

Agricultural land is deep concern of King Twp. citizens

By Norman H. Matthews
The Concerned Citizens of King met at the King Township Public Library February 19 with Vice-Chairman Chris Clerum running the proceedings. Colonel Harry Parker gave a short report on the hap-

penings at a recent Region of York meeting.
With regard to engineering, Col. Parker said one regional report refers to new streetlights "necessary to overcome the flare from a car lot".
He said "85 percent of the

engineering projects are in the NOW category and there are no priorities.
Asked by CCKT members he had received copies of the various regional reports or of their meeting agenda, Col. Parker said "as a member of the public, all I

got was a seating layout".
"Running things like a school class" is the way that well-spoken Parker described the regional government's proceedings.
"You can get voted out of existence there" he said, referring to the way in which various motions are passed at regional meetings.

He expressed his viewpoint that "substantial changes are required regarding the powers of regional government" as he proposed a motion that the CCKT "initiate a study of the (regional) act and propose amendments". Do things efficiently and well at a local level," he advocated.
The motion was seconded and carried.

Col. Parker asked Mayor Margaret Britnell if there was any other activity at the regional government level and she replied "Always...hot and heavy".
After some discussion regarding a local road, Mayor Britnell said she "would like to see us (King) have all of the 17th Sideroad under our control", but admitting "I'm only one voice at region".

Vice-Chairman Clerum said there is a "strong feeling among conservationists that you should eliminate disposable containers (non-returnable bottles, pop can, etc.)".

People who are against the use of disposable containers should write letters to the Ministry of the Environment with a copy to the Premier of Ontario, Mr. Clerum suggested.

"The more pressure brought to bear, the faster it (pollution control laws) happens".

Membership head, Mrs. Jean Bowman, reminded everyone that dues for 1975 are now payable. It was suggested that she send out invoices or renewal forms to delinquent members.

Guest speaker for the evening was David Wood, a member of Pollution Probe of the University of Toronto and co-author of a book entitled "The Tail of the Elephant", a guide to Regional Planning and Development in Southern Ontario published in May 1974.

His didn't really get into very many points regarding pollution but

tended instead to refer to or quote from published studies prepared by various government agencies.

One such report was a plan of 1971 which specifies a desired population for the Region of York by the end of the century of 416,000 people. "A later report increased this by almost twice" he said, stressing that "nothing has been done to protect agricultural land".

Other studies show that decentralization from the south-central areas to Port Hope and Barrie is part of an overall scheme, as is a plan to balance the southern population loads from west Toronto to east Toronto.

One report he referred to was published in December 1974 entitled "Central Lake Ontario Urban Complex" which he said would require strong political stands to implement but "they prefer to take weak stands".

Noting we are in the north corridor of these various studies he went on to suggest that we should "spread the power of Metro Toronto around in the regions".

The speaker said the Ontario Housing Action Program is "geared to provide housing, no matter where, whereas other government ministries are trying to redirect population loading".

"A lot of pressure to increase population in this (York) region can be expected" he said. According to Mr. Wood, the proposed North Pickering Airport is seen by many as a growth stimulant for the eastern part of Metro.

Another report indicates that between 6 and 8 million people will be living where presently only 3 1/2 million are located now.

"This large anticipated population explosion is incompatible with the agriculture of the area".

"Not allowing farm land to be fragmented is one method of control he said, and that population growth should be phased in keeping with sewerage systems.

"Do they (Ontario) preserve agricultural land or not?" membership head Jean Bowman asked, referring to that organization as a "bureaucracy of their own".

"Do they give you (Pollution Probe) reports on what they are planning?" she asked. Wood replied by saying "No, they don't!"

King Township Mayor, Margaret Britnell, asked "Have you presented any policy to preserve agricultural land?" receiving a negative answer.

"We (King Council) received a snippy letter from the ministry of agriculture because we

supported a proposal for a government subsidy of farm labor and yet this is needed to preserve agriculture in the area". The mayor was quite pointed in her comments and appeared to be annoyed at the general theme of Mr. Wood's talk or the references he was using.

One consensus of CCKT members was that immigrants should be obligated to be located (on entry) to remote parts of Canada rather than to the congested major cities.

Mayor Britnell, stated that "the federal government is going to spend \$5 million to tell people where women are and we know where women are".

