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WALTER SCOTT HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

A. the Walter Scott Home and School Association meeting on Thursday evening, April 20, Principal N. Davison had the pleasant task of introducing the award winners of the public speaking contest. For the first time, all the awards were captured by one school — Walter Scott — and the following is a list of the students who won these honours: Harold Mills Trophy for Junior Impromptu - Nancy Bott, Home & School Trophy for Junior Prepared - Judith Ritchie, Richmond Hill Public & Separate School Board Plaque for Grade 7 Public & Separate Schools - Judith Archer, Langstaff Trophy for Senior Impromptu - Geraldine Bruce, Perkins Trophy for Senior Prepared - Raymond Karu and the School Board Plaque for best speech - Raymond Karu.

It was very appropriate timing, for the school just came into possession of a very beautiful trophy display case through the co-operation of Mrs. F. A. Blackwell and Mr. J. Wheeler. Mrs. Blackwell, a member, supplied the glass required and Mr. Wheeler, teacher of the Senior Opportunity Class, built the case. What nice way could the students show their appreciation than by winning these coveted awards to fill it.

Raymond Karu presented Mrs. E. Robertson with a beautiful spray of spring flowers on behalf of the trophy winners in appreciation of the work and many extra hours spent with them putting the finishing touches and polish to their presentations and delivery. In her acceptance Mrs. Robertson gave credit to all the other teachers who helped prepare and encourage the participants.

Superintendent Gordon McIntyre, B.A., B. Paed., of Richmond Hill Public Schools, was the guest speaker of the evening and he discussed the "Provincial Grant Structure". Mr. McIntyre reviewed the history of the government grant and the struggle to obtain public support. He described how, after final recognition by the state and the community that the responsibility was there, that eventually a representative government body was set up and finally a central authority, the Department of Education, which has central powers over all education. It was under the British North America Act in 1867 that schools came under the control of the provinces. Less than 100 years

ago it was generally thought fatal for government to support schools. The argument was that it would not mean education benefits for children but a subsidy to adult indifference. In looking back on the progress of education and provincial grant Mr. McIntyre cited a modern example in the retarded children's schools and its struggle for more government support and recognition.

Provincial grants are paid on the basis of education costs, number of pupils and debentures (exceptional, but necessary, expenditures). Last Year Richmond Hill received 57c per child per day which means \$115,000 per child for the whole school year. Absenteeism of 7% reduced this amount causing a loss on the year of \$20,000. Revenue to the board. Unnecessary absenteeism not only makes it difficult for the child and the teacher trying to catch up, it also costs you, the taxpayer, money. The results of surveys taken to determine future school requirements show a peak period in 1966 when there will be an average 1.1 child per household in the Walter Scott area attending that school.

Mr. Ken Turpin, newly appointed business administrator to the school board was welcomed to his new post and Mr. Turpin expressed his pleasure for this was the first home and school meeting he had been invited to attend since his appointment.

Mr. J. Wheeler's class was the winner of the Parent Attendance Cup.

CROSBY HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

An attendance of 150 marked the last get-together of the season, when the Crosby Heights Home & School Association held a card party and bake sale in the school auditorium, on Wednesday, April 26th.

Convenors for the occasion were: Mrs. P. Kerfoot (bake sale); Mrs. M. McAllister (candy); Mrs. D. Baker (refreshments); Mrs. B. Blakeman (card table); Mrs. B. Norton (ticket); Mrs. P. Frank (prize); Mrs. S. Buckingham (check room). Mr. Jack Gracie of C.J.R.H. kindly assisted in distributing 53 prizes that were donated by local, out of town merchants and companies.

Music played by tape records throughout the evening was donated by Mrs. G. Wilson. President Mrs. B. Maundrell thanked the 150 people who attended and all those who had contributed to make the evening such a successful event. Refreshments were enjoyed by all at the end of this very pleasant evening.

MacKILLOP HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

On April 26, the MacKillop Home and School Association held its annual meeting. The following were nominees to the 1961-62 executive committee and were elected unanimously:

President, Mr. Cameron Andrew; Vice-Presidents: Mrs. B. Houle, Mrs. J. Jackson; Recording Secretary, Mrs. E. Markle; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. W. Acton; Treasurer, Mr. A. Reeder; Executive Members: Mrs. G. Dewsbury, Mr. J. Ewing, Mrs. A. Haworth, Mrs. L. Queen, Mrs. F. Redelmeier.

President, Mrs. W. Kojola of the York Simcoe Home & School Council, conducted the impressive installation ceremony. She extended good wishes for the success of the work of the executive committee during the coming year and briefly reviewed the responsibilities of each officer in his challenging post.

Vice-Principal, W. K. Ellis, B.A., M. Ed., head of the guidance department, of Richmond Hill High School, was guest speaker. His subject, "After Grade VIII - What?" was of particular interest to those parents of children graduating from Public School this June.

