

# Too late for election, Danson moves train

"It's too late to do me any good in the election, but I've got the auto-train moved," said Barney Danson yesterday morning.

Train noise at Doncaster siding in Thornhill was the only local issue in the election campaign and Mr. Danson said he became more aware of the nuisance of CN operations while in the area in the last few weeks.

His campaign headquarters was on Doncaster Avenue.

Two sections of the train are put together just before midnight each evening within a few feet of back yards in Bayview Glen.

CN had promised to curtail other night shunting operations after previous complaints by the residents in the area but the railway had declared hands off the auto-train.

Now the construction of CN's

Brampton Intermodal Terminal has made it possible to switch the location where the train is made up when construction of the new yard is completed in September.

That should correspond to the new model year for automobiles as well.

The auto-train has not operated in the summer when the car factories are out of production.

Mr. Danson said he got in touch with his cabinet colleague, Otto Lang, the Minister of Transport, on the problem, and Mr. Lang had persuaded "CN to do a crash program to reschedule the whole thing."

Mr. Danson said a meeting was scheduled for after the election with Mr. Lang and CN officials to discuss other matters, such as chemicals on trains.

There may still be shunting of

auto-cars at Doncaster in an emergency, he said.

Residents of the Bayview Glen area were told something was in the wind before the election.

"Some of us received telegrams from Mr. Lang promising a meeting," said Vera Takeuchi, head of the People or Trains Committee.

There was a meeting at Mr. Danson's office last Wednesday at which Mr. Danson met some of the more outspoken opponents of shunting, she said.

"There were some people who were prepared to stop the trains," she said.

She did not think the removal of the auto-train depended on the election result. John Gamble, had been promising to have the shunting ended from the start of the campaign.

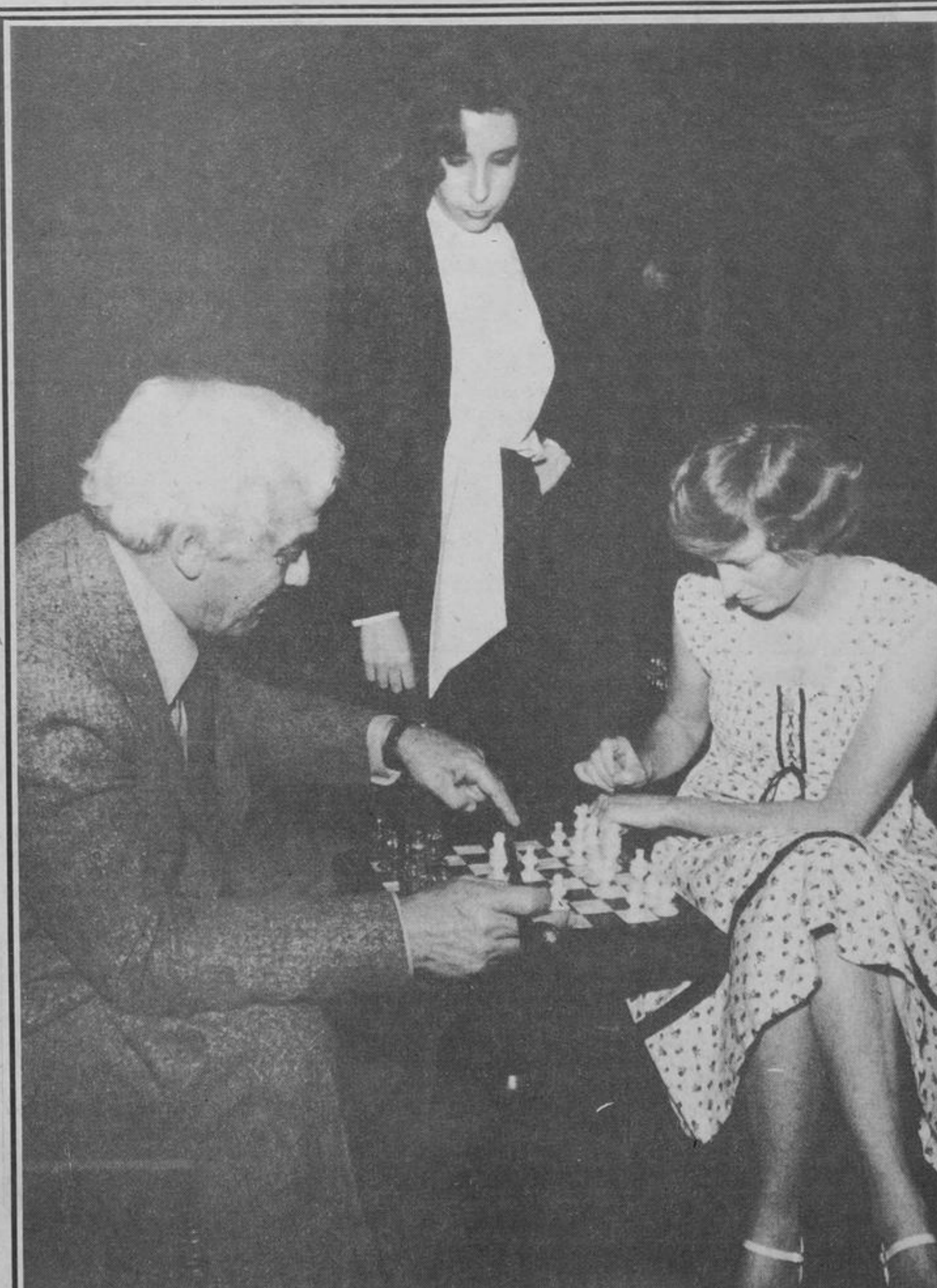
Even Neil Katzman, the independent candidate who ran on a law and order platform, expressed a great deal of concern over the shipping of chemicals, she said.

