

# CNA The Liberal

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## Fatal Intersection

It seems York Region Councillor Gordon Rowe of Richmond Hill was sadly prophetic last month when he told region council the Ministry of Transportation and Communications should be asked to bulldoze away without delay, its newly constructed Highway 11 (Yonge Street) intersection at Gormley Road. He warned there was a danger of more deaths at this intersection with its apparent optical illusion.

Now two more deaths have been added to the previous fatality and damage crashes. Nothing could more definitely support the contention of fearful residents in the neighborhood who have complained to local authorities.

York Region engineering staff reviewed the situation. They agree with the provincial Ministry's opinion that traffic control signal lights aren't the answer in this situation, if normal yardsticks and rules are applied.

Region staff feel the drivers of southbound vehicles turning east experience difficulty. Whether it is the terrain, the design of the road, or what, they often wrongly judge they can make the turn

safely and get run down by a northbound vehicle.

The recent unfortunate death of a Port Credit couple, according to the Provincial Police report, fits exactly into the problem pattern described by region staff.

York Region traffic engineers either didn't know the answer to the problem or declined to advance it out of consideration for their provincial counterparts. But region council quickly approved a staff recommendation which asks the provincial Ministry to investigate the reason for the high incidence of accidents involving left turning vehicles. This is so appropriate steps can be taken to rectify the situation.

Certainly the Ministry of Transportation and Communications must immediately and quickly investigate. Otherwise the direct responsibility for any further death, injury or damage at this corner will rest directly upon their shoulders.

If at all possible, temporary interim measures must be taken now to shield unwary southbound Yonge Street travellers from the apparent danger they face when turning left into Gormley Road.

## We Must Be Involved

Early in the morning recently, passengers on the Bloor Street Subway Line in Toronto, sat and watched another passenger being beaten by a trio of youths who also threatened him with a knife. They sat and watched and did nothing — and some of them were burly men who would have been more than a match for the hooligans.

A few weeks before that another group of people in the Towne & Country Square watched while another man was badly beaten — and did nothing, just across the road from our area.

These are only two examples of the spread of the disease of self-protection, of the decision to remain uninvolved with what is happening around us, that has been evident for some years in the United States. We Canadians have smugly said to ourselves, "But we're different. It can't happen here."

The people of Richmond Hill are different. Recently, several residents of Roseview Avenue left their warm beds to respond to the cries of a young girl who had been attacked. They saved her from

serious injury and should be commended highly for their sense of responsibility to a fellow human being.

The good samaritan often goes unrecognized and unthanked, but still continues to react in a positive and helpful manner when the need arises. He (or she) is doing what he knows is the right thing to do in spite of personal danger.

One does not need to become physically involved in helping, particularly if that intervention would result only in another person being injured, but it is a simple matter to phone the police. Such action takes only a little time and maybe a dime in the nearest phone, but it brings to the scene in a hurry men trained to handle such situations. This action may also involve appearance in court as a witness — but the legal punishment meted out to the instigator of such attacks should be worth the inconvenience.

Do get involved! The fact that ordinary citizens are willing to get involved and willing to take whatever action is necessary could well be a deterrent to would-be attackers.



## Her Majesty Chats With Local MP

This summer's visit to Canada of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip was an unequalled success as Her Majesty mingled freely with the crowds who came to catch a glimpse of the Royal couple. One of those who had the opportunity to chat with the Queen was

Barney Danson MP, York North. He is seen with his wife on the left of the above picture. The other couple are Quebec MP Georges Lachance and Mrs. Lachance. The picture was taken during the Commonwealth Conference in Ottawa, which was opened by Her Majesty.

## Volvo U.S.A. (New York Times)

The imminent announcement by Volvo, the Swedish auto manufacturer, of plans to build an assembly plant in the United States provides fresh evidence that foreign investment is a two-way street—and one that is mutually beneficial.

The flow of American investment abroad has helped to diffuse the high productivity and the fruits of research and development conceived in this country. But it would be misguided chauvinism to suppose that the United States has a monopoly on industrial innovation. Indeed, Volvo may have something to offer that is even more sorely needed by American industry—practical lessons on how to make factory work less stultifying and more creative and satisfying in human terms.

