

King City, Oak Ridges Lake Wilcox

"The Liberal" is always pleased to publish items of interest regarding people and events in the Oak Ridges-Lake Wilcox and King City districts. Our news correspondent in King City is Mrs. William J. Houston, telephone King 205M; and in Oak Ridges-Lake Wilcox, Mrs. Ruth McFadden, Elm Grove Avenue, phone PR. 3-5567.

80 Ratepayers Attend Oak Ridges P.S. Ratepayers Approve 7 Room Bldg. 37-19 To Replace 1913 School And Five Room Annex

Following a vote by closed ballot on the question of whether or not No. 1 King and No. 14 Whitechurch (Oak Ridges Public School) should seek Municipal Board and Department of Education approval for the expenditure of \$140,000, to replace the old brick school and the five room annex, the majority of the ratepayers present at the special meeting of the school board voted "Yes". A show of hands on the proposal earlier, signified only four ratepayers opposed, but following the vote by ballot the results were: 37 For; 19 Against and four spoiled ballots.

Approximately 80 people attended the meeting, including Principal and Mrs. L. W. Jeans and members of the school teaching staff, and School Inspector Douglas Adams.

The meeting was held in one of the large rooms which comprise the old school built in 1913. Chairman of the Board, Mr. A. Gallacher welcomed those attending and said, "It is very gratifying to the school board to see so many out tonight." He then called for the nomination of a chairman and secretary for the evening and Bill Craig and Mrs. Sprague Troyer were nominated.

Chairman Craig established the reason for the meeting as soon as he took over the chair, stating, "The purpose of meeting tonight is to discuss whether we should spend \$140,000 for a new seven room addition. Further, it should be noted that it is going to be either a Yes or a No vote. No alternative proposals can be made at this meeting, although any suggestions made will be considered by the board. I have no doubt."

Mr. Gallacher then outlined the facts about the present school accommodation and said that it would either have to be replaced, with the exception of the new wing added three years ago, or fixed up. "In order to fix them up it will cost \$30,000. There are no fire walls and the floor in the annex is in a very bad state of disrepair. On the other hand, if we spend \$140,000 we could replace these seven rooms and have a decent looking school."

Mr. Gallacher then told of a visit made by the building inspector and York County Medical Health Officer Dr. R. King. Following Dr. King's visit he sent a letter to the board which stated, "Reviewing the public health aspects of the school, there is much to be desired. The windows are draughty, and the staircases present a fire hazard. The lighting is not good; in the annex the floors are uneven and desks are not aligned properly because of this, which complicates teaching procedure I am sure. There are not suitable, or enough, toilet facilities." The Fire Chief of Aurora said the fire systems were very bad.

Mr. Gallacher then pointed out that although the board was asking for \$140,000, "It isn't as bad as it seems". The Department of Education will pay 70 per cent of all our approved indebtedness, he said. The grant for a new structure (of 70 per cent) would offset the total, leaving a balance of 30 per cent which would mean about \$42,000 to be raised through the taxpayers, spread over 20 years. However, repairs of \$30,000 would not be eligible for a grant and they would be taken entirely out of the taxes.

Pointing out that it was only a difference of approximately \$12,000 for a new school structure, Mr. Gallacher said, "In ten years we would have to have the same thing over again and all the money put into repairs would be lost."

Inspector Adams was then asked by Chairman Craig to disclose his findings and Mr. Adams said, "I visited the school last fall and found the instruction was very good. The accommodation in the new wing of the school is good, but over here (in the old school) and in the portable it is very bad. This older part of the school will I should imagine, in a few years have to be replaced. I am not a ratepayer in this area so all I can do is ask you to give consideration to the board's recom-

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the present school. "Building would not start before late spring in 1960 and would continue through the summer so that the new rooms, or as many as possible, would be open for the September term."

