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Hall-Dennis Recommendations Already In Use Beverley Acres Public School

By MARY DAWSON
Many of the recommendations of the Hall-Dennis Report on Education are already in operation in Beverley Acres Junior Public School (kindergarten to grade 6), Principal Duard Rose told Richmond Hill Public School Board at its meeting September 26.

The first hour of this meeting was set aside for Mr. Rose and representatives of his staff to make suggestions for provision of accommodation, equipment and supplies to bring the school to the optimum of efficiency. These suggestions will be passed on to the new county board of education. Similar meetings will be held at the other five schools in the local system.

Mr. Rose introduced members of his staff who represented each grade and special services. Consensus was that, for best results, classes should be smaller, classrooms should be larger providing more space, desks should be discarded in favor of tables seating more than one pupil, and floors should be carpeted as a noise deadener.

This was felt to be most important in the primary grades where the children often are seated in groups on the floor. (The board recently decided to install carpeting in the new library at Walter Scott School, at the request of the principal and librarian, who were willing to make do with a minimum of furniture to get the carpeting. The children sit on the carpeting individually and in groups, and the noise is kept to a minimum, it is claimed.) Other teachers felt that some classrooms, particularly in the primary division, should have two staff members. Even a lay helper could relieve the teacher of many routine tasks to concentrate on instructing and giving more help to the children who need it.

Representatives of the junior division felt their greatest need was for specialists in various areas to which they could send children with special learning problems.

Since the new concept of learning takes the child out of the classroom into the outside world frequently, it was also suggested that more buses be made available for excursions. It was explained that at present an allowance of 50 cents per pupil is available for each trip, but this doesn't take us very far. Excursions to the museum, Pioneer Village and similar locations are needed particularly by the culturally deprived child, it was felt.

An increase in the amount of audio-visual equipment was also advocated. "We have one overhead projector for 35 teachers," it was noted. It was suggested that the new large board should consider setting up a central resource centre with equipment for taping educational TV programs for those teachers unable to make use of them at the regular times of broadcast. Beverley Acres School has four TV sets, which are in constant use, it was reported.

(Continued on Page 3)

Lloyd Dennis Here October 8

If you want to know the policies that will control your child's education in the future, presented in a condensed but interesting, informative and enthusiastic manner by Lloyd Dennis, you will have the opportunity to do so October 8 at 8 pm in the auditorium of Crosby Heights Senior Public School in Richmond Hill.

Mr. Dennis was co-chairman of the Committee on Aims and Objectives of Education, serving as its secretary for two years. This is the committee which produced the controversial Hall-Dennis philosophy of learning, under the title, "Living and Learning". This report recommended sweeping changes in the concept of education, changes which will be implemented in the near future. Under the new concept, every child will progress at his own rate of speed in all subjects.

Mr. Dennis has been a teacher and principal with the Toronto Board of Education, serving as its secretary for two years. This is the committee which produced the controversial Hall-Dennis philosophy of learning, under the title, "Living and Learning". This report recommended sweeping changes in the concept of education, changes which will be implemented in the near future. Under the new concept, every child will progress at his own rate of speed in all subjects.

He will be assisted by a panel during a discussion period, and there will be a period in which the audience may ask questions.

The opportunity for people in this area to hear Mr. Dennis has been arranged by Richmond Hill Public School Board, which extends an invitation to all people interested in education to attend. Ample free parking is being arranged in the vicinity of the school.



(Photo by Stuart's Studio)

Old Books On Sale

Enjoying a sneak preview of some of the rare items to be sold at Richmond Hill United Church rummage sale this Saturday, October 5 is "Billy" Skilleter of Elizabeth Street. Mr. Skilleter has been a reader of "The Liberal" since 1913.

The sale will be open from 10 am to 1 pm and will feature good buys in women's and children's clothing, men's suits, dishes, glassware, etc.

Engage County Welfare Administrator After A Lengthy Debate; 14-10 Split

After an hour and a half of heated debate and procedural wrangling, York County Council agreed September 24 to engage H. Bilton MacDonald as head of the new county welfare department which is to come into operation January 1.

Mr. MacDonald is presently a welfare officer, and the two commissioners, King Township Reeve Gordon Cook and Georgina Township Reeve E. J. Norris.

Both the warden, who is an ex-officio member of all county committees and the two commissioners were permitted to vote. The result was a 5-5 tie vote, with the warden and the two commissioners plus two members of the committee voting in favor of Mr. MacDonald.

The committee was then told that it did not have to make a recommendation to county council and that the final selection would be made by the warden and commissioners.

