

Councils curiously endorse this report

The councils of Vaughan and Markham have both now endorsed the Komay report which should be

Who are they?

It has been said before but it keeps cropping up every once in a while.

The people in Richmond Hill's "no man's land" deserve to be told who they are.

We refer to a subdivision located east of Bathurst Street, north of the King Sideroad, and point to Wally Sinclair who lives there.

One may put his address down as follows:

Mr. Wally Sinclair,
 67 Puccini Drive,
 Melody Acres,
 Temperanceville,
 Oak Ridges,
 Richmond Hill,
 R.R. 3, King City
 Ontario, L0G 1K0

Wonder if that's enough information for the post office?

enough to make anyone suspicious.

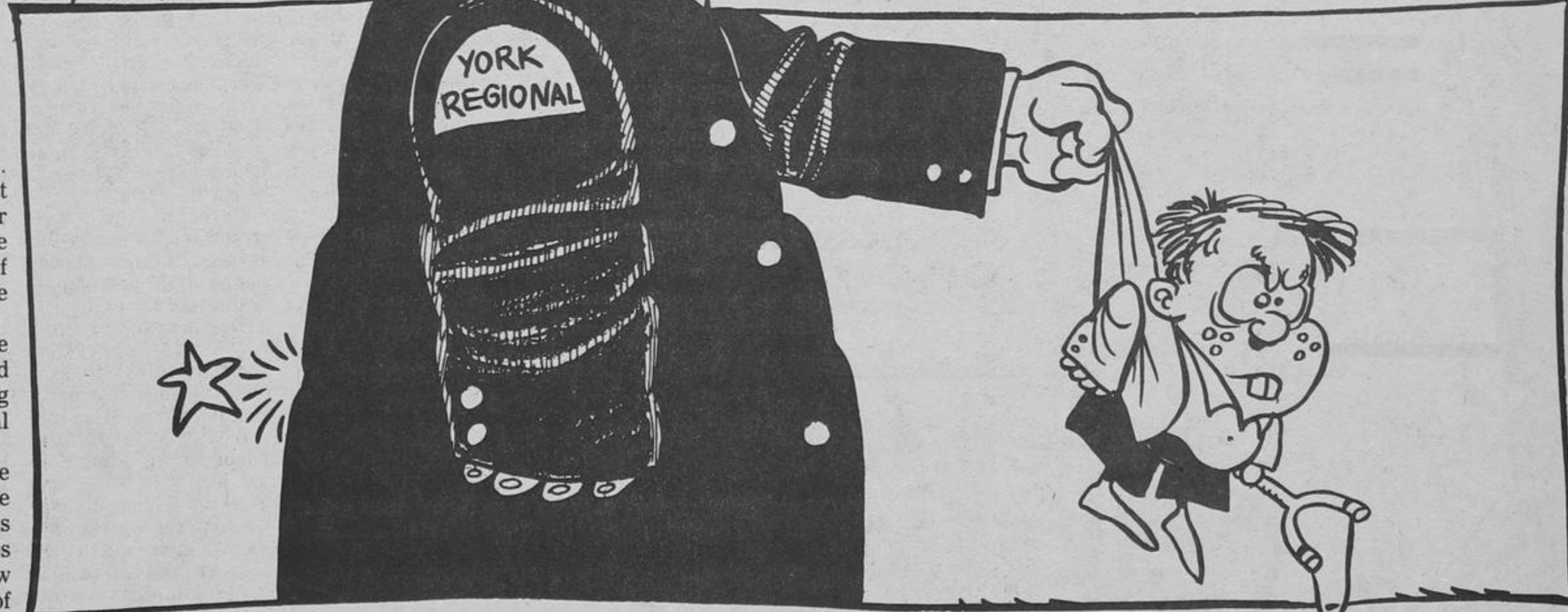
The report of the planning act review committee is even drier than the title suggests. Komay the committee chairman himself wrote a summary to make the proposals understandable.

One proposal would limit the scope of Ontario Municipal Board hearings and limit them to making recommendations rather than final decisions.

These would have to be made by the local municipality or the province. In the closed circles where the opponents of the changes are working, such as the law society, and the association of municipal lawyers, it is being argued that the planning process will actually be made longer and more complicated.