"The 'What'," said Mr. Ellis, "must, of course, be 'Grade IX.'" Mr. Ellis sketched the expansion of the town's secondary school education system from its beginning, around 1851, to the present day. In 1951, while still serving the area and called "Rich-

mond Hill District High School" the school had approximately 300 pupils. The west and the east wings were built in 1951 and in 1956, respectively, but several times during the years between 1954 and 1960, shift systems were employed to accommodate the ever-growing number of students. The opening of Thornhill, Woodbridge and Bayview High Schools in 1956, 1958 and 1959, respectively, each relieved the overcrowding in 1961, the approximate populations of these four schools stand: Richmond Hill, 720; Thornhill, 760; Woodbridge, 320; Bayview, 310. All four schools are under the administration of the York Central District High School Board. Thornhill, which next year will be officially known as a "composite" high school with academic, commercial, and technical courses, will eventually accommodate 1200 students. Richmond Hill is called a "general academic" High School, with a commercial course in Grade XII, and has a capacity of 830 students.

Mr. Ellis graphically outlined the courses of study in the five high school grades, listing those compulsory and optional subjects and the relative number of weekly periods devoted to each. He warned parents to watch carefully the student's selection of subjects, to talk this selection over as a family, and help ensure that the choice is valid. As guidance department head, Mr. Ellis has a keen interest in the correct courses for students with regard to their aptitude and abilities. Furthermore, the several avenues of endeavour that students may follow through the high school years make it necessary for parents and teachers to help the student make a wise choice of a course of study, with reference to his future, out-of-high-school years.

Pupils who have had difficulty in public school sometimes come to Grade IX recommended by their principal. They take a modified course, with business practices and typing, but without French. Three-fifths of the year's work is taken by these students and in Grade X they take another three-fifths. If they do not leave school at 16 years of age, they may return and enter Grade X with the regular students.

"They take three years to do two grades," Mr. Ellis explained, "but it is better than letting them repeat."

Mr. Ellis named the certificates awarded successful students at the completion of grades X to XIII, inclusive, and mentioned some of the doors (Industries, Institutes, Colleges, Universities) to which some of these certificates might be keys.

To illustrate the bewildering unfamiliarity of life at Richmond Hill High School to the student fresh from public school, Mr. Ellis drew a picture which included the 37 teachers, all specialists, who teach 720 students during 8 periods a day. There are 30 instructional areas, 28 home rooms, 2 gymnasiums, 4 science laboratories, 2 Home Economics rooms for teaching of sewing and cooking, a library of 3,000 books, special rooms for geography and for commercial classes, a cafeteria that seats 260 during a 45-minute lunch period, playing fields, parking lots, and administrative offices with public address systems. There is a whirlwind of extra-curricular activity every day after 3:15 p.m. There are many clubs (library, drama, science, photography, etc.) which meet after school hours. There are junior and senior bands, a choir which is rated among the province's top ten, and a newspaper published by the students.

"Finally," Mr. Ellis told parents "encourage right attitudes at home. Failure comes from boredom and resentment. You must make sacrifice for the student." He recommended from 1 to 1 1/2 hours of homework each week-day for Grade IX. He urged parents to keep in contact with high school affairs through the home and school association and by coming to see the teachers who are always thrilled at parent interest.

After a lively question and answer period, Chairman, Mr. Cameron Andrew, expressed the grateful thanks of the association and of the assembled guests to Mr. Ellis for an exceptionally helpful and informative address.

Refreshments were served after adjournment of the meeting, which was held, for the first time, in MacKillop's splendid new auditorium.

Rental Policy Confirmed

Library Circulation Up For 1961 Boys, Girls, Schools, Responsible

1,574 books were added to Richmond Hill Public Library's shelves from January 1st to the end of April, board members learned at their regular meeting this month at a cost of \$3,960. Average cost per book was \$2.51.

303 of those books were adult non-fiction, 328 were adult fiction and 863 were for boys and girls.

Circulation of books during the first four months of the year showed an upturn over last year, with 69,937, nearly 6,000 increase over the same period in 1960.

"Turnover of books for adults dropped slightly but was more than compensated for by boys

and girls and school figures, which ran to slightly over 44,000 in the first four months of this year as opposed to approximately 37,000 in the same months in 1960.

Considering their policy with regard to the use of the library for meetings of outside groups, board members decided that space would be provided, on payment of the established fee, for non-profit adult education groups on the library. It was left to the judgment of Chief Librarian Fred Israel to interpret the standing of applicants, with the understanding that in case of doubt, he could contact board members.

Procedural Stream-lining Planned To Speed Planning Board Requests

New procedural methods, designed to speed up applications for changes in zoning made to it, were decided on by Richmond Hill Planning Board members at their last regular meeting. The changes were made on the recommendation of the board's consultant, Milton Farrow.

In future applications for changes to the zoning by-law will be heard in public, with notice being given to those owners holding property in the same area. Purpose of that policy, it was indicated, was to save time for everybody and, at the same time, make sure all those likely to be interested had an opportunity to express their opinions.

After hearing those concerned, the planning board will then make its recommendations, either for or against, to the town council, enabling that body to make a speedy decision.

Applicants, it was pointed out, would have to make their requests for zoning by-law changes to the town clerk. This planners said, would stop people "waning in at the last minute."

Those who were not satisfied with decisions made by either of the considering bodies could apply to the Ontario Municipal Board for a hearing thirty days after their application had been lodged with the town clerk, it was pointed out.

