

The Liberal An Independent Weekly: Established 1878 Subscription Rate \$4.50 per year; to United States \$6.00; 10c single copy Member Audit Bureau of Circulations Member Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association Published by Richmond Hill Liberal Publishing Co. Ltd. W. S. COOK, Publisher "Authorized as second class mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa"

York Bounty Council

With the dire warnings from economists all across the country about the need for economies at all levels of government, York County's current budget can only be considered a sad disappointment to local taxpayers.

True, the mill rate is down 1.76 mills, but the bulk of the decrease 1.005 mills, represents the provincial takeover of the administration of justice. This of course represents no real saving to residents of York County — they will just pay the \$216,000-odd out of another pocket.

Leaving through the voluminous pages of the budget, the average taxpayer can find some interesting reading. For instance, county council was persuaded, we admit unwillingly, that if it agreed to enter the new health region, amalgamating with Ontario County and the City of Oshawa, it would benefit by a 50% grant on expenditures, compared to the previous 25% grant.

This prediction was apparently perfectly true because the budget reveals that health costs this year will be \$201,837 compared to \$193,000 last year. So much for the benefits of regional government!

Another group of figures makes one wonder if York County should not appoint an auditor-general who will reveal to residents just what kind of boners some of the county departments are making. We would be interested to know, for instance, why the Toronto and York Roads Commission should have ended up with an embarrassingly large surplus for two years' hand running. In 1967, this department showed an item of \$195,300 under the heading "appropriations and unexpended."

Why should residents of York

County be asked to contribute funds to carry such huge surpluses over each year? This question is particularly appropriate when it is noted that the largest single item in the whole budget is for debenture debt, principal and interest. That is, while one department is finding itself unable to make use of the funds at its disposal, the county is forced to borrow at high rates of interest to finance other needed works.

Why too was this not discussed at a public meeting of council, rather than just in committee, from which press and public were excluded?

The budget also reveals some interesting priorities on the part of our august county councillors. For instance, they have allotted themselves the sum of \$15,000 for attendance at conventions. Staff members are permitted \$3,500 for convention expenses.

In contrast, although the York County Branch of the mental health association made a very modest request for \$3,000 to aid in their work, a large part of which for the next few years will be the establishment of a residential treatment centre for emotionally disturbed children, it was given only \$2,000.

This piecemeal contribution is in even more glaring contrast to the \$8,500 the councillors have allotted to "receptions and entertainment" — with another \$350 for flowers.

When it is considered that along with the \$8,500 they have given themselves for their entertainment, county councillors will also get a total of \$30,000 for remuneration, it is difficult for the average York County resident, struggling to pay the mortgage and raise a family, to have much respect for those on the second step of the political hierarchy.

If this is what goes on at the county level, what is the case at the provincial level? And the federal?

It is not only young people who are becoming alienated and disenchanted with the whole democratic process, the public at large is gradually reaching the same state.

A New Main Street

After several years and many months of planning indications are that the long awaited reconstruction of Yonge Street between Markham Road and Crosby Avenue will finally commence this spring or summer. The area between Crosby and the town limits at Elgin Mills will be handled by the Department of Highways.

Town council has approved the project and now provincial, municipal and hydro officials can begin to coordinate their efforts towards getting the project underway. New storm sewers and the hydro system will be the first to be completed.

As well as the extensive engineering planning that was needed a great deal of time was spent investigating the financing that is needed for a project of this magnitude. It will cost close to an estimated two million dollars with the province bearing over half of the total cost. The town

will seek permission from the Municipal Board to float a 20-year debenture issue to finance its share of the work.

One only need drive along Yonge Street to realize that this main thoroughfare is deteriorating rapidly. Its condition will worsen with the spring break-up. This busy traffic artery has not been rebuilt for over thirty years. It is a major undertaking which will bring Richmond Hill's main thoroughfare up to modern standards and enhance the appearance of this important area.

The Yonge Street merchants will welcome the changes which will play a key part in the future redevelopment of the central core. During the past decade a great deal of our tax monies have gone towards the support of our expanded educational facilities. It is refreshing to have funds available at last for other deserving projects within the community.



