

# York teacher takeover charge splits Parents' Council

By James Daw

Four executive members of the Thornhill Parents' Council warned of a possible teacher takeover of the York County Board of Education at a Friday press conference.

The charges have been called "absolute nonsense" by officials of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF). Seven members of the Parents' Council executive have disassociated themselves from the statements and five have resigned from the executive.

The four executive members of the group, which claims 400 members, said 16 of the 29 board candidates declared as of Friday have some connection with the teaching profession.

They were worried a "union group" could become both the employer and the employer if a majority of the 20-member York County board were advocates of the policies of the OSSTF.

Press spokespeople

Those speaking at the press conference were Parents' Council Chairman Mike

Bailey, Vice-Chairman Art Fowler, Treasurer Ed Drenfeld and Membership Co-ordinator Ronne Dale.

In a prepared press release they said the Parents' Council "is well aware the teachers' unions have sent directives to teachers and teacher oriented candidates in the forthcoming elections."

"The Political Action Committee (PAC) of the teachers' unions states, quote, 'The objective of this joint committee is the election of trustees who support our federation policies and goals', end quote," the press release continues.

Questions militancy

"Thornhill Parents' Council questions the reason for this militancy on the part of the teacher unions, especially in view of the fact by far the biggest responsibility a board of trustees has is the matter of budgeting and allocation of tax money, and has little to do with curriculum.

"In fact, 70 percent of the ordinary budget goes to teacher salaries.

"We, the Thornhill Parents' Council therefore ask, "for the betterment of whom

do the teachers want to take over the board?"

"Not all teachers necessarily sympathise with their union directives" the press release points out. "However, the union is the governing body, an organization that says either you have a job or you do not."

The executive members asserted they are not anti-teacher and are not supporting their own slate. This because their neutrality and good relationship with the board and teachers would be destroyed.

But Fowler explained the group feels it will have done its duty if voters are made aware of the possibility of the takeover.

Teachers on list

The list of people assumed to be running for council notes if a candidate is now a teacher, was once a teacher or is married to a teacher.

Some names are also linked to the organization Watchers of Education Bureaucracy (WEB) which formed at the time of the York secondary school teachers' strike. WEB was a strongly pro-teacher

group.

Though this group has been disbanded formally, Mrs. Dale claimed founding members are still active and have been disruptive at board meetings.

It was also noted, however, that three of the 16 candidates with a teacher affiliation did not necessarily take a strong pro-teacher stance during the strike. These were current board trustees Doreen Quirk of Markham, Margaret Coburn of King and John McMurray, Whitechurch-Stouffville.

Counter release

On learning of the press conference, Dr. Theo Hofman, the parent representative from Thornhill Secondary School on the executive, made several hurried phone calls to others in the Parents' Council.

Seven executive members issued a counter press release Monday.

"We... are shocked and stunned by this statement and want to go on record that we disassociate ourselves absolutely from (it)," they said in their release.

Only six of the 21 members of the

executive were aware of the Friday press conference and the statement, they said.

"The actions of the members responsible for the statement are quite unconstitutional and highly irresponsible," they added.

The statement is incompatible with a proper environment for "good education" and the fostering of increase trust and understanding between parents, teachers, administrators and trustees, they said.

"The innuendos contained (in the statement) hopefully will not be taken seriously by your readers," they concluded.

Teacher politics

Tony Snedker, chairman of the OSSTF's External Policy Implementation Committee (EPIC) in York, said teachers have received non-partisan encouragement to get involved in politics at all levels.

But he said teachers are not told how to vote and "there is no way any teachers' federation can tell a candidate how to vote after the election. That's absolute nonsense."

His committee has only learned of the teachers running for election through the

media, he said.

Snedker was critical of the Parents' Council because it has also passed a resolution favoring the prohibition of teachers from seeking election as a trustee. "Why teachers? Why not janitors or secretaries?" he asked.

