

Comment

Enforce Co-op legislation

The final story on the success or failure of the Ashworth Square Co-operative experiment has yet to be written. It may yet organize its books, clean up its halls and end the dissension among its members.

But Ashworth's present confusing state is ample proof of the province's inadequate control over the co-op concept. Regulations that do exist are simply ignored or go unenforced.

The situation simply begs catastrophe. Requirements for

yearly financial statements should be rigidly enforced. Auditors may be expensive but they insure the financial good health of the co-op and provide a stable environment that would attract prime tenants.

Unfortunately one uncontrollable factor, the human one, will still exert a strong influence over the co-op idea's fate. The spirit of co-operative living can hardly be maintained in the presence of power trippers and political infighting.

Whom can you believe?

Is the Malton Airport expansion dead? Could it be true? Can we believe our eyes and ears? That's what city planners were asking themselves this week when word came from the province that land immediately to the west of the Airport is now committed for industrial development.

The tone of uncertainty that pervades discussions of the Airport are highly understandable on the part of the

city. In dealings with the provincial and federal transportation people in the past the higher levels of government have consistently said one thing and acted in an opposite direction.

In view of this experience and the rumblings of reconsideration surrounding the Pickering site, the doubt of city officials to believe what they are apparently being told — that Malton won't expand — is wholly justified.

Police risk public's risk

Two police officers were seriously injured at the Avion Hotel last Thursday night after being attacked.

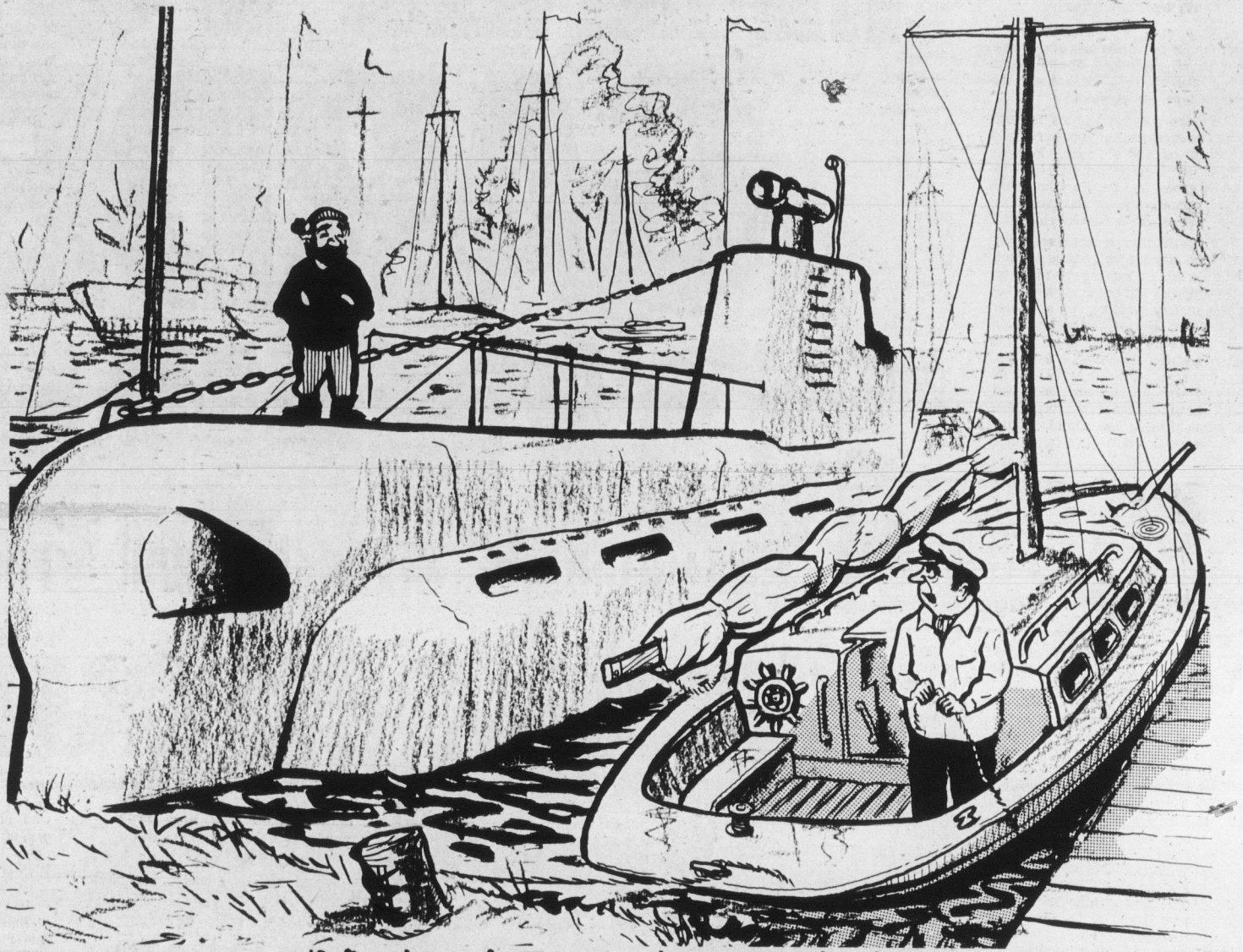
Had the two men not been rescued by their fellow officers, it is not unlikely that they would have been permanently blinded or beaten to death.

