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Vaughan Twp. Endorses Region Plan Control Floods, Conserve Water

Township Traversed By Humber And Don Rivers

During the past two years the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority has been preparing a comprehensive plan for control of floods and for the conservation of water for the region under its jurisdiction. On December 12, 1958, when the plan was presented to the Authority, the following resolution was passed: "That the brief on Flood Control and Water Conservation 1958 be adopted by the Authority, as recommended by the Flood and Pollution Control Advisory Board and the Executive Committee:

And further that the said brief be submitted as expedient to the Council of Metropolitan Toronto, the Councils of all other benefiting municipalities, the Government of the Province of Ontario, and the Government of Canada, requesting their approval and financial assistance on the basis outlined in the brief". On January 28 the executive committee directed that the Authority communicate with all municipalities to present the brief. Consequently local members of the Metro and Region Conservation Authority appeared before Vaughan Township council recently and after presenting the plan in its entirety received Vaughan Township's endorsement and support of the Water Resources brief. Cost to residents of the township are estimated at approximately 79 cents per capita each year for 10 years.

Mr. H. G. Higgs, senior field officer of the Authority, told the council members present, that the object of the plan was to clear flood plain lands, rather than building expensive reservoirs. He referred to the regional watershed, which has its origin in the area of Mono Mills, as a giant saucer tipped on its side and allowing water to pour down its face in flooding seasons. "During Hurricane Hazel," Mr. Higgs stated, "50 thousand cubic feet of water per hour went down the Humber River, equal to 2 million horse power of energy."

"The township of Vaughan is traversed by the main branch of the Humber River and the east branch of the Humber River. The east and west branches of the Don River rise in uplands in the northern section of the township; therefore the flood control and water conservation measures proposed for the main and east branches of the Humber directly affect Vaughan Township. Measures proposed for the Don watershed indirectly affect the township," the speaker said.

Flood control and water conservation measures which immediately affect Vaughan would be the proposed Bolton and Nashville dams and reservoirs, which would operate as a single control unit and would serve the multiple purposes of flood control, recreation and summer flow.

Bolton Dam
The Bolton dam site is located on the main branch of the Humber, two miles north-west of the village. The dam itself would be 94 feet high, 1,630 feet in length with a reservoir 4.5 miles long covering 708 acres. The storage of the reservoir would be 24,770 acre feet. The estimated cost of the dam and reservoir would be \$4,695,000.

This dam would not only control flooding but would increase summer flow and maintain the level in the Nashville dam. **Nashville Dam**
The Nashville dam would be located 1.5 miles north-east of Nashville and would be an earth-fill and concrete type of structure, 70 feet high and 1,160 feet in length. The reservoir would be 3.5 miles long, flood 630 acres with a storage capacity of 17,200 acre-feet, while the dam would have a permanent lake of 1,900 acre-feet, covering 190 acres which would be developed for recreation purposes. The remainder of the storage would be required for flood control purposes.

It is estimated the costs of the Nashville dam and reservoir would be \$2,589,000. **East Branch of Humber**
The flood control and water conservation measures for the east branch of the Humber River which affect the township would be the proposed King Creek and lower east branch dams and reservoirs. They would be operated similarly as the Bolton and Nashville dams.

King Creek Dam
The King Creek dam is located three miles north of Kleinburg. This dam would be 61 feet high, 12,800 feet long, flood 333 acres and store 7,247 acre-feet of water. The King Creek dam would be used to control floods and to increase summer flow as well as maintaining the level of the lower east branch reservoir. Estimated cost, \$2,041,000.

The lower east branch dam and reservoir would be located north-east of Kleinburg. The 64-foot high dam would be 1,000 ft. long, flood 248 acres and store 6,659 acre-feet of water. 1,000 acre-feet of this water would create a 50-acre lake for recreation purposes. Estimated cost of dam and reservoir would be \$2,115,000.

Flood Plain Lands
"The authority proposes to purchase 1,000 acres of flood plain lands on the Humber Watershed at an estimated cost of \$1,300,000. A small portion of these lands will be located in the Township of Vaughan."

On the west branch of the Don River, the Hamilton dam and reservoir on the east branch of the Don River, creating a 62-acre reservoir lake, would indirectly affect the Township of Vaughan, and would be readily accessible to residents located in the south-east section of the township.

Mr. Higgs explained that the total costs for all municipalities in the Metro Authority plan would be \$34,607,600. In all, 13 multi-purpose dams and reservoirs will be built. Vaughan Township would be levied \$11,530, each year for a total of 10 years, at a total cost per capita for ten years based on 1953 population estimates of approximately \$7.90 or 79 cents per year. Most of Vaughan's share of the costs is for "downstream" flood control work.

