

The Liberal

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(Photo by Stuart's Studio)

The Right Kind Of "Litterbugs"

Upset by reports of vandalism at the Mill Pond Park the pupils of Room 6, McConaghy School, spent the afternoon of May 22 demonstrating that they appreciate the town's effort to preserve and develop a beauty spot. Our photographer caught a few of the 34 youngsters as they diligently sought out, picked up and placed every small scrap of paper in garbage bags.

The grade 3 and 4 pupils of Mrs. Elaine Whitworth cleaned up all the litter — waste paper and pop bottles, etc., that had accumulated over the months and left behind them a much more beautiful area.

On behalf of the residents of Richmond Hill, "The Liberal" thanks these young people for their sense of civic responsibility. We trust their example will be an inspiration to others, children and adults.

We also thank 10-year-old Carol Anne Riddell and nine-year-old Diana Mullis, members of the class, for letting us know about this praiseworthy project.

Richmond Hill Council To Seek Meeting Here With McKeough On Reassessment

Councillor Lois Hancey batted .500 at the May 19 meeting of Richmond Hill Town Council. Mrs. Hancey introduced five motions dealing with reassessment and regional government and had two and a half of them approved.

The first motion, which was passed by council, asked Mayor William Lazenby to convene a public meeting to discuss residential tax bills and reassessment and ask Donald Deacon MLA York Centre to arrange to have Minister of Municipal Affairs Darcy McKeough present to answer questions from the public.

Mrs. Hancey reported that this motion was prompted by public request at a meeting she held at her own expense May 11 to try to explain how reassessment was carried out and its impact on 1970 taxes.

Bonanza Days At R. Hts. Centre

Cowboys and Indians, a clown band will all be present at Richmond Heights Centre this weekend to help the merchants and their customers celebrate the Centre's 10th birthday. There will also be a western merry-go-round, nickle chips, soft drinks and ice cream for the kiddies.

Highlight of the three-day celebration will be the Bonanza Days Sale with every store in the Centre featuring many bargains.

Get ready for a fun-filled summer by shopping at the Centre. A host of money-savers are yours for the roping. See full details in the third section of this issue of "The Liberal".

Gormley-Palgrave Murder Reward Now \$15,500 As 27-Man OPP Squad Follows All Leads

By HAROLD BLAINE
Extension of the Gormley-Palgrave double murder investigation to Quebec Province, rewards totalling \$14,000 and checking of innumerable leads by a 27-man squad of police experts has still not unearthed



POLICE SKETCH shows suspected killer, Palgrave boy supplied description.

York County's rapist-murderer. Ontario Provincial Police divisional headquarters at Downsview reported at press time that all leads so far have led investigators to dead ends.

Commissioner Eric Silk, QC, head of the OPP, and Chief Superintendent Jim Erskine, second in command of the OPP Special Services Division, Monday visited Downsview personally to keep abreast of progress in the investigation.

Last week a car answering the description of a 1964-65 Rambler believed driven by the killer, was found in a Richmond Hill used car lot. But this car did not turn out to be the right one.

There was a flurry of activity in the Orangeville area May 29. OPP headquarters received a report that the killer may have tried to strike again. It was reported that someone asked a boy if his mother was home and if he could get water for his car radiator. The man was said to have fled when the boy's father appeared.

But the OPP at Downsview now say this report proved to be groundless.

A fingerprint fragment found at the Palgrave murder scene in Peel County has been checked, but without result. The Palgrave print didn't match any in the RCMP's 3,000,000 fingerprint file.

So it appears the apparently mad killer is not any known criminal.

At the Centre of Forensic Science in Toronto three of Canada's top scientist-sleuths have been assigned full time to the search for the killer. They are Elgin Brown, head of the centre's biology section; Robert Nichol, head of the ballistics and firearms department; and Frank Pinto, a senior examiner and associate of Brown.

Anyone with information that may possibly relate to the double killing should contact their local police department or the Downsview OPP Detachment.

