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### Municipal Debt

Considered one of the greatest of all the problems facing municipal councils these days is the matter of stringent finances. This is probably one of the least understood of all the municipal levels, one that affects many work programmes and hinders progress at the rapid pace that many residents and municipal officials would like to see.

Stringent finances mean this in fact; that the municipality has reached the limit of its borrowing power or is almost there. When the average householder finds his cash resources low and realizes as much as possible by borrowing on his collateral, then he cuts down his expenses. Likewise, the municipality has only a certain annual income and can only raise a certain amount of money through mortgaging the municipality in the form of debentures. These debentures which are a form of municipal mortgage are regulated by law and depend on the amount of municipal assessment. Assessment forms the municipality's collateral.

Over the years, the municipal debt mounts up, municipalities never seem to be free of them because as one is retired, there are other projects which require additional borrowing. But every sensible municipality must retain a logical reserve of borrowing power.

Probably one of the main points not understood by the average individual is how local improvement affects the debenture debt. All municipal councils in the area are familiar with the statement

"the ratepayers will pay for it" presumably meaning a local improvement scheme. In itself it is a way of adding sidewalks, sewers to newly annexed areas without penalizing or taxing all the other ratepayers in the municipality. However, the difficulty arises from the fact that while the ratepayers pay for a local improvement over 10 or 20 years, the municipality must guarantee the entire amount at the outset. Consequently, the municipal debt could be raised to the danger point without a reserve for emergencies. At the same time the taxpayer feels that he has saved the municipality an infinite amount of trouble and has evaded the financial problem.

A closer study by taxpayers of the tax structure and financing of municipalities would be a great eye-opener to the people who seek a heavy improvement programme at a time money is not only in short demand, but when the municipalities in the district have reached comparatively high debenture

Municipal councils are faced with a great problem, co-operation and understanding of some of the problems of municipal finance are essential to bridge the gap. A detailed study and public relations programme on this subject on the part of councils, ratepayers and service organizations would prove an invaluable aid in a greater mutual understanding between the elected representatives and the taxpayer.

## Set 1957 Town Hydro Kinsmen To Direct Floodlight Drive Electric Budget \$73,000 The campaign committee of the Richmond Hill Softball Association met last Sunday at the West Sunday at t

D. Ireland and A. Avery. figure of \$73,000 are new street \$5050, with an annual increment Club, stated that the Kinsman lights for the Beverley Acres and of \$200. Crosby Avenue areas. The Com- The members have approved direct the canvass drive. mission also plan to carry out a the purchase of a pole trailer at rebuilding programme on certain \$650, and a voltmeter and board streets in the central part of at \$1350. The Secretary was intown. It was pointed out that a structed to write to the Supersmall rebuilding programme each vising Principal of Richmond Hill year would save the expense of Public Schools asking for his cohaving to rebuild large areas of operation in halting the practice the system over a comparatively of some students of breaking ing, and it was decided that the short period of time. Streets to streetlights. The Commission will be included in the rebuilding pro- receive a \$9669 rebate on its 1956 of April 8 under the direction of gramme this year include Centre power bill from the Ontario Hy-Street West, Elizabeth Street, dro. Last year's high rate of wat- would take the form of a gener- some loyalty or prejudice. This Benson Avenue, Church Street, erfall increased the available sup- al canvas of Richmond Hill to year, however, contestants were of the gripe and complain ab- minimum and maximum plus

Mr. Ireland was hopeful that the municipalities. If the Commission "proceeds with issues. At present the town has 000 half sold. Today's tight money also in attendance. market has made sale of the debentures difficult. This sale will help provide the capital outlay for 1957,

Budget Breakdown

A breakdown of the budget is as follows: Capital required for 350 new customer distribution system meters, transformers, etc., \$50,000; new streetlights (80) \$6,000; rebuilding old system, \$10,200; rebuilding streetlights (20), \$1500; new transformers, central section \$4,000; miscellaneous line equipment, \$2000; total \$73,000. Working funds for 1957 have been set at \$11,790.

