



The Liberal

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The Next Decade

The next decade will be a demanding one for the elected officials in both Markham and Vaughan Townships. How they govern their municipalities during the next few years will to a large extent determine how long these two townships will be allowed to remain as independent municipalities outside the Metro orbit.

During the spring session of the Legislature the Roberts' Government gave every indication that it eventually intends to allow North York Township to annex the southern portions of Markham and Vaughan. In making known its future plans, the provincial government was following the line of thinking of the Goldenberg Report on the future of the Metro Government. In that report Mr. Goldenberg recommended allowing the two mammoth Metro townships of Scarborough and North York to gobble up the developed areas of Markham and Vaughan if they were unable to provide such essential services as water, sewers and public transportation.

Speaking in the Legislature Premier Roberts has forecast that the re-organized system of five boroughs and one city is intended to exist for five to ten years, to be followed by an eight-to-ten year system — by 1977 at the latest. The exact timing will depend on the rate of URBAN GROWTH in Pickering, Vaughan and Markham Townships which will be watched closely by Mr. Roberts' Department of Municipal Affairs. The bill to amend the Metro Act — consolidating 13 municipalities into six — has incorporated features to allow for expansion of the municipal federation.

If Markham and Vaughan and even Richmond Hill are to avoid the stated intention of Queen's Park to force them eventually into the Metro

complex then we shall have to expect dynamic, enlightened leadership from our council and school board representatives during the next decade. There will be no place for little men with picayune thinking.

The best way to thwart the annexation plans of such Metro politicians as Reeve James Service of North York Township and the officials in the provincial government is to operate our municipalities in such a way as to avoid falling into situations that require outside help to solve.

"The time will come, within five to 10 years, that the problems in the fringe areas will become so urgent that we will have to make further changes in the Metro federation," a senior provincial official has stated. The consolidation in the inner area will permit an outward expansion of the federation, he added.

A breakdown in basic services, finances, and a general lack of co-operation among the various municipalities resulted in the introduction of the Metro form of government in 1953 by the Frost Administration. The councils and school boards within each individual municipality must not only co-operate and appreciate each other's problems but they must also learn to think on a regional basis. Let us profit by the mistakes made prior to 1953.

The development of the Southern Six and CORDA are both steps in this direction. Voluntary co-operation is to be preferred to any form of compulsory co-operation imposed by the province. If the fringe municipalities encourage industrial assessment on the one hand, discourage residential growth and endeavor to halt the soaring tax rate, they will have a strong argument against the piecemeal annexation of the southern part of this county by the Metro colossus.

Thank You, Mrs. McConaghy

On July 28, 1866, a daughter was born in Richmond Hill to Dr. and Mrs. James Langstaff. She was named Lillian Mary and this year celebrated her 100th birthday.

Born into and growing up in an atmosphere of devoted service by her father, who found time in his busy life to assume the duties of reeve in 1880, and conscious of her heritage as the granddaughter of John Langstaff, who was the first teacher in the community which still bears his name, she became a teacher.

