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(Photo by Stuart's Studio)

## 20 Mile Walk Brings \$2,700 To YWCA

Richmond Hill District YWCA realized almost one-quarter of its 1969-70 campaign objective of \$10,000 on Saturday when 179 walkers and two dogs set out on the YWCA headquarters on Yonge Street for a 20 mile Walkathon.

Pledges totalling about \$2,700 were lined up by participants, and 128 men, women and children (and two dogs) completed the route. Several boys had to drop out because they had hockey games scheduled, and two boys who did complete the march had to dash off to tend their paper routes.

Youngest to complete the walk was Becky Hurler, 5, who walked with her family. Two participants, Dana Graham and Roger Woodward, hitch-hiked from Newmarket, but walked five miles of the way in order to get to Richmond Hill for the start of the walk.

Mrs. Pearl Wilson, a grandmother, and Mrs. Thomas Broadhurst, wife of the mayor, decided they had had enough after ten miles of walking.

Check points were set up along the way and staffed by volunteers. Members of St. John Ambulance Brigade were on hand for emergency treatment. Foot powder was supplied by local drug stores, other citizens donated food to sustain the walkers along the way, and there were refreshments, hot and cold, at the Y for those who made the full distance.

Biggest money makers among the young people were Tam Simmonds and Nora Winje, 11. Adults who had the largest sum in pledges were Rick Soderberg and Mrs. Phyllis Miller, president of the Y.

The picture above was taken on Newkirk Road as the walkers set off on the first leg of their 20 mile hike.

# Domtar, Overmyer, CIL New Industries For Vaughan

"October 9 was a big day for Vaughan Township," Reeve Garnet Williams told "The Liberal". "On that date not only did we learn about the OWRG proposals to solve our water and sewerage problems, but I attended official announcements for two important additions to our industrial community. A third large industry has also announced it will be locating in Vaughan."

**DOMTAR ARBORITE**  
A new \$5.6 million manufacturing plant for Vaughan Township was announced by Domtar Construction Materials Ltd. to house the company's arborite division.

It will employ more than 200 people when it is fully operational, with 140 being new employees in new jobs. It is expected that construction will start early next year and production of decorative plastic laminates should begin early in 1971.

The plant and offices will cover a 150,000 square foot area and will have a production capacity of 25 million to 30 million square feet of these laminates. Present warehousing and sales facilities located at Malton will be incorporated in the Vaughan plant.

It will be located on approximately 10 acres purchased from the CNR on the west side of Keele Street just south of the road leading in to the railway's terminal building.

The arborite industrial laminates plant located on Hollinger Road in Toronto will also be integrated into the Vaughan Township plant. It employs 65 people.

In making the announcement at a news conference attended by officials of the Ontario Government and Reeve Garnet Williams of Vaughan Township, President Jack Cochran of Domtar Construction Materials Ltd. said: "The market for plastic laminates is growing rapidly and our company wishes not only to maintain but to increase its leadership in this field in Canada. We will need additional capacity shortly. We cannot expand our only Canadian plant again for physical and economic reasons, so we decided that a new manufacturing facility should be located near a major market area. In doing so, we will better serve not only the Ontario market, but also Western Canada."

Domtar's arborite division headquarters are located in the arborite plant at LaSalle, Quebec, and there is another arborite plant at North Shields, Northumberland, England.

Arborite as used in kit- (Continued on Page 17)

## Stuart Casement President Launch Hill Chamber Of Commerce

A total of 90 persons attended the inaugural meeting Wednesday night of last week of the newly formed Richmond Hill Chamber of Commerce which saw Stuart Casement elected as its first president.

The meeting was held at the Richmond Hill Golf and Country Club.

Mr. Casement, who operates a commercial photography studio in Richmond Hill, described the organization as a "self-help one where, as a united voice, we can make representation to governments at the municipal, provincial and federal levels. The chamber also makes available a line of communication from government to the community's largest taxpayers — its business and professional people," Mr. Casement said.

He added that the fledgling organization also expected to be involved with town beautification projects and other undertakings aimed at the betterment of our home community. The promotion of Richmond Hill as a place to live, work and do business is another aim.

Mr. Casement was officially installed in his new position along with Bob Biggin, vice-

president, by Richmond Hill Reeve Donald Plaxton. Mr. Plaxton was substituting for Mayor Thomas Broadhurst who was attending a Metro Planning Board meeting in Toronto.

Another special guest was Clair Shaver, assistant Ontario manager for the chamber of organization.

Mr. Shaver said it was the job of any chamber of commerce body "to strive for sound, efficient administration at the three levels of government."

"You should also have a representative attending the municipality's council meetings. He will be there not so much to criticize but to help the municipality get the feeling of the town's needs to be a good sounding board for the citizens of the community," he said.