Police say the method of killing and other evidence point

The reward for the Gormley-Palgrave rape murderer was increased another \$1,500 to \$15,500 Monday afternoon when King Township Council voted to add a \$1,500 contribution.

Councillor Gordon Rowe noted that King Township lies between the locations where the murders took place.

"There is a terrible amount of concern in King because we are between the two municipalities where the two acts were committed. People are worried and are bolting their doors. There should be no letup in police determination to bring in this so-called demented person," said Councillor Rowe.

"It is a drastic problem, no doubt about that," agreed Reeve Gordon Cook, as council voted in favor of Mr. Rowe's motion.

almost certainly to the same man in both killings. Mrs. Ferguson was shot twice in the back and once in the head. At Gormley, Mrs. Moorby was shot twice in the back and five times in the head. A .22 calibre gun was used in both cases.

Police say residents should not be unduly alarmed by reports of investigations nearby. Hundreds of tips are being followed up daily. While the suspect remains at large, extra police patrols have been assigned to the 25-mile rural area from Gormley to Palgrave.

The man being sought is believed to be between 35 and 40 years of age. He weighs about 160 pounds. He has black hair and a swarthy complexion. The 1964 or 1965 Rambler American automobile he is driving appears to be beige, but was probably gold in color originally. Red primer paint is believed to be showing on the right fender and door.

The drawing of the wanted man which police have released is based on a sketch by Mrs.

Ferguson's nine-year-old son Dale.

Gormley area residents who were shown the sketch have confirmed seeing such a man in the district.

Mrs. Ferguson may have saved her son's life by calmly telling him a knock at the door was just a man seeking help for a sick child. She was raped in her bedroom, then shot in her living room.

The last amount added to the reward money offered for the killer came from Albion Township, in the amount of \$1,500.

Whitchurch Township Council has added its own \$2,500 reward to the \$10,000 offered May 23 by the province for information leading to capture of the man who murdered two school teachers' wives in recent weeks.

Whitchurch Township Police Chief Fred Mason says work on the Whitchurch municipal office arson case has been suspended in order to put all available personnel to work on the murder.

The Ontario Provincial Police have a squad of 27 men at work on the two murders. With them full time are two police sergeants from Whitchurch, Staff Sergeant Dave Fellows and Sergeant Donald Hillock.

Two chief inspectors of the OPP Criminal Investigation Branch are heading up a special command post based at Downsview OPP District Five Headquarters. They are Chief Inspector Robert MacGarva and Chief Inspector Archie Ferguson.

OPP Inspector Roy Williams is also a member of the investigation squad. He was originally assigned to work with Whitchurch Township Police when investigation of the first murder was underway.

The Downsview bureau is getting numerous calls about the two murders and all calls are being screened.

The OPP special squad includes men from the CIB and uniform personnel.

