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The Liberal

"In Essentials Unity; in Non-Essentials Liberty; in all things Charity"

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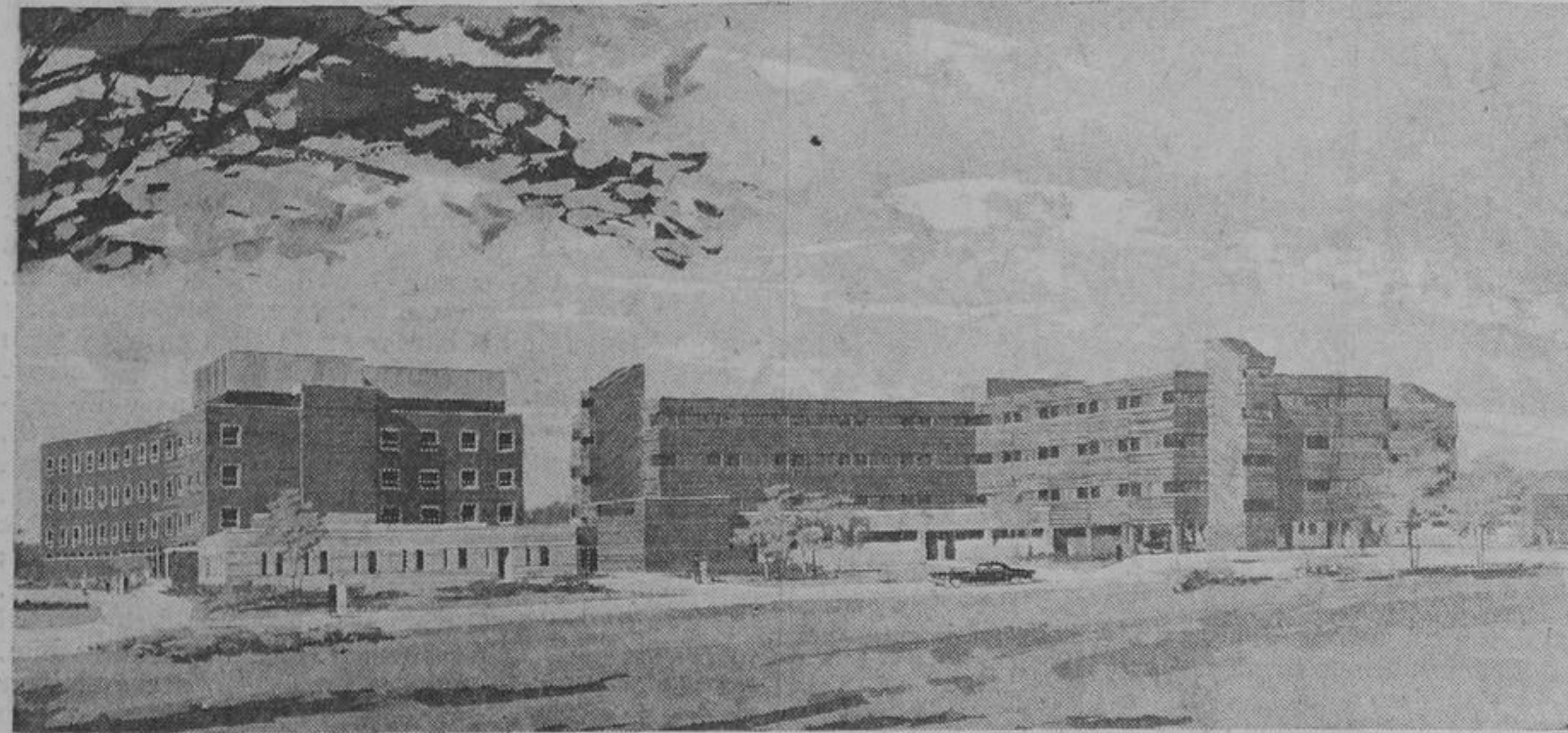
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Architect's drawing of York Central Hospital as it will be when two additions are completed.

Expansion Underway At York Central Hospital

The excavation for the first addition to York Central Hospital on Vaughan Road has been completed, and the contractors are now pouring concrete for the foundation.

It is expected, reports Administrator James Hepburn, that the two-storey structure will be completed by late September or early October.

It will provide accommodation for admitting offices, radiology, waiting area, shipping and receiving, bulk storage and soiled linen holding area, relieving overcrowding in the present hospital until a new and much larger hospital can be built.

Nine tenders were received by Toronto Architects Marani, Rounthwaite and Dick, and were opened on April 15. The contract was awarded to the lowest bidder, E. G. M. Cope of Toronto, and cost is estimated at \$297,671.

