

Second High School In Three Years

School Board Faces Multiplying Problem

By Margaret I. McLean
With the awarding of the \$1,404,608 contract to Konvey Construction Co. to build the new Langstaff Secondary School last week, York Central District High School Board begins construction of its second new school in the past three years.

The board was first organized in 1949 as the Richmond Hill and District High School Board. The name was changed to York Central in 1956. At its inception in 1949, the board was responsible for one school with 300 students. The staff included 10 teachers, a principal, Mr. A. E. Elson, a part-time secretary to the principal and one caretaker.

over 30 and an administration staff of six. The administration staff is made up of a superintendent of secondary schools, Mr. S. L. G. Chapman (who is also the inspector for the area), a business administrator, Mr. D. J. Ashworth, a secretary-treasurer, Miss E. A. McAlister two secretaries and a bookkeeper.

In the 14 years since its inception, the board has seen the student population multiplied by 11 times its original total of 300.

This increase has seen the high school mill rate jump con-

vulsively in the four municipalities which are served by the board, the Townships of Vaughan and Markham, the Town of Richmond Hill and the Village of Woodbridge.

Enrolment Double By 1970

What is the picture for the future? More of the same, according to figures prepared by Mr. Chapman.

An eight year projection of expected secondary school enrolments prepared by Mr. Chapman in 1962, shows a doubling of enrolments by 1970. In that year, it is expected that there will be 5,806 students in the York Central district high schools.

These figures are based on enrolments of children already in public schools in the area, with a small factor based on the apparent growth, and do not anticipate any large, new subdivisions.

The new Langstaff school, which will provide academic and commercial training, is to be opened in 1964. By 1967, the area will be short of technical accommodation, requiring additions to existing facilities. By 1967, or 1968 at the latest, an entire new school will be needed.

Mr. Chapman's figures had anticipated that stage 2 of Markham Township's official plan would go into effect somewhere around 1969.

If it is put into effect earlier, the new school would be needed a little sooner. For instance the 1,400 home subdivision which is part of stage 2 will produce about 250 additional high school students. In 1970 with 5,806 students expected, another school will be required, making a total of seven schools in the area.

Reasons for this dramatic increase in high school enrolment are many.

Firstly, more people are going to high school than ever before. At the present time, 6.1% of the population in this area are enrolled in secondary school, and the trend in Ontario is to have this figure go up. For instance, in 1957 Scarborough was building secondary schools on the basis of only 2.5% of its population being in secondary school. This is why they are now building new schools within school areas.

Reason for this trend is that high schools have been, by demand, forced to supply

courses for a wider range of abilities. Our high schools are now getting almost 100% of all those who reach high school age, while only a few years ago they got only 80%.

Another factor is that students are staying in high school longer. With courses suitable to a wider range of abilities and the pressure from every side - the home, industry, the government - to complete their education, more and more students are completing the full course. Only 10 years ago, only 2% of students completed their matriculation.

At the same time also, the population has been growing. More people are living in Canada - and more in York Central area. Mr. Chapman explained that he took into consideration a very gradual growth factor and his figures are in this respect, quite conservative.

With the high school population doubling in eight years, does this mean that high school costs will double also? I asked Mr. Chapman.

"They could well do more than double," he replied. "The trend is to technical education. A bigger percentage of students are going into the technical and commercial courses, and these are much more expensive to provide."

In September, 1962, 7% of the total registration of the York Central high schools was in technical course, but 16% of the grade 9 students were in technical classes. In the same year, 13% of the students in all schools were in commercial courses, but 17% of grade 9 students were in commercial courses.

The diversified occupations courses accounted for 3% of the total enrollment, but 6% of grade 9 students were in this division.

In 1962, 77% of all students were in the academic course. By 1963, this percentage had dropped to the low fifties, with 22% of all students in technical and 20% in commercial courses. By 1970 it is expected that only 40% of the student body will be enrolled in academic courses, with the rest in the incomparably more expensive technical and commercial courses.

Both provincial and federal governments have aided in the setting up of technical schools, the federal government paying 75% and the provincial government 25% of their initial cost of construction and equipment.

