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HAVE YOU HEARD THIS ONE?


It must be spring fever! Occasionally in this column I drop a hint or two about being glad to take care of all your dry cleaning needs. But not today, I'm feeling lazy. So here's some work for YOU to do:

Let's start with those winter blankets, I hope by now you have them safely moth-proofed and tucked away in a dry, moth-free cupboard. (Notice how I subtly avoided saying that they'll be a whole lot safer if you let us dry clean and moth-proof them for you.)

And what about overcoats and other winter wear? (I don't want to spoil it all now, so I won't say that they, too, will weather out the summer far better, without danger of moths, if they get a good dry cleaning in our shop first.)

Are your furs taken care of. Let's put it this way: There's no need for you even to inquire about our low cost summer fur storage plan as long as you just happen to have a storage vault that's as moth-proof, fire-proof, mildew-proof, dust-proof and everything-else-nasty-proof as ours.

See what even a mild touch of spring fever can do? If this keeps up, I might just lose control completely in my next column and start telling you it's cheaper to let all your clothes deteriorate in a single season than to pay a few pennies per garment for the best dry cleaning service in town!



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Committee On Dissolution —

(Continued from page 1)
 In Secondary Schools is 4.556. I think I share the opinion of my colleagues that there should be provision for special classes."
 "I think there is a great need for technical and commercial education for our children," Mr. Hallman continued. "Such schools would mean a large expenditure of money — that is why I think we should take a good look before establishing them in the County." A trustee then asked, when was the last complete Vocational School built in the province.

"Inspector Johnson said, "20 years ago, in Toronto."
 Chairman Stewart Rumble of the York Central Board, speaking to the question of dissolution of present high school boards said, "Size alone doesn't do any harm to a board, we represent the municipalities of Vaughan, Markham, Richmond Hill and Woodbridge. We haven't had any great difficulty and I have been on the board for the past five years." During those years, he said enrollment in the high schools in his area had increased from 1,093 students to 1,800, but as the enrollment increased the cost per pupil per day dropped considerably. In 1956 cost per student in high school was \$3.15 per day, in 1959 cost per day was only \$1.18. "We feel we are providing our students with a good quality of education and we feel that we would like to continue as we are."

Mr. Rumble concluded by stating the possibility of one or two area boards for the entire county could "be before County Council for a few years, before any action was taken."

King-Aurora
 Reeve Davis of Aurora said his council did not wish to continue in the district school area. "We feel Aurora does not want to contribute to the new King high school, because no students will be attending from Aurora." Council would rather supply a vocational school in their area, he said, which could relieve the need for one for the county.

(Note: Any high school student who passes his Grade 10 examinations may then apply to attend a Vocational School in Metro.)

The chairman of the King-Aurora High School Board, Dr. G. L. Williams, rose to say, "I don't altogether agree with you," Reeve Davis said, "That is often the case, although Dr. Williams has been my doctor all my life."

Dr. Williams continued, saying, "The townspeople of Aurora are against the change. The Board is quite in agreement with the present high school board staying as it is — and would be opposed to any changes."

Dr. Williams said vocational or composite schools are expensive to build and expensive to keep up. "We have to have 1,200 students attending to make such schools a possibility. Our Board feels it is not economically feasible at the present time to erect a vocational school."

The present Aurora High School will accommodate 910 pupils. With an increase of 70 from Lake Wilcox area for this September the Board has already made arrangements with Stouffville District High School to accommodate these students. The other alternative, portables, would have cost the ratepayers approximately \$50,000, he said.

Deputy-reeve Wilfred Dean criticized Aurora for wishing to withdraw saying, "52% of the costs of Aurora High School is carried by King. It doesn't look as if Aurora is playing cricket. We have to make a recommendation on this to County Council and make it stick." The deputy-reeve of Markham Township agreed that too much money was being spent on children who were not academically inclined. Present industrial courses given in many high schools "are nothing more than hobby courses", he said. He advocated composite schools for children who did not wish to remain in high schools for academic achievements. "We are forcing pupils to stay in school until they are 18 — and we don't want our teachers to be baby-sitters."

