

York County Council Concluded June Session After Lengthy Debate On Many Important Questions

COUNTY TAX RATE SAME AS LAST YEAR

Reports of the Various Committees

Last Friday the York County Council concluded its June session, one of the longest and most important of this summer session of the County Council.

The County Council of York is the largest in Ontario consisting of 57 members and representing an assessment of over 80 millions of dollars. The committee reports give a general review of the council work and we give herewith an summary of the various reports.

Markets

W. C. Gohn, Reeve of Markham and chairman of the market committee reported as follows:

1. We have leased a lot situated just outside the City Limits on Yonge Street, on which there has been erected a metallic building 28'x44', with accommodation for 40 vendors. The building will cost \$800 and the rental of the lot \$200 yearly. We recommend that the County of York bear cost of construction, while a fee will be charged which we expect will cover rental and operation charges.

2. We are also negotiating for a location on Danforth avenue which would serve the public residing in the eastern part of the City and it is hoped to open a similar market in that locality.

3. During the present year several radical changes have taken place in regard to the management of St. Lawrence Market. In connection with those changes the advice of the solicitor has been secured and we find that under the Agreement entered into between the County of York and the City of Toronto, the City of Toronto cannot charge any fees or rental on any of the City Markets with the exception of the Cattle Market. While there is no doubt as to the validity of this agreement, we feel that it would be wise, from the standpoint of the producers using the St. Lawrence Market, to empower the Warden and Commissioners to enter into a new agreement between the City of Toronto and the County of York.

The Finance Committee through their chairman, Geo. Kellam, Deputy Reeve of Vaughan, reported as follows:

1. That the usual grant of \$25.00 be given the following named Horticulture Societies, when they have complied with the required regulations, Roseland Horticulture Society, Greenwood-Woodbine Horticulture Society, Mt. Albert Horticulture Society, Scarborough Horticulture Society.

2. That a grant of two hundred dollars be given to the Salvation Army Social Service.

Industrial Home

The Industrial Home Commissioners, Geo. Kellam of Vaughan and W. Riddell of Georgina reported:

1. We found in the Home on January 1st 82 inmates and committed 14. In March there were 96 inmates, since then 4 have died and 17 discharged. The number in the Home June 1st, 75.

Seeding has been completed and the fall wheat is looking fair, orchard has been nicely pruned and the farm stock are all in good condition.

3. The system of fire protection commenced last year has been completed. The standpipe has filled and with the engine running the water can be forced over any of the buildings. We have hose placed on every floor. The total cost has been \$7,300.

The Home is kept neat and clean, and the care and comfort of the inmates is given every consideration by Mr. and Mrs. Stoddart.

The men's sleeping quarters and the Hospital room are filled to capacity.

Reforestation

One of the interesting developments in York in recent years has been the reforestation. Some four years ago the County bought 1000 acres on the 8th con., Whitchurch, and before 1926 planted 250 acres. This year the committee report through W. C. Gohn of Markham that:

During the past year, the house occupied by the foreman on the Holidage property has been repainted

and reshingled, and a new combined driving house, stable and workshop has been erected. During the present year, the fencing of the entire property will be completed, all of which add to its general appearance. During the winter some thinning on the timbered area has been attended to which improves the appearance of same, and allows for the development of the younger and better class of trees.

That portion of the property planted in 1924 and 1925 has shown wonderful growth, the Jack Pine having reached a height of 3½ feet in many cases. We also find that fully 90 per cent of trees planted have survived. The acreage planted during the present year consists of 125 acres, made up as follows:—

Red Pine	24,000
White Pine	40,000
Scotch Pine	50,000
Jack Pine	60,000
Poplar	31,000
Total	205,000 trees.

While the planting of this year was carried on under favorable conditions, the absence of sufficient moisture and the nature of blow-sand, may cause a greater percentage to fail than in the proceeding years.

We would recommend the planting of that portion of the Ballantrae swamp on the 8th concession of Whitchurch, which has been acquired by the County of York, through the diversion of the roadway, and same could be used as a demonstration plot.

Education

The Educational Committee through H. E. Beckett of Scarborough presented a report recommending that payment be made on or before 1st October next, to the High and Continuation Schools below mentioned, the amounts set opposite their respective names.

Municipality	Cost per room per year	Rate
New Toronto	\$3,197.00	10 mills
Weston	2,359.00	10.4 mills
Mimico	2,568.00	18.1 mills
Forest Hill	5,600.00 (Estimate)	7. mills
York, Sec. 15	2,305.00	39.9 mills
York, Sec. 22	2,236.00	17. mills
Scarboro, Sec. 12	1,828.00	37.1 mills
East York, Sec. 26	2,990.00	37.3 mills
Etobicoke, Sec. 11	3,189.00	49.6 mills
Scarboro, Sec. 13	1,939.00	27.1 mills
North York, Sec. 14	4,429.00	13.5 mills
Leaside	3,864.00	7.21 mills

From this table you will see that the cost per room is less in the large schools, and where the cost per room is less the rate is highest it is true that the different rates is partly due to inequalities in assessments, but it must be admitted that the chief cause for these inequalities are such as within this Area and there can be no question that the burden of providing for the education in these districts is most inequally distributed. To overcome the school difficulties existing in the suburbs some co-operative method of administering our system must be adopted, and to do this it is necessary to enlarge our areas and do away with municipal and school boundaries. This will allow the pupils to go to the nearest school and in many instances will save the duplication of new additional rooms and new buildings which are necessary under the present method of administering the public schools.