(Photo by Stuart's Studio)

Watching the Telex machine in operation are (left to right) Co-ordinator of Public Library Development for the CORL, Colin Robertson; Richmond Hill, Councillor Lois Hancey; Director of Library Services, Metro Library Board, John Parkhill; Superintendent of Regional Systems, Eileen Hoy; Acting Chief Librarian for the Richmond Hill Library, Maureen Stephenson. Peta King, 17-year-old member of the library's student staff demonstrates how messages can be sent around the world.

First Regional Telex-Teleprinter System

Amidst the electric chatter of telecommunications equipment. Installations such as Telex emphasize our interdependence and that we are all part of a larger community. We should become better informed about each other and with the distance shrunk, more immediate neighbors in a growing community. It is good to see library service moving in step with the times.

While the message was being relayed around the system, Alex Campbell, chairman of the Richmond Hill Library Board, read congratulatory messages from other libraries which had come in over the Telex system from as far as New Brunswick, North York, Hamilton, London, Ontario, Parry Sound and the National Library in Ottawa.

Colin Robertson, who was appointed co-ordinator of public library development for the

region on January 1, explained that although other library systems are using telecommunications networks, this is the first region in Ontario to complete such a system. He added that Mississauga Township is expected to join the CORL system in the near future.

Mr. Robertson said that the purpose of the communications network was to make the most use of library materials and accessible small libraries to have access to the resource centres. A request for information can be sent out over the Telex-teleprinter and when the requested data is found, Xeroxed copies of that information can then be returned by mail.

In the past, said Mr. Robertson, finding and sending information took much time because all requests were handled by mail. Businessmen must have

a fast and efficient service today and the telecommunications network is the answer. It is hoped that as well as supplying information from books and periodicals, the service will be extended to include film and fiction material.

The machines are rented from CN-CP Telecommunications and the cost is based on the hours of use and the distance of the calls placed. However, an official of the CN-CP said that a message to Vancouver on the Telex machine would cost 90c per minute. Messages can travel at 66 words per minute and an average message might be only 30 words long. A three-minute, station-to-station telephone call to Vancouver costs \$2.85. The Telex machine is able to contact any of some 250,000 other communications stations all over the world.

How Accurate Are Assessors?

(Chesley Enterprise) Despite reports that the new county assessment system and provincial manual will give us 100 per cent accuracy, this is far from the case.

A Hespeler industry, using a plant built in 1947, was assessed for \$297,000. It appealed to the court of revision and had the assessment reduced to \$287,000.

In two further appeals, the company had the assessment cut to \$180,000. This meant a reduction of \$117,000 or roughly 40 per cent.

If the county assessors can make a mistake of that size in industrial assessment, how about residential?

And how many "little fellows" have the money to hire lawyers, appraisers, etc. to carry such an appeal to the court of revision, county judge and finally the Ontario Municipal Board?

Letters to the Editors

PAYS TRIBUTE OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

Dear Mr. Editor: Do we give our kids enough credit? On February 24, over 100 teenagers, ages 13-17, bounded through a fun night — beat music and psychedelic lighting — dance party organized by the grade 8 students of Pleasantville Public School in the school gymnasium.

These students, the oldest is 14, planned and carried out every part of the responsibility associated to make this event the huge success it was. The motive for the dance party idea was born from a sincere desire by the students to make a positive contribution towards the costs being incurred through their participation in the indoor curriculum scheduled at Cedar Glen in March.

The enthusiasm, initiative and hard work demonstrated by these students — would, I'm sure — put many adult planned programs to shame. These grade 8'ers had an idea — they wanted to make it work — and they "left no stone unturned" to ensure success.

These students deserve a great round of applause and more of our credit. Please let there be no more cries: "There is nothing for our kids to do in this town". C. J. MINER, 237 Mill Street, Richmond Hill.

VOTERS SHOULD HAVE CHANCE TO RULE ON COUNTY BOARDS OF EDUCATION

Dear Mr. Editor: Enclosed you will find a copy of a letter sent to Premier John Robarts. If you feel it is of community interest and care to publish it, I would appreciate your doing so. B.P. Richmond Hill.

Dear Sir: I am writing this letter not because I am opposed to the idea of county boards of education but because of the manner in which it is being introduced. Do we really believe in democratic government today? In recent years we have heard a great deal about public apathy in all levels of governments and about the irresponsibility of our youth. To me your recently announced policy of the county board of education system is just another step in promoting both the foregoing conditions. The October 1967 election was fought with few major issues. The county board system was certainly not one of them. However, your announcement, of its implementation shortly afterward, as I see it, gives the populace little recourse.

