



Five year old David Haimer holds an eight inch pet Crocodile.

Markham Man Raises Pet Crocodiles in His Basement

Would you like to have a crocodile for a pet? Mr. Harold Hamer, Rouge St., Markham, has them for sale. The reptiles carry a price tag of \$350.

The crocodiles are imported from South America. They are captured by the natives in large nets and transported by plane to Toronto where they are received by an importer and distributed to numerous agents. They had previously been obtained from the everglades of Florida but the United States Government has now banned their sale. When born, they measure from six to eight inches in length. In captivity, they will grow to a length of five feet in five years. In its natural habitat, a crocodile or alligator may grow to a length of thirty feet.

"Mr. Hamer keeps his young 'crocs' in an aquarium. The basement of his Rouge Street

home has been transformed into a menagerie of tropical fish and reptiles. The water temperature must be kept at a minimum of eighty degrees. Dry land and shade must be available for the crocodiles to thrive. Their main diet consists of small fish, raw meat and worms.

"Mr. Hamer claims that there is a growing need for pets in the district. He told the Tribune that modern equipment, including thermostatically controlled heaters, now make it possible for anyone to raise tropical fish and reptiles. He noted that previously, the death rate among such rare pets was quite high.

"Mr. Hamer explained that when a pet crocodile reached a length of four or five feet, they should be considered to be dangerous. "When they're large enough to eat small boys, then

one should sell them," he suggested. He advised against turning them loose to play havoc with people and animals.

Crocodiles have become quite popular in the wrestling world. This attraction has increased the reptile's value. Mr. Hamer noted, however, that as their value increases, as they reptile grows, their appetite also increases, thus making it quite costly for the average owner to keep them in captivity.

"A young crocodile is as harmless as a turtle or a goldfish. They will bite, but their teeth are not sharp. They emit low nasal sounds as they crawl lazily through the water or on the land.

"Mr. Hamer is confident that there is a growing market for his unusual pets. The supply is still quite limited since young 'crocs' are only available during certain seasons of the year.

Set Road Budget of \$15,000, Ask Extra Money for Hard-topping

Stouffville Municipal Council set the 1959 road budget at \$15,000 during Thursday night's meeting. This amount is made up of \$13,800 for roads, \$500 for bridges and \$700 for engineering. In addition, council will petition the Dept. of Highways for an additional sum of possibly \$7,000 to be used to continue with their program of paving. The Dept. of Highways pays 50% of the cost of roads and 80% of the cost of bridges.

New Fire Equipment

Councillor Laushway, chairman of the property committee, presented a requisition from the Fire Brigade for new equipment amounting to approximately \$1400.

Councillor Laushway said he believed the fire department should be kept up to date and a few hundred dollars spent each year could accomplish this. If a small amount was spent each year, he said, it would not be necessary to lay out such a large amount at one time. Some of the items being asked for, had been asked for previously, he said, and not obtained.

Deputy-reeve Wagg stated that the 1958 council had not received any request.

The present requisition included new hose, a new aluminum ladder, nozzle and coats.

Council agreed unanimously to the request.

Lions Club Launches 1959 Easter Seal Campaign

Stouffville Lions Club will launch their annual Easter Seal Campaign this week throughout this locality. There are more than 13,500 children and teen-agers afflicted with disease and other crippling conditions, and for them, March is the month of hope.

Easter Seals go on sale February 26th, and Stouffville Lions Club is one of 221 service clubs which act as a means for the people of Ontario, to help these youngsters. This year the service clubs of the province have an objective of \$770,000 from the sale of Easter Seals.

Last year the Stouffville Club collected more than \$1,300 for the fund and are aiming this year to reach the \$2,000 mark.

Members of the welfare committee will be busy this week preparing the 2500 envelopes which are being sent to the residents in Stouffville and immediate area. In addition, containers will be placed in the various business places for your convenience. Contributions can also be left with Nell Patrick, welfare committee chairman, Harold

Spofford, Dr. Button or Bert Jackson (Tribune office).

Easter Seals, too, enrol the services of leading physicians and surgeons who give their time and skills at the clinics which the Crippled Children's Society and service clubs organize at strategic centres in Ontario.

Purchases of these Seals mean membership for the buyers in a crusade of mercy and service to children, who through no fault of their own, bear enormous burdens of affliction.

Sub-division Agreement

Whitchurch Township Council met with the township planning board early this month to lay out the draft for a sub-division agreement for the municipality. Solicitor J. D. Lucas and Engineer Jorgenson were both in attendance.

Asked if it would be possible to accept cash in lieu of the 5% of land for park purposes, the solicitor advised that this could not be done unless the township had an official plan.

Municipal Service Co. Presents Plans for House Numbering

A representative of the Municipal Service Company appeared before Stouffville council on Thursday night and presented their system of municipal house numbering. This company has handled the numbering in more than seventy-five municipalities, including Richmond Hill and Blenheim.

