

Many Criticize Buttonville Post Office Location

By JEAN LEAF
Our Buttonville Correspondent

Buttonville Post Office, which was opened on October 18 at Knob Hill Farms Market, at the north east corner of Don Mills Road and Highway 7, is receiving a good deal of criticism from local residents.

The question most frequently heard, from the municipal offices at Buttonville down to local postal patrons, is: "How did this happen?" While most persons agree that a post office in the area is necessary, they are far from pleased with the new service which has been set up on the grounds that:

- Buttonville proper will not have a Buttonville address, but will still retain the RR 2 Gormley post mark, which formerly served the whole area south to John Street.
- All residents within a 1/2 mile of the new post office are deprived of rural route delivery, and must pick up their mail between the hours of 9 am and 6 pm with an hour off between 1 and 2 p.m. On Saturday the hours are 9 am to 1 pm.
- There are no post office boxes, so mail must be collected within legal hours or not at all.
- With the family car away during working hours, people must walk along Highway No. 7 or Don Mills Road, both high speed, heavily trafficked roads, in order to reach the post office. There are no sidewalks, and pedestrians who walk on the road shoulder tempt fate. It is particularly dangerous for mothers with pre-school children, and older people.

"Are they going to make us walk along this road until somebody gets killed?" asked young

Mrs. Al Hamilton, mother of two small children, whose husband is a Dominion Store employee. "Recently when I was crossing the intersection a truck skidded across the white line before the driver could stop!" "I would enjoy the walk," she said, "if there were sidewalks, but this is too dangerous."

Senior citizens Mr. and Mrs. Elmore Hill of Hughson Drive, Arncliffe Heights, were equally upset: "It is a fool idea having to go to Knob Hill for our mail, and not be able to get it except at certain times. Before, we could get it when we felt like it," said Mr. Hill. Mrs. Hill agreed with her husband, and commented that the letter from the district director of postal service said a survey was taken and most people wanted the new post office. "Who did they ask? I can only find one of our neighbors who wants it," commented Mrs. Hill.

True, a survey was made a year ago, but few people appear to have understood what a new post office in the area would mean, in terms of service, nor did they expect it to be established at its present location. The first definite information came from District Director J. G. Fultz in a letter dated October 1, 1965, which was circulated to those postal patrons directly affected by the change of address (who live within a 1/2-mile of Don Mills and the highway).

The letter, after stating where the new Buttonville Post Office would be located, and the hours it would be open, went on to state: "The establishment of this office, and the fact that you reside within a half-mile of the proposed Buttonville Post Office, will necessitate your calling at the Buttonville Post



MR. AND MRS. ELMORE HILL MUST WALK HALF MILE FOR MAIL

Office for your mail. Delivery of mail by rural route courier from either Gormley or Unionville to your rural mail box or group box compartment will be discontinued effective October 18, 1965."

The letter made no mention of the fact that except for this 1/2-mile radius the RR 2 Gormley or RR 2 Unionville address would still be retained; Buttonville proper will still remain RR 2 Gormley.

At the Markham Township Municipal Offices in Buttonville, Clerk H. C. T. Crisp said he had had no official notification of the change, and Police Chief Harvey Cox was in the same position.

Mr. Fultz, when contacted, said the survey was taken a year ago, and most people seemed agreeable to the establishment of a post office. He said the growing area made it necessary. When asked about

the danger of people walking along high speed roads to the post office, he said the federal government set up a policy some years ago, not to deliver mail within a 1/2-mile of an office. He agreed that there should be better liaison between the various levels of government, to protect citizens in a situation such as this.

When asked about the location he said he hoped that within a short time business would warrant setting up a proper office in a separate building. The lack of post office boxes was a matter which needed to be looked into, he agreed.

He said the whole picture would be considered in a couple of months' time — "after the dust has died down, and we can see where we are going".

Chief Cox said he could do nothing about road speeds, but suggested a petition be sent to the county and the Department of Highways, requesting a 35-mile limit.

Last week a petition signed by people from approximately 35 homes and a letter of protest was sent to Mr. Fultz with copies to York North MP John Addison, provincial member Lex Mackenzie and federal candidates Don Martyn and James Norton. They hope to attract attention to this problem which while it affects only a few people, is most important to them. Democracy, we understand, protects the minority.



NO MORE CONVENIENT RURAL DELIVERY FOR MRS. A. HAMILTON, SUSAN AND TRACY

Board Feels Amalgamation Has Benefitted TSA 1 Mkhm. Schools

"The day is past when you can stuff children with facts and send them on their way. Schools must have facilities to train children to know where to look for knowledge and how to use it." This firm conviction was voiced by Mrs. Mildred Toogood, member of the board of TSA 2, Markham when the board met October 19 to assess the pro's and con's of the new area system imposed by the Ontario Legislature last year.

After 10 months of amalgamation in a 14-school area, the board members have many ideas on the subject. They are compiling a brief for the York County Consultative Committee on Education at its November 18 meeting in Richmond Hill.

