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Many Bylaws Extended To Apply To New Town

Several former Richmond Hill bylaws were extended to cover the areas annexed to Richmond Hill on January 1 by Bill 102, at the April 5 meeting of town council. Until that time the new town has been under five different sets of bylaws, those of the former town and of the former Townships of Vaughan, Markham, King and Whitby.

The 19 bylaws dealt with included those to:

- * Regulate taxis, owners and drivers
- * License certain trades and occupations
- * Issue kennel licenses
- * Regulate noises
- * Regulate car washers
- * License bicycles (once only)
- * Require adequate heat
- * Prohibit sale of refreshments in public places
- * Fence swimming pools
- * Prohibit dogs running at large
- * Control raffles, bingoes and lotteries
- * License garages and service stations
- * License motels, motor courts, etc.
- * Regulate snowmobiles
- * Regulate and prohibit sale of fireworks.

The dog control bylaw revision brings an increase in fees: from \$3 to \$4 for one male or spayed female; from \$6 to \$10 for one bitch, from \$8 to \$10 for two males, from \$15 to \$20 for two bitches; from \$12 to \$15 for a male and a bitch, from \$8 to \$10 for a male and a spayed female.

Three new rates include \$11 for two spayed females, \$15 for the combination of a bitch and a spayed female and \$12 for the third and each additional dog.

Councillor Lois Hancey attempted to have the rates revert to those in effect under the old bylaw, contending that these fees are not intended to be a revenue-raising source but merely to pay for the costs of administration of the bylaw. "The bylaw itself was designed to be regulatory, not punitive," she argued, but failed to get a second to her amendment to this effect.

The bylaw to license restaurants, also extended to the whole area of the new town, had its penalty clause changed from \$50 to \$300.

The bylaw to license driving schools, also extended, also saw a change. Liability insurance now required is \$100,000 instead of \$50,000.

The bylaw regulating refreshment vehicles also requires liability insurance of \$100,000 now, an increase from \$50,000.

The wording of the bylaw controlling posting of notices, signs, etc., also had a slight revision and will now apply everywhere in Richmond Hill.

The 13 two-bedroom suites and six one-bedroom suites in the building now nearing completion on Elizabeth Street South. Occupancy is expected by the latter part of May and the completion cleanup and landscaping operations by mid-June. The roof is on, plastering and grading for landscaping is underway.

The 19-suite apartment building is being erected by Humber-Wood Products Limited, a local firm with offices located at 35 Yonge Street North. The phone number is 884-9621.

The firm's president Egor Maskin told "The Liberal" that his firm has owned the property for the past two years and its first steps in the redevelopment of the area was to demolish the existing houses which had been allowed to deteriorate badly.

Since Condominium ownership trend is more to older people who are finding the upkeep of their own homes too burdensome, it is the owners' intention to restrict purchases to childless people. There are

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OTTAWA REPORT

By **John Roberts MP**
YORK SIMCOE

JUSTIFIES OTTAWA'S DECISION TO INCLUDE TEACHERS IN UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SCHEME

I have received a lot of correspondence recently from school teachers complaining over the proposal to include them in the unemployment insurance program. They argue that they will receive a few benefits — since they believe they are unlikely to be unemployed — and therefore resist paying the 60 to 92 cents a week which they would have to contribute. Under the proposal a \$10,000 a year teacher would contribute \$25 annually, tax deductible, or a grand net sum of \$17.

Unemployment insurance is a social insurance scheme founded on the principle of universality so that as many people as possible can benefit from the provisions of the program.

Changing social and economic conditions and changing technology are spreading the risk of unemployment. The stability of occupations, such as nursing, teaching, police work, the armed forces and the public service, can no longer be taken for granted. Supply may exceed the demand; austerity measures can cause "redundancy"; and technological change can cause temporary interruption of earnings while workers learn new skills or become reabsorbed in different occupations.

The risk of unemployment is no longer restricted to a particular segment of the labor force. There are teacher surplus in many of the major centres in both Ontario and Quebec and the individuals affected surely need some form of income protection during that time when they are looking for alternate employment opportunities.

The White Paper proposals regarding unemployment insurance have not yet been translated into legislation. When this is done, and if the bill is passed by Parliament — 1.2 million people will become contributors to the unemployment insurance scheme for the first time. Of course, these contributions are tax deductible. All employees, regardless of their income, will contribute and be eligible for benefits if the need arises. As with any insurance scheme or policy, however, it is the fortunate ones who never need collect the benefits. Members of Parliament are to be included and the only ones excluded for the present will be those who are self-employed. The Minister of Labor has indicated that his department is seeking a feasible way to bring these people into the plan as well.

Before the White Paper proposals were tabled in the House

of Commons, the Canadian Teachers' Federation was consulted about the concept of universal coverage. At that time, no adverse reaction was registered. The indications are that in Parliament there is all-party support for the universal coverage proposal.

It is false to say that unemployment insurance will be of no benefit to teachers except in the remotest circumstances. For example, everyone who contributes to the fund will be eligible for a three-week retirement benefit. In the case of most secondary school teachers this will represent a refund of about 10 years contributions. In addition, the sickness and pregnancy provisions will allow for a decreased cost both to teachers and also to boards for their existing insurance against these contingencies. It is also arguable that teachers with working wives would benefit from the pregnancy benefits.

Many people fail to realize that some two million members of the labor force have no protection at all from the vagaries of illness. Ottawa has tried to develop a scheme that would be of more realistic benefit to the members of the labor force. To do so through the UI program is the cheapest and most feasible method of meeting this obvious need.

The Canadian Teachers' Federation in its recent appearance before the Commons Committee expressed support for the social desirability of providing meaningful income support for all Canadians.

To my mind, the weakness of the teachers' argument, without ever contesting the question of whether or not there will always be a high demand for teachers, is the fact that they themselves express the view that working people suffering a temporary interruption of earnings through no fault of their own, ought to have an income replacement package. Due to the introduction of universality, the federal government is able to provide a low cost, (approximately 30 to 35 per cent net to teachers) plan for which they too will be eligible. The alternative would be to finance such a scheme out of general tax revenue. As a result of the present complicated tax sharing arrangements with the provinces, such a financing method would invariably result in a substantially higher cost to the school teachers.

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