In the subsequent vote taken in county council, — at the end of an hour and a half of debate — Mr. MacDonald received 14 votes and Mr. McDowell 10.

A bylaw appointing Mr. MacDonald to the post was subsequently passed. Vaughan Township Reeve Brian Bailey refused to vote, insisting that he had not been given sufficient information with which to vote intelligently.

The appointment, however, is subject to approval by Ontario Minister of Social and Family Services John Yaremko.

Two representatives of the provincial Department of Welfare assisted the county welfare committee in interviewing the candidates. These were Personnel Manager John Hunter and the Administration Supervisor of Municipal Welfare Arne Nielsen.

Mr. Hunter and Mr. Nielsen subsequently recommended three of the applicants for the post, placing Mr. McDowell as their first choice and Mr. MacDonald third.

Although both men were qualified for the post, it was considered that Mr. McDowell was more highly qualified.

In East Gwillimbury, Mr. MacDonald has been responsible for a case load of about 60 while York County as a whole is expected to have a case load of approximately 600.

The department recommends one field worker for each 70 to 80 cases and it is expected that there will be about six field workers required to operate the county welfare system when it comes into effect in January.

The department will work closely with the new county administrator for several months, it was stated, and will train both the administrator and the field workers.

The salary for the new administrator was not mentioned during the discussion at York County Council. It is understood however, that Mr. McDowell had asked a higher remuneration (around \$12,000) and that Mr. MacDonald was willing to work for considerably less. No mention was made of the six field workers or their salaries.

Ontario Hydro Rates Up 9 And Half % Tues.

Ontario Hydro customers in rural areas face a 9 1/2 per cent rate increase tomorrow, but shouldn't have another increase for about two years, George Gethercole, Ontario Hydro chairman, said today.

About 500,000 customers are affected. A large part of York County including Markham, King and Whitby Townships are served by Ontario Hydro. The rural service ran at a loss last year, Gethercole said.

He blamed increases in costs of equipment, wages, borrowing, property and supplies for the rate increase.

Salaries of the administrator and the field workers are subject to approval by the province which pays 50% of this item. The department will also pay 80% of direct welfare costs in the county, as it now does in individual municipalities.

No Hydro Comm. In Vaughan Twp. Next Two Years

Although Vaughan Township Council decided earlier this year that the township's hydro system should be run by a committee rather than by a committee of council, it appears that this may not take place for another two years.

The Ontario Municipal Board has advised that it cannot disperse with a vote of the electorate on the matter.

Two years ago, voters were asked if they were in favor of a township owned hydro system and voted in the affirmative, but they were not asked at that time if they wished the system run by an elected committee.

Accordingly, the township must now ask the voters in the December election: "Are you in favor of the Corporation of the Township of Vaughan passing a bylaw to entrust the construction of the works for the supply of electrical power and the control and management of the works to a commission to be called 'The Hydro Electric Commission of the Township of Vaughan'."

If the voters reply to this question in the affirmative, the members of the commission could not be elected until the next township election in two years' time.

At its September 24 meeting, council instructed that a bylaw be prepared for the October 8 meeting, authorizing the submission of the question to the electorate.

Plan Freezes Vaughan Is Ten Years Too Late

By MARGARET McLEAN

A supposedly public meeting held in Maple September 25 by the Central Ontario Regional Development Council turned out to be instead a private recording session when only three members of the "public" turned up.

The meeting was called to discuss the provincial government's recent two and a half million dollar Metro Toronto and Region Transportation Study and its effect on the municipalities lying in Metro's shadow, such as Vaughan Township.

The three public spirited citizens who showed up were Reeve Brian Bailey, Planning Board Chairman Norm Garriock and Thornhill Developer C. D. Milani.

However, all three were well informed about the MTARTS Report, concerned about its effect on the township and articulate, if somewhat opinionated, in their criticisms of it.

Consensus was that the MTARTS Report was 10 years too late to stop development in Vaughan Township.

"What of farming in Vaughan?" asked Philip Wade, a director of the MTARTS Report who was engaged by CORDC as a consultant to prepare this submission to the government on it.

"Farming can no longer be carried on economically here," replied Mr. Milani. "Good farmers are no longer interested because they know their farms won't last."

Reeve Bailey pointed out that membership in the township's branch of the Federation of Agriculture had dropped from 125 to 60 last year. "They'll be lucky if they have 20 this year," he said.

Mr. Bailey said that he saw little interest in preserving farming in the township and that the idea of its disappearing is accepted. Farmers wouldn't build new barns or even a silo, he contended. "You are 10 years too late."

