



Letter from the Queen

Correspondence with Queen Elizabeth gets a response, as students at Jefferson Public School in Richmond Hill found out last week when they received a reply that now has been framed for display. Pictured above are Grade 3 students

Jason Steele of 19th Avenue, Stefanie Munroe of Gormley Sideroad, and Kelly Rheeder of Gormley in the foreground and the rest of their class looking on.

Social service agencies strained, Schiller says

By Larry Johnston

THORNHILL — Some of the social agencies involved in the first United Way campaign for York Region "have had many struggles with whether to carry on" because of financial problems, Richmond Hill Mayor David Schiller said last week.

Speaking at a United Way sandwich lunch where even the sandwiches were donated, Schiller said some of the social agencies were extremely strained. The current financial restraint programs of the senior levels of government have not helped and

several were suffering growing pains before that.

"We may have built the infrastructure (public works) in York Region too fast to pay attention to community needs," he explained.

Later, Charles Craemer, chairman of the Markham Family Life Centre, said that organization had been in a "crisis financial situation. I feel the only way we are going to survive is through the United Way."

The family life centre provides teaching and counselling in the area of individual stress, anxiety, family breakdown, drug rehabilitation and communications breakdowns between parent and adolescents, among others.

Another agency is Operation Catch-up, which attempts to help children "who seem to be lost before they get into trouble with the law."

Bob Higgs, United Way executive director, says its agencies do not compel support "the way a cancer society does" but they are all agencies that "if they knock on your door they will probably support them."

These agencies do not provide the

type of program foundations support, he adds, "but it should be one the neighbors support."

The actual campaign to raise \$250,000 started Sept. 27 but there are still soft spots in organizations. "Volunteers are urgently needed in all areas," Higgs says. There is no house-to-house campaign yet in Thornhill, Aurora or Woodbridge, but Higgs says if volunteers come forward now, these areas can still be covered by the closing date of Nov. 8.

The industrial campaign has raised \$20,000 so far, Higgs says, but there is no one to take charge of canvassing the Keele Street industrial area.

About 150 firms in this area can be canvassed personally with the current volunteers, and the rest will be reached by mail, he says.

Initial attempts to start United Way in York were made ten years ago, but this is the first annual campaign.

The number of volunteers involved has grown from a low point of two, Neil Mann of Richmond Hill and Dr. Gabriel Sabo of Maple, to the hundreds.

GO Transit takeover hit

THORNHILL — The GO system is taking over the profitable Yonge Street TTC bus service and Markham Councillor Peter Grosskurth is opposed to the change.

"GO Transit does not have a very good track record when it comes to making a profit," he says.

Under the old agreement, Markham, Vaughan and Richmond Hill split any profit or loss on the line operated under contract by the TTC.

The Ontario government would pick up 50 per cent of the loss. There had been one for about three years until the fares were increased to 35 cents earlier this year, Grosskurth said.

The provincial government has since changed its subsidy to 25 per cent of the operating cost.

Grosskurth said the municipalities would not only be losing the profits on the line, which could be used to subsidize chronic money losers in other areas, but it appears they are also losing the 25 per cent subsidy on operating cost as well.

Trustees seek to ban two books

AURORA — A motion calling for the novels, *The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger and *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz* by Mordecai Richler, to be removed from the school curriculum, was approved 3-2 at a meeting of the program committee Monday night at York County Board of Education.

Voting for were Markham Trustees Donald Sim and Gary Adamson, and Donald Cameron of Vaughan.

The motion will now be taken to the board for approval at its regular

meeting next Monday night.

The board will also face a group of Thornlea students, who plan to present a petition against any possible censorship of prescribed reading material by the board.

The board will also consider three recommendations calling for skills tests to be administered in reading and math in grades 2, 4, 6 and 8 next year, plus a representative number of students be given the tests in high school.

Monday night, Mrs. Janette Neville, an English teacher at G.W. Williams Secondary School in Aurora, told the meeting that, of 100 grade nine students tested last year, 56 needed remedial reading.

When asked Tuesday about her comment, Mrs. Neville told The Liberal the thing needed to be seen in perspective and she was meeting with research head, Brian Birnham, at that moment, "getting a perspective."

She said she would prefer to talk about the matter later in the day.

Regional councillors will view waterfront project

NEWMARKET — Oct. 13 has been set as the date for a four-hour excursion on Lake Ontario for members of York Region council to see where some of their money has been going for the past five years.

The boat trip, agreed to by council last week, will take in the area from the Etobicoke-Mississauga boundary to the Ajax-Pickering line, which is the area covered in the first five-year phase of the Metropolitan Toronto Regional Conservation Area waterfront project.

Part of York is within the area of jurisdiction and the region has con-

tributed toward financing the first phase. It will also contribute to the second half, which will go to 1981.

