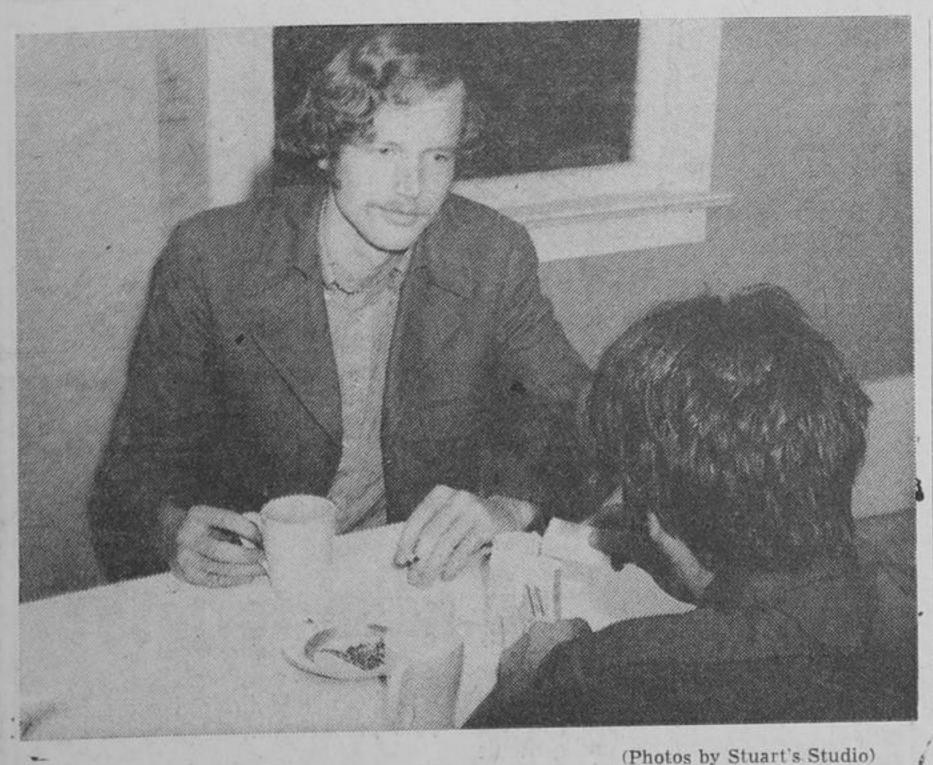
THE LIBERAL, Richmond Hill, Ontario, Thursday, Oct. 8, 1970 Local Youth Aid Centre Shares Directors' Home After Being Forced To Move Sabbisc deal with the same people who



parents associate them with hip-

AMAZED AT RESPONSE

mits. They were afraid it might

When the walls were painted

Their CAS visitor was very

market Crisis Centre, a similar

Drug work has been minimal, tunately have not had any juve-

FEW DRUG USERS there was a rule - "No writing

Richmond Hill's Youth Aid At the September 28 meeting

Monday September 14, the grant with Newmarket and that

also reported.

involved in its operation ap- equal basis."

In the cubbyhole office, fur- nile drug users.

Visitors to Richmond Hill Youth Aid Centre often seek help in determining their vocational and educational goals as well as counselling regarding personal and family problems.

They also help one another through the group dynamics process, discussing their hopes and hangups among one another. The centre is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and its staff and directors are hoping that money will soon be found so that it can continue to serve troubled youth in the community.

Pictured above, Co-executive Director John Raynor, facing camera. raps over coffee with a young visitor in the kitchen of the centre at 190 Markham Road.

By MARGARET LADE in fresh bright colors, and users. If the kids won't level The little old house by the from the sagging verandah you with us we can't do anything. railroad track is not much to walk into a large, bright orange "The young people know what look at. The verandah sags living room with well worn we are doing, but the parents and the paint is pealing, and floors and comfortable furnish- don't, she continued. "Because the crudely lettered sign, ings, but it would never win a some workers have long hair, "Youth Aid Centre" doesn't prize for decor. look too terribly professional. NEED BALANCED DIET pies and drugs. None of our

But to hundreds of young In late afternoon there are a staff is involved with drugs in people this summer, that sign few young people in jeans and any way." has been a beacon of home hirts, some with long hair and The workers would like to ards, some with short hair, reach into the community, into and the run down old how ting quietly alone, or talking the family, and get parent haven of friendship. in small groups, or wandering groups going, but with a small they were housed and fed In the bright green kitchen a staff and a small house this they could find a job and make restlessly about.

