The Tribune

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Editorial

Traffic close to saturation

Traffic through Stouffville Main Street on the weekend is approaching saturation point. On Saturday morning vehicles were passing at the rate of fifteen a minute. That is nine hundred an hour within a hundred of a bumper-to-bumper situation all the way.

While a great many do pull off here and there for business purposes, the great preponderance on the weekend are through travellers. Some have found their way north of Ringwood up Highway 48 to the Bloomington Rd. but their numbers are small. This is possibly not surprising since there is no indication

whatever that there is such a bypass. This situation has existed for some time and why the obvious need for some posting south of the Ringwood light to indicate a means of avoiding the Stouffville congestion, is neglected, we've never been able to understand.

There will be obvious changes in the Lincolnville corner when the up-coming change in Highway 47 is made from Stouffville north. However, surely some pressure can be exerted on the Highways Department to erect a sign which could be such a great help in aleviating this worsening traffic situation.

Town policing much improved

For months now, this newspaper has waged a continuous campaign for improved policing in Stouffville.

Our criticism, has in turn been criticized - quite severely in some circles. But we refused to give up or give in. For, we were convinced this town was being short-changed on protective service.

But never let it be said we do not recognize results, regardless of reasons. During the past three weeks, patrols have been noticeably increased. Undoubtedly, during the same period, incidents of crime have decreased.

Ray Twinney, Newmarket councillor and a member of the Region's Police Committee, has attributed the improved protection and stepped-up patrols to 'reorganization'.

We'll buy that.

Let's hope the re-organized program is permanent.



Markham needs Alma Walker

The Tribune has never made it a policy to support a single candidate, or a single slate of candidates at a municipal election. However, on occasions, we have attempted to reveal to the electorate, the accomplishments of those already holding office and-or, the contributions would be office-holders could make to a municipality, if successful.

As yet, Mrs. Alma Walker, former Mayor, Town of Markham, fits neither category. She does not hold office at present, and has not revealed her intentions as to the future.

But we say, Alma Walker's 'voice' is needed on Markham Town Council.

We hope she runs, and we hope she

In the initial year of operation, under the regional government scheme of things, there was some excuse for indecision - a noticeable hesitancy to take strong stands on important issues. However, this period of lack-lustre performance is now past. It is now apparent, to the press at least, that the 'dead silence' is originating from 'dead wood'. It must be discarded.

Survey crazy

irk the ordinary citizen in this country and one to which they are constantly referring it is government's continuous policy of conducting expensive surveys. Surely we must be the most surveyed people in this world. It would seem that the greater number of them are either pigeon-holed or completely ignored and if it wasn't such an expensive hobby it

would be a joke. The latest federal splurge is a \$250,000

If there's one thing that is beginning to survey of the unemployed in the Metro area. If past performances hold true, the main beneficiaries of this exercise will be the several hundred people assured of a job to do the survey.

> More and more citizens are beginning to believe that nothing can be accomplished until it has one of these expensive surveys, to be talked over, rehashed and finally put away on the shelf.

Editor's Mail

Dear Sir:

Mining magnate, Stephen B. Roman, Progressive - Conservative candidate, York-North, is opposed to 'hand-outs'.

That's what The Tribune reported, following a press conference, July 27. What a hypocritical statement for him

to make.

How about the tax allowances he and other shareholders received on depletion of raw materials (including Denison Mines), at the expense of the working people of Canada?

What about his extreme effort for a 'sell-out' of one of our natural resources?

If Mr. Roman will recall, both parties (for which he waved banners), did a very nice job of allowing 65 percent of our industries to fall under foreign control. And Mr. Roman was ready to push this policy even further.

> Jerry Morse, Pickering, Ont.

Dear Sir:

From what I can read in your paper, the idea of making people pay for their

misdeeds is gradually going out the window. A slap on the wrist by the magistrate or a measly fine and you can get away with most anything.

I also read in the daily papers that the government is bent on making our jails more comfortable. Whoever intended them to be comfortable? When will they wake up to realize that this permissive "binge" can get them nothing but more and greater trouble? One thing they seem to overlook is that when men received a taste of the whip in past years they hardly ever were caught in jail again for a second application. It worked, and after all isn't that the idea.

The government and crying towel set call for prisoners' rights. As far as the mass of the public is concerned, they have no rights. They gave these up when they went out with a gun.

As crime rates mount it should soon be evident to those in charge that these molly-coddling systems can only get more trouble. We see it all around as those bent on crime and wanton destruction thumb their noses at the law and the public in general. That's you and me and I don't like it.

> Malcolm Shenehan, Stouffville.

Dear Sir:

May we make an appeal to your readers for some missing documents?