In a breakdown of the balance sheets extending over a 10year period from 1947, it was shown that total revenue in 1947 amounted to \$17,958. In 1951 revenue amounted to \$32,353 and in 1956 had risen to \$160,893. The overall value of the system has also risen steadily since 1947 as have total liabilities. In 1947 the system was valued at \$46,582, in

in 1951 and 2,901 in 1956.

Industry Would Help Mr. Ireland stated that the financial position of the Commission would be improved by the introduction of any new industry | into Richmond Hill. Additional mission had 2684 domestic customers compared to only 217 in- Sunday School room. dutrial and commercial accounts.

Mayor William Neal was optimistic that some new industries Furniture", and has been engaged majority decision the Board may be forthcoming shortly. He by the Humber Valley Conserva- granted Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. remarked that the Town was receiving more enquiries lately sultant in the creation of their for 1957, raising her salary from from industrial firms than they Polytical Museum at \$4,200 per annum to \$4,800. The had for some time.

Office Salary Schedule

Roseview Avenue and Markham ply of power and as a result the raise the funds. Province has made a rebate to

Commission members Chaircaution" in the coming year it man Douglas Dingwall, Sam may escape the necessity of Cook and Mayor William Neal floating any further debenture were all present at the meeting. Secretary-Treasurer B. Ellis and last year's hydro issue of \$125- Superintendent V. Snider were



METRO KOZAK

1951 \$85,958 and in 1956 \$527,- of Richmond Hill has been aw- somewhat higher, as follows: Nonto \$698., in 1951 \$14,557 and in arship of \$50 for violin. This will imum \$9,000; and Specialists a resolution moved and seconded be applied towards his tuition minimum \$4,700 and maximum by Trustee Sayers and Endean debt alone as of the end of 1956 fees. He is a pupil of Mme. \$9,400. They asked for an annual by Trustee Sayers and Endean was \$289,756. To this debenture Haydon, noted Hungarian violin-increment of \$300.00. figure must now be added the ist. Mr. Kozak's performance is On recommendation of the Per-The number of customers ser- he has studied violin only for raised the extra allowance for time caretaking staff for the

industrial accounts would help to annual Ladies' Night dinner \$12.00 a day regardless of their bring about a more favourable balance between domestic and industrial users. In 1956 the Com-March 18, at 6.30 p.m. in the No Action Business Administrator

Mrs. Neil is an authority on representatives M. Kinnee and the subject of "Old Canadian P. Macfarlane and carried by a

Dalziel Park near Edgeley. Mrs. Neil is a resident of ded that no immediate action be The Commission approved a Thornhill and is well known for taken on the hiring of a business new salary schedule for the Hy\_ her log house on John St. The administrator. Mr. Sayers felt the dro office staff. It is as follows: subject of her address will be delay in the Board's building pro-Clerks, Grade 1 - \$2050 for the "Let's Rescue our Past,"

tion met last Sunday at the Wal-At the regular meeting of the first year of employment; Grade ter Scott School for the purpose Richmond Hill Hydro - Electric 2 Clerks - minimum \$2350, max- of organizing a fund raising cam-Commission held Thursday of imum \$2950; Grade 3 Clerks - paign for purchasing floodlights last week, the three member minimum \$2650, maximum \$3250. for Richmond Hill Park. Attend-Commission set the 1957 hydro The annual increment in each ing the meeting were Bill Ellis, budget at \$73,000. Also attending case would be \$200. The meter Vern Dynes, Bill Dodds, Dr. W. this budget meeting were Ontar- reader will receive \$1.42 per C. Cowan, Stan Ransom, Camto Hydro representatives Messrs. hour. The salary of the Secretary- paign Chairman and Sil Steffan. Treasurer was set at a minimum Bill Dodds, as representative Included in this total budget of \$3850 with a maximum of from the Richmond Hill Kinsman Club had offered to organize and

> George Gourlay stated that the ratepayers would help in any way possible.

Ways and means of putting on the drive as well as other details were discussed during the meetdrive would take place the week the Kinsman Club. The campaign

## "Dear Mr. Editor"

Opposes Sale of Liquor in Richmond Hill

Dear Mr. Editor: We were sorry to read your vote on liquor", in your issue of February 21st.

ure? Would not money for liquor mean a diminishing of buying power for other commodities which are necessities?

