

THE STOUFFVILLE TRIBUNE

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NOTES and COMMENTS

Point To Remember

The higher municipal taxation in local municipalities, the more difficult for individuals to own homes — just another reason why the provincial government should consent to local councils being given access to additional tax fields, other than real estate.

The Dominion Mortgage and Investment Association says that continuance of the present trend will result in municipal taxation becoming burdensome. This burdensome point has not yet been reached in Stouffville or adjacent townships, but may in future.

The Mortgage Association points out that higher municipal taxes are going to make it more difficult for some individuals to own their own homes since each increase in taxes reduces the amount which a man with an average income can borrow by way of a mortgage.

A Lot Provides But Little

Noting that all Canadians will soon be getting an old age pension of \$40 per month at 70, the Ottawa Journal comments: "Man and wife, with \$960 a year in this pension, will be doing as well as if they had saved \$32,000 and invested it in 3 per cent. bonds."

That goes to emphasize something which perhaps the Journal did not quite intend, namely, how much a man would have to save in order to be able to have even a modest income like \$960 for himself and his wife in their old age without eating into their capital.

But the number who can save \$32,000 is of course infinitesimally small. What usually happens is that a man, if he manages to save at all (and retains his savings to old age), has, at the most, a few thousands of dollars. The interest is pitifully small, and he must at once encroach on his capital, thus decreasing the interest and necessitating even greater annual drains on his savings. They soon disappear.

It is true that quite a number of well-to-do Canadians will receive the \$40 a month who do not need it—and part of it will be taken back by the government in the income tax for which such people are liable. But to the majority of 70-year-old recipients the money will be a godsend. For few reach that age with any considerable saving apart from the equity some have in a probably mortgaged house on which taxes must be paid.

An Unnecessary Change In Tax Collection

With income taxes as heavy as they are these days there are reasons for the Government deducting a percentage of income tax from the earnings of employees at each pay period. The practice assures the public treasury of getting its revenue as incomes are earned, and the burden on the taxpayer may be less under this procedure than if he were confronted at the year end with a substantial debt to the Government. The National Revenue Department is unwise, however, in deciding to increase the deduction at the earnings source, to 100 per cent. Heretofore 95 per cent. of the tax has been deducted from pay envelopes with the remaining five per cent. of the tax payable at the time of making the income return.

The law recognizes gifts to churches and charities, and medical expenses in certain circumstances, as permissible deductions from earnings in estimating personal income tax. Obviously it is not possible for the taxpayer to know until the end of the year the amount of the deductions he will be able to claim. If the department proceeds with its plans for deducting 100 per cent. of the tax owing at each pay period the treasury at the year end may be in debt to the taxpayer due to over-assessing on income prior to warranted deductions for charitable gifts and medical expenses. In these circumstances the treasury, instead of collecting small final payments from taxpayers, will be compelled to issue cheques for rebates in thousands of cases.

From the standpoint of common sense a system in which the taxpayer would complete his final tax payment on the basis of his annual return is preferable to one in which the Government overtaxes and then has to make a rebate. Governments ought to shun the appearance of greediness.

Chart For Youth

The boys and girls who will be leaving the halls of learning to enter the workaday world need a chart which will guide them to the harbor of their choice. They need to decide what they want and to count the cost.

The very act of planning in this way, says the current monthly letter of the Royal Bank of Canada, will develop in them something that employers of today find to be the greatest lack in workers — sense of responsibility. Thinking clearly on their own problems will prepare them to analyze, to plan and to master situations. These are the attributes that make a person valuable.

The young men and the young women starting out from school this year will wish to formulate a set of general principles by which to set their life course. The bank letter offers the graduates some valuable suggestions in setting their course. It says the youth who graduates this year must recognize:

- The need for continuing education;
- That living democratically is the most satisfying form of society;
- That freedom is an indivisible thing: everyone must be free;
- That he is part of society;
- That broadened intellectual activity depends upon the give-and-take, the communication, of ideas;
- That everything he hears is not necessarily true: He must sift the evidence;
- That he must discipline himself to meet difficulties, unpleasantness, discomfort, frustration and hardship, and keep his colors flying;
- That he needs a spiritual guerdon;
- That his greatest material satisfactions will arise from achievement through work.

