

Public Library,
24 Wright St.,
Richmond Hill,
5 June 6-5-4-3-2

The Liberal

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

PIPES

One of THE LARGEST SELECTIONS in the Metro area
Brigham • R&H • Peterson • Medico, Etc.

Stop 'N Shop

DISCOUNT MARTS
Richmond Heights Centre - Richmond Hill
884-6423 Mon. to Sat. 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Sundays 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

VOL. 95, NO. 24.

RICHMOND HILL, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1971

HOME PAPER OF THE DISTRICT SINCE 1878

PRICE 15c PER COPY



(Photo by Stuart's Studio)

Permanent Residents And Transient Guests

Richmond Hill's Mill Pond is a year round haven for water fowl, including two swans, three large white geese, countless Canada geese and various varieties of wild ducks. In the fall, migrating water fowl also find it a pleasant place to rest for a while before resuming their flight southward. Therefore Keeper of the Birds Fred Thomas is kept busy at this time of year distributing supplies of food.

The above picture shows a small portion of the large flock which recently crowded the open water and waddled across the frozen surface of the pond with dignity in search of food. Most have taken off for warmer climes. But the swans, white geese and a few wild fowl will remain as Mr. Thomas' charges through the winter.

Town Council Recommends

20.7 Miles Roads Region Takeover

The Regional Municipality of York recently discovered that if it brought its roads mileage up to or beyond a certain figure it would be eligible for a 75% grant from the provincial government.

To qualify for this higher grant the region proposes to take over several roads in each municipality in the region. On these roads the municipality now receives a grant of only 50%.

Richmond Hill Town Council wants the region to take over Bayview Avenue from the Gormley Sideroad to CFRB Sideroad, Leslie Street (Concession 3) from Highway 7 to the CFRB Sideroad, Carville Road from Yonge Street to Highway 404, Elgin Mills Road from Bayview to Highway 404 and 19th Avenue from Bathurst Street to Highway 404, a total of 20.70 miles.

Town council decided New-

kirk Road and Crosby Avenue, suggested by the region for takeover, be retained as local roads. It was also decided to retain the South Road at Lake Wilcox as a municipal road pending the outcome of the study on that area.

Adoption of Bayview Avenue would be subject to re-alignment of the road allowance in the Lake Wilcox area in a manner satisfactory to the town.

STRINGS ATTACHED

The region will also be requested to submit to the town a statement of regional policy affecting the extent of development control to be exercised on both sides of a regional road. The town also wants the region to consult with the municipalities on construction priorities to be applied to the entire regional road system.

A further provision is that the town be permitted to turn over any excess manpower and equipment, resulting from the road transfer, to the region.

"I think this is very important," stated Councillor Lois Hancey. "I am not convinced that the number of roads in the region described as regional roads are used as regional roads. Nor is it proper to assume roads in order to get a higher grant from the province. I am not all together certain the region can financially support a system of this magnitude. Nor will funds be available for a reasonable construction program in the future."

"I am not thoroughly convinced that all roads being taken over are regional roads. I know it is important to obtain as much grant as possible under the existing formula, but there is always a chance that it will be changed as some funds are siphoned off into other areas of transportation."

HANCEY'S RESERVATIONS

"I know there has to be a decision by the end of the year, but I think the region would be better advised to sit down and assess the grid pattern of arterial roads. It hasn't been established how long the province will continue to pick up a large portion of the former Metro contribution."

"I realize the takeover is an answer to some problems. It will cut down the cost of road maintenance and construction to the municipality. But this cost is still going to be paid at the regional level and this cost will be shared over the whole region."

"I have to look at the question from the regional point of view," said Regional Councillor Gordon Rowe, "and I assure Mrs. Hancey these roads fit into the grid pattern."

"It sounds like an excellent deal for the town," commented Regional Councillor Donald Plaxton. "It seems to me to be an economy to let the region take these roads over."

"Spotlight" Column Has New Writer

Mona Robertson, former associate editor of "The Liberal," free lance writer and host of current TV series "Chat Chat With Mona" Tuesday nights on Richmond Hill Cable TV is the new writer of "Spotlight" a regular weekly feature of "The Liberal."