In conclusion he stated, "We don't want to separate one area from another if the district board doesn't want it", and he pleaded to the trustees, "Please express yourselves tonight."

Mr. Frank Burkholder, chairman of Markham Village High School Board was told some years ago it was too small. "So we joined Stouffville. Markham and Stouffville split in 1953 and we have never been happier." Markham Village has 600 students attending its high school.

"The tax rate in Markham District is 5 or 6 mills lower than in the York Central area", he continued, "because expenses are lower. Parents and teachers have closer contact in smaller school sections. When we have students who wish to attend a vocational school we send them to the nearest one outside the county." He met with applause when he said area in the nicest high school area in the county, he said emphatically, just leave us alone!"

Warden Clark: "I wouldn't want the members to leave this meeting with the Education Committee recommending any change — this is specifically a fact finding meeting. The other thing I would like to mention is the fact that this year we have changed back to the county issuing debentures." "This year," the warden stated, "\$3,000,000 worth of debentures will have to be raised by county council. It is a big load for any high school board to have to raise large sums. I have always thought it was better for county council to issue them." Warden Clark said they have already sold \$2,853,000 worth of debentures, at 98.4. "I think we have saved the municipalities a great deal by issuing them, the county's credit rating is much higher than any one municipality's."

Reeve Davis said the purpose of the meeting was to provide the Education Committee with material for forming a recommendation to county council, "where 27 members will deal with the question. County council should not be asked to vote on something that has not yet been dealt with by a committee such as this."

Reeve Davis: "I feel if it is a whole-hearted decision, we should not do away with any school board boundary in the county, I will whole-heartedly go along with it."

Sutton's reeve still maintained Sutton high school should be on its own, stating, "We don't expect growth to hit Sutton for 10 years", and implied they still did not wish to share the costs of school. Chairman Wagg said the Education Committee has yet to present its findings to County Council as a whole and then called for a vote.

It was at this point that Trustee Axelson called for a vote on status quo, and Reeve Haggart's recommendation of further discussion between separate high school boards was accepted with full approval. A letter will be sent to the various district high school boards, and their answers will be considered before the Education Committee presents its findings to county council as a whole.

Concluding the session, Deputy-reeve Dean said, "We appreciate your attendance at this meeting — I still say that the trustees know more about education than the counsils of this county — and they are specialists."

Nature Notes

By Richmond Hill Naturalists

The April meeting of the club which has been postponed to April 22 will feature movie night, "Between the Tides" is being shown by request because it received such enthusiastic response at the annual meeting of the Federation of Ontario Naturalists. "Wildlife and the Human Touch" is a very recent conservation picture. "Springtime Harvest" is of particular interest because part of this movie was photographed on the farm of Amos Baker. The remaining part was taken at LaFontaine in and around the maple sugar camp owned by the Maurice brothers.

There is no place as gay as a French-Canadian maple sugar bush. The high school boys and girls come down to help on Saturdays. Their cheery shouts, together with the tinkling of the sleigh bells echo and re-echo through the woods as they rush to and fro emptying the sap buckets. In the distance a pileated woodpecker can be seen flying and the sea-gulls are calling as they soar above the tree-tops. Lunch-time comes so quickly. Some eat outdoors in the brilliant sunshine while others stay in the steam-filled sugar camp. Their favourite drink is the medium-cooked syrup. They take half a dipper-full of the steaming hot liquid, cool it on the snow and drink it as quickly as if it were water. Suddenly there is a shout that another "batch" is finished and everyone comes and watches the amber syrup being "canned". There is even more popping in and out when, later in the day, some of the syrup has been transferred to a kettle and boiled on a cook stove for maple taffy. It takes an experienced cook to decide just when the bubbles are bubbling right for the final stage. There is a call for each one to get a fork as they follow the cook to a nearby clean patch of snow. It is drizzled on the snow and immediately solidifies. Nothing is quite so delicious as this taffy with snow crystals rolled up inside. Such vast quantities are eaten! The final fun is a big chase. Each one "blacks" their finger tips on any nearby pans and tries to see how many faces they can blacken. Possibly it is a good way to work off some of the effects from over-eating!