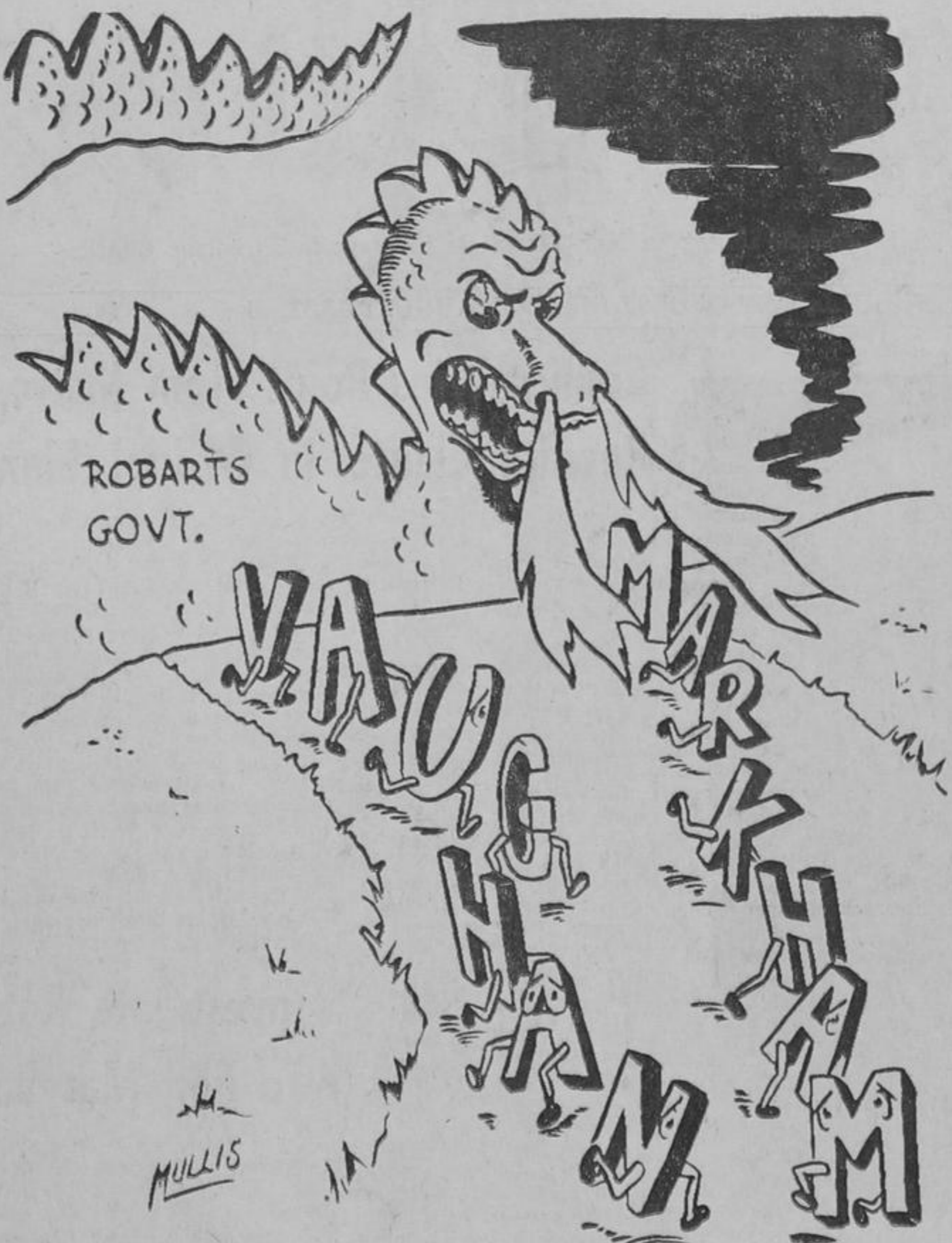
After a few years in the profession, she married a young Midland doctor. When she was widowed and became the sole support of a family of five, she returned to Richmond Hill and taught for more than 40 years in the public school — and another eight years as a supply teacher — in some cases three generations of the same family.

Her kindly, firm and capable handling of her pupils both in and outside the classroom endeared her to every one of them and to their parents.

This was evidenced by the tributes paid to her on her 100th birthday by former pupils, by the town to which she contributed so much and by the public school board which 10 years ago renamed the Yonge Street School in which she had taught, the L. M. McConaghy School.

The Dominion of Canada came into being when Mrs. McConaghy was not quite a year old and she was one of those who helped build the nation which next year will celebrate its Centennial. It was most fitting that her birthplace, Richmond Hill, and its citizens should pay tribute to this centenarian, who retains the keen mind and sense of humor which endeared her to generations of residents.

Congratulations, Mrs. McConaghy, on this momentous milestone. It is our hope that Canada will continue to produce people who will serve it as well (or even half as well) as you have. Then we can be assured that our beloved country will continue to grow and progress and hold an important place in the world.



ABOUT TO BE SWALLOWED UP?

George Mayes On —

The Flip Side

Probably the least appreciated present received by Luci Johnson and her husband on their wedding day was the one from her father of a pair of "his" and "hers" secret-service men to keep an FB Eye on them during their honeymoon.

