

## School Building Moving Ahead On Schedule Catholic Board Reports

In spite of a steel shortage, the new St. Anthony's School on Kirk Drive, Thornhill, will probably be completed by December 15, the scheduled date.

At a meeting of York County Roman Catholic School Board September 1, trustees were told masonry work at the school is ahead of schedule. The single lane road, used for construction vehicles, will be widened, and Business Administrator Percy Laframboise reported the developers have assured him the roadbed will be ready for use when the school opens.

Markham Township Trustees June Mallon and Gordon McMahon questioned staff about the possibility of bussing students who live on the other side of the railway by-pass, and Superintendent Joe Hodge agreed that staff would study distances, safety factors, etc., before the school opens.

The addition to St. Joseph's School, Aurora, is scheduled for completion October 31, the board was told, and the addition to St. Thomas Aquinas School, Keswick, will be ready by January 4, 1971.

Meanwhile, Mr. Laframboise said, there had been a crash program to have the schools ready for school opening Tuesday, conversion of rooms in the existing buildings, heating and other connections.

Aurora Trustee John O'Mahony asked if the builder would be responsible for microscopes stolen from St. Joseph's. He pointed out that thieves had been able to enter because of the open condition of the building.

It was a problem for the insurance company,

said Mr. Laframboise. The room housing the microscopes had been broken into, the door practically destroyed.

Other properties where work is in progress include Our Lady of Annunciation School, Oak Ridges, where there have been complaints about seepage from the septic tank drainage bed.

It was discovered, said Mr. Laframboise, that the tile bed to the north had been laid at a depth of seven feet under the football field when it should have been just two and one half feet down.

The south bed is functioning satisfactorily, he said, and if the north bed is cut off the one drainage bed may be adequate to serve the school. It will be tested before frost comes and if it does not do the job a new bed will be laid to the north above the old one.

"We are working with the health unit and with the architect," he told the board.

Repairs to the roof of St. Mark's School, Stouffville, were about finished, and the old St. John's School, Newmarket, had been renovated to serve as an annex to Our Lady of Good Counsel School in Sharon.

Several trustees complained that bus route maps posted in local churches prior to school opening were unreadable and that many parents were confused. They were advised to tell the parents to contact the board office, or to call the school.

Most routes are shared with the York County Board of Education.

"Transportation is a real headache," observed Mr. Hodge. "We have about 150 routes or part routes in the county."

## Arthritis Is Direct Cause Of Poverty And Rising Welfare

By WILLIAM OSLER

About 1,000 people in Richmond Hill woke up this morning with the feeling that things were not quite right. They had pain in various joints. Some of them, 60 or 70 perhaps, didn't get out of bed, or if they did it was just to be helped into a wheel-chair. Most went to work as usual, though some didn't. Some others wished they didn't have to.

The whole thousand of them have arthritis in some form, and with Labor Day just passed, it is perhaps a good time to consider this disease, and what it does to the work force. It is also September — Arthritis Month in Canada — when the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society accelerates its efforts to inform arthritics of how they can be helped, and campaigns to raise funds to provide this help. In Richmond Hill there will be a door-to-door canvass by the York Central Committee on September 21 and 22.

The figure of 1,000 arthritics in Richmond Hill is a statistic, not a nose count. It is based on the Canada Sickness Survey, carried out for the federal government a few years ago. However, it has been found to be extremely accurate for all areas of Canada.

Of the thousand sufferers in Richmond Hill most felt better by noon, but by next Labor Day, or the one after, the pains won't go away so quickly, unless they do something about it now.

Stiff and aching joints are a danger signal for arthritis. If they receive early medical attention, serious disability and crippling can be prevented in four out of five cases.

There are about a million arthritics in Canada, and they are losing some 10,000,000 days work and \$100,000,000 in wages every year. That means that in Richmond Hill, the cost is about 10,000 days and \$100,000 in wages.

But these figures represent only a fraction of the real costs. Arthritis is also a root cause of poverty and rising welfare costs. There are somewhere between 250 and 350 Richmond Hill arthritics who have some disability, ranging from mild to extremely severe. Some can no longer work or carry on with household tasks. Many others work at less than their full potential, and with reduced earnings. In some cases it has caused the break-up of homes. For the whole thousand of them, something of the joy of life has gone.