Born and educated in Toronto, Mrs. Robertson has been a resident of this area for 22 years. Her interest in the community is evident in her active participation in its activities.

She served as vice-chairman of the Vaughan Township Public School Board, catalogued the Richmond Hill town bylaws, directed programming for the local senior citizens club, and has served as a volunteer with the Canadian Cancer Society, Richmond Hill Unit for many years. At present she is serving as assistant chairman of planning, nominations and development for this society.

Mrs. Robertson owns and operates two local employment agencies — the Mona Robertson Temporary Placement Service and the A-1 Employment Agency for permanent placements.



Seven residents of Richmond Hill will receive an extra Christmas gift this year.

Richmond Hill Hydro for the seventh consecutive year is offering prizes for the most imaginative and artistic outdoor residential lighting displays. Although the local hydro deals only with the old town of Richmond Hill, it has decided to offer a prize for those residents of the annexed areas to the north and a prize for those residents of the annexed areas to the south in addition to the customary five prizes within the old town.

No formal application is needed for this contest — just put out your display and the judges will be around to view it and make their decision. Winners are expected to be announced between Christmas and New Years. This contest in past years has played no small part in encouraging home owners to use their imaginations and install beautiful lighting which gives the whole town a most attractive Christmas appearance.

Prizes this year will include: a 30-cup party perk, a buffet fry pan, a baseboard heater, a blender, a combination electric clock and can opener, a hair dryer and an electric knife.

Catholic Board Plans Program For Gifted Children In County Schools

By MARGARET LADE
York County Roman Catholic Board is planning a \$10,000 special program for gifted children.

At a meeting November 30 trustees heard a presentation by Special Education Consultant Frank Wilkinson of the Department of Education, Region 8. With the aid of an overhead projector he gave reports on programs of four larger boards, pointing out the strengths and weaknesses of these programs.

Advised by staff that gifted children are often drop-outs or discipline problems because the average teaching program turns them off, the board asked staff in June to bring in a report and recommendations.

The study of segregated classes and programs for the gifted was carried out by Wilkinson aided by the York County Board's Superintendent Joe Hodze and Assistant Superintendent John Zupancic.

1% ARE GIFTED

In his report to the board, Wilkinson said that approximately one percent of the student population fall within the gifted range. In the case of the separate schools of

York, this would involve approximately 40 pupils.

The number of gifted children in the school systems studied ranged from 750 to 75 pupils. They were in segregated classes. Age range was from eight to 14 and grade span from grade 3 to grade 8.

In addition two boards had special programs for children from six to 14 and from grade 1 to grade 9. The board with the smallest number in segregated classes had the largest number in special programs.

All children were tested before going into the special classes and programs. While one board entered children with an IQ of 125 or more, another took only those with an IQ of 140 or more. An IQ of 90 to 109 is considered normal.

DIFFERENT SYSTEMS

While three boards used experienced, above average teachers, the fourth used regular classroom teachers supported by consultants and resource teachers. In-service training for the teachers in the special programs was provided by this and

(Continued on Page 15)

Seek 100 Percent Subsidy

Project Day Care Goes To Province

By MARGARET LADE

Seasoned politicians at York Regional Council pinched themselves to be sure they were not dreaming.

They rubbed their eyes and looked at one another in awe and disbelief.

They had to ask Georgina Mayor Dr. George Burrows, chairman of the health and social services committee, to repeat what he had just said and to ask Health and Social Services Commissioner Dr. Owen Slingerland to explain again just what it was he had put before them.

At a meeting October 28 council was informed the province made \$10 million available to municipalities for building and equipping day care centres across the province. The program would serve a dual purpose. It would make it possible for municipalities to provide the services where needed. It would also help to relieve unemployment.

To make sure the municipalities did not just sit on their hands, the province offered to pay the full cost of building up to the end of May. After that the subsidy would be reduced to 80 percent.

The reaction was predictable: "This is great, but we can't determine need, find sites, buy land, put up buildings so soon?"

