

CNA The Tribune
 Established 1888
 CHARLES H. NOLAN, Publisher
 JAMES THOMAS, Associate Publisher and Editor
 ROBERT McCAUSLAND, Advertising Manager
 Published every Thursday by Inland Publishing Co. Limited at 54 Main St., Stouffville, Ont. Tel. 640-2101. Single copies 15c, subscriptions \$6.00 per year in Canada, \$10.00 elsewhere. Member of Audit Bureau of Circulation. Canadian Community Newspapers Association and Ontario Weekly Newspapers Association. Second class mail registration number 0896.



Editorial

It takes time to serve on Council

Twenty-five years ago, Stouffville Council met only twice a month. What meetings were required in the interval, could be hastily convened on the street-corner.

The Planning Board (what little planning was done), was a separate body, with only the reeve serving on both.

Times have changed, but unfortunately, the dedication of some councillors has not. They can't spend the time or, more bluntly, won't spend the time, that positions of such importance demand.

These are the 'drones' - all 'take' and little 'give'. Doubtless, every municipality is plagued by this problem - including Whitechurch - Stouffville.

For almost two years now, there have been mumbblings and grumblings concerning the attendance record of the representative from Ward 5. The seat, sometimes occupied by councillor June Button, has been vacant on so many occasions, members are more surprised by her presence than her absence. But no one has ever said anything - at least not in

public.

Finally, at a Planning Committee meeting, Nov. 7, Mayor Laushway blew the lid off the pot. And while he didn't name names, the subject of his remarks was as obvious as the empty chair he stared at in disgust.

Back in 1970, June Button won the Ward 5 'popularity contest' handily. Her long-time residence here, plus experience on both the public and high school boards, stood her in good stead. Her support was greater than that of her two male rivals combined.

In the two years that have followed, however, her lack-lustre interest in what's going on, has impaired her political image in the eyes of the electorate.

If councillor June Button seeks reelection or is acclaimed (at this time, neither is certain), she must agree to put Town business before personal pleasures. If, for her, a sacrifice of this kind is too great, then she would have been well advised to step aside and let someone in who will

The penalties of public service

As the penalties of public service increase, it continues to amaze, that communities are able to provide the men and women to accept positions that usually carry bitter rewards. Again this year we find that there is a full slate to fill the council offices.

Those who have stepped forward can rest assured that their unselfishness will bring them plenty of criticism and very very few compliments. The vast majority of citizens will "natter" on endlessly about all the things they are doing wrong but you can rely on it that very few of them would be seeking the position if they had the chance.

Service clubs as well are continually subjected to such unending criticism,

despite the fact that most join the club in order to help boost the community. They soon discover that the people who belong to nothing and help no one, are ready to criticize at every turn.

The mayor is usually the butt of every carping tongue, and his phone rings into the small hours with complaints. He will be lucky if he hears one "well done" in twenty-four months.

Criticism of the right sort, is vital to a democratic community - but today's snarling has almost become a disease. People who have a lot to say should be able to back their words with ability and willingness to do the job they believe is being so mishandled by the victims - those they have elected.

Editor's Mail

Dear Sir:

According to The Tribune (Nov. 9), a large development, containing 199 homes and a commercial area, is planned for the East-End of Stouffville.

This all sounds very glamorous, and will help improve Stouffville, but I don't understand why Town Council should bother wasting its time and our money discussing this project, when a subdivision at Ballantrae was halted because it was located in the 'noise zone' of a proposed Airport.

Does the Council feel these planes will detour around Stouffville and make no noise?

If the Ballantrae development was stopped for this reason, then all building in the entire area should be stopped until the situation is clarified.

The subdivision at Ballantrae is V.L.A. approved. Veterans only have until 1974 to avail themselves of the opportunity to qualify. When the time expires, the chance of a nice home on a good lot will have disappeared forever.

The first phase of the V.L.A. development is by far the best looking in the Region. The second phase, however, has been stopped. So why consider a new subdivision, even closer to the Airport site?

I feel that Ballantrae has every right to grow; to have new homes and stores, instead of all the money and development being poured into Stouffville.

In Ballantrae, we pay comparable taxes, yet we have no water and sewerage services. For all this, we do not complain. But we are supposed to be a Town of Whitechurch - Stouffville. So why not spread the development evenly? Let the Ballantrae subdivision proceed, and not leave it in its present state, like a 'white elephant'.

Gerald Logan,
Ballantrae.

The following is a copy of a letter received recently by Mayor Ken Laushway, Town of Whitechurch - Stouffville, from Mr. P. G. Kirkegaard, Real Estate Manager, Canadian Tire Corporation Limited. It reads as follows:

Dear Mr. Mayor:
I would like to take this opportunity to thank Council, its staff and you personally, on behalf of Canadian Tire Corporation, for all the time and effort that was expended in assisting us to locate in Stouffville.