We have read that some years ago, when Richmond Hill was a struggling Village, there were several Tavens, and it remained a struggling Village. These outlets are all gone; and 5 years ago the population was a little over 2,000. There are no outlets now, and the small Village has grown to be an active, thriving young Town, of over 8,000, and still growing.

Wouldn't it be nice to try to keep it a pleasant and safe place in which to live?

Yours truly, Misses A. and L. Cunningham Richmond Hill

Campaign for Softball Lights Dear Mr. Editor:

In the near future a group of public spirited citizens of Richmond Hill will be conducting to raise \$5,000 to provide floodlighting and other improvements to our baseball diamond in the local park.

Not so long ago, other citizens organized and successfully completed a campaign to instal artificial ice in the Richmond Hill Arena. The benifits that have accured to the Community as a result of this endeavour are apparent to everybody. Winter sports and other recreation for youngsters and adults alike are in full swing from October to April every year.

However, the development of supervisied sport and other recreation activity in the other months of the year are only just now getting underway.

For approximately one-sixth of the cost of installing artificial ice, suitable floodlighting and other improvements in the baseball diamond can be provided in the Park, and supervisied baseball made possible in all the age groups interested in this

The committee in charge of this campaign is to be commended for their willingness to make this campaign a success and I for one, will support their efforts to the best of my ability. If we all contribute when the canvaser calls, recreational facilities can be extended to cover all seasons of the year in Richmond Hill. Good luck to

> Yours very truly, Ken Tomlin

Oratorical Contest

Dear Mr. Editor: I think it appropriate this week to extend a vote of commendation to the teachers and pupils of the Richmond Hill Public School system for their fine Oratorical Contest held recently. Both the speakers and the choirs did an excellent job, of which their teachers, parents and the community at large may be proud.

As one of the judges, I also think worthy of comment is the new judging system, which ensures fairness to the speakers and relieves the judges of the risk of partiality.

In the past, the speakers names have been announced as they present their address, thus occasionally putting a judge in the peculiar position of feeling

# Approve Salary Schedule

Personnel Committee Chair-Twithhold further action. man Harry Sayers reported to A further recommendation of Following further negotiations, \$684.00 annually. earned \$3,600 per annum.

schedule is as follows: Non-specannual increment will be \$200.00. The teachers' proposals were

of 10 department heads. The of \$1.00 an hour. committee also recommended that supply teachers be paid \$15.00 a day if properly certified, or \$12. a day if otherwise. Previously Mrs. R. H. Neil will address the supply teachers were paid a flat

> On motion of Vaughan's two Personnel Committee recommengramme made it advisable to ery recitals.

the Richmond Hill District High the Personnel Committee was the School Board Monday that the setting up of a Blue Cross hosteaching staff had accepted the pital plan to cover the 15 mem-Board's salary schedule with one bers of the non-teaching staff. exception. In the case of the The committee recommended minimum salary for specialists that the Board pay 40% of the the teachers had "turned down cost of premiums and the indiviflatly" the Board's offer of \$4,000. dual 60%. It will cost the Board

Mr. Sayers reported his commit- | Speaking in support of the retee had agreed on a figure of commendation Trustee R. Wood \$4,200, which is just \$100.00 be- of Richmond Hill felt "most peolow the Metro specialist mini- ple have come to expect fringe mum of \$4,300. Under the prev\_ benefits". Trustee W. Middleton ious salary schedule effective last of Markham township advocated September, a specialist minimum that the premium payments should be the full responsibility A breakdown of the salary of the individual, Both Trustees Middleton and Rumble moved ialist minimum \$3,700, maximum that the Board assume no share \$6,500; Specialist minimum \$4,- in the cost of the plan. "There 200 and maximum \$7,100. The is a large number of people right in this district who have to pay their own hospital insurance" ... stated Trustee Middleton, How-602. Liabilities in 1947 amounted arded the Spencer Clark Schol- specialist minimum \$4,500, max- ever the Board overruled Messrs.

approved the Board's 40% participation in the insurance plan. new \$125,000 debenture issue. particularly worthy of note as sonnel Committee the Board has the suggested hiring of extra part ved by the system has climbed four years. He was a winner in department heads from \$200 to Thornhill school. This extra help \$300. The Board employs a total would have been paid at the rate

### Recital At Art Gallery

Miss Anne Stephenson, Hill soprano, gave a recital of classical selections at the Toronto Art Gallery last Sunday. Among the capacity audience were many from this district.

