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From The North Pole To Kleinburg

"Santa Claus made that?" seems to be the question puzzling Kristy Ralls (front) and Heather Crowe, two of 50 kindergarten children from Walter Scott Junior School, Richmond Hill as they take a close look at an Eskimo soapstone carving on display at the McMichael Canadian Collection in Kleinburg. Their teacher, Miss Isabelle Smith, arranged for the whole class to visit the collection and learn more about Eskimos and Indians.

Introducing Eskimo carvings, McMichael Collection Lecturer, Pat Hobbs of Richmond Hill, pointed out that people who made the carvings lived in the North Pole. "Santa Claus" quickly came to mind. Thousands of classes from kindergarten to University visit the McMichael Collection to discover various forms of Canadian art in this rustic country setting. The Collection is open to the public Tuesday to Sunday from 1:00 to 5:30 pm, and there is no charge for parking or admission.

No Pay Agreement Teachers Aid In Student Activities

By MARGARET LADE
In an 11th hour proposal to secondary school teachers, in an attempt to eliminate the prospects of mass teacher resignations to become effective December 31, and to allow more time for negotiation, York County Board of Education's negotiating committee chairman, Markham Trustee John Honsberger, last week forwarded a new proposal to the teachers following a meeting of the board November 14.

The board had a long, concerned discussion about salary negotiations, said Honsberger, and several messages came through clearly.

"The trustees do not want you to resign! The trustees acknowledge your right to use mass resignation if all else fails. The trustees do not want the negotiators to be pressured by the shortage of time between now and November 30 (the date deadline for resignations to be effective in the fall term)," Honsberger told the teachers.

TO ACCEPT RESIGNATIONS
"To remove this pressure on the negotiators the board, by a unanimous vote, agreed to accept resignations from members of District 11 (York), OSSTF at any time on 30 days' notice up to May 31, 1974.

New Working Hours Christmas Break For Town Employees
A four-and-a-half day Christmas Holiday will be enjoyed by the office and works employees of the Town of Richmond Hill, as the result of a decision of council at its November 12 meeting.

The staff won permission to work until noon on December 15, a Saturday in lieu of Monday morning, December 24. However, the cashier's counter will be staffed until 12 noon December 24 for the convenience of the public.

Councillor Lou Wainwright, chairman of the works committee, emphasized that this was a straight trade, that no overtime would be paid and sick leave would not be influenced. Council also agreed to the operating hours of the town offices being changed to 3:30 to 4:30 (instead of the present 9 to 5) permanently effective January 1, 1974.

Mayor William Lazenby said he was looking forward to a recommendation that the offices be staffed one evening a week for the convenience of the public, since Richmond Hill is a dormitory community and is likely to remain on a trial basis with two or three persons on duty. We are in the business of providing a service to the public.

The works employees hours will be 7:30 to 4:30.

To Tour North America

The resignation of Barry McKinnon, Ruggles Avenue, secretary-treasurer of the Richmond Hill Committee of Adjustment, was received with regret by council at its November 12 meeting. McKinnon will be a town employee December 7, after five years service here. It was reported he intends to take a year off and travel throughout North America with his wife and two children.

of teaching, working up to \$15,100 in 13 years and an additional \$900 in 1972.

\$12,629 AVERAGE
This agreement brought the average salary of secondary school teachers in York to \$11,783 in the 1971-72 school year and to \$12,629 in the 1972-73 school year.

In reply to the teachers' allegation that the teachers of Peel were getting a better deal, Honsberger conceded the distribution of teachers throughout the four categories is about the same in the regions, both boards having about 45 percent in category 4 and about 16 percent in category 1 according to 1972-73 figures — the latest available on a comparative basis.

"But Peel's staff is much younger," said Honsberger in a newsletter to teachers and press dated November 19. "York has 31 percent of its teachers at maximum, while Peel has less than 16 percent. York has less than four percent of its teachers at minimum; Peel has nine percent."

IMPACT ON COST
This difference in years of experience has a significant impact on total costs, Honsberger pointed out. "A difference of just two years in average experience of teachers translates into a per pupil cost difference of well over \$50."

There is a "weighting factor," Honsberger admitted, which makes allowance for some of this to be added to the provincial ceiling, but the allowed increase in ceiling is only a small fraction of the actual difference in cost.

A second impact is that the greater increases in the schedule usually affect the smallest number of people. Boards with a relatively small percentage of their staff at the maximum can more easily accept higher salaries in the top categories and so tend to produce schedules which look more attractive.

DIFFERENT PROBLEM
"Nobody on this board has ever suggested that a York County teacher with 15 years experience is worth less than a Peel County teacher with 15 years experience," wrote Honsberger. "What has been suggested is that York County has a problem different from Peel's and that both the teachers and trustees need to understand the (Continued on page 3)



JOHN HONSBERGER
Negotiations Chairman

Will New Broom Sweep Clean?

York Regional Council last week agreed to purchase a \$17,975 street sweeper, but it wasn't exactly a clean sweep.

In fact, it almost got the brush as Richmond Hill Mayor William Lazenby said his own town had trouble with the big brooms and suggested they get a machine that had cellulose bristles.

