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(Photo by Stuart's Studio)

Everything Looks Good!

There was an excellent attendance at the euchre party and sale held on Friday evening by the Buttonville Branch of the YCHA in Buttonville Hall.

Business was particularly brisk at the homebaking table and Mrs. Hilda Kelly (above left) displays her sales ability as she copes with the early rush of shoppers. All the homebaking and Christmas gifts were quickly snapped up and the euchre party was well patronized, with 24 tables.

It was a most successful event with all proceeds going towards the future extension program at York Central Hospital.

Aurora Sea Cadets Will Move To The Hill

Richmond Hill may be the new location of an active Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps, if suitable accommodation can be found.

Lieut. William Colborne of Thornhill, officer commanding the Aurora corps, now drilling once a week in the armouries in Aurora, wrote Richmond Hill Mayor Thomas Broadhurst to that effect. The mayor read the letter, asking co-operation in finding suitable quarters for drilling and with storage space, to council Monday evening.

Councillors suggested that Lieut. Colborne be told to contact the arena board to see if space could be found for them on the mezzanine floor, as yet unfinished. Councillor Ivan Mansbridge reported the arena board is considering going ahead with the finishing of this large room. Another suggestion was the Lions Hall on Centre Street East. Lieut. Colborne stated in his letter that he has already been in touch with the York Central District High School Board to see if any accommodation was available in local secondary schools.

The Sea Cadets are for boys from 13 to 19 years of age, younger boys 11-13 may join the Navy League Cadets. Although not presently offered by Aurora there is also a program for girls from 13 to 18, called the Wrenettes.

All groups are sponsored by the Navy League of Canada, which sponsors more than 200 similar corps across Canada.

The program is designed to create better citizens. Through naval type training, the young people learn self reliance, discipline, cleanliness and the joys of working together and playing together.

Although some of the young men and women who participate in this program may decide to pursue a career in the naval branch of the Canadian Forces, no coercion is used in this direction — and this is not the prime purpose of the organization, which is simply to help young men and women grow into mature, well-balanced, good citizens.

An added advantage as far as Richmond Hill is concerned is that the well-drilled, uniformed corps will be available to participate in all local parades, stated Lieut. Colborne.

Premier John Roberts

Regional Gov't. For Urban Areas

Premier John Roberts outlined the province's general aims for regional government to 600 Elgin County farmers and Aylmer Rotary Club members last Friday night, but made clear regional government isn't imminent in Elgin.

In his speech at Rotary's 37th annual farmers' night banquet reiterated most of the points made in the Legislature December 2 by Municipal Affairs Minister Darcy McKeough.

In Western Ontario, he said, the first place to get regional government likely will be the Kitchener - Waterloo complex, perhaps in 12 to 14 months.

Brant County, where discussions are in progress locally and with the province, may be next, followed by Norfolk and Haldimand Counties, where studies have been launched.

"Regional government will be established on a priority basis in those parts of Ontario where the problems of urbanization are most serious and where the necessary studies and other preparatory work is now completed."

In preparing for regional government, "many small municipalities will disappear," he said, and county boundaries will be "greatly altered or disappear altogether."

"While Elgin County is not among the areas where the first regional governments will be established, I should like to think that the people of this and all other counties are now making preparations for the day in the near future when this will occur," he said.

"This program will require the participation and support of every resident if we are to achieve the degree of social and economic health we see as the result of this change."

Appoint Town Librarian

Mrs. Patricia Hart, a well qualified librarian, will become chief librarian of Richmond Hill Public Library February 1, Councillor Lois Hancey told town council Monday evening.

Mrs. Hart graduated with a BA from Berkeley University in California in 1933.

Mrs. Hart has been with the North York Public Libraries, where she is now head of adult services, for 10 years.

The local library has been without a chief librarian since the first of the year when Colin Robertson left that position to become co-ordinator of library development for the Central Ontario Regional Library Board covering the Counties of York, Peel and Ontario.

In the meantime Mrs. Maureen Stephenson, librarian on the staff, has given excellent direction to the library.