So far the project has built four major recreation areas for boating, open space and swimming. They are located in Humber Bay in Etobicoke; Ashbridge's Bay, at the foot of the Don Valley Parkway; Bluffer's Park, at the foot of Brimley Road in Scarborough, and Petticoat Creek in Pickering.

The second phase will provide boating and recreation facilities on the western beaches in the old Sunnyside area.

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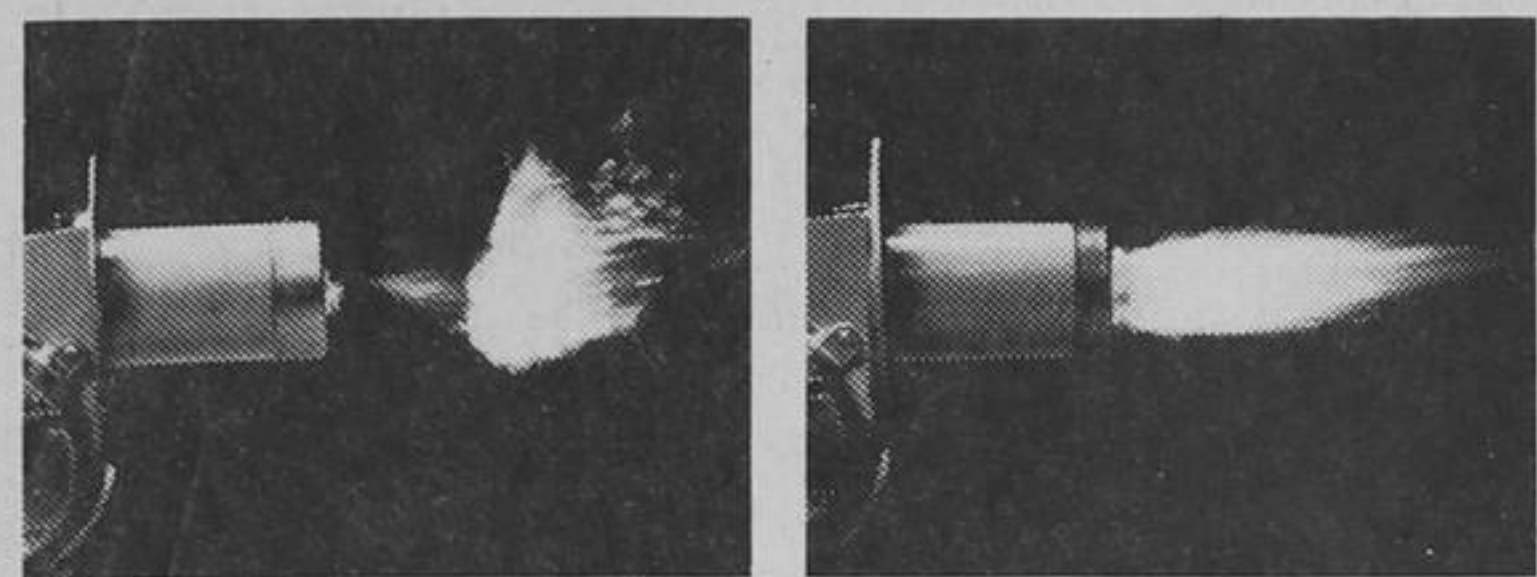
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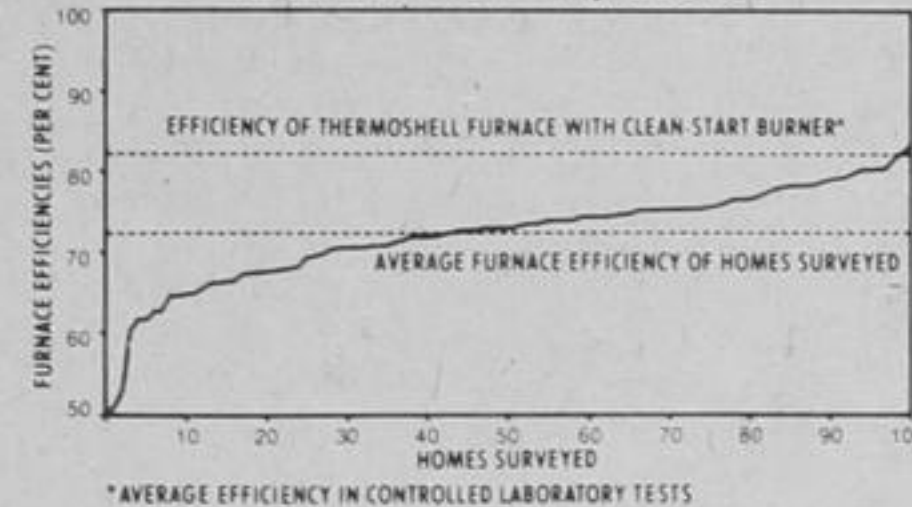
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