Such objectives would once have sounded idealistic or even utopian to the tough-minded managers and engineers of American industry—especially in the auto industry, where the speed-up of the assembly line and the fractionating of work were long regarded as the be-all and end-all of heightened efficiency. But rumblings of rank-and-file revolt have been so insistent that the critical factor in the Big Three auto bargaining in Detroit this year is the issue of making the conditions of work more human and decent. Leonard Woodcock, president of the United Auto Workers, who went to Sweden last month to confer with Volvo executives, has cited the cleanliness and safety of its plants as models for United States manufacturers.

American auto makers may not be overjoyed at Volvo's coming competition in their own back yard—any more than were European computer makers, electronic firms or, for that matter, auto companies over United States investment abroad. Multinational corporations do create problems, but they also represent a realistic corporate response to the requirements of an interdependent world. The people of Europe have benefited from rising productivity, incomes and living standards from American flows of investment abroad, just as the American people will benefit from the backflow. This is a healthy trend, both politically, vastly preferable to the self-destructive kind of protectionism and anti-foreign investment policies favored by some unions and businesses.

## Letters to the Editors

Dear Mr. Editor—

It would be appreciated if you would correct the misapprehensions possibly created by the lead article in your September 13 issue, and particularly the misleading headline "School Administration Building Means Loss of Grant, Tax Hike."

The building of an administration centre by the York County Board of Education should not result in a loss of grants nor will it necessarily mean a tax hike. What your reporter failed to note was that the centre could be built next year entirely out of the board's reserve funds, with no increase in Taxes whatever. It could also be built out of a debt service fund which would be repaid over a period of years, or it could be paid out of a one year levy distributed among the nine municipalities in the Region of York, or by any combination of these methods. In fact, as your article does point out in the last paragraph, a committee of the board has been established to determine the best way of financing the construction of the building.

Further, it was clearly stated at the meeting which your reporter attended, that building an administration centre, as opposed to renting one, will not result in loss of grants. There is a difference between grant ceilings and expenditure ceilings. Although rental charges are grantable, the York County Board of Education is already operating at its grant ceilings. If lease-purchase costs for an administration centre were to be added to these operating costs, there would be no grant on such costs.

While at first glance it would appear, as your reporter pointed out, that the provincial grant system is so arranged that it favours the more expensive leasing method for administrative facilities, it was in fact clearly stated at the August 20 board meeting that "lease-back arrangements are not looked on favourably by the Minister of Education."

In conclusion, it should be emphasized that in all their deliberations, trustees of the York County Board of Education continually weigh benefits to the students in the system with the affect on

ratepayers' pocketbooks and attempt to reach decisions which will be fair to each. Any suggestion that in building the administration centre they have adopted a method which "beats the taxpayers" is not only untrue but in my opinion is unfair to the trustees.

RON HALL, Acting Director, York County Board of Education.

(In spite of what Acting York County Education Director Ron Hall says in his letter here, "The Liberal" with respect feels there is nothing to correct and stands by its front page report of September 13. This newspaper feels the news report of that date fairly presented the immediate and long term considerations of the new administrative building tax costs issue from an impartial and fair public point of view, according to information available at the August board meeting. If Mr. Hall feels there is additional information and will present it to the board at a subsequent meeting, or directly to this newspaper, "The Liberal" will gladly attempt to present it to Southern York Region readers as fairly as possible. —Editor)

### EARLY UGLY

Dear Mr. Editor—

Since I am no longer a resident of Richmond Hill, I am perhaps overstepping the bounds of propriety by writing to you in this manner. My question to the residents of the Town of Richmond Hill, through you, is the reasoning behind their apparent willingness to allow the general trend of this area, which I term "ugliness in the name of profit and expediency" to so totally engulf what ever I remember as an attractive small town.

I realize that the excitement of recalling our glorious hundred year history may overpower any practical thoughts the townspeople may have. However, is it possible that anyone in his right mind could find anything aesthetically pleasing in Cadillac Homes' latest catastrophe — BAIF — just south of the town? I have not enough background knowledge to question the adequacy of the school, water, or governmental systems of Richmond Hill. To cope with so large an influx of human beings, I only question how long our hunger for money will overwhelm any possibility for sacrifice of time and profit for the sake of beauty and planning.

It is certainly a pleasant thought to consider what our great-grandchildren will write of us in the chronicles of the second half of the 20th Century.