Appointments To 2 Metro Boards

Mayor Thomas Broadhurst of Richmond Hill and Norn Garriock of Woodbridge, member of Vaughan Township Planning Board, have been re-appointed to the Metro Planning Board for 1969. They are just completing their first term.

They will serve as representatives of the Town of Richmond Hill, the Townships of Markham and Vaughan and the Villages of Woodbridge, Markham and Stouffville, "the northern fringe area". The choice was unanimous, with Richmond Hill Council giving its approval at Monday night's meeting.

Town council also re-appointed Deputy-revee Floyd Perkins and Dr. D. H. Pimlott of Centre Street West to Metro Conservation Authority. The annual meeting and election of officers of the authority will be held January 31, 1969.

MacKay, Jacobs Chairmen Cty. Bds.

Eighteen members of the newly-formed York County Board of Education were told last week to turn their backs on history and look straight ahead to the future.

Speaker was newly elected Chairman John MacKay of Thornhill at the inaugural swearing in ceremony of the new board in the York County Building in Newmarket Monday night.

Elected to the vice-chairmanship was William Bales of East Gwillimbury Township.

Chairman for the 14 Separate School Trustees of the county will be Eugene Jacobs of Woodbridge, vice-chairman will be John LeClaire of Richmond Hill. Representative on the county board (public) for separate school matters will be Conrad Thompson of Richmond Hill.

In his inaugural address, Mr. MacKay told the trustees they "must forget the past while keeping in mind the lessons learned from the past. It's to the future we must look and build a bigger and better educational system which will provide the proper environment for our children."

He said that the new board should not worry "about small things. We are here to make decisions and we must make them even if they are not always perfect ones."

Mr. MacKay said the trustees must put aside any parochialism and work together and "especially not become just a rubber stamp body. We must analyze all reports and then make firm decisions the way we think those decisions should be made."

Vice-Chairman Bales echoed Mr. MacKay's statements adding that "we must have no illusions about the task ahead of us. It's going to be a long year, a lot of work."

Mr. MacKay was voted in by a unanimous decision after two other nominees, Mr. Bales and Marvin Hunter, of King, withdrew. Mr. Bales then went on to defeat Mr. Hunter by 10 votes to 8 for the vice-chairmanship.

It was a two-way battle for the chairmanship of the separate school board with Mr. Jacobs defeating Mr. LeClaire.

In his remarks, Mr. Jacobs said the new board would have two initial functions and "these will be dealing with people and money. The next two years will be extremely important."

"We must be careful to avoid becoming just a big brother structure. It will take a great deal of sensibility on our part in dealing with the teachers, the pupils, and the ratepayers."

"There will even be a challenge for unanimity within the board itself. We were elected as representatives of an area and we must come together and function as one area for the welfare of our children."

Mr. MacKay is employed as the business administrator of Shoultice Surgery and is involved in its two million dollar building program. He is a member of the Medical Group Management Association, vice-chairman of the Ontario Clinic Managers Association and a committee chairman of the continent-wide Medical Group Management Association.

A married man with five children (four boys and a girl) Mr. Jacobs is 38 years of age. He is self employed and on the board of directors of two other companies. Mr. Jacobs graduated from the University of Toronto in 1952 with a Bachelor of Commerce degree. A trustee for four years he is a former chairman of the Vaughan-Woodbridge Separate School Board.

The new "super-boards" replace 1,446 small boards across the province January 1 under legislation designed to provide equality of educational opportunity throughout the province through their ability to hire specialists and provide extra services.

Meanwhile, in an interview this week, Lloyd Dennis, co-author of the Hall-Dennis Report on the aims of education, said the greatest danger facing the new boards is that they will "lock themselves into empire building."



EUGENE JACOBS To Head Separate School Board



JOHN MacKAY First Chairman County Board

Festive Lighting Contest

Five valuable electric appliances are going to be extra Christmas gifts for five Richmond Hill residents. They are prizes in the local hydro's fourth annual Christmas Home Lighting Contest.

For the past three years the response to the commission's effort to promote use of outside lighting during the festive season has been most gratifying. It has lent a gay atmosphere to the whole community and it is expected there will be many more homes entered this year.