During the programme, the young artist distinguished herself with an excellent performance. Her selections ranged from opera to lighter concert music. She received three curtain calls and an encore, unusual for the gall-

most every instance, and even to some of the audience until the winners were announced. The judges were spotted sep-

articile, re "Richmond Hill may arately through the audience and at the time the marking on the individual speeches was Just why would local busin- made, the speaker was known ess men support such a meas- only as a number. Each judge received a list of points to be used as a guide in marking and also a score card on which to register his or her marks for the candidate speaking. Judging was based on material, style, language, effectiveness and voice. The marks were allocated to each speaker as he or she concluded and the only work that was left to be done when the judges retired, was to total their marks and on that basis place the contestants. In the case of ties, the total marks in turn totalled to select the winner of tie place.

The whole thing was much like an examination - the vidual speech and as it is in school, the person with the highest marks received top place. It was definitely not judged on the old system where afterwards and consider one speech compared with another and consider whether the child belonged to one of the town's leading families or whether his father was mayor. It was based on merit and marks.

I must say that it was interesting to learn who we, as judges had picked when the winners were announced. One judge commented that of the twenty-eight speakers, only two were known to him.

But as usual, a few of the town's "wet blankets" have acaccused the judges of collusion - of prejudice and bias and all the other things that the average "spoil-sport" can think up. But generally speaking, the public seemed to enjoy the evening and were generous in their congratulatory applause to the deserving winners. Thanking you for space in

your fine publication, 'One of the Judges"

> Skating Carnival Huge Success

Dear Mr. Editor: In everyone's mind there should be a memory of taking part in some public entertainment - with the excitement of wearing a glittering costume and staying up late. The Second Annual Richmond Hill Figure Skating Carnival will be that memory for some 150 children.

I would like to express my appreciation of the wonderful Carnival put on by the Richmond Hill Figure Skating Club on Friday and Saturday evening at the local Arena. This was a real community project ach-

local business men. It is unfortunate that the

Yours sincerely, J. Beresford Anderson,

Wants Children To Be More Courteous

Dear Mr. Editor:

two years ago, we have had \$1.25 an hour. holes dug in our driveway, mud Fringe Benefits dren walk their fence. Maybe months satisfactorily. we are old fashioned, but we There is cumulative sick leave ents are!

better but someday just one car cost. won't stop in time, then we'll A pension plan, approved in

then perhaps our brotherhood ployees. of community living would become of greater value to all. Mrs. D. Taylor,

9 held their assembly in the au- iences with garbage by-laws in ditorium of Richmond Hill High the past, it is felt that this one School. The play presented at will have sufficient force to enthis time was an Irish comedy able the township to control garcalled, "Spreading the News". bage entering the township. The directors of the play were Under the new legislation, only Miss Fawcett, Mrs. Huckle and lands presently under use as Miss Strathdee. The actors and dumps may be used and they may actresses in the play were: Peter only be used if the provision of talented young Richmond Kingsley, Michael Burnie, Eliza- the by-law are observed. The bybeth McLeod, Rosalie Campbell, law provides that no paints, lac-Lois Perkins, Paul Sampson, Bob quers or highly volatile refuse Robson, Brad Bellis, Bruce may be dumped in the munici-Bridges and David Rutherforu, pality and no industrial waste all of grade nine. Their promp- may be disposed of by burning. ter was Freda Constable. The No more than two feet of garplay was a great success and was bage may be placed without covenjoyed by all pupils of the ering and the covering must be school. The grade 9 instrumental complete and to a depth of one music class, under the direction foot. Every two feet of garbage of Mr. Warren Atkinson provided must be covered every 24 hours the music for the assembly. The and there must be constant sup-



CECILIA B. ANDERSON was awarded the Gordon V given by the four judges were Thompson Scholarship of \$400 at the annual Kiwanis Festival held in Toronto recently. She was invited to perform on Stars of the Festival, presented in Massey marks were given on the indi- Hall on March, 6. She played a Beethoven piano Sonata. Leonard Isaacs, noted British adjudicator predicted a "brilliant future for her." Miss Anderson is ged on the old system where the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. the judges could sit around Beresford Anderson, Centre St., Richmond Hill.

