

The Liberal

"In Essentials, Unity; In Non-essentials, Liberty; In all Things, Charity."

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RICHMOND HILL, ONTARIO., THURSDAY FEBRUARY 7th, 1952

HOME PAPER OF THE DISTRICT SINCE 1878



The world was shocked by news of the sudden passing of His Majesty King George VI. The King died at Sandringham in the early hours of Wednesday, February 6.

Citizens of Canada share with fellow citizens of the British Commonwealth deep sorrow on the passing of a beloved monarch, and pledge their loyalty to Queen Elizabeth II, who succeeds him on the throne.

A King sincerely devoted to the service of the nation, George VI was loved and respected by the people of the Commonwealth, and admired by all the world. His devotion to duty in the face of illness was an inspiration to all his people and his life and service symbolized the highest and best traditions of British monarchy.

Like so many brave men who served under his colors - he gave his life for his country.

To his daughter, Queen Elizabeth II who so recently visited Canada, and who now succeeds to the throne, the Canadian people extend pledges of loyalty and devotion and our prayers for God's blessing to her in the tremendous responsibilities and great trust which now rest in her young hands.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

Business Men To Hold Band Concert

At their meeting held last week the Richmond Hill Business Men's Association laid plans for the holding of a Band Concert on February 20.

Association President George Hill announced he had already been in contact with RCAF Toronto Band and that they had signified their willingness to come to Richmond Hill. This band concert to which the general public is cordially invited will be held in the village's High School auditorium. Proceedings are timed to commence at 8:15 p.m. A door collection will be taken to help defray expenses.

As their second item of business the members decided to invite a special speaker from the Ontario Chamber of Commerce to their March 4 meeting. This guest speaker will tell the members something of the general organization of a local Chamber of Commerce. What form this meeting will take has not yet been decided.

Coming Events

FEBRUARY 8 - Friday, 8:30 p.m. St. Mary's Catholic Church euchre in the Parish Hall, Conventors Marj. Murphy & Mrs. Smythe. Draw for a chicken will be held. c1w32

FEBRUARY 8 - Friday at 8 p.m. Elmwood-Harding Ratepayers Association General Meeting in the Public School auditorium. Two films on dial telephone will be shown. Mr. George Harte, speaker. c1w31

FEBRUARY 11 - Monday. Meeting of Thornhill L.O.L. No. 91 in the Masonic Hall, Thornhill. c1w32

FEBRUARY 11 - Monday. Meeting of Langstaff Ratepayers Association at Langstaff Public School. c1w32

FEBRUARY 11 - Monday at 8 p.m. Toston Church Fellowship Group is holding a Valentine Party in the Sunday School Room. Everyone welcome. c1w32

FEBRUARY 12 - Tuesday. The Richmond Hill Branch 375 Canadian Legion will hold its next regular meeting in Legion Memorial Hall, Carrville Rd. West, Stop 23 Yonge St. Members, your presence is requested. c1w32

Reeve Gets New Dial Phone



Dial telephones are beginning to appear in many homes, offices and stores in the Richmond Hill area, in anticipation of the conversion to dial operation early in May. One of the first subscribers to have the dial instrument placed in his home was

Reeve W. J. Taylor, who watches as Ray Parliamnt, Bell Telephone installer, makes the installation. As part of their work, the installers instruct subscribers and their families or staffs in proper dial usage. Installation of the dial sets in Richmond Hill began on Monday.

Conversion Date May 3

Installation Of Dial Phones Under Way In The Village

Installation of dial telephones in homes, offices and stores served by the Richmond Hill exchange was begun on Monday, marking another important step in preparation for the conversion of Richmond Hill's telephone system to dial operation.

The dial instruments are being installed in advance so that all subscribers will be able to use the new service immediately following the conversion on May 3. C. E. Blosdale, Bell Telephone manager for this region, said this week. Telephone users will continue to use the magneto telephones already in place until the time of the conversion. The old telephones will be removed within a short time after the cutover.

A crew of Bell Telephone workers will be engaged in installing the new instruments during next few weeks. In addition to installing the telephone, they will explain its use and operation to the subscriber and members of his family or staff.

New seven-digit telephone numbers, consisting of the exchange name, TUrner 4, and four figures, will be assigned to Richmond Hill telephones coincident with the conversion. Each dial telephone installed has a number plate with the subscriber's new number on it. A supplementary directory listing all the new numbers will be distributed shortly before the cutover.

