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DON'T RUSH TO CATCH NEW COMMUTER TRAINS - STEVENS

The much-publicized experimental run of a proposed north-south railway commuter service for this area "has not progressed as fast as the press conference when the scheme was first announced," Sinclair Stevens, Progressive Conservative Candidate for the federal riding of York Simcoe, said last week.

Condemns Aurora Station Closing

John Medcof, of Mount Albert, a leading proponent of rail transit in the area and an officer of the GO North Citizens Committee, has criticized the federal government's recent action in announcing the closing of Aurora's CNR station as of September 5.

In a letter to "The Liberal," Mr. Medcof said: "The application to close the Aurora station in the midst of a commuter demonstration project, has already demonstrated the position of the CNR, but the Canadian Transport Commission should insist that it remain open until after the test run is complete."

The announcement came on the heels of the government's announcement of a \$100,000 grant for its commuter experiment for the Aurora, Richmond Hill, Newmarket area.

Following is the rest of Mr. Medcof's letter:

"The railways want to get rid of passengers and have applied for permission to discontinue almost every passenger run in the country. To get permission to discontinue, the railways try to reduce passenger use."

"On the Owen Sound line, CP ran service out of Toronto on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and into Toronto on Tuesday and Thursday. On the Palmerston service, CN left Toronto at 6 pm and arrived at 11:05 am, useless for commuting. On the Galt line, trains left Toronto at 5:30 pm, but arrived in the morning at 11:10."

"Of all these lines, with these tactics, the railways reduced passengers and got permission to discontinue."

"On the Markham run, CN ran an evening-only service for nine long years and provided no morning service in a transparent effort that discouraged business."

Two New Trustees York County Bd.

There will be two extra trustees on the York County Board of Education, following the election December 4 this year.

Announcement of the increase from 18 to 20 was made at the regular monthly meeting of the board Monday night.

There will be one extra trustee elected in the Town of Markham, giving it five, with the other one elected by the Roman Catholic School supporters in the joint area of Markham and Richmond Hill.

This will give Roman Catholic voters two representatives on the board.

Following is a breakdown of the municipalities and the number of representatives on each one, as they will be after December 4: Aurora, 1; Markham, 5; Richmond Hill, 3; Vaughan, 2; Whitby, 2; Stouffville, 1; East Gwillimbury, 1; Georgina, 2; Newmarket, 1; King, 2; Roman Catholic Schools, 2.

The number of trustees to be elected is in accordance with the Secondary Schools and Boards of Education Act. This provides for additional members where both the population and assessment have increased, as it has in both the Markham and Richmond Hill areas.

Northern terminal for the service would probably be at Wesley Corners, adjacent to Vandorf.

"The Trudeau Government's actions with respect to commuter train service is a cruel way to deal with the wishes and needs of our residents," Mr. Stevens said.

The time had come for citizens to demand to know when a permanent service would commence.

"We need action and I intend to press for it," Mr. Stevens said.

Worst Metro Crash Kills Two Local Youths

A 21-year-old former Richmond Hill woman is lying immobilized in Wellesly Hospital in Metro this week recovering from a broken neck after an early Saturday crash that killed a Richmond Hill couple and a Metro man. She is Debbie Burns of Edgewood Avenue, Metro.

Miss Burns was a passenger in a high-powered Metro car which Metro Police said John Wood, 29, of Edgewood Avenue was driving erratically at about 80 mph in a 40 mph zone when it hit a hump in Mount Pleasant Road north of Bloor Street and flew 15 feet through the air.

The Woods Mustang car crashed head-on into a car driven by an old friend of Miss Burns, Stephen Dunkley, 22, of Bridgeford Street. Killed were both drivers, Woods and Dunkley, plus Dunkley's companion Judith Williams, 21, of 365 Tyneview Lane, Richmond Hill.

The crash was described by police as the worst this year in Metro. Both cars were demolished and all the victims had to be pried from the wreckage. Woods and Miss Williams died almost instantly. Dunkley died about 4 1/2 hours after the post-midnight crash.

"We weren't in a hurry to go anywhere. I don't know why we were going fast," Miss Burns said from her hospital bed where a brace doctors call a halo keeps her from moving her broken neck.

Funerals were held Monday from the Marshall Funeral Home, 125 Yonge St. North, Richmond Hill, for both the Richmond Hill victims.

Miss Williams is survived by her parents Mr. and Mrs. Guy Williams of Richmond Hill and a brother Paul. She was buried at Richmond Hill Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

Stephen Dunkley is survived by his parents Mr. and Mrs. James Dunkley of Richmond Hill, and three brothers, John, David and James. Cremation followed the funeral.

