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HOME PAPER OF THE DISTRICT SINCE 1878

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## BUSINESS TAX CRACKDOWN BY TOWN

### Pay Taxes By Deadline Or Else!—Says Council

Richmond Hill Town Council will crack down on local businesses that fall behind in their taxes. It will introduce a policy ordering the bailiff to seize property and hold for costs unless payment of taxes in arrears are made within 30 days from date of notice.

Decision came at the regular Monday night council meeting at which Reeve Donald Plaxton blamed the "delinquency of a few businesses forcing us to adopt such a strict policy."

Reeve Plaxton, chairman of the finance committee which has been studying ways of speeding up the collection of business taxes, added that "most businesses are prompt with their payments and this in no way is criticism of these people."

"It is for the general benefit of the town," he said, "You have some businesses who move in and then fold up and just pull out leaving unpaid taxes behind them. They just carry on business, ignore taxes, and then go bankrupt."

At the end of July the town had some \$21,000 in past due taxes that were over two years in arrears.

Councillor Lois Hancey wondered why the bailiff hadn't acted more often in such cases of delinquent payment of taxes. Mayor Thomas Broadhurst noted the bailiff had acted in some cases but there had never been an exact authority or policy given to him.

"He will be able to now," observed Mr. Plaxton. Mayor Broadhurst noted if one instalment comes due then the businessman is liable for all other instalments at once. "He'll have to pay instalments two and three as well," he said.

"This is big business and we've got to collect our bills," said Councillor Hancey.

"But there'll be a lot of hooting and hollering," predicted Mayor Broadhurst.

Council then approved the finance committee's course of action on tax delinquents as set out in its report.

\*That a by-law be drawn up to provide that upon non-payment of any instalment of business tax by the last day for payment the remaining instalments shall be forthwith due and payable.

\*That a notice shall be sent out after any business tax becomes past due advising that all instalments are forthwith due and payable; that the bailiff will be instructed to distraint with costs unless payment is made within 30 days from the date of notice.

\*That outstanding business tax be handled by notifying the people concerned that unless payment is made within 30 days the bailiff will be given notice to distraint.

Councillors emphasized that anyone now in arrears will have 30 days to make amends before any action would be taken by a bailiff. Serving on the finance committee with Reeve Plaxton are Deputy Reeve Floyd Perkins, Mayor Broadhurst and Councillor William Lazenby.

### Markham Township Council

#### Authorize Vote For Two-Year Term

Markham Township Council will seek a two year term after all.

At its regular meeting Monday, council gave a 3-2 passing to a resolution calling for the clerk to prepare a by-law for a plebiscite on the matter.

The return of Reeve Charles Hooper from the Canadian Good Roads Convention in Saskatoon broke the deadlock, which resulted from council's previous vote on the subject a week earlier. At that time Councillor Allan Sumner asked that the matter be re-introduced at the next meeting.

Speaking to the motion at Monday's meeting, Reeve Hooper seemed surprised at the

stalemate. "I thought it was unanimous in committee," he said.

Said Councillor Cleary Palmer: "Have you ever seen anything that was unanimous in committee that was unanimous in council?"

Deputy Reeve Stewart Rumble said he felt the present system was satisfactory. "Don't you think the ratepayers could put you back in for another year?" he asked. "Don't you think they should be given that chance?"

Councillor Sumner said that, with just a one-year term, council was often made inactive for

as much as four months time while resolutions were set aside "for next year's council."

Councillor Charles Hoover said a two-year term could deprive residents of a proper representative if a vacancy should suddenly occur half way through.

Mr. Palmer said he felt council shouldn't bother with a plebiscite, but have "enough courage to say whether we're going to have a two-year term or not."

Voting for the motion were Councillors Palmer and Sumner and Reeve Hooper. Against were Messrs Rumble and Hoover.

#### 49 Display Tents Go Up In Smoke As Fire Hits Plowing Match Site

A late afternoon fire Monday at Massey-Ferguson Farms in Markham Township, destroyed or damaged 49 tents, which were being readied for the International Plowing Match, October 13 to 16.

The tents, which were to be used for display purposes in "Tent City," had all been stored in a large tent on the grounds when the fire started.

Markham Township Volunteer Fire Brigade from Unionville answered the call, which was reported about 3:15 pm. Distance from the village to the farm is about 2 1/2 miles.

Damage to the tents, which were rented from Soper Tent Rentals, was estimated at \$250,000.

