



(Photo by Stuart's Studio)

Queen And Her Court

Showing that they're still country boys at heart, Fair President Arnold Morton (left), York County Agricultural Representative A. A. Wall (centre), and County Warden Floyd Perkins, pause to talk to Miss Dairy Queen, Dolly Ann Edmunds, of Cobden in Eastern Ontario, at the recent Richmond Hill Spring Fair.

Fair officials report that gate receipts were up this year with the two day attendance at 5,000.

Regional Council Plans Promotion & Research

By MARGARET McLEAN

Regional planning is inventing the future instead of just letting it happen; a means of counter-acting environmental waste and breakdown inherent in an undirected society; a means of giving a sense of pattern to an accidental century.

These were some of the definitions given by planning Consultant Norman Pearson, director of the centre for Resources Development at the University of Guelph, addressing the first annual meeting of the Central Ontario Regional Development Council at Bayview Secondary School, May 18.

Mr. Pearson distinguished between spatial planning which deals with the shape and direction of society as a whole, deciding about such national policies as housing, pollution control, etc. Planning, he said, is a simple function of management and reflects the face of the society in which it operates. It involves education, participation, identification and parliamentary accountability, he said, and noted, "We have not yet got a planning system which suits the needs of a democratic society."

Mr. Pearson emphasized that the region is the meeting place of structural and spatial planners and their work must serve people. It should be done in the context of the region and should counteract cumulative accidents of land use, and integrate transportation policy.

A major and urgent task is, he said, contractual commitments between federal and provincial levels of government in broad plans which will give a meaningful basis for more local activities. To achieve this there is "need for a new breed of politicians and administrators who have progressed beyond the 18th century pattern of patronage and false promises and who have been educated beyond the 19th century pattern of bribing the electorate with their own money."

Mr. Pearson in the course of his address took a swing at pro-

tern of rational and idealistic hopes.

Following Mr. Pearson's address, Richmond Hill Councillor Mrs. Lois Hancey gave a brief outline of CORDC's plans and programs for the next year.

CORDC is a co-operative of municipalities, businesses and the province, she explained and is established for the regional development of the four counties of Halton, Peel, Ontario and York, including Metro Toronto. After less than one year's operation, 14 of the 68 municipalities in the area and seven business corporations have joined.

Mrs. Hancey outlined the 1967-68 program of CORDC under three headings, municipal assistance, promotion or stimulation and research or surveying.

Mr. Pearson noted that at present there is no agreed framework in which federal and provincial levels can co-operate and that the three levels of government are not working together, as demonstrated when the provincial government builds a skyway and the federal government then moves the canal which the skyway was built to bridge.

The dependence of local municipalities on property taxes also came under scathing criticism. In order to keep his municipality alive, the local politician must "crucify his planning principles in order to get assessment, even if it is an environmental disaster," he said. "He will do almost anything to get a provincial grant and planning takes second place."

If we get some shift in tax patterns, Mr. Pearson felt that totally different functions of local government would be found, dealing with services to property and some special local services.

Planners, he said, should have a moral commitment to speak truly, to defend the public interest against pressures and to leave to the future the best pat-

tern of rational and idealistic hopes. For university students in the area, the subject to be the promotion of controlled, planned and orderly economic growth in the region. Purpose of the contest is to apply the thinking of the younger generation to the council's future programs.

The research part of the program is planned around four projects, a cataloguing of 20-year regional land requirements; a study of the economic impact of education and its spiraling costs on a municipality; cataloguing of lands in the region as to potential and capabilities, and determining the extent to which fringe areas either benefit from or contribute to the support of the Metro area.

During the evening, miniature charters of CORDC were presented to municipal and corporate members, the auditors' report was received and the constitution adopted.

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Old School Bell Will Ring Again

The old school bell in the belfry at McConaghy School will be heard again each school day in Centennial year, beginning May 30.

Pupils of the school, as part of their Centennial program, decided to seek permission from the Richmond Hill Public School Board to have the bell rope restored and the bell rung each school day at 12 noon to dismiss the classes. Permission was granted and the new rope was installed last Thursday. The idea was originated by Leslie Graham and Beth Flannigan who petitioned the school board.

The bell was cast from brass in a foundry in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1897. It was first hung in the belfry of the public school which was replaced in 1915 by the four-classroom nucleus of the present McConaghy School.

For many years, the bell served as the tocsin to summon the village's volunteer firemen when they were needed. This practice was continued during daytime hours until the three-room addition was built on the front of the school about a decade ago.

Many a young or middle-aged man, who grew up in Richmond Hill, will fondly recall the Halloweens on which he vigorously pulled the rope which moved the clapper which beat out the fire alarm on the bell.

Town Recreation

Get School Facilities For Summer Program

Richmond Hill Recreation Committee was granted use of school facilities for its summer playground program by the public school board at its May 15 meeting.

These facilities include a portable at Pleasantville School, a portable at MacKillop School and washroom facilities, two portables at Walter Scott School and washroom facilities, two classrooms and the gymnasium at Beverley Acres School and washroom facilities, and a room at McConaghy School and washroom facilities.

The latter will accommodate the summer playground formerly held in the town park, where bullying from older boys has been reported in recent years. It is hoped that the move will make conditions much pleasanter for the young children attracted to the playground, it was reported. No playground is planned for Crosby Heights School this year, it was also reported.

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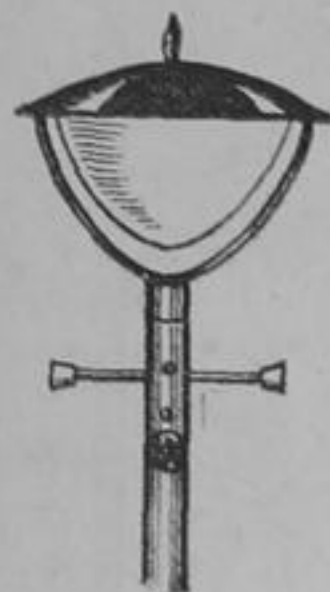
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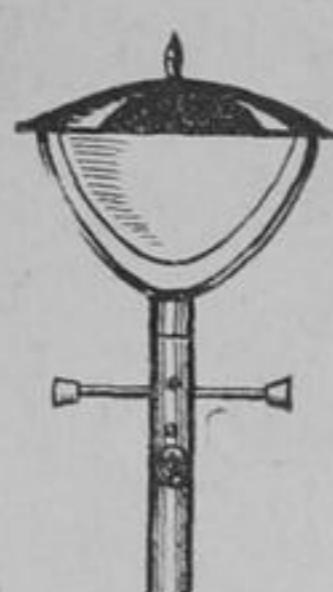
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