Forgive us our press passes—

Sixty-four reporters who crowded into a small Yorkville coffee house for a press preview of a topless a-go-go dancer unanimously agreed the show was a bust. But, let's see: with three newspapers and two or three TV stations, and eight or nine radio stations . . . Sixty four? Sounds like it was press a-go-go.

New York's hospitals were at a loss last week to explain a sudden more-than-doubling of the city's births during the week. Finally, someone who was using his head (and his fingers) pointed out that it was just nine months after the big blackout of last November. Ah, that candle light and wine sure is romantic! And when you add a blackout and beer . . .

Even Batman's young sidekick, Robin, became a father last week — and we didn't even know he was married! Holy Matrimony! . . . Probably some young bat.

LONDON — (AP) — A London pub announced a new gimmick yesterday — trading stamps with drinks . . . Well, after a big night, it would give you something to do with your tongue when it's hanging out, and you could keep a promise to turn over a new leaf — in your stamp book.

Apparently Don Adams had second thoughts about trying to do a stand-up comic role before the huge CNE grandstand audience. . . Or you could say the star of Get Smart got smart.

Finance Minister Sharp said of last week's emergency cabinet meeting: "I can assure you inflation is not on the agenda and I don't intend to bring it up." . . . And we didn't intend to have it go up, either.

What a crazy, mixed-up city! While Toronto (Continued on Page 13)

Firm Explains Its Scholarships

Weyerhaeuser Canada Limited has provided a four year scholarship with a total value of \$3,000 cash this year for a Richmond Hill grade 13 student who will be attending any accredited, tax exempt four-year college or university in Canada or the United States.

Selection of the recipient will be made by York Central District High School Board on the basis of scholastic aptitude, leadership and good citizenship. No discrimination may be shown in the selection process on the basis of race, sex, religion or country of origin.

The Weyerhaeuser company has its Canadian offices at 121 Yonge Street North in this town.

H. C. Elder vice-president and general manager, has pointed out to "The Liberal" that his company did not mention the possibility of a scholarship to Miss Sharon Hamilton, who is seeking a student loan to help her obtain nursing training, as reported in our issue of August 4.

Because of the conditions under which Weyerhaeuser scholarships are issued, with selection of the successful candidate being in the hands of the local educational authorities, no "red tape" was involved with the parent company in the United States, he noted.

MARKHAM VILLAGE: There will be no calf scramble at Markham Fair this fall. The scramble which has been an important feature of the annual fair for many years has been cancelled at the request of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Letters to the Editors

CLEANING UP THE LITTER

Dear Mr. Editor:
You have done a service by publishing a photograph of the litter under the benches on Yonge Street. There must be many citizens who have been disturbed at the garbage strewn on our streets without thought, which makes it hard to take pride in the appearance of our town.

I was at a meeting in a park recently, and the future use of this place depended on the condition in which it was left. I noticed that it was elderly people who picked up the chocolate bar wrappers, kleenex and match packets left by other people. Because it was their own fault, because they were likely parents or teachers (we all teach by example) who failed to make their concern clear to the younger people they associated with.

I read recently that Dutch and Chinese cities are almost antiseptic in their cleanliness and tidiness. The Dutch seem to have acquired this habit some centuries ago, but enough has been written — especially about the anti-fly and anti-spurrow campaigns — about China, for us to see that a whole population can be good planning, and an appeal to national pride and enthusiasm, be led to change their habits completely in this respect. Shanghai had, I believe, a reputation for filth a couple of decades ago.

And let us not fall into the American error of dismissing everything Chinese as mere "brain-washing". Such campaigns could not have succeeded without the willingness and enthusiasm of the participants. As good capitalists, let us borrow all that is best in our competitors' methods.

Yours faithfully,
N. ROY CLIFTON,
105 Woodlane.

WALKWAYS SOLUTION

Dear Mr. Editor:
I have been deeply interested in the reports of complaints to council and in letters to this column about residents being abused by children using walkways in the eastern portion of town.