Coroner Dr. Kemlo Baxter of Metro said an inquest will be held because a multiple death motor vehicle accident is involved. He said a date won't be set for the inquest until he can determine when Miss Burns can leave hospital to testify.

Two Vaughan Town youths in York County Court last week were sentenced to four years in jail for possession of a wooden head full of marijuana imported from Jamaica in March.

Michael Nixon, 20, of Woodbridge and Steven Ireland, 22, of Kleinburg were charged with narcotics importing which carries a seven years to life sentence upon conviction. However, they were allowed to plead guilty to the lesser offence of possession for trafficking.

At a closed bail hearing in Richmond Hill Provincial Court, March 30 Judge Russell Peers refused to set any bail for release of the pair when York Region Police sought to hold them in jail during the investigation.

HILL MAN ARRESTED

Proceedings of that bail hearing couldn't be published until now because of a judge's order prohibiting publication until after trial. At that time the federal prosecutor told the court a Richmond Hill resident was arrested at a post office in Jamaica for shipping marijuana filled statues to Nixon and Ireland. The name of the Richmond Hill resident wasn't given.

The prosecutor said several 10 pound lots had already gone into the community and police hoped to intercept more. YRP Staff Inspector Wally Harkness testified that Nixon was a heavy user of narcotics showing needle marks in both arms, worn out with drugs and showing considerable weight loss. He'd left Toronto March 3 and returned March 10. His father was a YRP constable and had asked him to leave the house, the court was told.

DOWNVIEW APARTMENT

Nixon and Ireland had a rented apartment in Downview furnished with a minimal amount of rented furniture, the court was told. Nixon had made many trips to the USA and Jamaica, according to Harkness.

Federal Prosecutor Steve Sheriff in County Court last week agreed to drop the charge of importing marijuana and the pair admitted having the substance for trafficking purposes. County Court Judge Edward Wren said a four-year sentence was proper in the circumstances and he would recommend they serve their sentences in a minimum security prison where they would be eligible for parole in 16 months.

SCHOOL DROPOUTS

Both young men were high school dropouts without steady jobs, with previous fines for marijuana possession, the court was told.

The two were arrested after they returned from Jamaica and after RCMP were alerted to watch for a package mailed from Jamaica. The package was checked at Toronto International Airport and was found to contain a foot-high wooden head filled with marijuana. It was later shown to the judge in Richmond Hill Court where a federal prosecutor opened his removable top and showed the dark green vegetable substance inside.

The RCMP allowed the package to be delivered to a Downsview residence, then directed an as yet unnamed recipient to telephone Nixon and Ireland. Nixon came to the house and picked up the package, but threw it in the rear of a parked truck when he suspected a trap. Police made arrest.

After throwing away the head, Nixon got in a car driven by Ireland and RCMP moved in and arrested both men.



At the new Bayview Lane Shopping Centre opposite Thornlea Secondary School on Bayview Avenue in Thornhill a federal government Opportunities For Youth project group called TIME is shown at work Thursday collecting bottles, cans and paper from the Romfield Circuit area for recycling. On the pavement lifting items into the truck provided courtesy of Markham Town are (from left to right): Bill Trotter of Keele Street, Maple; Bettyann Hawke of 83 Babcombe Drive, Thornhill; Nancy Coulter of 14 Deank Drive, Thornhill; Dagrun Helbert of 14 Deank Drive, Thornhill; Group Chairman Mardi Tyndall of 14 Deank Drive, Thornhill and RR 2, Gormley. Stowing recycled material aboard the truck are Doug Tindal of 206 Duncan Road, Thornhill; Linda Crane of 23 Rothsay Road, Thornhill; and Art Laing of Concord. Watching operations is Markham Town truck driver Doug Brown of Unionville.

Youth Opportunities Group Fights Thornhill Pollution

A youth group was conspicuously busy around the new Bayview Lane Shopping Centre in Thornhill last week in a very constructive way on a matter of great public concern. This kind of youth activity was a pleasant and striking change from the troublemaking and illicit drug type of incidents that commonly come to mind when the topic of young people comes up nowadays.

During the summer this year a youth group set up headquarters in the Thornhill area with a \$14,665 Opportunities for Youth grant from the federal government. The 11-member group operated out of Markham Town's North Thornhill Community Centre at Heintzman House on Royal Orchard Boulevard and was headed by Mardi Tyndall of RR 2, Gormley.

Calling itself This Is My Environment (TIME for short) the group received its grant for the purpose of operating a program in parks in Victoria Square, Markham, Unionville and Thornhill on a half-day basis in conjunction with the playground activities there. They were to attempt to develop awareness of the environment through arts, crafts and play-ground activities, primarily among elementary school children.

