



Council Seeks Two Year Term

Richmond Hill electorate will be asked to vote again this December on the question of a two-year council term. The same question was decisively defeated in 1959 when the electorate voted "no" 1978 "yes" 633. This decision was reached by Richmond Hill Town Council Monday night at the request of the Elgin Park Ratepayers Association. A letter from I.H. Mansbridge, president of that group, said "Due to the cost of ratepayers and individuals who stand for election, we respectfully request council to consider the adoption of a two year term of office thereby eliminating this extra cost and also giving council the opportunity to make progress in their aims and plans, also at the same time avoiding any possible excuses that they were unable to accomplish this or that because of the mess they inherited from previous council, and therefore were unable to get their own ideas working."

Mayor Thomas Broadhurst pointed out that the question, which he introduced four years ago, had been defeated but agreed there might have been a change of thinking on the part of some voters. The motion to place this question before the electors again in 1964 was moved by Reeve James Haggart and seconded by Councillor Mrs. Lois Hancey.

Water Rates Up 10% Affects 2,675 Homes

Water rates will go up 10% in Vaughan Township's three water areas and will require a \$10 deposit from any householder applying for water. Council gave two readings to an amendment to its water regulations Monday night on the recommendation of a waterworks committee study. The amendment will also affect the water area charges. Concession 1 south (fronting Yonge St.) will change from 1.5 mills to 3 mills, Maple from 1 to 3 mills and Kleinburg which had no area charge will be charged 1 mill. The \$10 deposit was designed to act as a safeguard for those who have bills outstanding when they leave the township. Council said they expected quite a bit of opposition to the move. Affected are approximately 2,675 households.

Board Surplus Good Indication

The local high school board gave out a few hints about its 1964 budget. At their meeting Monday night, York Central District High School Board members looked over 1963 actual expenditures although the report was not made public. Budget is expected to be aired within the next few weeks. According to Secretary-Treasurer Aileen McAllister the board is starting 1964 with a surplus. Last year, she said, she had to borrow between \$250,000 and \$300,000 to pay the first month and a half salaries. "This year the borrowing was only \$2,000 between January 1 and now," she told board trustees. Trustees also complimented Superintendent S.L.G. Chapman and Administrator Jack Ashworth on their close figuring on 1963 teachers' salaries which were only \$2,400 short of the \$1,250,000 budgeted for last year.

MARKHAM BLOCKS SCHOOL

Need Pool Legislation

A plea for revamping provincial legislation to control more adequately construction and operation of swimming pools was put before York County Council last week. Medical Officer of Health Dr. Robert King told council members of the urgency for revision of obsolete government regulations in regard to pools. He cited the case of Sportland Park in Vaughan Township which he said was prosecuted last fall with difficulty because of the inadequate legislation available. Pool operators were fined \$1,000 and costs. "The public erroneously assumes minimum standards are maintained by operators of swimming pool facilities while irresponsibility is permitted due to the lack of authority for public health authorities to enforce reasonable standards for swimmers' health and safety," he said. Dr. King said it would be close to disastrous if this summer season doesn't see an improvement in legislation. In another section of his annual report, Dr. King was critical of mass septic tank installations. "Discouragement of this type of installation continues due to the frequency of break-down and hazards to community health that arise from this aspect of subdivision development. "Misplaced confidence in the efficiency of the septic tank or self-induced ignorance of its operation on the part of some land developers, subdividers" (Continued On Page 3)

Markham Township Council has refused to issue its share of a \$675,000 debenture toward a \$1,506,275 vocational extension to Markham District High School.

The refusal at Monday's meeting plunked the request back into the laps of high school board members who will have the choice of cancelling building plans or appealing to township school district ratepayers for their consenting votes. The Secondary School Act states that council has the right to refuse school board applications on capital expenditures with the final verdict resting in the hands of ratepayers. "This is something of an historical occasion," observed Councillor Charles Hoover shortly after council rejected the request by a narrow 3-2 majority on two separate recorded votes. The original recommendation opposing the extension was drafted in a council committee of the whole meeting. The initial vote saw council refusing to issue its share of an additional \$185,000 in debentures to the original \$490,000 request. Opposed were Councillors Charles Hoover,