I believe the walkways should remain open. Closing them will not remove what I believe is the real cause of the trouble. To say that we have had children in Richmond Hill is wrong — most of them are really not bad and from them will come our finest leaders in the future. However, our children are normal and in fact to my mind, lies the simple cause of all this trouble over the walkways.

Let us think back to our own childhood. When we were young, I believe all of us delighted in finding somebody we could tease and provoke to anger — and when we found a person who would react in the desired way we would return time and time again to tantalize him or her. They were all probably good adult citizens, telling us to stop our noise, stay off their lawns or out of their apple trees, or to move on if we stopped to talk in loud voices in front of their property.

I think this is what has happened on Richmond Hill's walkways, particularly on the one on South Taylor Mills Drive. As the cause is simple, so is the solution to the problem.

(1) Teachers and school principals must instruct the children to go straight home from school. Parents must co-operate by insisting on no loitering in the walkways.

(2) Families around the walkways must shorten the children using the shortcut.

(3) If necessary the walkways should be closed within a reasonable time after school has closed for the day.

BEVERLEY ACRES RESIDENT

Letters To The Editors

Letters should not exceed 300 words, must bear the writer's signature and complete address although a pseudonym may be used for a stated reason. All are subject to editing. We cannot return letters.

Flashback

In Years Gone By

Thomas Trench, who succeeded his father as owner of the Trench Carriage Works located at the corner of Lorne Avenue and Yonge Street, served as reeve in 1925 (this seventh term of office). Councillors that year were William Pugsley, J. McLean, J. Lunan and J. Greene.

Jacob Lunan was elected reeve in 1926 and continued to serve in that office until 1932.

The 1926 council was composed of J. R. Herrington, Gordon Sloan, Walter Baldoock and J. Green. Jas. McLean replaced J. Green in 1927 and D. Hill replaced Mr. Baldoock in 1928.

During 1928 Mr. Herrington resigned from the council and Albert Chapman was elected in his stead.

The council for 1929 and 1930 was composed of Henry Davis, A. Chapman, W. Middleton and Frank Sims. Mr. Middleton was to serve as councillor for a quarter of a century.

Harold Mills, J. Monkman, J. McLean and D. Hill were the 1931 councillors and in 1932 John Green replaced McLean.

In 1933 John A. Greene was elected to the reeve ship, a position he filled for eight and a half years. His council that year was composed of H. J. Mills, Jas. McLean, Wes Middleton and Alex Little. William Neal in his first appearance in municipal politics was elected to council in 1934, joining Messrs. Mills, Middleton and Little. The same council served in 1935.

In 1936 P. C. Hill was elected to council for the first time, with other councillors being H. J. Mills, J. McLean and Alex Little. Messrs. Mills, Little, Hill and Christian Nelson made up the council which held office in 1937, 1938 and 1939.

Mr. Trench was reeve and Dr. J. P. Wilson, William Neal, Wes Middleton and R. D. Little were councillors in 1940, 1941 and 1942.

Mr. Greene returned to the reeve ship in 1943 and his council that year was composed of J. A. Bales, Ralph Paris, P. C. Hill and Wes Middleton.

William Neal held the office of reeve from 1944 to 1947 (Continued on Page 13)

Re-Appoint Wilson & Addison Harbour Bd.

Two men with associations in this area have been re-appointed for three terms to the Toronto Harbour Board by Toronto City Council. George Wilson who with his son Michael is associated in the operation of the Richmond Inn Motor Hotel is the present chairman of the harbour board. Mr. Wilson is a well-known Toronto hotel owner.

Harry Addison, prominent city automobile dealer and industrialist is the other appointee. Mr. Addison is the father of John Addison MP York North. First elected to Parliament in 1962, John Addison resides at RR 3, Kinz. His father owns a farm in Whitchurch. Mr. Addison Sr. is a past chairman of the harbour board.

The third city council nominee to the board is Murray Tate.