Mr. Shaver emphasized that every chamber of commerce body operated independently of the parent provincial organization.

"The Ontario or Canadian organization does not dictate to you in any form. Each individual chamber of commerce is left to conduct its own affairs, it's autonomous."

Mr. Shaver said the parent bodies did act as liaisons between local bodies in preparing and submitting briefs to the federal and provincial governments.

He concluded by saying that every individual member of your "organization must do his part, must get involved with his community. To achieve your goals you need a sound program, a sound membership, and sufficient money to make the first two applicable."

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## Dr. Cam Cowan Scholarship

Scholarships for \$500 each will be presented to a student at Bayview Secondary School and a student at Richmond Hill High to commemorate the name of the late Dr. Cameron Cowan, Richmond Hill physician who died a year ago following the crash of his light plane in Whitchurch.

The scholarships have been offered by the Richmond Hill Lions Club. Dr. Cowan was for some time an active member and was a past president of the club.

Offer of the scholarships was received at a meeting of York County Board of Education on October 14.

The scholarship winners will have been active in extra-curricular activities as well as obtaining reasonably good marks in class. The students selected must be continuing their education at a higher level — university, community college, or other institution.

In the past, the Lions have awarded \$300 in scholarships. The club would like to have a part in selecting the students who will receive their awards, and have asked that two Lions officials to review a list of three or four students recommended by the school guidance counselor, principal or other staff and to help in making the final decision.



LATE DR. CAM COWAN

## Markham's Amalgamation Bid Is 'Delayed Fuse Time Bomb'

Markham Township Council dropped a "delayed fuse time bomb" on press representatives Monday night.

The delayed fuse was a motion council had passed on October 6 approving proposed amalgamation with the Town of Markham. The step was taken after a motion of adjournment had been introduced and the press had left the council chambers.

The timing of the amalgamation is to take effect with the introduction of regional government.

"Consideration was given to the matter of proposed amalgamation within the new regional set-up as recently presented informally to heads of municipalities by the Minister of Municipal Affairs."

Motion presented by Deputy Reeve Anthony Roman and seconded by Councillor Allan Sumner.

"That this council does hereby approve of the proposed amalgamation of the Town of Markham and the Township of Markham with the adjusted boundaries as recently presented informally by the Minister of Municipal Affairs."

The resolution carried unanimously.

Mr. Jongeneel said he believed "the press will be interested in the action we have taken" as he passed the copy of the minutes pertaining to the amalgamation proposal to the press table.

After Monday night's meeting had adjourned, Mr. Roman said that after the October 6 motion of adjournment had been prepared, council began discussing Minister of Municipal Affairs Darcy McKeough's suggestion and it was decided that since all members of council were present to reconvene the meeting and pass the resolution.

The Markham Township Council resolution evolves from a proposed plan for regional boundaries presented to the Inter-Municipal Committee on Regional Government in York County by staff members of the Municipal Board on September 10.

This plan proposes six municipalities in the county, with the southern portion forming two of the divisions. The Vaughan-King, Markham-Whitchurch Townlines would form the northern boundary and the north-south division would start at the townlines and follow the proposed right-of-way of Highway 404 south to 16th Avenue and west along Carrville Road to Bathurst Street and south to Steeles Avenue.

Richmond Hill and most of Vaughan Township would be in one municipality and the southern urbanized Concession 1 of Vaughan with Markham Township and the Town of Markham in another municipality.

In the central section of York County, Aurora and a portion of Whitchurch Township would be added to King Township for a third municipality and Stouffville and the remainder of Whitchurch Township would form the fourth municipality.

Newmarket and East Gwillimbury Township would form the fifth municipality and Georgina, North Gwillimbury and Sutton becoming the sixth municipality in the county, with the possible addition of portions of Ontario County to take the northern boundary to the Trent Canal area.

Richmond Hill Police this week report a bogus \$20 bill was included in the pay packet of a local man. His wife attempted to deposit the bill and it was turned over to police. The bill, a good reproduction of a genuine bill, bears the serial number S over E 2511936.

A Maple man reported to police someone had stolen his steering wheel along with other articles from his sports car. The articles missing from the car owned by John Crevier, Keele Street, Maple, were valued at \$125.

Also taken were a shift knob, tonneau cover, custom gas cap and tool kit.

Vaughan Township Police report oil and antifreeze valued at \$200 were stolen from Sinagoga Construction Company located on the Carrville Sideroad on October 17.

Four Astro tires, also valued at \$200, were stolen from the Highway 7 and 50 gas station on October 19.

The office of Dual Hoisting, Pine Crest, was entered on October 18 and a typewriter was stolen.