Some of these were expressed in his Meditations by the Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius Antoninus more than 1,750 years ago: "I learned endurance of labor, and to want little, and to work with my own hands, and not to meddle with other people's affairs, and not to be ready to listen to slander, and not to busy myself with trifling things, and to endure freedom of speech and to become intimate with philosophy."

Like education, success is not a finality. Every step is a beginning. It resides in the striving as well as in the attainment.

Visiting the Races

By George Abell

No doubt you've read of the great fairs of the Middle Ages in England, when all the jugglers, gypsies, entertainers, sportsmen and crooks held high-carnival for a week on the town common. I've discovered that this ancient fair is still in existence but the people no longer come in carts and on foot to see a lot of riders in tin suits stick spears in each other any more.

Now they come in thousands of buses and cars to see thirty horses try to be the first past the finish line in front of the Royal Box at Epsom in the Derby. Derby Day was Wednesday but big trucks pulling three or four trailers, cars pulling furnished trailers and caravans were steaming through town headed up the roads to the tracks from Friday on. The Sunday before the race is known as Derby Sunday and at least twenty acres of the infield were solid with entertainment booths, sideshows and rides in operation by noon. One lane a quarter mile long was packed solid with beautifully furnished trailers all occupied by gypsy fortune tellers. We counted nineteen "original Gypsy Lee, all others are impostors," before the kids dragged us toward the nearest of three complete carnivals all going full blast. Each little plot was occupied by a juggler, tipster selling sure winning tips for a shilling, coconut shies or some other form of amusement. The children were especially fascinated by a dignified elderly gentleman in a bowler hat who ate large quantities of electric light bulbs and assorted hardware while his wife passed the hat presumably so she could buy him a square meal.

Racing started Tuesday and the whole district is geared to handle the Wednesday traffic and crowds. All streets are made one way, the police established check points controlled by motor cars and a network of motorcycle police with radios to report any traffic tie-up at once. Sitting in quiet corners are garage, bus company and private tow-trucks ready to spring into action where needed. All schools in Epsom are closed for the week and practically every able bodied man and woman is working at some job in the grandstand or on the grounds for the week's racing. On Wednesday all roads were full of traffic from 8 in the morning on.

While I had an idea it would be a big crowd I could hardly believe my eyes at 3 o'clock in the afternoon when I first saw the track. Even if you've seen it in the news reels it's a hard job to describe what a million people in one place look and sound like. Everywhere there were huge tents selling tea, beer and lemonade. Fish and chip vans were doing a roaring trade and for the greater part of the hundred acres, not actually occupied by the track it was impossible to move at anything but a snail's pace. People were sitting down on boxes, car cushions or on the grass and children were enjoying themselves at the games, rides and other amusements.

The tipsters were doing a land office business. I saw the ostrich plumes of a six foot African who calls himself Prince Monololu bobbing above the crowd and heard his familiar cry of "I gotta horse." In the centre of a fascinated circle was a man who claimed to know the Derby winner and who would divulge this information for the trifling sum of half a crown which is about 35 cents. What really fascinated the crowd was not his knowledge but the huge pile of pound notes he had lying at his feet on which were supposed to be his winnings at the last big race. While talking to a couple of American soldiers and looking at a bunch of show girls perched on a bus the roar went up "they're off" and everyone scrambled to their feet. The result three minutes later was bad news for nearly everybody. An outsider whom everyone thought would be last came home six lengths in front and as usual with horse races, the favourite seemed to stop for a mouthful of nice grass.

Halfway back the road a crowd was gathered around a bookmaker who was in heated (and I mean very heated) discussion with a man over a bet. Apparently the man claimed double the amount the bookmaker thought he was entitled to. In the scuffle after the word stage was passed a policeman seemed to come from nowhere and in two minutes all that was left was the poor bookie's odds board with the beautiful motto on top "Joe Johnston of Birmingham Courtesy and Civility." But no matter what the weather may be, the horses running or anything else, the Derby at Epsom is well worth seeing, if possible.

FOR PARENTS ONLY

(By Nancy Cleaver)

A SELF RELIANT CHILD

"Let me put on my own shoes!"  
"I want to feed myself my own cereal!"  
"Let me get my own drink of water!"  
"See me build my block tower all by myself!"

