

Alcoholism Problem Everywhere Says Burrows Lamenting Lack Of Centre

Dr. George Burrows of Georgina, chairman of York Region Council's health and social services committee, says alcoholism is a major problem in more places than Toronto, despite preference given to the latter for a detoxication centre.

Dr. Burrows made his remarks at the July 13 meeting of council following receipt of a letter from Health Minister Dr. Richard Potter in which he turned down a request from council for a detoxication centre for the region.

The Health Minister said that 12 such centres are planned throughout the province in areas with high rates of drunkenness. This included Toronto, which had more than 22,000 arrests for drunkenness last year.

In York Region, according to Deputy Police Chief William Shimmin, 191 people were charged with the offence in 1971.

Other areas should be encouraged to carry out the detoxication function within the public hospitals, such as York County Hospital in New-

market and York Central in Richmond Hill, Dr. Potter said.

In an interview with "The Liberal", Dr. Burrows said the provincial government had never done an intensive study of the number of deaths and accidents that were caused by alcohol.

"Alcoholism is the major cause of death in the 40-year-old, middle-aged group," Dr. Burrows said.

He said he didn't agree with the Health Minister's figures, which showed a low alcoholism rate in the area. There were many cases which were never even reported, he said.

Asked if he would continue to push for a detoxication centre in the region, Dr. Burrows said he felt "a centre would be good," but the Minister's idea of working with the hospitals was also a step in the right direction.

He said a "motel-like" structure might be set up near the hospitals to handle the cases, or nursing homes could set aside beds.

Hit By Car In Concord

Vaughan Pedestrian Seriously Hurt

A pedestrian seriously injured when struck by a car in Vaughan Town was reported still in intensive care at York-Finch Hospital in Metro the week after he was hurt.

Sunday's Heavy Rain Flooded Highway 7

Motorists who had spent the weekend in the northern resort areas were delayed on their return trip to Metro July 16 when heavy rain flooded a section of Highway 7, 15 miles north of Markham. Traffic was backed up for miles, when a 200-foot section of the road, under construction, was gummed up with about two feet of water and mud.

Provincial Police had to direct traffic through the muck. The weatherman explained the storm by saying, "Thunderstorms such as these occur during the hot, humid summer days when the Gulf of Mexico air mass, hitting this area, remains and comes into contact with cold air masses."

Education First

Recreation Not Board's Problem

York County Board of Education has decided that, while recreation is fine, it's not the responsibility of the educationists.

The board made its assessment while discussing the subject of community use of schools for recreation purposes at its July 10 meeting.

The board stated that, when provincial expenditure ceilings may mean a curtailment in educational programs, recreation programs should not be subsidized out of education funds.

Cost figures prepared for a committee of the board, which has drafted a position paper on the matter to send to municipal councils, show that with 10,000 separate uses of its 100 schools in 1971, extra costs to the board for maintaining them were close to \$100,000.

Trustees said they recognized the importance of recreation programs, but that their particular responsibility was the education of their 45,000 students. The responsibility for financing recreation lies elsewhere, he said.

Trustee Morley Kinnee of Vaughan argued that 100 percent of recreation costs should be recovered this year. It was intolerable, he said, that the board should spend this money on recreation when educational programs are threatened by provincial ceilings.

Committee Chairman Margaret Coburn of King explained that municipal recreation committees would have difficulty shouldering these costs completely this year and the municipalities might possibly want to work for more grants for recreation from the province before they could assume them.

Abdul Khalig, 42, of 180 St. George Street, Toronto, was hurt at 8:13 am July 14 at Keele Street and Doney Crescent in the Concord area. Driver of the car was Ann McDowell, 19, of 1 Fountainhead Road, Apartment 1707, Downsview, according to York Region Police. The car had about \$50 damage.

A 72-year-old New Jersey woman, Mae Westhaver, was taken to York Central Hospital, Richmond Hill, for treatment of injuries suffered in a July 14 crash at 7:45 pm on Bathurst Street and Major Mackenzie Drive.

Driver Wilson Westhaver, 60, wasn't hurt and had only an estimated \$75 damage, YRP said. The other driver Joan Day, 27, of RR 2, Maple had about \$400 car damage and was charged with following too closely.

Both drivers were charged in a 5 pm July 14 collision at Crosby Avenue and Newkirk Road in Richmond Hill.

John Alcock, 51, of 20 Wellington Street, Aurora, had about \$250 damage and was charged with turning without reasonable opportunity.

Daniel MacEwen, 45, of 363 Browndale Crescent, Richmond Hill, had about \$650 damage and was charged with making an unsafe turn.

There weren't any charges after a collision at 3:25 pm July 11 opposite 98 Rockwell Road, Langstaff.

Johnny Yorkie, 47, of 170 Dudley Avenue, Apartment 103, Thornhill, had about \$150 damage and Alfred Cook, 50, of 33 Rockwell Road had about \$75 damage, YRP said.

Charged with failing to yield the right-of-way while leaving a private driveway at 1:35 pm July 13 at 10503 Islington Avenue in Vaughan was Jelle Venstra, 68, of that Kleinburg area address. He had about \$400 damage, YRP said.

The other driver Ruth Dage, 36, of RR 1, Caledon had only an estimated \$10 damage.

Small Shopping Plaza Markham-Cedar Area

A site plan agreement for a proposed shopping plaza on the south side of Markham Road just east of Cedar Avenue will be prepared, it was decided at the July 18 meeting of Richmond Hill Council's Planning Committee. Application on behalf of Wise and McCord, the owners, was made early this year and was discussed by the committee. Additional information was needed from the regional engineer about the underpass or overpass which is planned for Markham Road over the CNR tracks.

This information has led to a revision in the plan, taking the entrance and exit to Cedar Avenue.

The plaza will house tenants in the existing buildings on the site and a milk store, it was reported.

The site is zoned industrial, the town's official plan designates it residential and its present use is commercial. The residential designation permits small neighborhood shopping plazas, Planning Director Hesse Rimon told the committee.



(Photo by Stuart's Studio)

All Ready To Paint The Town

At the beginning of this month a new paint and wallpaper outlet joined the ranks of Richmond Hill's businesses. Sherwin-Williams, the "Covers The Earth" people opened a well-stocked retail store at 79 Yonge Street South and presented free roses to the ladies and free coffee and donuts to all who dropped in to say "Hello".

Another feature of the official opening of the store, which is well stocked with paint, wallpaper, artists' materials, brushes, etc., was a lucky draw for \$30 worth of paint. In the above picture Store Manager Wayne Candy (left) presents the lucky winner, Trevor Schiller, young son of Ward 2 Councillor David Schiller and Mrs. Schiller of Markham Road, with his prize.

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