Mr. Troyer then rose to ask who paid the interest on the \$140,000 debenture. He said that over 20 years the interest on \$40,000 would be \$20,000. "If we go ahead and build this replacement, for 20 years we are going to be paying this even though removed new way of financing of school taxes takes place." He was referring to income being taxed for school purposes, a plan now under discussion unofficially in many circles. "I don't want anyone to feel I am throwing cold water on this project. I have been one of the first people to see the school facilities need improvement but I am convinced this matter should not be settled. This night, I would like to see this meeting ask for a further meeting, keeping in mind that if we expect improvements we have to pay for them. This district has reached a saturation point for taxes."

A ratepayer spoke out loudly "If there is too much of a burden we will get help won't we. Let's make our mind up Yes or No", a round of applause answered him.

Board member Mrs. Betty Woolnough said, "Mr. Troyer, the portable has to go." To which Mr. Troyer replied he realized something should be done in a short time, but he was not convinced they should decide that tonight. Board member J. D. Smith said: "We can't proceed with our plans or get approval from the Municipal Board or the township councils until we get the approval of those here tonight."

Mr. Gordon Rowe said, "I have every confidence in the board — let's get on with the job and take a vote." A woman in the audience said, "Last time we planned the addition we hummed and hawed and the architect put up his price by the time we got approval — let's not have that this time."

Mr. Gallacher then assured the ratepayers that the Municipal Board would not let them go overboard on expenditures. Mr. Bill Mitchell said, "Even if we approve it tonight it still has to be approved by both townships and the board and if they see any flaw in it they will certainly throw it out. As I see it we have to give our trustees a Yes vote so they can go ahead." Mrs. Woolnough: "We are not the final arbiters in this expenditure."

Mr. R. Simmonds then moved it be put to a vote and Mrs. Gallacher seconded the motion. Mr. Troyer moved an amendment to the motion that a vote on the question be deferred and that a further meeting be called by the ratepayers within a month to give further information to the ratepayers.

Mr. Bob Reid said, "This meeting has been called as per regulations and we have to vote Yes or No tonight."

Mrs. Gallacher: "We will get no further if we don't go ahead with the vote on the question."

Chairman Craig: "We cannot take the power away from the board, I have no option but to rule this amendment down." Troyer: "The only thing we can do is to vote on the amendment."

Craig: "There are certain notions that are entirely out of order, and I move the chair is to be upheld." Mr. Troyer then said he would have to contact the Department of Education to ask legality of such a procedure.

Chairman Craig then called for a vote to uphold the chair's ruling, the result of 19 for upholding the chair, 18 against, giving the chairman authority to proceed to a vote on the original motion. Dissension arose again when Mr. Simmonds declined to incorporate the figures \$140,000 into his motion to vote on the question. Mr. Gallacher said, "This board has done more than any other board to get an answer to one question. Either we replace this building or we don't — it's as simple as that. That is what we came here tonight to decide."

Mr. Atkinson moved that the original motion include the figure \$140,000, seconded by Mr. McDonald. A show of hands signified that all but four present were for the question and a closed vote by ballot, moved by Bob Reid, followed, with Mr. and Mrs. Troyer acting as scrutineers. The meeting closed just after 11:30 p.m. after it was declared "That the Ratepayers of U.S.S. No. 1 King and 14 Whitechurch approve the expenditure of \$140,000, for the purpose of replacing seven classrooms", it carried 37 to 19.

mentation." "In other words", a lady at the rear of the room stated aloud, "the onus is on the taxpayers whether it is done or not."

A query as to whether the heating in the old school would be incorporated in the addition brought confirmation from the board chairman who said that at the present time, owing to draughts and heat leakage, etc., it cost as much to heat the two-roomed school as it did to heat the 9-room addition at the rear.

A ratepayer asked if there was any truth to a rumour that a new school was planned for the east side, thus dissolving the school section. Mr. Gallacher asked the board secretary, Ross Farquharson, who is also a member of Whitechurch Council, to answer this. Councillor Farquharson: "There has been no talk of building a school on the east side of Yonge St." Mr. Gallacher assured the ratepayers, "We have never talked of splitting the school section."