She suggested this money could be better spent on a national government program to "educate people about the source and need of agriculture. People going to supermarkets have no idea where the produce is coming from" the mayor said.

He ended his address by saying "We'd like to see a strong group in this area looking into land use".

Time Out features exercises, crafts

By Janet Russell
The spring session of the Oak Ridges-Lake Wilcox Time Out-TAB program is now well underway. It is sponsored by the Richmond Hill and District Family

YMCA. The name "Time Out", introduced here for the first time, is the new name of the program resulting from the changeover from YWCA to YMCA this year. TAB is the

name used for similar YWCA programs. Both names will be used for the rest of the season to avoid confusion.

The program is designed to give women "time out" from their homes and families to be with other women for exercises, socializing and personal enrichment through crafts, speakers, etc.

The group is enjoying ideal facilities at St. Paul's United Church, Sunset Beach Road, Oak Ridges. The children are the sole occupants of the spacious downstairs hall where two competent baby sitters, Elizabeth Davis and Audrey Wiley provide some structural activities for the older preschoolers while allowing plenty of time for free play.

While the children play, Sylvia Heavener, a local dancing teacher, helps the ladies to "slim and trim" (hopefully) in a half hour of exercises. Following that is a coffee break and then the program of the day.

Future programs for this spring will include crocheting, quilting, interior decorating, gardening, nutrition, helping children create with simple materials and insights into some local institutions. Watch this column for program timetable.

The group meets Thursdays from 1.30 to 3.30 p.m. The fees are \$1 per week payable in advance in five week instalments, in addition to an initial Y registration fee of \$3. Transportation can be arranged.

Would you enjoy some "time out"? Please come along - we'd like to meet you. For further information or transportation call Anne Rosevear at 773-4024.

The ladies will conclude their macrame project March 6 as there will be no program February 27.

Norm's reflections

By Norman Matthews
Taking the risk of being branded a male chauvinist (for the umpteenth time) I should divulge that I earn and control almost all of the money that enters our household.

Like many of my counterparts, I leave early in the morning, toil for eight hours and return at dinner time having performed that task known as "bringing home the bacon".

And like other wage earners, my paycheck is fractured beyond recognition by income tax, Canada Pension, unemployment insurance and hospital plans.

Under the misconception that Daddy ends up with bags and bags full of money, in spite of all the initial deductions, my four daughters expect their share of the loot.

We have for years practiced the "allowance" method of satisfying their personal financial needs, and as each daughter increases in age, so does her monetary reward.

I've tried to impress on them the facts about cost of living increases, devaluation of the dollar, the national deficit and the burden of our two cars, in the hope that their weekly allotment could be frozen at a certain level.

Forget it!!! The background input they hear about government MP's raising their salaries, trade unions holding out for higher increases, etc., etc., may not be too great an influence on my gals, but when canned pop rose to 25 cents and chocolate bars jumped to 20 cents, I was a goner.

Allowances would have to be adjusted to compensate. They can't very well go on strike as a threat as the things they do best (fighting amongst themselves) would be a welcome loss to us.

Now, of course they "wheel and deal" by borrowing from each other or asking for an advance to cover some imposing emergency ranging from a package of cigarettes to the latest Spiderman doll.

So far we've been able to cope with it all including paying them each week although I only get paid twice a month. The real challenge is to come: That is, an allowance for my wife.

After all, I do agree that if I had to pay her even the minimum wage I probably couldn't afford her services. Certain benefits could be considered wages such as free room and board, meals, clothes and the pleasure of my company, but that kind of talk really seems to get me in trouble. And if Donna went on strike, things could (admittedly) get rough. I couldn't last!!!

I mean, male chauvinists are programmed to direct, not perform all those housewife functions which she gallops through week after week. If she ever invoiced me for back pay (or as teachers phrase it - retroactive) I'd have to declare personal bankruptcy and go home to Mom.

I could always grant her attention to her credit cards which seem to be limitless in their purchase value, but any foreclosure of those would have a dastardly effect on the region's economy.

Hillcrest Mall, and the Richmond Heights Plaza and Yorkdale would have to seriously consider a cutback in volume and personnel if these charge cards were ever cancelled.

