

Controversial Parking Brief Urges Sweeping Change

The Liberal

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"HOME PAPER OF THE DISTRICT SINCE 1878"

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A sweeping attack has been levelled at Richmond Hill's overly-strict downtown parking regulations for commercial businesses. The attack came Tuesday night as the long-awaited parking report was officially unveiled to four members of Richmond Hill's seven-man planning board.

The bulky, 20-odd-page report, prepared by Planning Director Harold Deeks and his staff, roused a minimum degree of discussion by planning board members. They decided to tackle it fully at another meeting when "everyone is in attendance."

Main items were proposals to construct a simple system of service lanes behind downtown businesses for easier parking access and an ease in restrictions of Zoning By-law 1000 as regards to parking.

It was By-law 1000 that came in for some slicing, with Mr. Deeks emphasizing "we are not suggesting merely to reduce parking regulations. We are saying slash them."

The controversial by-law requires any downtown business moving to another locale in the area to provide space for so many cars according to the size of the building.

"By amending this regulation," Mr. Deeks stated, "we would be lifting a million and a half dollars off the backs of people. Without that financial loss they would have no extra to thrive."

It was Mr. Deek's feeling if this was not done there would be more future vacant buildings on downtown Yonge Street as businesses moved to outer areas of the town where the by-law did not apply.

Mr. Deeks agreed with other members of the board that Richmond Hill does not have "a parking problem. The problem is in the use of parking."

The report indicates the present off-street parking areas are not being widely used by motorists preferring to park along Yonge Street.

Board member Stan Ransom commented some of the parking areas are not being used as much as could be because they are too far away "and not accessible."

Planner Deeks agreed but pointed out "lanes would (Continued On Page 16)

R.H. Parliament Pension Debate On September 18

An application for membership in Richmond Hill parliament has been received from David Lewis, Q. C. Mr. Lewis, who is a former N.D.P. Member of Parliament for York South, has also requested permission to speak at the September 18th meeting of the local group, it is reported.

Richmond Hill parliament will debate the motion "This House endorses the Ontario Conservative Government's pension plan," on that date at 7:45 p.m. in the magistrate's court at the town hall.

All provincial candidates in York North have been invited to join parliament members in debating this motion on a question which is receiving much attention in the current provincial election.

John Addison, York North M.P., will uphold the Liberal stand on the question. Names of other party representatives were not available at press time.

Debates in the local parliament are organized for the benefit of parliament members, and all members are free to participate in them.

Parking One Side On Twp. Roads

A partial parking ban will soon be in effect on six roads in the south-west section of Markham Township.

Markham Township Council adopted the following proposals made by the roads superintendent and ordered bylaws be prepared:

— No parking will be allowed on the south side of John Street from Johnson to Yonge Street.

— West side of Henderson Avenue from John Street to Steeles Avenue.

— North side of Limcombe Drive from Seinecliff Road to Laureleaf Road.

— North side of Glen Cameron from Henderson Avenue to Yonge Street.

— South side of Morgan Avenue from Henderson to Yonge Street.