The figure of a million arthritics represents approximately an eighth of the work force. Some are over the age of working, some have not reached it and never will be able to work. But arthritis strikes most often among those who should be enjoying their most productive years — between the ages of 20 and 40. They are deprived of earning power. Their employers are deprived of their skills and creative abilities. Only the mental diseases are rated as a greater cause of lost earnings and working time.

But much of this need not be. Twenty years ago, when the arthritis and rheumatism society was starting, there was little that could be done for these sufferers except to feel sorry for them. Since then the society has sponsored a research program and has established rheumatic disease units in teaching hospitals at nine

Canadian medical colleges. What is learned in these activities filters down to the family physician and the community hospital, and today much can be done to prevent crippling if treatment is begun early, and much can be done to ease suffering and lessen disability in the more advanced stages.

Physiotherapy which plays an important part in the treatment of nearly all forms of arthritis, was almost unknown in Canada 20 years ago, except in military and veterans' hospitals. Today it is a part of most community hospitals and is available on an outpatient basis through the family physician. It is paid for by Ontario Hospital Insurance at no cost to the patient. York Central Hospital in Richmond Hill, has an excellent physiotherapy department, under the capable direction of Miss Elizabeth Flood, who is also chairman of York Central Committee of CARS.

There is as yet no cure for most forms of arthritis, but the society is confident that its researchers will find a cure and the means of prevention, before too many Labor Days have passed.

NEWMARKET — William Gardhouse came up with the best doe and litter in the Rabbits and Cavies Show at the CNE. His entry was a family of New Zealand whites, H. Johnston of Agincourt had the best rabbit in the show and Glenn Johnston, also of Agincourt, owned the best cavy in the show.



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Preparing for a year of camping, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Jennings have sold their dry cleaning business and variety store in Oak Ridges and will hit the road next week.

Pictured above, the Jennings are getting ready to load up their specially equipped van. They will travel to the east coast, then down through the southern states and back to Canada in the spring.

(Photo by Stuart's Studio)

## Campers Will Follow The Sun In Year Long Trip

By MARGARET LADE

Arthur and Dorothy Jennings love camping, but in the 11 years they have been operating their dry cleaning and variety store at Oak Ridges they have not had much time for it.

That all changed on September 1, however. They turned the business over to Bob Dvan and his partner, Mel/Campbell, who also have a hardware store at Oak Ridges, and on September 15 will take off for about a year, travelling and camping.

The Jennings are members of the National Campers and Hikers Association which is based in the United States and has a number of Canadian chapters. They have enjoyed several short weekends with the Campers and Hikers at their camp sites on the Trent Canal and at Whitty. In the coming year they will see many of them.

For starters they bought a large size van and folding cots that can be converted to chairs. They put carpeting on the floor and equipped it with an ingeniously constructed plywood box which is an instant kitchen when the double doors

at the back of the van are open, and a storage unit for bedding when opened from the inside of the van.

They are giving up their rented home in Aurora and will head first for Ottawa to visit their son, then on to Lachine, Quebec, where they have friends.

Their next stop will be Plattsburg, New York, to visit another son who is a captain with Transworld Airlines.

From Plattsburg they will motor on to join other campers at a large campsite at Lakeland, New Jersey.

The Jennings will avoid the Canadian winter, wandering around the southern States and crossing to the west coast. Their plans are flexible.

"When the sun starts working its way north, we will probably follow it," says Art Jennings. They have a son at Gibraltar, British Columbia, and that will be their destination in the spring.

They expect to be back in Ontario within a year, but they don't intend to rush. Time is not important.

A veteran of World War I, Mr. Jennings was with the Can-

adian forces at Ypres and was wounded in 1917. But this did not slow him down. "He was with a chemical company in Montreal, then was transferred to Toronto as secretary-treasurer. When the company was sold he and Dot decided to set up their own business."

Mrs. Jennings worked as a stenographer in Montreal, and did free lance modelling, taking part in fashion shows in Montreal and Toronto.

The business has been very demanding, but, says Art, "We

have enjoyed it. They discovered a considerable demand for used pocket books, and it has become one of the most popular features of the shop. Hundreds of the paper back books are neatly stacked in an alcove that is ideal for browsing."

Mr. Jennings laughs at the suggestion that their plans sound pretty ambitious. "You need to keep active to keep young," he declares. "I have seen so many people retire and just fade away."

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