How often remarks like these, showing the desire of pre-school children for independent action, come to the ears of parents! They are all important requests because a child's first signs of eagerness to do things for himself in the day's ordinary routine of dressing, eating and playing should receive every encouragement. This takes time and patience. Often it happens when a mother is preoccupied with something else. But in the end it pays rich rewards for a parent to give a child the opportunity to look after his own needs.

It is comparatively easy to pick out the children whose mothers have been keen on developing thoughtful, responsible youngsters, if an observer watches a group of boys and girls at kindergarten getting into their snow suits. Some are quick to find their belongings, get into them and be on their way. Others seem quite lost and helpless without their mother's hand to assist them.

The contrast is particularly noticeable in John and Bertie who are neighbors and friends. There are several brothers and sisters in John's family and he has had to look after himself for some time in the matter of getting clothed. In record time he has his snow suit and galoshes on and is urging Bertie to "hurry up!" Poor Bertie hasn't the faintest notion how to hurry unless his mother is standing over him, and when he cannot get his new rubbers on, he bursts into tears "Mummy always dresses me! I hate school!" he says angrily between sobs.

Bertie's mother is doing "everything for her boy, her only child and has prided herself in being a

"good mother." She has failed to be "good" for Bertie, in not holding before herself the character goal of a self-reliant child, and working steadily toward that end by quiet teaching and loving co-operation. She should never do things for Bertie which he could do for himself, like putting on his rubbers, unless there is some emergency, which calls for a mother's speedy assistance.

It is likely that Bertie's mother like many other mothers, can remember well the moment when she first looked down at her baby. In his helplessness he made a tremendous appeal to her maternal instincts. She resolved that she would do everything within her power for child and protect him from harm. It seemed too good to be true that this sweet little bundle of humanity was really hers. It is just at this point that many mothers make a big mistake. That baby has a father too. Parenthood is a co-operative enterprise. Father and baby are cheated out of an experience which is rightfully theirs, if a mother does not encourage her husband to share in the care of the baby.

What dad does not get a kick out of watching his baby splashing in his bath? Fathers have a good firm grip and they are just as able to keep a hold of a wet, struggling infant who needs to be dried as mothers. Babies are babies such a short time that both parents should enjoy them and both parents should help each other in their ideas of ways to develop self-reliance and independence in their children.

When their children are older they can help each other in giving their youngsters opportunities to practice independence and initiative. Father is more likely to encourage his child to be self-reliant than mother, and this is a goal in child training which should not be neglected! It is the self-reliant boy who is able to fight his own battles when he gets out into the competitive adult world!

DAYS OF YORE

From the Files of The Stouffville Tribune 27 Years Ago

A successful barn raising was held on the farm of W. Paisley on the 6th Line of Whitechurch last Saturday. The event passed off without any mishaps, and in record time. The work was in charge of John Ashenburt of Goodwood.

Stouffville went down to defeat in their first two bowling league games. F. L. Button and W. R. Sanders were the skips who journeyed to Newmarket on Monday and H. Porter and W. Muston Sr. were the skips when Uxbridge bowled here on Tuesday.

Bloomington—Mrs. C. Brumwell attended the "Golden Jubilee" at Whitby College on Sunday.

Mongolia — Foster Wagg has just completed decorating his house and painting his new driving house.

Vivian — Here in Vivian now the reforestation being over, and Mr. Fred Hollidge having been appointed as the caretaker of the properties, we can only watch the trees

growing as quietly we are going on our own way here. We noticed that some of the trees, especially the Jack Pine have already grown from three to four inches, odd ones have died and some have been eaten off by the cut worms.

11 Years Ago

Mr. and Mrs. Reg. Stouffer returned home from their wedding trip last Sunday, and have taken up residence with Mrs. Meyer, opposite Mr. Walter Dickson's.

We hear that Dr. Neil Smith with the Army Medical Corps at Camp Borden has been advanced to the rank of captain, but this is not official.

Miss Helen Jean Hastings, B.A., has been successful in passing her four year honour course in Household Economics at the University of Toronto.

