

# Sale of school causes conflict

Cries of "Are you calling me a liar?" echoed in last week's York County Board of Education meeting Wednesday.

Amid charges of "monkeying around", conflict of interest, shuffling around and violation of trust, the board broke up in confusion after midnight.

At issue during hours of debate was sale of a surplus Newmarket elementary school property to that town for \$10.

It was suggested the property is worth \$250,000 to \$300,000 although the actual valuation remains a secret.

Newmarket Trustee Craig Cribar, board chairman, stood accused of using his office to help the town get the school for a nominal sum.

A committee report on surplus school disposal policy still wasn't brought before the board as finalization of the school property was debated.

Chairman Cribar ended it all with a motion to postpone the almost-reached final vote.

He was out of the chair with Vice-Chairman Doreen Quirk in charge of the meeting so he could take part in debate.

Markham Trustee Quirk summed the question up as some unhappy dealing with one school without a policy set.

Cribar said he wanted time to consider in view of remarks by John Stephens, QC, of Thornhill, trustee elected by separate school voters from Markham-Richmond Hill.

"It's about time we stopped that kind of nonsense," said Cribar. Trustee Stephens denied calling Trustee Dr. John Denison a liar. "I'm saying you're being very selective in your facts," said Stephens.

**MEETING TAPED**  
The indication was he was thinking about some kind of action against Trustee Stephens, Vaughan Trustee Donald Cameron or Georgina Trustee Keith Hargrave.

Cribar walked over to the board staff table to tell them the tape recording of the meeting was valuable.

Break-up of the meeting left much of the

board's October business unfinished. As it was, the Wednesday night session was an extra one lasting close to four hours with about three hours of the time devoted to the school sale issue.

The board chairman started it all by reading out, on a point of personal privilege, a private letter from Trustee Cameron. The letter said a number of trustees were questioning the chairman's actions in the school sale matter.

Cameron threatened, in the letter, to introduce a motion censuring the chairman if he didn't abstain from voting on the issue from then on.

From the various procedural votes taken during the debates, it was evident the board is almost evenly split on the school sale issue.

The chairman's vote may be the deciding one. The two trustees elected by separate school voters won't get a vote.

They are there as representatives on high school matters only. The school being sold, Alexander Muir, is an elementary one.

**OBLIGATION**

Earlier in the year there were board and committee votes indicating an intention to sell the school to Newmarket for \$10 because of an obligation the board had to the town.

A number of the trustees last week declared they are having second thoughts about the previous vote. And there is a legal question as to whether the deal has been made, or not.

Some trustees also pointed out there are several schools soon to be surplus. If Newmarket is given a surplus school, several municipalities including King, Vaughan and Richmond Hill are expected to be after similar gifts from the board.

This would mean the gifts would come out of the pockets of all York Region's taxpayers for the benefit of certain local municipalities.

Most board members appear to consider such giving away of school properties to be impossible as a general policy.

Newmarket may end up

being a municipality getting a special benefit. Richmond Hill Trustee Eric Baker argued there has been no dollar value put on the board's obligation to Newmarket and there should be such a valuation before any gift to the town is considered.

Several trustees from this area declared they'd made a mistake in their previous votes in favor of the gift.

These included Markham's Robert McMonagle, Richmond Hill's Robert Houghton and King's Dorothy Zajac.

Houghton said he was told the deal wouldn't cost the board anything, but that was wrong.

Zajac said the mistake is made and she feels morally bound to keep faith with Newmarket council.

She said she'll vote for finalization of the sale, even though it's wrong and her district can expect to be denied the same kind of gift for a surplus school in the immediate future.

Declaring they questioned the chairman's handling of the matter were Trustee Hargrave, Trustee Cameron and King Trustee Margaret Coburn.

Near the end of the debate, Cameron declared he publicly withdrew his remarks about Chairman Cribar.

**PUBLIC INTEREST**

Cameron said that as a trustee it wasn't his intention to either publicly or privately question the integrity of the chairman personally.