The fire is not expected to affect the starting date for the matches. Markham Township, which will be having a display on the grounds, did not lose its tent in the blaze.

A feature story on this year's plowing match will be found on Page 22 of this issue.

Challenges will be the order

#### This Is Fire Prevention Week

The week of October 3-9 has been designated as Fire Prevention Week all across Canada.

In order to cut the excessive toll of life and property that fire causes every year, Canadians are being asked to "Think About Fire". As well as being a killer, fire is a job robber and a pocket picker. Above all else - fire is so fatal.

So remember! Safety is made of little things. Don't be a litterbug, see that your cigarettes and matches are completely out. And while it is good to be warm, it is essential to be safe, so have your heating equipment checked regularly.

In a two-color advertisement on the last page of this section of "The Liberal" York Fire and Casualty Company of Thornhill presents some of the startling fire statistics in Canada and in local municipalities.



(Photo by Stuart's Studio)

Two one-act plays, "The Browning Version" and "A Resounding Tinkle" are the opening productions for the Curtain Club's 12th season. Members of the cast of "The Browning Version" are shown in characteristic poses; (left to right) Neville Cross as Frank Hunter, Mary Monks as Millie Crocker-Harris, Peter Purvis as Peter Gilbert, Ann Diakiw as Mrs. Gilbert, Dennis Stainer as Andrew Crocker-Harris, Ron Scott as Dr. Frohisher and John Thurston as John Taplow.

### Curtain Club Opens 12th Season

By MARGARET McLEAN

Those who have not taken the opportunity to attend the opening bill of the Curtain Club's 12th season have missed a fine evening of entertainment.

In a departure from the usual fare, two well-known one act plays are being presented, "The Browning Version" by Terence Rattigan and N. E. Simpson's satire, "A Resounding Tinkle". Both are extremely well done.

Particularly outstanding was the performance of Dennis

Stainer as Andrew Crocker-Harris in "The Browning Version". A dedicated classics master at a British public school, a hen-pecked husband and long-time cuckold, on the eve of his retirement his repressed emotions are suddenly brought to life by a gift from a student of a translation by Robert Browning of a Greek play, the Browning version.

Having been wounded more than he thought possible by hearing himself described as "the Himmler of the Lower

Fifth" the gift is doubly sweet until his wife, in the person of Mary Monks effectively destroys his seldom felt pleasure with the assertion that the student was merely assuring his promotion.

Stainer's low-keyed performance was sensitive and effective throughout and he carried off superbly a difficult feat, that of crying convincingly. It would be a safe venture that there was no one in the audience without a lump in the throat. As his wife, Mary Monks was

almost too nasty but in spite of a somewhat strained performance had the audience detesting her quite suitably. Possibly it was her excessive unpleasantness which made her "most unkind cut of all" almost anticlimactic.

As a bored lover trying to get off the hook, Neville Cross did a fine job, particularly when trying to convince Crocker-Harris to leave the woman who was so palpably destroying him. Peter Purvis played a small

(Continued on Page 17)

### Furniture Plant Vaughan Twp.

Vaughan Township's policy of acquiring land adjacent to its Keele St. industrial park and keeping it out of the hands of speculators who would likely inflate its price, has paid off again.

In July of this year the township purchased the 28-acre Witney Farm at the north-east corner of Highway 7 and Keele St. At Monday night's council meeting they accepted offers to purchase two parcels of the land, 14 acres in all.

Name of the purchaser in both cases was given as J. Frieberg. It was indicated that on the larger parcel, eight acres fronting on Keele Street, a 60,000 square foot furniture manufacturing plant is to be built by December, 1966.

It was not revealed what the purchasers' plans are for the second parcel, six acres at the intersection of Highway 7 and Keele Street.

The land will be serviced with water and sewers by the township. At a previous meeting, council agreed to service 300 acres south of Highway 7 with a sewer main running north on Keele Street which will ready this land also for industrial development.

### 58,734 Eligible Voters In York North Riding

58,734 eligible voters have been enumerated in the federal riding which includes all of York County, except that portion of Markham and Vaughan Townships south of Highway 7 and the Village of Woodbridge. There will be 245 polls in use on election day November 8, 15 of these being double polls.

There were 56,201 eligible voters in 1963 of whom 80.74% exercised their franchise. There were 226 polls in the last election with eight of them being double.