Bethesda—Mr. Gordon Bolender has finished his year at Toronto Normal School. Gordon was very fortunate in that he had only to write three examinations.

Ringwood—Mr. and Mrs. Roy Grove attended the Decoration Day Service at Utica last Sunday.

5th Line Markham—Mr. and Mrs.

THE OLD HOME TOWN By STANLEY



OTTAWA LETTER

by Jack Smith, M.P. North York

Last week census-takers in North York and in every constituency in Canada started on the important task of taking the census. Here the job is in charge of Peter Burt, Census Commissioner and a staff of capable men and women in all parts of the riding and their work I am sure they will have the cheerful co-operation of all our citizens.

The increasingly complex and varied activities of a modern nation are becoming more and more dependent for their success upon reliable, accurate statistics. For that reason Canada's ninth decennial census takes on special importance. The mammoth undertaking is designed to gather information for purposes of business, social welfare, education, justice and political life. Its uses are many. For example, it provides the basis for determining parliamentary representation, as well as federal subsidies to the provinces. It furnishes data about the economic health of the nation; thus it can be a guide both to national financial policies and the activities of individual businesses. It shows social security needs of the country; thus statistics which indicate an aging population may be projected into the future to help estimate probable later costs of old age pension schemes. No question is asked for idle curiosity and all are on the questionnaire because they have some definite bearing on our social or economic life. All information is strictly confidential, every census taker being under oath not to reveal any information about anyone.

Increase in Postal Rates

This week Parliament has been considering some revisions in Canada's postal act and Opposition criticism centred mostly on the increase on postal rates for newspapers.

In these days of rising costs Post Office operation costs have increased tremendously. It is only common sense and good business that the postal service be kept on a paying basis. It is not intended that the Post Office should be a revenue producing department, but at least it should pay its way, especially in these days of heavy taxation.

Last year the Post Office had a deficit of about \$12 million on its

business of handling newspapers and periodicals. The increase in rates is aimed at eliminating or reducing this deficit and I think will appeal to most of our people as a sound business step.

The newspapers of Canada want to stand on their own feet and do not want subsidies from any source, even the government.

Under the proposed new rates the newspaper will be just paying the cost of the service rendered. A new feature of the bill is that totally unpaid letters, except of course those covered by franking privileges, will not be forwarded. The intention of this section is to prevent persons from maliciously sending unpaid letters with the intent of causing annoyance and inconvenience to the addressee.

Massey Report

The long-awaited report of the Massey Commission on National Development in the Arts, Letters and Sciences was presented to Parliament this week.

The Commission headed by the Rt. Hon. Vincent Massey was appointed in 1949 to study how the government may best aid Canadian cultural development. The Commission travelled across Canada and heard representations from more than 500 organizations and 1200 individuals.

The 600-page report is interesting and thought provoking. It will receive the careful study and consideration of the government, and while the committee recommendations are not binding on the administration it is very likely some of the suggestions will be translated into legislation.

One interesting feature dealt with by the committee was the whole matter of radio broadcasting.

The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation last year had a deficit of some \$32,000. Income from radio licenses amounted to \$5,481,488.26, from commercial program \$2,366,400.77 and miscellaneous receipts—\$149,762.76, making a total revenue of almost \$8 million. Operating expenditures, however, were \$630,393. greater than the previous year, due in large measure to expansion of service and the general high price level for goods and services.

The Massey report has a lot to say and recommend about Radio and I will have more to tell about it in future letters.

Lorne Byer observed their first wedding anniversary last Sunday with the immediate families present.

Mr. A. E. Weldon is still confined to his home, although he is making good progress toward recovery. The local reeve is able to keep in touch with municipal affairs.

The Library of Parliament at Ottawa was organized in 1866 and contains many rare and costly books. In the fire of 1916, the Library was the only part of the legislative block to escape destruction.

NOTICE to PARENTS

If you have children that will reach the age of 6 years by the 31st of January, 1952, and intend to start them to school, please register them by forwarding the application below to J. H. Hammersley, the secretary Public School Board by June 18th.

APPLICATION FOR BEGINNERS  
Stouffville Public School

I intend to start the following child to school this September:

Name of Child .....

Date of Birth .....

Name of Parent .....