Through your guidance I believe we have achieved a well balanced development that will be a distinct asset to the community and everyone concerned.

It has been a pleasure working with you on this project, and may I wish you continued success in all your future endeavours.

P.G. Kirkegaard,
Real Estate Manager.

Dear Editor:

I have both 'good' and 'bad' news to report concerning the operation of the Stouffville Arena.

First the 'good'.
I think its a wonderful thing that school-

aged children have an opportunity to skate every Wednesday afternoon at so reasonable a cost. And, from the times I have been present, it would seem that more and more kiddies (and some mothers too), are making good use of this chance. I hope it can be continued.

Now the 'bad'.
It is apparent (to me at least), that more control must be exerted, rather than allow the kids to run wild (e.g. - play tag, skate the wrong way, etc.) I'm sure one or two high school boys could be hired for a very small fee to supervise this program, if none of the full-time Arena personnel has time to do it.

Children, whether in a school, their own homes or the Arena, need supervision. Unfortunately, it only takes a few to spoil it for many.

Marian Spencer,
Stouffville.

Dear Mr. Thomas:

I read with interest your editorial last week calling for a public "all-candidates" meeting. As a candidate for councillor in Ward 2, I fully support your suggestion.

Over the past two weeks, my canvassers and I have been trying to meet and talk with as many residents as we can. I will continue to try and meet all the voters in this ward - quite a task in an area of this size! It has been our experience that most people would like to meet the candidates in person and have a chance to hear their views and ask their questions. A public meeting would provide this opportunity.

The size of previous turnouts should not deter Council from holding such a meeting. Even though we are sometimes embarrassed by the small percentage of people who exercise their voting privileges, we continue to hold elections! Similarly, I feel that a public meeting should be held for the benefit of those voters who are interested in attending.

Possibly a suitable alternative would be local candidates' meetings in the various wards.

Jim Wong,
R.R.3, Stouffville.

Stouffville fire

Just a year ago Nov. 9,
A day I won't forget,
We were hurried down the Fire Escape
On a morning cold and wet.

Sorrow can be healed with time,
Pain will come and go,
But, there are things that hurt the heart
And make the tear-drops flow.

We watched our homes go up in flames,
Too shocked to think or care
That so much we loved and could not save
Was being buried there.

Material things don't make a home,
When people older grow,
Its' links one treasures from the past
That keeps the heart aglow.

My life was saved to God be praise,

ROAMING AROUND

No greater sin

By Jim Thomas

This has been a most distressing and depressing week.

For the common bond of companionship between a father, (me) and a son (my son), has been shattered, perhaps beyond repair.

What hurts most, he's right; I'm wrong.

And it's all over a dog - a pup, about the cutest little 4-legged bundle of joy that ever lit up the face of a lad.

He trundled it home from Orchard Park School, Tuesday. A classmate just handed it to him, you know; all for free, no strings attached, an offer no 9 year old could ever turn down.

Of course, he knew he should have asked first.

He knew we had no place to put it. And he knew brother Paul 'fills up' to the ears, within whiffing distance of anything on four feet.

But that didn't matter. The idea, in his opinion, was to get first and ask later.

It was about 5 p.m., when he telephoned. And believe me, about the only 'dogs' I was thinking about at that time were my own two feet. But he didn't break the news straight out. He was too smart for that. He knows that 'NO' replies are final. It was merely a "Hey, Dad, guess what, I've a surprise for you. How soon are you coming home?". I told him two or three hours, and an audible sigh of relief came from the other end. He realized the sentence had been deferred.

About 8 o'clock, I was formally introduced to No. 6 in the family circle. I held him with mixed feelings. First, he licked me flush in the face, then 'wet' down the front of my coat.

Barry was bubbling with excited anticipation over keeping his new-found 'friend', and fear that his 'guest' would be quickly banished back where it belonged.

To his surprise (and my sorrow), I did neither.

I adopted a compromising approach, the old "we'll talk it over" routine, that has got more Dads into more trouble than any other evasive answer I know.

And we (my wife and I) did discuss the matter, but not until after we went through the worst night in thirteen years. We're both still staggering around half asleep.

First, we put the pup in the garage. No luck. It barked and whined and yelped, keeping half the neighborhood awake.

Next, the basement. Worse still. It kept half the household awake.

Into the kitchen. Still no relief. As a last resort, I sneaked it into our bed, and aaaaah, blessed silence, until 5 a.m.

That was when the pesky little critter became overly amorous; padded softly across my wife's pillow and sat on her head.

She screamed; the covers flew and the dog landed halfway out in the hall.

Then and there, the pup's fate was sealed.

On Friday, Barry took it back.

He cried - a hold-back tearless cry, common to boys his age. He tried to understand, but couldn't.

To him, the dog represented everything he had ever wanted - better even than his birthday watch; his bicycle or his framed photo of Bobby Orr.