Robert Sloane and Deputy-Reeve Stewart Rumble. In favour was Reeve Charles Hooper and Councillor Cleary Palmer. Council then took another vote rejecting their remaining share of \$490,000. The vote went the same way. Deputy-Reeve Rumble said he was particularly concerned by the added request for \$185,000 which "I believe will be borne entirely by ratepayers in this district. This amount was necessitated by the federal government's decision to only pay grants for 64 per cent of the project instead of the original 75 per cent. Some of the construction will include renovations to the present structure which is not eligible for the grants. "In view of this very large increase in debentures," said Mr. Rumble, "I'm opposed to the request. It represents too great a burden for taxpayers of this district." Mr. Rumble said he was even (Continued On Page 3)

Toronto Lawyer New Town Solicitor

J. Ragner Johnson, Q.C., will be the new solicitor for the Town of Richmond Hill effective March 16, 1964, town council decided Monday evening. Mr. Johnson, whose offices are at 80 Richmond Street West, Toronto, is also the solicitor for Forest Hill Village. Councillor Robert Saunders noted that the town was most fortunate in acquiring the services of a man of this calibre, stating that the new town solicitor was one of the most qualified men in the province. The recommendation to move Mr. Johnson was brought in by Mrs. Lois Hancey. Letters of appreciation for their response to the town's advertisement for a solicitor will be sent to the other applicants for the position. Fourteen applications from local and city solicitors were received. By-law number 1143 which confirmed this appointment was read three times and passed.

Negotiating S.S. Teachers' Wages

Teachers in the York Central High School Board area today are negotiating with management over salaries. Committee Chairman John Honsberger said Monday "There was nothing doing at the moment." Teachers brought salary figures to the committee today. In September, 1963 there were 3,284 students with 165 teachers and master teachers or 19.6 students per teacher, a ratio the board may not be able to maintain this year. In September 1964, there will be 3,640 students or 356 more than last year. Superintendent S.L.G. Chapman said this will mean about 18 new teachers, not including resignations, etc.

Okay Planning Agency

A York County planning agency was approved in principle last Friday despite determined opposition from Markham and Woodbridge. After a two-hour debate at county council in Newmarket, the issue was settled by an 18-9 vote to consider hiring a planning staff as recommended in the Jones Report, on a two year trial basis with its members relieved from adjudicating any border planning disputes between municipalities. The resolution was included in a planning committee report which suggested \$15,000 should be included in the 1964 county budget to provide the agency. Commissioner J.O. Dales said the committee was seeking permissive legislation from the Ontario government, hence the resolution to allow for its cost in the budget. "This does not mean its establishment will be mandatory," he said. Markham Reeve Charles Hooper said if the county adopted such a plan it would be "the laughing stock of Ontario." "It frightens me that we have to have special legislation. How much are we going to pile on the county? With all these budgets to pass, how do you expect us to hold the tax line in our municipalities?" he queried of council angrily. Warden A.H. Rutherford said he felt the resolution was not obligating the county members to spend any money but to have something in the budget if they want to implement the agency. Planning Committee Chairman W. James Haggart, reeve of Richmond Hill, said he felt two years was enough of a trial for such an agency when Woodbridge Reeve Norm Garrick suggested an amendment to the resolution saying the agency could be dissolved at any time with a majority vote. Reeve Haggart said the resolution would authorize the planning committee to get the views of Queen's Park. He agreed to strike the two year trial section from the resolution but insisted the section about border disputes be left intact. "Even Metro won't adjudicate for municipalities," Commissioner Dales refused to have any part of the resolution. (Continued On Page 3)

Sign Of The Times?

Richmond Hill's southern town limits sign was mysteriously added to late last week by unknown but artistic persons interested in the finer literature of today. Police are dusting for fingerprints, Chief R. P. Robbins said sternly.

Bayview Construction Reality This Summer

Bayview Avenue reconstruction is slated to start this summer. The long-awaited project, major one set out in the Toronto and York Roads Commission's 1964 budget for approval by York County Council, was announced last Friday. The T&Y Roads Commission, way 48 to Lakeshore Road at a total cost of \$415,000. The commission is also considering setting up a special county road sign as a system of marking roads in York County and asked for \$19,000 to be included in its budget approval. In total, T&Y asked for a budget approval of \$2,890,000 of which York County's share would be \$713,000 or just about \$100,000 more than was spent on York County roads in 1963. Reconstruction of the boundary road which borders on one of Richmond Hill's major subdivisions on one side and Markham Township on the other was recommended last fall as part of a plan to improve five county roads with major work. Financing the Bayview project has been broken down to include payment of 50% or \$152,500 by the province of Ontario; 25% or \$76,250 each from Metropolitan Toronto and the County of York. The province will pay \$8,000 on the bridges and culverts leaving \$1,000 each for the county and Metro to meet. Bayview will also be realigned at Steeles Avenue at a cost of \$50,000 of which the county is responsible for 25%. Other projects include paving Don Mills Road from Victoria Square to Aurora Road; Dufferin Street from King to Aurora Road; Mount Albert Road from Old Yonge Street to Holland Landing, Udonia Road from Highway 48 south to a northern point and Park Road from Highway 48 to Lakeshore Road.

