



CONSTRUCTION PLANS for the new Credit Valley Crippled Children's Centre are viewed by Sid Harris of the Erindale Lions Club who is chairing the fund raising project, Milton Rotary president Dick Copley, club speaker Dr. Gordon Murphy and Erindale Lion Peter Jones, secretary of the fund raising project. The project, supported locally by the Rotary Club, will provide treatment and educational facilities for Halton-Peel children.

Rotary presents \$1,000 for children's centre

A cheque for \$1,000 toward the Credit Valley Crippled Children's Centre construction was presented last week by the Rotary Club of Milton to representatives of the association.

The cheque is the club's second toward the \$5,000 commitment made toward the facility that will serve children and young people from the Peel-Halton area.

In making the presentation, Rotarian Don Kennedy noted the local club was working toward fulfilling its initial commitment.

Praises Kennedy
Syd Harris, chairman of the fund raising committee of the Erindale Lions Club also paid tribute to the work of Don Kennedy as a member of the

board of directors of the Centre and his efforts in visiting and speaking on behalf of the project. He presented a certificate of appreciation on behalf of the Erindale Lions who are spearheading the fund raising program seeking \$250,000. Harris announced this week the program had reached the half way point.

Dr. Gordon Murphy, addressing the club, outlined the kinds of problems that would be dealt with at the centre to be built in Erindale. He emphasized the treatment and educational centre will seek to rehabilitate children and young adults to cope with life.

He reviewed the problems treated at the centre will

include those affected by brain damage such as cerebral palsy, those of the spine that may include spinal development that led to paralysis, those of the nerves which result in lack of coordination, those of the muscles such as muscular dystrophy, those of the joints such as rheumatoid arthritis and also asthmatic problems.

Costs covered
Operating costs of the centre, when completed will be met by Easter Seal contributions as well as by the Ministry of Education and treatment costs by OHIP.

Halton and Peel in 1972 had 900 children needing some form of therapy, treatment or special education, it was pointed out.

The Rotary Club of Milton, the sponsor of the local Easter Seal program, has committed itself to the project and promised \$5,000 toward the construction program for which \$250,000 is required by public subscription.



APPRECIATION of the Erindale Lions Club was expressed to Milton Rotarian Don Kennedy when a certificate was presented in appreciation for his work on behalf of the Credit Valley Crippled Children's Centre fund raising program. The surprise event came as Don Kennedy was to present a \$1,000 cheque from the Milton Rotary toward its \$5,000 commitment toward the \$250,000 drive. Presenting the certificate is Al Persuzzo, president of the Erindale Club to Don Kennedy while Norm Brown, treasurer of campaign committee is on hand to accept the local club's cheque.

Temporary homes for teenagers need in Milton

A proposal for a Youth Housing Program to serve the Milton community has been made as a result of the difficulty encountered by a social worker to find temporary homes for Milton teenagers.

Ace Woods is a community worker attached to Milton District High School guidance department. Last October he was called upon to find accommodation for a 17-year-old student who had been evicted from his home. The boy had been told not to return as a result of getting into trouble. Upon investigation it was discovered he was from a broken home, his unhappy home life resulting in behavior problems.

While trying to find a home placement, Ace was in contact with a number of agencies in the community and a number of active community members. He was not successful in finding a suitable home and as a result the boy more or less lived on the street for three weeks while attending school.

Two other unsuccessful attempts, this time to find temporary housing for girls, one of whom wanted to finish her school year in Milton when her parents moved

from the community, resulted in Ace contacting Rev. Rod Lewis for help.

No facilities
"Something is wrong here, in a town this big, that there is nowhere for dispossessed kids to go," Mr. Lewis said. Upon investigation of the services available Mr. Lewis discovered that unless a young person over 16 breaks the law, he gets no help under our present system.

Both Mr. Lewis and Ace Woods feel the situation is serious enough to investigate further. A youth housing program in Oakville has been successfully operating for two years now with help for the total family. An immediate remedial solution is enacted, taking the youth from the unfavorable home situation, allowing him to continue at school, and preventing possible anti-social behavior.

A full-time professional social worker is employed to work with the teenager and his family.

Most cases are short term, allowing the problem home situation to cool somewhat, with the eventual hope the family will be reunited.

Total environment
"This isn't geared to being

all sympathetic for the teenager," Mr. Lewis explains, "we are concerned with the total home life environment. This is to be a therapeutic program for young people 16 years of age and over. Attempts to place youth with severe and long term problems in volunteer homes would likely fail. Such people need more professional help than just a willing family. They are not likely to adjust readily or easily to the family setting. The teenagers whose problems are centred around conflict with their parents and who are making attempts to find solutions are the ones we'd like to help."

Mr. Lewis would like to hear from interested citizens who would form a steering committee to investigate the feasibility of such a program for Milton. His phone number is 878-4428.

—Georgetown Optimists are sponsoring "Respect for Law" week in conjunction with Police Week, May 12 to 18, and published a ballot for a public vote on the town's most popular police officers. Top three vote-getters will be awarded plaques.

The interest and enthu-

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