The Liberal.

"In Essentials Unity; in Non-Essentials Liberty; in all things Charity."

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THIS YEAR, GIVE A *Gift* SUBSCRIPTION TO "THE LIBERAL"

Coming Events

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT at 7:45 p.m. Bingo. Community Hall, Spruce Ave., Stop 22A Yonge St.

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JANUARY 24 — The Honourable Kelso Roberts, Attorney General for Ontario, will be guest speaker at the North York Progressive Conservative Association Annual Meeting to be held at Newmarket Town Hall, 2:30 p.m. January 24, 1959. c5w25

H. W. R. SAYERS

Mr. Sayers was appointed to the York Central District High School Board in 1954 and has been chairman of the board for the past year. Born in England he came to Canada with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. Sayers in 1924 when they took up residence in Richmond Hill where he attended local public and high schools.

Employed by the Robert Simpson Co. as a copy editor in the advertising department for the past six years, Mr. Sayers is married to the former Phyllis Jones of Gormley. They have two children, Keith 14, and Carolynn 12, and live in Pleasantville, and attend the Richmond Hill United Church.

Mr. Sayers has been very active in ratepayers' work for eight or nine years and is a past president of Central Executive of Ratepayers.

Three Schools, 1545 Students

High School Board Chairman Gives Interesting Report On Past Year And Future Plans

Suggests Study Of Plan Of Financing

At the last meeting of the York Central District High School Board a very interesting and informative review of board activities and problems was given by Board Chairman H. W. Sayers. He recalled that when the District Board was formed there was only one school with 300 pupils while today there are three schools and more than 1500 students. The teaching staff today numbers 73 and as the chairman says in his report, "the High School Board is really big business."

Reviewing the activities and problems of the Board, Chairman Sayers said:

"During the past year, the York Central District High School Board has accomplished a great deal. Perhaps the most prominent were the completion of the new Woodbridge High School and the addition at Richmond Hill.

When the District Board was first formed in 1949, we had just Richmond Hill school with some 300 pupils. In the 1957-58 school year, we had 521 pupils at Richmond Hill High School which had received a ten-room addition in 1950. There were 750 pupils at Thornhill High School, a 29-roomed school opened in 1957.

In September of this year, Richmond Hill High School, with its new addition, had 31 rooms and an enrolment of 665 pupils, Thornhill High School, 31 rooms, had 671 pupils, and Woodbridge with 17 classrooms, had 210 pupils. At present we have a total enrolment at our three schools of 1,545 pupils. If all three schools were to be filled to maximum, our total would be 2,110 pupils. While this appears a comfortable cushion, as the pressure for accommodation becomes greater, the cushion becomes thinner and less comfortable.

In fact, it appears that Richmond Hill High School may be filled in 1960, indicating the need for a new school in the Richmond Hill area by that time, if double shifts and/or portables are to be avoided. Thornhill High School will probably be filled in 1960, at which time an addition should be underway, while Woodbridge High School will be filled in 1961. An addition will be required at this time.

An indication of just what is happening in Ontario will, perhaps, point up our situation. Last year there were just over 200,000 pupils in Ontario secondary schools, while in 1944 there were some 340,000 children under five years of age in the province who

(Continued on page 3)

Municipal Civil Defense Co-ordinators To Be Named

The Civil Defense committee for the County of York has decided to ask each municipality within the area to appoint a Civil Defense Co-ordinator before February 1, 1959, so that CD can be taken to the most important place — the people.

The committee met for the second time last Wednesday at the County building in Newmarket for the express purpose of deciding the co-ordinator issue and to hear suggestions on the part of committee members.

County co-ordinator John Perry said "This meeting tonight was called for several reasons. We want the people to know we are still active, and we want a letter to go out to the reeve of each community regarding their own co-ordinators.

"The town of Newmarket has a co-ordinator now, but it is the only community in the township that has.

"We should not do anything without the co-operation of political leaders, otherwise we might as well fold up.

"The co-ordinators will come before this committee, then it will be up to each one of you to tell them what you expect of them in your field of operation.