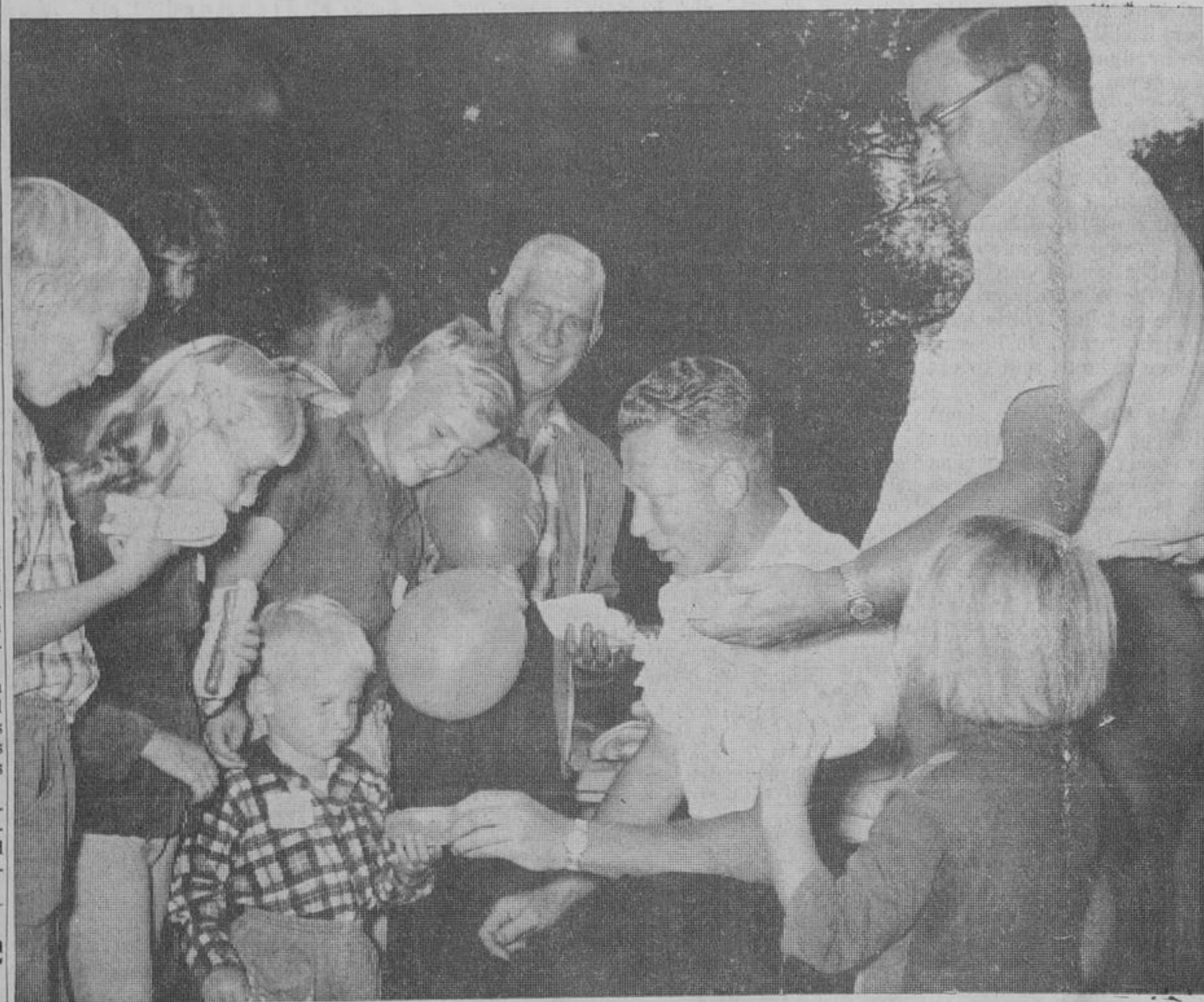
— South side of Clark Avenue from Henderson Avenue to Yonge Street.

The recommendations report also noted there were "no parking" signs at present on Colborne and Church Streets in the township and advised a check to see if there were by-laws for these streets.

Damage \$350

A driver and two passengers, one of them a four months old infant escaped with only minor bruises after an accident in Richmond Hill Saturday.

Police said Linda Blight, 9623 Bathurst Street, a driver for only a month, apparently hit a soft shoulder on Arnold Crescent. Car damage was \$350. Miss Blight, her mother, Mrs. Beatrice Blight and four month old Debby Blight were scraped and bruised, police said.



It Was "Liberal Day" In Markham Township

Budding young Liberals are the recipients here of the undivided attention of Donald Plaxton, provincial Liberal candidate in York North, and his campaign manager, Rex Smith of Queensville. The scene is the Liberal Family Corn Roast held last Saturday evening at the Glenburn Farms home of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Deacon, Unionville. The event, sponsored by the Markham Township Liberal Association, was attended by over 300 supporters who, to the skirl of the bagpipes in the background, enjoyed fresh corn, hot dogs, hot coffee and fresh cider served by the Markham Township Liberal ladies. They heard speeches from York North provincial candidate Donald Plaxton; Donald Deacon, who is the provincial candidate in Toronto's Beaches riding; York North M.P. John Addison, and Scarborough M.P. Maurice Moreau. Hay rides, pony rides and boating entertained the children. With a large bonfire lighting the scene on the edge of the pond, Liberals sipped hot coffee, visited with their candidates, and enjoyed a sing song. A monster fireworks display and the spontaneous tribute, "For he's a jolly good fellow" to host Donald Deacon, brought the memorable evening to a close.

Council Defers Anti-Noise By-Law

"The taxpayers have asked for an anti-noise bylaw and this, such as it is, is the best we can get in the opinion of our solicitor," said Deputy-reeve Stanley Tinker, in discussing an anti-noise bylaw recommended to Richmond Hill Town Council Monday night by the police committee.

