

# Teachers agree to wage pack

York County secondary school teachers, by an "overwhelming majority," or a "comfortable majority," depending on which side of the bargaining fence one was on, last week approved an 8.1 per cent pay increase.

The increase covers 5.7 per cent salary and 2.4 per cent increments.

The figure given earlier by York County Board of Education was 8.2 per cent.

However, Eric McLean, secretary of District 11 of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation, said that 8.1 per cent was the figure agreed to by the heads of both negotiating teams.

In discussing the vote, which was carried out by the teachers last Wednesday in Aurora at a meeting that jammed traffic in the streets, McLean would not release the voting figure, other than it was a "comfortable majority."

He wouldn't say how many were at the meeting either, but admitted the hall at Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School was packed.

Were the teachers pleased with the settlement?

"There's bound to be some dissention

when each grid position is lower than any of the other four surrounding (school) boards," McLean said.

"However, they're resigned to the fact that, with the AIB (Anti-Inflation Board) restrictions, it's as good a contract as could be had in the area. "But they're not pleased to be in the number 5 position."

The new contract now sets the minimum contract for starting teachers in the secondary schools, at \$12,704, with the maximum at \$26,818.

Principals in the same two categories will have a salary range of from \$33,350 to \$37,100.

The range for vice-principals will be \$29,400 and \$32,200.

The contract runs to August 31, 1978. Margaret McLean, information officer of YCBE, said the salary increase had been "overwhelmingly endorsed" by the teachers.

She said the board still had to settle negotiations with the elementary school teachers, plus two other divisions, the secretarial and clerical workers, and the caretakers.

Contract for the caretakers runs from January to January.



(Photo by Hoggi)

## Caring pays

To replace \$13.75 which was stolen from the Book Club, Grade 6 students at MacKillop Public School held a rummage sale and raised about \$100. The Book Club's finances were set

straight and the remainder, \$86.54 was donated to the United Way. Larry Walton, 11, of Mill Pond Court, holds the cheque.

# Rams face finance woes, ask for grant

Trapped by "The Money Game", the Richmond Hill Rams Hockey Club is in financial difficulties.

Kerry Gilmor, part of a three-man delegation appearing before the Richmond Hill parks and recreation committee Thursday, asked the town for a \$9,000 grant to help bail the Junior A club out of its problems.

The troubles began in 1974, he told the committee, when the club moved into tier two of Junior A hockey.

"We got caught up in what can best be called 'The Money Game,'" he said. "Our expenses increased and, because of the World Hockey Association coming into existence and for various other reasons, the calibre of hockey dropped and interest was too widely spread out."

The club fell into the trap, he said, of "trying to improve our product by expensive practices which were being conducted by other teams".

Financial difficulties were also created by the payment of expenses and bonuses to prevent players from signing up with other teams, he ex-

plained. "The result was that, two years ago, 16 of us were called upon to sign a bank loan for \$18,000," he said.

After a "long look" at the club's operation, they stopped a number of expenses which were creating annual deficits of \$9,000, he said.

Last year, they broke even. Again this year, they are on target, he reported.

"We are confident that we are on the right track," he said. "We are confident that we can, in the next four to five years, operate at a modest profit and reduce our bank deficit by some \$8,000 to \$10,000 during that time."

The requested grant would be for "one time only", he promised. "We have never approached the town in the past and are confident that, if successful this evening, we will not do so in the future."

He asked the committee to look for the money in the current budget or in that of the new year.

The committee called for a staff report to be prepared.

Richmond Hill Edition

# The Liberal

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# York cop battle rages on

York-Centre MPP Alf Stong says he's concerned about reports that some York Regional Police officers are "over-aggressive" in their treatment of young offenders.

And an association of local lawyers is planning a private meeting to discuss allegations of extensive police "misconduct."

Police Chief Bruce Crawford says he would welcome any inquiry into his

force's conduct, and would co-operate fully. To Mr. Stong's comments about young offenders, the chief said York police "have never been accused before of hassling kids."

