

New Trustee Former Librarian

# Margaret Coburn Is Now Ready For Action

By MARGARET LADE

King Township's new trustee to York County Board of Education, Mrs. Margaret Coburn, is not altogether a newcomer to the board.

In the past year and a half she has attended many of its meetings, served as a discussion leader at education conferences sponsored by the board, and as a member of a special committee set up to study the feasibility of an experimental school in York County.

Tall, blonde, slender and soft spoken, Mrs. Coburn lives with her husband, Fred and two sons, Ricky, 13 and Bill 10, in a house on the grounds of St. Andrews College, a private school for boys north of Aurora.

Although Mr. Coburn is mathematics master at St. Andrew's, both boys attended public schools until this year, at Kettleby Junior and Aurora Senior Schools. When Ricky went into grade 9 in September he was allowed to choose his own school, and the new science building at St. Andrew's was the deciding factor in tipping the scales in favor of the private school.

Mrs. Coburn was born in Toronto, graduated from the University of Toronto and earned her bachelor of library science degree at McGill University in Montreal.

She worked for seven years as a professional librarian, including three and one half years as an administrator before coming to York County six years ago. Since then family and community work have kept her busy.

Aurora Senior School has a wonderful library, says Mrs. Coburn. She would like to see equally good libraries in all the public schools in the county. Libraries, she said, should be pleasant places to go.

**UNOFFICIAL OBSERVER**

When the new county board came into being in January, 1969, Mrs. Coburn was president of Kettleby Parent Teacher Association. The association agreed to appoint an observer to attend meetings of the board, to report back to the other parents.

Mrs. Coburn decided to go along to keep the official company, and the more she attended meetings of the board, the more interesting she became.

"But I felt if you really want to do anything for education,

you have to get on the board," insists Mrs. Coburn.

She will not be taking her seat at the board table until January. Meanwhile she has ideas of what she would like to see happening in education in York County. "But I prefer to wait until I am there. I intend to contribute, to say what I think in a place where it can have some effect."

She admits that, once she is actively a member of the board, she may change her thinking on some matters, that some of the things she would like to see may not be easy to achieve.

Mrs. Coburn would like to see more communication between trustees and taxpayers at the grass roots level, observing, "I think the board wants it, too, but the question is — How?"

As a discussion leader in last year's education conference she found students communicated very well.

"I would like to see parents as interested and involved, to simplify communications with the man on the street. Students are gradually finding a place in policy making in schools, and this is a good thing."

The big challenge, Mrs. Coburn feels, is to try to reach the adults, teachers as well as parents.

**EDUCATION COSTS**

Regarding the cost of education, a plank in Mrs. Coburn's



MARGARET COBURN  
King Twp. Trustee

election platform was, "Better value for your education tax dollar."

On the other hand, she thinks public education is the biggest bargain in the field of public administration. School boards offer services today that were not there a generation ago — psychological services, swimming, driver education, more and better bussing of pupils, bigger and better libraries.

"People should know that these are in the schools and are for the good of society."

Her involvement in the community extended to helping organize a summer recreation program in King Township, including a "Minimanpower" service for students looking for summer jobs.

**TOPPED POLLS**

She agrees with the present trustees that schools should be put to the fullest possible use for the benefit of all the people. The classroom, however, should be the prime concern of the board, declares Mrs. Coburn.

Meanwhile she is attending every meeting of the board so that she will know as much as possible about its operations when the new board takes over in January.

Mrs. Coburn is one of two trustees representing the Township of King. In the October 5 election she headed the polls in a three-way battle, receiving 1,496 votes. Trustee Marvin Hunter was re-elected with 1,277 votes, and Trustee David Bachly with 1,031 votes lost his bid for re-election.

There will be four other women on the 18-member board in January. Richmond Hill Trustee Deena Simpson and Markham Trustee Louise Aimone and Merna Colbourne were all re-elected, and Mrs. Marianne Gillan of Sutton picked up the seat vacated by Trustee Les Burrows. Mr. Burrows did not stand for re-election.

**Learning Problems Topic For Meeting**

Two authorities on the learning problems of children will be guests at a meeting of Unionville and District Home and School Association in Parkview Public School at 8:15 pm next Tuesday.

The film, "Why Billy Can't Learn" will be presented by Mrs. Marian Howorth of the Canadian Association for Children With Learning Disabilities, and Maynard Hallman, superintendent of special education for York County Board of Education will be present to tell what is being done for these children in the schools of York County.

At the same meeting, Markham Township Trustee Mrs. Louise Aimone will install the new executive for 1970-71.

**WILLOWDALE** — Two new libraries are badly needed in the northeast area of North York. R. E. Hitchcock, borough library board chairman, told Board of Control last week.

He said a major library is needed in the Peanut area on Don Mills Road, north of Sheppard Avenue, where there is a population of 65,000 without library facilities and a small library is to serve the Hillcrest area on Leslie Avenue, north of Finch Avenue.

Controllers agreed to study the library board's demands.