"They were the fathers of our present world, worshipping speed and money, translating these to mean "progress and food". The people were controlled for the most part by petty politicians whose hunger for personal power and renown overshadowed cautious and intelligent planning. In countries such as Canada the national identity lay in natural beauty, yet at every turn the stupidity of individuals seemed to work at destroying as much of that identity as possible with no thought given to building around and complementing nature. They had the chance to change the direction of a generation sick with that pleasure food, PROGRESS. Instead they directed all

their energy toward promoting the trend. It is for this reason that the styles and modes of our forefathers are generally referred to as "early ugly".

KATHLEEN WYNNE, Queen's University, Kingston.

### A SCHOOL BOARD WITH FEWER PIPE DREAMS

Dear Mr. Editor—

Your news report on the Pleasantville area parents' representation to the York County Board of Education (Liberal, September 13) is worthy of some comment on the statements of the board which when examined turn out to be just the opposite of what they appear.

As stated, the teaching staff at Pleasantville was originally set below the general ratio established by the school board. The reason given for this is "staff variations from year to year due to special teaching requirements." Now just what does that mean? I suggest that it is merely a semantic smoke-screen to hide the fact that there is no explanation. In the following paragraph it was reported that the school's administration stretched the guidelines and added a half-time teacher to the staff to put the ratio at exactly the level specified in board policy. Would the board like to explain how the guidelines have been stretched if the addition only brought the staff up to the level originally laid down by the board?

The board staff note that combined grades in one classroom is a situation not unique to Pleasantville; last year there were 38 doubled classes. Pity! Hardly a healthy sign that educational standards are flourishing in the district.

Are these other combined classes also in elementary schools like Pleasantville where Trustee Mrs. Doreen Quirk of Markham assures us "we are recognizing that the elementary years are more important"?

I suggest that our Board of Trustees puts its extra "ceiling" money where its mouth is and eliminates these spots on the fact of the body scholastic instead of approving funds for resurrected board staff pipe-dreams like the proposed School of the Performing Arts to be built in the BAIF development.

BRIAN BULLOCK, 288 Emerald Isle Court, Richmond Hill.

## In the Spotlight



By DIANA COOK

### King Seneca Arts And Crafts

Sunday, September 16 was a bracing autumn day — the kind that summons us to grab a sweater and head for the country, and hundreds of people did just that. Their destination was the King Campus of Seneca College where the second annual exhibition of arts and crafts was taking place.

The lawns of the former Lady Eaton estate were lined with colorful stalls displaying the works of over 60 artisans from all across Ontario, while Eaton Hall itself, a Norman-style mansion with gardens overlooking a lake, was open to the public for tours. Two of the larger rooms were filled with antiques, including tapestries and Canadiana furniture, both on display and for sale.

In the nearby Villa Fiori were demonstrations with a loom and spinning wheel. Teacher Genie Burgher, who first carded and then spun some New Zealand lamb's wool, has tried working with just about every local material available, including dog's fur. For her next project she intends to try her luck with swamp milk weed, originally spun by the Indians of this area.

There was also some very impressive black and white photography by the students on display, and in the art room further down the hall, teachers Alex Miller and Victor Tinkl sketched, painted, and answered the public's questions.

Transportation between the hall and villa was provided by shuttlebus. There were hayrides, which proved very popular, but most visitors spent the greater part of their time wandering through the outdoor displays, gazing at the original weavings, jewellery, pottery, and leather goods.

Robert Lyons, a broommaker from Terra Cotta, sold "Bezums", (or Besoms); Rosalyn Minor, a crafts instructor from Scarborough, made startling realistic flowers out of painted seashells. Other displays worth mentioning included jewellery formed from rolled 12 carat gold wire by Susan Ricketts of Barrie, "decoupage" by Margaret Grigg of RR 2, Markham, pottery by Jani and Gary Walsh of RR 1, Mount Albert, jewellery by Francis Kylesworth of Stratford, Cottage Weaving by J. Denny of Acton, the work of The Willowdale Artisans, (who share a studio on Glen Cameron Road, Willowdale), and the mobiles and sculpture of Frank Caldwell, who uses only recycled materials in his work.

A luncheon prepared by the Seneca chef, was sold in Eaton Hall, where visitors could enjoy the view from one of the many expansive bay windows.