No, the only solution is to coast along, hoping that the children don't form an association or bargaining group and that Donna doesn't give her plight too much thought.

Heaven help us men in the King area if the Good Morning Group ever forms a steering committee on the duties and financial compensations of the Canadian housewife.

I can see it all now: The CWL and GMG versus the Kingsmen and MASK, negotiating housewife's wages for the next year. It almost boggles the mind!!!

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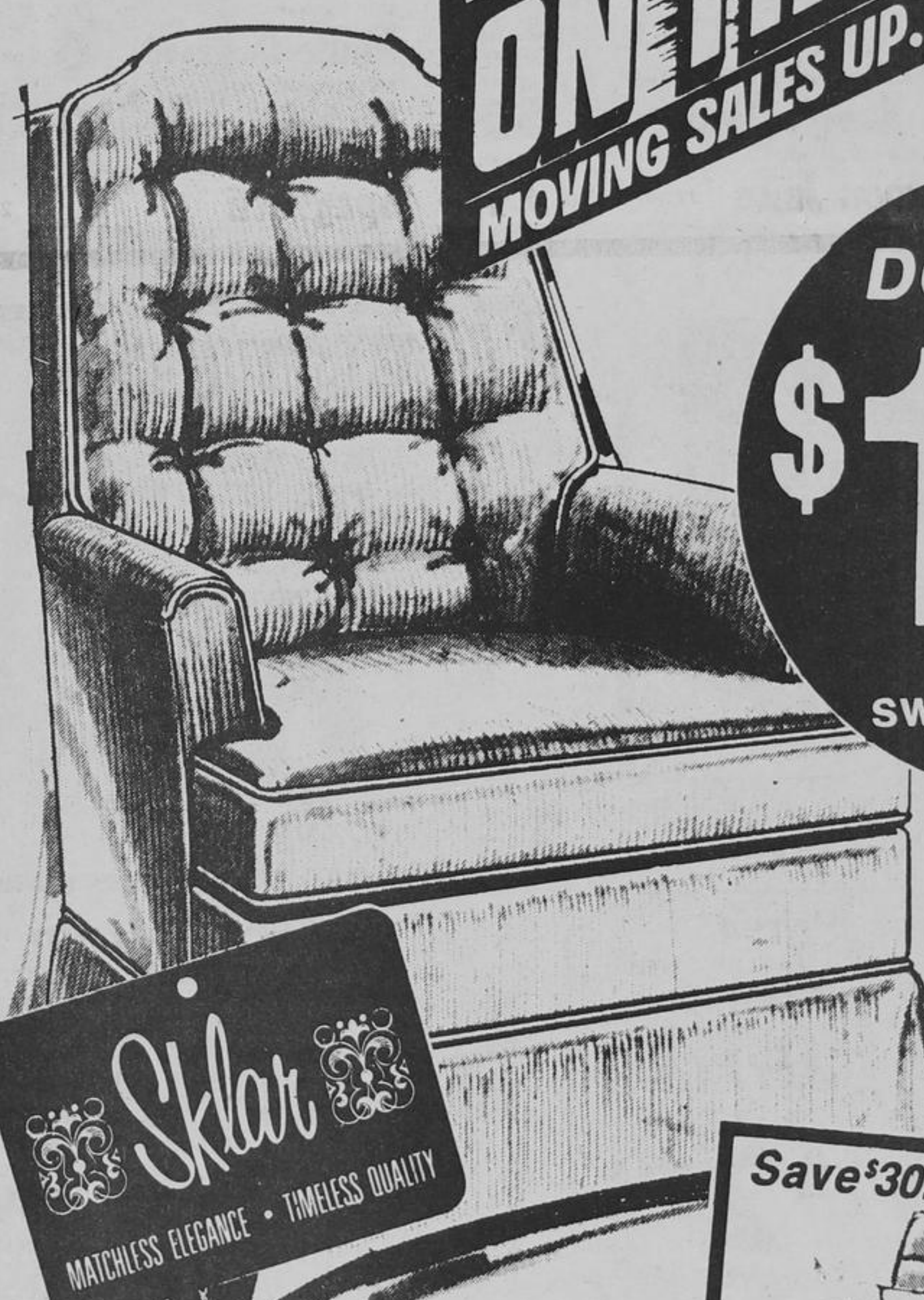
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