By Drs. Burrows and Slingerland are too new to the political scene. They did not grasp the basic rules. They came up with a plan. And not only a plan, but an architect's model of a day care centre to be built on land owned by the region and very strategically located.

In just four weeks, on November 25, the rough drawings and the model were unveiled. The site — a corner of the York Farm property at Newmarket, a short distance from York Manor and a stone's throw away from the GO station on Yonge Street.

Dr. Slingerland told council that, although \$10 million sounds like a lot of money, it will be distributed throughout the province. Municipalities will have to move quickly to get a slice of the pie. York, he said, has an excellent chance of getting its full share because it has land available and it has a plan.

The proposed building would have 11,000 square feet of floor space and would cost about one-quarter of a million dollars to build. It would have accommodation for 20 children under two years, 75 children aged two to six, and 20 retarded children.

It would be the first day care centre operated by the region. Existing centres in Richmond Hill and Newmarket operate in churches. The region, he said, would continue to subsidize the other centres where there is a need.

Dr. Slingerland assured council the centre will be open to all residents of the region. Because of the strategic location, it would be convenient for people to the north who travel to the Metropolitan area to work.

Dr. Burrows pointed out the day care centre would not interfere with any future plans for constructing regional offices on the property.

King Township Mayor Kenneth MacTaggart objected to centralizing day care in the Yonge Street corridor. Dr. Burrows said his report had included a recommendation that a comprehensive study be made of the entire region to see where the need is. If there is a need in Nobleton, he said, the region should take

advantage of provincial subsidies to provide one.

Whitchurch - Stouffville Mayor Kenneth Laushway was concerned about costs of operation. "I cannot go along with supporting it unless I know that those who can afford it pay the costs." The centre would serve only one area, he said, but the whole area would pay.

He was assured parents will be required to pay for the service if they could afford to do so.

Georgina Councillor Robert Pollock said many people from the north do not go near Yonge Street on their way to work. He asked if it would be feasible to also provide a day care centre somewhere on Woodbine Avenue.

See Editorial Page 2

Dr. Slingerland was asked if the service would be available on an occasional basis, for example if a mother was hospitalized for a week or two, or was it just for people who would be using it on a continuing basis.

As long as space is available, the doctor replied, any person living in the region can use it. Richmond Hill Councillor Gordon Rowe said many people would be using the service. It has been found that people come from considerable distances to use the day care centre in Richmond Hill.

Richmond Hill Mayor William Lazenby urged council to support the project, to "get on the bandwagon" to take advantage of the subsidies available. Experience in Richmond Hill, he said, has shown there is no question of the need.

The plan was referred to the region's engineering committee for further study. Meanwhile Dr. Slingerland was directed to submit an application for the provincial subsidy.

Chairman Garfield Wright warned against delay, however. "If we don't get our application in (to the province) soon we will lose out all round," he said.

Car Stereos Theft Target

Stereo equipment left in parked cars continued to be a target for thieves in Richmond Hill last week.

On a single night three cars were broken into and over \$250 worth of property was stolen.

From David Hunter's car parked behind an apartment building at 170 Bayview Avenue \$130 worth of stereo tape equipment was stolen December 3 to 4.

The same night from a car owned by Violet Legutin at 46 Avenue Road \$50 worth of stereo equipment was stolen.

Another \$64 worth was stolen that night from Dan Peterson's car parked in a driveway at 399 Bent Crescent, according to YRP Division 28 (Richmond Hill)

Beloved Teacher Edna Izzard Passes After A Brief Illness

A beloved and honored citizen of Richmond Hill, Miss Edna Izzard, passed away in York Central Hospital December 7 after a brief illness. But her influence on the lives of thousands of students she taught in Richmond Hill High School will continue to be evident for many years to come. She has been described by a pupil as "A friend, philosopher and guide to all who have sought the light of truth."

Her services to the community were recognized in 1968 when she was chosen to receive the Canada Medal.

Daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Izzard of Woodstock, Miss Izzard joined the staff of Richmond Hill High School in 1930 and continued actively teaching there, being the first head of the school's English Department, until 1962. Her retirement in that year did not put an end to her teaching career, however, as she continued for several years as a supply teacher and as an instructor in grade 13 subjects in night school.

