

Must Nazi nuisance undermine free speech?

In dealing with members of Toronto's noisy Nazi sect, civic authorities must regain a sense of balance which was lost in the aftermath of rioting in Allan Gardens.

Board of Control was mistaken Wednesday in rejecting David Stanley's application for permit to read and discuss certain biblical passages in the park.

True, the Bible in the hands of a Nazi is likely to turn into a gospel of hate. But chances are that the Board of Control would have denied the permit even if Stanley proposed to speak about car racing or tulip bulbs. The person, not the subject, is what public authorities fear might spark new riots.

The denial of Stanley's application is wrong because it violates the principle of free speech; it presupposes that whatever the man has to say is against the public interest and hence its suppression in advance is justified. Such pre-censorship cannot make

the hate-peddler disappear. Neither can it reassure European refugees in this city, particularly Jews, that the full strength of law is behind them; ready to clamp down on Nazis when they advocate violence and incite riots.

The solution, it would seem, lies in the application of section 64 of Canada's Criminal Code. Under this act, a public meeting becomes unlawful when the participants "so conduct themselves . . . as to cause persons in the neighborhood of the assembly to fear, on reasonable grounds, that they will disturb the peace . . ."

David Stanley should be allowed to speak. And if he urges or suggests violence against Jews or any other group, he should be arrested and charged under the Criminal Code.

The anti-Nazi riots in Allan Gardens were sparked by fear, by the experience of the Jews in Europe where they couldn't rely on laws and the powers of the state to protect them.

But their fears must not be allowed to distort or shrink Canada's traditional freedoms.

The task is to demonstrate that they can rely on Canadian laws. So, let's not muzzle our "lunatic fringe." Let's not make rules to keep David Stanley out of bearing distance. Get the Nazis into the open, give them the right to speak and—when necessary—use the full legal powers of the community to control them.

Vilified Village

"Mama don't allow no music played 'round here!"

The words of the old song seem to echo the pincn-mouthed attitude of City Council towards anyone who happens to discover that this city can be fun.

To any but the most resentful eye, the sight of thousands of young people strolling through Yorkville Village is one of the pleasanter experiences of a summer's night in Toronto.

But does our council recognize this carefree enjoyment by installing a pedestrian mall—through the simple expedient of closing off Yorkville Avenue to vehicle traffic between the hours of 7 p.m. and 5 a.m. during the summer months?

Hoo boy. That'd be encouraging people to actually walk in the street. Who ever heard of such a thing?

Well, Sparks Street in busy downtown Ottawa is closed to cars during the summer months, and covered with umbrella-topped tables where people may sip coffee or eat lunch.

Yorkville cries out for such a pedestrian mall.

City council's total failure to understand the potential of this fascinating area may be seen in its latest bumbling move.

They have decided to allow motorcycles in and to keep coffee houses out. It would have made more sense to do exactly the opposite.

The city planning department has ideas that include the possibility of establishing an experimental theatre and other features to enhance the village atmosphere.

But no one on council has approached the planning director for his ideas although apparently council has been lending a ready ear to any "carriage-trade" snob who wants to keep young people out of the village.

The people of Toronto have shown they are immensely attracted by Yorkville. Any attempt by council to prevent the fullest and most satisfying use of it is simply to demonstrate a poverty-stricken imagination and a total lack of sympathy with the young.

Questions & Answers

Needn't keep son after age 16

At what age can a father relinquish responsibility for his son?—S.S.

A father's legal responsibility to support his son ceases when the son attains the age of 16, unless the son is mentally or physically unable to earn a living.

Where would I apply for a "burnt-out" veteran's pension?—D.M.B.

For war veterans' allowance, apply to Veterans Welfare Services, Department of Veterans Affairs, The MacKenzie Building, 36 Adelaide St. E., Toronto 1, Ont.

Where was Louis St. Laurent born?—Reader.

In Compton, Quebec.

Is it true the government deducts from all monthly cheques from investments, pensions, etc. going out of Canada?—Curious.

Withholding tax must be deducted at the source before money from pensions, investments, interest, etc., is paid to a non-resident in compliance with provisions of the Income Tax Act. Money so withheld is forwarded to the Receiver General.

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Voice Of The People

Charges Toronto press fawning over Nazi 'perverts'

I cannot stop the Nazis. Neither can the Toronto City Council, the Canadian Jewish Congress or the Metropolitan police force. The Toronto newspapers can.

This fawning over Nazis by the local press has hardly discouraged them. Indeed they are highly encouraged to continue their silly antics. They can make the front pages at will, exactly what they want.

This situation brings untold anguish into the hearts of hundreds of thousands of Metro residents, not because they fear the Stanleys or Beatties but because our usually responsible news gathering media have been so taken in by a tiny band of ridiculous perverts.

SHELDON H. GREENBERG
Toronto

Let public judge

The refusal of Metro authorities to grant John Beattie licence to air his Nazi views should be of great concern to all defenders of free speech and democratic principles.

The basic right of this man to speak, regardless of his beliefs, is being violated. Simply because what he may have to say is unpleasant should be no basis for curtailing his expression of mind, which even the communists are allowed to do in Canada.

Furthermore the Canadian public would be the most reliable judge regarding the policies of these Nazi revisionists.

North York MARTIN MESLIN

Fire strikers

It was sheer folly of the government to bring in non-union labor to sort out the mail in Montreal. This action was a weak attempt to compromise between the two extremes, firing the postmen or allowing the strike to continue. Now that Montreal postmen have decided to remain on strike and not accept the government's offer, they have left no alternative action to the government but to fire the striking postmen.