Mr. Garriock disagreed that there was no interest in preserving farming. "It's not that they don't want to farm," he said. "It's that the economics are so bad."

He cited the high cost of labor in the area and said he knew several instances where farmers had sold out, not at land speculation prices, but merely because they could not operate economically, and had moved to other areas "more farm oriented." This applies as far north as Bradford, he says.

"What would change this pattern?" asked Mr. Wade, obviously startled at those disclosures and admitting that the planners had never uncovered this aspect of the situation.

"Burn the MTARTS", was the immediate reply of Mr. Milani. "It has completely disregarded all concepts of living in this area."

He further charged that the report ignores the historical trend of Metro's northward development; has not considered the drainage of areas to be developed; has disregarded transportation in the area with the exception of a new Highway 404 and has not recognized that both it and present Highway 400 are designed to serve future development in the area.

"It also disregards present investment trends," he insisted. "There is one billion dollars already invested in land within a 30 mile radius from Etobicoke to Pickering. This will not retreat because of MTARTS, it will remain as a pressure on government."

His chief criticism however, was that the report disregards the immediate need of housing for Metro. "A pressing need,"

now being considered by the federal government" (in its housing task force). The report also disregards present industrial areas within the Metro circle, he said, which need homes on the north side of Steeles Avenue to complement them, there being no further residential land within Metro for this purpose.

"You have also disregarded the fine transportation facilities here," he charged Mr. Wade. "Your Goals Plan IV (with satellite cities at Guelph, Orangeville, Alliston and Barrie) will involve enormously more transportation costs to serve them than if you were to develop around Vaughan."

He was also incensed at the admission from Mr. Wade that MTARTS personnel had not consulted the opinion of private enterprise in preparing the report.

"How then can you know where private enterprise would like to invest in the future?" he stormed. "You cannot tell private enterprise to go here or there just because you are a planner. Your plans won't work unless the government is ready to legislate this moving to other areas."

Asked to comment on present industrial development in the township, Reeve Bailey advised that industrial growth was satisfactory but that it was demanding local housing. The CNR has been forced to pay its employees a \$60,000 to

Boyd Conservation Area Park near Woodbridge will be the scene of a mammoth Scout camp this weekend.

Some 2,000 Scouts, half from the outskirts of Philadelphia, half from the outskirts of Toronto, will spend the weekend under canvas in the park as part of an exchange event known as SCOPE — meaning Scout Centennial Ontario — Pennsylvania Expedition.

The Canadian Scouts are from the Scouting divisions of North Peel, Humber-Seneca and York Summit (Richmond Hill and district).

The original SCOPE event was held in 1967 in Pennsylvania when some 500 Canadian Scouts from areas adjacent to Metro visited the state. American Scouts are now returning the visit.

SCOPE was the brain-child of Dr. Peter Granger of Kleinburg, district commissioner for Humber-Seneca.

The ceremony will be followed by Scout displays and Olympic events from 10.30 am to 2 pm. Campfires will be lit at dusk.

On Sunday the general public has been invited to a mammoth Scout pageant starting at 2 pm in the park and lasting about 1 1/2 hours. The pageant will be based on the history of Scouting in Canada. The American Scouts will also present a few sketches dealing with the history of scouting in the U.S.A.

The motion to have Metro's application dismissed was made by Councillor Charles Birkett, who would not be better to first ask the township's solicitors their opinion on making such a move.

"I have," replied Councillor Fraser, himself a lawyer. "I would rather hear it from the horse's mouth," replied Councillor Birkett.

Councillor Fraser then amended his motion, asking the solicitors to take action for dismissal of Metro's application "at their discretion."

The motion then carried with Councillors Birkett and Dalton McArthur opposed.

Vaughan Asks Dismissal MetroDump Application

Vaughan Township Council last week agreed to instruct its solicitors to bring a motion before the Ontario Municipal Board that Metro Toronto's application for the use of the North Thackeray site as a garbage dump be dismissed.

Over a year ago, the OMB granted Metro the use of the 180 acre South Thackeray site for a dump but adjourned the hearing on the 600-acre north site.

OMB Chairman J. A. Kennedy instructed at that time that the application for the north site should be considered in conjunction with Metro's proposed plan to utilize the Maple garage pits for the same purpose.

He warned Metro, though, that it should not delay its application unduly.

Metro's chief argument for both the North and South

Thackeray sites (north of Steeles Avenue, on the west bank of the Humber River) was the emergency situation which had arisen because of lack of dump sites.