### \$45,000 Fire Hall

Last Monday, Vaughan Township Council viewed plans for a proposed \$45,000 firehall for the Richvale area. The plans and list of equipment were presented by co-ordinating Fire Chief J. Davidson.

The building is designed for a later addition of a second storey to accommodate a permanent brigade. The building would cost about \$15,000, the land was purchased at \$4,900 and it would cost at least \$25,000 to equip it with pump truck and other mecessities. "In other words it will be a \$45,000 deal," said the Reeve.

Council viewed the plans briefly but no decision was made. There has been no indication from council yet that the plan will be approved and there is strong objection of some members of council from the finance standpoint. This matter will likely be considered again in the near future after members have had an opportunity to study the plan and consider its financing.

## ieved by the hard work of members, parents and co-operative Plan In School Area 1

"The custodians of Township small seating capacity of the School Area No. 1, Markham and Arena resulted in people being Vaughan have one of the best turned away but perhaps in the fringe benefits plans in operation not too distant future a new and in Ont.," says Maintenance Sumore spacious arena will be pervisor of Area No. 1. W. J. Downing. Mr. Downing is an ardent advocate of a comprehensive benefit plan for all of in-Richmond Hill dustry and feels with a good one much of the friction between employees and employers could be

In the area, the minimum sal-Of recent date we have not- ary for the custodians is \$2,700 iced letters in your column and \$3,300 the maximum. There written by irate townfolk com- is a yearly increment of \$150 and plaining about dogs running overtime on permits is \$1.50 per

I'd like to change the trend Tradesmen have the same unknown to the judges in al- out children running loose in \$400 per year trade pay. For this our subdivision. Now, I like allowance, tradesman would work children, but not rude ones who as a custodian but would also have no respect for other peop- work at his trade for the Board at such as might be necessary. Part-Since we moved here nearly time help is paid at the rate of

slung at our white fence and The custodians are permitted our wire fence has been bent all statutory holidays. Two weeks to the ground by children who vacation with pay up to 10 years deliberately opened our garden service; three weeks from 10 to gate, and climbed the fence. 20 years service; and four weeks Our neighbours at the back and with 20 years service. Additional across the street had the same days may be given by the Superthing happen and next door visor in cases where work has their gate was broken and chil- been completed in the summer

were raised to respect the pro- with retirement gratuity is paid perty of others. The children up to 50% maximum of last year's aren't to blame, but the par- salary. There is a comprehensive plan of insurance; P.S.I. for Also, many times little child- medical, Blue Cross for hospitaliren are playing on the road and zation, and London Life for life cars have to stop for them. The insurance. The Board pays 40% children are too young to know and the employee 60% of this

have a tragedy on our hands. January, 1957, is now being set If each parent who reads this up and will be made retroactive would take a few moments to to January 1, 1957. The Board explain the meaning of respect will split the cost of the pension and courtesy to their children, plan fifty-fifty with the em-

## Richmond Hill Vaughan Passes Garbage By-Law

Vaughan Township Council last Monday gave final sanction to a new garbage bylaw designed to more adequately control the burning and disposal of garbage in the municipality. While the town-Last Friday the pupils of Grade ship has had unfortunate exper-

members of this group displayed ervision. The by-law provides for the wonderful progress which a \$300 maximum fine for violathey have made during the year, tion.



are requested to PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT EFFEC-TIVE IMMEDIATELY THE NEW TOWN HYDRO TELEPHONE NUMBER IS TUrner 4-3511. THE NEW HYDRO POST OFFICE BOX NUMBER IS 240.

> B. ELLIS, Secretary-Treasurer

## Will . dostania

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