During general discussion, members agreed that the improved services available under amalgamation are a step in the right direction but stressed that there are many obstacles to be overcome, chief of which is the question of cost. They felt a revision of the whole tax picture is necessary and that "money must come from sources other than property taxes".

Area schools now have a library specialist, speech therapist, music supervisor, special opportunity classes and an Oral French teacher. Services of some of these specialists are shared with neighboring boards and board members hope that further services, etc., may be made available in this way. Discussion of the brief continued at the October 26 committee meeting.

Principals of Varley Village have refused the board's request to extend to January 15, 1966 the option on a school site in the Unionville Subdivision. Latest date for the option was given as December 1, 1965, with closing date of the purchase of the site to be not later than 12

months thereafter.

While board members felt that present busing arrangements make the school day a long one, particularly for small children, they could see little to relieve the situation at present.

School bus drivers are finding it necessary to leave a little earlier to keep on schedule, with those in the northeast section of the area having most difficulty. They travel largely on unpaved roads and good turning places are not available at some places. Circular drive-ways at three schools will be improved.

Business Administrator W. Morley reported that he had contacted Markham Township Police Department to discuss moving the crosswalk at the Hagerman Hill intersection but had been told that the police felt it would be more confusing to move the crossing than to leave it as it is.

Harold Knights, assistant principal at Unionville School reported that teachers have discussed the format of new report cards and agreed they should be graded as primary (grades 1, 2 and 3), junior (grades 4, 5 and 6), senior (grades 7 and 8) and special classes. First reports are expected by the middle of November.

The board agreed that vice-principals should be allowed an increment of \$25 per room up to 10 rooms, retroactive to October 1, 1965.

Letters of appreciation were received from grade 7 students in the area, thanking the board for allowing them to attend the York County Conservation Area tree-planting events at Vivian Forest.

The board agreed to send a representative to a meeting with CNR personnel on November 16 to protest restriction of services at Unionville Station.

NEW WORK — ALTERATIONS — REPAIRS

ROGER PROULX

PLUMBING & HEATING
Free Estimates Gladly Given

Telephone 884-1650 62 Crosby Ave. RICHMOND HILL

Children's Wear
Brands known for
quality and value

CHILDREN'S
fashion shop

RICHMOND HEIGHTS
CENTRE, YONGE ST.
Richmond Hill 884-7474

TELEVISION

USED TV'S AT SPECIAL PRICES

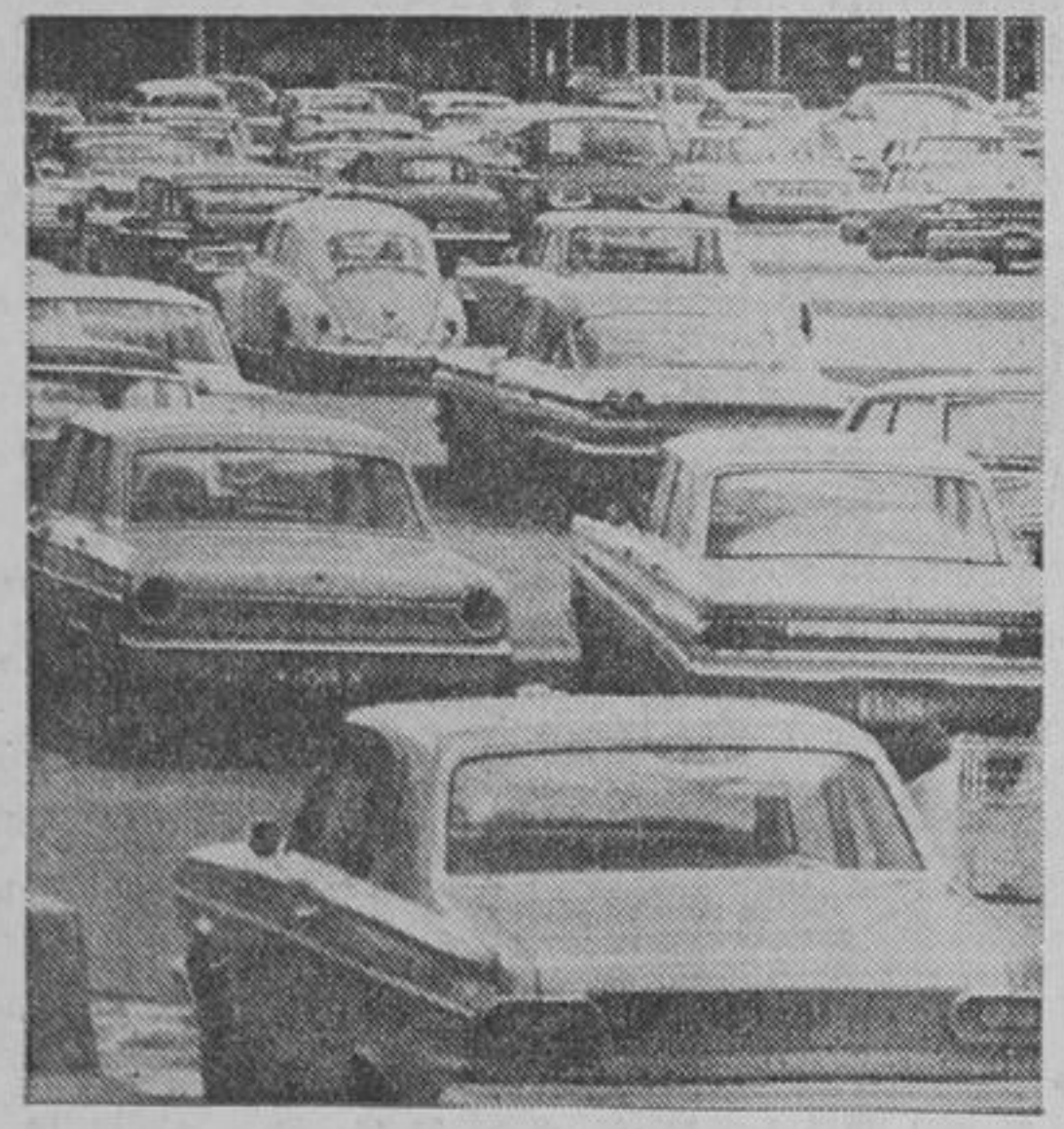
21" Motorola CONSOLE	\$59.00
17" Admiral CONSOLETTA	\$45.00