In the summer, the King property, which is located on Dufferin Street North (between the Aurora and King Sideroads), is used as a conservation and recreation area. There is supervised swimming, as well as sailboats and canoes for rent. This winter the land is to be used for cross-country skiing, with trails, equipment rentals, and special rates for groups and schools on weekdays.

According to Area Co-ordinator Paul Brillinger, who, with the help of Gordon Barnes, director of visual arts, organized the arts and crafts display, the King Campus usually has approximately 1,000 part-time students and 300 full-time students enrolled. The variety of subjects available is endless, ranging all the way from accounting to bookkeeping. The school year is divided into three semesters, fall (September 24), winter (January 7), and spring (April 8). All classes are 12 weeks in length, run from 7 to 9 pm, and cost \$30.

If you're interested in registering for the winter semester, it would be best to do so as soon as possible. This can be done either in person at the campus on weekdays, or by phoning in for a registration form.

The success of the all day arts and crafts exhibition this year has ensured its being held again in 1974, so if you missed this one, make a point of remembering the next. It's worth it!

## MINISTRY OF REVENUE

As required by Section 40 Subsection 5 of the Assessment Act, R.S.O. 1970, Notice is hereby given to all property and business ratepayers within the REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK.

A. The last day for appealing the 1973 Assessment upon which shall be levied in 1974 is October 31st, 1973.

B. The Assessment Roll may be examined in the LOCAL MUNICIPAL OFFICE during regular business hours and the Roll may be discussed with the Assessment Commissioner or an Assessor at the Regional Assessment Office.

Regional Assessment Office # 14  
Region of York  
460 Oak Street  
Newmarket, Ontario

## Georgina Plans Centralized Administration

By MARGARET LADE

Mayor Joe Dales of Georgina Township and members of his council were taken on a "pilgrimage" to Bramalea recently by Keswick resident "Whipper" Billy Watson.

The purpose of the trip was to show Dales and his council what can be done in the way of providing recreational facilities for a growing municipality.

In the two and one half years since regional government came into effect and the Townships of Georgina, North Gwillimbury and Village of Sutton were amalgamated to form the Township of Georgina, administration facilities have been scattered between the three former municipalities.

They are now prepared to take action in centralizing administration in Georgina.

In the province's Toronto-Centred Plan, Georgina is designated as primarily agricultural and recreational, and must plan accordingly. The council is

therefore, said Dales, attempting to work "people services" such as swimming pools and arenas and community halls and parks into its overall plan as well as the mandatory "hard services" such as sewage disposal, water supply, roads, garbage disposal, etc.

And this is where Mr. Watson came into the picture. He invited the mayor and council to accompany him on a trip to Bramalea where Reeve Bob Williams took them on a tour of the new Mayfield recreation complex.

The position taken by the planners of Bramalea was that if you are going to build housing units for people, you must also be prepared to provide for their social and recreational needs.

Provincial legislation makes it mandatory for developers to turn over five percent of land in a development for parks, or, if a park is not needed in the development, to turn over the equivalent in cash to be used for development of parks and rec-

reational facilities in other parts of the community.

In Bramalea, said Dales, the municipality said, "To heck with five percent. We want ten percent for parks and recreation." The result has been multiple-use recreational complexes such as the Mayfield development which has facilities for swimming, skating and outdoor sports.

The philosophy has been that, if developers want to bring people into an area, they must be prepared to provide more than housing. The cost, of course, is reflected in the selling price of the housing units and in rents.

Georgina's planning, however, goes beyond recreation. While the trip instigated by Watson gave them some very useful ideas on how to "do things differently", council is also working on ways of streamlining its business administration.

"We have big plans for bringing our services and administration under one roof," Dales told

"The Liberal". Offices and services are now scattered over the three former municipalities.

Georgina has an option on a three storey brick building on a 600 acre site between Keswick and Sutton. It is the St. Gerard Novitiate owned by the Roman Catholic Redemptionist Fathers, and according to Dales is a good financial proposition.

The municipality has applied for a winter works grant to pay for necessary repairs and renovations within the building, and they hope by mid-October ownership will be established "beyond possible doubts".

Since all of the 600 acres will not be needed for administrative or works purposes, some of the land will probably be sold and the proceeds will help to pay for other facilities, said Dales.

"We would like to do business with the Order (Redemptionist Fathers)," said Dales, "but we have to go easy because we are saddled with a big deficit from last year."