

## Letters . . .

Sir: The Atomic bomb, is looked upon by society as the most modern and effective mass killer of the century. This bomb is really a second contender, a mere joke compared to the killer which is presently in action. This killer doesn't need a button to activate it, but it does need energy, will-power, and caring on the behalf of society to stop it. Pollution has been gathering speed in its struggle to wipe out mankind. It's a weapon which most of us look upon with a shrug, or at most, an agreement that something should be done about it. But do we then go out and do something? Are we part of society, or like most do we think that there is nothing we can do?

How many years will it be, until man has to pay for his water, and have his air filtered? How many years after this until man may no longer bathe whenever he wants to, but once a week, with the same water being used by the rest of the family? Pollution is not a laughing matter, but a struggle with a man-made enemy which is slowly starving man of two essentials of life, air and water. Man made pollution and only man can stop it.

How can we go about stopping pollution? Use a brand of gas with the lowest amount of lead, and a detergent with the lowest amount of phosphates. Always deposit your garbage in steel containers set out by the government, never dump it by the roadside. Cherish

the scarce, clean water reserves which we miraculously still have, by never washing, dumping or throwing anything into them. The sign by the roadside picturing pop cans and bottles with the caption: "If you love me, don't leave me" should be regarded as law, and obeyed. Clean up your neighborhood, and spread the word to others. Spare five minutes some day, and write to the government. If the public shows enough concern, they must stop all companies from abusing our air, water and ground. It may mean that product costs will rise for a short amount of time, but it also means that on a hot afternoon, the distance to the beach will be shorter and the water cleaner. The air will be fresher to breathe and the scenery prettier to observe.

It's definitely worth a little time and money spent on our behalf for the enjoyment of ourselves and others to come. The longer we wait, the harder it will become to overcome pollution. With all of us working together, surely we can make this country a cleaner and healthier place to live in.

Marg Elliot,  
93 Mineola Rd. W.,  
Port Credit.

### No yellow!

Sir: I usually don't write to newspapers because I feel if you've got a complaint you should go to the authority involved.

The problem is the authority just doesn't seem to realize the seriousness of the problem. The traffic light at the intersection of Park Street and Highway 10 has the uncanny habit of turning red without having gone through the middle stage of showing yellow.

To a driver approaching at even moderate speed this can be unnerving and to say the least unsafe. I phoned the town of Port Credit office and they told me to phone the Port Credit Police Department.

The police secretary said they had a lot of trouble with that light and had fixed it quite a few times but it still keeps popping up some of the time. Well isn't that just too bad. What do you tell some driver's wife after he's been killed, that he was unfortunate enough to catch the light when it was showing yellow?

Our police department are always emphasizing safety on the roads but when a glaring hazard like this comes up all they can say is they are working on it. It's quite a few days and it should be removed and an emergency one put in its place.

Several of my friends have had similar experiences at the Park Street light over the past two or three weeks. It's time it was stopped. It's a shame we can't lay charges against the police for operating an unsafe traffic control device.

Yours truly,  
Angry Amber,  
Port Credit.

