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## Lions Club Completes Season 1949-1950 Officers Installed

At a well attended meeting the Richmond Hill Lions Club completed their 1948-49 year last Thursday evening and installed the newly elected officers for the coming year.

In a very impressive ceremony Lion Reid Murdock, Past International Director, member of Toronto Central Lions Club, assisted by Lion Bob Little, District Governor Elect, installed into office the newly elected officers. Lion Reid Murdock first addressed the club on what Lionism stands for in its principles of service and welfare in each community where a club exists, its objects he said are to create and foster a spirit of generous consideration among all peoples, to promote the theory and practice of good government and good citizenship, to take an active interest in the civic, social and moral welfare of the community, to unite its members in friendship, good fellowship and mutual understanding. Following this most interesting address he proceeded to install each officer outlining their individual duties and responsibilities. The order of installation was as follows: Lion Tamer, Bill Wagner; Tail Twister, Alf McLatchy; Directors, Herbert Butt, Harry Charles, Harold Mortson and Albert Rice; Treasurer Allan Bales; Secretary Lawson Chesney; First Vice-Pres., Mel Maltby; Second Vice-Pres., Andy Armstrong; Third Vice-Pres., Ken Tomlin. At this point Lion Reid called on Lion Bob Little, District Governor Elect, to install the new President.

In a well worded address thanking all Lions of Richmond Hill and of District A3 for the confidence they had placed in him in electing him to this high office, Lion Little then called Lion Albert Hill to come forward to be installed as President. Lion Reid Murdock in a brief address paid special tribute to the retiring president, Lion Dick Edmunds, for his work in Lionism and stressed the high regard in which Richmond Hill Lions Club was held in its District and in its work of Lionism nation-wide.

Retiring President Reports ... The retiring president, Lion Dick Edmunds, reviewed in a splendid report the activities of the Club during the past year. Other committees had interesting reports on Public Re-

lations, Welfare, Finance, Boys and Girls. Under this last committee a most interesting outline was given on summer activities for our boys and girls, the details of which will be given separately at a later date.

President-elect Albert Hill now took the chair and in his opening address said he felt greatly honored and yet very humbled in taking over this very important office. He spoke briefly on the subject of Past and Present. Let us do the things, he said, that we as Lions are obligated and expected to do cheerfully and promptly. We as Canadians, he said, should be proud of our own Canadian Lion Walter Fisher who will within another month become President of Lions International, the highest office in Lionism. We, as members of Richmond Hill Lions Club, he said, are very proud of our own Lion Bob Little, who was recently elected District Governor District A3. We are proud of the record of this Club, and every member should put his shoulder to the wheel and go on to still greater achievements in Lionism.

Special thanks was expressed to all retiring members of the executive for their outstanding efforts during the past year and a special note of appreciation was expressed to Lion Jack Smith and every member of the staff of the Liberal for their excellent co-operation during the past year.

Lion Reid Murdock was given a sincere vote of thanks for the duties he performed at this meeting and was presented with a gift of roses.

(Editor's Note: — The Publisher and Staff of The Liberal gratefully acknowledge the thanks of the Lions but feel they must pay tribute to that hard-working and efficient publicity representative, Lion Bill Wagner, whose never-failing supply of basic material has made possible the publicity which this paper has been able to give to the worth-while work of the Lions Club.)

## Township School Area System Explained By Vaughan Council

(Editor's Note: Because of a certain lack of understanding of the principles involved in the suggested change from the old school section system to the new school area system the following explanatory statement is authorized and published by the Vaughan Township Council.)

The Council of the Township of Vaughan is considering a by-law which if passed will establish two school areas in the Township to administer and regulate elementary school education in the Township. Many inquiries have been made as to the operation of such an area and the purpose of this article is to acquaint interested persons in the Township with the functioning of such a school board.

The present administration of rural schools is by a board of three trustees. This system was established on recommendation of Egerton Ryerson over a century ago and was designed to meet the trend of education at that time. To-day, it still serves a useful purpose, but it has been found that under a Township School Area where an elected (same as the Township Council) board of five persons administer the affairs of all the schools in the area, more uniformity prevails.