The voters' lists are now at the printers with delivery expected this weekend.

In areas designated urban, a copy of the list will be sent to every voter on the list. Returning Officer Warren Baillie reports. If you do not receive such a list, if the enumerators did not call on you, or if on examination the printed list does not include your name, provision is made to have the error rectified. Sitings for the revision of the preliminary list will be held between 10 and 11 am and between 7 and 10 pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, October 21, and 22 and 23, when all applications for corrections in and additions to the lists will be dealt with.

These sittings will be held at 15 Yonge Street North for Richmond Hill; at 81 Main Street, Markham, for Markham Village

and Township; at 4 Richmond Street, Maple, for Vaughan Township; at 155 Main Street, Stouffville for that municipality and the Township of Whitchurch; and at the village hall, 177 King Street South, King City for the Township of King.

At these hearings, also, any qualified elector of the revisal district may appear before the revising officer to subscribe to an affidavit of objection attacking the qualifications as elector of a person whose name appears on the preliminary list.

#### Offer \$500 Reward

King Township Council this week passed a resolution authorizing a \$500 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the killer of Mrs. Geraldine Pickford, 40, whose body was found floating in a creek at St. Andrew's College, Aurora, last month.

Mrs. Pickford, a kitchen helper at the school, had been strangled.

Anyone having any information is asked to contact King Township Police, or the nearest police station. The reward will be in effect for 12 months.

These printed lists should be kept until after polling day, for they also contain information about the address of the polling station at which you vote on November 8 between 8 am and 7 pm (standard time).

In areas designated rural, copies of the list are posted in a prominent place in the polling division. Each eligible voter should check this list carefully to make certain his or her name appears thereon. If it has been omitted, the name may be added at the sittings of the revising officer, or failing that the eligible voter may be vouchered for on election day.

Official nomination takes place on October 25. The three major parties have already nominated their official candidates.

John Addison of King Township, 35, who represented York North in the last Parliament and was first elected in 1962 will again carry the Liberal standard in the riding. Twenty-eight-year old David Martyn was chosen by the Progressive Conservatives as their candidate. Mr. Martyn lives in Georgina Township. Thirty-year-old James Norton of Unionville will contest the riding for the NDP.

In 1963 a fourth candidate was in the field. James O'Brien was the Social Credit representative. So far there is no indication that the SC will run a candidate in the 1965 election.

Each candidate must deposit \$200 with the returning officer when he qualifies. If he fails to (Continued on Page 3)

#### Dump Operators Convicted

In a legal action commenced last spring, Vaughan Township Monday morning finally obtained a conviction against Disposal Service Company for dumping after hours at its disposal site on the Teston Sideroad, cause of so much controversy in the township in recent months.

The firm, one of whose principals is Norman Goodhead, former reeve of North York, was fined \$30 and costs on one of four charges. The other three charges were withdrawn.

Acting for the township was T. O. Fraser, Mr. Goodhead's solicitor was K. W. Scott.

While the fine is of little importance, the conviction does demonstrate the validity of the township's by-law. Other charges are pending and will be heard at a special court on October 25. These arise out of infractions of the township's Zoning By-law 2523.



(Photo by Stuart's Studio)

### Please Pass The Liniment!

Getting rather more than their accustomed share of fresh air and exercise, a group of Richmond Hill Lions painted the entire exterior of the Lions Hall, Centre Street East last Saturday in something like six hours.

Putting on a good show for the photographer were (left to right) George "Lefty" Chassie, Stu Clement, Doug Boyden, Len Gervais and Peter Dyson. Setting a stiff pace at the other end of the building were Bill Murrlees, Brian Smith, Grant Marshall, Dr. Cam Cowan, Keith Hearn and John Farrow, the supplier.

## 127 Appeals Allowed — 78.5% Successful Papers Written By York Central Grade 13'ers

Of the 2,975 papers written by grade 13 students in the York Central District High Schools, 2,244 were passed on the original marking and 127 appeals have been allowed to date. Superintendent Sam Chapman told board members last week. This represented 79.2% successful papers written. "In a year when our enrolment at the grade 13 level went up 25%," Mr. Chapman noted, "the number of papers written went up more than that (almost 50%)."