Mr. Chapman noted, however, that for the equipping of the technical schools, the government had set an arbitrary figure as the top amount they would contribute to equipment, and that in most cases local boards had been forced to add to this.

In discussing this situation with Mr. Robert Ross, who is Richmond Hill's representative on the board, and it's chairman, he advised that the board was calling a meeting of officials of all the municipalities participating in the York Central Board in October to discuss plans for the future of the high school area.

"The provincial government will be forced to pay a higher share of technical school education costs," stated Mr. Ross. "Also, somewhere along the line, the federal government will have to be involved."

Mr. Ross emphasized meetings are open to the public and the board would be glad to welcome members of the public at any time. Meetings are held at the board's offices, 25 Yonge Street North, Richmond Hill on the third Monday

VICTORIA SQUARE NEWS

CORRESPONDENT: MRS. W. SANDLE
R. R. 2 Gormley - Telephone 886-5421

School days! school days! dear old golden rule days! Now that the children have returned to school, it is to be hoped that the pupils and teachers had a very pleasant and enjoyable holiday, and that they are ready to settle down and to go back to work.

For some it will mean the beginning of their school life, while for others it will mean higher learning by entering high school and university. To all we say good luck and work hard, so that you may accomplish a great deal in life.

The final game of the Victoria Square Lions Softball League was held on Tuesday evening of last week in the community centre park. It was Butonville battling it out with Headford for the cup which the Victoria Square District Lions Club presents to the winners. Headford was victorious for the third year in a row. Congratulations Headford!

A great deal of credit must go to their coach, Mr. Harry Burton, for the way he has helped the boys the past three years.

Church News
Mr. Idris Hamid was in charge of the church service on Sunday morning. On September 8 at 11:30 a.m. Dr. A. F. Binington will be in charge of the church service.

Sunday School Superintendent Percy Bennett has called a meeting for all the teachers and officers of the Sunday school and anyone interested in this work is asked to meet in the Sunday school room on September 11, at 8 p.m.

Sr. Women's Institute
The September meeting of the Sr. W.I. has been postponed from its regular date, September 10, to September 17th.

Neighbourhood Notes
Birthdays to be celebrated: Lorrie Mackness, 11 years, September 5; Sherri and Shelley Brumwell, 2 years, September 7; Miss Joy Mortonson, September 9.

Miss Florence Cook of Lansing spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Percy Bennett.

Master John Huggins of Hampton spent the past two weeks with his grandmother, uncle and aunt in cousin, Mrs. A. Frisby, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Frisby and Ruth.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred McRoberts spent a few days last week with Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Pascoe at Oshawa.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Cobb and family of Flushing, Michigan, called on Mrs. R. Perkins, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Barker and family last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Mac Raynar and Donalee, and her girlfriend Pam Close of Detroit, Michigan spent last week with Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Mortonson and family.

Mr. Minnie Wellman, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wellman of Toronto had Saturday evening dinner with Mr. Louis Nichols and Miss Vera Nichols.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Hart and family called on Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Hamill and family of Cedar Grive on Sunday afternoon. Mrs. Hamill is ill in bed. A speedy recovery is wished for her.

Rev. and Mrs. Borland and family of the Stouffville United Church were visitors at the church service on Sunday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. John Reesor and family of Markham had Sunday evening dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Morley Ryan and family.

Miss Pat Draper has commenced her teaching duties at the school for the deaf at Milton.

On Saturday afternoon Patricia Orr entertained a number of her little friends, the occasion being in honour of her 7th birthday. Those present were: Sharon and Jimmy Johnston, Laurie, Marilyn and Carolyn Orr, David and John Houck and Betty Sande. Patricia's brother Ron gave all the children a go-cart ride, which they all enjoyed very much.

Miss Muriel Mortonson was a Sunday overnight guest of Miss Anita Orr.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Orr, Mr. and Mrs. Allan Orr and family attended the 50th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Oliver at Nashville Monday. Mrs. Wm. Orr was the bridesmaid for the honoured couple 50 years ago.