BUTTONVILLE NEWS

CORRESPONDENT: MRS. F. H. LEAF
R. R. 2 Gormley
Phone AXminster 3-8188

Last week farmers appeared here and there on the land and a few fields of spring grain were planted. The cold wet weather continues to hold up much of the work, however. What surprises everyone is the fine showing of fall wheat which appears to have survived the lack of snow and the extremely low temperatures last winter.

Nancy Brown graduated in Secretarial Science at the Ryerson Institute of Technology exercises held Friday evening last week, and on Sunday morning left Malton by air for a Bermuda vacation. In June Nancy will begin her career with Imperial Oil Ltd.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Easton visited friends in the neighbourhood recently. The Eastons, who have been operating a farm in Pennsylvania, spent some time with members of their family here before being transferred to a new operation near Denver, Colorado. Sylvia and her family are at Guildwood Village, Scarborough, and Jocelyn is in Listowel now; Joe, with the RCMP, is in the Maritimes this summer, and Aileen and her husband are in Austin, Texas.

Next week when W.I. members meet, the hostess will be Mrs. Milton Sherman and she will entertain at Leitchcroft Hall.

Mrs. James McQuay is on holiday this week, visiting relatives at Petawawa, Ontario.

That confusion of names for Don Mills Road kept the guest speaker at Brown's Corners United Church late for the 119th anniversary service on Sunday morning. In Metro Toronto Don Mills Road becomes Woodbine Ave., which completely confuses anyone not familiar with the area. It's time York County and Metro got together on this.

Reunion After 45 Years
At present Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Clarke, Sr., of No. 7 Highway, have as their house guest Mrs. Clarke's sister, Mrs. Nellie Faux of Manchester, England.

It is 45 years since the sisters last saw each other, and there is a great deal to catch up on. For one thing, there are a host of new relatives for Mrs. Faux to get used to.

On her arrival at Malton Airport Mrs. Faux was met by many immediate family members, including Mr. and Mrs. John Tassaker, Buffalo, N.Y., Mrs. Gertrude Binns, Cheektowago, N.Y., Mr. and Mrs. Percy Woodhead, Agincourt, Mrs. Emily Todd, Toronto, Mr. and Mrs. George Clarke, Sr. and Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Johnston of Markham. In one family there were 13 grand-nieces and nephews for Mrs. Faux to get acquainted with.

She plans to stay in Canada until autumn.

Campaign Over Top
With more than 600 books still to be returned Mrs. Gordon Purves reports that in almost every area the Cancer Society Campaign is over the top. In Richmond Hill the total funds were well over \$3,000, and on Friday of last week C.J.R.H. held a fanfare in Mrs. Purves' honour.

Garbage Dump Protested
On Monday evening of last week a delegation from the Mills-No. 7 Hwy. area met with the Markham Township Council to protest the dumping of garbage and other refuse from a Metro municipality on land owned by Tompsett at lot 9 concession 4. The deputation, whose spokesman was Mr. Wm. Clark, also objected to the piling and removal of top soil in the same general area.

It was Mr. Clarke's contention that when complaints were registered last autumn and early winter police were instructed to obtain evidence of removal of top soil, and were ready to move by the year's end when the new council took over.

A police official has refuted this statement, remarking that the bylaw prohibiting the removal of top soil was taken out of their hands last August. Police were not present at the May 1 Council meeting, but were to meet council on May 8, when the point would be discussed further.

It is not often that a congregation celebrates the opening of a new sanctuary in February, and its 119th birthday the following May," commented Dr. A. F. Binnington, pastor of the Victoria Square charge at Brown's Corners United Church on Sunday morning of this week.

The day marked a memorable occasion in the history of the church, with two inspiring services attended by congregations from Headford and Victoria Square, as well as friends and former members from surrounding points.

Dr. Bruce Gray of Kew Beach United Church was the guest speaker at the morning service and Rev. W. G. Sellars spoke in the evening.

The choir, with Mrs. Don Reesor at the organ, sang two anthems in the morning, O, God Our Help in Ages Past, and Holy City, with Mrs. Clayton Jones as the soloist; the evening anthem sung by the choir was Sun of My Soul, with Mrs. George Hooper taking the soprano solo, and a duet, My Task, was sung by Mrs. Ray Grant and Mr. Ted Gough.

The one regret, well expressed by Dr. Binnington, was that the choir leader, Mrs. S. J. English, was absent because of illness. Her devoted leadership has been of incalculable value.

Throughout the neighbourhood many former friends of the congregation were entertained on this special day. At the Walter Craig home Mr. and Mrs. Lauder Hamilton of Colgan were guests; Miss Lily Tate, Mrs. Mary MacPherson and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Stephenson were with Mrs. Wm. Rodick; Mr. and Mrs. Jackson and John of Maple were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Rodick and at the family farm were Mrs. Sadie Brooke and Messrs. Henry, Jim and Miss Mary Harper of Bolton.

Others noted were Mrs. Irene Atkinson, Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Dimma, Mr. Wm. Spears and Miss Nancy Spears, Miss Jean Mulrhead, and many others.

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