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Day Care Still Inadequate

Congratulations to regional welfare and social service staff and committee members on the speed with which they have come up with plans for a comprehensive day care centre to be built under the province's special subsidy plan.

Municipalities will get 100 percent capital grants for building and furnishing such facilities up to the end of May. After that the provincial subsidy will drop back to 80 percent.

As visualized by Committee Chairman Georgina Mayor Dr. George Burrows and by Welfare and Social Services Commissioner Dr. Owen Slingerland, the centre will not only have facilities for children two to six. It will also have special quarters for infants and for retarded children.

The committee did not stop with its plans for the new centre to be built on land owned by the region at Newmarket, however. It advocated an immediate needs study of the entire region. Richmond Hill council has already come forward with a proposal for a centre to be built on municipally owned land in the Bayview Avenue and Elgin Mills Road area. Markham is undertaking its own needs study, and Vaughan has decided it does not need a day care centre.

There were the usual grumblings from a few regional councillors about the centre corridor getting all the services, and about mothers dumping their children at the expense of the taxpayers. However the need has been established, as is evident by the province's program to aid municipalities in providing them. Those who have to account to the taxpayers have come to recognize the fact that it is cheaper and better for all concerned to provide care for these children whose parents cannot afford to pay so that their mothers can get a job and get off the public assistance rolls. If the odd person seems to abuse the service it would be that the mother concerned is not emotionally able to cope with the care of her child. If she asks for the day care service and still stays on welfare it could be that she is on the verge of an emotional breakdown. And if this did occur the taxpayers would be faced with far bigger bills for hospitalization plus care of the child or children.

It may seem like looking a gift horse in the mouth to say, "This is

fine, but let's have more."

More is needed, though. When are the politicians going to realize that we also need day care for school age children. The youngsters from six to 11 or 12 years who are left in an empty house to get themselves off to school, who return to an empty house at noon and after school? One Richmond Hill principal recently said he could find at least 60 such children in his own school. How many more of them are there?

In some rural schools where many children have to take their lunch to school, mothers are going in as volunteers to help supervise and to give the teacher a break at noon. And in Richmond Hill a home and school delegation attended a recent meeting of the social planning council asking for support of a plan for before school, noon hour and after school care for children whose parents may be away from home each day from 8 am to 6 pm.

They suggested that school facilities would be most suitable for such a service, and that the parents pay the cost of providing it. This would entail hiring of a fully qualified person to supervise volunteer mothers or students at the centre. There would also be a need for play equipment, books, games, craft equipment and the cost of keeping the school open.

At a meeting of York Board of Education last month, Markham Trustee Louise Aimson observed that, with schools being used to a greater extent by the community, the time may be at hand when schools will have to be planned with a view to public use, and with storage space for recreation equipment for community use.

Perhaps when the regional committee completes its present study, it could co-operate with principals and school attendance personnel in a study of the need for day care for older children. It is not just working mothers who would welcome such a service. There are a lot of fathers filling the role of two parents, too, and they are concerned about what is happening to their children from the time they leave for work in the morning until they get home at night. Competent housekeepers and baby sitters are hard to find, and they usually cost more than the average person can afford.



Bradford OPP Corporal Served 20 Years

Corporal Francis Parke of No. 7 District Headquarters of the Ontario Provincial Police at Barrie was one of six officers in that district receiving recognition for 20 years of service with the force recently. A member of the force since 1951, Corporal Parke has been stationed at Barrie, Bradford and Wasaga Beach. He was promoted to the rank of corporal in 1964 and posted to the Bradford detachment.

Corporal Parke was born in Gravenhurst and attended public and high schools in that community and in Toronto. He is married and lives in Barrie. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. Parke reside at Oak Ridges.

In the above picture Corporal Parke is receiving the congratulations of Assistant Commissioner John Needham, who had just pinned on the medal which recognizes 20 years of service.

Majorettes Set First Appearances In Public

The newly reorganized Richmond Hill Majorettes now number 85 and hold regular rehearsals at Crosby Senior Public School. The juniors and intermediates meet Monday and the seniors Wednesday.

Leaders are Valerie Hawkins and Angela Wilson. Both were formerly associated with majorette activities in the town. Resplendent in new uniforms of purple and gold, the senior majorettes will be putting on three displays at Richmond Heights Centre December 18.

The whole corps of 85 juniors, intermediates and seniors will be presenting seven displays during the three-day Rosetown Peevee Hockey Tournament, sponsored at the local arena by Richmond Hill Lions December 27, 28 and 29. The girls will be appearing on the ice surface between hockey games.