It is now up to the courts to determine the guilt or innocence of those arrested.

There is a public attitude relating to such incidents however which should be commented upon.

Too often we look upon acts of violence against policemen in the same way that we view, say, football games: physical conflicts between two opposing sides in which we are merely objective spectators. We sometimes forget that the police side is our side, that their responsibility for the protection of the public requires them to take risks and suffer injuries which, but for their presence, would fall upon us.

When they become the victims they deserve, and need, our support.



'A fine chance of you entering the regatta in that thing'

Open letter to union claims radical leaders dominate local

The following open letter to members of Local 1967 which represents workers at Malton's Douglas Aircraft plant and a reply subsequently sent to the president of Local 1967 from the president of Local 673 have been filed with the Times for publication.

Over a long period of time as a member of Local 673, a number of things have given me cause for concern. This has now reached the stage where I feel forced into action.

My concern is in the leadership of Local 1967. I find that the number of immigrants from the British Isles are in some way or other active or representative in the union is out of proportion to the whole membership.

Upon examination, I have further come to the conclusion that the most extreme radicals are in that select group of new Canadians.

What makes these men radicals? I think the answer must be found in the countries they left behind. Attitudes such as some I have been forced to listen to over the past few years in this local are not those of native born brothers, rather they emanate from the class distinction and subjugated working class mentality of the slums of Glasgow, Belfast, Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham.

It is there that class distinction is procreated through a class-structured educational system aimed at maintaining the status quo. It is there where the "old school tie" is the thing that determines not success or failure but the right to participate. For those of us who had no "old school" there were lots of "old" jobs

at "old" pay rates in "old" working conditions.

What choice then brothers? The Socialist Party, founded on democratic principles, has become tired, old and semi-respectable. The unions have become institutionalized to the extent that they are as inept as management which in Britain, is extremely inept. So what have we there now? Completely polarized views where argument uses more energy than work and the only noise loud enough to make itself heard over the management-union-politician three ring circus is the "glug-glug-glug" of a once proud and vibrant country sinking beneath the waves.

Have we imported those same people, those same arguments, those same viewpoints here to Canada and into the Local 1967? Has the bitterness of class-structured depravation and

inequality been brought here and granted a platform to be aired as views that are not applicable to this country.

Why come here and disrupt and ferment and undermine the use of our union as a platform to expand their twisted political views that relate to another place far from here? That question I cannot answer. Such destruction is not fostered by the leadership of Local 673.

Why do we let them use unions as a platform for their politics that are now hurting us and do not think for a moment they are not. Because we, the rank and file, are LAZY. We have a disease called "APATHY". We allow ourselves to be used and used and used and the time, I think, has come when we must call a stop.