The actual cost is \$2 per building. This price includes all the necessary maps, the numbers and the installation. The representative explained the system and pointed out the ease with which numbers on any street could be followed and any resident located.

He said that the company had a number of regular employees who would do the work, but that they would use unemployed in the municipality if any available.

He also said that an allowance would be made should a service club wish to contribute assistance in the installation of the numbers.

Approve Services Plans

Council approved the proposed plans for services in the Cedar Pines sub-division at the east end of town, subject to the approval of the Public Utilities Commission on water. The plans will be forwarded to the Water Resources Commission for their approval.

Mr. Fenson, Cedar Pines developer, and Mr. Woods, real estate agent, were present at the meeting. Mr. Fenson said that he was anxious to begin work as soon as possible, preferably in March. The new sub-division contains 20.2 acres of land and is subdivided into sixty lots. The services to be installed by the developer include paved roads, storm sewers, sanitary sewers, water mains, hydrants and street lights.

Plans for Building

Council has discussed at various times, the need for better municipal office accommodation and the possible moving of the fire department to a new location. The outcome of these discussions was a resolution on Thursday night authorizing the property committee to investigate better accommodation for council and fire trucks.

Markham Twp. Police Investigate Seven Accidents in One Day

Accident investigations handled by the Markham Twp. Police Dept. in a single day, broke all existing records between the hours of 8:55 a.m. and 11:15 p.m. on Saturday. Total damage resulting from seven separate collisions amounted to more than \$6,000. Altogether, twelve vehicles were involved in mishaps, ten cars and two trucks.

Hit Horse Van

The first accident occurred at 8:55 a.m. on conc. 5, north of No. 7 Highway. A northbound car, driven by Henry Fehr of Toronto crashed into the rear of a horsevan. The driver, his wife, and two girl passengers were admitted to Scarborough Hospital. One girl suffered a broken leg. The other was treated for a broken nose. The truck was owned by S. C. Tomlin Ltd., Toronto. Sgt. Wm. Shearn investigated.

Collision at Square

At 9 a.m., two cars were involved in a collision on the Don Mills Road near Victoria Square. One auto was driven by Francis Lyle Hess, lot 31, conc. 5, Markham. The other vehicle was driven by Joseph Warner of R.R. 2, Stouffville. Neither driver suffered serious injury. P.C. John McCague investigated.

Hits Hydro Pole

At 3:05 p.m., Constable Bill Gunn was summoned to another accident on the Don Mills Rd. A gravel truck, driven by Guilio Viscardi, Main St., Stouffville, skidded out of control on icy pavement and snapped off three guide posts and a hydro pole. The driver escaped injury. The truck suffered only minor damage.

At Cedar Grove

A 1959 Hillman car with only 20 miles registering on the speedometer was badly damaged at Cedar Grove at 4:10 p.m. on Saturday afternoon. P.C. Dukes investigated. The vehicle, driven by Roy Chaplow, 39, of Scarborough, went out of control and crashed into a tree. It came to an abrupt halt at the edge of a sixty foot embankment. The car was purchased on Feb. 20th and partially wrecked on Feb. 21st. The driver was operating the car with a sixty day permit.

Near Byers' Bridge

At 5 p.m., a three-car pileup occurred at "Byers' Bridge" on No. 48 Highway, three miles north of Markham Village. The collision was turned over to the Vandon O.P.P. Detachment. According to police, one driver was attempting to free a stranded car from the ditch when another vehicle crashed into both autos. P.C. Don Dukes and P.C. Allan Chadwick were summoned to the scene. The formal investigations were conducted by the Provincial Police.

Extensive Damage

Damage totalling more than \$1,900 resulted when three cars were involved in an accident on the Markham-Pickering town-line, two miles south of Stouffville. This collision occurred at 9:15 p.m. Police Chief Frank Edwards of Stouffville and P.C. Allan Chadwick of Markham investigated. A car driven by Wm. E. Vanstone, 23, of Bethesda suffered \$1,000 damage. Another vehicle, driven by John C. Williams, 22, R.R. 3, Stouffville, was damaged to the extent of \$800.00. A third car, driven by John Barclay of Claremont suffered \$150.00 damage.

G. Rummy Injured

Geo. Rummy, suffered only cuts and shock when his car crashed into a tree on the Don Mills Road at 11:15 p.m. Mr. Rummy was pinned in the wreckage but was released by Mark-

Council Sets Up New Tax Structure Here; Payments Moved Ahead 3 Months

Ratepayers in Stouffville will have an opportunity this year to pay their municipal taxes earlier in the year, according to a new taxing bylaw passed by council on Thursday evening. Chief change in the new bylaw is earlier payment. Taxes will now be payable on June 1st and Nov. 1st. Previously the dates for payment were, September and December.