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The blood donations collected at these clinics, sponsored by the Richmond Hill District Red Cross Society, play an important role in saving the lives of accident victims and surgery patients. The October 10 clinic will stock up for the increased demands caused by traffic accidents over the Thanksgiving weekend.

The life you save could be your own or that of a loved one.

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Blood Donor Clinic October 10

A rolled-up sleeve and a half hour of your time spent at the October 10 Blood Donor Clinic can make you a life-saver.

The clinic will be held at the Lions Hall, Centre Street East, Richmond Hill, between 2 and 4 pm and 6 and 9 pm. There is lots of off-street parking for your convenience.

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Thieves Strike At Pincrest Speedway

A car parked on the Pincrest Speedway parking lot, Highway 7, and a car parked nearby, were the targets of thieves on Saturday evening, September 28, Vaughan Township Police report.

A tachometer valued at \$60 and the contents of a purse were stolen from a car parked on the lot, belonging to David Muford, 23 Copper Mill Road, Toronto.

A car parked on Freshway Drive, near the speedway, had its rear wheels removed. The wheels were valued at \$112 by the car owner, Jay Crowe of 56 Gravenhurst Avenue, Downsview.

A Dumont engine scope valued at \$350 was stolen from John's Garage, Keele Street, during an auction sale Friday afternoon. Thomas Hughes, of 517 Lynett Crescent, Richmond Hill, was the victim.

Sewage Plant Malfunction Holds Up 2 New Thornhill Subdivisions

Because Markham Township's John Street sewage plant is not producing a satisfactory effluent, and there are no firm plans for increasing the existing water supplies, Ontario Water Resources Commission has advised that it cannot approve two new subdivisions proposed for the Thornhill area.

Bay Wood is planned for the former Shoubridge property near Bayview and John Streets and the Presidio (formerly Selkirk) Subdivision is on Bayview Avenue, south of Highway 7.

Original plans, when the plant was built, were to have it serve two present North Thornhill subdivisions and approximately 70 acres of the Lagstaff Jail Farm

property which were earmarked for industry.

OWRC Director J. R. Barr now suggests that plans to serve the jail farm property be dropped so there will be no commitment to serve it before the Bay Wood and Presidio Subdivisions are built.

Servicing of part of the jail farm property was originally proposed in order to provide the township with balancing industrial assessment to offset the two residential subdivisions.

Toronto had also agreed to pay \$150,000 towards cost of a trunk sewer to serve the jail farm as an enticement to prospective buyers for the property which it has been attempting to sell for years.

Councillor Allan Sumner and Deputy-reeve S. J. Gadsby, during discussion of the stalemate at the September 23 council meeting, were both in favor of adopting the OWRC suggestion and forgetting servicing of the jail farm property.

Councillor Sumner complained that Toronto has dragged its feet for years on sale of the property. "As recently as a year ago the farm was going to be for a monkey and elephant zoo, and before that it was to be a drunk tank," he stormed.

"As long as this council is caught between the vacillations of the OWRC and the city, I don't feel like helping the City of Toronto," he said, and added, "There was never

any written agreement with the city regarding service for the 70 acres of industrial land."

Deputy-reeve Gadsby was in agreement. He felt the plant facilities would be better used for immediate subdivisions. "That will bring development of the farm much faster," he suggested.

Reeve Stewart Rumble opposed the suggestion however. "I don't feel like going back on our word to the city," Markham isn't noted for that," he said.

The motion to delete the jail farm from the area to be served by the John Street plant was subsequently lost and the matter will be discussed further with OWRC.

Township Engineer Dusan Miklas stated that unsatisfactory effluent from the John Street plant during July was largely due to a technical difficulty which has since been corrected.

He also stated, however, that a large part of the difficulty lies with the loadage. The plant is designed to carry 3/4 million gallons daily but present flow is only 200,000 gallons daily.

He felt that increased flow from the Bay Wood and Presidio Subdivisions or the jail farm, if developed, would correct the problem.

The Bay Wood Subdivision has already received draft plan approval from the township and is to be forwarded to the Ontario Municipal Board for approval.

Also to be discussed with OWRC is the question of servicing the new T.S.A. 2 senior school at Unionville and Union Villa, the proposed home for senior citizens adjacent to Varley Village.

The OWRB ruled recently that no further development would be permitted at Unionville until a water reservoir had been constructed. This had brought a query from W. B. Thomas, solicitor for Union Villa Senior Citizens Home regarding permission for the villa to connect to the Varley Village services.