Mayor Robert Forhan of Newmarket agreed. "All they do is create dust and dirt," said the mayor. He recommended the region rent the vacuum that Newmarket now employed.

"Where are we going to locate the sweeper?" asked Councillor Robert Adams of Markham. Robert Hodgson, commissioner of engineering, said it would be kept at the main yard on Don Mills Road.

The region rents one at present and Mr. Adams suggested that would be the best way to serve the area. "How do you transport them?" asked Mayor Margaret Britnell of King. Mr. Hodgson said the machines did 45 mph on their own. He didn't say how fast the brooms themselves travelled, but council agreed to go ahead with them nevertheless.

Modular Homes Proposal First Of Many

By MARY DAWSON
"The proposed modular home development on 19th Avenue will not be the only such proposal," warned Charles Peacock, a resident of 19th Avenue in Ward 5, speaking to a group of approximately 85 people in attendance at a Ward 4 ratepayers meeting Monday evening. "I know of two others — one of which calls for 800 homes. I don't know the location and I can't find out any details of the other. You could have one in your own backyard if you don't watch out!"

Peacock sought support of Ward 4 ratepayers for a petition being prepared for presentation to Richmond Hill council warning of the dangers of this type of development. He was assured many of those attending would sign the petition. He said he knew of five other petitions to the same end being circulated, indicating interest and concern. Peacock also suggested letters or telephone calls to the councillor representing the ward would be effective.

"We need action and immediate action to impress on council that this subject needs a great deal of study, so Mr. Rimon (the planning director) has time to go into the question in depth," he said.

UNDUE HASTE
"Undue haste is a disservice to the whole of Richmond Hill," he charged. "I don't think those with a self-interest should try to rush this through before Rimon has time to make a thorough study."

The speaker also noted that once dealt with by Richmond Hill, the application for rezoning would have to go to the Region and then to the Minister, and this gives the ratepayers more opportunities for increasingly strong protests. "But we should spike it here, so it won't go any farther," said Peacock.

He also recalled a similar proposal was turned down by the Town of Whitechurch-Stouffville, on the basis that it did not agree with the Toronto-Centred Region Plan nor with the town's official plan for zoning bylaw. "If it's not good enough for Whitechurch-Stouffville, it's not good enough for Richmond Hill, in one man's opinion. Modular housing is still in the experimental stages in Ontario and requires more study on its effect on municipalities. I believe council and planning committee's recent action is stop-gap planning, not the long term planning we need in Richmond Hill," the ratepayer said.

He also said the very low tax return (\$20 per month per unit) on such homes and charged developers are taking advantage of legislation drafted for mobile homes on wheels, simply because the modular home can be moved. He said estate type development is planned for the neighborhood of the proposed site and a modular home park is not compatible with that type of development.

HIGH RISE APTS.
A second matter of concern for Richmond Hill ratepayers is high rise apartments and Bill White spoke briefly on the dangers of encouraging such developments and their impact on water, sewerage, fire protection and firefighting equipment, police protection, traffic and schools.

Chairman Gordon MacKenzie said the North Richvale Ratepayers Association has a petition before council at the present time, asking the area to be provided with sewage disposal through the BAIF disposal plant. "They have a problem!" he said.

A short history of the citizens' advisory committee to council and its planning committee was presented by Mrs. John Graham. This group was designed to improve communication between council and the citizens (a two-way street) in an advisory role. At present specifics are being worked out by the original committee of three, augmented by volunteers from all sections of the town. She said council agreed the committee would have the same rights as any other group to appear before council and committee meetings.

Kinsmen Blood Blitz
KINSMEN — serving the community's greatest need!
Right now the greatest need is blood. There is an acute shortage of blood and the Canadian Red Cross needs your help.

Come to the KINSMEN Blood Donor Clinic today (Thursday) at the Richmond Hill Lions Hall, Centre Street East. Clinic hours are 2-4 pm and 6-9 pm.

Transportation will be provided by the KINSMEN to those who require it, by calling 884-0020. Or call Regional Taxi for free rides at 884-9181.

Please help the KINSMEN help this community. Give a gift of Life. You'll feel better for it.

POPULATION EXPLOSION
Another warning was issued by Mac Langton who talked about population explosion and stated, "Whether we like it or not we will have urban expansion. In an area such as Richmond Hill, so close to Metro Toronto, urban expansion is a constant fact of life, but we do not have to submit to uncontrolled expansion."

"Growth can also bring social complications and reduce the quality of the school classroom. It is high time in Richmond Hill, where almost 50% of our tax dollars go to elementary and secondary schools and this money is not controlled by our council, that we find out if we are getting value for our money," he said.

TO TOUR NORTH AMERICA
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Real estate operator Harry Sadler, in a question from the floor, wondered where the "poor people" were going to live if Mrs. Graham didn't want them in her part of town.

Mrs. Graham said she could see apartment buildings in sight of her place. There were vast areas in Richmond Hill which should have apartments. Also, modular homes should be studied.

She said she had always felt strongly about the historic core, even when she hadn't lived there.

How was the community identity retained when the town acquired a population of 70,000? asked another questioner.