### School vandals 'sickening'

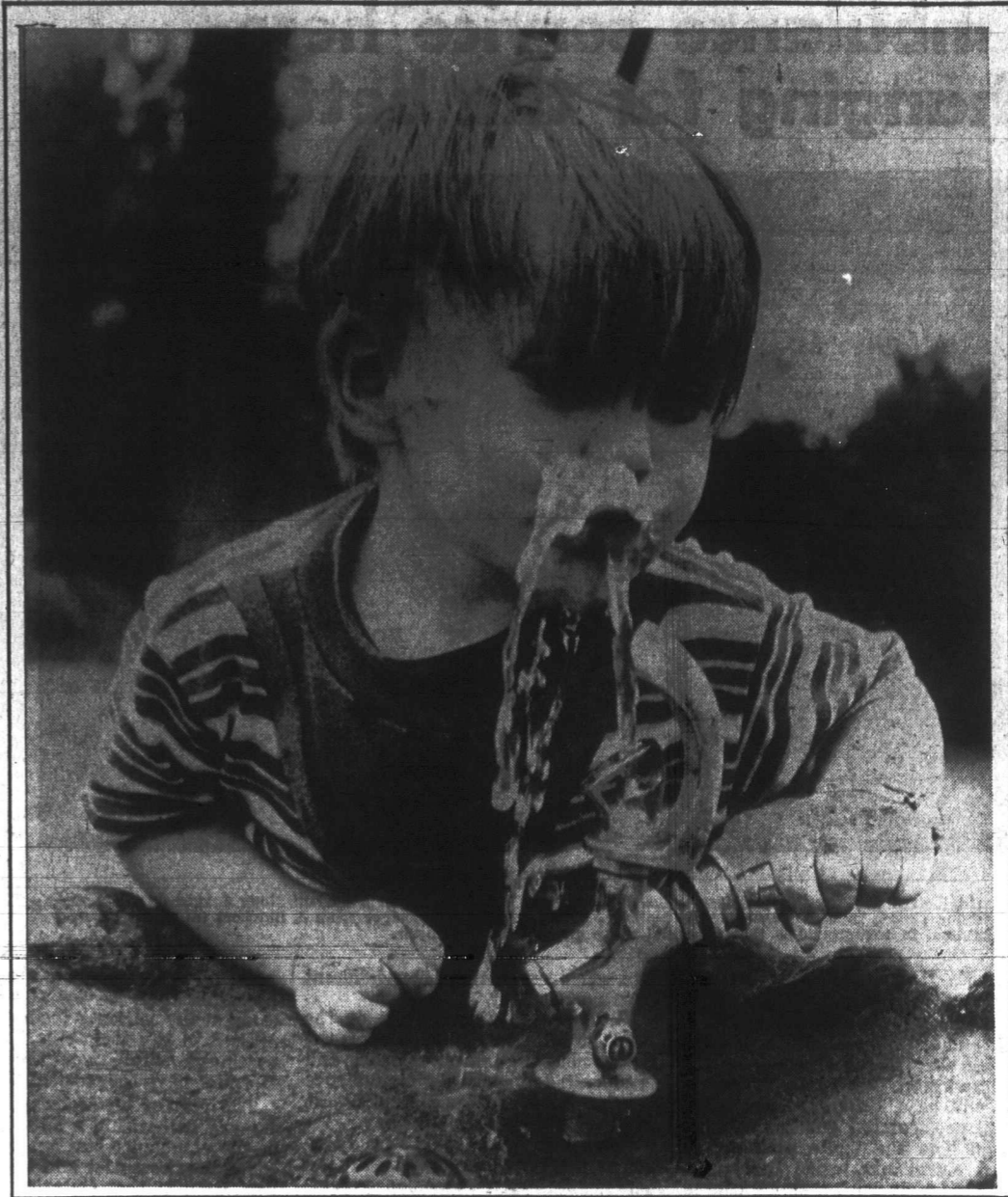
Sir: I think it is just sickening to read about the usual cases of pure vandalism that start as soon as students are out of school, and last all summer. And it is about time that town council had enough gumption to do something about it.

Goodness knows, there are many problems that they are almost powerless to solve, but vandalism can be cured, and everyone knows it. So why not start right now? If the parents are slapped with a heavy fine for the smallest act of vandalism on the part of their children, this problem can be cured practically overnight.

I am not speaking of children who would ruin a school such as the Glen Forest School, because these children are obviously mentally deranged, but I am speaking of those vicious little vandals who have nothing else to do but smash windows and deface walls, and smash playground equipment all summer. Children and their parents, too, who are allowed to get away with this type of thing all their lives with nothing more than a scolding, if they get that, are the ones who grow up still committing acts of violence at the slightest provocation, and still getting away with it.

With the money that the taxpayers are pouring into education and the upkeep of schools, once is enough — why should we pay over and over again to replace thousands of broken windows every summer — the parents of these little morons should pay for every bit of damage they do — so how about it, town council? Let's have strict law enforcement for any acts of vandalism committed from now on.

Yours truly,  
H. Bishop,  
Cooksville.



A REFRESHING PAUSE ON A WARM SUMMER DAY

Two-year-old Michael Craig, of Jaguar Valley Drive, Mississauga, gets a cooling faceful of water at the Albion Hills Conservation Area just north of Bolton. (Times Photo by Sid Rodaway)

## When Cooksville had one church, one school and two blacksmiths

(Editor's Note: The following is an account of the "neat and trim village of Cooksville" when it boasted one church, The Canada Methodist, a "fine, large, two-storey, brick school house employing two teachers" and a total population of 300 people. It was published by Walker and Miles, Toronto, in 1877 and originally taken from the Historical Atlas of Peel County.

"compiled and drawn from official plans and special surveys by J. H. Pope, Esq.")

Cooksville is a very neat and trim village situated a little south of the centre of the Township of Toronto. At this point the centre road crosses Dundas Street, 16 miles from Toronto and 10 miles from Brampton, and contains a population of 300 people.

