

The Office Window

Although the hockey season has concluded most satisfactorily for both local clubs and for the Maple Leafs, when this time of year arrives most people are rather hockey weary and are ready for other activities. We were therefore interested at the weekend to hear the president of the Ontario Horticultural Societies urge just what we had suggested a couple of weeks ago for Bradford—beautification at the entrance of towns where there are horticultural societies, and if our recollection is correct, there are more than two hundred in the province. If his suggestion is adopted (and if ours is adopted) Bradford will not exactly be a standout, but at least it can keep up and not lag away behind, on beautification, and we have something here that many would give a great deal to have—a river. Now don't laugh. The Holland may not be the most beautiful, but it's water, and that is what so few places have. That waterfront is being made attractive now and if an expert were asked for advice the suggestions might be surprising. The other entrances might resemble other towns but at the bridge it would seem there is opportunity for something that would be quite striking, at possibly a reasonable expenditure. At any rate, in towns where there are horticultural societies there are likely to be attractive entrances. . . . Last week the Ontario Legislature's legal and municipal bills committee gave unanimous approval to a bill setting aside the tax sale of a summer property valued at \$10,000 for \$4.86. The owners of the property have paid all of their taxes since purchasing the property in 1958 and were not aware that \$4.86 was owing by the previous owner in 1957. The case re-

called an experience of our own when some five or six years after purchasing summer property and paying taxes, without notice of arrears on a tax bill, we received notice that our property would be sold for taxes if an amount of less than \$5 was not paid within a certain number of days. It was the same trick, with the previous owner, who told us he had some argument with the tax collector and he believed that he had won. We, of course, rushed to pay the trifling arrears, and when the previous owner heard about it he repaid us, but it would appear that this may not be so uncommon as the Legislature might believe. Our property would not have the same collector, but was in the general area in which the property dealt with last week was located. . . . A \$250,000 dam is being built at the Earl Rowe park on the Boyne river at Alliston, forming an 85-acre lake, which will be about the same size as the mill pond which was at the site fifty years ago. The dam will incorporate a two-lane roadway and a pedestrian walk, with protective railings. . . . This is the rake-up and clean-up time for the majority of properties and it would seem timely to remind that grass fires can spread at terrific speed and cause a great deal of damage. Respect for one's own and neighbourhood property should make all who do burning careful of where they start a fire and also ever watchful to guard the lighted fire while there is any sign of flame. . . . Heard a broadcaster tell a story this week of quite unusual business methods for 1964. He said that four weeks ago, during a visit to the market at Kitchener, he had paid a Mennonite for a rug to be made, receiving neither a receipt nor the man's name. He returned to the market last Saturday, found the man and was given his rug. The bargain was that he was to get the rug on that day. That system of doing business would not be recommended with everyone. . . . "If you have

half as much fun watching this as we had getting it ready, you're going to have a good time," said one of the young chaps of the group who presented the entertainment, which the entertainers labelled "garbage", at the Simcoe Lodge Ladies' Night at Bond Head. The group has talent, and a lot of it, with the development of talent nicely varied, and coupled with a lively sense of humour. Those young folk, and the parents who are encouraging the practices, are having fun.

Bradford Witness & South Simcoe Times

April 29 1964

Vol. 99, No. 18

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