Three of the prizes offered will be for the most artistic use of Christmas lighting on a residence and the other two will be for the most unique displays. The appliances are a Hostess Hotray, a Clock Radio, an Electric Mixette, an Electric Can Opener and an Electric Hair Dryer.

Names of winners will be announced between Christmas and New Year's.

Anyone seeking further information is asked to call Commission Secretary Brydon Ellis at 884-4466.



JOHN LeCLAIRE R. Hill Lawyer, Vice-Chairman

Urquhart Appointed New Hydro Manager

Prominent Richmond Hill horticulturist, W. S. Spence Urquhart, BA Sc., has been appointed acting manager of Ontario Hydro's Richmond Hill Area. He succeeds L. J. Roy who is on an extended sick leave due to ill health.

Mr. Urquhart has been assistant area manager at Richmond Hill for the past 13 years.

Active in the Richmond Hill Horticultural Society, Mr. Urquhart was awarded the Ontario Horticultural Association Service Diploma this fall.

He and his wife are currently transferring their 10-acre property on Concession 6 in King Township into a naturalists' park. Over the past three years they have planted thousands of wild flowers and nearly 4,000 trees at their haven called "Forest View Highlands".

When their daughters, Gwen 15, and Margaret, 11, are older and have completed their education, the Urquharts plan to build a home there.

Born at Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, Mr. Urquhart was educated in Toronto. Following four years in the RCAF during World War II, he studied Agricultural Mechanics, specializing in rural electrification, at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph.

He graduated in 1950 and later also successfully completed the Ontario Association of Certified Technicians and Technologists' course.

Mr. Urquhart joined Ontario Hydro in June, 1950, as a farm service advisor, rural service department, engineering branch. In 1953 he was appointed electrical inspector for the Sutton Area and in 1955 he became assistant manager for Richmond Hill.

Metro Fringe Area Gets Top Priority In Regional Government Legislation

Amalgamation and/or annexation is no longer a question with which local politicians need concern themselves. Queen's Park has spoken and, like it or not, this area (and every other area in the province) will become a part of a regional government. Whether the Ontario Government will give the nod to a Southern Six or to a York County region is the only question now to be answered.

"The policy of the government of Ontario is to establish regional administrations across the entire province as quickly as is possible and practical," Premier John Roberts stated last week, as he warned areas where regional government is not planned immediately to make preparations "for the day in the near future when this will occur."

Premier Roberts said that by setting up regional governments with "more efficient, meaningful government," Ontario hopes to "avoid some of the problems developing in some of the major cities to the south of us."

He said the government was becoming convinced that the lines dividing urban and rural areas were fast disappearing in social and economic senses and that political dividing lines should be erased to reflect the change.

The overall plan, the Premier said, was "dramatic, evolutionary and revolutionary."

He said, "greater rationalization of the province" was the goal. "It will be as major a change as the Baldwin Act of 1849, which set up the basic municipal structure."

"Regional government will be established on a priority basis in those parts of Ontario where the problems of urbanization are most serious and where the necessary studies and other preparatory work is now completed," the Premier reported.

He stressed, "Metro isn't a regional government in the sense of this new plan. It's a federated system of municipalities."

First of the regional governments will be established in Ottawa-Carleton January 1, The Niagara region will be next,

with legislation being introduced at the present session of the Legislature. Within six to eight months recommendations for the Hamilton-Wentworth area will be available and it is forecast the Kitchener-Waterloo legislation will come in a year to 14 months.

Brant, Haldimand and Norfolk counties are also on the list. A decision on the Muskoka District is possible during the present Legislature session. Sudbury and district will be studied by J. A. Kennedy, chairman of the Ontario Municipal Board and Northern Ontario is being reviewed by a task force of provincial experts.

The government has announced that it intends to proceed immediately with amalgamation of Fort William and Port Arthur and parts of the Townships of Neening and Shuniah. Minister of Municipal Affairs Darcy McKeough will go to the Lakehead in January to make specific proposals. However, the regional aspects of the lakehead area are part of the study of Northern Ontario. They will await their report.

In preparing for regional government, "many small municipalities will disappear," Mr. Roberts said, and county boundaries will be "greatly altered or disappear altogether."