Special Bd. Meeting Tonight To Discuss Nurses Resignation

York County Board of Health called a special meeting for tonight (Thursday) in Newmarket to discuss the nearly en masse resignation of county public health nurses. Seventeen of the 19 nurses submitted their resignations effective March 15 to the board last week, presumably over lack of agreement of salaries. At the board meeting January 13, Irene Hough, chairman of the staff nurses' committee told members in a letter the public health staff felt they should receive \$300 a year more than a registered nurse due to their extra qualifications. Present R.N. salary in York County hospitals is \$4,020 for a new graduate. The committee requested a minimum salary of \$4,300 with five annual increments of \$200 for satisfactory service and a revision in the whole schedule. No comment on the announced resignation last week was made by either Medical Officer of Health Dr. Robert King, Warden A.H. Rutherford, Hospital Commission Chairman E.J. Norris or Miss Hough.

At Thornhill Symposium On French Canada:

Premier Asks More Understanding

Ontario Premier John Robarts called on English and French speaking Canadians to tear down the walls of prejudice and build bridges of mutual understanding and good will. He told a capacity crowd of 900 attending York Central District High School Board's symposium on French Canada, "There is a bond stronger than some marginal conspirators would lead us to believe." OTHER VIEWPOINT The premier, who introduced the theme "Rebuilding the Canadian Nation" at which four prominent French Canadians expressed their viewpoints, said it was important to get the other fellow's viewpoint "at a time like this when all Canadians are concerned about the spasmodic outbursts that appear to threaten our nation." He pointed to the spring of 1864 when the nation's leaders met at Charlottetown to decide on a federated system of government. "This was an eloquent profession of their interest so we can almost take 1964 as the centennial of the beginning of Confederation," he said. The premier indicated a cause of the misunderstanding between French and English might be faulty communication. "We do not completely understand our French compatriots and they don't understand us." He suggested that within the next year or two, Canadians may have to assess their constitution to see where it works and where it doesn't. "I don't fear the prospect of constitutional changes; we change and move forward every day and perhaps we in Canada are coming to the time we may have to change. "But I can't believe we can throw away a century's history in a month or a year," he said. He said the Thornhill symposium was perhaps the first indication throughout Ontario of untapped wells of great curiosity about "our French Canadian cousins' aims and ambitions." He commended the board for its interest. University of Montreal historian Michel Brunet said the real area of Canada's disunity lies within Quebec itself. "The trouble is that essentially the French Canadian is underdeveloped economically, socially and everywhere. "The minority cannot approach the majority without first the courage and the science to define themselves." Professor Brunet, who heads the Montreal University's history department told the symposium's attentive first night audience. He expressed his view in answer to a question on what the French Canadian's role will be within the next few years. He said, "I'm afraid many French Canadian leaders are provoking the rest of the country at a time when they need their neutrality if not their sympathy during the surgical operation we will have to perform in Quebec."



PREMIER JOHN ROBARTS AT THORNHILL

Municipal Heads Asked To Lead Fight For Fluoride

York County's Medical Officer of Health Dr. Robert King last Thursday termed it "regrettable" none of the county's 14 municipalities has taken any steps to fluoridate their water supplies. "It has been established beyond a shadow of a doubt not just in Canada but across the world that fluoridation reduces the incidence of dental decay." Dr. King told heads of county municipalities in his annual medical health report. Recent establishment of fluoridation in Metro Toronto and approval of plans to fluoridate the water supplies of New York City should provide encouragement to county municipal councils to exercise leadership in this valuable community service, Dr. King said. He called fluoridation "one of the outstanding bargains in modern preventive medicine" because of its relatively low cost and the excellent results among infant and child population and to a lesser extent the adult population. (At Richmond Hill Council's first meeting in 1964, councillors approved a resolution to place fluoridation on the December election ballot.)