That is exactly the opposite of what the planning act review committee set out to do. Situations like the Kleinburg case, which has been before the cabinet most of this year, could become common.

Phillips OF THE LIBERAL



I DON'T CARE IF YOU'RE RELATED TO ALF STONG!!...

By Bob Rice

Finding ways to save money in education

By DON CAMERON
 York School Trustee

In setting the budget for 1978, York County Trustees will be making decisions that could affect the course of education for some time.

Provincial grants which normally pay for better than half the cost of educating your children are not keeping pace with rapidly increasing costs.

This means there is no other source than the property taxpayer for most of the needed increase in funds to provide education in York County.

Under these conditions your Trustees must find ways of cutting costs without affecting the quality of our children's education.

Before agreeing to a sharp tax increase or severe cuts in school programs I think the Board must continue to explore every aspect of its operation and assure itself that it has reduced costs in every way possible. For the past three years now because of increased salary costs the Board has been forced to cut back seriously in the maintenance of its school sites and on the support services that it was providing to our teachers in the form of Specialized Assistance etc.

The Board is now at the point where it must find the money to keep our school sites at an acceptable level of repair before the problem gets out of hand.

As I see it, this leaves the instructional areas as the major source for possible cost reductions. For example teacher salaries account for about two thirds of our budget.

These salaries have increased by about 45 per cent over the last three years. At the same time Teacher Productivity in our Secondary Schools has decreased from seven teaching periods a day to six.

This has reduced real teaching time from four hours and 40 minutes a day to just four hours.

Also, a drop this year in the Teacher-Pupil Ratio has not resulted in smaller class sizes but has provided our teachers with more class preparation time and time to mark tests during a school day of 9 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.

In my opinion the Board must approach its Secondary School teachers with a view to having them give us a minimum of four hours and 40 minutes

a day teaching our children. Such a change would reduce our salary costs by about 2½ million dollars a year and if well planned would not result in any layoffs.

Another area in which savings can be made is in reducing the number of extra courses taken by our students that are over and above the requirement for satisfactory completion of the school year.

Such action, if taken early, could result in further savings next year.

With regard to our teachers I feel that they are now making as much or more than those who are in similar professions but the difference is that teachers are not required to work as many hours per day or days per year as those in other segments of the community.

As your Trustee I have no fault to find with teacher salary levels in this time of inflation but I do believe that we are entitled to a more equitable return for our money in terms of productivity.

I have the utmost respect for all employees of the Board and for our students and I do not blame the teaching profession for wanting to improve the working conditions of its members.

But there is a point beyond which professional and other groups cannot go if our society is to survive under our present system of Government.

We can't have it both ways. We must have more productivity if we are to level off the high cost of Education.

I am striving to be in constant touch with people in Vaughan, gathering ideas and opinions which will help in making the decisions that must be made over the next few months.

If you haven't heard from me I want to hear from you. Your suggestions and support in your Board's efforts to minimize tax increases will be appreciated.

If you wish to learn more about how Education is financed and some of the financial problems facing the Board why not drive up to the Board office on Wellington Street in Aurora and attend our Finance Committee meetings on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month.

Vaughan Trustees are: Don Cameron 851-2001 and Jim Corcoran 893-1097.

Well gang we sure have had a lot of fun during the past week. I don't know about you but, as far as I am concerned, I wouldn't really get too upset if I didn't see another snowflake for about 30 years.

Anywho . . . I've been racking my brain trying to come up with some novel idea for a column that would get our minds off the snow, winds and other junk that have come our way recently.

I thought that you might be interested in some of my own recipes for use when entertaining over the festive season but the Grand Poobah at The Liberal didn't figure that you would be turned on with Stuffed Moose and Silverfish au gratin.

Another idea that came to mind was a written history of wallpaper but that too was shot down.

Say . . . how about a Trivia Quiz? Now that's something that we all can get involved with.

Okay, dear readers . . . a quiz it will be! First of all, let's set the ground rules. There will be no cheating unless you feel it is absolutely necessary and if you get all the answers right you will qualify for the grand prize which is . . . a guided tour of Victoria Square in a Pizza delivery truck.