Trustee Baker said he was sure all trustees wanted municipalities to get surplus school properties wherever it is in the public interest, Newmarket included.

Their only concern was that the schools be disposed of according to an equitable policy.

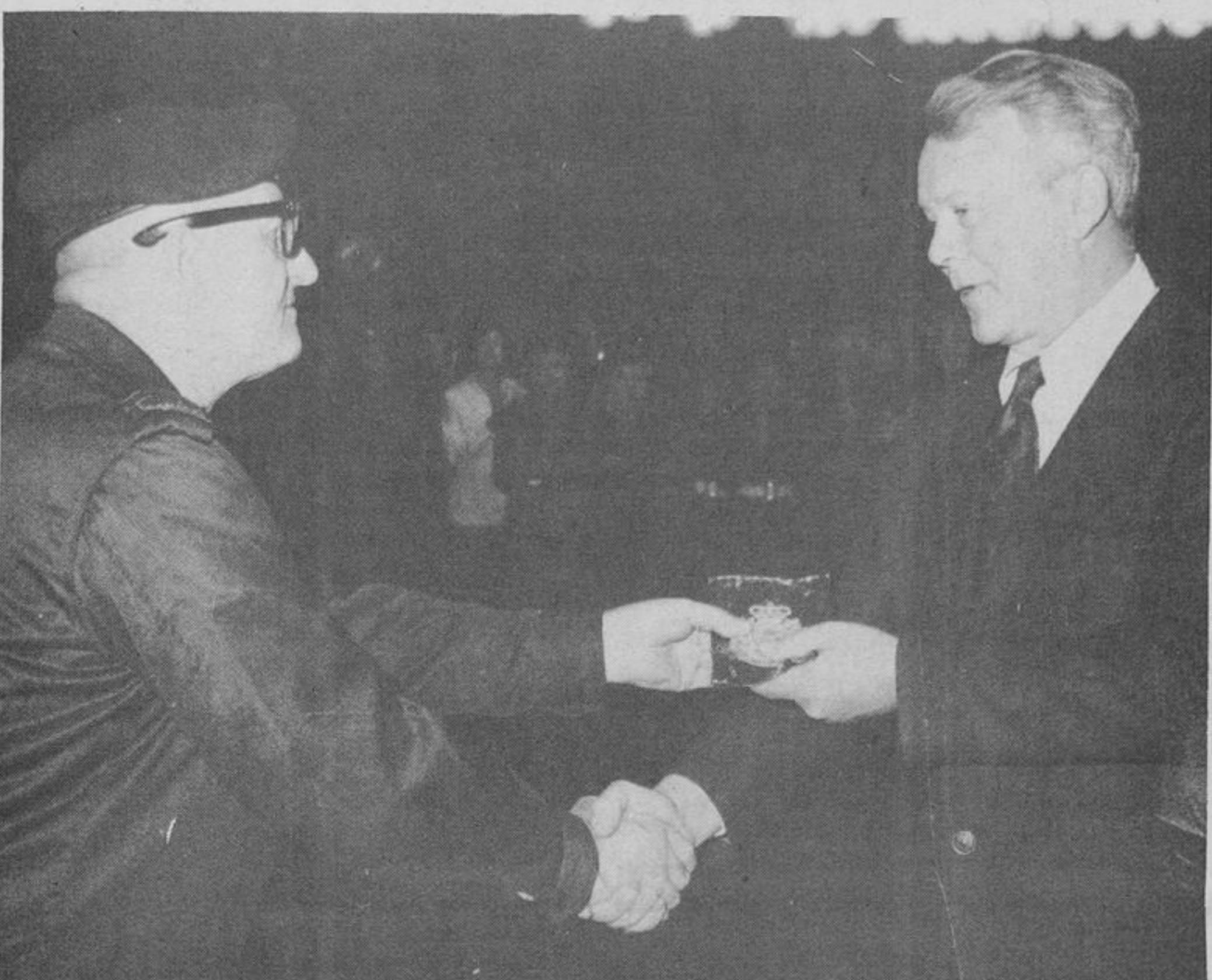
Dr. Denison, trustee for East Gwillimbury, led with the motion to finalize the sale as agreed, with the town's covenant to use the school for public benefit for 20 years or return it to the board.