The new bylaw provides that on June 1st, if the first instalment is not paid within fourteen days, the total taxes become due and payable and bear penalties immediately.

A 2% discount will be allowed on the second instalment if the total taxes are paid on the first due date, June 1st.

The penalty clause provides that if neither payment is paid on the provided due dates, a penalty is added of 1% per month. Following the current year, if either payment has not been paid the penalty is one-half of one per cent per month until paid.

Councillor Parsons in presenting the bylaw, explained to council the various clauses. The change will bring money into the town coffers earlier, and in addition, will not crowd the payments so close to the end of the year.

Councillor Parsons said that the form of the local tax bill would be altered and simplified. It would no longer contain coupons as formerly, each taxpayer receiving a standard receipt form.

Road Conditions in Spring May Present Problem Here

An engineer representative of the Dept. of Highways has suggested to the council of Whitechurch Township that extensive break-up in road surfaces may be expected this spring. This break-up has already been where road surfaces have been bare, and pot holes are evident on tarvia tops.

Council meeting on Thursday, agreed to adopt March 1st as the date for beginning half load regulations, but did not set any date for ending the restrictions.

Road Supt. Davis stated that obtaining sufficient salt for sanding purposes, was quite difficult. He said that supplies were short and companies were doling out the supply in small lots. He advised council that a total of 2,000 yards of sand had already been used this year and more would be required.

21 Truck Tenders

Council received eleven tenders for one truck and ten for another. The net price in all cases was quite close, but the amount being allowed for the machines being turned in, varied considerably.

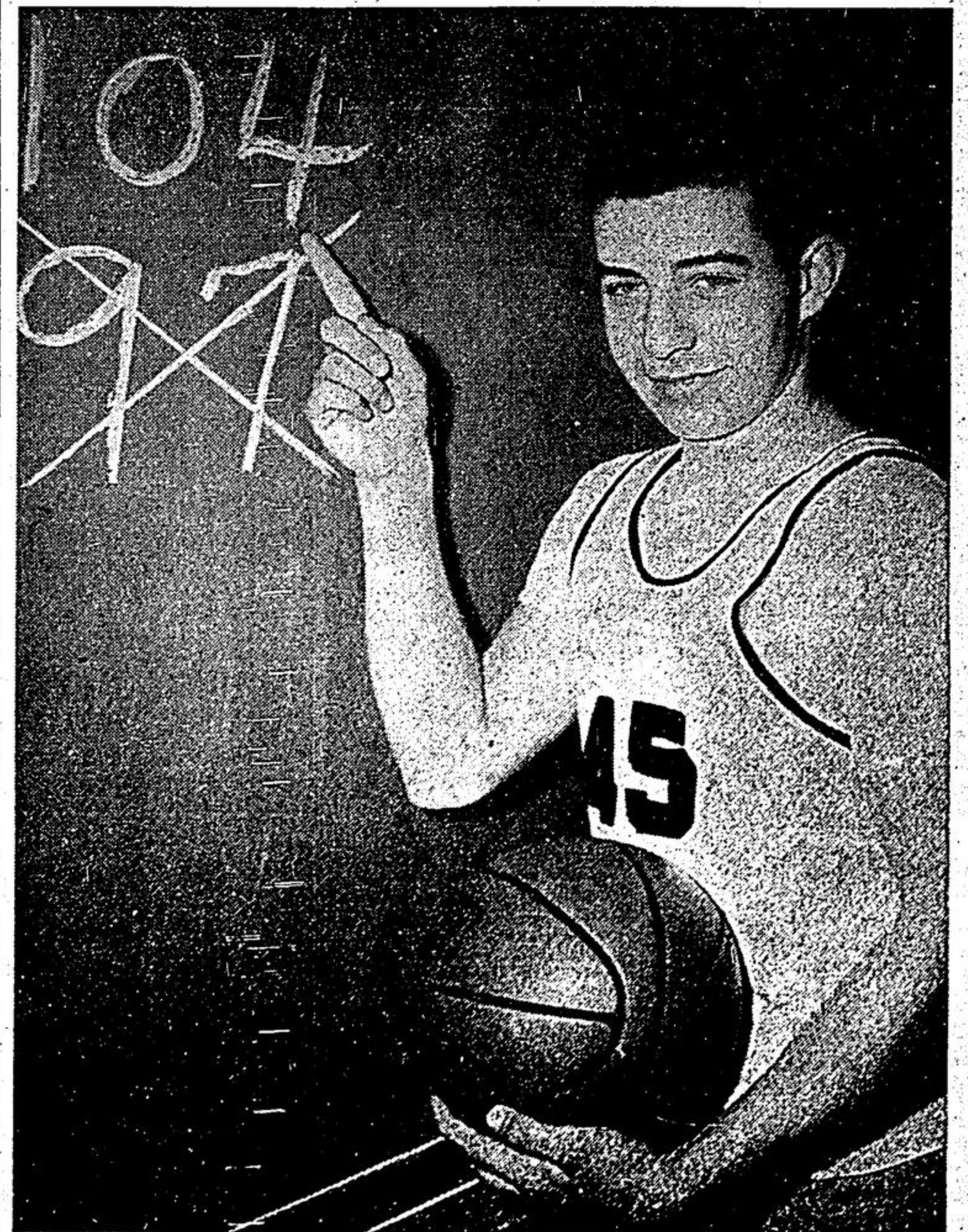
The successful bidder on both machines was Slessor Motors, Ltd., Newmarket. The new trucks will be a GMC half-ton and GMC 3-ton. The net price to be paid for the half-ton is \$1,895.75 with extras. The net price for the 3-ton machine is \$4,763.85. Council accepted these tenders subject to the approval of the Dept. of Highways.