Referring to other projects connected with the conversion, Mr. Blosdale said that they were all proceeding according to schedule. Installation of the dial switching equipment and associated apparatus in the new exchange building is well under way, and the extension of outside wires and cables and their adaptation for use under the dial system are making good progress.

Firemen Prepare For Annual Bridge & Euchre

The Richmond Hill Volunteer Fire Brigade is busily engaged in preparing for its annual Firemen's Bridge and Euchre. This event is scheduled to take place Friday, March 7 at 8:30 p.m. in the Public School. The members of the Brigade are at present collecting prizes and so far Richmond Hill businessmen and several Toronto firms have donated many prizes. Last year the firemen had 87 tables and this year they are planning for 100.

Markham Twp. Council Holds A Noisy Meeting

Councillor Alf, LeMasurier, the stormy petrel of the Markham Council was the centre of a heated verbal exchange at the Monday meeting of the Township Council. With Reeve Timbers, Deputy-Reeve James and Councillor Hooper ranged on one side and Councillors LeMasurier and Lennie on the other the members hurled accusations back and forth with gay abandon. Councillor Hooper was particularly challenging in his attack and at one point requested Councillor LeMasurier to publish an apology for some of the statements he has made since assuming office. After a running barrage of some duration the Council called a cease fire by adjourning the meeting.

Earlier in the meeting members considered the applicants for the positions of Treasurer and Assistant Assessor. Seven people applied for the job of Assistant Assessor while five people offered their services as Treasurer. The Council decided to interview the applicants for both positions at a later date, Reeve Timbers and Deputy-Reeve James suggested that the Township Auditor be present during the interviewing for the Treasurer's position. Mr. Hooper objected to this as he felt it was unnecessary. Councillor LeMasurier threw the meeting into an uproar at this stage when he asked to have Mrs. Rae of the Township staff brought before the Council. "What's your reason," asked Mr. Hooper. "I am opposed to the hiring of a Treasurer," replied Mr. LeMasurier. Councillor Lennie said although he had voted in favour of hiring a Treasurer, if Mrs. Rae is an applicant for the position she should be given first consideration. Deputy-Reeve James claimed LeMasurier was out of order in his request as a majority of the members had at an earlier meeting already decided to hire a Treasurer. Mr. LeMasurier contended Markham had already made Mrs. Rae Assistant Treasurer on the strength of a by-law they passed in March 1951. "Let's spread out the duties and save money," declared Mr. LeMasurier. "This is a growing

57 Years Subscriber

The Liberal was pleased to receive this week a renewal for the subscription of Mr. James Pearson, Thornhill. Mr. Pearson is one of our oldest subscribers having taken the Liberal for the past 57 consecutive years.

Dr. Manniche Speaker Madsen Folk School

Dr. Peter Manniche, principal of International Folk School, Elsinore, Denmark, will be guest speaker at a public meeting at the John Madsen Folk School, located on No. 7 Highway between Markham and Unionville on Saturday, February 16, at 8 p.m. Dr. Manniche is known throughout the world and regarded as one of the foremost interpreters of the adult educational and folk school movement.

He has recently been lecturing at London and Oxford Universities and is at present engaged by a group of American Universities on an extensive lecture tour in the United States.

Council Passes Resolution Re High Cost Of Education

Joint Meeting Of Two Councils

Markham Twp. Council Agrees To Annexation

In a flurry of resolutions, amendments and general disagreement the Markham Township Council finally passed the following annexation resolution: "This Council agrees to the proposed boundaries of annexation of Markham Township and a public meeting be held, following this meeting a vote of the ratepayers in the proposed area be taken immediately." This was the final outcome of a joint meeting held last Thursday in Unionville, of the two Municipal Councils concerned with annexation: Markham and Richmond Hill.

Richmond Hill States Its Case

The meeting opened with all the members of both councils present. Reeve Timbers of Markham said "the purpose of this meeting is to discuss the contentious question of annexation." Mr. Timbers then called on the Richmond Hill Council to open the discussion by stating their case for annexation.