Intangible Benefits
The Authority points out, "benefit-to-cost ratios do not include the value of intangible benefits. If the remedial measures should prevent the loss of a few human lives, they would surely be worth while; and who can say what is the social value of avoiding hardship, suffering and the loss of homes. How could one evaluate the worth of recreation lands that are readily available to Boy Scouts on a hike or to school children on a nature-study tour. What value can be placed on the aesthetic benefits of green conservation areas and unpolluted streams?"

"About one-tenth of the population of Canada resides in the area under the aegis of the Authority. The present population of 1.4 million people is growing rapidly, and has an urgent need for the proposed flood control and water conservation measures," the Authority emphasizes.

Time Control Established
The Authority's long-range project to control flood waters, is long overdue. Hurricane Hazel was not the first tropical storm to pass over southern Ontario, but it was the worst in recorded history. Since 1879 there have been at least 32 hurricane-spawned storms over the province. In addition to floods caused by decadent autumn hurricanes, the Metro Toronto Region has been plagued with damaging floods resulting from heavy summer thunderstorms and from combined rain, melting snow, and ice-jams in the spring of the year. On the average, damaging floods have occurred in the Region once every one and one-third years.

The Authority's plan, which Vaughan Township endorsed through its council members, is the first and most important step to provide flood control measures to prevent a recurrence of disaster from flooding; to provide summer flow regulation as a pollution abatement measure; use of reservoirs as artificial recreational lakes; bank-erosion control, and provision of a ring of water supply sources around the Metro Toronto areas as a strategic civil defence measure.

Civil Defense Chairman

Raps County Council Civil Defense Budget \$400, Should Be \$4000

Reeve John Perry's remarks, "I am thrilled with the enthusiasm shown by this council for civil defense," which he made before county council at its session last Thursday, are not to be construed as anything else but sarcasm, the reeve told 'The Liberal.' "Leadership in civil defense matters should come from the heads of municipalities, and until we get the co-operation of the various municipalities we can't get a defense program properly started," he said.

Last Thursday county council passed a civil defense budget for the nominal sum of \$400. It was proposed by Reeve Howard Anderson of Georgina Township.

Disappointed by lack of interest and co-operation — only three municipalities — Newmarket, Markham and Vaughan have so far appointed co-ordinators for civil defense — Reeve Perry told county council, "I am not asking for more money than that asked by Reeve Anderson, because the so-called political leaders of this county have shown no more interest in civil defense than to make a joke of it," the reeve declared. "The 1952 government figure for defense is listed at 20c per capita, and York's annual share should be \$16,000," Reeve Perry states, "\$4,000 of which would be the county's share."

TEMPERANCEVILLE NEWS

CORRESPONDENT: MRS. MILTON WELLS, R. R. 3 KING

Phone PR. 3-5239

The Temperanceville W.A. and W.M.S. will be held at the home of Mrs. Milton Wells on Thursday, March 12, at 2:30 p.m. (Please note change of date). The W.A. devotional period will be planned by Mrs. Fred Boys. The roll call is "An Easter Thought". Mrs. Ivan Kennedy is program convener. The lunch committee is Mrs. J. Macklin and Mrs. Albert Foliott. Members are asked to contribute an apron for the bazaar.

On the evening of Wednesday, March 11, the Institute meeting will be held at 6 p.m. at Mrs. Milton Wells Home. The roll call is "A First Aid Hint". The topic, Health will be convenered by Mrs. Wells. Hostesses are Mrs. F. Hare and Mrs. C. Henshaw. It is hoped the district president and secretary will be present. As Temperanceville W.I. will celebrate its 25th anniversary in June, members are asked to bring written suggestions to the March meeting for this occasion.

The millinery course will be held March 19 and 20. Mrs. F. Hare, Mrs. W. Jennings and Mrs. N. Thompson will be in charge. All ladies of the community will be welcome at this course. The meetings will be held in the Sunday school rooms of the church. **Church News**

The senior group of the Sunday school heard Mrs. D. Chalk tell the story of "The Smiling One", while the M. & M. story for the junior group was told by Miss Joan Hare on Sunday.

Tickets for the oyster supper on March 18 are available. Proceeds will go toward new choir

gowns. Mrs. Nelson Thompson attended a shower Friday evening at the home of Mrs. John Donaldson. Buttonville in honour of Miss Janet Oakes, bride-to-be of Sam Snider.

Deepest sympathy is extended to Mr. Percy Forester, Mrs. I. Nelson and family and Mr. and Mrs. George Forester and girls on the death of Mrs. P. Forester on February 25.