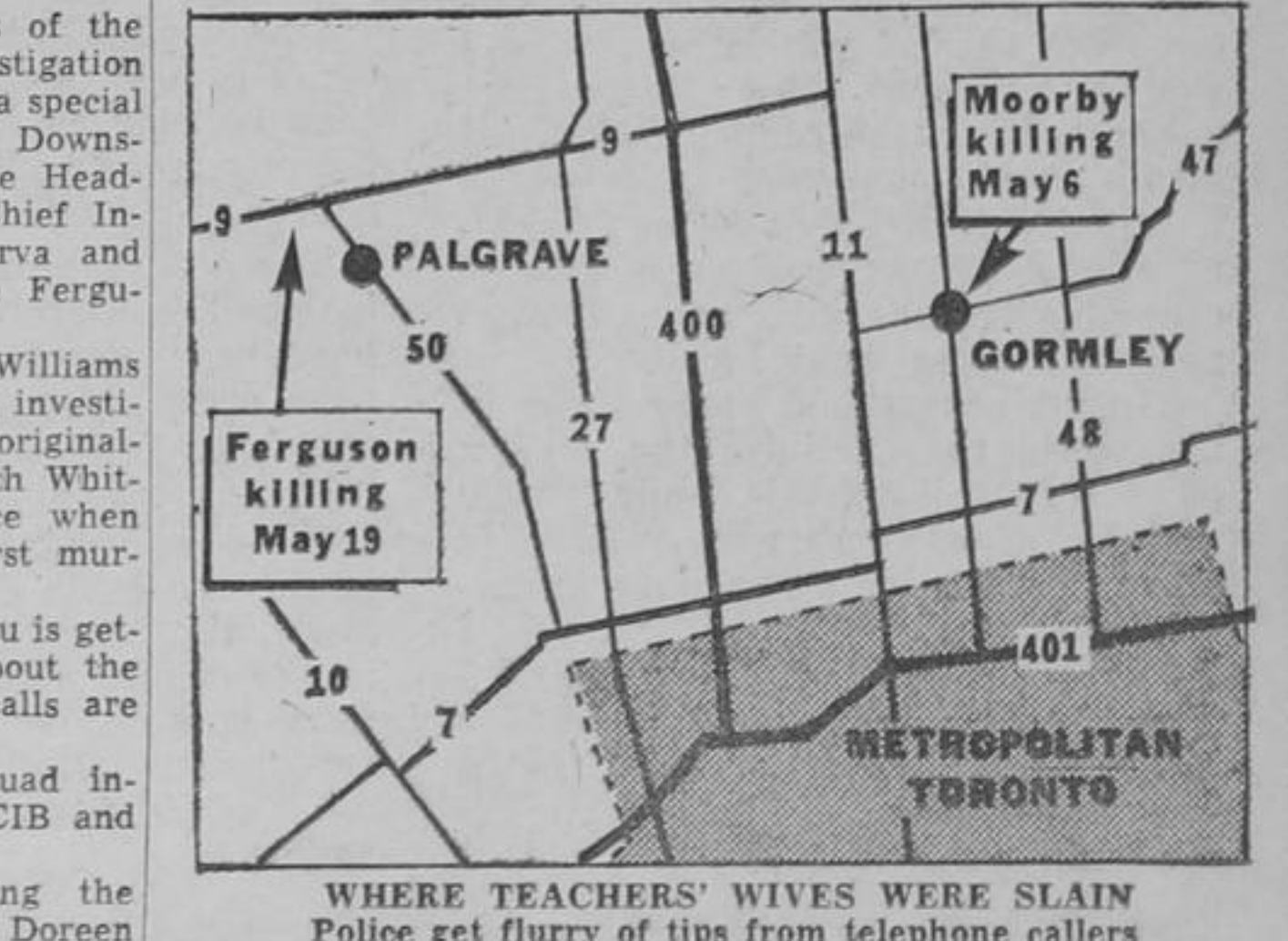
They are investigating the May 6 murder of Mrs. Doreen

Moorby, 34, of Gormley and the May 19 murder of Mrs. Helen Ferguson, 37, of Palgrave, Peel County.

Mrs. Moorby was the wife of a Richmond Hill school teacher. Mrs. Ferguson's husband teaches at Humber College.

Both women were shot in their homes while a child was present and while the husband was at work. The weapon used was of .22 calibre.

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County Board Summer Schedule

At its regular meeting on May 25, York County Board of Education set its schedule for summer meetings.

In June it will meet as usual on the second and fourth Mondays, June 8 and June 22.

There will be a meeting on July 6 and another on August 17, and if the volume of business warrants it, a meeting on August 24.

The regular schedule will be resumed in September with meetings on September 14 and September 28.

The board convenes in committee at 7.30 pm on meeting nights, and the meeting is opened to the public at 8 pm.

All meetings take place in the board administration building in the old Church Street School in Aurora.

Private citizens or deputations wishing to speak or make a presentation to the board must contact the secretary, Box 40, Aurora, in advance to ensure that their business will be included in the agenda for the meeting.