Toronto 19 TERRY GARMAN

Indians and drink

In reply to Mr. B. Williams' letter on Ojibway conditions (July 28), I don't profess to be a specialist on Indian Affairs, nor have I visited Ojibwa, Ont., but I have avidly read the Star Weekly's series last winter on how deplorable conditions are on some reservations.

Indians in general wouldn't have to live in shacks or tents and eat repulsive fish if they didn't spend all their money (i.e. welfare, government assistance, family allowance, fur trading, guiding tourists, selling souvenirs, etc.) on "fire-water," mostly wine.

These goodies last for a few days in their hovels or beverage rooms, then they are back to eating in their old habits until the next cheque comes in.

The Indians who have risen above this standard of living and live in decent homes, have TV, cars, and hold down responsible jobs wouldn't have these staples, if they weren't influenced by the "white man."

protected, and aided financially by their parents. It relegates the student to dependent status while his contemporaries in the labor force are independent. This the student will not accept.

Secondly, it assumes that parents are responsible for financing a student's education. They should not be. This responsibility should rest solely with the individual and with the society. To impose upon parents a responsibility which society should bear is to admit that the government has failed.

TOM GOOD
University of Toronto

'Prey to hysteria'

The federal government has fallen prey to hysteria in its decision to clamp down on new building. Its position that Canada is running out of capacity to sustain its current building drive is just not supportable. In the four years 1958-61 Canada's construction industry stagnated and it has only been in the last eighteen months that its output has exceeded production in 1958. It is estimated that housing construction this year will reach 175,000 units, a very modest increase over the 164,000 of 1958.

The increase this year of 19 per cent could readily be provided for out of available resources. New workers could readily be recruited and trained among the unemployed or admitted from other countries. Our natural resources can easily provide the building materials and the equipment could be found, given the will to develop the country. This policy of restriction is a reversion to the deflationary programs that were responsible for the 1958-61 recession and will ill serve a nation on the march to development and with tremendous problems of future employment.

Toronto EDWARD CARRIGAN

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They are being betrayed by their own blood brother not by the English-speaking people.
(MRS.) VERA CHIOVITTI
Toronto 9

Vicious cartoon

On July 27 you published a cartoon by Macpherson depicting a fat, cigar-puffing American general and two lean and cruel-looking colleagues, all ridiculously decked out with stars and medals, urging President Johnson to "push the button" because a Red missile had downed a U.S. jet fighter.

I hope that any of our American friends who may have seen this cartoon will not judge us all by your stupidity. Not only was the cartoon in extremely poor taste, but it was a glaring example of editorial irresponsibility which brings the whole journalistic profession into disrepute.

Constructive criticism is one thing, but vicious, asinine ridicule of the type published by you is another, and should have no place in the pages of a newspaper whose editorial freedom is protected, whether you care to admit it or not, by the very people you are so quick to malign.

Willowdale. V.S. DAVIES

Unqualified nurses

After reading about a nursing home operator who lost her license (July 29) I would like to add a little of what I know.

I'm for the patients—I have worked in a few such places. In many homes there are unqualified practical nurses giving hypodermics and giving out drugs who do not know a tranquilizer from an aspirin. Some cannot read or write English and go entirely by memory of the looks of the medication. I, myself in all the years I've been working, never ever gave a pill or medication without reading each label carefully. This is very important. No one but qualified people should be allowed to administer drugs, hypodermics or other treatment.

(Mrs.) D. JOHNSON
Brampton

Idiots on wheels

Monday, I had the unpleasant task of driving three hundred miles on the 401 through the rain. At times the rain was so heavy that I was forced to slow down to 40 mph more than once; indeed, the whole journey demanded constant attention and concentration to the matter of driving safely and at the right speed for the amount of rain and visibility. I completed the journey safely, rather frayed of nerves and more convinced than ever that the average Canadian driver is hell bent on committing suicide.

What is it that makes people think that because they are driving a fairly new, high powered car, that they are automatically immune to the hazards of weather?

While driving through the Toronto

heavy rain at 50 mph one has only to glance in the rear view mirror to see a sight that will curdle the blood of a 'safe' driver. Here they come, bumper to bumper, hurtling through the rain at speeds up to 70-75 miles an hour; looking more like speedboats than cars. These people, and there are so many of them, are idiots! Complete undisciplined idiotic morons!!

Scarborough R. DADE

C.L. index ignored

The editorial "There must be a better way than strikes" has interested a number of friends and myself.

We had assumed at the time that the periodical publication of the "cost of living index" both in the United States and Canada was intended to serve as a very definite wage or salary control or guide to serve both labor and management in the years following the war.

It actually served no useful purpose at all, having been strictly ignored by the parties principally concerned.

The various trade unions have competed with each other to see which could obtain for its own members the largest pay increases.

Had the index been usefully employed, all workers would have periodically received the pay increases as and when indicated, and the competition would have been unnecessary.

EDWARD H. CLARK
Toronto

Can they teach?

It seems very odd that the Atkinson Foundation study of the attitudes and aptitudes of men and women entering the teaching profession was aimed solely at those entering the Ontario College of Education directly from our universities. It would be interesting to explore the motives of all the males entering O.C.E. each summer after five, ten, or perhaps fifteen years in business or industry. Why would they exchange a five-figure salary for one of four-figures? How would they score on the scholastic aptitude test? It would also seem necessary to establish that those who score the highest on these tests are the most effective teachers.

LEON H. BOOKMAN
Downsview

Thanks Star

The Toronto Branch of the Canadian Postal Employees Association wish to thank the Toronto Daily Star for its comments on the recent postal strike.

The diligent work of your reporters was much appreciated.

May we also thank the public for such patience and good humor.

AL. PENNEY
President
C.P.E.A.