

The Office Window

By the calendar, summer does not arrive for another month, but by tradition, the first holiday of the season, Victoria Day, or the day upon which the reigning sovereign's birthday is officially celebrated, marks the beginning of summer activities. . . . The celebration of Victoria Day began long before the time of anyone living today. May 24 was the birthday of Queen Victoria and throughout her long reign celebrations took place on that day, and a holiday was proclaimed, throughout the British Empire. It is such a nice time of the year for people to enjoy a holiday that kings and the queen, since her time have requested that their birthdays be observed on this day. For even the greater convenience and enjoyment of the people, the holiday has been changed from May 24 to the Monday preceding that date, making it a part of the weekend. . . . This weekend, now past, was spent as much as possible out of doors by most Ontario people, some at cottages, some on the road, and some on the annual spring preparation of gardens and property for the summer ahead. . . . Timely, today is the day for that extra collection, according to the agreement with the garbage collection company, when the type of waste material not picked up in the regular collection, is to be taken away. This should permit all the brush, limbs and trimmings, and other materials which are unsuitable for the regular truck, to be removed. It is to be hoped that everyone was ready for today's pick-up. . . . Last year some of the gardens in town were very lovely. Personally, we are not possessed with what is referred to as a "green thumb" but there are townspeople who have that gift. Has anyone a thought of a horticultural society here?

Believe there would be benefits, ideas and suggestions obtained through such membership. . . . The county boundary line appears to be becoming increasingly important as Metro's boundaries bulge. Last week's issues of the Richmond Hill Liberal and the Aurora Banner carried the headlines, "Metro — Stay Away From Our Door Says County", and the latter topped its front page with, "Threat From Metro Moving Up Yonge St." The news items in both papers sounded an alarm which corresponded with the headlines and it is evident that they are fearful for what lies ahead and how it will affect assessment and taxes. . . . Though a motion has been carried by Bradford town council that the per capita grants be applied for to the governments to be used for the community centre park, that does not mean that this should be the only centennial project undertaken by the town, because for other purposes there are many other grants available. That readers are interested and anxious to have historical facts reconstructed into something of value and interest at this time is indicated by the materials which are being given and loaned to us to permit our reminding readers of the uniquely interesting district in which we live. . . . At the weekend we were loaned two very beautiful maps: An Historical Map of Simcoe County and a Pioneer Map of York County. The artistic drawings, and other markings on these maps, to indicate points of historical interest, were compiled and drawn by Jerrine Wells Kinton, who is now Mrs. Abbott, wife of Rev. Abbott, at one time Anglican minister at Schomberg. We are told that copies of these maps are obtainable at the Gift Shop, Eaton's College Street Store, and if not in the schools, would

surely be a delight and inspiration in local teaching. York and Simcoe boundary being right here, both maps are very interesting, with the Holland River traced away westward, and a picture of Lord Simcoe west on the river, beyond McArthur's bridge, to remind of Lord Simcoe's travels around here, 1793, and the naming of the river—it's all there. That's some history not recalled before, yet the county bears his name. We were promised a copy of Lord Simcoe's papers by the lender of the maps. . . . If the centennial year goes by without permanent historical marking, the opportunity will be gone. Professional advice and assistance are available at this time and such effort is far beyond the amateur. This is the native area for many of you and will be the home for you and your families, possibly for generations to come. It has a proud history and one which should be an incentive to the youth of the community. How much of it do they know? . . . Thanks again to the bowlers.

Bradford Witness & South Simcoe Times

May 20, 1964

Vol. 99, No. 21

Pg 1