Reeve W. J. Taylor of Richmond Hill in stating the case for the Village said Richmond Hill lacks any free land for growth, while all the time the community is growing to both north and south. Annexation, he said, would help the school question considerably. Furthermore he stated Richmond Hill requires additional land for industrial purpose. "If the land can be annexed suitable to both parties the final outcome will benefit both Richmond Hill and Markham in providing greater opportunities for local employment," said Mr. Taylor. The village has the sewers and plenty of water for any future industrial expansion declared Mr. Taylor. The other members of the Richmond Hill Council Deputy-Reeve Tomlin and Councillors Perkins, Middleton, and Rice all re-iterated the statements of Reeve Taylor and also went on to stress the fact any future industries will only deal with one Municipality, and also of the village's great need to balance its assessment.

Markham Councillors Speak Reeve Timbers stated he believed annexation becomes necessary at various times and that the Municipal Board is favourable to annexation whenever it will encourage further growth of the province's towns and villages. The township will lose a certain amount of assessment through annexation, however on the other hand

we won't be compelled to supply services to these areas", declared Mr. Timbers. "I am favourable to annexation" stated Mr. Timbers, "providing the people concerned are willing". Councillor LeMasurier stated he had taken no definite stand for or against annexation. "Let's give the people the facts and then abide by their wishes", stated Mr. LeMasurier. Councillor Lennie was also of the opinion if the people adjacent to the village wanted to join Richmond Hill then they should be allowed to.

Deputy-Reeve James wanted as one of the conditions of any annexation agreement some arrangement with Richmond Hill by which future Markham subdivisions could obtain Richmond Hill water. Reeve Taylor replied that under the present setup he didn't know if the village could agree to such a deal. Mr. James said all he wanted to know was if the village had an abundance of water that some would be available for any future Markham subdivisions. Mr. Taylor said if Richmond Hill had the extra water they would gladly supply it.

"What of the proposed boundaries", asked Mr. James? "Those boundaries were already discussed at an earlier meeting in the village", stated Mr. Taylor. "Let's start afresh" replied Mr. James. The proposed boundaries stated Reeve Taylor are Elgin Mills on the north over to the second concession on the east and to the line between the two Harding farms on the south. Councillor Hooper entered the discussion at this point to ask why Richmond Hill was not annexing land from both Vaughan and Markham. "Let us have no dog in the hemmer attitude", stated Mr. Timbers, "annexation looks sensible to me", he continued. "Furthermore Markham has two railways running through the township and we can use the Unionville line for industrial purposes if water is available from Scarborough," concluded Mr. Timbers.

Students Receive Awards At Third Annual Commencement

At Richmond Hill District High School third annual commencement exercises held last Friday night, winners of academic prizes and scholarships were presented with their awards. Richmond Hill Lions scholarship for the highest academic standing in Grades XI and XII was won by David Hogg. His prize was presented to him by Lion president Ken Tomlin. David also won the Student Council prize, for highest academic standing in Grade XII, which was presented by Wm. Dodds, Council president. Donald Leno, the valedictorian for last year's graduating class, won the Upper School prize in Grade XIII for academic proficiency, presented by G. E. Johnson, B. A. B. Paed. of the Department of Education, guest speaker of the evening. Donald is now attending Trinity College, University of Toronto. Mr. Johnston also presented the Middle School Proficiency prize to Murray Johnston, and the Lower School Proficiency Prize to Myrna Risebrough. Catherine Frazer won the But-tonville W. I. prize for highest standing in Grade IX, the award presented to her by president of the Institute, Mrs. J. Robinson. Laurence Johnston was presented the Student Council prize for highest standing in Grade X by president Wm. Dodds. Elizabeth Maxwell won the Richmond Hill W. I. as pianist.

Council Asks For New System Of Taxation

Richmond Hill Village council Monday evening passed a resolution asking the provincial government to consider the advisability of introducing a new plan for financing school construction which will ease the burden on municipal taxpayers, and adopt a standard plan of school building.

The resolution was prompted by a discussion of the contemplated debenture issue of \$262,000 for a new Richmond Hill Public School.

An amendment by councillor Rice and Deputy-Reeve Tomlin simply asking that the province adopt a uniform plan for public school construction was defeated.

The amendment was prompted by a resolution brought forth by Councillor Middleton and seconded by Councillor Perkins, which stated that "the clerk be instructed to write the Department of Education explaining that the debenture issue of \$262,000 for a new Public School would be a heavy burden to ratepayers, and to ask if there is not some other way that the building of schools may be financed, also to ask the Department if a standard plan for schools could be drawn up for the use of school boards. This motion was carried.