Meanwhile, Mr. Stong's comments on the subject Thursday in the provincial Legislature have left the regional police commission "bewildered" and some York lawyers annoyed.

The police commission says it doesn't know what Mr. Stong is talking about when he refers to police "misconduct."

And some York lawyers are distressed that Mr. Stong raised the issue in the Legislature before they had a chance to discuss it within their own association.

But Mr. Stong, a Richmond Hill lawyer and a Liberal MPP, says he simply was doing his job as Opposition justice critic when he revealed the contents of a York North Law Association letter in the House on Thursday.

In an interview Friday, Mr. Stong said some local lawyers — as well as several from Toronto who practice in York courts — are worried about an apparent "attitude of over-aggressiveness . . . on the part of police in their apprehension of youthful offenders and in gathering evidence for use in court."

Speaking from his own experience as a solicitor, Mr. Stong said lawyers often are a bit suspicious when clients complain about their treatment by police. Some clients simply want to retaliate against the officers who charged them, he said.

"But when different people complain about the same type of circumstances, using the names of the same police officers, you start to wonder whether certain inquiries should be made," Mr. Stong said.

The York-Centre member said he raised the matter in the Legislature after receiving a letter circulated to area lawyers by the law association executive.

The letter, which asked whether the membership wanted to hold a special meeting to discuss police "misconduct," stated in part:

"Certain members of the York North Law Association have advised the executive that cases of misconduct by the York Regional Police Department have become so frequent, and involve so many police officers, that they are gravely concerned about the

standard of police protection in the region."

Mr. Stong denied using the word "brutality" in his comments Thursday, and said he simply wanted to advise Solicitor-General John MacBeth of the letter and ask him to send a representative to the law association meeting.

Mr. MacBeth said he was unaware of the letter and would investigate.

Mr. Stong's comments received widespread publicity, prompting the

law association to issue a press release on Friday. The release made it clear that the law association felt Mr. Stong acted prematurely by making public the contents of the letter.

The lawyers' meeting was to be private, "discussions were to be confidential, and nothing, including the fact of the meeting, was to be made public," association president Robert F. Evans of Bradford wrote in the release.

(See CHARGE, A-2)

## Bus fares to leap

Bus fares on the Richmond Heights to Finch GO-bus and on Markham, Vaughan and Richmond Hill transit systems will be going up soon.

Markham councillors last week objected to increasing the fare from 35 cents to 40 cents in January and to 50 cents by 1979.

The proposal came out of a meeting of the representatives for the three towns and GO transit.

Councillor Stan Daurio objected to Thornhill riders subsidizing the trip for Richmond Hill riders to the subway.

"Three years ago Thornhill riders were paying 12.5 cents," he said, "and the ride from Richmond Hill cost 75 cents."

Under an agreement between the three municipalities and GO transit, the fare was set at 35 cents in 1976. GO took

over the operation of the line from the TTC late in year and replaced the city buses with more comfortable models.

Markham councillors were surprised that they had agreed to "co-operate" in trying to set a uniform fare for the three municipalities. They decided to seek a legal opinion to find out if they were bound by the agreement.

"I think we should find out if we can get out of it," said Daurio.

They were also surprised that they had handed over to GO transit a bus operation that transit co-ordinator Harvey Cox said was "on its way to breaking even".

Councillor Ron Felson said that when cost increases were examined, the proposed fare increases looked like the minimum amount that would be needed.

## community pulse

### Bright light in campaign

With the York Region Way campaign officially over, contributions number in the \$210,000 range, well below the \$400,000 target. But according to executive director Bob Higgs, the Richmond Hill campaign was a "wonderful surprise". And Texas Instruments' contribution was "the brightest of the surprises". For the Texas story, see page 2.

### Bayview hosts blood clinic

Bayview Secondary School in Richmond Hill is holding its 11th annual blood donor clinic this Friday from 10 a.m. to noon.

Each donor will receive coupons for a free hamburger and coffee compliments of McDonald's Restaurant in Richmond Hill.