The Historical Branch of the City of Edmonton Parks and Recreation Department has been researching information about the Hudson's Bay Company Fort Edmonton as it was during the 1840's, in preparation for an authentic reconstruction of the post. Much of our knowledge of this fort in the 19th century is derived from Fort Edmonton Journals of Daily Occurrences which are now in the Hudson's Bay Company Archives. Unfortunately, all of the Journals between the years 1834 and 1854 are missing, but it is possible that they still exist somewhere, perhaps in a private collection.

If any readers have information concerning the whereabouts of these missing journals, we would sincerely appreciate hearing from them at:

> The Historical Exhibits Building, 10105 - 112 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta.

AROUND

The friendly cop

by Jim Thomas

The York Regional Police Department and, yes, even a few individual officers have, during the past few months, been the subjects of considerable criticism some of it justified, some of it not.

I have taken a few 'shots' at the system myself, mainly due to the impersonal aspect of the operation. Unfortunately, this trend towards the impersonal, is something that's not likely to stop. How can it? With a 220-man force attempting to serve over 150,000 people, the man on the street, to most constables, will just be 'Joe Doakes', no more, no less.

To most constables, but not all; at least not one.

His name is Doug Murray.

P.C. Murray has become a familiar figure on Stouffville's Main Street. He's got to be one of the hardest working cops: that ever pounded a beat - and certainly. one of the friendliest.

Strange as it may seem, the first time I met Doug Murray was about twelve years ago. The location was the North Road at Lake Wilcox. He gave me a ticket.

Officer Murray was performing summer patrol duty at the resort centre, employed by Whitchurch Twp. Council, to assist the O.P.P., then working out of Vandorf.

Not being too familiar with the Lake area, I whipped through a Stop Street without as much as touching a toe on the brake. The constable caught me 'cold'.

To this day, I can see the frown on his ! deeply - furrowed face, leaving the firm impression that here was a chap in no mood to show mercy. Nor did I deserve any. I accepted my misfortune without complaint.

I never saw Doug Murray again, until after the new Whitchurch Force was formed in 1965.

The occasion, I recall, was a near drowning - again, at Lake Wilcox. A quick -thinking officer had averted a tragedy. His name? You're right. He modestly

agreed to pose for a picture. Since then, in the line of reporting

duties, I've had many personal contacts with the constable. And whether probing through the cinders of someone's house, or the twisted wreckage of someone's car, his attitude has always remained the same - stern, honest, co-operative.

But what of Doug Murray's background?

Did he ever graduate farther than grade school?

Has he completed the required courses at Police College? Who knows? Who cares?

Certainly not the folk in Stouffville. What they do know, he's part of the town; part of the people.

Residents have come to recognize him; to respect him.

Let's hope the powers that be, will let him stay.

Dear Editor:

The Page 1 news story (Aug. 10), concerning the cancellation by the Town Recreation Committee of a planned square dance in a residential area, introduces two or three very interesting points.

First, let me say that full marks should go to the members who conceived the idea and attempted to carry it through. In my opinion, it would have been a wonderful thing just to have folks 'let their hair down' for a night and have little fun.

However, to establish a 100 percent criteria "or nothing at all", was, in my opinion, a bit ridiculous. Where, today, does one find 100 percent agreement on anything? Or is it minority rule?

With regard to the complaint that "nobody cares about us", I say phooey.

Any individual with a genuine interest in his town, will find that the town has a genuine interest in him. That's the way it's worked for me, and I wouldn't want it any other way.

Before I get carried away on the subject (I could fill a book), let me say I think the Whitchurch - Stouffville Recreation Organization is doing a fine job. I would hope this most recent disappointment will not curtail similar programs that we 'old folks' would enjoy.

> John J. Adams, Stouffville, R.R.3.



This photo will bring back memories for former pupils of Mt. Zion Public School, (S.S. No. 13), Pickering Twp. The year is 1952. Students are: Rear Row (left to right) - Gladys Disney, Helen Mink, Alice Pascoe, Olga Mink, Annie Mink, Bob Hotner, Miss Shirley Shoemaker (teacher); Murray Jones, Mitch Emiljanowicz, Lorna Jordan, Janet Jones, Howard Davis, Second Row (left to right) -

Allan Jones, Lois Jordan, Sharyn Jones, Irene Hotner, Donna Hotner, John Carson, Butch Hotner, Sheila Redding, Karen Hayward, Lynda Hoskins, Sally Dawson. Front How (left to right) - George Empringham, Gerald Pascoe, Ronald Jones, David Hotner, Kees Bazen, Donald Hotner, Harold Davis, Lorne Disney, Alec Emiljanowicz.