Directors hope that the second phase will bring the hospital's capacity to 414 beds, nearly 300 more than can now be accommodated. Project Architect George Mallon told the hospital's annual meeting on April 6 that they hope to get started on the second building early in 1972.

PSYCHIATRIC DEPARTMENT

When it is completed, the phase one addition will serve

Bonanza Days Richmond Heights

Richmond Heights Centre will celebrate its 11th anniversary this weekend with the annual Bonanza Days promotion. All member stores are co-operating in making this a weekend full of shopping bargains as advertised in the third section of this issue of "The Liberal."

Besides that there will be lots of fun for every member of the family. The famous Wilkie Ranger will be present Thursday, Friday and Saturday in full western costume and a hilarious clown band will be entertaining Thursday and Friday from 7 to 9 pm and Saturday from 10 am to 1 pm. For the kiddies there will be a merry-go-round and pony rides.

For everyone in the family there will be barbecued beef on a bun with all proceeds going to the local Scouts.

In addition there are several Bonanza Bucks in this issue to be spent as indicated. Additional ones will be available from most stores and will buy you hot dogs, soft drinks or chips at the outdoor lunch counters at amazingly low prices. See the third section of this issue of "The Liberal" for bargains for the whole family.

Young People Keen Supporters Of Foster Parent Plan To Adopt A Child, Help A Family

BY MARGARET LADE

In the 33 years of its operation, 600,000 individuals, families and groups have become foster parents through the Foster Parents Plan, assisting over 110,000 children and their families in South America, Asia and Europe.

At present 14 families in Richmond Hill and numerous school and community groups in the Region of York are among the 11,000 foster parents who contribute to Plan of Canada.

On May 6, Munro Ashkanase a resident of Richmond Hill and national director of Plan of Canada, was host at a meeting at Eaton Auditorium in Metro where guests had an opportunity to meet and talk with Glenn Rogers, field director for Foster Parents Plan of Columbia in South America.

Foster Parents Plan was born in 1937 when thousands of children orphaned and displaced by the Spanish Civil War roamed the streets in search of food and shelter. As an even greater war engulfed the continent, the

program expanded and at the end of World War II Plan headquarters were opened in Belgium, Holland, Poland, Czechoslovakia, France, Italy, Greece and China.

Foster parents, individuals or groups, provide \$204 a year as a cash contribution toward the support and education of a child in need, with most of the help coming from Canada, the United States and Australia.

Since Plan works only in countries unable to care for their own poor, present operations are chiefly in Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Indonesia, Korea, the Philippines and Vietnam.

For years, Canadian foster parents made contact through the International headquarters in New York, but as more and more people were participating, Canada received its own charter and opened a small office in Montreal.

In 1968 a board of directors was appointed, and Foster Parents Plan of Canada became completely autonomous, although it does con-

tinue to use computer services in New York.

In 1970 a new Canadian head office was opened on St. Clair Avenue in Toronto and Mr. Ashkanase was appointed national director.

Mr. Ashkanase has been a resident of Richmond Hill for more than 15 years. He worked in marketing and sales for about 35 years before assuming his present position, and was active for ten years in the cancer society, serving for a time as chairman of the Central Counties Cancer Society in Ontario and as a member of the society's national board.

He is a member of the Summit Golf and Country Club, Richmond Hill Curling Club, and has three grown children. His son, Ronald, is a high school teacher in Peterboro, and daughter Wendy, who married Dwight Powell of Richmond Hill last year and lives in Thornhill, graduated as a gold medalist in statistical mathematics in 1969 and is now an economist with the provincial treasury department.

Mr. and Mrs. Ashkanase and daughter Donna, who will graduate from Osgoode Hall Law School this spring, live at 74 Leisure Lane. They are members of St. Mary's Anglican Church, where Mr. Ashkanase is a past warden

and has served on several committees. At the meeting in Toronto May 6, an award winning film depicting the work of the Foster Parents Plan was shown, and there was a display of children's art work.

The guest of honor, Mr. Rogers, spoke of his work with refugee children and families. In Colombia, where he is director, the Plan centre in Bogota serves 5,600 families, and in Buenaventura 1,400.

His responsibilities include administration of the two offices which employ 117 full and part-time personnel — social workers, dentists, doctors, translators, teachers, administrative, clerical and maintenance staff — and the planning and execution of programs for both centres.

Plans are underway for opening a new office for Tumaco, a town of approximately 34,000 people, on the Colombian coast, and Mr. Rogers will be directing and co-ordinating its operations and programs.

The typical foster child may live in a wooden shack that offers little protection against rain and cold, or relief from scorching heat.