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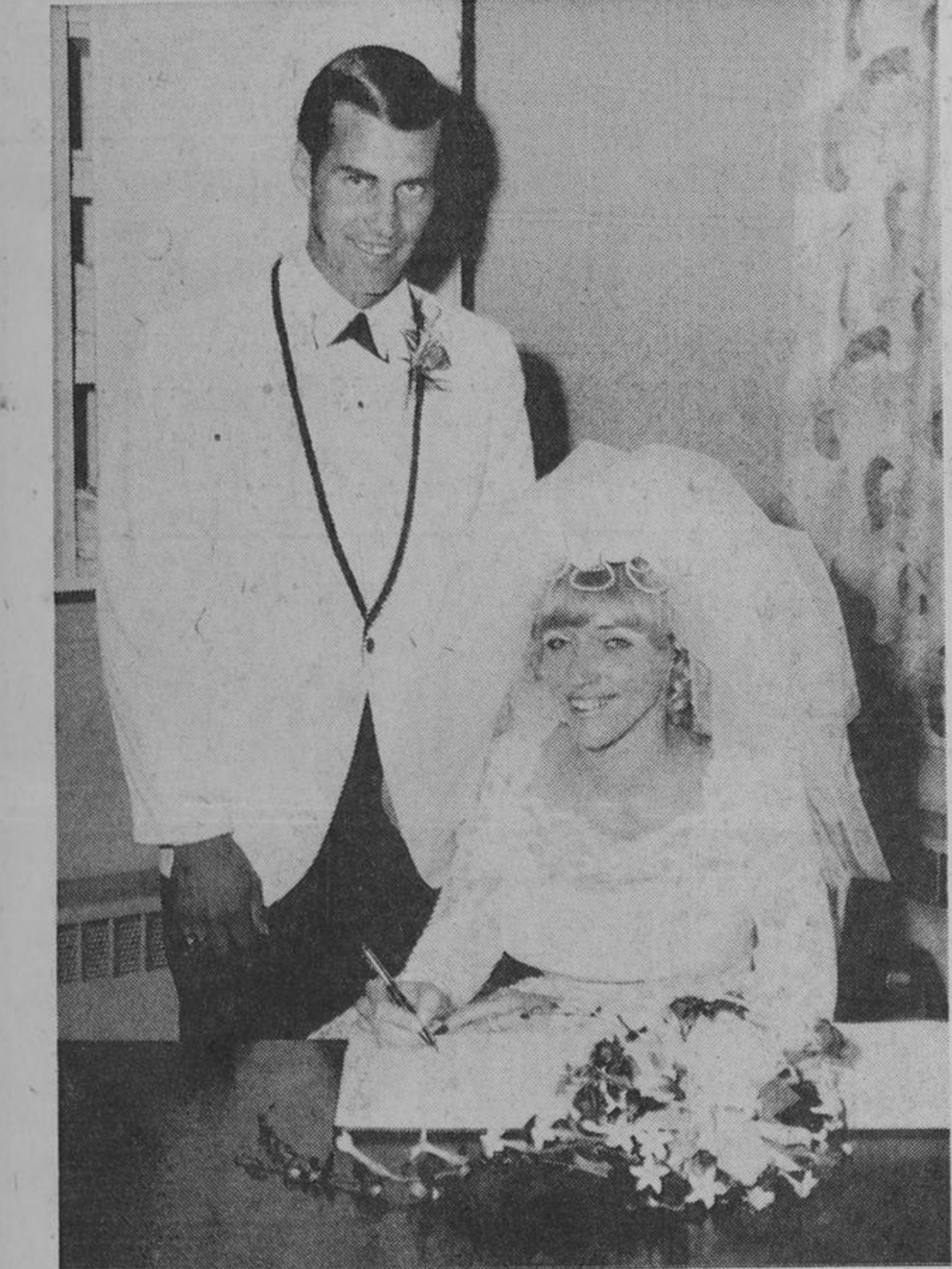
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MR. AND MRS. FRANCIS JUNKIN SIGN THE REGISTER

## Happy Couple Now Living In Oshawa

White gladioli and pink daisy chrysanthemums formed the attractive setting in the Anglican Church of St. Gabriel and Archangel, Richmond Hill East, for the August 22 Wedding of Judith Sandra Godwin, to Francis Dale Junkin. Rev. David Sproule officiated at the ceremony and the organist was Miss Judy Walker of Bobcaygeon.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Earl Godwin of Lennox Avenue, Richmond Hill, and the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Junkin of Bobcaygeon.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a full length traditional gown of tiered lace over taffeta, long fitted sleeves, fitted bodice and a scalloped neckline with tear-shaped pearls. The tiered lace on the skirt formed a train. Her headdress of clusters of white roses with scalloped edge of pearls held a three-tier nylon net veil with scalloped edges trimmed with tear-shaped pearls. She carried red sweet-heart roses with a falling cascade of white stephanotis sur-

rounding a white - yellow throated orchid.

Matron of honor was Mrs. Joseph Handley of Fenelon Falls and the bridesmaids were Brenda Hodgson of Burnt River, Mrs. Wayne Junkin of Oshawa, Mrs. Darryl Middleton and Mrs. John Brash of Richmond Hill. All wore sleeveless floor-length gowns in chartreuse green with fitted bodices and matching side bows, standup collars and ruffle trimming on the hemlines. Their headdresses and cascade bouquets were of pink daisy chrysanthemums.

Flower girl was Pamela Sheehy of Burnt River, who wore a dress fashioned similar to those of the senior attendants. She carried a basket of deep pink daisy chrysanthemums. Allen Lee of Orillia was the ring-bearer.

Best man was the groom's brother, Wayne Junkin of Oshawa and ushers were the brides brother Gary Godwin of Richmond Hill, Brian Campbell and the groom's cousin Robert Junkin, both of Bobcaygeon.

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