This fall, for the first time since 1930, Miss Izzard was unable to attend her school's commencement exercises and present the two scholarships she has established for excellence in grade 13 work.

She was a graduate of Trinity College, University of Toronto, and a member of the Corporation of Trinity College. She was also the Canadian Federation of University Women representative on the executive of St. Hilda's College and a member of the alumnae executive.

She served as president of the York County University Women's Club and was a Canadian delegate to the International Federation of University Women meeting in Brisbane, Australia, in 1965.

Miss Izzard was the organizer



LATE EDNA IZZARD Taught Here 32 Years

of the 1st Girl Guide Company north of the city limits at St. Mary's Anglican Church, and went on to become Guide Commissioner for Richmond Hill.

She was a charter member of Richmond Hill Naturalists, a member of the horticultural society and served as lay representative to the Synod for St. Mary's Anglican Church.

Miss Izzard is survived by her sister Susan (Mrs. Gallager) of Richmond Hill and a brother Frank of Calgary. She was predeceased by her two brothers, Herbert and Thomas.

The funeral service was held at St. Mary's Anglican Church Saturday afternoon with Rev. James O'Neill of York Mills, a former rector, officiating. Interment followed in the nearby Richmond Hill Cemetery.

Pall bearers were: Warwick Butt, Isaac Reaman, Philip Mihoreau, Donald Large, James Hogg and Robert Bowen.

Late Edna Izzard

The following is the eulogy delivered by Rev. James O'Neill during the funeral service:

"This service bids us do two very simple and meaningful things:

1. To give thanks;
2. To make an act of faith.

"Yes, to give thanks for a human life. The Scriptures remind us that every life is precious. It is God's gift — and when that life has been given its full span — and has been vigorous and significant to many people — then we are especially thankful.

"So, today we assemble to give thanks to God for Edna — her life and work. We think of her as a concerned citizen and a good teacher. Many among us here — and others scattered around the globe — will trace their love of literature or their flare for learning or their quest for life to Edna's ministry as a teacher. For her it was a privileged vocation and related learning with the whole of life — its values and goals and ideals.

"I don't expect ever again, as I did here ten years or so ago — to find upper school students seeking Confirmation or deeper appreciation of the Christian tradition because of a spark set off by an English teacher at Richmond Hill High.

"Yes, she was what we call a 'character' — often outspoken — frequently a critic because she had convictions — I used to hear about it when new translations replaced the King James Version — and I think it was from Edna I first learned to call the Banns of Marriage properly!

"She was one of those rare spirits whose home and counsel were a haven for many a student. Many of us have good reason to thank God for this teacher. She had that old-fashioned gift of loyalty — to her friends — her country (for she was a real Canadian) — and her Christian heritage — with a special bent for the Anglican persuasion in which she was brought up.

"But that is not all. We are also here to make an act of faith. For we believe with St. Paul — that which God begins He finishes — that the good work which was begun in her will be brought to fruition. Yes, we believe this because it just makes sense. This gift of life — with all its potential, when it grows and flowers is not just snuffed out after a few score years and ten. Surely the good God takes it to Himself to be renewed and raised to new and better things. And we believe in this most of all because of the Christian hope. St. Paul says it best to the Romans — 'Whether we live we live unto the Lord or whether we die we die with the Lord, for to this Christ died and lived again that He might be Lord of both the dead and the living.'

"Yes, we believe this is the ground of our hope. "Yes, this is the act of faith we are called upon to make today. The last time I saw Edna was two weeks ago in this place, where she, with so many others shared this hope at the untimely death and burial of her rector. It's the conviction she shared so often in this community of faith at St. Mary's.

"Yes, we give thanks for her life — work — faith — and commend her soul to the mercy and love of God."

Dept. Of Education Ceilings (For 1972-73) Will Not Meet Contract Obligations In York

"The rich get richer and the poor get poorer" was the observation of Markham Trustee John MacKay when the province's expenditure ceilings for education were presented at a meeting of York County Board of Education November 22.