"It is my suggestion the date be set as February 1, 1959. I would also suggest the letter inform these communities we only want an appointment, not an organizational set-up. When we get these names, they will be submitted in writing to County council before February 1."

A report given by the roads department said they had obtained a copy of the Interim Guide to Engineering in Civil Defense, and suggested it be adopted so they may organize along those lines. Under this system, the roads department would have three duties: (a) to facilitate movement; (b) to provide assistance to other CD services; and (c) the maintenance of roads equipment.

Mr. Perry said "We must get to the people before we do anything else. We can't plan self preservation and evacuation at once."

Mrs. K. James, in charge of Welfare, used a map of the county to illustrate her findings. The map showed areas of destruction from a five megaton bomb burst in the air over Yonge and St. Clair in Toronto. The target or dangerous area resulting from the explosion extended to a point five miles north of Richmond Hill.

Her work had been done for the self preservation of the 89,715 people in York County along the following lines: information for individual households; feeding; disaster service; shelters; stocking of shelters; household refuge, the steps to make them safe, and the stocking of food in them; decontamination and evacuation. These shelters, which are not for extended use, are for 30 people and cost $17,000 each.

In conclusion, Mrs. James said "The plans for my section are complete, but we must go farther. I would suggest we have a meeting with Metro CD and the Ontario CD to find out what is expected of us in support of their work. This committee should be appointed under a by-law passed by county council. After our meeting with provincial and metro CD, we should have a general meeting with our community co-ordinators for a study of a general plan and a survey of what we have to do and what we have to do it with."

Dr. Robert King, the York County M.O.H., said the medical division (from Arnprior) have finished their approach to handling casualties well, making services used in the last war look ancient. He added "each hospital should have a plan, and each qualified medical person in the county should know where he fits into that plan."

The Air Force, the committee was told, would confirm ground zero; assess damage; provide evacuation routes; provide relief columns; provide search activities and radiation testing; assist in traffic control and operate a radio monitoring service.

Mr. Perry, attempting to make his point felt, said "We must get practicable with the people. What can all this literature accomplish? We must tell the public "Do you want to live or do want to die?"; it's that simple."

Chief White of the Markham Village police suggested the letter to the municipalities be strong and that it should indicate a careful selection should be made of a strong person as co-ordinator; one who has the respect of the people. He added "the police chiefs should be requested to be co-operative."

Miss Smythe, of the York County Health Unit suggested that after the co-ordinators had been acquired, teams should be set up to educate. She said "There is a key nurse in every municipality who has had CD training."

Chief Jim Davidson of Vaughan Township, in charge of all fire departments in the county, said "These co-ordinators should not be dictatorial. We have a county fire mutual aid program which will become effective January 14. All we need now is radio equipment in each vehicle. We are making preparations now for an inter-county fire system. We are only interested in what's left on the perimeter of a target area, not that which has been almost demolished in the centre; even then, I don't relish the job of sending men into such an area."

Later, referring to Mrs. James' map, Chief Davidson said that a survey had been taken recently which showed over 100 pumper trucks were necessary to provide two lines to ground zero. To go four lines there would require better than 300 pumpers, and there aren't that many fire trucks in the whole of Ontario. Under the mutual aid system, it was considered the municipal water systems would be useless, so only natural sources could be used, and there is sufficient natural water in York County for adequate coverage.

Again John Perry said "We must get leadership from the people. We are too willing to give lip service and leave it at that."

Chief Davidson replied, "Then is it practical to engage auxiliaries? Due to present legislation, the only time they're any good is in the event of total war. We are not only in a target area, we are in an aerial battleground area."

Mrs. James added "Until politicians get on the band wagon for Civil Defense, all we can do is keep it alive."

A concerted effort is now being made to have legislation passed to alter the situation.

Lions Hear The Story Of Sound

History-making sound recordings, including the first "long-distance" (Brantford to Paris, Ont.) telephone call in 1876, and the first transcontinental (New York to San Francisco) call in 1915 were among the features of a talk to the Richmond Hill Lions Club last Thursday by Mr. John Millyard, of the Bell Telephone Company of Canada.