STRUGGLED TO KEEP REPAIRS

Even for the others, it would be a mistake to conjure up visions appropriate to a Gothic novel, of tumble-down midway nearly abandoned church buildings where weeds grow rank over the tombstones and doorills and melancholy winds whistle through long-shattered windownpanes. Generally, the congregations, small though they may be, have struggled to keep their churches in good repair and in operation. And their labors so far have not been in vain. In recent years, for instance, Mr. Reesor's Locust Hill has acquired a new organ and furnace.

Action is already underway in three charges in accordance with the planners' recommendations; admittedly, in these charges it was already (Continued on Page 13)

CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY

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In One Rural Area The United Church Has Been Advised To Close 37 Churches

(With population in the area expected to double in the next 20 years, York Presbytery of the United Church of Canada last fall ordered a report from a planning firm, Project Planning Associates Limited to provide a guide to the location and size of churches, the expansion of existing churches, and the grouping of churches in charges.

The report, which recommended the closing of 35 of the 600-square-mile presbytery's 57 churches, the enlargement of eight and the creation of 11 new ones, received a mixed reaction from lay members of the churches.

The August 1 issue of the United Church Observer examines the problems created from the point of view of church members whose forebears built the old churches which it is now planned to close. The Observer's article, "Goodbye to the Old Family Church", by Harvey Shepherd, is printed below.

Six miles north of the 12-lane highway on which cars speed at 60 miles an hour across the northern parts of the sprawling, polyglot metropolis of Toronto, 62-year-old Frank A. Reesor raises dairy cattle in the district where his Pennsylvania Dutch forebears settled in 1804. Sunday, he and his wife with 25 to 40 others

attend Locust Hill United Church, a congregation dating from 1856, in a building put up in 1890, near the cemetery where his parents and grandparents lie. Last November, Mr. Reesor read in his newspaper that his presbytery was taking steps to close 37 community churches. Locust Hill, where he had been attending services "since I was carried," would be one of the ones to go.

Three miles away, in the 5,625 - population town of Markham, 375 on an average Sunday attend St. Andrew's United Church, charge of the Rev. Albion R. Wright, who was born and educated in Alberta, was in business for a while, studied for the ministry, did a year's post-graduate work, and was pastor of a church in the oil fields.

St. Andrew's, built in 1832, has been extensively expanded and renovated. Its Sunday school offers registered nurses for infants; a stack of paperback copies of radical Christian Harvey Cox's The Secular City was close to hand in Mr. Wright's bright church office.

Mr. Wright is chairman of York Presbytery, which includes an area of about 800 square miles stretching north from Toronto to the summer cottages and pleasant beaches of Lake Simcoe. In its urban communities, villages and

farms live close to 128,240 people, of whom about 52,000 adhere to the United Church, if you believe the census figures. The membership rolls list 10,617 adult active members. Some families still occupy land deeded to their forebears by the Crown; but in York Presbytery, as in Canada generally, there is a move away from the farm into urban areas. And the trend to urban life fosters a demand for better community facilities, including church facilities. Since any church, regardless of size, has, fixed expenses such as the minister's salary and maintenance costs, the cost for each church member is larger when the congregation is smaller.

In York Presbytery there are 57 United Churches, grouped into 30 charges under 26 ordained ministers, three students and one lay supply. Seven ministers serve three churches; 12 serve two. The presbytery has perhaps more than its share of elderly ministers; in the past quarter-century several ministers have retired from Mr. Reesor's charge, and the present one will retire next year. During that time exactly one has left to continue work on another charge.

COMMISSIONED CENTRE
Last year the presbytery commissioned a report from a planning firm, which had done similar surveys in Hal-

ton Presbytery near Hamilton and in Sault Ste. Marie, with these objectives.

• Over a 20-year period, the presbytery would try to come to the point where each charge would have only one church;

• No rural church would have fewer than 250 families;

• No urban church would have more than 500; and

• No rural family would have to go more than six miles to church.

The resulting report predicted a 70% increase in membership by 1985, and recommended that, by then, 11 new churches be built, eight existing churches expanded, 11 existing churches remain substantially unchanged, and 37 be closed.