Further bird arrivals are fox sparrow, red-shouldered hawk, and Marsh hawk, the female red-winged blackbirds, phoebe, savannah sparrow, green-winged teal and numerous sparrow hawks. The main influx of robins hasn't yet arrived.

There will be a field trip on Good Friday morning meeting at the town hall, Yonge and Wright Sts., at 8 a.m. Since the walking is apt to be muddy wear rubber boots. It will mostly be a roadside trip in our immediate vicinity.

NORTH YORK — "Metro assessmen people should look for new sources of revenue," said Councilor Fred Young at a recent meeting. He said that one of the best sources of increased assessment was on land held by speculators. Any assessment increase on speculative land would be of no value during the current year, but action should be taken to give the 1961 budget the increased lift this land could produce. Increased taxes on speculative land may make it less attractive for some types of investors, he pointed out.

Do Biochemical Cancer Research

At the Montreal Cancer Institute in the Notre Dame Hospital, Dr. Roger Daoust, a research associate of the National Cancer Institute of Canada, is working on the possibility that cancer growth may be prevented by restoring the action of an essential acid activity in the cell.

The acid is desoxyribose nucleic acid, or DNA for short, and it is found in the chromosomes of all human cells. Chromosomes, in turn are the tiny particles found in the nucleus or central body of the cell; they contain the genes which hold the answer to inherited characteristics.

For some time at the Montreal Cancer Institute experiments related to the changes in normal cells when they become cancerous have been carried on under Dr. Antonio Cantero, Director of the research laboratories.

By feeding rats a cancer-causing chemical called azo-dye it is possible to induce cancer of the liver. By examining the liver cells before and during the actual development of cancer the investigators are able to observe the differences in enzyme and acid activity.

While doing research at the Chester Beatty Research Institute of the Royal Cancer Hospital, London, England, under a N.C.I. Fellowship, Dr. Daoust developed a histo-chemical method of studying the DNA activity in cells, and by applying it has discovered some highly significant things about the liver cells of the azo-dye fed rats.

First, during the stage just before the appearance of cancerous stage, the DNA activity is higher than normal. Then, as the cancer develops, the activity drops away below normal.

Why? And what does it signify?

With the caution that seems inborn in all scientists doing cancer research, Dr. Daoust says "This may be tremendously significant or it may be incidental. In other words it may be closely associated with the change to cancer or it may be just a result of it."

If it is closely associated then there is always the possibility that restoration of the DNAase activity may retard the cancer development.

And this is the next step in the

experiment. In the "Plans for Next Year" portion of his progress report to the National Cancer Institute, Dr. Daoust states that "In order to assess the significance of this change, attempts will be made to re-establish DNAase activity in liver tumours by injections of pure DNAase."

A large portion of the money used to support this and other research carried on under the direction of the National Cancer Institute of Canada is provided by the Canadian Cancer Society. This month, April, you are asked to support your local unit through your contribution.

SOMETHING TO SELL
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Val Carey Dies Of Heart Attack

A resident of Oak Ridges for the past seven years Mr. Val Carey passed away on Tuesday, April 12th at York County Hospital, Newmarket, following a coronary thrombosis. The late Mr. Carey was in his 61st year, and was an employee of Fruehauf Trailers Ltd. located in Dixie.

He is survived by his wife the former Audrey Hartrick and three daughters Carole, Sandra, and Valerie. The service was held to-day (Thursday) at Wright & Taylor Funeral Home with Rev. Gordon Winch of St. Paul's United Church, Lake Wilcox officiating. Interment Aurora Cemetery.

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