The clinic is organized on behalf of the Canadian Red Cross Society to help relieve the shortage of blood at Christmas, clinic co-ordinator Janet Murphy said.

## Confusion delays Wilcox decision

Disagreement and confusion about the wishes of the Lake Wilcox Recreation Committee have the chairman, Peter McElwain, considering resignation.

The same problems have also postponed a Richmond Hill Parks and Recreation Committee decision regarding the management of the Lake Wilcox Community Centre.

About three weeks ago, members of the two groups got together to discuss the possibility of forming a program committee for the centre.

This committee would be able to book the centre at reduced rates.

Richmond Hill's recreation chairman Al Duffy thought all the problems had been ironed out and that the Lake

Wilcox committee was unanimous in support of his program committee proposal.

"There are 14 members on the committee and 14 voted in favor," he said. "We left there feeling that's what they wanted."

However, at last Thursday's park and recreation committee meeting, it was explained that the 14 people who voted were not all on the committee. Another eight people had met last week and rejected the proposal.

Mr. McElwain told The Liberal he found the situation "embarrassing".

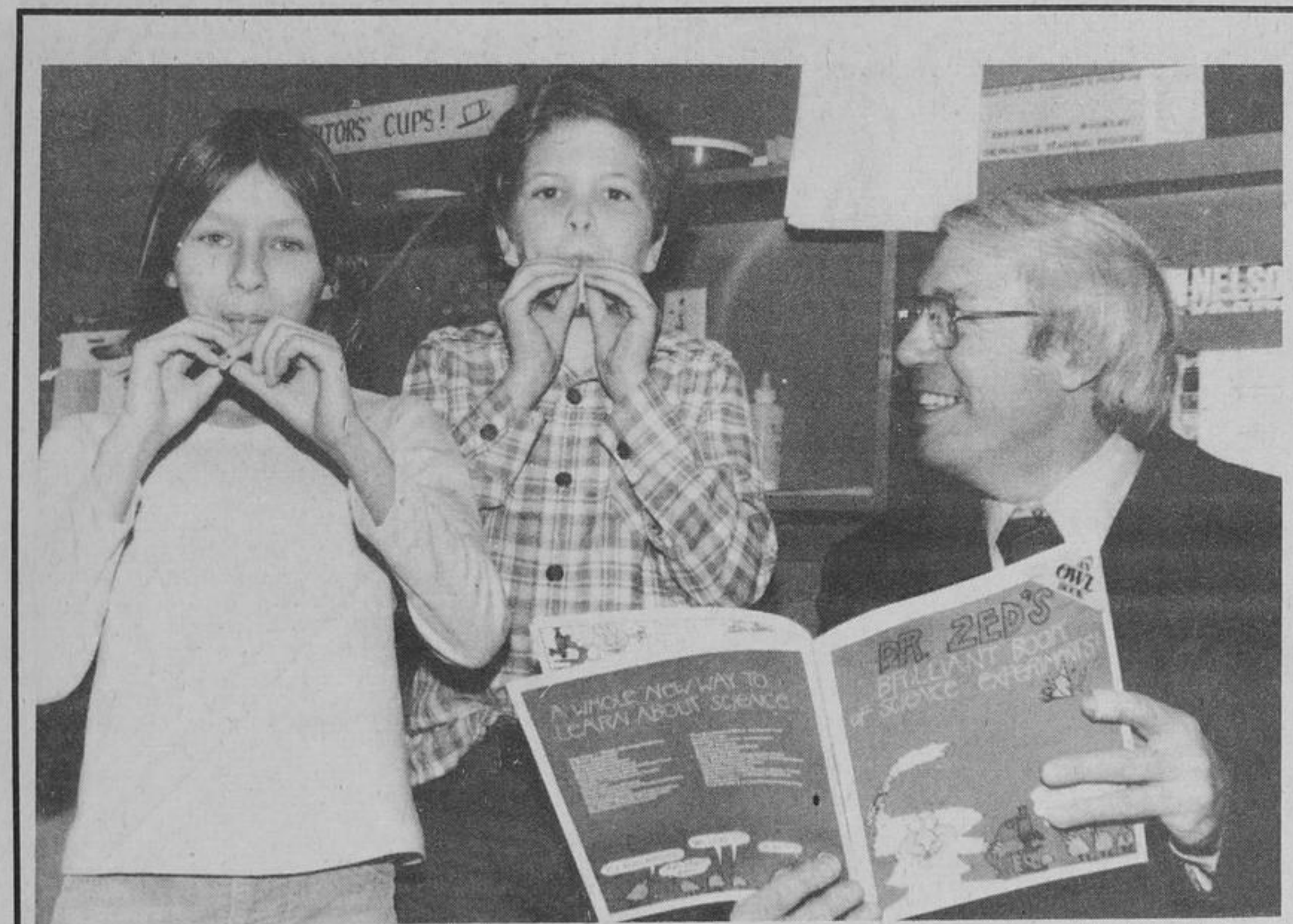
In favor of a program committee himself, he said he is "quite firm" in his position.