Mrs. Takeuchi could not say the same for municipal officials in the Town of Markham.

"Tony Roman only attended one meeting on train noise and that was just before the last (municipal) election, she said.

She gave the media much of the credit for action being taken at this time.

Roundtable discussions held by the People or Trains committee received considerable coverage and the committee was surprised by the number of residents who attended them, she said.



Three of the main performers in the Curtain Club's latest production "The Haunting of Hill House" are, left to right, Gerry Crack, playing Dr. Montague; Carol Moore, as Theodora;

and Bonnie Sheppard, playing Eleanor. The house, itself, plays a major role in the performance. Show opens this Friday night. (Liberal photo by Bruce Hogg)

## House comes alive in Curtain Club's next production

"The Haunting of Hill House", which opens at the Curtain Club this Friday evening, promises to be a gripping thriller.

The house, itself, has a leading role.

Its weird knocks, taps and moans, the icy chill of its air, and its rooms within rooms, where light from the outside world never enters, create an eerie oppressive atmosphere that gradually overpowers Dr. Montague and his party who have come to Hill House to discover the secret of the haunting.

Helene Knight plays Mrs. Dudley, the ominously unco-operative maid.

Gerry Crack is Dr. Montague, the level-headed analyst of psychic phenomena.

The will-less ethereal Eleanor, who is brought to the house because of a childhood experience with psychic activity, is played by Bonnie Sheppard.

Carol Moore is the steel-nerved, almost sardonic Theodora — a bonafide psychic — and Ed Cooke, the house's somewhat ambivalent heir, is Luke Sanderson.

Together this group makes a sympathetic target for Hill House's terrifying exploits.

Mrs. Montague (June Abbott) and Arthur (Clive Ryland) are a pair of pompous interlopers who self-righteously evade the real answers to all the essential questions about Hill House.

What gives Hill House its all-pervasive personality? What brings it alive with supernatural occurrences, and, ultimately, what does the house desire?

The Curtain Club's Hill House does indeed come alive.