For the pup was 'alive', something he could feel, hold and love.

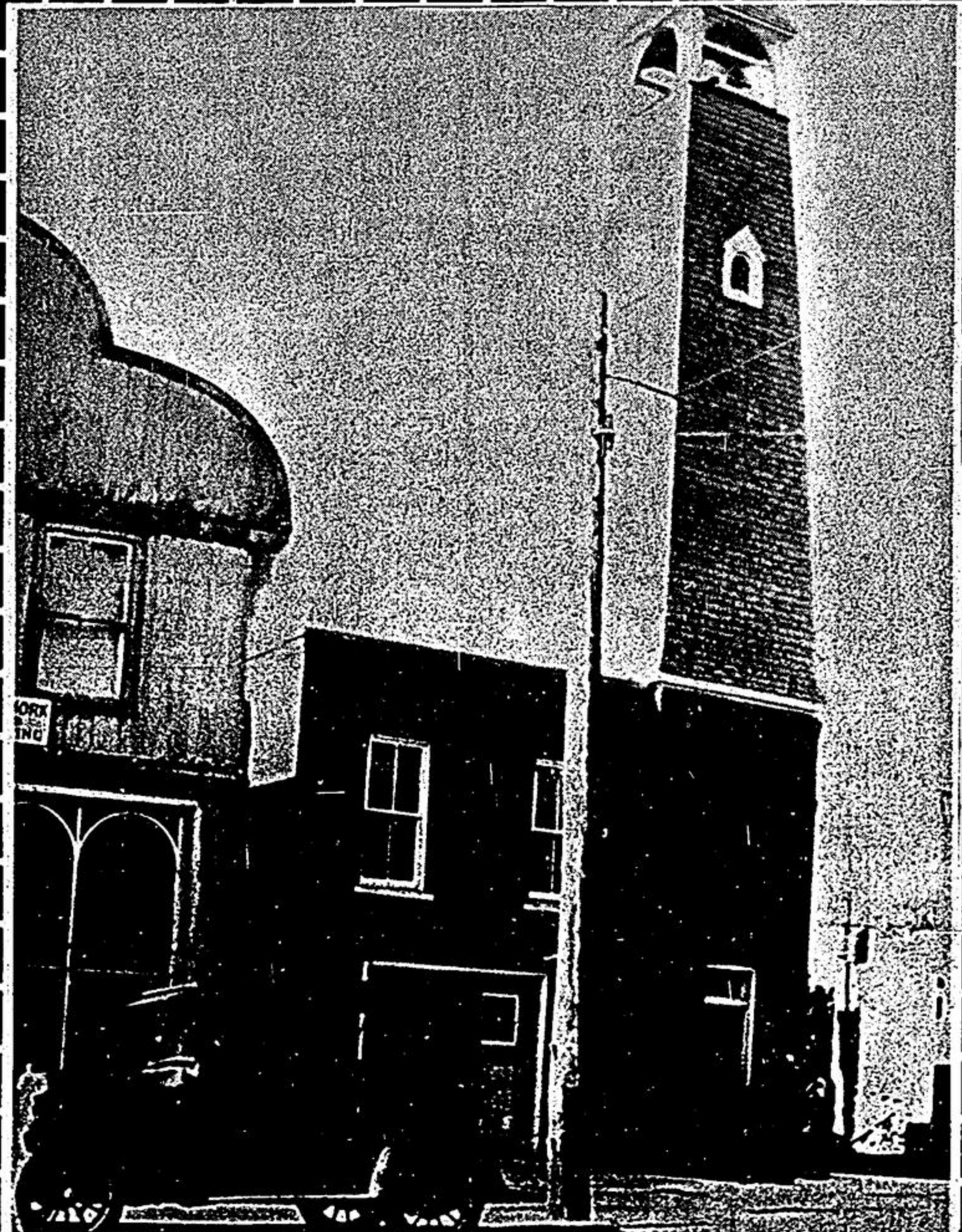
I fully realize now, that to separate the two was "My greatest sin". And I'm paying the price - we're miles apart.

But I'll buy him another, when suitable accommodation is available. With carpentry not one of my skills, that day won't be tomorrow. However, who can disagree with Edgar A. Guest who wrote:

'Tis pity not to have a dog,
For at the long day's end
The man or boy will know the joy
Of welcome from a friend.
And whether he be rich or poor
Or much or little bring,
The dog will mark his step and bark
As if he were a king.

But I always will remember
That part of me was buried there
On that ninth day of November.

Betsy McLeod,
Stouffville.



The old wooden clock tower of 1930

What is now the Civic Square on Main Street, Stouffville, was once the firehall with a wooden clock tower attached. Demolition of the tower was completed in 1930, and

this picture was taken as work commenced. The 1926 model Chevrolet car, parked at the curb, was owned by Frank Burkholder and purchased new for \$250.