### JACOB COOK

The village was named in honor of Jacob Cook, Esq., grandfather of Washington Cook, who at present resides in the village. In the year 1814 he owned 100 acres of land next to where the village is at present located. His son, Jacob Cook, father of Washington Cook, purchased the greater part of the land on which the village is situated. The manner in which he came to buy it was as follows: He was travelling from the Township of Toronto to Ancaster with a scythe on his back, when he met near Palermo, an old man who owned 100 acres of land, and Mr. Cook was persuaded to purchase it, he was given a long time to pay this land off. This proved to be the very land on which the village now stands. Mr. Cook was the first man to carry the mails through from Toronto to Niagara, sometimes he was obliged to carry the mail on his back, but mostly a line of stages through. He amassed during his lifetime a considerable fortune.

onto Niagara, sometimes he was obliged to carry the mail on his back, but mostly a line of stages through. He amassed during his lifetime a considerable fortune.

### LIVELY VILLAGE

Cooksville was at one time one of the liveliest villages west of Toronto, being on the main travelled road between Toronto and Hamilton, and business of all kinds was flourishing until 1832, when the village suffered from a fearful fire, from which it never fully recovered. The fire swept the whole village leaving only a few houses in it. That, together with the building of the Grand Trunk and Great Western Railways, has diverted a large portion of the trade. However, the land around the village is of the richest and the farmers, as a general thing, wealthy, and it is hoped that by the building of the Credit Valley Railway that the business will again assume the magnitude that it did in days of yore.

### VINE GROWERS

The celebrated Canada vine growers association is situated in this village and adds very much to the prosperity of the place. This company was first organized by J. M. DeCourtenay in 1864, by which it was given a charter by special Act of Parliament in 1866,

by which it was granted certain exemptions and privileges, in order to encourage the vine growing interest of Canada, and the production of native wines. Thirty acres of grapes are grown by the company, from which they manufacture 50,000 gallons per year.

Messrs. Parker and Gordon have a large oil refinery about a mile from the village, which does an extensive business. They also make gas oil which is becoming generally used for the manufacture of gas. It is used by Messrs. Barber Brothers factory in Streetsville. Mr. James Payne has a steam saw-mill which is kept constantly running.

### ONE CHURCH

There is only one church, The Canada Methodist, in the immediate village. There is a fine large two storey brick school employing two teachers. The principal stores are kept by T. B. Golding, John Galbraith, and William Peaker, the latter being the postmaster. Chas. Caldwell has a carriage factory, Wm. Cox a baker, Robert Wilson and Lewis Waterhouse are blacksmiths. There are two hotels, "The Cooksville House" owned and operated by Francis Morely, and the "Water House".

It became the municipal centre in 1878.

### A weak bid may lose it

Sir: I am writing this letter with haste after reading how much enthusiasm is being generated by Oshawa in their bid for the 1973 Canada Games. Compare it to ours (Halton-Peel's bid) and we have enthusiasm that's almost non-existent.

If our good municipal governments had gotten off their families a little earlier instead of waiting until the last minute to lend their support, Halton-Peel might have had a chance. I understand our steering committee was one of the first to give an indication that it was bidding for the Games. It's time someone started jumping on the bandwagon to salvage what's left of feeble attempts to obtain the Games. It's also high time for our government to take stock of their attitudes towards bringing new ideas to the area.

I'm a newcomer to the area but have followed this newspaper closely to get a better understanding of our town. I'm not impressed. There's too much lacking for a town this size.

Yours sincerely,  
Cameron Young,  
Mississauga.

**New Horizons**  
in  
**Local Government**

by  
**Elmer Wright**

Each of us has an unlimited capacity for hindsight, but few can look ahead with certainty.

It is easy to condemn the other person because he did not anticipate, when probably we would have made as many, if not more errors.

Let us accept the fact that direction and control of property assessment by the province is needed.

At the same time, if they were to start again, they probably would have established basic principles before proceeding to implement a reassessment. They would undoubtedly have presented the proposals to the public for discussion in order to discover shortcomings as well as to obtain the co-operation of the public, for after all, the legislators are our servants, and not we theirs.

They would certainly have fixed a date well in advance so that the entire province, or at least inter-related areas would be operative at the same time.

Where households move freely throughout a metropolitan area, it is disastrous to homeowners, real estate firms and municipal corporations to have a disorganized conversion among the different communities.

To use sales in a vicinity as the sole criteria for the assessment of a home can be shown to be inequitable, unjust and in many cases sheer nonsense.

Further, the value of a home has three meanings. Where a house and lot are bought and sold as a business transaction, and not for the purpose of establishing a home and family, it is a commercial activity and one value applies.

Where the property constitutes a "home", its value is the same as any other identical property anywhere in the same taxing area, regardless of the commercial sale of an adjacent property.

There is a third value — that to the community. If Canada ever becomes a land where the family does not own the land and the home — it will lose the stability for which Canada is known, and become a ripe area for those who have no roots, have no reason to avoid conditions which prevail in lands where the people do not own their homes. People having an investment in a home are not inclined to permit physical violence and revolution to endanger their way of life.

