



Tipsy

No, this is not an easier method of getting sand out of a dump truck. Owned by Anderson Haulage of Stouffville, the truck got a little tipsy last Thursday morning when it was depositing

sand at the Yonge Street widening project near Garden Avenue in Richmond Hill. The driver (above) refused to give his name. (Liberal photo by Bruce Hogg.)

Teachers vote today

York County Secondary School teachers are voting today whether or not to accept the board's final contract offer and if not — would they favor a strike. The in-school vote is being administered by the Education Relations Commission and all teachers should have a chance to cast their ballots from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The ERC will not help supervise the vote, with the help of one teacher volunteer from each school, but also count the ballots and release any information it feels the public should know.

The exercise is out of the hands of the local District 11 executive of the secondary school teachers' federation.

The teachers' negotiating team has been busy the past two weeks travelling around to every high school in the region to review all terms of the contract offer with individual teacher groups.

The executive felt it was better than calling a mass meeting and getting nothing but impassioned speeches and a lot of confusion, though individual school meetings required more work for the executive.

One principal who asked not to be identified, said he detected much more caution on the part of

teachers before the vote, as opposed to the prevailing bitter sentiments of 1974.

"The second part of the ballot will ask teachers if they favor a strike or if they don't. Teachers in my school sought assurance that the word strike doesn't necessarily conjure up what we all think it does," he said.

In fact, even if the majority of teachers said they favor a strike (which could mean anything from working to withdrawal of services) the executive must fulfill five steps in accordance with Bill 100, before it could even return to the membership and ask for a strike mandate.

"Though I can't honestly give you a general impression of teacher sentiment, I've noticed my staff giving a great deal of thought to all the details and context of the contract."

He said they realize certain decisions have to be made within certain periods of time but that hasn't stopped them from giving the board offer a lot of consideration.

Once the ERC tabulates the ballots, students, parents and the board should know by Friday what kind of position they'll be in.

THE RICHMOND HILL Liberal

A Metrospan Community Newspaper

Wednesday, May 2, 1979

20 Cents

28 pages

Reynolds strike settled

After more than 14 weeks, picketing workers at Reynolds Extrusion Company Limited in Richmond Hill have settled their strike.

January 16 of this year, 170 members of local 8412 of the United Steel Workers of America voted to go on strike for higher wages, benefits and holidays.

Saturday, April 28, they voted to go back to work.

Dennis Smith, chairman of the bargaining committee for the union said negotiations were resumed Thursday April 26 at 10 a.m. and the bargaining team went right through until 7:30 Friday morning when they exited with an offer from the company the union felt was satisfactory.

"It is a pretty good contract," said Mr. Smith.

"Of course, we didn't get everything we wanted, but it looks like the best we can do."

Mr. Smith considered the cost of living clause in the contract the most important aspect.

The union had asked for one cent per hour for each .3 rise in

the cost of living increase over six per cent as published monthly by Statistics Canada.

The final company offer was one cent for every .3 rise increase over eight per cent with a maximum of 12 cents.

The union had to go for a three-year contract to get this figure, said Mr. Smith.

The company did increase its wage offer from 35 cents per hour to 50 cents across the board.

This 50 cents is retroactive to November, 1978, with another 45 cent increase in 1979 and an additional 50 cents in 1980.

Demands were met for a company paid dental plan to become effective May 15, 1979, and coverage to be increased in November of 1979.

Increased vacation time was also an issue in original contract demands.

The company's final offer agreed to four weeks of holiday after 14 years and one extra statutory holiday to be taken at Christmas.

Mr. Smith said he personally is

satisfied with the contract, but the most encouraging point to him about the 14 weeks of waiting is the fact the workers have "moulded themselves into a group."

"We gained a lot of knowledge and experience on the picket line," said Mr. Smith.

He said he feels the union has shown the management that they are not prepared to accept a "Bad contract."

"We can hold our heads up high

when we go back to work," he said.

Support was received from many other unions, both morally and financially said Mr. Smith, and Monday when their strike was officially ended local 8412 contributed \$100 toward the teamsters' strike at Richmond Hill's Stran Steel.

"They can buy themselves a coffee on us," he said.

Mr. Smith also considered the support received from family,

friends and neighbors over the 14 weeks very important and encouraging.

Monday Mr. Smith received official notice to return to work Tuesday at 8 a.m. and he expects all workers to be back and the plant to be fully operational by Monday, May 7.

"Needless to say we're pleased it's (the strike) settled and we're looking forward to getting back to business," said Al Potter, Personnel Manager for Reynolds.

Stran-Steel still struck

Everything is at a standstill at Stran-Steel Building Systems on Industrial Road in Richmond Hill.

Fifty-two members of local 847 of the Teamsters Union went on strike against Stran-Steel, a division of Westeel-Rosco Limited, April 18, and still they have heard nothing from the company.

The workers, who have been without a contract since December 31, 1978, are demanding higher wages and benefits to equal fellow workers

at the Westeel-Rosco plant which is in Rexdale.

On Monday afternoon, Dennis Smith, president of the local which settled a strike against Reynolds Extrusion in Richmond Hill Saturday donated \$100 to the Teamsters strike fund.

Jack Stelwagen, Chief Steward of local 847 of the Teamsters thanked Mr. Smith, saying "We need all the support we can get."

About the union's demands Mr. Stelwagen said, "We're going to be out here until we get the benefits we deserve."

Mugger learns lesson, slugged by blind man

Someone who figured it was easy money trying to mug a blind man is probably still nursing his wounds today.

