



(Photo by Hogg)

## Ready for blast-off

The rockets are all ready to take off for heights unknown, but that's the least of the worries of Markus Heinecke, 13, of May Ave., Richmond Hill. Right now, Markus wants to make sure they have a safe and uneventful landing, which is why he's trimming that parachute so carefully. The chute is stuffed into the nose cone of the

rocket, and only makes its re-appearance when it's time for the rocket to come down. A member of the First Richmond Hill scout troupe, Markus is readying his project for the 15th annual hobby show of York Summit District at Hillcrest Mall Auditorium, Feb. 26. Feb. 20 to 27 is Boy Scout Week in Canada.

## Tax hike probable

AURORA — Unless York County Board of Education is able to come up with some cuts in its proposed budget for 1977, York taxpayers will face an 11 per cent increase in the education mill rate.

Last week the board presented its first draft of the budget, which showed a jump of \$6.8 million from last year, for a total of \$74.4 million.

The draft, which was presented by staff, showed an extra \$3 million in grants this year. Trustees were told there were not sufficient funds on hand to help ease the bite on taxpayers.

John Kippen, superintendent of operations, said, also, that they were concerned about the low amount allowed for capital replacement and maintenance by the ministry.

Kippen said Bayview Secondary School, for example, should be getting \$60 per pupil for that purpose, but was only getting \$7.

The board will take another run at the budget Feb. 21, with an effort to bringing it to completion.

Speaking about school taxes last week, Trustees Dorothy Zajac and Margaret Coburn of King, said a series of five public meetings were held in King.

These showed residents only wanted budget cuts, so long as it didn't hurt the system.

## Moran wins seat

NEWMARKET — Regional Councillor Ron Moran was appointed to the regional engineering committee Thursday.

This ended a month-long battle to have his name added to the committee list.

At the inaugural meeting last month, Moran asked the committee lists prepared by Chairman Garfield Wright be amended to allow Markham a representative on the engineering committee.

But council adopted the chairman's suggested committees as presented.

### Timpson motion

A motion to allow Moran to join the engineering committee came before council last week from Aurora Mayor George Timpson and was seconded by Lois Hancey, Richmond Hill regional councillor.

"I had no objection," said the committee chairman, Ray Twinney. "The only thing that bothered me was trying to get a quorum."

The newly amended engineering committee will now have eight members, requiring a quorum of five to officially meet.

## Cough up Burrows, Hancey says

NEWMARKET — Richmond Hill regional councillor Lois Hancey challenged Georgina mayor, Dr. George Burrows to "either cough up or get out of the kitchen". She was referring to Burrows comments made during the debate on the Spring Mills development proposal, when he said "there is a further development being planned in a 1,000 acre site". Regional council decided to send the proposal back to Richmond Hill council. "Councillor Burrows has made statements and he has an obligation to produce those plans," Mrs. Hancey said. "As a member of Richmond Hill, I have no knowledge of other plans," she added.

around the region

### \$18,000 Hello

NEWMARKET — The equipment cost for York region's engineering department is up \$15,000 this year over last — just about covering the cost of 16 mobile radios. Regional council approved a \$205,400 expenditure Thursday for equipment for the roads department and the water and sewage department. Apart from the \$150,000 amount allocated for eight 27500 GVW trucks, the next largest amount of \$18,000 will go to replace 10 mobile radios for the water and sewage department and six new radios for the roads department.

### OHAP numbers

VAUGHAN — The Ontario Housing Action Program planned for East Woodbridge, better known here as Pine Valley Village, will be sent to the province for comments, regional council decided Thursday. Regional staff have objected to the proposal, at both the committee level and at council, because population figures have not been set. This has prevented the region from finalizing its overall servicing allocations. Also of concern are the dates set out in the OHAP agreement. Regional planning committee has called these dates, which signify when necessary approvals must be given, unrealistic. The region will not be able to provide sewage disposal facilities for the subject area until 1981.

### Poot says no

WOODBIDGE — Jan Poot, a Woodbridge lawyer, says he will not be seeking the Liberal nomination in York North after all. Poot contested the nomination last time and announced he would run again when Margaret Britnell gave it up last fall. His withdrawal leaves Jim Wilson of Newmarket as the only nominee so far. Provincial Liberals meet Feb. 23 in Aurora to select a standard bearer.

### 404 Contract

THORNHILL — Work on Highway 404, the extension of the Don Valley Parkway, is to start in April 1977, with completion set for mid-summer 1978. The contract which includes bridges for the 2.8 miles from Steeles Avenue to Highway 7 was awarded to George Wimpey Canada Ltd. at a cost of \$6,849,276.

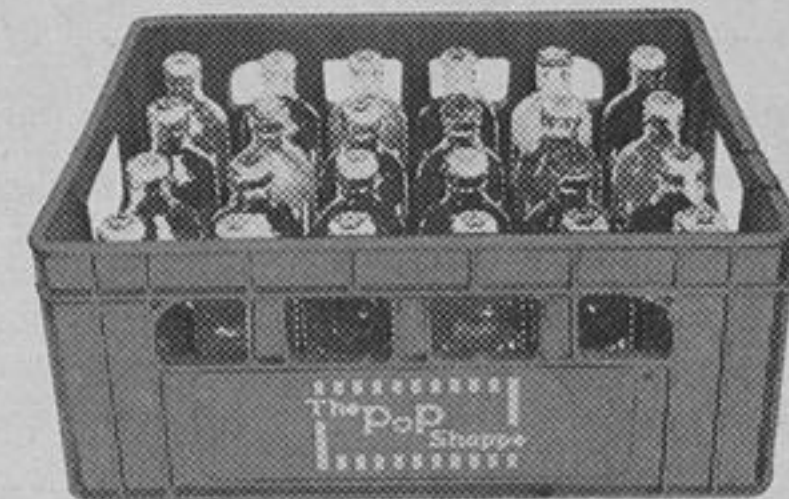
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