



High school teachers instruct 9-year-olds

By DOREEN LIVINGSTON
You better know your ABC's if you belong to the Association for Bright Children.
Edith Nicol, a school trustee with the Scarborough Board of Education and a parent of two bright children was the discussion leader at St. Roberts Separate School recently for the parents while the children were attending math and science groups.
Math is being taught to the nine and 10 year olds by the Thornlea Secondary School math

department who send teachers on a rotation basis; and two sciences are taught to the 11 and 12 year olds.
In recent weeks a medical doctor discussed the heart and a dentist spoke about the teeth.
The 11 and 12-year-olds spent one Saturday morning at Richmond Hill High School dissecting animals and they found the skeleton of a fish in a shark and undigested food in the stomach of a cat.
While the children were busy learning, the parents heard Edith Nicol say that in Scarborough

68 per cent of the population wanted something special done for bright or gifted children so segregated classes were started in the 1975-76 school year.
The students were selected after a group IQ test was given and those who scored over 125 and received both parent and teacher recommendation were given individual tests for aptitude and creativity.
Those with an IQ of over 140 were segregated into classes that had a student teacher ratio of 12.
This year there are

three Grade 4 classes, and two Grade 5, 6 and 7 segregated classes in the phase one program.
Phase two is partial withdrawal on a family of schools basis and the children are bussed to one location one day a week.
They receive a pure enrichment program by a specially trained teacher. Phase three being considered is in-class enrichment.
Mrs. Nicol said that even bright children who cannot cope in a regular classroom can fail, as she found out on a recent trip to a conference in California.

After testing, one child who was going to be put in a comprehensive program for slow learners wound up in an enrichment program. He was an underachiever and could not do well in a regular classroom.
One startling fact brought out at the discussion is that some children who have learning disabilities may need an enrichment program as well as a remedial program for their learning disability.
Margaret MacDonald, president of ABC in Thornhill says she "doesn't want the

organization knocking the school board" but she feels that ABC should be aware of what is going on in education.
According to her "one educational system is not the be all and end all"; there is room for more.
"The prime motivation of ABC is to give youngsters an opportunity they wouldn't have elsewhere."
Shortages of water in Unionville
Councillor Alma Walker is not satisfied with the way the ministry of environment is "bussing water."
The ministry is committed to supply water to people in the Sabiston subdivision of Unionville who have had their wells affected by sewer construction.
The York-Durham sewer is going through their area.
Councillor Walker said that the ministry "ran out of tanks" in Sabiston.
It is inconvenient to do a washing and not be able to take a bath until the truck arrives, she said.
"How long is it before these people do get water?" she asked.
Councillor Walter Grieve said that there was a similar problem in Box Grove.

Bright

Teacher Mike Lieberman looks on as Ross Thomson, 9, Louise MacNaughton, 9, Lisa LoPresti, 10, and Louise Brisbois, 10, work on a computer in a Saturday morning class in Thornhill sponsored by the Association for Bright Children. Another class in Richmond Hill has dissected sharks and cats.

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For further information, call Mrs. B. McCauley at 669-2173 after 4 p.m. or Mrs. M. Godfrey at 669-2754.
There will be no regular programs for juniors on Saturday so the whole family can enjoy the party.
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