All right . . . everybody set . . . then here we go. By the way, the questions will not appear in order of popularity but in alphabetical order.

- (a) What street in Richmond Hill is named after The Duke of Richmond?
- (b) Who was the principal of RHHS in 1957?
- (c) Who was the vocalist on 'And The Angels Sing' by Benny Goodman?
- (d) What was the name of Dale Evans' horse?
- (e) What was the name of Lawrence Welk's first Champagne Lady?
- (f) What was the name of Duane Eddy's guitar?

- (g) How many ducks live at The Mill Pond?
- (h) What are their names?
- (i) What was the name of the butcher store on the West side of Yonge Street, North of Arnold?
- (j) Who is Ron Wallace?
- (k) Who cares.
- (l) Who was the first Mayor of Richmond Hill?
- (m) Who was the twenty-second Mayor of Richmond Hill?
- (n) Who lay the first pavement on Trench Street?
- (o) In what year was Richmond Hill incorporated as a Town?
- (p) Who was the first Police Chief of The Town?
- (q) In the 50's, who was the manager of The Richmond Theatre?
- (r) What was the first commercial broadcast on CJRH when it went on the air in 1957?
- (s) Before the Town went 'wet', where was the nearest beer store?
- (t) What prominent citizen of Richmond Hill was as well known for his poetry as for his car dealership?
- (u) Who put the Bomp in the bomp-bo-bomp-bomp-bomp?
- (v) Who sang 'Bluebird Of Happiness'?
- (w) What was a Metropolitan?
- (x) Who is famous for the phrase 'Ho-ho-ho'?
- (y) Who was Duane Doberman?
- (z) Who thought up these dumb questions?

Okay . . . time's up. Put down your pencils and turn over the paper so that the person next to you cannot see your answers. Here is how we will score the test. There are twenty-six questions and each question is worth one-point-six marks, Celcius. To convert to the old system just multiply by thirty-eight and turn on the oven.

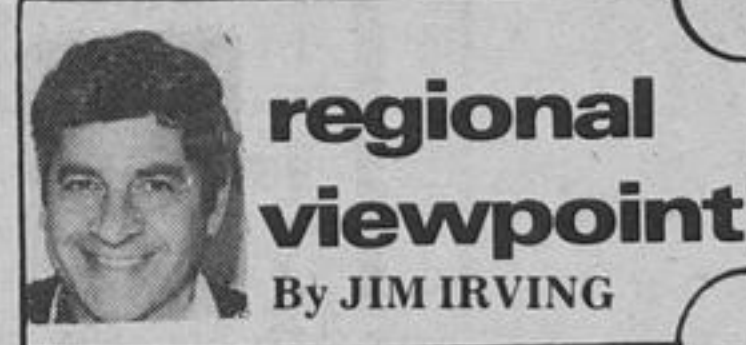
If you are ready then . . . here are the answers:

- (a) Richmond Street (bet you thought there was a trick to this one . . .)
- (b) Wright Morrow
- (c) Martha Tilton
- (d) Buttercup
- (e) Alice Lon
- (f) you have two choices here . . . either guitar or it!
- (g) a whole lot (h) ducks don't have names . . . just numbers
- (i) Glass Meat Market
- (j) Editor of The Liberal
- (k) I do . . . he signs the cheques
- (l) William Neal
- (m) nobody . . . we've only had six so far!
- (n) a bunch of guys
- (o) 1957
- (p) 'Robbie' Robbins
- (q) Mr. Ned Hill
- (r) George Chassie, the contractor who built the radio station
- (s) two choices here gang, either Willowdale or Bradford
- (t) R. D. Little
- (u) Rama-Lama-Ding-Dong
- (v) Jan Pierce
- (w) a small car made by Nash Motors
- (x) equal marks for either Santa Claus or The Jolly Green Giant
- (y) the underdog Private on the Phil Silvers' show 'You'll Never Get Rich', also known as The Sergeant Bilko Show
- (z) this one even has me stumped!

Well fellow quiz-kids . . . how did you do? I hope that you did better than me . . . I only got 48 centimetres.