Three strong new regional governments will be established to the west, east and north of Metro, as part of this far-reaching municipal reform, Mr. Darcy McKeough announced a week ago.

Each of these regions will cover a population of from 150,000 to 200,000 (York County has



DARCY McKEOUGH Minister Municipal Affairs

Town's Bombardiers Not Exempt So Snowmobile Owners Get Reprieve

Owners of snowmobiles, or other motorized snow vehicles, will be able to drive them on, across or along roads in Richmond Hill for a while longer, since council voted against giving the prohibiting bylaw first and second readings Monday night.

Councillors had second thoughts on the proposed bylaw when Councillor William Lazenby pointed out that the two Bombardiers used by the town for snow clearing from streets were not exempt. Works Commissioner Otto Whalen agreed that the snow clearing vehicles were only larger models of the machines used for pleasure. Councillor Lazenby also asked what would happen in case of an emergency when a motorized snow vehicle might be needed for transportation in case of a heavy fall of snow.

It was reported that R. E. Brocklehurst, Beaverton Road North, owner of a motorized snow vehicle, had attended a meeting of council's bylaws committee to make a plea for leniency in the bylaw to permit residents to take a vehicle from point to point without using a trailer.

Mr. Brocklehurst had pointed out these vehicles provided a healthy sport, enjoyed greatly by his family. Owners have paid a substantial sum for the vehicles and licences and should enjoy the same privileges as bicycles or motorcycles, was his claim, according to Councillor Lois Hancey, chairman of the bylaws committee. She reported that Mr. Brockle-

hurst had recognized there were hazards connected with snowmobiling but claimed that bicycles and motorcycles are just, if not more, as hazardous.

Mrs. Hancey stated she had checked with the solicitor to see if the vehicles could be banned from the travelled portion of the roads but permitted to use the shoulders — the answer had been in the negative.

"Snowmobiling is a heck of a lot of fun," Mrs. Hancey continued, "but it is a sport and should be enjoyed in a proper place," intimating that the local parks board would have to amend its bylaw to restrict the sport to certain areas.

"Many of our parks are too small and in others there are skating rinks and we can't have snowmobiles go whizzing through." She reported the federal government is designating certain places in its parks where they won't interfere with other sports.

Councillor Ivan Mansbridge stated he "couldn't go along with their use on public highways. Mr. Brocklehurst might be careful, but I can see great old highway races developing."

"Are they any more dangerous than bicycles, hondas or motorcycles," challenged Deputy-revee Floyd Perkins. "They're all a hazard. Why discriminate? They all pay a licence."

Mayor Thomas Broadhurst, in reply, noted that the other vehicles fall within the Highways Traffic Act, "and we have no authority to legislate."

"Although extremely manoeuvrable the motorized snow vehicle is not as controllable as motorcycles," explained Mrs. Hancey. "For the purposes of the Highways Traffic Act they are not considered vehicles."

Reeve Donald Plaxton felt that Mrs. Hancey had put the case for the owners very well and that council should wait until the problem develops and not jump into legislation.

"We have a responsibility



to public safety," Mrs. Hancey countered. "There is the added factor of snow being spun up at the back of the snowmobiles which makes it difficult to see them."

Councillor John MacDiarmid agreed that Mrs. Hancey had presented a very reasonable case.

"Could they not be restricted on arterial, collector or main thoroughfares?" asked Reeve Plaxton.

When the first two readings were lost, Mayor Broadhurst indicated the bylaw will be reconsidered when some questions have been answered "which might alter my vote." This will also give citizens the opportunity of informing council of their stand for or against the bylaw.

Spence Urquhart



SPENCE URQUHART

Meter Heads Off Dec. 12 to Jan. 6

Richmond Hill Town Council has again approved a Christmas gift to merchants and shoppers in the downtown area. Heads of parking meters will be covered or removed from December 12 to January 6, it was decided at Monday's meeting.

"I'd prefer to have them stay off," commented Councillor John MacDiarmid, but Councillor Bill Lazenby stated, "The meters are the only way to regulate parking. If there were no meters cars would be parked and remain there all day."