Lighting (Tony Durrant) is appropriately murky; the sound (David Glover) has the disturbing quality of seeming to come from all around; the set (Michael Matyas) with its bulging doors and numerous architectural incongruities effectively conveys Hill House's multifarious character.

The play opens Friday, May 25 and continues through to Saturday, June 9.

Tickets are \$3.50 each and available at the door or by telephoning Madge Nicholson at 884-3703.

Tickets reserved over the phone must be picked up at the box office by 8.15 on the night of the performance or they may be resold.



GWEN HALLIDAY

## Halliday Regional Director

A familiar name and face at York Region Family Y recently received a new title.

Gwen Halliday, previously the Program Director at the Family Y, was appointed Regional Director of York Region's branch of the Central Ontario Lakeshore Y.M.C.A., as of May 1.

The previous Regional Director, Jim Ferguson, has been appointed Regional Director for North York Family Y and business manager for the northern region.

Mrs. Halliday has been associated with the Y organization for 25 years, 14 of which have been spent in Richmond Hill.

In her new role, Mrs. Halliday will be responsible for the developing and operation of various children and adult services offered by the Y, as well as the many educational and physical programs undertaken within the region.

Mrs. Halliday, who has lived in the region for 16 years, said she has watched the Y grow and she looks forward to seeing it continue to expand its services.

"And I know where I want to see the Y grow in York region," she said, "and the areas of service needed."

She pointed to development and growth of population in the region and said one of her "pet projects" was the need for day care for school age children.

This year Family Y have initiated a pilot program at M.L. McConaghy Public School in Richmond Hill where they offer supervision for children before school, at lunch break and after school, when their parents are absent.

## Tractor crushes King man

Neil Watson, 30, of R. R. 3, King, was killed yesterday when a tractor rolled over and crushed him on Bathurst Street.

According to York Regional Police, Mr. Watson was riding on a tractor that was being towed by a pickup truck, north of Elgin Mills Road.

The tractor began to sway, broke loose from the truck, and rolled over, crushing the rider.

The truck was driven by Ronald Szeler, 23, of Lake Wilcox, who was Watson's employer.

Police said the two men were on their way to a job site in Pleasantville — a Richmond Hill subdivision — to cut grass.

Watson was pronounced dead at York Central Hospital in Richmond Hill at noon yesterday.

A post mortem is expected to be held today.

## Few feet short of minimum, Rumble man can't sever land

The adage, 'If at first you don't succeed, try try again' did not ring true for a resident in the Mill Pond area.

Silvio Tachella wants to split his lot at 292 Rumble Avenue, to create a second parcel, as his property backs on Emerald Isle Court.

Mr. Tachella feels this application is valid because the square footage of the properties would be only 500 feet less than the minimum allowed by the town, 4,445.5 square feet versus 5,000 square feet, the minimum allowed.

This particular case has a long history with the town.

In 1972 Mr. Tachella bought the property and the same year applied to the town for the split.

At that time a staff report recommended approval to committee of adjustment, but Mr. Tachella was refused by the committee.

Because of the refusal the homeowner appealed the

decision to the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) but was dismissed.

In 1974 Mr. Tachella tried again but was refused by the town, a decision based on a circulated request of comments from area residents.

In 1975 the application was presented again, was refused, was appealed and again the OMB dismissed the application.

Last Tuesday night Mr. Tachella appeared once more in front of Richmond Hill's Planning Committee with the same application to create two lots from one.

Some of Mr. Tachella's neighbors object to the split on the grounds it would set a precedent, it would result in increased residential density, deterioration of the residential character, lower the property value and, in general, be incompatible with the area.

Mr. Tachella said he felt this split did not make the properties "incompatible" because there

were many lots of varying sizes and therefore many inconsistencies.

"The whole area is upside down," he said.

Two of the neighbors, Dr. Jim and Marilyn McPhee said that such sporadic rezoning destroys the protection which zoning is intended to provide all property owners.

Mr. Tachella said although the planning committee points to petitions against his proposal with 22 names, he had presented a petition in 1974 with 28 names of homeowners in favor of the split.