Oh well . . . it's just like the ol' Millpond Philosopher once said . . . 'it's not how you play the game that counts . . . just the final score'.

ED. NOTE to Mr. Rice. Dear Bob, if you're going to play this game, it's important to have the correct trivial answers. For example, Dale Evans had the plainest looking horse on black and white television back in the fifties. But it wasn't named "Buttercup". Its real name was "Buttermilk", and any true trivia fan would know that.



regional viewpoint
 By JIM IRVING

Education board is in good hands

There may be hope for York County Board of Education after all. Just when all seemed darkest, with the snow up to the window tops, but with the meeting going on anyway, the board went and elected John Stephens as its chairman for the next year.

The Thornhill lawyer breezed home on the first ballot, leaving the two other candidates, Doreen Quirk and Donald Cousens, also of Markham, still grasping their voting pencils in astonishment.

Mr. Cousens, however, seemed to grasp the significance of it all, too, just as fast as he whipped out the door as soon as the vote was announced and ran off into what was left of the old year, without a backward glance.

Mrs. Quirk may have felt just as in anguish as her Markham neighbor, but she managed to keep any such feelings to herself, and when asked the next day about it, could shrug it all off with a: "Well, I'll certainly live."

She added that: "It was a heck of a responsibility," which may have been the only worthwhile utterance to result from Monday's meeting. Because it is "a heck of a responsibility", and while Mrs. Quirk and Mr. Cousens, no doubt,

would have brought their own particular brand of zeal to the job, Mr. Stephens' brand would seem to be a little less zealous.

In other words, Mr. Stephens seems to be able to temper his idealism with realism, something the other two Markham hopefuls, haven't always been able to do.

I'm dealing with semantics here and Trustees Quirk and Cousens would probably feel that I have erred, both in my choice of words and perceptions.

I'm sure they feel there has been a hard core of pragmatism in everything they do.

However, I have often felt they were more well meaning than well founded, and well meaningness per se, is a commodity the board can do without.

And despite what Mr. Cousens might say in defence of himself, his actions throughout the past year, emerged as one long campaign to occupy the head chair. Mrs. Quirk was her conscientious self, as always, and while she contributed much, she still seemed to feel, as with Mr. Cousens, that in the end, the quality of good education all boiled down to one thing: money, and more and more of it.

And while nobody can deny that money is indeed a nice thing to have around the school house, it's not going to do a heck of a lot for Johnny and Julie if they haven't grasped the fundamental fact that 2 and 2 makes four.

Nor, do they always seem aware that the teacher is merely a teacher — and I say that with all due respect — and not God.

The teacher is there to tell the kids what 2 and 2 makes — even if he has to repeat it 100 times — and not try to seek some deep, dark meaning why it takes so long for it to sink in with some of them.

In a brilliant — because it oozes with common sense — article in the November 14 issue of Newsweek, Suzanne Britt Jordan, who teaches English at North Carolina State University, and herself a former champion of the everybody-is-wrong-but-the-student school, admits that it took her three years of teaching before she finally realized that she was neither the cause of the students' problems, nor the solution.

"I've accepted what educators can't seem to face," she said. "The function of their schools, their first and primary obligation, is not to probe tender psyches, to feed

and clothe the homeless, nor to be the papa and mama a kid never had. The job is to teach.

"The teacher's job is to know his subject, inside out, backward, forward and every which way. Nothing unnerves a student than to have a teacher who doesn't know his or her stuff.

" . . . Before educators lost their way and tried to diversify by getting into the business of molding human beings, a teacher was, ideally, someone who knew a certain body of information and conveyed it . . . I want them back, those fearsome, inspiring experts.

" . . . Before the school administrators change, they will have to shake off the guilt, the simpering, apologetic smiles and the Freudian theories. Which is crueler? Flunking a kid who has flunked or passing a kid who has flunked? Which teaches more about the realities of life? Which, in fact, shows more respect for the child as a human being?

" . . . It has been said that government must guarantee equal opportunity, not equal results. I like that."

Trustees Quirk and Cousens haven't always seemed to be able to understand that, while Mr. Stephens, I would say, does.

The board is in good hands.