Call us, or drop in for a Color TV Demonstration today

Richmond Hill TV

28 Levendale Rd. South Block
RICHMOND HEIGHTS SHOPPING CENTRE
889-3756 PHONES 884-7456

LIBERAL TIMES ARE GOOD TIMES



PROSPERITY IS CONTAGIOUS

Canadians today are more prosperous than ever before. Labour income has grown 9.5% a year since the Liberal government took office, and taxes have been cut by 10%.

Half a million new jobs have been created by Liberal economic policies . . . as much in two years as all six Diefenbaker years.

Record wheat export sales, arranged by the Liberal government, boost our economy and help all Canadians. Unemployment under the Liberal government is at a 9-year low (2.5%) compared to 11.2% under Diefenbaker in February 1961.

Industrial production has grown at the rate of 8.3% a year since 1963, but only 3.2% a year for the six previous years.

Our standard of living has greatly improved since the last election. If national production per person increases, the average man is better off. The amount of our national production per capita is rising five times as fast as it did during the Diefenbaker years . . . a fact that takes into account population and price changes.

But prosperity does not yet extend to every Canadian. A majority Liberal government will mount a massive war on poverty and keep Canada moving ahead with increasing prosperity.



MEDICARE

"Everyone must have access to medical care whenever needed and without fear of crippling bills", John Addison maintains.

A majority Liberal government in Ottawa will introduce a National Medicare Plan. Prime Minister Pearson has set a target date of July 1st, 1967. It will provide comprehensive physicians services including specialists, be universally available without means tests, be portable anywhere in Canada, and be publicly administered by the provinces. The \$300 million federal share will be financed through general revenues from our expanding economy. No increase in federal taxation will be required.

A Liberal government will also assure expanded health training and research facilities, and more trained medical people, through a special \$500 million Health Resources Fund. The Fund will provide for construction, renovation and equipment for health training facilities.



EDUCATION

"My goal is free education for all Canadians with ability, and free education immediately for post graduate students," said John Addison recently.

Educational facilities will be greatly expanded under a majority Liberal government. Federal aid for university education alone, amounting to \$330 million next fiscal year, will be provided. This amount is almost equal to the total expenditures in 1964/65 by the ten provinces and the federal government combined.

The Bladen Report on Higher Education also called for \$1.7 billion of federal aid over the next ten years. A Liberal government will ensure this support.

Agricultural education for young farmers will be expanded and federal aid will be provided by a majority Liberal government in Ottawa.

Training programs for people threatened by unemployment, automation, or presently unemployed, will be enlarged and vastly improved by a Liberal government.

No increase in federal taxation is required to meet these objectives. Our expanding economy can readily afford these measures. They are necessary to ensure a prosperous and secure future for all Canadians.



MAJORITY GOVERNMENT

Three elections in three years is too much. Canada needs a majority parliament that can govern for a full four-year term.

A majority Liberal government will attack the important long range problems with decisiveness . . . Medicare, national unity, educational aid, transportation, water resources and poverty. To deal with these, Canada needs a strong central government with representation from every region . . . a clear majority as in all 10 provincial capitals.

The smaller parties have no chance of forming a government or of becoming the Official Opposition. A vote for them is, in effect, either a vote for Diefenbaker or another unstable minority government. The balance of power in a minority House rests in the hands of a few who use it for political advantage rather than the national good. This can be dangerous at worst, crippling at best.

The Liberal Party is the only party in this election which can elect a majority with representation from all parts of Canada. You owe it to your country's future to vote Liberal . . . vote for John Addison.

Since 1962, John Addison, MP, has served York North well.

For continued progress and prosperity

VOTE LIBERAL...VOTE

ADDISON, JOHN



Inserted by the York North Liberal Association