



Headford Youth Royal Winter Fair Grand Champion

Matthew Watford, 15, of Headford, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Watford is shown at the recent Royal Winter Fair in Toronto receiving the J. P. Bickle Memorial Trophy as grand champion poultry raiser. Presenting the trophy is Alf Ahiers, chairman of poultry, waterfowl and pet stock at the Royal.

In the background is Matthew's grand champion Orpington poultry entry that proved to be the best young bird of all the standard breed entries at the fair. The bird went on to win the grand championship Roy Messervey Memorial Trophy in the standard poultry class. Matthew's winnings at the Royal also included eight firsts and eight second awards.

The Watford farm is on Concession 3 just north of Markham Road where the family has been raising poultry for more than 40 years. The Watfords currently have a stock of 9,000 chickens, including 500 Orpingtons and 8,000 Leghorns.

Jailed For Christmas After U.S. Sentence

Edward Church of no fixed address had his Christmas planned for him not only this year but for the next three when he appeared in Richmond Hill Court Thursday afternoon.

He was convicted on four counts of passing phoney cheques, as well as car theft. He was handed a four-year jail sentence.

To make matters even more dismal, Church has just finished a one-year sentence in Alabama prison for car theft.

In passing sentence, Judge David Vanek referred to a reasonably lengthy criminal record possessed by the accused dating back to 1955.

"I don't think you're deserving of any consideration," he said to the accused, "even though you have just finished doing a year in Alabama. Your past record, with the exception of a six-year interval, is not good. The public deserves to be protected."

Church was found guilty of passing four forged cheques January 8 of this year in the amounts of \$53.55, \$24.53, \$29.38, and \$43. Another conviction involved his renting a car in the Toronto area and then driving it to Alabama without bothering to return it.



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Region Balks At Three-Year Budget Demand

By MARGARET LADE

If municipalities in the Region of York have to prepare long range budgets they want help from the province.

When representatives of the Department of Municipal Affairs municipal accounting branch appeared at a meeting of York Region Council November 25 to explain the three year projection of the cost of municipal service required by the department, they met with a volley of flack from region councillors.

"There is so much we don't know. How the heck do we know what we are going to spend?" demanded Aurora Mayor Richard Illingworth who led the attack on Director of Municipal Accounting Al Reeve and members of his staff.

The youthful and unflappable Reeve replied, "I would hope you would budget far ahead of the year in which you are operating."

"Any projects undertaken by a municipality usually has long term costs, said Reeve, and the department wants to assess just how assistance given to municipalities is to be used.

The region and municipalities have already sent five-year capital forecasts to the Municipal Board, Illingworth declared. A three-year projection would mean a lot of duplication and a great deal of unnecessary work for staff of the region.

The five-year forecast is a very small part of it, replied Reeve. It does not show the annual cost of carrying charges and other operating expenses. Illingworth protested there is so much the municipalities do not know, such as education taxes, levies for conservation authorities, regional levies, etc. that it is not possible to look ahead three years.

"You have a lot to learn. You should get some experience in the field," snapped the Aurora Mayor. "Are you going to provide the staff to do the work, or are you going to give us grants to pay for additional staff of our own?"

"I don't see that it will be of any use to you or anyone else," he concluded.

"We are prepared to help, but we have only 10 or 15 people working in the field," Reeve replied.

Richmond Hill Regional Councillor Donald Plaxton took a different tack. Boundary changes effective with the inauguration of regional government have made it very difficult for municipalities to budget, he told the provincial representatives. In Richmond Hill there are many different mill rates, he said.

"The new town of Richmond Hill incorporates parts of the former Townships of King, Whitchurch, Vaughan and Markham as well as the old Town of Richmond Hill. Education levies are also fragmented as the municipality tries to work out its commitment to the York County Board of Education and the York County Roman Catholic School Board based on the numerous area board jurisdictions that existed before the county boards were formed in 1969.

In the southern part of the region, Plaxton continued, population forecasts are not known. Are there are financial projections on debt charges that may result from capital works such as sewers.

To try to prepare three-year projections, said Plaxton would be an exercise in futility. He wanted to know if such a projection has

long range planning. "You should plan on what you know," Reeve replied. "It is a necessity to plan ahead." It is essential, he continued, to have planning, organization, control. A panic situation develops without a plan he told council.

The Aurora Mayor was on his feet in a bound. "Our budgets went to the province in April and we did not get them back until September. You put us in a panic situation," Illingworth roared. "Some municipalities do not have their taxes in yet!"

Reeve conceded that the province is "a slow moving body". He admitted that, even with a three-year projection, there is no guarantee that it will not be held up at the provincial level.

Councillor Plaxton suggested that the region try to work it out, engaging whatever talents might be available from the province. He was assured that the municipal accounting branch would be happy to sit down with finance committees or with the whole council if necessary to projection of the cost of municipal services in the Region of York.

been undertaken anywhere else in Ontario. "Have you any experience to fall back on?"

Oshawa has done it for a number of years, replied Reeve. "If you don't know where you are going, I don't know how you plan sewage treatment plants and other capital works. You should start by finding out how much it will cost for the next three years. You must have data to plan."

A lot more has to be known, insisted East Gwillimbury Mayor Gladys Rolling, such as the cost of education. She demanded to know why the school boards have not been asked for a three-year projection, adding, "Highway 404 was supposed to be built in 1967. Why wasn't it? Provincial planning left a lot to be desired," she declared.

"It is astounding that a body like this should not know where they are going on a day to day basis," Reeve told council.

Councillor Gordon Rowe of Richmond Hill asked if professional economists from the province would be available to help with the long range budget forecast. He referred to unknown factors, such as welfare and the state of the economy in the country and in the province which would have an effect on the fiscal picture in the region.

Markham Mayor Anthony Roman also protested lack of information from the province. He referred to the Water Resources Commission and others that have the final say in determining the direction of much of the planning at the municipal and regional level.

Vaughan Mayor Garnet Williams was not disturbed. "There will be no problem in having a three-year projection in Vaughan," he told council. "We have been doing it for years, but we should know where other municipalities in the region are going."

Markham Councillor James Jongeneel argued, however, that there are still an unusual number of "unponderables and uncertainties" in drawing up long-range municipal budgets. He referred particularly to the cost of education which, said Jongeneel, makes up more than 50 percent of all municipal budgets.

Newmarket Mayor Robert Forhan was also not convinced that long range financial planning was feasible. Municipal and regional councillors are elected for a two year period, he said, yet when plans are sent from a municipality to the province "you stall for a year-and-a-half before we get them back."

At the regional level he wanted to know, "Will Vaughan be in the region next year? Are we going to have Highway 404 and Highway 407? If the province would like to say the region will be here in three years, then we can plan."

He stressed the uncertainty of boundaries, major arteries and availability of provincial grants as major stumbling blocks in

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