When the by-law is passed, the existing sections are dissolved at the end of that year and the term of office of the present trustees expires. At the annual nomination meeting of the Township, nominations are received for persons to act on the school board for the area in the same manner as for the Council (five to be elected in each instance).

Appoint Supervising Principal

The school board for the area, upon election, takes office for the coming year. The new school board assumes all liabilities and assets of the existing sections comprising the area and immediately arranges for adequate elementary education in a uniform manner in the most economical manner. The common practice is to appoint a supervising principal who also may act as Secretary to the new board. This supervising principal is constantly in touch with every school and is very helpful to beginning teachers and even other teachers who are weak in various phases of teaching in the schools. This principal will be

able to watch constantly every class in the Township and ascertain the progress of that class with relation to other classes in the Township and thus eliminate the loss of time suffered by many children who quite frequently attend a school where a teacher through lack of help is unable to impart knowledge comparable to other schools. An inspector making one or two visits a year is unable to do this.

Many other benefits are prevalent under a Township School Area Board than under the present three man trustee board of an individual section. These may be in the form of itinerant teachers in special subjects such as music, manual training, household science and agriculture, more equitable distribution of school costs, saving on purchase of school supplies, more efficient teaching or improved administration and supervision.

Greater Provincial Aid

The financial support of education under a school area board is similar to the present system with two exceptions. The first exception is that the Department of Education gives a larger grant to a school area board than to the existing three man school board which to the two areas in the Township of Vaughan would amount to approximately \$4,500.00 a year. The second exception is that all the costs less the grants are levied on all the assessable property in the area by a uniform rate and the same rate prevails in all the sections comprising the area rather than a different rate for each section.

It has been proposed that the two areas be comprised of the following sections:

Area Number 1 — Thornhill, Langstaff, Richvale.

Area Number 2 — Carrville, Hope, Maple, Concord, Edgeley, Vellere, Brysons, Purpleville, Pine Grove, Lower 9th, Elders Mills, Coleraine, Kleinburg, Nashville, Patterson, Mt. Lebanon, Jefferson.

The cost of the operation of a school area board is reflected on the tax bill. This is similar to the present system in as much as trustees requisition for the money required for the operation of the existing school and the same is collected through taxes and grants. Under School Area Number II, referred to above an additional grant of over \$3,500.00 will be paid to the board. With the regular legislative grant and this special grant the cost to the taxpayer is lessened. It has been estimated that the rate for the operation of the board for school area number II should not exceed 6.0 mills in order to provide similar educational facilities as they exist today.

It is acknowledged that additional classrooms must be provided and the cost of the building is particularly high. However, at prevailing costs, a mill rate of only 1/5 mill will be required to pay for the debenture costs of building one classroom for which debentures are issued for 20 years on the present assessment in the proposed school area number II. The school attendance is increasing throughout the Township and will necessarily demand the erection and maintenance of additional classrooms. But the natural increase in the assessment for the Township should absorb a large portion of the cost of new construction and maintenance. Under the present system, new construction is reflected in high rates in a small section.

School Attendance Increasing

The board for the school area may deem it advisable to provide itinerant music or crafts teachers. Services provided other than those that exist under the present system will necessarily increase the mill rate. These costs will be subject to a grant from the Department of Education and the balance to be levied should not be prohibitive but rather at a nominal sum, promote and stimulate the education now being extended to the pupil attending schools in Vaughan Township.

In conclusion one point that should be emphasized is that a school area board has no relation to consolidation. It is not proposed to establish a glorified school in the centre of the area and transport all pupils to that school. But rather each and every school will remain as it is and where it is. The function of the new five man board will be to provide adequate educational facilities comparable to each and every school in the area. The school area board of five persons will replace the existing school boards and on a broader and in a more comprehensive manner provide education to the pupils from Vaughan Township.

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