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Thurs., March 28, 2-4 p.m. - 6-9 p.m.

RICHMOND HILL LIONS CLUB
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BIGGER PRIZES
Monday, March 18
Lions Hall Starting Time 8.00 p.m.
EARLY BIRD GAMES APPROX. 7.40 P.M.
56 NO'S CALLED — \$450. JACKPOT

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Gas Employees Vote To Strike
Employees of the Consumers Gas office in Richmond Hill, along with those in Oshawa, Brampton, Newmarket, Peterboro, Lindsay and Barrie as well as in Toronto have voted, almost unanimously, to let their union call a strike.
Negotiations, chiefly over wages, have been going on since December. The last contract expired on January 31. It is reported the last company offer was an 18 1/2% wage increase over three years. The Union, Local 513 of the International Chemical Workers Union, has asked for a 50% raise in the same period.
These office workers bill customers, issue employee pay cheques, keep records, dispatch maintenance men and handle sales.

Snowstorm Casualty Truck Crashes Store
A pick-up truck, mounted with a snow plow crashed through the plate glass window of Atlas Photo Supplies in the Richmond Heights Centre early Wednesday morning.
The truck, which is owned by Richmond Hill Golf and Country Club, drove through the store and came to rest, wedged against the back counter. Display cases in the centre of the camera shop were crushed but cabinets along both sides of the store somehow escaped damage.
Owner Irving Steingart, who arrived at the store shortly after 8 a.m., said that he believed that the driver of the truck had fallen asleep.

North Bay Pastor Is Town Crusade Speaker
Beginning this Sunday evening, Rev. E. Pannabecker, pastor of Lakeshore United Missionary Church, North Bay, will commence an eight-day series of meetings in Richmond Hill.
The crusade is sponsored by the Richmond Hill and Gormley United Missionary Churches, and the services will be held in the Beverley Acres Public School.
Pastor Jones, of the Richmond Hill U.M. congregation, reports that the Sunday service will commence at 7:30 p.m., with week night services at 8 o'clock, (with no Saturday service). Final service on the crusade will be held on March 24, at 7:30.
Music director for the week nights will be Tenor Soloist LeRoy Soper.

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More Study Needed No Promises For GO Transit North

Following a meeting March 7 with the GO North Committee, Highways Minister George Gomme has issued a statement to the effect that he could not say that there would be an expansion of rail commuter services.
Mr. Gomme stated further that even should the government decide to expand GO Transit, he could not give a commitment that prior consideration would be given to the northern area of York County where the committee has gathered 1,500 signatures from interested residents.
The government is presently studying the effectiveness of the Lakeshore transit service and until this is complete, possibly within the next year, no policy on further lines can be established. The Lake-

shore service would have to be in operation at least a year before an assessment of it could be made and the experts would then require further time to carry out an analysis and prepare a report, Mr. Gomme said. "It must be appreciated that the government must have this expert evaluation before it can make any decision for expansion that will involve many millions of dollars," he emphasized.
However, in conjunction with this study, a further study is being made of all rail lines in the Metro region to determine track capacity and market potential from the areas served by the lines. In selecting further transit lines, priority will be given, he said, to areas where the largest number of people could be moved by rail to relieve

highway congestion.
Mr. Gomme also pointed out that "It is no more possible to provide instant commuter services than it is to provide instant highways." He noted that prior to establishing the Lakeshore line, it took over two years to acquire land, construct stations, signal and track facilities and to build the necessary rolling stock.
The GO North Committee was assured however, that its area would be given equal consideration should a decision be made to expand rail commuter services. The Department of Highways will also assist the committee in carrying out a survey of the market potential in the area.
For an earlier story of the GO North Committee's meeting with Mr. Gomme, see Page 4 of this issue.

New \$400,000 Arena Officially Opens This Friday

(Continued from Page 1) of \$358,300 was accepted.
Council agreed to float a \$350,000 debenture with the association agreeing to pay off the annual debt charges of some \$35,000 over 20 years — at no direct tax levy to the citizens of the municipality.
The work which started with an official turf-digging ceremony in July 1967, was delayed by an unscheduled strike for four or five weeks, but was finally completed a few weeks after the New Year.
"We're quite happy with the cost," said Mr. Chasie. "The total cost will amount to about \$400,000 but to try to do it today under other conditions it would easily cost a half million dollars."

Councillor Lazenby was of

similar sentiments: "The price of the actual building as offered to us," he said, "has remained at \$358,000."
The increase in the final figures resulted from additions to the original plan including a decision to add a lower foyer, a snack bar, instal more plumbing and insulation. The freezing capacity was also increased and it was decided to construct a concrete floor.
Architect Douglas Allen was engaged to supervise the construction.
In addition to the \$350,000 debenture the remaining cost of the arena will be made up by grants from the Richmond Hill Agricultural Society and other sources.
As to the arena itself? New visitors on Friday will see a building clad with first quality, fully zinc-galvanized steel sheeting.
The ice-surface — one of the largest in the Metro area — measures 85 by 200 feet which is regulation size under Canadian Amateur Hockey Association standards. Ice equipment consists of three units — one 50-ton and two 30-ton — to permit all year use of the ice surface.
Seating capacity allows for 1,800 people with standing room accommodating an even greater number. Electric overhead heaters provide increased watching comfort for spectators.
Lights are of mercury vapor type. The hockey boards are removable in order to allow for other uses of the building. Hercutite glass is located in the south end of the rink.
Four fully-equipped dressing rooms are located between the old and new arena with steel lean-to type construction. Access for the ice flooding and cleaning equipment lies between

Seat 1,235 At Carnival
Almost 2,000 people paid admission to see the annual carnival of Richmond Hill Figure Skating Club last weekend — and report a very smooth-running, beautiful and entertaining performance by the young skaters.
There were 743 paid admissions Saturday evening and 1,235 Sunday afternoon — and all of the very attractive programs were sold.
Although the new arena provides seating accommodation for 1,800 people, some of the seats were not available because of the stage — but every available seat was filled. Those in charge received many compliments on the design of the arena which made it possible to see the performance from any seat in the house.