A speedy recovery is wished for Mrs. Clarence Stewart who underwent surgery at York County Hospital, Newmarket.

AURORA: This town's three crosswalks are likely to be ready soon on Yonge at Mossley, Yonge at Dunning and Yonge at Aurora Heights Drive. Mayor Keith Nisbet urged their installation before school begins and said the present situation where people think they are hazardous, but do not, is hazardous.

NEW WORK - ALTERATIONS - REPAIRS

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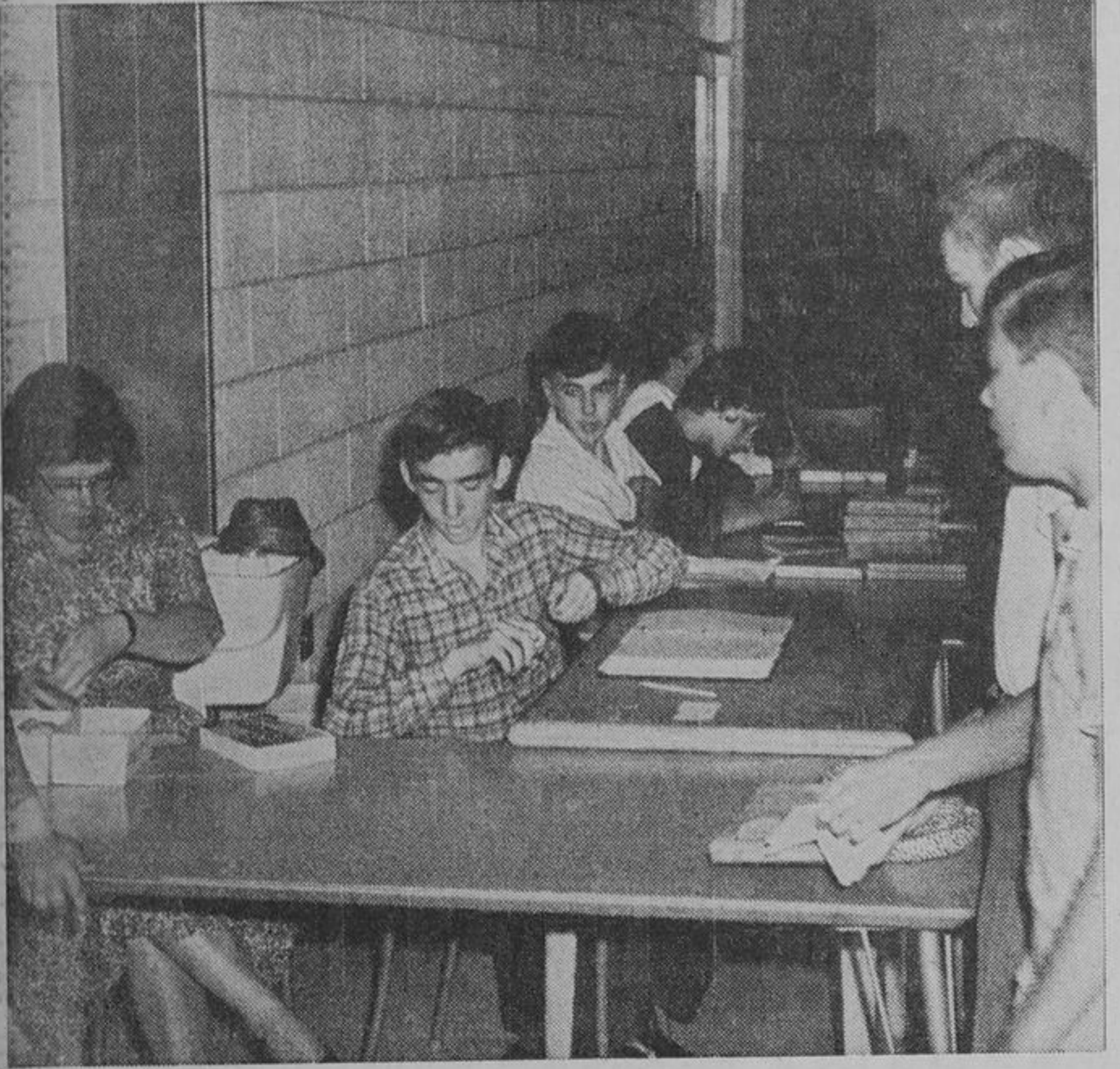
BACK-TO-SCHOOL