The total number of churches would drop from 59 to 32; each would have one minister; average membership would be 537 as against the present 180. Six of the new churches would be in growing communities in a north-south ribbon of development; three would be in two growing towns, the others would represent the consolidation of several small congregations.

But some churches, like Mr. Reesor's, face a deadline which will come much sooner. July 1, 1967, was set as a date after which three-point charges, which were felt to overtax a 20th century clergyman and underserve a 20th century congregation, would no longer be accept-

able. These seven charges were asked to have alternate plans ready by that date — which did not necessarily have to mean closing the churches.

What this report really means to the future of these churches is still in the hands of men like Mr. Wright and Mr. Reesor. Mr. Wright, with the authors of the report, stresses that churches must plan to serve communities which do not yet exist, and generations yet unborn. He speaks of the church as having to struggle with horse-and-buggy organization in a space age.

Mr. Reesor, though, is keenly aware that what looks good on paper does not always work in practice. "There's no use closing up a going concern unless you've got something better to replace it," he says.

The charge which includes Locust Hill is currently hiring a student minister to give summer help to the Rev. F. J. Little, who is to retire next year. They are looking for other ways — perhaps using a student, perhaps closing one church each Sunday in rotation — to keep all three churches open until next June. If they can't find a way by then to comply with the no-three - point charge rule, does Mr. Reesor expect that presbytery will force the church to close? "I don't see," he says, "that

they're going to do anything too drastic."

Lawson Thompson lives in another three-point charge not far away. When he retired from the Toronto police force 13 years ago, he moved to a bungalow he had been using for some years as a summer place and formed an active attachment to Victoria Square United Church, where 75 to 90 of the 142 members attend church each Sunday, and where M and M givings last year were the highest ever — "but we could use 100 more members."

If he had it to do over, he might, like others of his acquaintance, attend not the closest church, but perhaps a larger one in Richmond Hill, three miles west, where one of the two churches has a weekly attendance of 475, the other 250. But he could never change now.

Elsewhere in the presbytery, he thinks, you could put together five or six existing congregations and still not have enough for one good church. "When you get down to five or six families, no matter how loyal they are, you just can't afford it. You can't afford to have a minister preach to 15 or 25 people."

But not in his charge, Victoria Square shares the Rev. A. F. Binnington with Brown's Corners and Headford. At Headford attendance ranges from 15 to 25,

but "mind you, if you had 300 people in a congregation of the same quality as those at Headford, what a church you would have."

At Headford, in some families the fifth or sixth generation is attending Sunday school. The planners recommend that it be closed.

The 37 churches which the report recommends be closed are scattered through the presbytery. The report says "nearly all . . . are poorly located with respect to present or future population or are in poor structural condition". But seven of those slated for possible closing are excepted. They are in good condition and they are not badly located — yet. There is Brown's Corners, a few miles west of Markham, remodelled in 1960, and located east of the intersection of two proposed superhighways — but settlement is expected to take place south and west of those highways. There is a new portable church in thriving Newmarket — but, the planners think, in the wrong location. There is Ebenezer, "beautiful old church" located "on the northern edge of Metro Toronto" (see cover) — but "Ebenezer, as Brown's Corners, will not be well placed with respect to future population." And the planners are not sure that Brown's Corners and Ebenezer will not turn out to be

useful after all.) There is Headford, "a fine old church in good condition" but near Victoria Square, which is "generally better suited to be the district church". There is Sharon, a few miles from Yonge Street in the north of the presbytery, where a large church will be needed in 30 years, but in an area where planners feel effort would be better spent at present strengthening other churches. And there are Kettleby and Melville, churches which planners believe should consolidate with others.

STROUGLED TO KEEP REPAIRS
Even for the others, it would be a mistake to conjure up visions appropriate to a Gothic novel, of tumble-down midway nearly abandoned church buildings where weeds grow rank over the tombstones and doorills and melancholy winds whistle through long-shattered windownpanes. Generally, the congregations, small though they may be, have struggled to keep their churches in good repair and in operation. And their labors so far have not been in vain. In recent years, for instance, Mr. Reesor's Locust Hill has acquired a new organ and furnace.

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