In the discussion of a matter as important and as all encompassing as education, the electorate should have an opportunity to participate if they are to actively support the change and be responsible for making it function successfully. Had this matter been an election issue, the people could have voted for or against this proposal in their choice of candidate. However, since this was not done, I would appreciate your outlining the legal democratic steps available to the populace so that they may have a voice in the final decision.

If there are no efficient and effective steps that can be taken (and I don't believe there are) is there any benefit in the populace becoming involved in provincial affairs? Is it any wonder that public apathy is such a concern?

We want our youth to uphold and perpetuate the democratic system. As a teacher, I have noted that young people are very perceptive and are quick to perceive the difference between real and pseudo-democratic involvement. Do we endeavor to instill into our youth not seem to be, under the circumstances, a farce?

NO SMOKING

Dear Mr. Editor: May I suggest that medical doctors in Richmond Hill post "NO SMOKING" signs in their waiting rooms. Surely people can refrain from smoking for the short time they wait to see the doctor.

To have mothers and children sitting in a room with windows closed and breathing in nothing but smoke is certainly not a healthy situation. In a very busy doctor's office in Toronto, even more crowded than those in Richmond Hill, I noticed a "NO SMOKING" sign. No one attempted to light a

cigarette and no one looked unhappy about the situation. The result was a nice clean atmosphere with no unsightly ash trays either.

Individuals could apply good manners also and realize that not everyone likes to smoke or to be steeped in second-hand smoke. A little consideration by a smoker for the non-smoker would be appreciated. A NON-SMOKER.

IS A NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST OUR FATE?

Dear Mr. Editor: Robert Theobald told the United Church Board of Evangelism and Social Service last week (as reported in the Toronto Daily Star) that the U.S. will blow up the world in the next five years if mankind doesn't prevent it.

The York Committee To End The War in Vietnam is working to make more people aware of this danger to ourselves and all mankind. The barbaric slaughter of the Vietnamese and of American soldiers is peanuts compared to what is in store if escalation continues.

Former U.S. General James Gavin (Saturday Evening Post, February 24, 1968) says the alternative to the course now undertaken by the U.S. administration is "continued escalation until we oppose the forces of Red China in World War III."

We should all protest by means of public meetings, writing letters to our MP's asking that Canada take a stand against this war and to stop shipping arms to the U.S. while pretending to be neutral before it is too late. We must demand a future free of the horrors of a nuclear world war — which any war against China would have to be.

The York Central District High School Board is concerned about our youth; and should also be concerned about whether they have any future at all. The York Committee To End The War in Vietnam wishes to use a school auditorium in which to hold public meetings where authoritative speakers and the public can express their views on the Vietnam War.

Instead of being encouraged (Continued on Page 14)

Words

Words aren't much But they're all I have To tell you how I feel — And I need to say What I know is real.

When I'm away from you And I'm feeling low As I sometimes do — I think of words you spoke Not so very long ago And they cause a lovely inner glow 'Way down deep That I'll always feel And I'll always keep.

Gail Johnston, 414 Alper Street, Richmond Hill.



Rambling Around

by Elizabeth Kelson

Once, The Only Red Haired Model in Toronto

Twenty-two years ago, Rusty Knight was the only model with red hair in Toronto. Today, she is known to her community of Thornhill as Mrs. Graham Cox, mother of 11-year-old Lori, a Brownie leader in 3rd Thornhill Pack and lieutenant in 4th Thornhill Guide company. Mrs. Cox still models occasionally under her professional name of Rusty Knight.

Mrs. Cox recalls her modelling days with a bit of nostalgia. "I always wanted to model since I was 12," said Rusty. "It wasn't until I was discharged from the air force in 1945 that I was given a chance to fulfil this ambition."

The chance came when a friend who worked for a modelling agency told her they were looking for a red haired model for the cover of the now defunct Canadian Home Journal. Rusty got the job. She remained with the agency and took their modelling course. She was asked to teach.

"I took a lesson on Monday night and taught the same lesson on Tuesday. This was how I paid for my course."

Further opportunity came when she learned that Simpsons wanted a model with red hair to do their shows. As a result Rusty became a Simpson's model and remained with them for more than 20 years.

Although Mrs. Cox keeps in touch with the fashion world and models occasionally, she admits this is a profession where you have to keep going at full speed.