Here they found counsellors few are starting to prepare a cannot be done. to talk to and professional meal and in a small pale blue. Two adolescent psychiatrists people to tend to their physical bedroom a young man is sleep-

Here they sweated out the Barbara explains that he has regularly, consulting with staff withdrawal from drugs with started to work and is on a late and counselling clients, and a the aid of psychiatrists, psychol-shift. Another, larger bedroom medical team of seven local ogists, social workers and on the main floor will sleep doctors whose roles vary from young people who understood four. They had not intended orig- general medical assistance hold

Here they could crash for a inally to serve meals, but young clinic days and are on call in night or a week or two, they people who are job hunting or cases of emergency. A public can rap with others who, like starting to work must eat well, health nurse is also available themselves have no home, or and those who are drying out five days a week. are afraid to go home. They from drugs need a balanced Many of the young people can drop in for a few hours if diet. The food bill comes to they serve do not have medical they wish to unload their fears about \$30 a week and one lo- or hospital insurance. They have and get help in learning to cal businessman donated \$300 no money.

cope with their problems. for this purpose. The people that run YAC When the centre opened in "I am amazed at the response have enough money to keep it June, Barbara and John were of the community," Barbara exgoing to the end of October, joined by another Seneca social claimed. "It is really great." but after that what will happen service graduate, Jim Deadman. And by no means lowest on to their project and to the Two students from the addiction the list of "great" people are young people it serves? They counselling course at George the local police. had to move last week because Brown Community College were The police had misgivings the old house is to be torn hired for the summer - Ruth about YAC at first, Barbara ad-

Chancey and Ron Fuch. It all started about a year They succeeded in enlisting become a vehicle for trafficking, ago when two Seneca College only one volunteer worker - "But we keep tight control. If social service students, Barb- Richmond Hill Student Rob kids want to use drugs and ara Fawns and John Raynor, Sim, who served as liason man bring them in, they soon find opened their home at 168 Mark- between YAC and the Richmond they have to go somewhere ham Road to the troubled Hill Drop-in Centre. it is once again the YAC headpetent and responsible as the about their responsibility regar-

They were overwhelmed last paid staff, Barbara explained. ding juveniles, but so far, forspring by the physical and emthey were providing and called nished with a desk, two chairs, They did, however, provide a meeting of various members and a daybed Barbara explained room and board for a 14-yearof the community to ask for that drug addiction is an under- old at the request of the Chillying problem, "And we have dren's Aid Society, when no A board of directors was been fortunate in getting to the other accommodation could be

set up, including representa- nitty-gritty in most cases before found. tives of the social planning they got on drugs." council, public health service, Addiction Research Foundation. Drug users were slow in com- on the walls" but this rule was YWCA and two local clergy- ing to YAC, until they found withdrawn when it was found the workers could be trusted. that writing on walls could have

Barbara and John, who grad- There were only 13 in June and therapeutic value. uated from Seneca last spring, July, 21 in August. were appointed co-executive "Those who ask for help mean withdrawn, but wrote a very indirectors and were made full it," says Barbara. "We keep teresting and revealing poem close tabs on them so that they on the kitchen wall beside the members of the board.

Barbara reports that once will not be contaminated by refrigerator. Most of the graftheir plan became known in the community, the response was Hill Youth Aid Centre Gets Help

"fantastic". TOWN GIVES AID The Town of Richmond Hill agreed to pay the salaries of the co-directors for the months of June, July and August. The To Continue Until End Of Year provincial Addiction Research Foundation agreed to pay sal-

aries of two counsellors and a Centre, which has been in of council, Reeve Donald Plax-telephone counsellor for the operation for the summer ton reported that he had re-The little house at 190 Mark- months and has proved success- ceived a phone call from Newsame three months. ham Road, close to where Bar-bara and John lived, is slated more than 1,000 young people, for demolition to make your feet and 1,000 young people, contingency fund of the for demolition to make way for will continue to operate at least Country House apartments, but the owner gave until the end of the year. The YAC the use of it rent-free centre was set up as a pilot profrom June 1 to the end of ject by the Addiction Research operation. "I told them there

Foundation, with Richmond Hill proval unless our youth aid centre was in grim shape, but the Town Council contributing tre was treated on the same community rallied to the cause. \$3,000 towards its expenses. basis. Within five minutes I was A local lumber dealer donated The problem of these young called again to be told that lumber. A plumbing, heating people covered many areas. Richmond Hill would share the and electrical contractor did without charge. Plumbing group of interested citizens it would be apportioned on an hardware store gave a 50 per- proached council for an addi- The young people who used cent discount on window panes. tional \$5,000 to enable the cen- the youth aid centre on Mark-

Students of Don Head Secon- tre to continue operations until ham Road had many problems, dary School installed the win- the end of October, when it was council was told September 14, dows and a local student did believed that money would be mostly regarding family affairs, the carpentry work in the forthcoming from the provincial a need for shelter and for food house. A radio station made a government for the last two and an understanding listener. public appeal for furniture and months of the year. At a meet- It has been only recently that enough. One man donated a livan Mansbridge) September 18, ple in charge and are finding Evenings 'Til 9 P.M. other a television set.