The next official board meeting is Nov. 14 unless Chairman Cribar calls a special session.



Wings

Two members of 778 Legion Squadron of the Royal Canadian Air Cadets were presented with their "Glider Wings" last Thursday at the Legion Hall. They were Warrant Officer Brenda McKeage, centre, and Flight Sergeant Darren Watts. Making the presentation is cadet Commanding Officer Frank Barrott. A third cadet, Julien Handbury, will receive his wings, but he was absent Thursday.



Gold

Familiar face throughout the Region of York is Noble 'Nobby' Sproule of Newmarket. Retired Commanding Officer of the Queen's York Rangers in Aurora, Nobby has been assisting the air cadet corps in Richmond Hill. To show appreciation for Nobby's efforts, Commanding Officer of the cadet corps Frank Barrott, left, presents him with a Gold Bullion Crest.

# Riot police everywhere, Ron Moran says of Tokyo

Riot policemen are much in evidence in Tokyo, says York Regional Councillor Ron Moran of Markham.

Moran, who just returned from an international roads convention, reports that "Day after day we saw hundreds and yes, thousands of protesters marching with flags and chanting. They all wore white hard hats. The police came out in force wearing plastic visors and carrying shields." "We saw security guards on many roof tops, using binoculars. Most business establishments have guards on the doors and throughout the building. When a government speaker at the Eighth International Roads Federation conference finished his address, as he left the room, two body guards walked in front of him and two at the rear."

The trouble is political, not criminal, says Moran.

It is safe to walk on the back streets at 3 a.m. There is no mugging in Tokyo.

One is approached by

numerous prostitutes, he says, but "once you reject them you are perfectly safe to continue on your way."

He was surprised to find the political protests that he and other conventioners witnessed from their hotel windows were not mentioned at all in Tokyo's English language newspaper.

Moran, along with Ray Twinney of Newmarket, Mayor Angus Morton of East Gwillimbury and engineering commissioner Bob Hodgson represented York Region at the Eighth International Roads Federation Conference in Tokyo.

There were about 2,750 delegates representing 75 countries registered prior to the opening of the conference and many more arrived later, he said.

He found it was the best conference he had ever attended, and estimated the three delegates from regional council would be out \$1,000.

The region paid the \$85 registration fee, \$1,378 return air fare and a 10-

day per diem allowance of \$50 per day for a total of \$1,963.

But his own expenses were \$2,592 not counting laundry service, personal phone calls, gifts, souvenirs, film, liquor or entertainment expenses. He is recommending that the per diem rate be increased to \$65.

The theme of the conference was "better roads for better living", and there were five different papers being presented by authorities from such countries as the United States, Russia, Korea and the Ivory Coast.

Headphones were provided for simultaneous translation into Japanese, French or English or for those who wanted to listen to speakers in their original language over the din of the meeting halls.

Sam Cass, Commissioner of Roads and Traffic for Metropolitan Toronto spoke on the "Environmental Aspects of the Frederick G. Gardiner Expressway".

It was not one of the better speeches at the conference, says Moran.

# UCW plans Christmas bazaar

The Richmond Hill United Church Women are planning their annual Christmas shopping bazaar for Thursday, November 10.

Also included is a "Come and Go Luncheon", which will feature three sittings — 11.15 a.m., 12.15 p.m. and 1.15 p.m.

## Dynes back in action

It's the calm before the storm for the Richmond Hill Dynes Jewellers of the Mid-Ontario Junior B hockey league.

The Jewellers are coming off a 10-day schedule holiday with a bang.

Tomorrow night (Thursday) they are at Barrie; Friday night at Orillia; Monday night at home for a 7:30 game to Thornhill Thunderbirds; and travel to Owen Sound Tuesday.