"You're in the business and in circulation or you're not," she said.

When Mrs. Cox made her decision to stay home with Lori, she opened a charm school at her Henderson Avenue home four years ago. Debby Burkart, a former After Four Sweetheart, now Miss Metro Toronto was one of her pupils.

Rusty believes that modelling or personal development courses are beneficial to women of all ages. It gives them poise, confidence and a feeling of well being.

"I don't believe there was one girl or housewife who took my course that didn't come out with something to help her."

A woman who learns to style her hair, wear the right makeup and cultivates a graceful walk has learned something of value. In feeling at peace with herself, she gives this feeling to others.

MODELLING, THEN AND NOW

When Rusty started in the modelling business, she was paid \$5 for the first hour and \$2.50 an hour after that with all fittings included.

"I laugh," she said, "when I think of all the things I was doing at \$2.50 an hour but I was really making money at the time."

Now it seems a model can make as much as \$20 an hour.

It used to be that a runway model had to be tall. Rusty is five, eight and long-waisted. She had the right requirements to step right into runway modelling. And what is more she had red hair. She was in demand for wholesale modelling, convention work, fashion shows and photography. The scope was much wider then.

Rusty thinks it is harder for today's models. There are literally hundreds of girls turned out by modelling schools in Toronto. They are gorgeous. They know how to make up and can adapt themselves with wigs for any assignment. For every job opening there are 10 and 15 girls after that job.

The job of modelling has its advantages if you're really outstanding and in demand but otherwise you need drive, push and a certain amount of callousness to get ahead in this profession. This is not the fault of the models. If they want to succeed they have no alternative. It is forced on them by the fierce competition. It takes a hard core for a girl to make the rounds of photographers every day. Also there are seasons in modelling. Top mod-

(Continued on Page 14)

George Mayes On —

The Flip Side

Ah, March — the month of spring time for most of us and the month of harvest time for the \$5 tax-form firms. . . . And then, we have the falling Leafs down at the Gardens . . .

The Liberals were right in not letting the Ottawa crisis go to an election . . . after all, there must be 70 or 80 of them who still haven't had their turn at bat in the Pearson Cabinet.

We were glad to see Olympic Ski Champ Nancy Greene turn down that suggestion that she should run for Parliament. The last thing Parliament needs is any more help in turning its sessions into downhill events.

The sweetheart of the slopes is talking about turning professional at her specialty. . . . Ah, yes Nancy — Show me the way to slalom!

Dr. Morton Shulman has answered the Parker report, that his previous multifold accusations about the coroner's department were completely unfounded, with another batch of accusations. . . . Well, as the Doc says: "Anyone can make a million!"

Senator Grattan O'Leary says we couldn't have Parliament on TV competing with the Smothers Brothers and Bonanza. . . . No, of course not. They already have a TV Laugh-In.

Neighbors of Toronto's newly-opened hippie haven are threatening to have it closed because of (Continued on Page 14)



Don Deacon Reports

MLA York Centre

The Throne Speech given by the Lieutenant-Governor on the opening day of the Legislature indicates the government proposes new legislation in the fields of regional government (Ottawa area), boards of education and municipal grants.

But I regret that no mention is made of GO Transit expansion and no proposal to eliminate the clause in Bill 81 which gives Metropolitan Toronto the right to dump garbage in our area.

It also doesn't outline the major change needed in the Ontario Water Resources Commission to provide regional water supply and sewage treatment facilities outside the major cities where housing is desperately needed.

The lack of any apparent major change in the education grants is also disappointing. I intend to bring these and other matters to the attention of the Legislature in the Throne Speech debate.

I regret that some local councils at this time, do not plan to co-operate with Richmond

Hill in working out with the Department of Municipal Affairs, a reorganization of municipal boundaries and responsibilities in our area.

It is apparent that Metropolitan Toronto will not deal individually with each municipality and that units responsible for a larger area will have to be developed. The prospect of the absorption of a major portion of the Townships of Markham and Vaughan into Metropolitan Toronto is not a happy one for many residents nor for the province.

The province can foresee Metro Toronto in twenty years as a political unit with over half of the population of Ontario, if new areas are absorbed as growth continues. But there may be no alternative if we continue to stand still.

I do not know whether we need one, two or three municipal units in York Centre riding, but I am satisfied that the present confused and unco-ordinated situation must be revised if we are to develop in a sound and pleasing manner.