Six or seven or eight people might live in one room, without water, without electricity. They stay alive on a diet of rice, bread, beans and coffee.

The family is usually directed to Plan by a member of the community; a local clergyman, case worker, or friend who knows that help is available.

A foster child remains in Plan until he reaches the age of 18 and is self-supporting, or until the family's income improves and Plan aid is no longer needed.

gives immediate aid and comfort to the child and his entire family, providing more nutritious food and helping to pay tuition fees for the foster child and his brothers and sisters. In many countries there are no free schools, so many children are denied even the most elementary formal education.

Health services are made available for the child and his family. Basic household supplies, vitamins and other diet supplements and school supplies are distributed to them.

The foster child and his family meet monthly with a social worker who follows their progress and offers counselling.

Strong emphasis is placed on education, and special vocational training courses are given or supported by Plan, and mothers are taught hygiene and the use of available food for better nutrition.

The mothers also learn first aid and home management so that they can help not only their own families,

but other sick or working mothers. A non-profit, nonsectarian, nonpolitical organization, Plan emphasizes that the responsibility of a foster parent is voluntary, not legal. The foster child remains with his family because the aim of Plan is to strengthen the family unit by providing its members with a chance to improve their health, education and opportunities to become self-supporting and independent.

Host countries give assistance in permitting duty-free importation of plan goods, and arranging free shipment of these goods within the country.

Mr. Ashkanase says that he is impressed by the number of young people who have taken on the responsibility of foster parents, from elementary school classes to secondary schools and youth groups and organizations.

It is not only wars, the administrators point out, that are responsible for the ever-increasing numbers of displaced children. An earthquake in Peru just a year

ago lasted for 45 seconds, but an estimated 30,000 to 80,000 people were killed, and it will take at least ten years for the people of Peru to rebuild their country.

At the time Foster Parents Plan was working with 3,400 children and their families in Peru. Six of these children were killed and 35 injured. In addition 54 family members were killed and 275 injured. All of these families lost their homes and most lost all of their belongings.

Hurricanes, famines, and other disasters beyond the control of man continue to occur and recur, leaving in their wake devastation and starvation. Plan does not just provide emergency handouts, it also provides materials and technical assistance which help the people to help themselves, to build a dam in Bolivia that will provide electricity and water. With a minimum of supervision from Plan, the villagers of Villa Las Delicias are creating for themselves a self-sufficient community.

Don't Hold Your Breath Waiting For Tax Bill

York Region property taxpayers won't know what their taxes are going to be for quite a while yet, not before mid-summer at least.

Regional Administrative Officer Jack Rennie is planning to put before council a major report on 1971 expenditures today.

But the taxes and assessment in the new region are in such a mixup that it will take months yet to sort the situation out.

Some municipalities in the new region have appealed their assessment rolls and this matter has been bouncing around in the provincial courts without being settled.

All the new arrangements between new municipalities and the new region have to be worked out, and the province has to set its grant figures.

Many special new calculations have to be made where town and township boundaries were changed and municipalities amalgamated.

In the meantime property owners are being billed for part of their taxes. So don't hold your breath waiting to know your tax costs.

Best take your holidays and forget about it for now.

Amendment Number 3 to Richmond Hill's Official Plan was given third reading and passed at the May 17 council meeting. This is the amendment dealing with the Town Park Neighborhood, which will permit redevelopment of the present industrial land in higher density residential uses such as townhouses and apartment buildings.

On a recorded vote, Councillors Andre Chateaubert, Lois Hancey, Stewart Bell, Louis Wainwright, Regional Councillor Gordon Rowe and Mayor William Lazenby voted in favor, with Regional Councillor Donald Plaxton, and Councillors David Schiller and Shaun Beggs in opposition.

The decision was reached after council considered a presentation by the town's Solicitor Tom Fraser who had been consulted on means of retaining control of the redevelopment of the area by using a "holding zone" designation or other means. Mr. Fraser did not favor this means of control.

Councillor Hancey explained that the amendment was prompted by the application of Rushmore Investments to redevelop the Bond Street property on Markham Road in apartments and townhouses and that the planning consultants had been asked to take a look at the whole area. The amendment contains their recommendation, with zoning areas indicated in a broad sense.

She pointed out that the next step was to come up with the zoning bylaw to implement these recommendations. "Your planning committee, staff and the solicitor will be researching the various means open to control the development before this bylaw is prepared."

"In principle, the zoning bylaw is a secondary item," added Planning Director Hessie Adrison. "Council should address itself to redevelopment of the industrial land between Pugsley and the CNR. Once that has been resolved it will be time to decide about the rest. The town's policy is stated in amendment 3. In Toronto they leave the zoning as it is and change it as applications come in. In terms of what we are trying to achieve we want to have reasonably large areas of land redeveloped and this is a way of ensuring that. If redevelopment is done piece-meal there is no way we can have an overall plan which will be aesthetically acceptable."