In stressing its aim of care and awareness of the environment, TIME organized such activities as crafts, field trips and outdoor experiments such as pollution tests for playground children. TIME hoped the children's enlightened attitude toward the environment would spread to the rest of the community — to adults. Therefore, to further influence the older community as well as the younger, they decided to extend their services to community-oriented activities. They felt a recycling drive would help to do this.

Three enthusiastic TIME members August 15 distributed leaflets door to door to more than 500 homes in the area around the Bayview Lane Shopping Centre, 8190 Bayview Avenue, at Romfield Circuit opposite Thornlea Secondary School. The leaflets were a notice to all homeowners in that area of a TIME recycling drive to be held on Thursday of last week to collect tin cans, bottles and newspapers.

With considerable inventiveness the TIME group brought together the services of other privately and provincially sponsored youth projects to make their recycling project more successful.

They enlisted the help of Littercheck Patrol, a 21-member Metro area youth group sponsored by the Metal Container Manufacturers' Advisory Council and operating from Continental Can Company facilities. Littercheck Patrol provided two drivers and two vans for TIME members to use on Thursday for their door to door recycling drive.

Also brought into the action was Glass Probe, a project by two Metro youths with a \$6,000 Ministry of the Environment grant to collect bottles from taverns, apartments and homes. Glass Probe has been operating out of the Win-Dor Lumber Company building, 1902 Highway 7 West, in the Concord area of Vaughan Town. Glass Probe provided TIME with a depot for the glass bottles collected.

To dispose of the paper collected last week, TIME used the privately operated Unionville Recycling Depot at Daynard's, 31 Jeremy Drive, Unionville, from all those visited who would be willing to support establishment of recycling depots in the Thornhill area or of a further door-to-door pickup service. This petition is to be presented to Markham Town Council at its next meeting.

Members of TIME told "The Liberal" they wished to publicly extend their thanks to Markham Ward 2 (Thornhill) Councillor Roy Muldrew of Romfield Circuit for the great support he gave them and also to those residents in Thornhill in the vicinity of Bayview Lane Shopping Centre who showed interest in their environment by setting their goods out to be recycled.

Flag Fancier At It Again

York Region's flag fancier is at it again.

Two weeks ago police reported the theft of four flags from the area. Last week, there were three taken, and all about the same time.

Two of the flags, one Canadian and one American, were part of the loot taken in a \$1,000 haul at Provincial Family Court, 55 Doncaster Avenue, Thornhill, sometime August 24 or 25.

The third one, a Canadian Maple Leaf, was taken from in front of Vaughan Municipal Office, where someone climbed the pole to snatch it.

Richmond Hill Radio Head Allan Slight Acquires Twin Montreal Station

Richmond Hill radio has increased its news budget in 18 months by 120 percent, says Slight. The total staff is up from 30 people 1 1/2 years ago to 40 now. He is planning to add two more to the news staff this month.

They will operate a news division from a downtown office, covering Queen's Park and major central Metro news stories with tape recorders and voice reports.

There are seven men working on news in the Richmond Hill station. The Toronto sales office is located at the Thorncliffe Market Place on Overlea Boulevard in Leaside. The CFGM transmitters are in Mississauga, which Slight says is pretty well accepted as the best location in the Toronto area.

The new Montreal twin station now has a staff of 24. The news staff went from one to three when Slight took over on July 31. "It will grow from there very quickly to four or five. Then from there we'll see how things go," said Slight.

"We have a lot of faith in the future of Quebec in Canada," he said, pointing out that his group has invested \$1,000,000 in its purchase of CFOX, \$800,000 for the shares and \$200,000 to cover outstanding debts.

It's the first time in 12 years that any broadcaster has been authorized to serve markets in both Toronto and Montreal. Toronto's CFRB tied in with Montreal's CJAD with a 1960 purchase. CFRB-CJAD now have their own news network affiliated with the National Broadcasting Corporation in the United States through their Ottawa bureau Standard Broadcast News.

It's something like this news mix that Slight talks about for the new Richmond Hill-Montreal West Island twins. CFGM now has the services of Broadcast News, which is the Canadian Press radio service that is associated with ABC in the USA. He sees Richmond Hill's CFGM exchanging news reports, commentary and voice recordings with CFOX in Pointe Claire, just as CFRB now mirrors the Quebec scene with the commentary of well-known Montreal journalist Leslie Roberts.

CFOX has its local responsibility at Pointe Claire just as CFGM fulfills its local responsibility by broadcasting a York Region item at least once an hour, and often more frequently, said Slight.

Although CFGM and CFOX will be operated by two autonomous companies and will serve different local communities and interests, they will also expand to serve the two largest radio markets areas in Canada. "We will now have a full-fledged news staff able to exchange Quebec and Ontario stories and information," Slight told "The Liberal".