The report was debated for a day and finally the matter was referred to a special committee to report again in November 1926.

James Lee, Reeve of Leaside, was the first to voice objections. "I don't think it is just at all," he said with emphasis.

D. Webster, deputy reeve, Weston, contended that Weston would not get fair representation on the proposed Metropolitan School Board, "You have only one man under your personal supervision. We have a fine board of education now, and we would have to dispense with that body and be satisfied with one man. I don't think it is fair," he said.

T. Allen said, "The reason why the Government brought down such a bill is to see if cost of education could not be struck more equally. I think we should listen to the Government, so that they can look after us, which they cannot do now. The men who have the educational interests of the province at heart brought in the bill."

Speaking to the members of council outside the area proposed, Reeve Allen told them to consider the matter seriously, and asked them to give an opportunity to those favoring the area a chance to try it and see how

it works.

UNFAIR PROPOSITION
Deputy Reeve Murphy of Mimico strongly opposed the bill. He first pointed out that eight members of the educational committee of the county, who brought in a report favoring the area, resided outside the area. "Each municipality has its own problems and should be allowed to deal with them. The bill is just an experiment; there is nothing definite in it. They give power to us to pass the bill, then step out from under. It is a most unfair proposition."

That he had never heard Premier G. H. Ferguson, Minister of Education, uphold the Metropolitan Area Bill. "He is not seriously in favor of it. I never heard him down it—he could not do that very well when one of his Ministers introduced it."

WANT MATTER DEFERRED
Reeve R. E. Hicks, North York, moved that the debate adjourn, which was carried, after which he introduced the following resolution, which was tabled: "That whereas the adoption of the Metropolitan Area Bill in its present form will impose unfair financial obligation upon certain municipalities, be it resolved that the Metropolitan Area Bill be referred to a special consideration and for consultation with the Government regarding desirable amendments to the present bill, and that such committee report to this council at the November session."

Richmond Hill Roads
Last year all the County roads in Richmond Hill were returned to the village and it was expected that 75 per cent of the county road tax would be rebated. The Department of Highways however held that for 1925 there would not be a rebate as the county had spent the rebate.

The council of Richmond Hill protested and asked for a rebate of monies spent on roads in Richmond Hill during 1925, a deputation headed by T. Trench; former reeve, appeared before the council. He said, "we were promised a rebate of 75 per cent. of all monies expended, and have not received it yet."

W. H. Pugsley, former warden, also spoke on behalf of Richmond Hill. "I don't think we received a fair deal from the start, and Richmond Hill is entitled to better treatment," he said.

J. Lunau, reeve of Richmond Hill, said it was very urgent that his municipality should receive the money. "We lowered our mill rate 1½ mills anticipating that we would get this money."

"We will give Richmond Hill every dollar the act says we shall. They have a great grievance," said Warden Pearson. The matter was referred to the Legislative Committee to see the Department of Highways.

County Rate
The county rate was struck at the same as last year, namely 6.6 mills, made up as follows:
General Rate 3.50914
Industrial Home 0.21519
Court House 0.05361
Road Improvement 0.06933
Provincial Roads Deb. 0.31781
Provincial Roads I. mp. 0.086663
Road Construction 1.93227
Road Maintenance 0.21739
Interest 0.19863

in the proposed area, and each is entitled to elect a member which will give a Board of 17 members to manage the schools. The members elected by the Municipalities to serve one year, and the six members, for two years. Special provision is made for the equalization of the assessments of the different municipalities for public school purposes by the appointment by the Board of a commission which will consist of three persons who need not be members of the Board and an appeal shall lie from the report of the commission to the County Judge in the same manner as an appeal from the County assessment.

The Metropolitan Public School Board may issue debentures in its corporation name, but it must obtain the consent of the Ontario Railway & Municipal Board in any case where the annual rate required to meet the payment of principal and interest exceeds 30 per cent of the total rate required to meet the total cost of the public schools in the area. If the new issue of debentures exceeds the 30 per cent, as stated above then, it is necessary for the Board to obtain the assent of the electors.

The amount required to be raised annually to cover the debenture and maintenance cost for the schools in the area will be apportioned among the various municipalities by the Board according to the equalized assessment, in a similar manner as the county rates for the different purposes and the rates for county and township statutory grants will not be levied for school purposes as they are at present. By this there will be a relief from township and county rates.

