

## Province Assumes 60% CAS Costs, Services Doubled

By MARGARET McLEAN  
More work in every department during 1966 was reported by York County Children's Aid Society Director D. C. Van Camp at the annual meeting of the society at Newmarket March 22.

Mr. Van Camp advised that protection work or service to families more than doubled during last year. In January 1966, there were 47 families seeking help, involving 114 children. At the end of the year, there were 98 families on the books, involving 211 children.

Similarly, records disclose 42 unmarried parents being aided at the beginning of the year and 67 at the end of December, with 127 cases opened during the year and 102 closed.

The year also saw 184 children admitted to care and 107 discharged with 222 children in care at the end of the year, as against 145 at the beginning. A total of 62 children were placed for adoption during the year.

Mr. Van Camp attributed the startling increase to the new Child Welfare Act which broadened the concepts and responsibilities of the society and to the ever-increasing population of the county.

"It is safe to forecast that the trends of growth and change will continue in 1967, so we should plan accordingly," he added.

He noted also that more and more children with emotional problems are being brought into care, many of whom are too disturbed for foster homes or family living. However, he felt that



**D.C. VAN CAMP**  
Suggests Group Homes

many of these children could still function in a group home where demands for affection, conformity, etc. are less stringent. He recommended therefore that a committee be established to investigate the need for and the cost of such a home, also exploring the possibility of working jointly with neighboring counties.

In presenting the treasurer's report, which showed expenditures of \$264,224 for 1966, Sheldon Walker of East Gwillimbury announced that under the terms of the Canada Assistance Act which will become effective April 1 of this year the province will assume 60 percent of the cost of the society's operations (with the exception of costs of children of unwed mothers for which it pays 100 percent). This means that based on the 1967 forecast, the county's obligation will be approximately \$26,800 less than anticipated when the new budget was prepared.

Previously the province has paid 40 percent of the society's operating costs and the county the balance. Last year the province began paying 100 percent of the costs of children of unwed parents also.

Mr. Walker noted that 40 cents of every dollar spent by the society goes for direct child care costs such as board, clothing, health, education, etc. Another 37 cents is for other specific costs and protection services while administration costs amount to 23 cents.

It was announced that the bylaws and constitution of the society had been rewrit-

ten and these were presented by Rev. Robert McNaught of Queensville. On a motion by York County Warden Floyd Perkins, these were adopted without reading. Mr. McNaught did draw attention to the fact however, that one of the amended bylaws reduced the number of members of the board of directors to 20 from the previous 25.

President Joseph Fry of Markham Village read the report of the nominating committee. Nominated to the board for three years were Mr. Fry, Mrs. Norn Garriock, William Hodgson and Mrs. Ross Jolliffe; for two years, Mrs. Bruce Davis, Rev. McNaught, Sheldon Walker, Garfield Wright and Mrs. V. McNaught; for one year, Russell Boynton, W. P. Fish, Mrs. M. Gillan, Mrs. A. Gresham and Warden Perkins.

As there were no further nominations from the floor, these nominees were declared elected.

Appointed to the board of directors for 1967 by York County Council are Aurora Deputy-revee J. H. D. Williamson, King Township Deputy-revee Kenneth MacTaggart, Stouffville Deputy-revee William G. Parsons QC, and East Gwillimbury Deputy-revee Gladys Rolling. Mrs. C. Kellam has been re-appointed by the women's institute. \*\*\*\*

Following the business portion of the meeting a one-act play "The Coffee House" was presented by the Newmarket Drama Club. The play presented problems encountered by alcoholics, drug

addicts, prostitutes, unwed mothers and those who try to help them and was followed by a discussion period led by Rev. McNaught. Consensus was that more services to meet these problems are needed and also a knowledge of just what agencies do exist to help people in trouble.

Mr. Lewis Clement of Richmond Hill advised that social planning council of Richmond Hill and district had compiled a directory of agencies in the area and would be happy to supply copies of it.

Mrs. Clement also noted that SPC had found as the result of a survey that there was an urgent need for a family counselling service in the southern part of the county. While she welcomed the provision of such a service on the part of CAS, she pointed out that because of lack of transportation facilities and the distance involved, if such a service were located in Newmarket it would be virtually useless to residents of the Richmond Hill district.

Mr. Van Camp advised that the CAS would have a social worker located in Richmond Hill and is presently seeking office space for this purpose. In the meantime, residents of the southern portion of the county may reach the CAS on its Toronto line, 364-9221. In order to provide the family counselling service made possible under the enlargement of the scope of CAS, an additional social worker is to be engaged in June and additional secretarial help from September.

ing, said that Mr. Rohmer was out to capture the same riding that former Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King had lost to a Conservative by the name of John A. Macdonald Armstrong in 1917.