Ray Jackson, 21, who lost his sight in high school, was in a washroom at Hillcrest Mall last week, when he was attacked from behind.

When he was grabbed, Mr. Jackson broke the hold, turned, and slugged his assailant in the mouth.

The blind man had been taught

self defense at the W. Ross McDonald School for the Blind in Brantford, and he obviously learned well.

Once the attacker had been put to rest, Mr. Jackson left the washroom.

When asked why he didn't call the police, he answered, "What for, I handled the problem myself."

The young man, who lost his eyesight after a blow to the head in high school, has been an active

participant in sports.

He has captured gold, silver, and bronze medals in both the Ontario and Canada Games for the Disabled in the last few years, and he plans to keep competing.

He won a medal for wrestling, too, a piece of information his attacker probably wished he knew before last week.

Had the assailant been successful, he would have scooped a grand total of 20 cents from Mr. Jackson's wallet.

Community Pulse

Bridge, Euchre night

In order to raise money to support its Children's Adoption Plan, Bayview Secondary School will hold its annual bridge and euchre night next Tuesday, May 8 at 8 p.m. at the school. Door prizes and raffle prizes will be available, and refreshments will be served. The school presently supports 10 foster children. Admission is \$2.50 for adults and \$2 for students.

Don Head reunion

Teachers and students at Don Head Secondary School are inviting everyone to come out and celebrate "The Best of Ten" — the school's 10th anniversary, Friday, May 4. Tours, numerous displays and demonstrations start at 1 p.m. For those coming back to their alma mater, there will be a reunion dance from 9:30 to 11 p.m. It's also a good chance to meet this year's graduates.

Celebrate sound

Next Wednesday, the York Separate School Board will present an arts festival called "Celebrate the Sound" at Minkler Auditorium, Seneca College. More than 600 students from 13 schools will participate in voice, dance, band and choral presentations. It's a non-competitive concert strictly for the enjoyment of the audience and the students — nothing could be nicer to help warm up the Spring spirit. Curtain time is 7:30 p.m.

Huge Rotary concert features nine groups

It's obvious Richmond Hill needs a concert hall.

The Town's Rotary Club wants to sponsor a large concert and guess what? No place to hold it. That's why the club has booked Minkler Auditorium at Seneca's Finch Campus to hold a musical extravaganza that should appeal to everyone.

There are so many groups involved, the event will be held in two parts.

The matinee, on Sunday, May 13, will feature the Roselawn School Choir; The Sweet Adelines; The York Choralliers; and the Richmond Hill High School Band.

In the evening of the same day, the following groups will take the stage: Bayview Secondary School Band; The York Philharmonic Choir; The Richmond Hill Youth Concert Band; The York Choral Society; and The York Symphony Orchestra.

The afternoon concert, which begins at 2 p.m., will cost \$3.50, while the evening show, at 7 p.m., sells for \$4.

A foundation ticket is available for both shows at \$6.50. Rotarians hope to accomplish two things by holding the concert.

The event should show support for the groups involved; and a good turnout would indicate a need for a concert hall in Richmond Hill.

Says a press release: "One of the Rotary Club's projects for 1979 is to try and stimulate interest in a concert hall. Obviously the funds for building such a

concert hall cannot be raised by one Rotary Club, but full attendance at the concerts would be a clear message from the citizens that local support is present and that investigation into the feasibility of such a project at the municipal, provincial and national levels should continue."

Tickets may be obtained from

Blaze damages new home

The William Priestman family were all set to move into their new home at 22 Regent Street, Richmond Hill, but their plans for moving have been upset because of a fire in that house on the weekend.

Mr. Priestman had been using Danish Oil to refinish the hardwood floors in the house, and he left the rags he had been using, when he left the house.

The rags ignited spontaneously and at 7:47 Saturday morning the Richmond Hill Fire Department was called to put out the blaze.

The fire caused \$4,200 in damages, and it will be some time before the Priestman family gets to move into their new home.



Five candidates face media

All five York-North candidates have indicated their willingness to appear at an all-candidates meeting Friday, May 11, at the Don Head Secondary School.

Federal hopefuls Barney Danson (Liberal); Dan Davidson (Libertarian); Paul Herman (Marxist-Leninist); John Gamble (Progressive Con-

servative) and Bruce Searle (New Democratic Party) will face a panel of media representatives as well as answer questions from the audience.

While the media panel has not yet been formed up, it is expected to consist of John Scott, editor of the Markham Economist and

Sun; John Montgomery of Classicom Cable TV; Peter May, editor of CFGM; Jack Mills, editor of the Woodbridge-Vaughan News; and Ron Wallace, editor of The Liberal.

Moderating the event will be Immediate Past President of the Richmond Hill Chamber of Commerce Bob Saunders.

The evening will get underway at 7:30 p.m. with each candidate being allowed a three-minute opening statement. That will be followed by questions from the media; followed by questions from the audience.

The all-candidates meeting will be the only one of its kind held in Richmond Hill prior to the May 22 election.

Craig Walker of Church Street in Richmond Hill displays ample lung power in his portrayal of Jesus Christ in the production of Godspell opening Monday, May 7, and running through until Saturday, May 12, at Richmond Hill United Church. The complete performance has been organized by Richmond Hill and Thornhill area youths and

includes a cast of 12, a band of six and 15 kids doing things like lighting, sound and selling tickets. James Lindermann of Thornhill is the musical director and Mandy Lloyd of Richmond Hill directs the drama. All money raised will go toward local charities. (Liberal Photo by Bruce Hogg.)