REGULATION SCHOOL TUNIC
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4-6X \$2.98 8-14 \$3.98

WYN-DOT

THE LADIES' SHOP
BAYVIEW PLAZA TU. 4-2214



Book Mart For Bayview Students

Bayview Secondary School students gave fellow classmates a break last week by holding a book mart of textbooks needed to start off this year's school term. Pictured is English teacher Mrs. M. A. Wilson taking care of the cash box with the assistance of Alfred Lindsay and Derek Adnams, grade 11, and Carol Phillips and Connie McRae, grade 10.

But Please "Don't Fence Me In"

Fence Goes Up ... Fence Goes Down In Levendale Yonge Street Hassle

That familiar old tune "Don't Fence Me In" zoomed to the top of the Richmond Hill hit parade last week shortly after a "real fence" was erected across the fronts of three businesses on Yonge Street at Levendale Road.

But it wasn't destined to stay there long. Cries of protest came from at least two of the three businesses affected as well as a host of others from customers blocked off from reaching the building entrance from Yonge Street.

The fence came down again 24 hours later. Stores affected in the local crisis were Becker's Milk Company Ltd., Pop's Restaurant and Tavern, and Barth's Cleaners and Shirt Service Ltd.

The explosion at Yonge and Levendale came one day after Richmond Hill Town Council decided to effect temporary repairs to the portion of asphalt apron on town property fronting Barth's Cleaners.

It ordered a temporary fence barrier be placed at the curb-line to prevent traffic cutting the corner to avoid waiting for the stop-light at the intersection to change.

Plans were to install a permanent concrete curb to "eliminate the possibility of the town being involved or held liable in damage claims."

It was the fence and the prospects of the permanent curb which raised the ire of the businesses as well as a number of their customers.

"In my opinion it's absolutely silly," was the statement by one onlooker as he watched a town works department crew put up the fence. "They're blocking off three business people."

A few tempers went up with the fence but came down again the next day --- with the fence.

From the "other side of the fence," came the town's version with Works Commissioner Otto Whalen stating the move to stop traffic cutting across the disputed area, "was just to eliminate the future possibility of a fatality with the town held responsible for it."

He flatly denied what he termed as opinion in some quarters that the move was "done for purpose" to effect Pop's Tavern "in regards to that other (light) question."

"We held off on the matter as long as possible," he commented, "but we then had a

personal representation as well as a letter of request from a ratepayer and we definitely had to act on it."

He said the town had decided to refuse a request to pave a portion of asphalt on its property in front of Barth's because "the paving was not put there by the town, and is not a thoroughfare for the public to use."

"If we did that," he added, "we would have to do it for everybody."

He concluded by stressing the town wasn't trying to raise a hassle with the owners on purpose. "It was a necessary thing to do," he stated.

"We want to co-operate as much as we can," he said, "but we need some co-operation from the businesses. They should get together and co-operate themselves."

Mr. Whalen turned out to be something of a prophet as the three businesses proceeded to get together soon after and discussed the matter with the town.

"The persons involved got together with us," commented Reeve Floyd Perkins, chairman of the roads committee, "and that's just what we want."

Relief By Aid Or Assessment?

"This will be a heavy charge on the taxpayers" stated Mr. Chapman. Only relief he could suggest was greater assessment, although he hoped that more assistance would be provided by higher levels of government.

Both provincial and federal governments have aided in the setting up of technical schools, the federal government paying 75% and the provincial government 25% of their initial cost of construction and equipment.

Mr. Chapman noted, however, that for the equipping of the technical schools, the government had set an arbitrary figure as the top amount they would contribute to equipment, and that in most cases local boards had been forced to add to this.