Attendance at the Lake Wilcox recreation meetings is "not up" all the time and tends to create differences of opinion, he said.

They plan to hold another meeting tonight to sort the matter out, he said, and will then request parks and recreation to call a special meeting before Christmas.

"If I can't get the program committee together, I'll have to agree with Councillor Duffy that the people of the area don't know what they want," he said. "I think the program committee offer was good and fair."

If the town's offer is rejected, he will have to resign, he maintained. "I don't want to keep riding a white elephant."



(PP-90 by Roberts)

Using the advice of Dr. Zed, Susan Weatherhead and Sean Hunt try out their "Magic Drinking Straw Flutes", while Dr. Zed himself, Gordon Penrose laughs about the

results. Mr. Penrose is a master teacher of science at Beverley Acres Public School, Richmond Hill, where Susan and Sean are Grade 5 students.

# From straw flutes to ice cream, Dr. Zed does it all

By SHEILA ROBERTS  
Liberal News Editor

Dr. Zed loves working with kids. So does Gordon Penrose, the man behind the pseudonym.

A master teacher of science based at Beverley Acres Public School in Richmond Hill, Mr. Penrose just released his first book as "Dr. Zed" three weeks ago.

The "Brilliant Book of Science Experiments" is jam-packed with projects destined to appeal to the younger set like "grow-them-yourself birdseed plants", the "baffling tapping coin surprise" and "Dr. Zed's official wind finder".

All the experiments in his book are "child tested", he said. In fact, they are tested several times both by kids in the school and by children associated with Canada's OWL magazine, publishers of the book.

"I guarantee if they follow the instructions, the experiments will all work," he said.

He was approached last March by the OWL people to write regularly

for the monthly magazine and found he liked their fun approach to science, something he had always tried to maintain in the classroom. The book is a natural offshoot of his monthly feature.

His experiments are all based on materials found in the house and are safe to use.

"And the child always ends up with something tangible," he explained, whether it's a drinking straw flute or a big bowl of ice cream.

He wrote the book with "the mental picture of a ten year old" in front of him, although the projects will appeal to a much wider age span.

"It's not just a 'how to' book," he explained. "The kids will get some understanding of why the experiments are working."

Mr. Penrose gets his point across by using a lively conversation between Dr. Zed and a crew of zany

yellow birds.

Dr. Zed and the gang, illustrated by Linda Bucholtz-Ross, obviously think science is as much fun as Mr. Penrose does.

"I think I always enjoyed working with things and testing them out," said Mr. Penrose. "And I enjoy working with children."

If the book realizes a good profit, it is kids once again who will benefit from Mr. Penrose's work.

In his dedication, he thanked his family and friends, OWL and "the children who showed me the joy to be found in experimenting with everyday things. It is with them that I share equally my portion of earnings from this book through charitable organizations who care for children around the world."

He said Monday that this share of the profits will go to UNICEF.

Mr. Zed's book is available from most bookstores. The first printing of 50,000 is being distributed across Canada, the United States and England.