In the service area, a dry \$2,500 would be made available help available for them. This cleaner agreed to provide free to the centre. This was con- makes continuance of the procleaning service to clients, a firmed by council in a brief ject essential, council was told. law firm offered free legal meeting following the commit- Because the house used during aid, a dentist agreed to do free tee meeting. The rest of the the summer is slated for dedental work and a pharmacist money needed to keep the cen- molition to make way for a provides prescription drugs and tre functioning has been provi- building project, other quarters

The walls inside were painted and groups in the town.

and deals with peace and love downstairs, since the ratio of "We like them to find their remain at the centre for several

GET JOB OFFERS how to go about it."

Their relations with the every girl. police have been so good that

tor quite a different picture of of their "success stories". are expected to also find a room assistance by the centre, and what a policeman is. The most outstanding is the elsewhere as soon as they get the average age of those seeking YAC has appealed to the story of a young man who was their first pay. YAC was set up help was 17. town, to ARF, to the province a ward of the Children's Aid So- to give aid in a crisis and does | NEEDS NEW HOME and to the federal authorities ciety and lived in the Richmond not readily tolerate freeloaders. When moving day arrived for financial assistance so that Hill area. When he became Through the three summer October 1, YAC was still withthe project can continue and legally independent he dropped months there were 131 counsel- out a home, although the town

Meanwhile it was kept open could not hold a job. with the aid of private dona- He was not eligible for Man- drugs, relocation of residence, financial assistance. tions and proceeds from a don- power Retraining assistance be- education, welfare assistance, Fortunately the landlord of key ball game held in Richmond cause he had not been out of financial aid, employment and the counsellors' house agreed Hill's Town Park late in August, school long enough, but he had personal affairs. Many of the to let them move the project in. In any case they would have no trade or experience and young people who have gone for It is not an ideal situation, Barhad to move before winter could not find work.

comes, for the old house was He was given accommodation their homes by their parents, keep the program going. not equipped to meet cold wea- by YAC and took a heavy equip- and without YAC would have They have learned a lot in ther. It needed a new furnace, ment course at Sheridan College, nowhere to go but the streets. the past four months, and are and there was no hot water - He graduated at the end of There were 32 referrals to now looking for a place which clients from YCA went to the August and found a job and is medical help and 9 referrals to will provide a little more space. counsellors' house for baths and now independent. to wash their hair.

And the upstairs was not in- very helpful in offering good Records show that 300 per- more writing on walls, for exsulated, for it was not intended jobs to those who need them, sons were given overnight acco- ample. as living quarters. The young Barbara reports, although a few modation, but Barbara warns the large people have called who were obtained the large people have called the large people hav

visitors comes to two boys for own jobs if they can," she ex-days and receive counselling, plained, but some do not know medical help and accommoda-

it has given many a young visi- The staff are proud of some When guests find work they Just 11 were given financial

out of school and drifted, but ling interviews covering pro- and the York County Health Unit blems having to do with family, had agreed to provide further

help have been ordered from bara admits, but at least it will

psychiatric help. Drug crisis in- They have also decided to clamp Local industries have been terventions totalled only 34. down a bit on house rules - no

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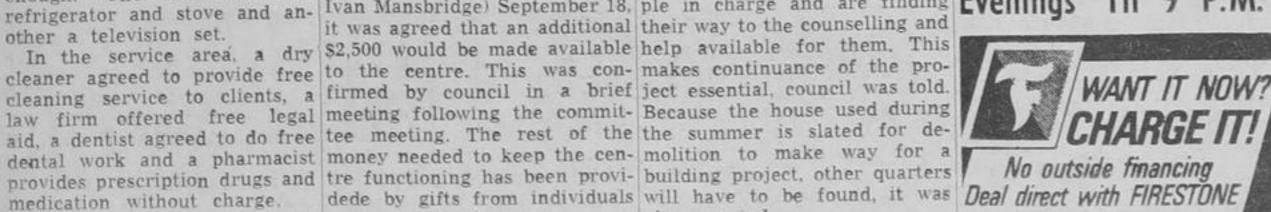
DLC-100 RETREADS

MOTOR KING 300





the response was more than ing of council's finance com- the victims of drug use have Open Thurs. and Fri.





RICHMOND HILL

884-4401