting even; paying us back.
 As pesky as earwigs are or may have been, let's count our blessings. For soon they'll disappear, making way for something else. Prognosticators are suggesting an influx of field mice. That should REALLY make Jean happy, maybe happy enough to go out and buy a cat.



Horse and wagon rides popular with kids

July 25 was Pioneer Horse Day at the Pickering Museum, Greenwood. Horsepower was popular in terms of both work and transportation. Here Reg Hoskins of R.R. 2, Claremont provides parents and their children with rides around the grounds. In the background is the Brougham Central Hotel, circa 1852. It was located on the north side of Hwy. 7 in the village of Brougham.

—Jim Thomas

Editor's Mail

Candidate meetings

Dear Editor:
 There have been many newcomers to the Whitechurch-Stouffville and Uxbridge areas in the last two years of which I am one. I haven't had an opportunity to meet either Mr. Stevenson of the Progressive Conservatives or Mr. Ballinger of the Liberals. At this point in time, I don't even know who the N.D.P. candidate is.
 Putting a face to a name is one thing. Knowing what he/she stands for is something else. I trust that prior to the Sept. 10 voting date, at least one public meeting will be held with all candidates in attendance. In this way, we'll be able to hear first hand the planks in their platforms.
 With Mr. Sorbara no longer our Riding representative, (I met him twice), the situation is even more confusing. I am being asked to support one of two and maybe three people who are complete strangers.
 Mr. Stevenson, I realize, has made an honest attempt to meet the electorate through meetings in Stouffville and elsewhere. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend any of these. Nor could I make it to the Liberal Nomination. I'm sure there are many others in the same situation.
 I am very interested in politics, both at the federal and provincial levels. I feel it's the candidates' responsibility to make themselves known. Two public meetings would accomplish this, one in Uxbridge and one in Stouffville.
 I am one who votes for the best Riding member rather than the Party leader. It's the MPP's one must contact should a problem arise, not Mr. Peterson, Mr. Rae or Mr. Grossman. For this reason, I attach much significance to the ability of the Riding candidates.
 Sincerely,
 (Mrs.) Reta McDougall,
 R.R. 2, Stouffville