Hill Lawn Watering Bylaw Has \$300 Fine

Richmond Hill updated its bylaw which controls lawn watering at its meeting May 18. The new bylaw restricts lawn watering as follows:

From 7 to 10 pm Wednesdays and Saturdays in the area north of Crosby Avenue and east of Yonge Street; between the same hours Tuesday and Friday in the area south of Crosby Avenue and east of Yonge; and between the same hours Monday and Thursday in the area west of Yonge Street.

At its meeting in the afternoon of the same date, Vaughan Township passed a similar bylaw for the area in Elgin Mills which is provided with water by the town. Lawn watering in those areas will be restricted to between the hours of 7 and 10 pm Mondays and Thursdays. Markham Township Council has also been asked to pass a similar bylaw for its residents who receive town water service.

At Richmond Hill Council meeting it was explained the restrictions were necessary to ensure that people living in apartments and in the northwest section of the town would be ensured of a sufficient supply of water. In other years restrictions were imposed only after an excessively hot dry spell when taps in that area ran dry.

Also behind the provisions of the new bylaw, which provides for fines not exceeding \$300 for those who do not observe its provisions, is the necessity of protecting a reserve supply of water for fire-fighting, it was stated.

At the Vaughan meeting, Reeve Garnet Williams was critical of Richmond Hill's water system when it was reported pressure in Elgin Mills dropped to 15 lbs. Monday. "I can't see why Richmond Hill did so much pressing to take in so much land when they can't service what they've got. We supply the town with water to compensate for this water supply to the Elgin Mills area."

"We should let them know we are disappointed," commented Deputy-Reeve Albert Rutherford, "but I can't see what we can do but pass this bylaw."

Add Two Trustees

York County Board of Education agreed at a meeting May 25 to hold an election for trustees in October in conjunction with the municipal elections rather than waiting until December, the time when school board elections are traditionally held.

School Board Elections In October

In announcing plans for regional government in York County earlier this month, Municipal Affairs Minister Darcy McKeough set October 5 as a tentative date for municipal elections, but left it to the board of education to decide whether or not it would hold its elections on the same day.

In a staff report, it was pointed out that, if the election is held at a time other than the municipal elections, the board would have to pay the cost.

When the York County Board came into being in January, 1969, elections were held the preceding December. In some municipalities they were held in conjunction with municipal elections, but since there were no municipal elections in Richmond, Georgina, King or Sutton, the board had to pay \$3,900 in election costs for these four municipalities, which together represent about 22 percent of the total equalized assessment.

It was found, too, that in these municipalities only about 14 percent of the electorate voted, whereas in municipalities where councils were also being elected the turnout was in the neighborhood of 30 percent.

If the school board elections are held in October, the board will be required to share a few costs, such as printing of ballots, but the Department of Municipal Affairs will pay major costs such as enumeration, voters' lists, polling stations, etc.

There will be more trustees elected for 1971, also. There are at present 17 trustees elected by local municipalities and one elected to represent Roman Catholic Separate School supporters in the county.

An increase in population in the county will entitle the board to two more trustees, 19 to be elected by public school supporters and one by separate school supporters. Population in York County, according to provincial assessment figures now stands at 154,683.

Trustees will be elected on the basis of the ratio of public school equalized residential and

10% Limit On Tax Increase

"The Liberal" has been told, unofficially, that representatives of York County have agreed to Minister of Municipal Affairs Darcy McKeough's proposed legislation to relieve undue increases in taxation from reassessment.

The reported formula is that industrial and commercial taxes will not be increased by more than 5% and that residential taxes will not be increased by more than 10% from the 1969 level, due to reassessment.

It is reported that the legislation is permissive, each municipality, where reassessment on 1967 property values has been done, having the authority to put it into practice if desired.

Ratepayers should also bear in mind that the limited increase is applicable only to reassessment. Increased taxes because of increased costs of education, county and municipal government will not be affected by the ceiling.

The proposed legislation will be effective for five years, giving the province time to do a complete reassessment.

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Teenagers Fined Drank Under Age

Five teenagers in Richmond Hill court June 1 pleaded guilty to drinking under age.