The following table shows the great difference in the cost per room per year of education in this area.

Municipality	Cost per room per year	Rate
New Toronto	\$3,197.00	10 mills
Weston	2,359.00	10.4 mills
Mimico	2,568.00	18.1 mills
Forest Hill	5,600.00 (Estimate)	7. mills
York, Sec. 15	2,305.00	39.9 mills
York, Sec. 22	2,236.00	17. mills
Scarboro, Sec. 12	1,828.00	37.1 mills
East York, Sec. 26	2,990.00	37.3 mills
Etobicoke, Sec. 11	3,189.00	49.6 mills
Scarboro, Sec. 13	1,939.00	27.1 mills
North York, Sec. 14	4,429.00	13.5 mills
Leaside	3,864.00	7.21 mills

and Forest Hill becomes mortgaged for that debt, and if we join the city

in the future we must bear that debt. That is not fair, just or honest. Reeve R. H. McGregor, of East York, who favors the bill, spoke briefly. Regarding the remark made about a school having a swimming tank, he said this referred to East York, but reminded the council that the people were not responsible for this, but the trustees. "The people do not want it," he said.

Reeve R. E. Hicks, North York, moved that the debate adjourn, which was carried, after which he introduced the following resolution, which was tabled: "That whereas the adoption of the Metropolitan Area Bill in its present form will impose unfair financial obligation upon certain municipalities, be it resolved that the Metropolitan Area Bill be referred to a special consideration and for consultation with the Government regarding desirable amendments to the present bill, and that such committee report to this council at the November session."

Richmond Hill Roads
Last year all the County roads in Richmond Hill were returned to the village and it was expected that 75 per cent of the county road tax would be rebated. The Department of Highways however held that for 1925 there would not be a rebate as the county had spent the rebate.

The council of Richmond Hill protested and asked for a rebate of monies spent on roads in Richmond Hill during 1925, a deputation headed by T. Trench; former reeve, appeared before the council. He said, "we were promised a rebate of 75 per cent. of all monies expended, and have not received it yet."

W. H. Pugsley, former warden, also spoke on behalf of Richmond Hill. "I don't think we received a fair deal from the start, and Richmond Hill is entitled to better treatment," he said.

J. Lunau, reeve of Richmond Hill, said it was very urgent that his municipality should receive the money. "We lowered our mill rate 1½ mills anticipating that we would get this money."

"We will give Richmond Hill every dollar the act says we shall. They have a great grievance," said Warden Pearson. The matter was referred to the Legislative Committee to see the Department of Highways.

County Rate
The county rate was struck at the same as last year, namely 6.6 mills, made up as follows:
General Rate 3.50914
Industrial Home 0.21519
Court House 0.05361
Road Improvement 0.06933
Provincial Roads Deb. 0.31781
Provincial Roads I. mp. 0.086663
Road Construction 1.93227
Road Maintenance 0.21739
Interest 0.19863

The county rate was struck at the same as last year, namely 6.6 mills, made up as follows:
General Rate 3.50914
Industrial Home 0.21519
Court House 0.05361
Road Improvement 0.06933
Provincial Roads Deb. 0.31781
Provincial Roads I. mp. 0.086663
Road Construction 1.93227
Road Maintenance 0.21739
Interest 0.19863

SAVE

On Your Subscriptions to Toronto Dailies by Subscribing for the Liberal

As a special introductory offer for our enlarged paper, now eight pages all home print we have arranged clubbing rates that mean a material saving to our subscribers. We are now offering the years subscription to the Liberal and any one of the Toronto daily papers at the remarkably low price of

\$5.75 per year

THE LIBERAL

Richmond Hill Ontario.

SUMMER SCHOOLS
follow present term without any interruption for July and August, and merge into the Fall Term from Sept. 1st in
THE SHAW BUSINESS SCHOOLS, TORONTO.
Courses begun now may be completed without forced vacations, by daily attendance or by Home Study Plans. Particulars on request to P. McIntosh, Manager, 46 Bloor St. West, Toronto. Telephone Kingsdale 3165.

Eyes Examined

BY THE MOST MODERN METHODS

Glasses if Required at Right Prices. Artificial Eyes Fitted.

F. E. Luke

OPTOMETRIST AND OPTICIAN (Upstairs Opposite Simpsons')

163-167 Yonge Street, Toronto 2 Elgin 4820

John Dunlop & Son FLORISTS Richmond Hill - Ont.

We solicit orders for cut flowers for all occasions which will be promptly and cheerfully filled.

FOR SALE

345 feet Yonge St. frontage, N.W. corner Yonge St. and Maple Side Road (Arnold Property), Lots 50x181. Private 15 foot driveway in rear from Maple Road. Easy terms if desired. No better location on North Yonge St. Splendid opportunity for investment as these lots will increase in value. Apply

J. R. Herrington

THE MILL

Grinding Flour and Feeds.

Baled Hay and Straw Deliveries

Phone 82w J. F. BURR