The trustee made his comment after being told certain weighting factors introduced by the Department of Education overwhelmingly favor the Metro education system. These factors allow for special education programs, regional variations and cost levels.

The question came up in a discussion of the Department's education spending guidelines for 1972 and 1973. The ceilings set for 1972

for York County Board will permit a maximum increase in spending at the secondary school level of 5.5 percent with a further increase of only 1.4 percent in 1973.

Staff explained that 1972 and 1973 ceilings are on a different base than 1971. The board's share of the Canada Pension Plan and of the extended unemployment insurance and salary increases are included in the new ceilings. Prior to January, 1972, teachers have not been included in the unemployment insurance program, nor have senior administrative staff. New federal regulations bring them into the plan.

Asked by trustees, Business Superintendent George

Ford confirmed that the increase authorized by the province would not cover the seven percent increase the board is committed to for secondary school teachers' salaries under the terms of a two year agreement reached in September.

For secondary schools the provincial ceiling this year has been \$1,060 while expenditures in York County are expected to come to \$1,042.63. For next year the ceiling will be \$1,117.85 and in 1973 it will be \$1,133.39 per student.

At the elementary level the situation is not as difficult. Expenditures here will be permitted to rise 9.6 percent in 1972 and a further 5.6 percent in 1973. The re-

cent salary agreement with elementary teachers gave them a 5.7 percent increase for the 1971-72 school year.

Trustees were particularly upset at the apparent inequality of the weighting factors which will allow York County three percent at elementary level and three-tenths of one percent at the secondary level. For Metro Board of Education, the weighting factors allow for a 10 percent increase at secondary level and 20 percent at elementary level.

When trustees protested, Ford admitted, "A disparity still exists between York and Metro and it seems to be getting worse."

How could the board live with a 5.5 percent increase when its contract with the teachers allows for a greater increase? asked Thornhill Trustee MacKay. It could be demoralizing for staff to feel the board will not be able to live up to its contract, he continued. "It is very apparent we have to take some positive steps," said MacKay, adding, "It would be a good year not to run for election."

Observing that the weighting factors will place many boards in the same position, MacKay recommended the board point out these inadequacies to Education Minister Robert Welch.

"While we cannot fight the principle of keeping

down costs," MacKay said, "We should fight areas where it does not seem fair."

Assistant Education Director Gordon McIntyre told him there is no appeal for 1972. "This is it. We can only appeal for 1973."

Markham Trustee Merna Colbourne urged, "We would not want to assume 1973 is going to be better. We should proceed (with an appeal) immediately."

In a description of grant guidelines sent to boards by the Minister he explains basic grants that apply to all boards. At the elementary level the grant ceiling this year is \$545. In 1972 it will be \$595 and in 1973 it goes to \$630.

Basic grant at secondary level is \$1,060 this year, \$1,100 next year and in 1973 it will be \$1,130.

The weighting factor determines the difference between the basic grant ceiling and the actual grant to each board.

The Minister states further that additional assistance will apply to certain boards for such factors as "economies of scale, commodity prices in northern areas, additional maintenance costs for older schools." Consideration on expenditure limits will be made for boards whose teaching staffs have an above normal pattern of teaching experience or qualifications or where den-

sity factors contribute "in a significant way."

Boards may not, however, increase spending beyond \$60 per elementary school pupil or \$75 per secondary school pupil regardless of the ceiling, says the statement from Welton.

He then goes on to say that another feature of the new arrangement provides for continuation of course weighting factors to provide additional grants to boards providing French language instruction and consideration of transportation costs, debt charges "and other costs beyond the ceiling limit."

Befuddled by what appeared to some trustees to be a lot of double talk,

officials were asked how York County came up with a greater percentage increase permitted for elementary than secondary pupils.

Superintendent of Planning and Development Stephen Bacsalmasi explained it is because the board anticipates increased costs in employing teachers with qualifications above the normal required. Pay scales are geared to qualifications and experience in teacher contracts.

The board agreed it should let the department know that the ceilings set for York would not meet contract obligations. "Position impossible," commented Trustee MacKay.