On a recorded vote the bylaw was defeated. Voting in favour of the bylaw as it was drafted were Councillors Thomas Murphy and Walter Scudis and Deputy-reeve Tinker, all members of the police committee. Voting against were Councillors Alex Campbell, Allan White and Mayor William Neal. The tie was broken by Mayor Neal casting the deciding vote in the negative.

Chairman Thomas Murphy of the police committee gave notice that he will bring the bylaw back to the next meeting of council and requested that Solicitor J. D. Lucas be asked to be present to explain the legal phraseology of the bylaw.

The proposed anti-noise bylaw was planned as a supplement to bylaw number 5 passed in 1973 which the deputy-reeve referred to as the "charivari bylaw", as it prohibits these wedding serenades among other noises.

Councillor White opposed the 11 clock deadline, wishing to have it extended to midnight.

Councillor Campbell took exception to the third provision claiming it gave dangerous latitude to members of the police force in interpreting the words "public nuisance." He claimed there would be great risk of having the rights of the individual impinged upon by the police. He felt that some guidance should be included as to what constituted a "public nuisance."

Mayor Neal said "The people have asked for an anti-noise bylaw and that's what we are here for." He claimed the proposed new bylaw was very vague in some respects and should be clarified.

Councillor Scudis pointed out that powers of the municipality are very limited as far as controlling noises are concerned. He reported the solicitor had said that barking and howling are natural sounds for a dog to make and cannot be controlled. The same thing applies to power mowers and other "usual" noises, he continued. Councillor Campbell interjected, "But it isn't natural for humans to howl all night!"

House Turns Truck Lot Neighbours Ask Charge

Vaughan Township Council said Monday it would prosecute any violation of its township's zoning bylaw.

Council heard a delegation from the Elmwood Subdivision who complained of flagrant disregard for the residential zoning in its area.

Spokesman John Pepper, Rockview Gardens said the property next door to his home over the past weekend had apparently been turned into a trucking firm.

He said an el-shaped driveway had been installed and on Saturday three heavy duty 20-25 ton diesel trucks were parked there and a diesel fuel tank was set up.

"The present occupant shows every indication he is planning to operate a trucking business," Mr. Pepper told council.

"Beside causing me severe financial loss on my property, and loss of enjoyment this operation is a very bad fire hazard," Mr. Pepper said.

He cited a case last spring where Vaughan had successfully prosecuted a similar trucking operation in the area.

Photographs shown

There were about 15-20 area homeowners at the meeting, among them Toronto Township Building Inspector Alexander Franks who gave council documented accounts of the activities on the property backed up with photographs. He said it would be unfortunate if Vaughan allowed itself to "accumulate this type of catch-all industry."

Mr. Pepper asked council for a motion on the floor stating it would prosecute the alleged infraction.

Councillor Ruth McConkey said that based on Vaughan Township's previous prosecution of bylaw violations, a motion was not required.

Reeve A. H. Rutherford told the group, "We won't put up with this and will do everything within our power to clean it up."

Two weeks ago, a similar delegation protested a heavy equipment auction sale on property in Thornhill which appeared to be in violation of the zoning bylaw.

Township Clerk Jim McDonald said Tuesday the matter is being considered by township solicitors but so far no action has been taken.

Donald Deacon Runs In City Beaches Riding

Donald Deacon of Unionville was this week named Liberal candidate in the Toronto riding of the Beaches for the September 25th provincial election. Active in the county Liberal association Mr. Deacon was unsuccessful in his bid to secure the Liberal nomination in York North. The delegates selected Donald Plaxton of Richmond Hill at the party's nominating convention held last May in Aurora.

President of the Markham Township Liberal Association Mr. Deacon is a former member of Markham Township Council. In private life he is an investment broker. The Beaches was held in the Legislature by Conservative Jack Harris. A department store executive, Mr. Harris won the riding by a narrow margin in a by-election held in January 1962. The by-election was held following the death of Tory Liquor Commissioner William Collings.

Council Capsules

The parks board were granted \$3,000 from the number 3 account to pay for planned seeding, fertilizing and sodding in Crosby Park. Next step in the work on this new park will be fencing along the north side, reported Chairman Al Smythe of the parks board.

The works committee also recommended that the existing curfew regulations relative to sports activities at the town park be extended to permit specific play-off softball games.

Architect's Sketch Of New Trust Building.

