

Hill to seek disarmament

Richmond Hill hopes to join a world-wide referendum, calling for all nations to tear down their nuclear weapons and banish them forever.

At last Thursday's meeting, council gave unanimous endorsement in principle to "Operation Dismantle" and sent the concept on to the personnel and bylaws committee to find out how to implement the referendum in the

town. Paris, Ontario, is the first town to go ahead with the vote for international peace.

"What we need is a world without war, a world free of nuclear terror," the Paris mayor, Jack Bawcutt, and the Operation Dismantle director, Jim Stark, told the electorate of the town in their presentation.

They are calling the December 16, to

18 referendum, "a Christmas gift of peace to the world".

Richmond Hill Councillor Andre Chateauvert remarked that no one "believes we can outlaw war".

But, he added, "Perhaps we can make the nations realize the idiocy of nuclear weapons."

Hopefully, the referendums will make leaders realize that "the individual won't stand for it", he said.

"We're interested in survival, not petty arguments. Somewhere, sooner or later, some nut is going to press the button."

Seconding Councillor Chateauvert's motion to endorse the referendum, Councillor Mike Burnie remarked that, the attitude has been until now: "In order to protect ourselves, we'll commit suicide."

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Rams' hopes slim

Town nixes gate plan

Chances of aid from the town to the ailing Richmond Hill Provincial 'A' Rams Hockey Club are slim.

Councillor Al Duffy, recreation committee chairman, told council Thursday that he had seen a staff report concerning the Rams' request for a one-time only grant of \$9,000.

The Rams had appeared before his

committee December 1 to ask for the grant to help them out of financial difficulties.

"I don't think staff is going to recommend that we do anything for the Rams," he said.

He agreed that the town could not help the club to the tune of \$9,000 but "I think council should give some sup-

port", he said.

He suggested the town pay the gate for one night so that residents could attend the game free, with the hope that people of the town would become more interested in the hockey club. That gate never amounts to more than \$400, he added.

"I think the PR of this council is poor," he said.

Councillor Andre Chateauvert countered that "PR is not the function of this council".

Other organizations are also suffering financial troubles, he pointed out.

But, said Councillor Duffy, other organizations get different forms of

support. The industrial softball league, for example, gets free use of the park, while the Rams pay for their ice time.

Councillor Bill Corcoran agreed that the town should assist the Rams.

"If we don't help them, they're going to go down the drain," he predicted.

Councillor Lou Wainwright said he could not support the motion to pay the gate for one night.

"We're so quick to give away someone else's money," he remarked. The motion was defeated.

However, the matter of grant request will come up at the next parks and recreation committee meeting in January when the staff report will be tabled officially.



Clearing out his driveway the easy way is Nelson Peelar of Centre Street East, Richmond Hill. But no matter how residents tackled their snow problems this week, they still found it a next-to-impossible task to keep ahead of the game — if more snow wasn't falling, then the hard working snowplows were scraping the streets and piling the stuff up in the driveways again. (Photo by Bruce Hogg)

Whoosh

Mediator chosen

A provincial mediator was appointed late yesterday to try to break the impasse in contract negotiations between the York County Board of Education and its 1,200 elementary school teachers.

Disputes over class size and principals' salaries are the two main issues that created the stalemate.

On Monday night, the board met in closed session and rejected

the teachers' request for a binding settlement that would have been imposed by a third party — either through arbitration or final-offer selection.

Trustees instead decided the mediation route was preferable.

Arbitration remains a possibility if mediation fails, but the board clearly wants to avoid an imposed settlement.

Both sides must agree to arbitration before it can proceed.

John Stephens elected

He wants to bridge 'gulf'

Thornhill lawyer, John Stephens, beat out two other Markham residents on the first ballot Monday night, to gain the chairmanship of York County Board of Education.

He succeeds Craig Cribar of Newmarket.

Defeated were: vice-chairman Doreen Quirk, and trustee Donald Cousins.

Succeeding Mrs. Quirk as vice-chairman was Harry Bowes of Whitchurch-Stouffville, the lone candidate for the office.