On all occasions of public presentation of the application to split the property, there has been significant neighborhood input which last week again swayed planning committee decision to refuse Mr. Tachella's application on the grounds it was incompatible with the area.

Council was expected to deal once more with the refusal of this application last night, but at press time results were unknown.

## Board still after decision on administrative centre

Last night, Richmond Hill Council was expected to deal with a recommendation to allow construction to begin on York Region Roman Catholic Separate School Board's new education centre on lands adjacent to St. Mary Immaculate Church at Yonge and Dunlop Streets.

Trustees and administrators of the Board appeared before Planning Committee last Tuesday urging them to expedite procedure so construction could begin as soon as possible.

This new building is to become the new education centre, for the Separate School Board and will serve administration, consulting services and a teacher development resource centre.

Architect drawings show it as a two-storey building with approximately 16,000 square feet.

Trustee Con Thompson said, "We're hoping it will be built and occupied by December of this year."

The existing administration office building on the site is to come down to allow parking facilities.

The only problem Richmond Hill's planning committee saw with the board's proposal was the identification sign.

The Board proposes a two-foot by 10-foot sign with its name to be put at right angles to the building and illuminated on both sides.

This would give an area of 40 square feet of display area. The

town's sign bylaw limits the size to 24 square feet.

Solicitor for the school board, John Leclair asked for an interpretation of the bylaw to see if the bylaw meant display area of 24 feet or a sign of 24 feet.

Commissioner of Planning, Bill Power, said he felt the bylaw was "sufficiently ambiguous" to require an interpretation by the town solicitor.

Because of the urgency to begin construction the recommendation of the town was to be presented last night to council with a mention that the signing is under consideration by the town solicitor.

At press time results were not known.



The good old days are remembered by three ladies who met again last week after a 35-year separation. Peggy Longstaff, of Duncan Road, Richmond Hill and Mary Onions and Jean Waller of Gosport, Hampshire,

England, look at photos and reminisce about the days spent working in a war factory during the Second World War.

(Liberal photo by Bruce Hogg)

## After 34 years, friends reunited

Three ladies in their fifties had the unique opportunity to meet again after 34 years, to talk over old times, places, and people they had known.

Peggy Longstaff of Duncan Road in Richvale got a call last week from her old friends, Mary Onions and Jean Waller.

In 1942 all three women had worked in a factory in the southern part of England making fuel tanks to be attached to the warbound Spitfires.

During that time they went through many unforgettable experiences, including a major fire in the factory where they worked, but after the war, each went her own way.

Peggy came to Canada while the other two remained in England.

In England, Mary had contact with Peggy's sister and consequently had an address for her old friend.

The deciding factor for a visit was when Mary met Jean on the plane last week, both flying from England to visit relatives in Canada.

The co-incidence of the meeting cemented the thought of a reunion with Peggy.

Last Wednesday and Thursday the three spent time enjoying old photo albums and talking over the past and what had happened to each over the years.

## Community Pulse

Markham Transit won't have any advertising on or in its buses. Council decided last week not to award the contract to the only bidder for the space after hearing from transit co-ordinator Harvey Cox about the experience of neighboring Richmond Hill. Mr. Cox said that the cards for Richmond Hill buses arrived late and the print was so small that advertisers were complaining that it could not be read.

The town's efforts to reach the contractor failed because his telephone was disconnected.

## Hang on, they're winning

Good news for all the residents attempting to travel on Yonge Street in the Richvale area.

The Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MTC) advised the town the road widening is progressing ahead of schedule.

The completion date for this project remains at November 7, 1979, however, both the contractor and the MTC feel they are well ahead of schedule.

## Grad photos

Again this year, The Liberal is pleased to carry photos and stories of your son or daughter's graduation from college or university. Simply drop off the photo (color or black and white) to our office at 10395 Yonge Street, and include some basic information about the graduation. We'll try to have the photo appear in the following week's edition of your Liberal.