Thirteen students qualified as Ontario Scholars, the superintendent reported. This is the highest figure York Central has had and is approximately four percent of the grade 13 registration. The superintendent reported that the normal pattern for the province is 2 or 3 percent and in Metro is six percent. Over a period of years

York Central schools have come to encourage all students to take any grade 13 paper if they have passed the corresponding subject at the grade 12 level. Most students repeating grade 12 were reaching into grade 13 for one or more papers. While only 53.4% of such papers were passed, it was considered valuable to these students to have written the departmental examinations. But Mr. Chapman noted these results affect the overall passing rate adversely.

He commented that no single statistic can reflect the overall effectiveness of a school, noting that in recent years there has been an unwarranted emphasis on the percentage of grade 13 papers passed. This has led in some places, he explained, to the adoption of devices to eliminate the doubtful candidate from the statistics by techniques which

vary from the gentle pressure of friendly advice to the ruthlessness of high failure rates in earlier grades and the nefarious 60% rule. (This rule does not permit a student to study a grade 13 subject unless he or she has obtained at least 60% in that subject in grade 12, although the passing mark set by the department is 50%.) In response to a question from Trustee Robert Ross, Mr. Chapman stated York Central has no intention of introducing such a rule into its system.

The public must accept its share of the responsibility for this disservice to students because it has been willing to judge the quality of a school by examining one figure which applied at best to about 10% of the student body," the superintendent claimed.

York Central grade 13 students who are repeating are required to take at least six papers if they are full time students, and are encouraged to take more. This may force students into areas where success is less likely but it prevents them from gearing down to a low level of efficiency which would do irreparable damage in future years, the superintendent explained. "We are quite convinced," he said, "the worst thing we could do is to allow these students to do a third of a day's work, each school day."

This year the Department of Education required all students taking the subjects at the end of January to be included in the figures. Previously some weak students became "private study" candidates between January and June. This new ruling also had an effect on the overall picture, he noted.

In previous years students obtaining less than 35% on the teacher's recommendation were required to pay \$5 to write each examination. This had the effect of stopping a good number of the weakest from trying. This regulation was removed this year and more of the "hopeless" students wrote these examinations.

This year's grade 13 classes contained students who attended the first summer school in 1964. Such students wrote 48 papers of which 13 were passed. If these papers and those written by grade 12 students were eliminated the percentage passed would be 82.5%, which compares favorably with last year's 83.5% and the 1964 provincial figures of 82.41%.

In view of press comment on the grade 13 English results a special study was made in York Central comparing results with marks submitted by teachers. The superintendent reported that the following facts emerged: the median of estimated marks was higher by three than the median of examination marks; the correlation between submitted and examination marks was not high — only 37.6% of the students obtaining a mark within five of the submitted mark, 30.6% more than 10, and a remarkable 14.7% obtained marks which differed by more than 15% from the submitted mark.

A similar study of other subjects revealed much better correlation, he reported, commenting that this probably is due to the fact that in other subjects the mark was "the teacher's best guess," while in English the mark was a "writing" mark assigned on the strength of four essays. The grade 13 examination tested the students' ability to appreciate

and understand poetry and a novel. The two marks thus measured two entirely different things, he stated.

The passing average in the district for students in the first four years of secondary education was 85.3%, which Mr. Chapman described as an exceptionally good figure, reflecting the fact that a variety of courses to suit students with different interests and abilities is available, the quality of teaching, the application of the students and the value of the summer school.

Mr. Chapman stressed the value of the summer school, reporting that 295 students attended this year including some who had been promoted but wished to improve their standing. Of these 139 were promoted as a result of summer school attendance. This represents 4.5% of the grade 9 to 12 enrolment.

He also noted a remarkably consistent pattern from grade to grade and from school to school. He pointed out the grade 12 results are a little lower than those in other grades but that the re-organized programs were available only up to grade 11 last year.

These promotion results in percentages are: (B-Bayview Secondary School; L-Langstaff Secondary School; R-Richmond Hill High School; T-Thornhill Secondary School; W-Woodbridge High School) S-system). Grade 9: B 84.49, L 80.36, R 85, T 90.49, W 89.55, S 85.91. Grade 10: B 88.51, L 90.12, R 85, T 86.66, W 90.24, S 87.86. Grade 11: B 82.87, L 86.79, R 82.83, T 84.75, W 89.09, S 84.80. Grade 12: B 63.54, L 78.57, R 76.35, T 79.36, W 82.08, S 85.3.

Totals all grades and courses: B 85.8, L 84.3, R 82.8, T 85.8, W 87.4, S 85.3.