In prospect for the Richmond Hill station can be such things as a hook-up telephone program between the Montreal and Toronto metropolitan areas, with CFGM's Ken Foss on Phone Forum combining with Gordon Sinclair Jr. and a Montreal telephone participation program.

On big occasions like Montreal Mayor Jean Drapeau's Olympics, there can be a hook-up of telephone broadcast lines between the Richmond Hill and Pointe Claire stations. The Richmond Hill radio newsroom will have a complete information source in Montreal to (Continued on Page 3)

Richmond Hill Radio Head Allan Slight Acquires Twin Montreal Station

By HAL BLAINE

His expansion things are happening at York Region's Richmond Hill radio station CFGM as it organizes to link up with a just-acquired New Country Music twin station in Montreal.

To come is a new mix for CFGM that will provide a combination of York Region, Metro and national news with a new unique news source in Quebec. The aim is to provide a less flamboyant image of events on the Quebec scene that will correct what is considered to be an overly-sensationalized picture of the French-Canadian scene in the Toronto press.

So Richmond Hill radio's Allan Slight told "The Liberal" the other day as he explained his early planning after just acquiring Montreal's fumbling Top 40 radio station CFOX and turning it almost overnight into

what looks like it's going to be a smashing New Country Music success.

Slight is the "go go" early 40s Ontario-Western Canadian, son of a Galt and Moose Jaw newspaperman, who rose to the top line job at Toronto's leading Rock and Roll station CHUM and then headed up a group that paid \$2,300,000 in mid-January 1971 for Richmond Hill's CFGM.

His Richmond Hill ownership group includes Canada's most famous New Country Music composer and performer Gordon Lightfoot, along with Mrs. Eva McCutcheon, widow of the late Canadian Finance Minister Senator Wallace McCutcheon of Gormley. Slight's new Montreal company is Radio CFGM Incorporated. Its former owner and still general manager Gordon Sinclair Jr. has another well known

broadcasting name and still keeps a minority 10 percent share of ownership.

Since Slight left the job of program director and general manager at CHUM to take over at CFGM in Richmond Hill with his firm of Slight Broadcasting Limited, the station here has experienced an aggressive expansion.

And it finds the market is there, says Slight, and the market is liking CFGM's package. The station bills itself now as number two among all English language radio stations in the nation, second only to Toronto's CFRB in the 25-49 age group and tied for number two spot just behind CHUM in the 18-34 audience. This according to the Bureau of Broadcast Measurement in March 1972. "Our total audience has gone up nicely in the last couple of years,"

says Slight.

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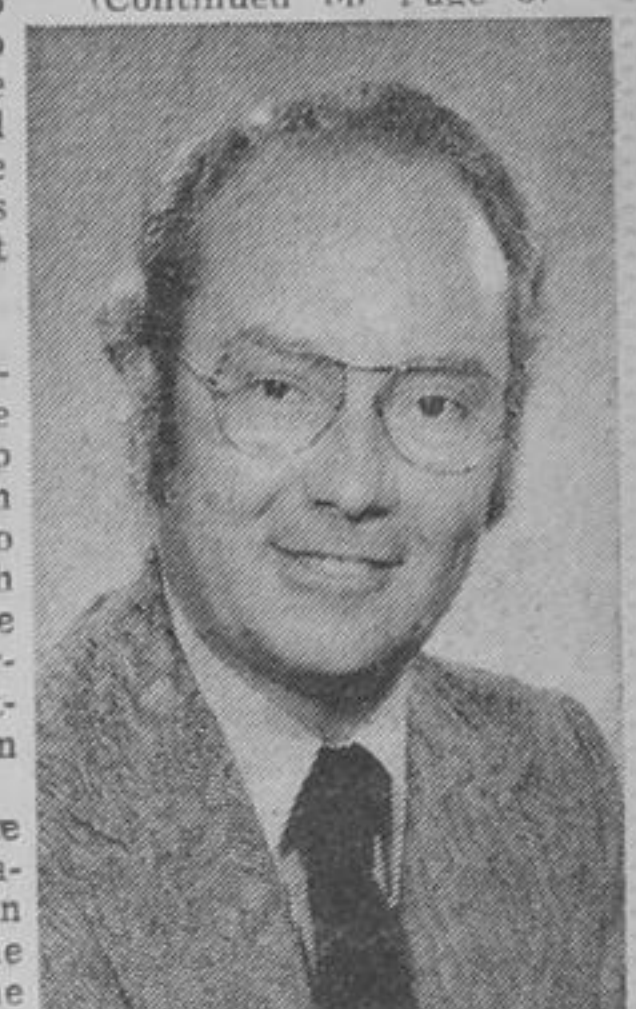
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SINCLAIR STEVENS
Action Needed



ALLAN SLIGHT