## Meet McKeough Regional Gov't.

Richmond Hill Town Council will be meeting Minister of Municipal Affairs Darcy McKeough October 28, it was announced Monday. This meeting has been arranged to give local councillors an opportunity to express to Mr. McKeough their thoughts on regional government.

Last March council agreed to a suggestion by Councillors Lois Hancey and John McDiarmid to invite Mr. McKeough and other speakers to discuss regional government with them — but on April 1 the minister made his announcement of regional government to York County Council, and the meeting with him was not held.

Monday evening the same two councillors were the proposers of a motion that public meetings be held to explain regional government to the people of Richmond Hill after the meeting with Mr. McKeough and before the nomination meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

When Reeve Donald Plaxton suggested that other candidates for seats at the council table might accuse present office holders of using such a meeting or meetings for political campaigning, it was pointed out by Councillor McDiarmid that such people "could be our most avid listeners."



STUART CASEMENT  
Heads Chamber of Commerce

Councillor James Jongeneel dropped the "bomb" on the unsuspecting press in the form of a copy of the minutes of the October 6 meeting which stated:

The 1969 Vaughan Twp. county assessment on which taxes will be levied in 1970 has increased 6.6 times approximately, in most cases, it was learned last week. This applies to residences in built-up areas and to land which is being used for agricultural purposes. The assessment is based on 1967 market value of land and buildings.

However, the township has many homes built on 10 acre lots, the minimum acreage allowed to be separated without a registered subdivision plan for several years. This minimum acreage was increased a couple of years ago to 25 acres.

Assessment on these properties has been increased 10 or 15 times, Vaughan Deputy Reeve Albert Rutherford told "The Liberal".

Pointing out that the increased assessment will bring about a corresponding decrease in the mill rate next year, the deputy reeve noted that anyone in Vaughan whose assessment increase is in the 6.6 times average will be paying only the same taxes as this year for the same expenditure. Any increase, if there is one, in the amount of taxes to be paid by the individual property owner will be only the natural increment for the year.

However, Mr. Rutherford declared that the owners of small acreages classed as rural residential and not as agricultural will be penalized, although in the past they had been forced to buy much more land than would have satisfied their needs.

At the October 7 meeting of (Continued on Page 3)

Bogus \$20 Found  
In Pay Envelope

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## Will Expropriate 3 Properties Contract Let For Storm Sewers

The tender of G. C. Romano Construction Limited, RR 1, Maple, for road and storm sewer construction in connection with Yonge Street reconstruction was accepted by Richmond Hill Town Council at a brief meeting on October 14.

Seven tenders were received with the Romano bid being the lowest. High tender was \$411,781.05. All tenders were evaluated by the works commissioner and the consulting engineers.

The tender covers clearing and grubbing and installation of storm sewers, curbs, catch basins, etc., from Centre Street, East north on Pugsley to Dufferin, along Dufferin to Yonge and on Centre, Richmond and Wright Street for the first block west of Yonge.

The tender must now be approved by the Ontario Department of Highways before work is started.

**APPROVE EXPROPRIATION**  
Council agreed at its October 20 meeting to instruct Town Solicitor Thomas Fraser to proceed with expropriation of all lands required for North Yonge Street reconstruction where the owners have not agreed to accept the municipality's offer.

Appraiser Edward Higgins of Gibson-Willoughby Realtors informed council that for the northern section only three properties remained to be obtained.

A suggestion by Councillor Ivan Mansbridge that one of these be settled by acceding to the demands of the owner for extra compensation for two trees, rather than pay the costs of expropriation, was not entertained.

Mr. Higgins noted that compensation offered in all cases was the market value of the land plus payment for injurious affection to the remainder of the property. "We haven't made any exceptions. There should never be any exceptions for expediency. Payment should be value based on the highest and best use plus a sum for injurious affection to the remainder. It is a fair compensation and a compensation I am prepared to recommend to council," he said.

"I think you're to be complimented," stated Councillor Lois Hancey. "The reason you were able to accomplish so much so readily is because you dealt on a fair and equitable basis. I (Continued on Page 15)

## All But \$100 Rebated To 450 Shareholders

# Dream Of Building Oak Ridges And District Arena Fades With Return Of \$12,000 Raised

By THOMAS SOMES

The dream that might have become reality if it hadn't been for official red tape has faded even more with the return to some 450 shareholders of \$12,000 they had invested in the Oak Ridges and District Arena Limited.

Gordon Achilles, who still serves as treasurer of the almost defunct company, confirmed last week that the money of shareholders is being returned.

In fact, all but less than \$100 of the \$12,000 has been returned and one of the reasons for the company retaining its charter is so this outstanding amount can be returned to 15 shareholders who have moved without leaving a forwarding address.

"Unless a miracle occurs in the form of service clubs taking over or an investor with all or most of the money coming along, there's not much hope of an arena being built, but we will keep our charter for a year in case something comes through," said Mr. Achilles.