A query as to the school playgrounds being smaller than ever after the new building was finished — and if it needed another addition in a few years — brought assurance from Mr. Gallacher that for the first time in three years the school enrollment has shown a slight decrease. He also reiterated that the expenditure of \$140,000, was to replace not to expand.

Another question asked was, "How would this affect our taxes? We are having a water problem and are told we cannot get water because we (the King, have not paid our taxes. What if the school goes through, will we still have trouble with the water supply?"

Chairman Craig said the school cost would have to go on the taxes the same as the water. "I am the last one who would suggest going over our heads but actually we have spent very little on community projects. A new and better looking school structure would help the community."

Hot and heavy debate waxed between the chairman and Mr. Sprague Troyer who read off facts and figures from a notebook to show what the mill rate, tax and assessment would be over 20 years. He asked that the question be deferred until he got answers as to the total assessment for Whitechurch and King and how many pupils came from each side. "At the moment", he said, "this district is very heavily taxed and I think that anything that could cut the tax rate would be good."

It was pointed out that the saving in maintenance, with a new school, would eventually cost less. Mr. Gallacher: "I am a taxpayer and member of the board and we want to do things in the cheapest way, the new addition would be best."

Asked, "What happens to the children now going to school here?" Mr. Gallacher replied they planned to use the replacement of

Unsolicited Resignation

King City and Temperanceville school boards accepted the resignation of William Mann, 21, of Elgin Mills, teacher at the three-room Temperanceville school, in a special meeting held last Saturday. The resignation had not been solicited by the boards.

Mr. Mann's resignation, which is effective immediately, was tendered following charges by Robert Brooks, of King City, that he refused to let his son Danny, aged 10, return to school until Mr. Mann was removed as a teacher, following an incident which occurred during wrestling manoeuvres last week.

The boards heard reports on a wrestling hold named the sleeping hold, which pupils were trying to use on one another. Unable to knock out anyone with the pressure hold, they asked Mr. Mann if he would demonstrate the correct technique and he demonstrated the hold with Danny Brooks, whom it is said gave his co-operation to the sport's play.

Danny was rendered unconscious and then revived, but at noon the boy passed out and was revived by a doctor. He is now reported to be in good health.

If you are going to set out young trees this spring, remember to obtain a supply of superphosphate. This fertilizer worked into the soil at the bottom of the hole in which the tree is to be set will aid root development and assist the tree to become established in its new site.

Oak Ridges, Lake Wilcox Socials

Queen Scout Garry McLaughlin, patrol leader of the Bat patrol, received his Queen Scout certificate on Saturday, May 9th, from the Honourable J. Keiller MacKay, the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, the patron of Boy Scouting. These certificates were presented during an impressive ceremony held in Midland. David Morre and Scoutmaster Stan Burr were present at the ceremony.

With the coming of spring and summer the 1st Oak Ridges Scouts realize that many homeowners would probably like a set of lawn chairs and tables. The Scouts working on their carpenter's badge have undertaken a fund raising project by building these sets for sale. They plan to make up sets on receiving a definite order. A sample of their work will be displayed at the coming trade fair. A Scout will be in attendance to take orders.

The Panther Patrol, under the leadership of Jerry Hopkins, decided to have a wiener roast giving the Scouts an opportunity to welcome the new Scouts up from the Cub packs. Sonny Burns and Scout Bill Smith passed their fire lighting. The Scoutmaster, Stan Burr, and Troop Leader David Moore dropped into the camp site area for a few minutes. The Scoutmaster reported that Sonny Burns, the newest Scout, was the first one to hear them and the first one to spot them as they crept up to the group. Good scouting, Sonny.

