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Mark. Calls Meeting 4 Councils

(Continued from page 1)
 vote, the Board approved the erection of an Academic school, with 27 classrooms, (24 classrooms and 3 labs.) and a double gym to accommodate 810 pupils at an estimated cost of \$720,000.00.
 Of this total figure, the sum of \$540,000 will be eligible for grant purposes. The Department will not pay subsidy on the \$180,000.00 double gym.
 The alternative to this type of school, and that which I have advocated, would be an Academic school with practical options, the same type as we have at Richmond Hill. Such a type of school as this would contain facilities for Home Economics, Sewing, Library, Art, Music, Commercial, two shops and a Cafeteria, plus the same number of Labs and double gym. This Academic school, with practical options, would cost an estimated \$1,020,000.00, of which sum \$480,000.00 would be eligible for grant. Naturally this second type of school is going to cost somewhat extra, but let us bear in mind that in any case we are going to spend at least \$720,000.00. With the extra expenditure we will be in a position to meet the students requests for Vocational training.
 One needs only to check the available statistics to realize the great number of children throughout the province who prefer a vocational type of education. It is estimated that slightly less than one child in ten, after receiving a purely Academic education, proceeds onto University. In many cases after completion of an academic course, added expense is incurred when the parents have to turn around and send the child to Business College. When the present High School District was set up as an Area Board, the municipalities of Richmond Hill and Woodbridge, the Townships of Markham and Vaughan, by prior agreement, decided to send the children residing in the westerly part of Vaughan Township to Weston High and Vocational School for the expressed reason that they could secure, if desired, a vocational education. At least the children of the Thornhill area should have the same opportunity of attending a high school of equal classification to the one in Richmond Hill, and the new schools that are being built at Markham, Stouffville, and Aurora.

However, regardless of my own personal feelings on this subject, I think the Ratepayers who are to be served by any new high school should be allowed to express a preference. Some effort should be made to secure an expression of opinion from the Ratepayers in the southern area, as to the type of school they prefer for their children.
 Earnest representations have been made to me not only by numerous individuals but also by several Ratepayer and Home and School groups who are very anxious to know what type of school the Board intends to erect. Unfortunately the Board has reached its decision and the Department given its final approval for the erection of an Academic school without bothering to consult the Ratepayers. In true democratic fashion I certainly feel the Board should have held a Public Meeting at which the Ratepayer's concerned would have been given the opportunity to express their wishes, and to have had their questions answered.

Mr. Deane stated that the operational grant on some vocational subjects is higher than it is for academic subjects. During the past few years the operational grant on the present high school has varied between 42 and 49%.
 Councillor W. Clark: "Has the Board any estimate of how much it spends in sending students to other schools?"
 Trustee Deane: "The introduction of several practical options at the Richmond Hill District High School has cut down the movement of students to other schools."
Need Approval Of 4 Municipalities
 In complimenting Mr. Deane on his excellent report, Reeve W. Timbers suggested that Markham call a joint meeting of the four councils and the school board to discuss this whole matter. "In any case," stated Mr. Timbers, "Markham couldn't issue any debentures without first gaining the approval of the other councils in the school district."
 Markham wants the joint meeting to be followed by a public meeting of the ratepayers.
Ratepayers' Delegation
 At the request of the executive of the joint ratepayers' association Council passed a resolution granting them permission to send a delegation to the joint meeting of the councils and the school board. The ratepayers stated they were very anxious to attend this meeting in order to ask the Board several pertinent questions.

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Council Favours Public Meeting

In the discussion that followed the Council was unanimous in its feeling that a public meeting should be held.
 In referring to the number of children who proceed on to university on completion of their secondary school training, Councillor A. Lennie thought it would be more accurate to estimate that only one child in 20 continues on to university. Deputy Reeve A. LeMasurier contended that the Board should hold several public meetings at which the two different types of schools could be explained, and also where any future increase in the mill rate could be discussed.
 In going on record as favoring Mr. Deane's stand Councillor Lennie called for uniformity in the educational opportunities throughout the school area.

Financing
 Turning to the financing of the new school, Clerk C. Hoover listed the approximate financial responsibility of each of the four municipalities which comprise the school area. Vaughan Township leads with 48.6% followed by Markham Township with 25.8%, Richmond Hill 14.4% and Woodbridge 11.7%. The total assessment for the whole high school area is somewhat over \$8,000,000.
 For example, if the \$720,000 school was built with a 20 year debenture issue at 5% interest, annual debenture payments of \$57,774.60 would have to be raised from the whole school area. Of this figure, Markham's annual share would amount to \$14,489.88.
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Municipalities are spending too much time on assessments and financing and not enough on their zoning by-laws, according to Mr. Lorne Cumming, chairman of the Ontario Municipal Board.
 Beyond the Metropolitan Toronto area, only Toronto township has completed its by-law and submitted it to the board for approval. When the other four fringe municipalities have submitted theirs, a master zoning by-law for future industrial and residential growth in the whole metropolitan and fringe area will be established by the Metropolitan Planning board.
 Mr. Cumming and the other members of the Municipal Board last week completed five days' hearings on the Toronto township by-law. A written decision will be issued by the board in August.
 In the Metropolitan area, Etobicoke and North York now have approved by-laws in force. Toronto has a by-law before the municipal board and Mimico is about to submit one.
 Vaughan, Markham, Pickering and Toronto Gore townships — the four lagging fringe municipalities — must be asked immediately for a status on their zoning, Mr. Cumming declared. He commended Toronto township for its initiative in working out a by-law.
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Municipal Bd. Wants Suburbs Give More Time To Zoning Plans