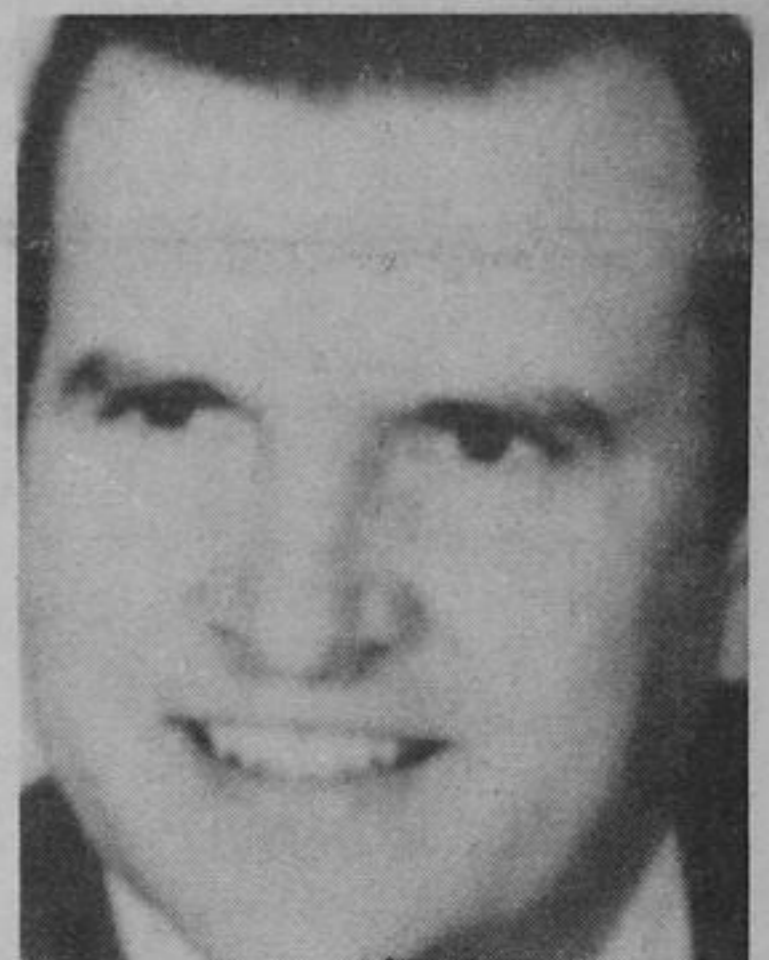
Stephens, who was nominated by trustee Donald Cameron of Vaughan, said there was often a "gulf" between trustees, and he hoped he would be able to help bridge that during his term.

The latter is for one year.

He said he would be contacting the other board members within a few days to see what committees they would like to serve on.

"I will say more in January," he concluded.

Mrs. Quirk was nominated by trustee Dorothy Zajac of King, while Cousins was named by William Laird of Georgina.



John Stephens

CUPE, board settle on secretaries' salaries

Both trustees and secretaries Monday night, ratified a wage agreement with York County Board of Education, calling for an increase of 6.2 per cent, without increments.

The agreement covers secretaries and clerical workers of Local 1734 of the Canadian Union of Public Employees.

Under the new agreement, a starting secretary in the secretary A or clerical level, will go from \$7,074 to \$7,513. Maximum is \$9,090.

In the top secretarial category, minimum salary will be \$9,530, while maximum will be \$12,617.

Marie Clubine, spokesman for the union, said they were "happy to get it".

However, she criticized the board negotiators, who she said had "made things difficult" by refusing to grant the increase at the outset without increments.

Trustee Doreen Quirk of Markham, of the board negotiating committee, said that, when the board set the budget in January, it was thought the inflation figure would be six per cent or less, and had used that as a guideline.

Mrs. Clubine said, also, that the old contract expired last May, and the local will soon be back into negotiations again.

"I asked for volunteers last night," she said.

OHIP'S Gerald Gold receives award

Those headline-making cases of fraud by physicians and labs, up front in the news for the past year or so, were triggered off by Dr. Gerald Gold's department.

The Gormley doctor, awarded a Queen's Silver Jubilee medal recently, is the director of the professional services monitoring branch of the Ontario Health Insurance Plan.

Since he joined the provincial staff in 1971, he has brought in a program of "increased efficiency", he told The Liberal.

And he contributed to an attitude of "increased awareness and watchfulness".