It is hoped that a drum corps and color party will be organized in the near future, to round out the majorette organization. If you are interested in participating call 884-5738.

BOYS AND GIRLS

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In the Spotlight



By MONA A. ROBERTSON

"Take A Gob Of Clay And A Rolling Pin!"

This week I had a most enjoyable visit with Joyce Jay, one of our local artists.

Actually my visit was planned to see in action one of Joyce's two weekly pottery classes. But from the moment I entered the door of the Jay's home on Elmwood Avenue in Richmond Hill I was surrounded by evidence of this artistic woman's own creative-

ness. Facing me over the stairwell leading down to her workshop was a lamp—old English coach style—in what appeared to be hammered pewter—it was made of pottery-clay then glazed before firing, with pewter finish. At the foot of the stairs was a mural of "Trounce Alley" and Burt's Restaurant. The storefronts lining the short street carried me back in remembrance to Victoria, B.C., where London Town lamp standards line the streets and every store and lamp has boxes or hanging pots of colorful summer flowers.

In the cosy rec-room-come-workshop I felt I had been wafled to the site of "preparation Christmas"—for around the work table—where Eleanor Marker, Pauline Bickerstaff, Essie McMullen, Muriel Lanaway, Stella Mott and Jean Rasmussen were working on various pieces of pottery—the walls and shelves were crowded with an assortment of works of art.

Recently Joyce demonstrated clay modelling to Richmond Hill Brownies and I hope her talk may encourage these young girls to work in this ancient art. (Clay modelling dates back at least 6,000 years in history. For example, in the Victoria and Albert Museum in England they have a hand-modelled Egyptian vase which is dated at about 4,000 B.C.) Incidentally we saw a little of the Girl Guides' clay-modelling recently in a display shown in Richmond Hill Public Library. But here in the workshop were: Christmas angels and papier mache dolls; Indian dolls their faces made, of all things, from apples.

This is an interesting trick in itself. Take an apple, mark carefully the eyes, nose and mouth and set it aside to dry. When the apple gets leather in texture but is still moldable, form the features and let dry completely. The body may then be made from wire. Pipe cleaners are excellent to use for the arms and legs. Dress the doll in bits of leather, add hair and headdresses and you have an Indian (Continued on Page 14)

A Dog For Christmas

There is a wish in every boy and girl to own a dog. Something to hold, to cuddle, something just for me.

A dog is a bundle of warm fluff with shiny brown eyes and a tiny red tongue. He has a black wet button nose and a wagely tail. This is a picture of a happy and healthy dog.

At first the little puppy is just like a baby. He depends on you. You are his master and his happiness consists of being treated as something alive.

To help him to grow up you must remember to feed him what is good for him and at his right time. He must be combed and brushed to make him feel clean. Never must you forget to take him for a walk; it is very important to him. When you plan on going to a hockey or baseball game, then perhaps you will have to take him along sometimes. Play with him when he decides to play and let him rest when he chooses to rest.

Now you will have a good, affectionate and content pet, because you treated him so. His love is faithful and will never change. He is yours for a long time and all he wants is love.

LYDIA HACHMER, 95 Cartier Crescent, Richmond Hill.

Letters to the Editors

RAIL COMMUTER SERVICE

Dear Mr. Editor:
 The success of the CN service to Stouffville demonstrates the need for proper commuter service in the Toronto area.

On November 1, the CN added a second coach to its run. This service was started June 28 by order of the federal transport commission after private citizens had requested it and the CN had failed to provide it.

The fact that the Stouffville service has been crowded to capacity within four months of its start without even an provision for feeder buses demonstrates the demand for services. It is even puzzling that government, both provincial and federal, have neglected to take effective action to provide the necessary services. The latest federal study is just a study and there has been no commitment by Ottawa to do anything as a result of these studies.

Commuter service has been studied to death for some years, but the CN which appears to have some MP's in its pocket, has been able to resist public pressure and deny service on many other lines which also need it. Citizens groups may have to take some direct action to galvanize the federal author-

ities into taking the obvious steps they have so far neglected.

JOHN MEDCOF,
 Mount Albert.

TRUDEAU AND COMMUNISM

Dear Mr. Editor:
 In reply to your editorial of November 18, "Where Are We Going?" Barney Danson's (MP York North) report on the same page covers the subject thoroughly. To suggest that Prime Minister Trudeau is "aligning" our country with Communist Russia or Yugoslavia is nothing short of vicious propaganda. President Nixon is planning a trip to Peking and Robert Stanfield recently visited China. Would this mean that they wish to "align" themselves with China? Nonsense!