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Municipal Board Approves Hospital

The Ontario Municipal Board last Thursday approved an amendment to the Langstaff-Thornhill zoning by-law in Markham Township, to permit erection of a private hospital on the estate of the late George McCullagh, former Toronto publisher.
 No residents appeared at the Municipal Board hearing and Markham's deputy reeve Alfred LeMasurier spoke in favor of the amendment. He pointed out the hospital would mean some \$5,000 in taxes, annually, for the township.
 Dr. E. E. Shouldice, who plans to build the hospital on the 135-acre estate, declined to say how much it would cost. He has not yet applied for a building permit. The zoning by-law has limited the area to residential development only. The estate is situated on Bayview, just east of Thornhill.
 Representing the Municipal Board at the hearing was R. L. Kennedy, J. D. Lucas, represented the Markham Township Council.

D. Frisby Addresses Rotary On Education for Mentally Retarded

Don Frisby, well known former resident of Richmond Hill and teacher at the local Public School who is presently Supervisor of Special Classes in Kirkland-Lake was guest speaker at last Monday evening's meeting of the local Rotary Club. Mr. Frisby outlined the programme that will be available this September for children of a low I.Q. who are not eligible for training in our Public and Separate Schools.
 Under the direction of Mr. Frisby, the pioneer Class for Limited Learners was started in Kirkland Lake in April, 1947, and sponsored jointly by Kiwanis, Rotary, Kinsmen and Lions Clubs and the Ontario Department of Education as an Experimental Class to determine what results were possible with children, who would reach a mental age of 8 years or less, as adults.
 It was the hope of the sponsoring groups to prove that these children were able to make social adjustments and make limited academic progress. The results have satisfied the Ontario Department of Education that something could be done about this group of forgotten children and at the last session of the Legislature, legislation was enacted that will permit Parent Groups to organize and receive Provincial Grants to provide classes in any Ontario community, that affiliates with the Ontario Association for Retarded Children.
 The speaker pointed out that the Rotary Club would be providing a valuable service to children of this type if they met a survey and determined the need for such a class and if even two children existed in the community they should assist the parents and interested citizens to form a local parents group and then attempt to secure the use of a Church hall and provide suitable training.
 The children should be between the ages of 5 and 18 to qualify for the grant of \$250 per child and classes would be held at least two hours daily on school days. In every community, it is possible to find suitable instructors. Married women, who have given up teaching full time, are sometimes interested in assisting in this challenging work and the community will be very proud, if they provide such classes. The parents of such children will be eternally grateful for assistance, that in most cases, they had despaired of ever receiving. Many children will never enter our mental hospitals, if local training is provided. A word of caution must be given, however, since a few children will not be trainable and institutional care will still be necessary. Improvements will be very slow, but over a period of years, it will be very noticeable. Children, who might otherwise require constant supervision will attain a fair measure of independence and learn to adjust themselves in the community.
 Small classes, extreme patience of the instructors, repeated drill, multiple techniques, kindnesses, encouragement and countless other factors are responsible for our successes with these children.
 The Club was urged to make a survey of the community, by contacting all medical practitioners, health nurses, school principals, religious leaders and welfare officers. If the problem exists and it requires more assistance than

one service could provide, two or more Clubs in the community might combine to start the project. Once established, the Parents Group should be expected to assist and eventually take over the complete responsibility of this training.
 Mr. Frisby is third vice-president of the Ontario Association for Retarded Children, which is the Provincial Organization, responsible for coordinating this work in all communities.

"No" Say Vaughan & Richmond Hill

At a special meeting Friday night at Maple, Richmond Hill and Vaughan council both said "no" to another consideration of Richmond Hill Public School Boards request for the floating of \$200,000 worth of debentures for a new school.
 It was agreed to let the Board know that councils had been unable to arrive at a solution, and that they had nothing further to offer.
 "Its high time councils stood up and said 'hold it'," said Reeve McMurry of Vaughan Township. "We should take a definite stand and refuse to issue the debentures and have a showdown."
 Said Reeve Taylor of Richmond Hill, "If the Board was asking for a \$104,000 school such as was suggested by one of their trustees we would probably get somewhere with them. It's up to the Board now to take the next step."

Permits Issued For 111 New Homes In King Tp. This Year

An indication of the rapid growth in King township appeared recently when the township's building inspector, Charles Ross, released the latest figures on building.
 According to Mr. Ross, the majority of new houses are being erected in the south end of the township with quite a number in the Holland Marsh area.
 During 1952, 123 permits were issued for houses, garages and alterations, however, little commercial construction was represented in this amount, the total value of which was \$1,045,335.
 But if this year's trend in building continues, the previous figure will be greatly exceeded. In the period up until June 30, permits issued were valued at \$1,010,345. Of this, 111 permits valued at \$663,150 are for new homes. The balance of the amount includes a permit for a \$100,000 school at Kettleby and also for the new Watson plant in King City.
 A further indication of the increasing population in King is shown in the fact that last year's assessment figures showed a jump of slightly over 1000 over the previous year.



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