COMING EVENTS
MARCH 15, FRIDAY, Richmond Hill Naturalists present Dr. D. M. Davies. Subject: "Black Fly Research in Norway". Gordon Maclaren Auditorium, Richmond Hill Public Library, 8 pm. clw37

MARCH 16, SATURDAY 8.15 p.m. St. Patrick's Euchre, Our Lady Queen of the World, Bayview Avenue. Refreshments and prizes. Admission \$1. c2w36

MARCH 16, SATURDAY, 10 am - 12 noon. Opportunity Sale, Thornhill United Church, Thornhill. Bargain for all.

MARCH 19, TUESDAY, Richmond Hill O.E.S. is holding a bridge and euchre at Wrixon Hall, 8.30 p.m. Prizes and refreshments. Admission \$1.

MARCH 24, SUNDAY, 11 am to 5 pm. Antique Show and Sale at York Farmer's Market, 7509 Yonge Street, Thornhill, art, china, glass, furniture, etc. Donation to Leukemia Fund. Admission 50 cents. clw37

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Forecast 17 Mill Minimum Raise Separate School

(Continued from Page 1) This was estimated at an increase in taxation on the average homeowner of \$85 this year and some trustees gloomily forecast that this would reduce the number of separate school supporters by at least 25%. Other members of the board felt that this percentage would go much higher.
"There is going to have to be an increase in the basic salary, whether we like it or not," commented Chairman John LeClaire of the salary negotiating committee. He reported that in their first brief the teachers had asked for a \$300 increase in the basic rate, with a \$400 increment paid for the first two years in level 1. This would drop to \$300 increment for the remainder of level 1. In level two the \$400 increment would last for three years and a year longer for each level of qualification achieved by the teachers. Mr. LeClaire called this a very conservative presentation.

Also included was an increase in the increment for principals and adjustment of the sick leave policy.
The one ray of hope in the board's dilemma is that there may be a larger provincial grant this year than the amount which has been estimated using the 1967 grant formula. But the trustees are not expecting that such increase will cover the \$75,000 difference between estimated revenue and expenses.
In pointing out the seriousness of the situation, Trustee Smith warned the trustees that the board is dangerously close to having no money to pay its teachers. Only the co-operation of the bank is carrying the board until the provincial grants are received will make this possible.
He noted that the board had been forced to expand its system too fast with the result that debenture payments are way out of line. Although the

revenue per pupil in the town's separate schools is within \$2 of that in the town's public schools, it costs the separate school board \$41 more per year per pupil, he stated. The difference is in the greater cost per pupil of debentures.
The board is awaiting the true picture on the 1968 grant before coming to a decision on what action to take. "We have to have the answer by April," Mr. LeClaire stated.
In the meantime the area superintendent and the Department of Education will be notified of the situation and the board's fear that this could mean the cancellation of separate school services in Richmond Hill and surrounding areas. "We've been living on hopes, now we have reached the absolute end," stated one trustee, noting that the board has been forced to lower its standards while raising the mill rate every year for the past three years in an unsuccessful effort to cope with rising costs.

Fringe benefits requested included 50% of the system's medical plan and allowance for full experience with other boards. (The board's present policy is to limit this to six years). Other recommendations are that teachers with letters of permission be paid at the pre-category rate of \$4,500 and teachers with letters of standing be treated the same as if they held an Ontario certificate.

Shepherd Dog Struck Owner Being Sought
A male German Shepherd dog was badly injured early Saturday morning when it was struck by a car on Yonge Street just north of Elgin Mills Side-road. The only identification on the dog was a 12 foot chain which the animal had apparently broken.
Canine Control Officer James Ryan took the dog to the Stouffville Veterinary Clinic where the dog was treated for serious head injuries including slight skull fracture. However, the dog is now recovering in the kennels at Stouffville.
The owner of this dog or anyone knowing its owner is asked to contact the Canine Control at 889-1081 or 887-5562.

Storm Cancels Meeting
Tuesday's 12-inch snow blitz forced cancellation of the regular meeting of Richmond Hill Planning Board.
The meeting was slated to get underway at 8 pm. Power went off in the municipality shortly before eight for approximately seven minutes.
Another planning board meeting has been scheduled for next Tuesday.

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND...
THE Richmond Inn Motor Hotel
Presents
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STARTING
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KELLOGG'S RICE KRISPIES 2 9 oz. pkgs. 69¢	ARMOUR BRAND BEEF STEW and IRISH STEW 24 oz. tin 49¢
SOLO GOLDEN YELLOW MARGARINE 3-lb. pkg. 69¢	AYLMER Sweet Wafer PICKLES 2 15 oz. jars 49¢
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