ham Twp. Police and passing motorists. His car is a total loss. P. C. Don Dukes investigated.

Education Week

Stouffville Public School Boards will observe Education Week in Ontario, with an Open Night at each school next week. The Open Night at the Main St. School will be Wednesday, March 4th, and at the Orchard Park School the following night Thursday, March 5th. Both evenings will be from 7:30 to 9:30 o'clock. There will be exhibitions of the pupils' work and the teachers will be present to explain the course. Education Week is being observed next week throughout the province of Ontario, and the public is invited to visit the schools during this period to examine the progress being made by the children.

Mr. Fred Wright, who is a resident of Fairview Lodge, Whitby, marked his 92nd birthday on Monday. Mr. Wright is a brother of the late Mrs. Thos. Gostick of Stouffville who passed away just a few weeks ago.



Breaks Record

Roger Stover, a member of the junior basketball team at the Stouffville District High

Metro Conservation Propose Special Levy For Flood Control Here

Representatives of the Metro Toronto & Regional Conservation Authority appeared before Stouffville Municipal Council on Thursday evening to present a ten-year flood control program. This program is in addition to the regular levy for operation of parks and administration. Total cost estimated for the extensive program is \$33,000,000. The extensive program, if agreed to by all the municipalities in the Authority, would be presented to the federal government who would contribute substantially to the cost.

Stouffville Council was told that they would not be asked to contribute to either the downstream dams and reservoirs or the downstream benefits which are the largest amount of cost. The \$1,012 annual payment by Stouffville, would go towards the acquisition of land and general benefit of flood control structures.

The Village of Stouffville, lying immediately south of the head waters of Duffin Creek, is traversed by a tributary stream which flows into the West Branch of the Duffin Creek.

The Duffin Creek has a long history of floods. The Village of Stouffville, however, lying in the head water region, has not been the recipient of flooding of this type. As a result the benefits which will accrue to Stouffville from the measures planned for Duffin Creek are of an intangible type rather than tangible. The Brief on Flood Control and Water Conservation is a comprehensive plan that would affect the economy of the entire region and benefits would accrue to every member municipality of the Authority. On this basis, the Authority proposes to levy all municipalities according to population.

Measures Proposed for Duffin Creek

As it is more practical and economical to acquire floodplain land than to construct the protective works which would be required, no major flood control works are proposed for Duffin Creek. However, two dams are proposed to pro-

vide reservoirs for recreational purposes. Careful operation of the reservoirs would provide a measure of flood protection.

Audley Dam and Reservoir

The Audley Reservoir is located on the East Branch of Duffin Creek about three miles north of Pickering and about 12 to 15 miles from Stouffville. Forming part of the Greenwood Conservation Area, the Audley site is already owned by the Authority. Its primary purpose is for recreation but could be used for emergency flow regulation under extremely dry summer conditions. The reservoir would cover 82 acres with a capacity of 756 acre-feet, at a cost of \$393,000.00.

Green River Dam and Reservoir

This site is located on the West Branch of Duffin Creek just north of the village of Green River and about 7 miles south of Stouffville. The reservoir would have a maximum area of 82 acres with a storage capacity of 986 acre-feet. Recreation is the reservoir's primary purpose, but summer-flow regulation is a secondary use. The estimated cost would be \$586,000.00.

Effects on Stouffville

Social benefits are provided by the recreational reservoirs creating areas for hiking, camping, nature studies, swimming, picnicking and winter sports for persons of all ages. Fishing also would be an available pastime. These benefits would be closely available to the people of Stouffville in the three areas mentioned as well as on the acquired flood plain lands.

Teletype Machine For Markham

Markham Twp. Council has approved the installation of a teletype machine in the police office. The teletype will record all Metro calls and aid the police in tracing stolen cars. The rental fee will amount to \$60.00 a month.