One of them, Glenn Davis, 18, of 136 Elgin Mills Road West, was also charged with impaired driving. He pleaded not guilty to this charge and is to be tried July 26.

The five were arrested May 7 at 10:20 pm at the Steer Inn Drive-In, 255 Yonge Street South, the court was told.

Given fines of \$15, with the alternative of three days jail, were Brian Neal, 18, of 52 Hunt Avenue; John Reddin, 18, of 48 Laverock Avenue, Apartment 203; and Glenn Davis.

Sydney Moon, 19, of 43 Elgin Mills Road West was fined \$15 as well. But he was also put on a year's probation because of a previous conviction for auto theft.

Richard Newton, 19, of 330 South Taylor Mills Drive, was fined \$20, with the alternative of four days in jail. He had a previous conviction on a drunk charge, the court was told.

Those who couldn't pay their fines immediately were given 15 days to produce the money.

Mayor Lazenby Objects To Upper Tier Changes

Drastic changes in the regional government plan for York County presented May 6 were agreed on May 25 at Queen's Park when municipal representatives met with Minister of Municipal Affairs Darcy McKeough and officials of his department. The agreement provides for increasing the number of members of the upper tier of government, the regional council, from 16 plus the chairman to 27 plus the chairman. It was also agreed that election to the regional council should be directly by the electorate.

In Mr. McKeough's presentation made in Bayview Secondary School less than a month ago, the policy of representation by population, with one representative for each 10,000 population or major portion thereof was stated and the balance of power was equally divided between the north and south of the county, each having 13 members. Under the new plan the three municipalities in the south, the new Towns of Vaughan, Markham and Richmond Hill, will have only 13 representatives, although they will have much more than 50 percent of the population and of the assessment, and the northern six new municipalities will have 14 representatives.

The change was prompted by the Town of Aurora which will have 13,000 population within its new boundaries, which come into effect January 1, 1971. Under the original plan this municipality would have had only one representative. Under the new plan it will have two. In both plans the mayor of each municipality will automatically be a member of the regional council.

The new make-up of the regional council with the original in brackets will be: Vaughan, 18,000 population, 3 (2); Markham, 31,000, 5 (3); Richmond Hill, 27,000, 5 (3); King, 12,000, 2 (1); Aurora, 13,000, 2 (1); Whitchurch, 11,000, 2 (1); Newmarket, 16,000, 3 (2); East Gwillimbury, 10,000, 2 (1); Georgina, 13,000, 3 (2). Although the latter municipality which will be composed of the present Georgina, Sutton and North Gwillimbury, has only 13,000 permanent residents, the same number as Aurora, it was given extra representation because of the greatly increased number of residents

Whitchurch Supports 17 Members

In a special meeting May 27, Whitchurch Township Council agreed to ask Minister of Municipal Affairs Darcy McKeough to adhere to his original proposal of a 16 man plus chairman regional council for York.

At a day-long session on the previous Monday between Mr. McKeough, members of his staff and the inter-municipal advisory committee, composed of the heads of municipal government in the present county, it had been agreed that the numbers on the regional council be increased to 27 plus a chairman, making a total of 28. The present York County Council has 28 members.

In the original proposal each municipality has been allotted one member for each 10,000 population or major portion thereof. The new Georgina Township (Georgina, North Gwillimbury and Sutton) with

Whitchurch Supports 17 Members

a population of 13,000 had been given two members because of the large influx of summer residents. Aurora, also with 13,000 population, had asked for two representatives also.

The final figures agreed on were two representatives for every municipality with Markham and Richmond Hill having five instead of three each and Vaughan, Newmarket and Georgina having three each instead of two.

In consultation with Stouffville representatives Whitchurch Council has also reached a decision on a municipal council of six councillors plus a mayor under regional government, instead of the mayor and eight councillors suggested in Mr. McKeough's presentation May 6. This decision has been reported to the Minister, also, according to Whitchurch Reeve Stewart Burnett.

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