These basic principles should have been some of the considerations carefully weighed and discussed before we were plunged into the present state of confusion. It is not yet too late.

## Human jackals

A tragedy, especially one with the horrifying proportions of the DC-8 crash near Malton 10 days ago, draws to it a wide assortment of people.

Some are there because they must be: the police, the firefighters, the ambulance and emergency communications people, even the newsmen. All have a job they are paid to do, no matter how grisly or terrible.

But then there are the spectators, the "merely curious" as some news reports kindly phrase it.

Most incredible of all, are those morbid, ghoulish souls who, like vultures, swoop down on a scene of carnage to see what they can find.

They go to extraordinary lengths to accomplish their grim purpose. In this most recent case, they walked for miles across farmers' fields, over fences and streams to reach the crash site after police had sealed off roads.

Even before police arrived, these human jackals were scavenging in the midst of shattered human bodies, picking pieces for their mantels.

In the privacy of their dens and recreation rooms they'll proudly show off a charred and twisted chunk of metal with the explanation: "Got it right off the site. The darn thing was still hot when I picked it up. You know 108 people died in that crash. It was a hell of a mess . . . I think that's part of the fuselage."

Police reported they stopped one man who picked up a wallet near the scene, but let him go without charges apparently after he explained it was a souvenir.

Another report claimed a person had been found with a passenger's watch.

As is the case with almost every air disaster, the Department of Transport had to appeal to the public to return pieces of wreckage or personal belongings.

Man is capable of depravity, but perhaps none so gruesome as the act of looting corpses. The incredible callousness and consummate greed which must motivate these people and permit them to feel no remorse, is impossible to fathom.

## Down with functionalism

There is more than meets the eye on Mississauga Road.

Perhaps not all of Mississauga Rd., but specifically that portion of winding, turning highway between Dundas St. and Springbank Road, where it follows the contours of the escarpment along the Credit River Valley.

It is a quiet and relaxing stretch of road, a favorite route for the harried commuter fleeing the city's crush.

Construction workers stop in the early morning and fill their coolers with the bright, clear water gurgling from a roadside spring. The same spring draws tourists from miles around. They help themselves by the bucket-full on weekends.

This short piece of highway is a monument to days gone by, a slower, less "efficient" age.

It turns where it could be straightened; it is narrow where it could be widened and it irks town planners and engineers concerned with "traffic flow" and "vehicle movement".

But we believe it would be a shame to widen, straighten and "functionalize" this portion of Mississauga Road.

Like a park in the heart of the city, it provides a welcome respite from the antiseptic boredom of suburban street patterns.

We support Ward 4 Councillor Grant Clarkson and his campaign to "save" Mississauga Rd.

The fact that he is an engineer lends weight to his argument that Mississauga should try to preserve even a little bit of its disappearing heritage.

## Our disposable society

We are living in a disposable society. We dispose of our soft drink bottles; we throw away our beer cans and we flush away our diapers.

Some idea of the scope of the problem, and in particular, the scourge of non-returnable bottles (or "one way bottles" as the manufacturers prefer to call them), was outlined to the Ontario Legislature recently by Peel South MPP Doug Kennedy.

A long-time opponent of disposable bottles, Kennedy renewed his campaign with extra vigor shortly after he stepped on one and cut his foot.

He said it was estimated 300 million bottles of soft drinks (or "pop" as the Americans prefer) would be consumed from disposable glass containers in Canada this year.

About one third of this consumption will probably be in Ontario.

It is likely a good portion of these 100 million bottles will find their way into our lakes, rivers, roadside ditches and the odd one on the doorstep of our local member from Queen's Park.

Kennedy observed that some fruit juices are already being packaged in

disposables and expressed fear that the milk industry might switch to non-returnable bottles.

This could mean the staggering consumption of 748 million quarts in Ontario alone.

In a recent editorial "Our untidy habits", the Peterborough Examiner outlined some of the problems standing in the way of effective legislation to control proliferation of non-returnable bottles.

Claiming the "one practical and reliable answer" would be some form of bottle which could either be completely incinerated or would disintegrate after use, the paper arrived at a pessimistic conclusion.

"Some (forms of a new-type bottle) would be prohibitively expensive. Others don't have the eye appeal which merchandisers want.

Pending some satisfactory alternative a considerable group in the legislature is demanding a ban on the present disposables.

This is a step the government would hesitate to take. The bottle industry is sizeable and unless there were more public concern than there is at present, Mr. Roberts and his cabinet would probably be reluctant to disturb it," continued the editorial.

"Also some sections of the public might be annoyed. If 100 million bottles of soft drinks are being drunk out of disposables there obviously are many people who like them.

Another approach open is public education. But nobody really has any great faith in this.

Perhaps later generations may be prepared for a better-groomed environment. But our present ones aren't."

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