"We had to do something," he continued. "Someone was going to get seriously hurt if we didn't and we would be the blame."

Mr. Perkins said he felt now that "everyone is in a co-operative frame of mind," some satisfactory solution could be arrived at.

One of his possible solutions would be to block the entrance of Levendale Road to the intersection of Yonge Street.

"Posts could be installed," he said, "and customers would still be able to come off Yonge Street with nothing to stop them. The only persons stopped would be the motorist cutting across which we want to do. But that's only a suggestion. There may be others."

In the meantime everyone agrees that: "It was all a misunderstanding."

HEADFORD NEWS

Mrs. Loren Guild
R.R. 2, Gormley Phone TU. 4-3040

The End Of Summer
Dr. and Mrs. A. F. Binington were welcomed back to church service after their summer vacation. Visitors in the community have gone home, the grain harvest is in, the swimming pool is deserted, books and clothes are made ready for school and summer gives warning each cool evening that she is ready soon to take her vacation.

School is the big deal of the week and the community good wishes will go with all of the new entrants to high school and to the wee ones starting the big adventure as well as to the students well up the ladder of learning.

Socials
Don Brodie was best man for Blythe Meek on the occasion of his marriage to Ruth Byers at Waldemar August 24. Mrs. Brodie Cora and Don were guests also at the Carson-Burr wedding in Brown's Corners

recently at the reception at Summit View Gardens. Mrs. W. A. Holmkay, Ottawa was guest of her sister-in-law Mrs. W. Wellman, Mrs. Holmkay at the age of 92 is still actively interested in getting about.

The old basement floor of Headford United Church has been replaced by a smooth hard cement and the feet of the members will lift up their steps and rejoice.

Congratulations to Headford baseball team who closed a successful season by winning the cup again. Leaving through some wartime recipes I found this forgotten recipe, with sugar so rationed" it advises, "add 2 tablespoons of fine flour or rice flour to icing sugar for that infrequent cake. It saves sugar and adds body to the icing." I tried it again and was reminded that it helps to take away that too sweet sugar taste.

Richmond Hill Public Library

Applications will be accepted by the undersigned, until September 14, 1963, for the position of library assistant.

Typing ability required. Some evening and Saturday hours in a 35-hour week. Usual benefits. Special consideration will be given for university education.

F. C. ISRAEL, Chief Librarian.

Curtain Club Season Tickets

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Provincial Liberal Candidate

All Liberals in Markham Village, Stouffville and Markham Township welcome.

BRING ALONG THE FAMILY
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A New Deal For The Municipal Taxpayer

To-day everyone agrees municipal taxes are too high. The taxes on a home in Richmond Hill with an average assessment of \$5800.00 has jumped from \$249.03 in 1959 to \$358.68 in 1963. This is a 43.3% increase in just four short years.

The cost of education has soared to sickening heights. To-day 60% or more of every tax dollar collected in our municipalities goes to support our elementary and secondary school systems. The municipalities are the creation of the provincial government, yet during the past 20 years successive Conservative governments have failed to bear their fair share of the heavy burden of education.

This year the province will only contribute 28% towards the cost of the York Central High School District. In 1962 the province's contribution in this same school district amounted to a meagre 29%.

Yet the mill rate in this high school district which serves the growing municipalities of Richmond Hill, Markham and Vaughan Townships and Woodbridge has been rising steadily every year. For example in Markham Township the high school rate has jumped from 8 mills in 1954 to 25 mills in 1963.

If elected on September 25, I promise you, the electors, that I will fight for a new deal for the homeowner, the small businessman and the farmer. The present system of Conservative grants is grossly inadequate and needs a complete revamping. The lowly taxpayer in our towns, villages and townships has become the forgotten man at Queen's Park.



ELECT Donald Plaxton on September 25

"A VOICE not a VACUUM" at Queen's Park

All our citizens interested in assisting in the campaign are asked to get in touch with Mr. Plaxton or a member of his organization. In the Richmond Hill area, please phone TU. 4-3611.

YORK NORTH LIBERAL ASSOCIATION