He said that the new candidate was launched on an "exciting experience" in setting out to take the riding.

If everybody worked together they would have a "strong and capable" voice representing them.

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Entertainment was supplied by Roberta Corey of Willowdale, who attempted to get the audience to sing along with her on several of her selections, but the latter wasn't in a singing mood, possibly tired out from the standing ovations it handed out with such regularity all evening to the various speakers and other guests.

Miss Corey did receive a good hand, however, for her hastily improvised victory song for Mr. Rohmer, which she sang to the tune of "Frere Jacques."

## Compulsory Medical Examination Recommended For Older Drivers

A recommendation that a compulsory medical examination should be required for all drivers at an age to be established by the Ontario Medical Association was made by a coroner's jury enquiring into the death of Robert Wilson, 84, of Unionville found dead following an accident on Bayview Avenue near Shoubridge Surgery February 15. Death was found due to natural causes.

The jury also suggested that a study be made of the feasibility of subsidizing medical examinations for over-age drivers.

Giving evidence at the enquiry were Dr. Donald Guthrie, pathologist at York Central Hospital, Mr. Wilson's personal physician, Dr. John F. White of Markham Village, Police Constable John Anderson of Markham Township Police who investigated the accident and Wm. McIntyre of the Department of Transport Driver Examination Branch.

Jurors were all from Thornhill, Douglas Cram, John Street, Kenneth Stiver, Sussex Ave., Bernard Greaves, Ronald Foster and Peter Gordon, all of Green Lane.

Mr. McIntyre advised that at present 80-year-olds must take a driver's test annually but a medical examination is not compulsory unless the examiner suspects a problem. He said that there are between five and six thousand drivers over 80 years of age in Ontario and that many of them drive to Florida each year.

Dr. Bernard Granton who conducted the hearing said that doctors are concerned about the problem of aging drivers and have formed a committee to make recommendations to the government.

Dr. White testified that Mr. Wilson had a history of diabetes and heart disease dating back to 1956 and on the day before the accident had visited his office complaining of shortness of breath and swelling limbs and ankles. Dr. White treated him and sent him home with instructions to "rest for a week."

When the accident occurred on the following day, Mr. Wilson was on his way to the GEM store to shop.

Dr. White said he had suggested to his patient that he take a cab instead of driving his own car "but he liked to drive, he lived in Unionville and said unless you drive there is no place to go."

"It is very difficult to tell a patient he cannot drive," Dr. White said, "and if a doctor says he will make a report to the Department of Transport it ruins doctor-patient relations."



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NEWMARKET: Don Pecore, former recreation director here, is out of a job again. Charging undue and adverse publicity from the local council, a Brampton daily paper and the Bramalea Figure Skating Club, Mr. Pecore has tendered his resignation as manager of the Victoria Park Arena at Bramalea. He has been managing arenas for the past 20 years and has been mentioned for the post of recreation director at Chinguacousy Township.

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## Federal Tory Advocates Ottawa Aid For Schools

The federal government has far too long let the provincial and municipal governments carry the brunt of the load of capital costs in school construction, Richard Rohmer, who was named to carry the Progressive Conservative banner in the next riding of York North in the next federal election, told a large audience at Thornhill Secondary School Wednesday night of last week.

Mr. Rohmer was the only candidate nominated by the meeting, which did its best to generate some excitement with bagpipers, placard-bearing Rohmer rooters and a young folk singer, but which for the most part seemed to treat the nomination as an anti-climax.

The successful candidate, a once avowed anti-Diefenbaker man, told the gathering he was "pro everybody," although this obviously didn't apply to the Liberal Party, which he later denounced as one that always "carried the banner of arro-

gance."

Speaking of the spiralling education costs, Mr. Rohmer said a part or the whole of "this crushing school-housing burden must be assumed by the federal government before you and I are taxed out of our own houses, and before construction of new housing stops because the house buyer, the developer, the municipal and provincial governments have no more money or credit with which to build schools."

Mr. Rohmer said he had been asked to put together a panel April 12 to discuss the questions of feasibility and desirability of federal government participation in schools.

He also criticized the federal government for "avoiding its responsibilities" in regional land use and land servicing planning, which he said had been "clearly spelled out" under the National Housing Act since 1946.

If the government had done its job, Markham and Vaughan Townships would have a better idea of their futures. Also, Vaughan wouldn't have the garbage problem it had now. The government had the power to do something, but was "sitting on its hands."

Mr. Rohmer said his party was the "party of change — responsible, progressive, modern and futuristic.

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