

Teachers Stop All Salary Talks With School Board

Elementary school teachers in York County have rejected the board of education's latest offer for salary increases, and according to Trustee Arthur Starr of Whitchurch, vice-chairman of the board and chairman of the trustees' negotiating committee, negotiations have been "suspended".

In an announcement to the press this week, David Semple, chairman of the elementary school teachers' economic policy committee and vice-principal at Meadowbrook School in East Gwillimbury Township, reports that at a meeting in Aurora on April 1, the county's 1,110 elementary school teachers "overwhelmingly rejected" the board's latest offer.

"The teachers instructed their committee to take a much firmer stand concerning any possible future negotiations," said Mr. Semple.

board's suggestion that elementary teachers be placed on a lower salary schedule than that of the secondary teachers in the proposed (integrated) kindergarten to grade 13 school system," Mr. Semple continued.

"The total salary schedule must be evolved such that a teacher may come closer to the standard of living that is relative to the responsibilities and contributions made to this community."

Mr. Starr, whose committee has met many times with the committee of teachers, said after the meeting:

"The board regrets that negotiations with its elementary teachers have been suspended and is ready to resume talks at any time.

"Our negotiating team felt that it was financially impossible for the board to meet the teachers' demands of that date. The board's most recent offer is at least as high as offers made by neighboring boards, and is higher than some."

When it brought down its budget last week, the board approved an additional \$2 million in anticipation of increases in salaries to the 2,000 teachers employed to teach 44,000 children in 110 schools in the county.

Ambulance Men Take Casualty Course

A Langstaff man, John Williams, 24, of 56 Garden Avenue, is the seventh employee of Scott's Ambulance Service to graduate from an intensive four-week course in the fundamentals of casualty care at the Canadian Forces Base Borden.

The Scott's Service was founded in 1934 by Wilfred Scott of Woodbridge, and although he turned over the operation to son Robert, also of Woodbridge, in 1955, he remains active in the business.

"Specific guidelines were outlined to the committee pertaining to the maximum increment pattern. Also that the minimum and maximum percentage increases in all categories be comparable to recent settlements in industry throughout this area."

"The teachers were adamantly opposed to the

In 1967 the company took over Richmond Hill Ambulance Service and now operates three vehicles—two stationed in Richmond Hill and one in Woodbridge.

The 1970 budget of \$34.8 million is 16 percent higher than the 1969 budget of \$30 million, and the largest part of the budget, 83.56 percent, is for day school salaries.

With respect to the teachers' charge that the board has suggested a lower salary schedule for elementary teachers, Mr. Starr stated: "It has been the policy of the York County Board since its inception to pay teachers with identical qualifications the same salary whether they are teaching in the elementary or secondary panel."

The casualty care course is held at the Emergency Health Services School at the Borden Base, and is conducted by registered nurses and specially trained para-medical personnel from the Emergency Health Services division of the Ontario Hospital Services Commission. Guest medical and surgical consultants assist with the course, and it is intended that all full-time ambulance attendants in Ontario will eventually complete the course. To date 540 have successfully done so. Mr. Williams' mark at the end of the course was 87 percent.

Basically the elementary school teachers fall into seven different categories, from the beginning teacher with secondary school graduation and one year at teachers' college up to those with doctoral degrees in various subjects related to their profession.

There are four categories in the secondary school schedule, with their category one falling at about the same level as the elementary school teachers' category four. Some difficulties arise, however, because there are instances where the elementary teachers' qualifications are similar but not identical to those required for some secondary school categories.

Robert Scott was the first from his company to go to Borden, spending the month of January, 1969 there.

Other Scott employees who have graduated are Murray Kirkpatrick, Ronald Hickey, Beverly Clayton, Harold Clayton, William Coulter and Randy Dixon, all residents of the Richmond Hill area, although some of them work from the Woodbridge base.

Negotiations with secondary school teachers are also at a standstill. Although the board negotiating team has met with the teachers more than a dozen times, and its last offer was higher than offers accepted by other boards—including London and Lambton County—the secondary school teachers announced last week that they have reached an impasse with York County Board.

Mr. Starr says the board is prepared to resume negotiations at any time.

Next on the list is Leonard Woodcock, 26, of 289 Elmwood Avenue, Richmond Hill.

The course, which is a continuing program, provides training (theory and practice) in such subjects as basic anatomy and physiology, emergency patient care (including light rescue techniques), radio—telephone communications and defensive driving.

AURORA: Mayor Dick Illingworth told the local agricultural society recently that this will be the last year the annual horse show will be held in the town park. Facilities will be developed for the show in a new park in the Wimpey Sub-division, located between Aurora Heights Drive and Orchard Heights Boulevard.

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