A composite patrol under Leader Brian Rowe, the Beavers, hiked west of Oak Ridges to Mary's Lake. Here again a Scout in the troop for only one week, Bobby Martin, showed the other Scouts a thing or two by catching twice as many fish as they did.

All Scout patrol leaders should bear in mind the coming school exams when accepting or planning to undertake new responsibilities. Rather than start a new project it might be better to finish off the one currently underway and start fresh after the school term.

The Oak Ridges Cub "A" pack under the leadership of Cubmaster George Marr will go on a camping trip to Stainton Farm, Orangeville, this weekend. As many of the cub fathers as possible are invited to accompany their sons.

Rev. Michell was the guest speaker at a youth rally held recently at the People's Church, Lake Wilcox. Rev. Michell is the minister of St. John's Church, Jefferson. Others taking part in the rally were Miss Yvonne Draper who gave a short testimony, Lorraine Leonard read the scriptures and the Friend family sang several selections. Mr. Ed Ellis led in the singing.

Fifteen ladies from St. Mark's W.A. visited St. John The Divine Convent at Willowdale recently. The ladies were shown around the convent by Sister Faith. They were impressed with the embroidery work done by the sisters, also the convent's beautiful carved stone altar and the carvings each side of the altar.

Mr. Al Rockett, Toronto, has opened a new business in Oak Ridges. It is a drive-in for soft drinks, ice cream etc. and is called the Carousel. Free ice cream was given away to nearly two hundred children on opening day last week. Mr. Rockett has been in the restaurant business for fifteen years and is very pleased by this new venture. A staff of five assist him. All are Oak Ridges residents.

Twenty-eight teachers from Lake Wilcox and Oak Ridges Public Schools attended a teachers' convention at the Royal York and Varsity Arena recently. The convention was designed to

King City Notes

Nurse Graduates
Today is graduation day for Women's College Hospital student nurses and attending graduation ceremonies for Miss Julia Bell are her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Matt Bell of Lefroy, formerly of King City.

Yesterday the nurses successfully completing three years' training celebrated the occasion with a mother and daughter tea and last evening there was a father and daughter banquet.

Today's graduation exercises at Convocation Hall are being followed by a reception at Burton Hall. Miss Bell, who has been president of her class, won the Operating Room Award. Her father was manager of King City Branch, Canadian Bank of Commerce, before the family moved to Lefroy last December.

New Minister
In mid-August the congregation of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, King City, expects to receive their new minister, Rev. Gordon Agar of Saskatchewan, who has accepted the call.

Rev. and Mrs. Agar have four children. He has an interesting background of mission service in the Bill fields of India and in British Guiana.

Heritage Park Ratepayers Association
Heritage Park Ratepayers Association, formed last summer, has elected its new executive.

Mr. Warren McKendry, who represented the Association at Village Trustees' meetings in the past year, has been succeeded as chairman by his neighbour, Mr. Bruce Hall.

Mr. Hall is vice-president of the new executive of King City Home and School Association and he was one of the drivers when Guide and Brownie parents helped the girls on Cookie Day.

Heritage Park's treasurer is Mr. Burt Weyer and the secretary is Mr. Harry Ballard.

Plant Trees
As a result of the energetic tree-planting activities of Heritage Park residents last Saturday, the approach to the subdivision is attractively lined with 26 young trees that will one day bloom colorfully as flowering crab trees.

The project was organized by the ratepayers' association beautification committee headed by Bruce Hall, Peter Robertson and Harry Ballard. Average cost to subdivision householders for the community improvement is about

\$2. Rummage Sale
With returns still incomplete, Guides' and Brownies' Mothers' Auxiliary cleared over \$125 at last Saturday's rummage sale held at Weston, reports the convener, Mrs. James Flucker.

Assisting in selling the donations from King City households were Mrs. Ewart Patton, Mrs. P. A. McNaughton, Mrs. Lorne Scott, Mrs. Laurence Scott, Mrs. Donald Dixon, Mrs. Kenneth Law-

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