Mr. Millyard illustrated the progress of the electrical transmission and recording of sound by contrasting these early barely-understandable recordings to the modern stereophonic high-fidelity recordings which reproduce all the audible frequencies and simulate the directional properties of the sound. Recordings of a full symphony orchestra, of a jet aircraft taking off and of a train screaming past a crossing were incredibly realistic.

These advances in sound transmission and reproduction form only a part of the Bell Company's continuing research programs. Among others are the development of the transistor and its use in volume-controlled telephones and in direct dialing, of microwave and tropospheric-scatter television transmission, and of the solar battery.

These are the developments which, according to Mr. Millyard, may lead in the not-too-distant future to world-wide television coverage and domestic power supply from solar batteries on the rooftop. However, the direct objective of the Bell Research Laboratories continues to be the provision of the best communications system at the cheapest cost to the Canadian people who, at the present time, make more telephone calls per capita than any people in the world.

Where Did The Letter Hide For Two Years

Mr. John Whitney of R.R. No. 1, Maple, brought a "delayed" Christmas greeting he just received, into 'The Liberal' office this week. The envelope was post-marked Toronto, December 16, 1956 — Mr. Whitney received it exactly two years later on December 16, 1958!

Your guess is as good as ours — as to where this card has been hiding for two years —but among the speculations of 'The Liberal' staff (since it did not come to Mr. Whitney with the customary letter of apology from the post office) is the thought that it clung to the "sack" for two years, finally got "all shook up" and made it to the Maple post office at long last.

Contracting Firms In Richmond Hill

Industrial Commissioner Robert G. Langford announced this week that the former Storms Contracting Co. Ltd. property and buildings located on Markham Road have been sold to the F.E. Shaw Limited and Temiskaming Construction Limited. The Shaw firm are well-known contractors in the pipeline construction field. They have handled large contracts in connection with the building of the Trans-Canada Pipe Line and pipelines for many of the major oil companies. Founded 30 years ago the firm's offices were formerly located in Sarnia and Toronto. Approximately 25 permanent employees and their families will be moved here from Sarnia. The firm employs some 400 men with the majority away on contracts. Equipment to be based here includes 105 trucks, 25 to 30 bulldozers, 25 to 30 trenchers and 10 to 15 shovels.

President of the firm is Mr. J. M. Cunningham-Dunlop, while a local resident, Mr. Scott McCann of 6 Leisure Lane, Pleasantville, is executive vice-president. Mr. E. A. Hooper is general manager.

The Temiskaming Construction Ltd. with former headquarters in Toronto are contractors and engineers who have done most of their work in Northern Ontario and Quebec and the northwest territories. They will have five to 10 key personnel, which will include the technical staff, based here. Their staff varies from 150 to 700 men depending on the number of contracts they are handling at the time. All of their equipment will be based here. Mr. McCann is also executive vice-president as well as director of this firm.

The present facilities are adequate for the two firms, but future growth may necessitate expansion of the warehouse facilities.

A Heavy Volume Of Mail

85% is the approximate increase in the volume of Christmas mail of all types handled by Richmond Hill Post Office over the amount handled during this same period in 1957 reports the Postmaster E. T. Willis. Parcel post shipments increased to almost 100% more this year.

One quarter of a million 2c stamps were sold during this Christmas period in comparison to the amount of 160,000 sold at this period last year. Due to the acquisition of more office space, trained efficient staff and co-operation by the public, this additional volume of mail was handled without the necessity of the long hours of overtime worked by the postal staff last year, with only the addition of three in staff.

Postmaster Willis, Postal Officer V. Griswold and members of the staff fully appreciate the extent in which the public has co-operated by tying up cards and letters in bundles, also the response to affixing the "local" and "out of town" green labels supplied by the Post Office, which undoubtedly has assisted in expediting this heavy volume of Christmas mail.

The Publisher, Editor and Staff of

"THE LIBERAL"

New Year's Issue

Our next issue of 'The Liberal" will go to press Tuesday afternoon, and will be in the mail and on news stands Wednesday morning. Advertisers, correspondents and contributors are asked to co-operate by having copy in our office as soon as possible. Our office will be open all day Saturday, December 27th. Deadline for classifieds next week will be Tuesday noon.