"A lot of things that have come to light recently originated from my area," he explained. From there,

matters such as fraud are referred to the police or the College of Physicians and Surgeons, the regulatory and disciplinary body for the medical profession.

His job is not necessarily a pleasant one.

A recent case involved the conviction of a Sudbury doctor. "He was a colleague of mine. It makes me sad," said Dr. Gold.

Dr. Gold moved to Gormley from Etobicoke in 1968. The next year, he set up a practice in Richmond Hill which he continued until he accepted the government post. However, he practiced locally from his Gormley home until 1973.

His nomination for the Jubilee award came from the province.

Wait for Markham

Fare hike delayed

The proposed transit fare hikes for Richmond Hill and the Yonge Street GO service are in limbo until the town gets together with Markham and Vaughan.

Richmond Hill Council agreed Thursday to hold off on a five cent fare increase for both services (a hike which had already been accepted by the town's engineering committee) because Markham was not in agreement with the new fare schedule.

Under an agreement with the three towns and the Toronto Area Transit Operating Authority, all parties must co-operate in setting a uniform fare.

Councillor Mike Burnie suggested the town retain the "spirit of the agreement" by "carrying on as normal for the present time."

Legally the agreement has no effect, he maintained, but it does "make it easier for people to get around (York) Region".

To ignore the agreement would be to "create what we had previously — a willy nilly fare system", he said.

Councillor Lou Wainwright felt the town should go ahead with its increases, regardless.

"I felt this was discussed thoroughly in committee," he said. "I don't think we should be concerned about Markham or Vaughan."

However, Mayor Dave Schiller also believed the "spirit" of the agreement was important to maintain.

Councillor Burnie moved that the discussion be deferred until Markham has the results of its transit study and is ready to talk.

Squelch police publicity

Lawyers keep quiet

The York North Law Association is playing the "police misconduct" controversy close to the vest this week.

A date has been set for a meeting of

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concerned area lawyers to discuss the subject, but association members want to maintain total control of publicity and won't reveal when the session will be held.

An association committee will report its findings to the executive, which will determine whether further action is warranted, association president Robert F. Evans, a Bradford lawyer, said in an interview Monday.

The lawyers clearly want to avoid a recurrence of the incident which made public their concerns more than a week ago.

On Dec. 1, York Centre MPP Alf Stong, a Richmond Hill lawyer, revealed in the provincial Legislature that "certain" York lawyers had requested the meeting to discuss "frequent" incidents of "misconduct" by York Regional Police.

The law association later said it had no intention of publicizing the issue at that time.

In response to Mr. Stong's remarks, Solicitor-General John Macbeth said he would "follow up" the matter.

community pulse

Last chance to recycle

Saturday's your last chance to get your recyclables into the Richmond Hill Recycling Depot before the holidays start. The depot will close on Saturday, December 24 and 31, and will reopen on Saturday, January 7 for the regular hours, 10 a.m. to noon. The depot is located at Leslie Street and 18th Avenue.

Geese find farm haven

A haven on a Richmond Hill farm has been offered to some homeless Thornhill geese. The geese, with clipped wings, were trapped on a small patch of water in Oakbank Pond after the season's first major snowfall. The stranded geese now reside at the Raycraft farm, Markham Road and Bayview Avenue.

Animal contract renewed

Richmond Hill dogs will get fewer hours of supervision next year but they still won't be getting away with much. Council voted last Thursday to renew Ryan's Animal Control Services contract for '78 and '79 but on a basis of a 60-hour, rather than an 80-hour week. Mayor Dave Schiller explained that the service would be operating the same hours, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday to Friday. However, the overlapping patrol periods would be eliminated. The service will cost \$44,500 next year and jump to \$48,200 in 1979.

Jaycees try again

Attempts to re-form a Jaycee Club in Richmond Hill were thwarted again last week.... this time due to snow. Organizers have been attempting to hold an introduction meeting. At any rate, it has been rescheduled to Thursday, December 15, at 8 p.m. in the council chambers of the Richmond Hill Municipal Building. Prospective members are welcome to attend.

Carol singing Tuesday

St. Mary Immaculate Church, Yonge Street, Richmond Hill, welcomes everyone to attend an evening of carol singing next Tuesday night, December 20. The choir will perform some of the older and foreign carols, while the congregation will join in the signing of the more popular carols. The event begins at 8.30 p.m.