Mr. Allen said, however,

there was a definite place for trailer parks, but they must be spacious and well controlled.

Another questioner said he would be reluctant to lose the small-town atmosphere, but the town was vulnerable. How it dealt with changes was council's problem.

Mr. Plaxton foresaw an identity crisis if the town ever became isolated from the rest of the community a la Don Mills or Scarborough.

Mayor Lazenby said the "spirit of the people will prevail". The small-town atmosphere would be retained, with newcomers being treated the same as everyone else.

One questioner felt the participation of local school teachers was necessary to keep the community going.

The trend now was for teachers to go home at 4 o'clock, he said. As a result, Richmond Hill had had to drop such things as the Rose Bowl track meet.

Mr. Allen said it wasn't so much the fault of the teachers' as the board's. Board policy was

3 Killed In 2 Crashes On York Region Roads

Three people were killed in two separate motor vehicle accidents in the area last week.

Dead are: Michael MacIsaac, 22, of 206 Elm Avenue, Keswick; Judith Ann Kerr, 20, of RR 3, King Township; and William George Winn, 19, of RR 1, Stouffville.

The first two were killed in an accident on Don Mills Road, about 10 miles north of Newmarket, November 16 about 8:20 pm.

According to York Regional Police, Mr. MacIsaac was driving north on Don Mills Road when he pulled out to pass a tractor trailer and collided with a south-bound car driven by John McLean, 25, of Agincourt.

Mr. McLean was treated at York County Hospital for injuries. Police said snow was falling at the time of the accident.

The second accident occurred November 15 about 9 pm, north of 16th Avenue in Markham at Concession 7. Police said that Mr. Winn lost control of his car and went off the road into three trees.

He was pronounced dead at 9:45 pm.

Also, the town council should provide the necessary leadership, developing Yonge Street for one thing and giving it the tight controls it required.

Mrs. Graham's main concern was that the "old town" be preserved.

This was in danger of being drastically changed under the town's Official Plan.

Mrs. Graham cited Church Street, Roseview, Pleasantville and Arnold Street as the section pointed out to visitors — "with apologies to spoilage" — as the village core.

"The historic heart of town is ours... If we lose it we lose a lot," said Mrs. Graham, who resides in the old town.

DOOMSDAY PLAN
She said that by the end of the century — with a population of 114,000 predicted — most of the growth would be "cheek by jowl with our town."

"I dread the planned changes," she said. "If we destroy the town's physical roots... we become soul-less."

The "doomsday plan," as Mrs. Graham referred to the town plan, could convert Yonge Street into a canyon, with row houses and multiple dwellings making up the residential areas.

It was up to council to provide other alternatives, so that Richmond Hill could be what its

Essential We Retain Small Town Atmosphere—Commerce Chamber Meeting Finds

By JIM IRVING
The upcoming years could bring about an identity crisis in Richmond Hill if the small-town atmosphere is lost, seemed to be the consensus of a Chamber of Commerce Dinner and panel discussion on "Richmond Hill: The Next 100 Years" at Summit Golf and Country Club last week.

Members of the panel, which ran the gamut of discussion on everything from the value of modular homes, to whether teachers should play a more active part in the community, were: C of C President Donald Plaxton, lawyer and former regional councillor, chairman; Mrs. Marylo Graham, "political activist," according to Chairman Plaxton; Douglas Allen, architect and member of York County Board of Education; Mayor William Lazenby; and Geoffrey Jacobs, assistant vice-president of Cadillac Developments.

Each member was given an unlimited amount of time to speak and then the panel answered questions from the floor.

That Richmond Hill had to take a deep breath and decide what was best for it was evident in the warnings of the speakers, all of whom predicted the mushrooming growth of the area would produce its own set of dire consequences.

GOITTA HAVE HEART
Leading off was Mr. Allen, who said the town was going to get bigger and nobody was going to be able to stop it. The problem was how to handle it.

A town centre was needed — "we have to have a heart." As Richmond Hill grew larger, it needed other small communities within, which would tie in with the total community.

Some of the more undesirable aspects, such as highway take-overs, should be formed into one common eating place, so that it wasn't a "continuous asphalt strip."

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It was up to council to provide other alternatives, so that Richmond Hill could be what its people came here for: "Life in a human, personal, small town..."

Richmond Hill was a "community of people," whose largest single problem at present was what to do with the available urban land in its midst, says Mayor Lazenby.

This was held by non-residents, or "speculators" for the most part, and the next major problem would be pressure from the provincial government on the town to supply building lots to accommodate some of the flow north.

Right now, the town had 3,300 applications for dwelling units before it, which would create a population of 11,000 people.

Such a development would be planned properly and council was requiring the "expertise" necessary in its planning department to do it.

Give the developers a chance, was the plea of Mr. Jacobs of Cadillac Developments.

FUTURE NIGHTMARE
Metro would have five million people by the year 2000, which in turn would add to growth in

Richmond Hill.

It was the town's responsibility to see that "as wide as possible" housing was available. To attempt to stall now was to stick its head in the sand.

If development were slowed now, "your children and mine will find the search for houses a nightmare," Mr. Jacobs said.

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