The continuous arguing and the bitterness that has developed between that

Local and the company can be to no good. We may be winning battles as the radicals say, but if we get no more orders, if you are all laid off, then answer me — WHO WINS THE WAR?

Someone once said, "The quietest way is the best way". If you are concerned let your quietness be heard until it deafens us all. That has been decided as the democratic way. The vote, however, to insure that you get what you voted for, I suggest you follow the example of Local 673 and eliminate dangers of a rigged election and appointment of Caucus members. Let us get rid of radicals, extremists, pinkies, commies, militants and all the other trouble making counter groups and let us get down to securing and enjoying our moderate lives. A member of Local 673

Chairman says letter may not have been written by union man

Early today I was made aware that "An Open Letter To All Members of Local 1967" and signed "A Member of Local 673" had been distributed in the plant. I have since been given a copy of the letter.

Consistent with the policies of our Union, the leadership of Local 673 believes that the membership of Local 1967 is the only body that should, and will, determine the leadership, direction and future of your local union.

We also respect the rights of your membership to make such determinations.

I realize that in the past the leadership of each of our locals has been criticized by some of the other's members. The leadership styles are very different. Each decides the methods by which it hopes to achieve its goals; and has the right to do so. The important thing, I believe, is that the members should be aware that the goals are the same.

We in the leadership of Local 673 do not know who is responsible for the preparation, printing or distribution of the letter. We regret any embarrassment or ill-feeling the leaflet may have caused; if indeed the leaflet is the responsibility of one of our members. Although the author purports to be a member of Local 673, we are not convinced that such is the case.

Ray Lewis, Chairman Local 673-UAW

Don Blenkarn is our MP until July 8 unless he is not

Miss Carol Gatzky Mississauga

If Blenkarn's not MP then Trudeau's not PM

In reference to your article, written Wednesday June 12 you stated that Don Blenkarn is not our MP.

voted out. If Don Blenkarn is not our MP, then theoretically speaking, Mr. Trudeau is not our Prime Minister.

Editor's Note: The Times did not say that Don Blenkarn was not a Member of Parliament. A reader made that statement June 12 in a letter to the editor which appeared on this page.



DON BLENKARN



The president of a Weston truck operation says in letter below that truck drivers are often unjustly blamed for

traffic accidents which are not their fault.

'Truckers not always to blame'

A copy of the publication Truck Canada in its April issue carried a story quoting Chief Superintendent Robert McKie of the Ontario Provincial Police as saying the truck involved in the Highway 400 crash of March, 1973 was blameless.

As a director of the Industrial Cartage Association of Metro Toronto and the owner of a trucking company, I believe it about time we spoke out for the trucking industry.

I am sick and tired of hearing how trucks should be banned on highways, and if there is an accident

involving a truck, they blame the trucker right away. We have finally proved and been spoken for, that the trucking industry is not always at fault.

If more investigating was done before announcement, you would probably find that the trucking industry is not to blame 50 percent of the time.

J.R. Skeffington President Province Cartage and Movers Rexdale, Ontario.

'Times' mistakes provide humour

I am continually amused by some of the inaccuracies I see in "The Mississauga Times".

This week it is the picture of a raccoon (no doubt dug up by one of your editors in order to add pictorial interest to the column) which appears above a Letter to the Editor concerning a little girl rescuing a squirrel.

And I frequently come across gems in your classified columns, like "boat and motor complete with wench — \$350". I have a collection of these — not just from "The Times". And amusing though they are, does publishing standards are going downhill? I sincerely hope not.

Yours for higher standards sincerely Ron Parker Port Credit

'letter a real laugh'

I could not help but chuckle when I read Mr. Hunchuck's letter complaining that Mr. Blenkarn is not our MP. If this is his only fault let's re-elect him. On the other hand if it is serious enough to prevent re-election I would hope the same principle applies to the Liberal party.

The Liberals certainly refer to him as Prime Minister Trudeau. Donald A. Leslie Mississauga

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