"Chances are poor of getting something going, but there is a remote possibility that something

could come up," he added.

Mr. Achilles said the plan for construction of an arena proposed in 1965 by Oak Ridges and District Arena Limited was about the only hope residents in the Oak Ridges area had of gaining facilities.

"As for soliciting straight out and out donations for the construction of an arena, we could never do it. The community is too small and not prosperous enough for us to raise the kind of money that would be needed," he added.

Mr. Achilles explained that the Oak Ridges and District Arena Limited had proposed building of an arena on a 10-acre site with a total value of \$150,000. The arena was similar in cost and design to community arenas then located in Prescott and Watford.

The Oak Ridges and District Arena Limited received a charter allowing it to issue up to 250,000 shares in a limited company with a par value of \$1 each.

The company entered into a trust agreement with the Guaranty Trust Company at Richmond

Hill that shareholder money would be held until the \$150,000 objective was reached or if by June 30, 1969, the objective was not reached, the money would be returned to the shareholders.

Sale of the shares began in 1967 and were quickly purchased by the 450 shareholders who had put up the \$12,000 at the rate of \$1 per share, but then the company ran into difficulties with the Ontario Securities Commission.

"The OSC was under stinging attack because of Windfall, the Atlantic Acceptance collapse and Prudential Finance Corporation's difficulties and I guess they were being extra cautious because they didn't agree with our trust agreement arrangements," said Mr. Achilles.

"The securities commission stopped us from selling shares because we didn't own any property and when we obtained an option on a site they asked for an engineering certificate to indicate if a building could be built and then demanded we have guarantees from contractors that the arena could be built for the amount specified. They would not accept our air-tight trust agreement," he said.

Although disappointed that the company met difficulties with the OSC which could not be overcome, Mr. Achilles is happy that it is now being wound up without leaving a bad taste in anyone's mouth.

"Although we weren't able to go ahead with soliciting shareholders and raise enough money to build the arena, we achieved at least one of our purposes, no one lost any money. In the future, there's a chance someone else may be able to succeed where we have failed. We didn't leave a bad taste in anyone's mouth," said Mr. Achilles.

"There have been several previous projects that have fallen through and people have lost their money. This is particularly true where donations from the public have been solicited and when projects were abandoned no one could discover what had happened to the money they had given in good faith," he added.

"This is why our proposal appealed to investors. They knew

that if the arena project didn't go ahead, their money was protected and would be returned to them," he said.

Mr. Achilles still believes that if the company had not experienced difficulty with the OSC, the plan would have succeeded.

"We could have made it if we hadn't been stopped. We had only been selling shares for a few weeks when we were stopped from soliciting the sale of shares in November, 1967," he said.

"Interest in our project was growing and there was some big money waiting on the sidelines about ready to come in when the investors had a better idea of whether we would succeed. The big investors were unwilling to have large sums of money tied up for three years if the project wasn't going to go ahead," added Mr. Achilles.

He also said that the fact 450 shareholders had made small investments in a relatively short period was an indication that the company's share purchase plan would have worked.

"We were suggesting that if

1,000 people subscribed \$1 a week for the purchase of shares over three years we could build our arena," said Mr. Achilles.

"Had we continued the sale of shares into 1968 and larger investors been attracted, there is no doubt we would have succeeded," he added. "People were just starting to become interested when we were prevented from soliciting the sale of shares."

Seven citizens then living in the Oak Ridges area head the executive of the Oak Ridges and District Arena Limited.

President is Norman Taylor, Ron Laing is vice-president, Mr. Achilles, treasurer; Danny Geary, secretary; Fred Carruthers, director of share sales; Dave Carruthers, director of fund raising and Frank Hawken, director of publicity.

Although all seven still serve on the executive, Messrs. Laing, Mr. Geary and Carruthers no longer reside in the Oak Ridges area. Mr. Laing is now working in Sudbury, Mr. Geary has moved to London, Ontario, and Mr. Carruthers has moved to Bramalea.

Mr. Hawken, although his home is still in Oak Ridges, travels extensively.

"If the company was to be revived, it is obvious we would need new members to serve on the executive," said Mr. Achilles.

Although it is dim, there is still a faint glimmer of hope that a miracle will occur and the idea of a private company being re-formed to revive the arena construction plan will catch on.

"There's still some interest in the proposal and if a service club group or some other investor with sufficient capital came along we would gladly turn over our charter," said Mr. Achilles.

"It could even be done with small investors if 40 people with about \$5,000 to invest got together and took over, but because our executive can't proceed on the basis we planned, we're pretty much out of the picture," he added.

Mr. Achilles said the company will keep its charter for another year to complete its business, but unless something happens, the idea has fallen flat.