He said the council would relegate teachers to the status of second class citizens.

Teacher manipulation

The secretary of the York branch of the OSSTF, Eric Maclean, said the charges of the Parents' Council executive sounded similar to the charge heard during the strike that teachers were being manipulated by the federation.

"We don't want control (on the board)," he said, "but we do want attention and evidence that our voices are being heard and considered."

He said the board does in fact control the quality of education and is not limited to budgetary matters. "The Parents' Council is way off base," he said.

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## 404 freeway: call it happy

Reaction in York Region to the announcement the province will build the proposed Highway 404 to four lanes immediately was generally favorable, though Markham Mayor Tony Roman wishes construction had started this fall.

The province had proposed to build only a two lane road initially. But pressure from York municipalities seems to have convinced officials traffic in that area warrants four lanes.

Transportation and Communications Minister John Rhodes said Thursday of last week a start on the two-lane road has been postponed a year. Instead, construction will begin next year on a freeway.

There will be a divided

six-lane freeway through the Don Valley Parkway to Steeles Avenue, and a four-lane freeway from Steeles to Newmarket in a corridor between Woodbine Avenue (Don Mills Road) and Leslie Street.

The change has been moved ahead about 10 years in provincial planning. The original project was to cost \$21-million but no figures on the freeway have been provided.

Land for the 404 right-of-way was purchased by the province about 10 years ago.

Mayor Roman said though this new corridor may take some of the traffic from Yonge Street in Thornhill, ministry officials still say present local traffic warrants a reconstruction to

(Continued on Page 2)



(Photo by Elbert)

The sacrifices of Canada's young men and women in two great world conflicts were remembered by a wide segment of the people of Richmond Hill Sunday afternoon as they gathered at the Cenotaph in front of McConaghy Public School to pay tribute. Their comrades were there proudly wearing the decorations which showed that they, too, had fought for the freedom of this country and the world, through horror and through carnage.

The young people of today were represented by platoons of air and sea cadets, the Richmond Hill Youth Concert Band, and throughout the large crowd present for the impressive

ceremony. Judge James Butler, a veteran of World War 1, was the guest speaker. He charged his audience to ensure "no neglect of ours allows others to destroy the great heritage of our little ones."

The salute was taken by Major Robert McMeekin, CD. The committee in charge was chaired by Frank Barrott and included Legion President Doug Hopson and Mayor William Lazenby. The above picture shows Legion President Hopson and Poppy Chairman Bill Pollard after depositing one of the wreaths on the cenotaph, with a portion of the large crowd in the background.

## Judge warns freedom battle unfinished

Addressing the crowd gathered in front of the Richmond Hill Cenotaph on Yonge Street Sunday afternoon to honor the valiant young men and women who served in two world wars, Judge James Butler, well known local resident,

recalled the first Remembrance Day in the history of man occurred more than 2,000 years ago. "The great nation of Israel stood on the threshold of the promised land. Moses, their commander-in-chief, was addressing his troops

for the last time. He reminded them of their long weary journey, with its trials and its difficulties and that often just when it seemed all was lost there came to them an avenue of escape.

"Now he abjured them to

be thankful that they as a nation had been preserved for this great day when all their hopes and their dreams were about to be realized.

"Then their commander-in-chief thundered out his (continued on page 2)

## Wanted in killing

A man wanted for murder in the United States, is being sought in the Richmond Hill-Thornhill area.

York Regional Police said a warrant of apprehension (provisional) for the man's arrest had been issued by the San Luis Obispo Sheriff's office in California. The man was believed to be in the Richmond Hill district.

Although police withheld his name, they did issue a full description of the fugitive. He is described as follows: 26 years old, five feet, five inches tall, five feet, five inches tall, 150-160 pounds, brown hair, brown eyes, olive complexion, scar in middle of forehead, tattoos on left forearm and chest.

Police said he sometimes wears a moustache.