Many thanks to Mr. Palmer Sr. who donated all the men's prizes for the last W. I. euchre. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. George Gillham who were married February 28. Besides the community shower they were given a presentation of a toaster and a purse of money. Another shower was held at the home of Mrs. Keith Gillham when relatives gathered to wish the couple much happiness in their future.

Mrs. Maurice Beynon was hostess to a number of ladies last Thursday, who completed a cot quilt for their church work. Mr. and Mrs. W. James and daughter visited Mrs. James' parents at Burlington on Sunday. On February 27, Mrs. Clayton was happily surprised when her family all arrived in the evening to celebrate her birthday. Those present beside Ruth and Bob were Mr. and Mrs. Ross Kirby and Arlie, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon McCallum and Jimmy, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Phillips and John M. and Mrs. Fred Boys. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Paxton and Mrs. Milton Wells attended the funeral of Mrs. Percy Forester and were guests at the Forester home afterward.

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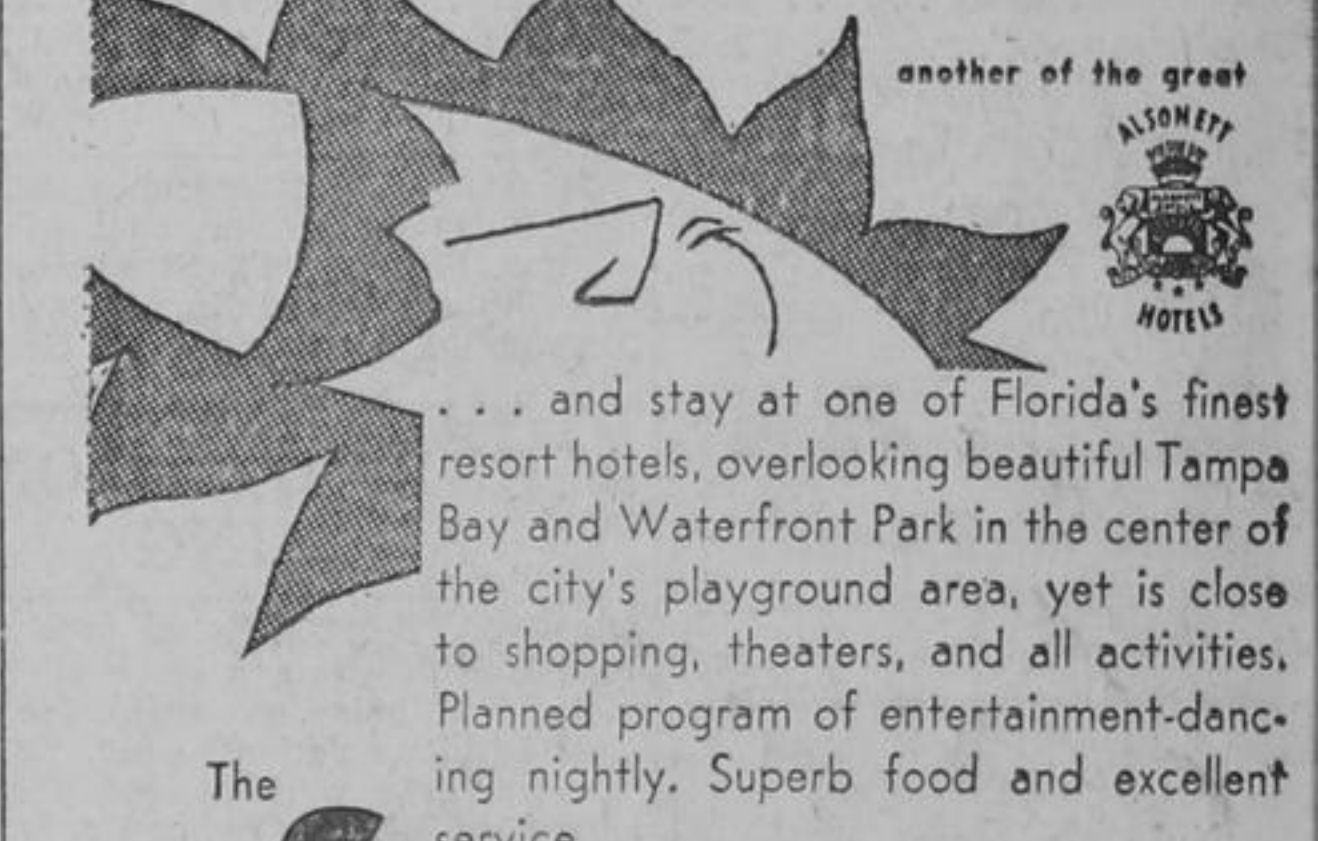
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