I believe that the federal government under Prime Minister Trudeau is unwrapping the mysteries and superstitions which impede progress. Let us say that Canada is beginning to think "universally."

In regard to our American neighbor and friend, Ottawa has acted with admirable restraint, and Mitchell Sharp with his usual aplomb.

AUDREY KONING,
 48 Roseview Avenue,
 Richmond Hill.

NEWMARKET: A company official says it's too early to tell whether the S. E. Woods Industrial factory will be rebuilt. It was razed in a \$1,118,000 fire November 29 which threw 63 employees out of work. The factory manufactured camping, snowmobile, boat and utility trailers and mini-bikes. Most finished products were not inside.

Summer Projects To Benefit Education York Schools

Mathematics, arts and science projects undertaken by teachers through the summer are improving education standards in schools of York Region.

A summary of seven projects carried out by individuals and groups of teachers was presented to trustees at a meeting of York County Board of Education November 22.

Included in the projects was a workbook for teachers of mathematics prepared by Master Teacher Mrs. Joan Rutledge for the summer and fall mathematics workshops, and a core program and workbook for the four-year mathematics program in grades 9 to 12.

The latter was compiled by a committee of Area 2 teachers: John Campbell, Walter Macdonald and Bob Sanderson of King City Secondary School; Stewart Cole, Ron Crawford and Greg Scott of Dr. G. W. Williams Secondary in Aurora, and Don Hamilton, Charles Roach and Don Sutherland of Stouffville Secondary School.

ART HANDBOOK
 A handbook for teachers of art in Area 2 was the work of Lloyd White, Olive Komar, Blanche Gordon, Lois Flett, Marg Dummitt and Olga Days. It is now being tested by teachers in other areas as well as in Area 2.

The science curriculum committee of Area 1 developed a core science course being tested in elementary and secondary schools in the area. Committee members were Roy Wood, June Hackman and Jim Fitzgerald. Teacher Brian Michez of Woodbridge High School organized a science unit for the teaching of metrication in grades 9 and 10 and Don Bogle of Thornlea Secondary School developed a curriculum aid to study of Canadian Indians.

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LANGUAGE ARTS
 Miss Jean Swanson compiled material for the language arts seminar now being held for kindergarten to grade 6 teachers.

Samples of the books and curriculum material produced were available for inspection at the board meeting. Trustees were very favorably impressed with the projects.

"We congratulate all those involved in doing so much to improve the standards of education," commented Markham Trustee John MacKay.

Recently Joyce demonstrated clay modelling to Richmond Hill Brownies and I hope her talk may encourage these young girls to work in this ancient art. (Clay modelling dates back at least 6,000 years in history. For example, in the Victoria and Albert Museum in England they have a hand-modelled Egyptian vase which is dated at about 4,000 B.C.) Incidentally we saw a little of the Girl Guides' clay-modelling recently in a display shown in Richmond Hill Public Library. But here in the workshop were: Christmas angels and papier mache dolls; Indian dolls their faces made, of all things, from apples.

Town's Planning Department Has Threefold Responsibility

Because he believes it a bit premature to disclose details about new shopping plazas and retail outlets at this time, Town Planning Director Hesse Rimon in a talk last week attempted instead to enlighten members of Richmond Hill Chamber of Commerce on the planning process as carried on in the town and in the Region of York. He was guest speaker at a meeting at the Summit Golf Country Club November 30.

He dealt briefly with the provisions of the Toronto-Centred Plan and told the group of 50 interested citizens a little bit about BAIF. This is to be the biggest residential and commercial project the town has ever seen and is in its last stages of processing. It is expected that it will be getting off the ground in the spring.

The town's planning department is responsible to council in three fields, he explained. First it must advise council on all motions affecting land development in the present and future and indicate the long and short term effects of any change in land use.

Secondly, the regional government is a great step in the right direction. I am certain all municipalities will try to make it work.

"When a municipality reaches a population of 25-30,000 it becomes more important that major control and a great deal of power be vested with the local government. Elected government is the most responsible and responsive to the people and to the local needs. An elected government can institute projects and be accountable to the people living in the municipality."

"Centralized power is very good and very important and may bring a great deal of progress to an area. I am inclined to go along as long as the local identity can be maintained. This community has those elements inherent in it which give me a great deal of satisfaction to work in it," said Richmond Hill Planner Rimon.

"The Toronto-Centred Plan may affect each and every one of us in a very direct way. It was made public in May 1970 and forecasts a population with a 90-mile radius of Toronto of eight million by the year 2000 — only 30 years away. It provides for an urbanized strip, (Continued on Page 14)

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