"The Official Plan should be a statement of the use the land should be put to," stated Mr. Plaxton as he outlined his reasons for objection. "I'm opposed to the kind of development proposed by amendment Number 3 and I believe any property owner in that area would be justified in saying to council 'You owe me the obligation to rezone according to the Official Plan.' We should not operate on single applications."

Mr. Plaxton also objected to the "inadequate" amount of parking provided in the amendment, and lack of services. "If you use up the available services for housing, it will be evident that this is the type of development that council wants," he warned. "Recalling that he had voted in favor of the Rushmore development, because 'it will create fewer problems than the present usage of the land', Councillor Schiller voted in opposition to amendment 3 because he felt that it had not been researched fully. "We are not in possession of all the facts we need to make this decision. I am in favor of the

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Nomination Meet Cancelled

The Progressive - Conservative nomination meeting for the provincial riding of York Centre, scheduled for May 19 at Thornhill Secondary School, was cancelled. It is planned to hold the meeting in September. Vaughan Councillor David Fraser, Thornhill lawyer, had announced he would seek the candidacy, and several other names were mentioned.

The riding, known then as York North, was held by the PC's from 1945 to 1967, with Major Lex Macenzie as the standard-bearer. In the October 1967 election the seat passed to the Liberal camp.

Markham Town Employee Union Sets May 31 As Strike Deadline

Members of the Markham Town Employee Union have announced they will go on strike next Monday if their wage demands aren't met.

President Douglas Flood of Local 1219, Canadian Union of Public Employees, told "The Liberal" this week a strike vote was taken and 90 percent favored strike action.

The union claims a membership of 85 people. The dispute between the union and municipality went before a conciliation officer, but conciliation broke down.

The issues between union and municipality are very complicated and confused. Markham Town this year is an amalgam of two former municipalities. Previously there were two union locals.

Some employees of the two former municipalities are working for the new Regional Municipality of York, as well.

The union isn't looking for a general wage increase, so much as an adjustment of salaries in line with neighboring municipalities that have been unionized much longer.

The employees of the former Markham Township only received their first certification in 1969 after a long fight. The employees of the former Markham Town were certified even later.

The provincial legislation creating the new and enlarged Markham Town and the Regional Municipality of York is said to have left the matter of unions in a somewhat cloudy condition.

Both Union Local President Flood and Markham Mayor Anthony Roman have issued detailed public statements.

Mayor Roman called the union statement intemperate, and said it had contained certain misstatements of fact.

The mayor told "The Liberal" the town's negotiating team was given guidelines by the council and proceeded with talks in good faith.

"They shouldn't use a strike lever over our heads," said Mayor Roman, explaining that delays and difficulties are due to problems created by January 1 transition to the new regional government of York, and the establishment of the new town. Union Leader Flood accuses

the municipality of insincerity, deviousness and delaying tactics.

He says the town has only offered wage increase of six percent, while other nearby municipal employees have received 10 percent increases.

The union negotiating team includes President Flood, and members George Roberts, Phil Pearson and Barry Milne.

The town's negotiating team includes Town Clerk Harry Crisp, Deputy-Clerk Neil Brodie, and Solicitor John Sanderson of the Toronto firm of Matthews, Dinsdale and Clark.

\$6,978.65 Bus Loss First Quarter 1971

Corroborating the TTC forecast of \$20,000 to \$25,000 deficit in the operation of the Yonge Street buses this year, the statement of earnings of the Richmond Hill Bus Service for the first quarter of 1971 reveals a deficit of \$6,978.65 including provision of \$530.31 for seat tax.

Of this amount Richmond Hill's share is 61.28% or \$4,276.52 with the remainder being shared by the Towns of Vaughan (10.77%) and Markham (27.95%). Until Richmond Hill's boundaries were extended under regional government the deficits and profits were shared on a 50%, 25%, 25% basis with Richmond Hill's share being 50%.

Revenue for the service since the first of the year was \$39,064.77 down from the \$31,289.74 taken in the same period of 1970. However, operating expenses increased to \$36,513.11 this year from \$32,834.98 last year. Last year's deficit for the same period was \$2,087.02 including \$542.02 Ontario seat tax.

The Yonge buses travelled 409 miles more than in the same period of 1970 but collected only 296,745 fares (7 per mile) as contrasted to 312,539 (7.44 per mile) last year. As the operating revenue dropped 3.61 cents per mile, operating expense climbed 7.92 cents per mile.