## Thornhiller 1 of 32 Arctic crash dead

A Thornhill man, who loved the north, was one of the victims of the tragic air crash that took the lives of 32 people in the Arctic, October 29.

He was Howard Cazaly, 27, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Cazaly, 19 Bryson Drive, Thornhill.

The plane carrying Mr. Cazaly, who was employed with Peden Oil Services, was owned by Panarctic and was heading for Rae Point on Melville Island from Edmonton, when it went down, killing all but two of the 34 people aboard.

The deceased's father, Laurence Cazaly, said that his son loved the Arctic and had been going up there for the past two years, driving a terrain vehicle during the

months that the ground was hard enough to carry the heavy machines. He had been home to Thornhill two weeks ago.

Mr. Cazaly said also that his son was an ardent sportsman and had driven Formula B racing cars at Mosport, and had recently sailed the Atlantic with a group of friends.

A resident of Thornhill for 16 years, Howard Cazaly attended Charles Howitt Public School and Langstaff Secondary School.

Besides his parents, he is survived by a sister, Mrs. Michael Atkin, of Edmonton.

Funeral service was held from the chapel at Marshall Funeral Home, November 9, followed by cremation.

## Bayview commencement

By Margaret Lade

Sixty-seven honor graduation diplomas, 218 secondary school graduation diplomas and numerous other awards were given out at the 14th annual commencement at Bayview Secondary School on October 26.

Among those honored were 14 Ontario scholars, winners of York County Board of Education awards, student council awards, university admission scholarships, and Bayview school life awards.

Not listed on the program was a presentation to the school's immediate past-principal Arthur Martin, now principal at Langstaff Secondary. When Mr. Martin was presented with a portrait photo of himself for his own office, he received a sustained standing ovation from graduates, parents and friends.

Because of the numbers involved and the limited facilities of the auditorium, the secondary school graduation diplomas, Super

80 and honor bars for the schools various houses were presented in an afternoon assembly.

Student musicians Music for both afternoon and evening programs was provided by the school orchestra directed by Ray Barton playing O Canada, musical interludes and recessional.

Following opening remarks by Principal Harry Gerber and greetings from the board of education, the senior commencement got under way with presentation of student leadership awards to last year's Student Council President Stephen Spraggett, Head Boy Brian Cook and Head Girl, Susan Ball.

Honor graduation diplomas were presented by Vice-Principal Donald Frise.

Top students York County Board of Education book awards were made to top students in years 1 to 4 by Richmond Hill Trustees Warren Bailie and Robert Houghton.

Recipients were: Year 1 — Nancy Limpert, Janice Minter, Janet Murphy and Lorraine Nicholls; Year 2 — Shelley Ring, Ludmilla Strapec, Alan Tambosso and Kathryn Thomson; Year 3 — Walter Cimino, Maria D'Antonio and Dagmar Petry; Year 4 — Mary Jane Higham, Graham Snow and Michael Tambosso.

Student council general proficiency awards were presented by Miss Mary Wilson, head of the school's English department. Winners were: Year 1, Janice Minter; Year 2, Shelley Ring; Year 3, Maria D'Antonio; Year 4, Michael Tambosso.

The Canadian Manufacturers' Association Texas Instruments award went to Walter Cimino; the IODE Richmond Rose Chapter book award to Beverley McKenzie; the Hugo Schenk Memorial award in computer science to Gerard Chaisson; the L.H. Sims award to Elke (Continued on Page 2)



(Photo by Elbert)

Student leadership awards for the 1973-74 school year were presented to the former student council president, head boy and head girl at the 14th annual commencement at Bayview Secondary School. At the left in the picture, making the presentations, is York County Board of Education's Area 4 Supervisor Ken-

neth Stanley. Student Council President Stephen Spraggett received a gavel mounted on a plaque, while leadership plaques went to the prefect organization's Head Boy, Brian Cook, and Head Girl Susan Ball. Looking on is Principal Harry Gerber (right)