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# Taxpayers Query Where \$ Go

(Continued from Page 1)  
 ratepayer asked why taxpayers did not get a chance to vote on proposed school additions, as he claimed was the case in the United States.

Chairman Ross explained that municipal law in Ontario differs from American law and such votes are not required here. He claimed that the reason for increase could best be explained by the assessment department of the township, and asked why there was not somebody here to give the answer.

George Nash of Arncliffe Heights agreed that it was desirable to "give our children the best education possible, as long as we can afford to pay for it." He charged, "While you fellows are building monuments will you try to consider the people who have to pay the shot? We can't afford it." A woman in the audience stated reports in daily papers said only 27 per cent of school building costs went into classroom construction, the rest being consumed by corridors and teachers' rooms with broadloom, swimming pools and other "frills". Chairman Ross emphatically stated that not one yard of broadloom has been installed in York Central schools, there are no pools, and in many cases corridors walls are of cement block construction, not even plastered, but painted on the blocks.

Trustee Honsberger agreed that teachers are getting good salaries, reporting that there were 2500 vacancies advertised in March to catch the 350 graduates this year from the College of Education. It is a question of paying the going rate or not having a teacher in the classroom, he claimed.

Asked what hope there is of holding the line on taxes for high school purposes and what other means can be explored to raise money for this purpose, the trustees replied there is some hope of increased provincial grants next year. Chairman Ross pointed out that the ratio of commercial assessment to residential assessment in the township is very low. Increased commercial development would help keep the tax rate stable.

Trustee Honsberger pointed out the much improved educational possibilities being provided by the vocational wings for the slow learners, and those who would never graduate from grade 13 or go on to higher education. "If you have a problem," he said, "call me, come and see me. If you don't want me as your representative, let council know, and I will quit on a week's notice, but I would like to stay on."

Deputy-reeve Charles Hooper declared he felt strongly that high school boards should be elected, and charged that trustees had the attitude that "we're going to run this our way." Referring to members of the school board as "hired hands" on more than one occasion, Mr. Hooper charged that he, an elected official, was denied a chance to never graduate of the "hired hands." "They go out and buy land in vacant fields and pay exorbitant prices," he charged. "The site in Vaughan Township has no sewers, no water, no roads, no nothing. Who's going to pay for these services?" After reiterated demands to know the price paid per acre for the site of the new Langstaff High School, and disregarding trustees answers that they felt it unwise at the present time to divulge this information since they still had to buy other land, Mr. Hooper did not believe the answer of \$4,000 per acre provided by Trustee Norman Tyndall with the chairman's permission.

Mr. Hooper also charged the high school board had been turned down Tuesday night by the health unit, on application for approval of the proposed Langstaff High School. Trustees denied this charge and added it was not even delayed. It's proceeding as planned. After returning time and again to the same question and receiving the same answer, Mr. Hooper drew laughter from the audience when he claimed "I'm not emotional, I'm a taxpayer in the highest assessed school section in the province of Ontario." He finally subsided after returning to the question of location of this site several times.

Chairman Arnold Mortson introduced board members of T.S.A. No. 3, and when no members of the audience knew the boundaries of the area, delineated them.

S. R. Patterson, finance chairman, before presenting the reasons for the approximately six mills rise in public school taxes read from the school act the section which states that

the school board shall provide adequate accommodation for children who have the right to attend school.

He outlined the reasons for the formation of the school area following a recommendation by an educational committee that Markham Township be divided into three school areas. Had this recommendation been followed, the area now in T.S.A. No. 3 would have become a part of T.S.A. No. 1 in which the school rate in 1963 is 35 mills.

"How would you like that one?" he challenged. "That's the mill rate we saved you from by forming T.S.A. No. 3."

When the area was formed, he explained, S.S. No. 5 (Butterville) had a surplus of \$10,000 in current funds. This was used up in 1962, when the mill rate was set at 3 mills (in 1962 rate had been 25 mills). This year, the school rate over the entire area is 21 mills. An additional \$5,000 surplus in the capital account of S.S. No. 5 had been turned over to the area, and had been used in the addition of a room on S.S. No. 4 school. With provincial grants on this expenditure which will be received this year, the speaker claimed this addition cost the taxpayers practically nothing.

He pointed out that "every day you allow a child to stay home from school, it costs the taxpayers 50¢, since grants are based on average daily attendance. Cost per pupil in 1963 in the area was \$287. Average cost of educating a secondary pupil is \$654.40."

Answering a question about lot fees, posed by Mr. Jones, Mr. Patterson claimed he has been accused of drooling over these lot fees. "If I do, it's on your behalf." He claimed there is no better purpose for lot fees than the alleviation of capital school costs. "The trustees association," he said, "claims that when subdivider enters into an agreement with the township, they should be required to say that lot fees should go for school purposes. At present the subdivider installs streets, electric lights, sewers, drainage.

What is left, but schools? Lot fees would reduce debenture costs. Funds for other municipal services can be borrowed at a lower rate of interest than

Concluding Mr. Patterson stated that he would continue to approach council for a share of lot fees for school capital costs during the remainder of his term of office which expires on December 31 this year. "Council can take a breath of relief, because after December 31, I will not be a trustee."

Water Main Township Engineer D. Miklas

Pioneer Village Oxen Not Too Delicate To Go To Plowing Match

The "delicate" team of oxen, usually confined to their Pioneer Village home on Steeles Ave. by Metro Toronto and Region Conservation Authority will appear at the world plowing matches next October in Caledon.

Last month a committee decided the oxen were too prone to injury to be used in many public appearances and ruled out a request to show them at the matches.

Last week, the committee was asked to reconsider and was told the team would receive all the comforts of home during the five-day event.

The committee ruled the team could go but that there was no change in the Authority's policy since the oxen would be used in connection with a conservation exhibit.

Board Agreement Before Developed

(Continued from Page 1)  
 Mr. Alex Maynard, planning board chairman, and Mr. J. S. Gadsby, member, told Mr. Rumble that under the New Official Plan developers must come to an agreement with school boards before a subdivision is ratified.

Need Forward Image  
 Planning board members said that industry is needed to help assessment, and to attract such buyers, the township must have a "forward" image. In defence of planning board's request, Mr. J. S. Gadsby said: "Release does nothing but give Markham Township a 'forward image'. Release would invite interested people to investigate Markham's potential for industry. Right at the moment you don't know what you are turning down."

**Coming Events**

JULY 7th - 21st. Pikes Peak BINGO every Wednesday evening at 7.45 p.m. at the Canadian Legion Branch 375, Carrville Road. ttc48

MARKHAM: F. J. Matson of Markham celebrated his 90th birthday July 14. c3w1

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**MAYPOLE ICE CREAM** ASSORTED FLAVORS 1/2 gal. ctn. **69¢**

**SWIFT'S PREM** 12 oz. tin **43¢**

**VAN CAMP PORK & BEANS** 2 20 oz. tins **35¢**

**COTTAGE Toilet Tissue** 8 roll pack **59¢**

**NO. 1 BRADFORD LETTUCE** Jumbo Head **10¢**

**MACARONI & CHEESE Kraft Dinners** 4 pkgs. **49¢**

**HENLEY CHOICE FRUIT COCKTAIL** 2 15 oz. tins **47¢**

**GOLD SEAL FANCY SOLID WHITE TUNA** - 7 oz. tin **39¢**

**AYLMER FANCY TOMATO JUICE** 48 oz. tin **29¢**

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**Georgia Luscious Red Ripe WATERMELONS** 18-20 Lb. Av. **79¢**