"We're at the mercy of architects who build monuments to themselves", said councillor Middleton in referring to the high cost of new schools in the district, claiming that such costs could be cut down considerably. "What we need is a standard plan to be set up so the architects can't influence the building. Surely there is some other way these schools can be financed," he added. "We cannot go on any longer financing education by assessing real estate," said Deputy-Reeve Tomlin. "There should be some form of general taxation to take this heavy burden away from the taxpayers. And it is not only our council which is objecting. There is a co-ordinative movement on foot of the other municipalities to do something about the high cost of education. We haven't a decent sidewalk in the village, we can't afford it, and yet we are agreeing to pay our share of \$262,000 worth of debentures for another new school. It's time the system was changed and someone spoke up and did something about it."

"We know it's going to cost us so much to build a school and that it's a burden to taxpayers," stated Mr. Rice, who suggested an amendment to councillor Middleton's resolution which would state that "the Department of Education be requested to adopt a uniform plan for Public school construction to be used throughout the province." The resolution was seconded by Deputy-Reeve Tomlin. Reeve Taylor called for council to sit as a committee and asked councillor Rice to act as chairman. Mr. Rice put the resolution before the committee, Deputy-Reeve Tomlin and himself voting for the amendment, with Reeve Taylor and councillors Perkins and Middleton voting against it. The amendment was defeated by a vote of three to two. Elnwood-Harding Ratepayers

A letter was received from Geo. D. Williamson, secretary of the Elnwood-Harding Ratepayers Association asking permission for one of its members to sit in on the hearings of the Planning Board and asking council to keep the association informed on results of annexation proceedings. Council instructed Clerk Lynett to acknowledge the letter, and to inform the ratepayers that no Planning Board has as yet been formed, and that it would keep them posted on any developments re annexation.

Health Unit Offers Services A letter was also received from Dr. R. M. King of the York County Health Unit offering the services of the Unit for advice on sanitary problems which will naturally arise with the installation of the sewers. Council also read a letter from Mrs. T. Weaver who offered council what information she had gathered together re town planning if it so desired.

Reeve Taylor, on behalf of the council, thanked Mrs. Weaver, who was present at the meeting, for

offer, and said council would be in touch with her later when it wanted the required information. Mrs. Weaver reported on the Toronto Civic Advisory Council, inviting council members to the second annual convention on March 13. In speaking of Richmond Hill's proposed annexation plans councillor Middleton contended that a clear picture of the situation should be put before the ratepayers so that they know exactly the extra costs involved, for example the electric light system, just how much the rates would have to be raised to pay for the additional installation. Mr. L. Roy, Hydro manager is undertaking a survey of the area to be annexed at present.

"We should call a separate meeting of the Richmond Hill ratepayers only," said Councillor Rice. "Two entirely different problems exist," he said. Deputy-Reeve Tomlin agreed. "Just what is it going to cost Richmond Hill to take in this part of Markham township?" The Richmond Hill people should know the exact facts," said Councillor Rice. "We'll have to maintain the whole mile and a quarter of Markham Road if annexed, don't forget that," said Councillor Middleton.

Reeve Taylor had received several complaints from people who thought the installation of the sewers wasn't progressing as fast as possible. Installation started on July 11 and council thought taking everything into consideration, that they had done pretty well in getting as far as they had.

Councillor Rice suggested that new doors be purchased for the arena and council agreed to buy new doors for the north and south entrances.

Temporary Arrangement Richmond Hill is getting the services of a second policeman on a temporary basis until a full O.P.P. constable can be appointed. A different constable is sent for duty in the village for two week periods. On duty now is Constable Sanford of the Aurora Detachment, who began his duties last Friday.

Freak Egg Mr. J. Greenfield, of Garden Ave., has decided his hens must be in the way of producing unusual eggs. It's no novelty for the Greenfield hens to initial their products with the letters J. G. or W. G. But when they started putting caps on their eggs, that was too much for Mr. Greenfield. The egg in question may be seen in the Liberal office window. The hen responsible is a Light Sussex one and a half years old.

Numerous Applicants It was disclosed at Richmond Hill Council meeting on Monday night that fifteen applications have been received by council for the position of Assistant Clerk, many of which were from women, and six for Plumbing and Building Inspector for the village. Each application was considered at the meeting but nothing definite was decided upon.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS CONFEE WITH MUNICIPAL BOARD Reeve W. J. Taylor and a representative of council along with two representatives of Richmond Hill Public School Trustees are conferring today in Toronto with the Ontario Municipal Board on Richmond Hill's application for the issuing of \$262,000 debentures for a new public school.