Land Committee To Consider S.S. Loaning Projects

A language laboratory? Junior vocational school? New school? Landscaping? Head office for the board? All these possibilities will be discussed when York Central District High School Board's property committee meets later this week and again on Monday to consider among other things the Municipal Loan Assistance Fund offered to Ontario municipalities. On Monday night, Business Administrator Jack Ashworth outlined to trustees terms of the federal loan fund which has March 31 as a deadline for acceptance and would mean a 25% saving on debentures if accepted and low interest rates. The high school board's share in the fund is about \$200,000 from the four municipalities of Richmond Hill, Markham, Vaughan and Woodbridge if they wish to accept it. "This has to be a project which we would not normally have undertaken between now and April, 1966," Mr. Ashworth told trustees.

Farmers Confer Vaughan Council Re Their Taxes

A group representing 80 Vaughan farmers met with township council Wednesday morning with a plea for reduced assessment on their farms. Led by Andrew McClure, the delegation first appeared before council Monday night to state their case but were invited to a committee of the whole meeting yesterday at 9 a.m. They want to know how Vaughan compares with other municipalities since their land is in effect "frozen" they are being over-taxed, although in 1963 they were given a 10% discount on their tax bills.

S.L.G. Chapman Going To Alberta

S.L.G. Chapman, superintendent of York Central District High School Board will attend the Canadian Educational Association's short course in educational leadership May 18-29. The session will be held at the Banff School of Fine Arts. The board Monday night approved an expense account of \$500 to send Mr. Chapman to Alberta. He is one of only 75 Canadian educators invited to the conference.

Centennial Grant For Pool

Richmond Hill Town Council has decided to make application through the provincial government for the federal government's centennial grant for the Richmond Hill and District Centennial Swimming Pool. In agreeing to make the application council brought to the attention of the committee which has undertaken the herculean task of raising funds for a pool that the federal grant will only be forthcoming when the balance of funds has been raised.

New Factory

A one-storey factory building 81 x 35 feet is being erected by John A. Griffin Construction Ltd. at the corner of Centre Street East and Newkirk Road.

Hiring Methods Annual Headache For High School Board

BY ANNE SMELLIE The annual not-so-tender trap for teachers is on. What Metro and area school boards use for bait may be pretty girls, gobs of informed come-on, tea and cookies, guided tours of their potential halls of ivy and last but not least, attractive salaries. On February 26, the Park Plaza Hotel will become a bedlam of Ontario high school board officials trying to entice the cream of the teaching crop to their precincts in Fort William or the Bay of Quinte. On that date, first official school board hiring advertisements for 1964-65 appear in Metropolitan Toronto daily newspapers. From then on, it is no holds barred. One Metropolitan daily offers (in addition to attractive advertising rates and radio and television blurbs) a chauffeured service to the school board area where would-be teachers are collected, convinced and kept out of circulation (and the hands of other school boards) for up to four hours on the crucial first hiring day. A school area adjacent to York Central District High School Board used this method quite successfully last year. Candidates for hire are wooed away right from under the very noses of other school boards at the Park Plaza reception area. These boards, because of their not-so-magnanimous entertainment budgets, are limited to maintaining a hotel suites where they can only extol the virtues and attractions of their particular high schools and hope the bait is sufficiently well set on the hook. In Etobicoke, for example, prospects are invited out of the main stream at the hotel to their own board offices on Burnhamthorpe Drive or one of the schools. After last year's hiring, York Central Board discovered the Metro newspaper's extra-special service and complained bitterly. The result? The newspaper recently offered the same service to aid York Central who this year anticipate hiring about 50 new teachers for its five high schools. After a brisk debate on the moral and ethical points of accepting this offer, one experienced board member said Monday night, "Why not? Let's take all we can get."

The decision was firmed up with the comment, "Teachers will teach where they want to and for what salaries they can get and no amount of tours or talks will convince them otherwise." Statistically, the situation is ironic. Of the 26 Ontario boards who each employ more than 150 teachers and who hire more than 50% of all teachers in the province, York Central stands shoulder to shoulder in salaries with the best. For example, its minimum wage in group 1 is \$4,600 this year (1963-64) equal to that in Toronto, Ottawa, London and in short to 20 of the 26 boards. What then is the solution to this yearly free-for-all in which boards like York Central feel they must fight to get the best possible human material to educate their students and the taxpayers' children? Perhaps the Ontario Trustees' Council which has a much publicized code of ethics might consider spreading the hiring halls around to a few more hotels or perhaps even temporarily subletting Fort York Armoury or the Coliseum to give each board a fairer break.

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