"I view the layoff with mixed emotions," said Jewellers' coach Pete Artemchuk. "It gives us a chance to nurse our injuries but it also tends to make you sluggish".

Featured at the bazaar will be "The Country Kitchen" with home baking, pickles, jams and candy.

The Christmas Boutique will feature stuffed animals, Christmas decorations, novelties, and candles.

A White Elephant table is also planned. The event takes place at the Richmond Hill United Church, Centre and Yonge Streets.

For further information, call 884-1301.

**AREA THEFTS**

Michael Porter, 6 Spinning Wheel Crt., Thornhill, lost \$3,000 in jewelry in a theft at his home; Centennial Variety and Gift Store, Washington St., Markham, \$580 in cash from cigar box in front of store; three guests at a party on Bayview Fairways Dr., had a variety of items, including cash, watch, credit card and a coat, stolen from a hall closet; 10 cases of liquor, valued at \$2,400, were taken from La Gondola Banquet Hall, Bowes Rd., Concord.

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**NOTICE OF ROAD CLOSING**  
TAKE NOTICE THAT the Council of the Town of Richmond Hill proposes to consider the passing of a By-law to stop up and close part of a Public Highway known as ELMWOOD AVENUE between CEDAR AVENUE and the CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAY RIGHT OF WAY as shown on Registered Plan 2383.  
The portion of the Highway affected is shown as Parts 1, 2, 3 and 4 on Reference Plan 64R-6415 and a copy of the plan and the draft By-law are available for inspection at the Office of the Town Clerk, 10266 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill, Ontario.  
The Council will consider the proposed By-law at its meeting on the 7th day of November, 1977 and at that time will hear any person or the solicitor or agent of any person who advises the Clerk in writing prior to the 7th day of November, 1977 that he would like to appear.  
Dated at the Town of Richmond Hill this 4th day of October, 1977.  
The Corporation of the Town of Richmond Hill.  
C.D. Weldon, Clerk.  
Date of First Publication: Oct. 12, 1977  
Date of Second Publication: Oct. 19, 1977  
Date of Third Publication: Oct. 26, 1977  
Date of Fourth Publication: Nov. 2, 1977

# Waldorf Fair promises to be a gala event

Attending a Christmas Fair and seeing unique architecture at the same time can make for an interesting and entertaining day.

The Toronto Waldorf School (built in the round and located on 15 acres) is situated at 9100 Bathurst Street, north of Highway 7 in Thornhill.

The school will hold its annual Christmas Fair Saturday, November 12, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Included in the fair are artistic handicrafts, special wooden toys, batik and many useful and decorative household and personal items.

The Gallery of Greenery is a green thumb's delight, filled

with interesting displays of nature.

The Country Kitchen will offer items of home baking, freshly made peanut butter, preserves, fresh produce, spices and other delights.

The children can partake in a wealth of activities such as a fish pond, Christmas craft making, waffle baking and candle dipping.

A puppet show and story time are also planned.

Included in the fair is a Flea Market.

A homemade lunch will be served from 11:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. and a tea room, a general coffee shop and another coffee shop run by the Grade 11 class will be available.

Proceeds from the Fair are used for the School's Scholarship Fund and the Building Fund.

For further information call 881-1611.

# Christmas Carousel November 5

A boutique where children can buy mom or dad a gift for under \$1 is a feature of the Richmond Hill Presbyterian Christmas Carousel November 5 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Also featured are plants, Christmas accessories, hand crafted articles, dolls, knitted articles for baby and older brother and sister, a flea market and a fish pond.

On sale will be the usual delicious home baking, jams, jellies and pickles and shoppers may enjoy a soup and sandwich lunch or tea or coffee and a muffin at any time.

Jan Robbins and Anne Rosevear are the conveners.

# Teston United celebrating 105th year

Teston United Church is having a celebration.

To mark its 105th anniversary, special services will be held this Sunday at 11 a.m.

Guest speaker will be Rev. Peter McKellar of Toronto.

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the piano teacher  
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