



Easter Seal Returns Are Down

The Easter Seal Campaign for Crippled Children, so far in Richmond Hill has raised \$1,650 this year. The mail campaign conducted annually by the local Lions, had a 1970 objective of \$3,000.

There is still time to mail in your contribution, if it had merely slipped your mind. Do it now, to enable the Crippled Children's Fund to continue its work in this area.

If you have mislaid the pink envelope for your contribution, Treasurer Gary Wakelin at the Guaranty Trust Co. or Chairman Bill Rice at Rice's Flowers, Richmond Heights Centre would be happy to accept your contribution.

Board To Close Bloomington & Powell Sch's

After meeting with parents from four small school areas in the county, York County Board of Education agreed on April 13 to close two of the schools in June and to keep two others open for at least another year.

To be closed are Powell Road School in South Vaughan and Bloomington School in Whitchurch Township.

Students from grades 1 to 5 at Powell Road will be transferred to Thornhill School. Pupils from the area now attend Kindergarten at Thornhill. Grade 6 pupils will go to Rose-Lawn Senior School, which they would in any event be attending when they reach grade 7.

The school, which is in an isolated pocket of development west of Yonge Street between Steeles Avenue and the CN railway line, had an enrolment of 98 in 1968, but has only 77 pupils this year, and anticipated attendance for September is 71.

Staff and parents agreed there would be greater opportunities at the better equipped Thornhill and Roselawn schools which both have gymnasiums and library resource centres lacking at Powell Road.

Cost of bussing the pupils will be offset by savings in the high cost of keeping a five-room school open for only 71 pupils.

Trustees also agreed to close Bloomington School where enrolment has declined from 62 to 29 in the past three years. The children from Bloomington will go to Orchard Park School in Stouffville.

Community pressure was strong however, to keep Strange School in King Township and Hillcrest School in Whitchurch both open. There are 52 students at the Strange school and a delegation of parents attended the board meeting to say that they are very happy with the type of education their children are now receiving.

There was also strong community support for continuing operation of Hillcrest School, although the staff had recommended it to be closed for economic reasons.

Board Vice-Chairman Arthur Starr, trustee for Whitchurch, pointed out that the building is quite new and in good condition.

He said, too, that it offers an alternative style of education to that available at the new open-concept Whitchurch Highlands School to which the pupils would have been transferred.

The trustees agreed it is important to preserve a diversity in types of education offered.

NEWMARKET: The Holland Valley Conservation Authority has strongly objected to the transfer by provincial authorities of its resources manager, Derek Sterritt, and Newmarket Town Council endorsed their objection. Mr. Sterritt is employed by the province and has been transferred as of June 1 to Hanover, where he will head another conservation authority.

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