York County Hosp. W.A. Lucky Draw Won In R. Hill

Mrs. R. T. Elson of 44 Church St. S., was the winner of the portable TV set, donated by Lady Eaton and drawn last Friday by the W. A. of the York County Hospital. Mrs. Elson said she bought the last two tickets in a book Mrs. Ruth Cowan's son Bobby was selling.It was the first time Mrs. Elson has ever won anything.

The second prize, a mother doll and three children (dolls) was won by Lani Lew, son of one of Richmond Hill's most popular residents, Bing Lew.

The oil painting went to a winner in Keswick, sorry, the name is not available.

One-third of the draw tickets were sold in Richmond Hill, and the ladies of the auxiliary, especially Mrs. Cowan, wish to thank the people in town for their usual good support.

NEWMARKET — The new County administration building here was officially opened Tuesday afternoon December 30th. It will house the Children's Aid, Juvenile Family Court, and York County Health Unit.

Fire Chief Gives Pointers Be Careful At Christmas

Every year at Christmas time, innumerable fires across Canada are caused through carelessness and accidents with wrapping paper, electric lights and Christmas trees themselves.

Fortunately, the last time Richmond Hill experienced such a fire was seven years ago when two children died in the blaze.

Since that time, the general public in the area seems to have learned a bitter lesson. In spite of this, the chance for such an event occurring again is strongest during this holiday season.

On this subject "The Liberal" contacted Fire Chief Alf Stong who provides some extremely valuable safety pointers.

When you are unwrapping your presents, don't throw the wrappings into the fireplace, even if there is no fire. A lighted cigarette butt thrown there could ignite the paper, which goes up with a puff. When it does, the flare-out of flame could catch the tree.

Don't ever put candles on the tree. Always use approved electric lights.

Place your tree away from the door to the room. If for some reason it does catch fire, you then have an exit from the room. If the tree is placed near the door and it ignites, you are trapped. Remember it only takes 15 seconds for the average Christmas tree to be completely consumed by fire, so it burns quickly and with a great deal of heat.

Before connecting your Christmas lights for the tree or the house, check your electrical fuses to see they are 15 amps. ONLY. Under no circumstances in any household, should these fuses be more. If you use a larger fuse, the wires in your house will not take the extra load, and within a short period of time will become red hot. A hot wire doesn't mean very much when it's exposed, but what about the wires in between the walls, where an explosive mixture of dust has been collecting for years?

When you are wiring the tree, don't place the cords from the wall outlet under the rug. Should they become overheated, up goes the rug with a puff, and you right behind it. Even if the wires look unsightly, place them along the open floor.

It is recommended that not too many plastic ornaments be used. Most will not catch fire even when a match is put to them, but if your tree catches fire, the heat is very intense, and in this heat, almost anything could catch fire.

Never go out and leave the tree lights burning, or leave them on all night. It may look nice, but when you come home there is a possibility the house may not be there at all.

Check the electrical cords on the lights to make sure they are not frayed. A frayed piece of insulation acts like kindling to a hot wire.

Keep your tree in the coolest corner of the room, and in a pail of sand and water or coal and water. A dried out Christmas tree is one of the greatest fire hazards that can be found. Ordinary water will fire-proof a tree much better than most of these new and fancy preparations that cost a lot of money. No matter how your tree is fastened to a base, make sure there is a source of water under the stem.

Keep lots of ash trays handy, even if you don't smoke yourself. At this time of year, friends visit, and possibly they may smoke. A spark or even a hot ash could start a fire.

When your gifts have all been unwrapped, collect all the wrappings and take them outside where you can burn them in a container or leave them for the garbage man.

Remember, a fire that starts with a Christmas tree could consume a whole house. These trees go up like gasoline when dry.

It's a difficult job, but keep an eye on the kids around the lights. Unknowingly, a little hand could bring together a hot lamp and a dry branch.

"You might tell everyone", said the Chief, "we at the department wish them a safe and Merry Christmas.

"Those of us on the department have a lot of friends in town, and when we visit them over the holidays, we'd rather not be in uniform."

PICKERING — Council members expressed concern at the mounting bills for relief. They are more than doubled from 1956.