Feature of the new British Mortgage and Trust Company building planned for the corner of Yonge Street and Crosby Avenue is a community room where local groups can meet at no cost. The new office, now under construction, was designed by Rounthwaite and Associates, one of the architects for the Stratford Festival Theatre and British Mortgage and Trust's main office. Present Richmond Hill office is on Yonge Street South. See story on Page 17.

Receive Grants

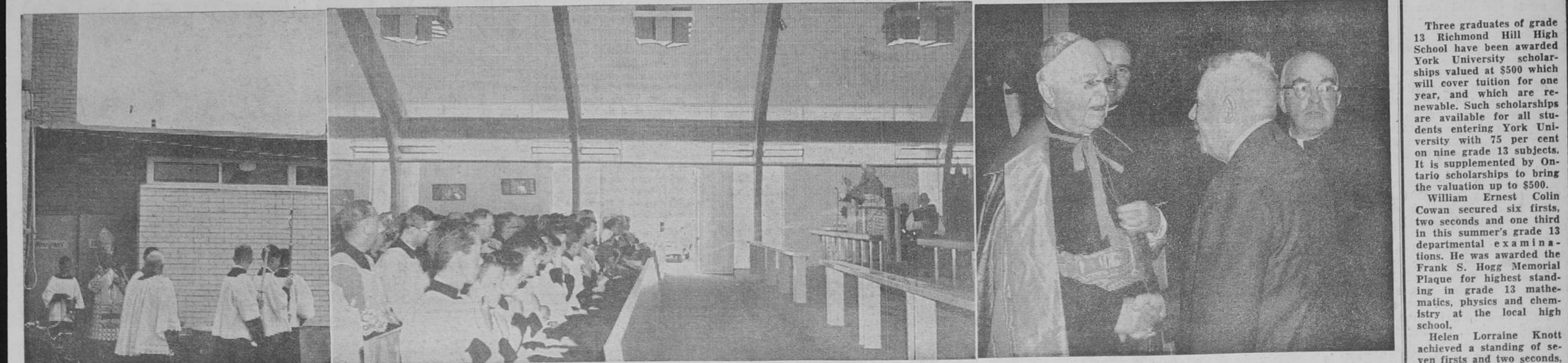
Three graduates of grade 13 Richmond Hill High School have been awarded York University scholarships valued at \$500 which will cover tuition for one year, and which are renewable. Such scholarships are available for all students entering York University with 75 per cent on nine grade 13 subjects. It is supplemented by Ontario scholarships to bring the valuation up to \$500.

William Ernest Colin Cowan secured six firsts, two seconds and one third in this summer's grade 13 departmental examinations. He was awarded the Frank S. Hogg Memorial Plaque for highest standing in grade 13 mathematics, physics and chemistry at the local high school.

Helen Lorraine Knott achieved a standing of seven firsts and two seconds, and John Lennox secured eight firsts and a second in the departmentals.

John was second in standing for the Student Association prize, and was awarded the Mary Banting Izzard Scholarship for grade 13 English and history.

Our Lady, Queen Of The World Church Blessed By Cardinal McGuigan



More than 700 parishioners and visiting priests and nuns were in attendance last Sunday when James C. Cardinal McGuigan, Archbishop of Toronto, blessed the new Our Lady, Queen of the World Roman Catholic Church, Richmond Hill East. (At left): Cardinal McGuigan first blessed the outside walls with holy water, all around the church. In left foreground is Rev. Francis Robinson, the pastor. Note that the body on the crucifix held by the altar boy is facing the cardinal, instead of facing forward as in most processions. (Centre): After blessing the cornerstone, set in the building

with a collection of coins, newspaper clippings and other reading matter pertaining to the church's history, Cardinal McGuigan spoke to the crowd in the packed church designed with modern architectural lines, unique bell tower and lighting effects. Solemn high mass was performed by Father Robinson, with Father L. J. Austin, deacon, and Father E. T. Madigan, sub-deacon.

(At far right): Richmond Hill Mayor William Neal was presented to Cardinal McGuigan by Father Robinson at a reception given for the many distinguished guests sponsored by the Catholic Women's League following high mass. Much later, cars were still parked in the area around the church as interested area residents visited to admire the new church. A clergy dinner was held later in the day. The church was officially established August 18, 1962, when Father Robinson was appointed parish priest; turning of the sod was held September 16, 1962, and on June 30, the date of Pope Paul VI's election as supreme head of the church, the first mass was held in the new building.