

## Tempers Flare at Ballantrae School Meeting; Reject Addition 144-49

It was standing-room-only in the Ballantrae Public School on Thursday evening of last week as an estimated 325 residents filed into the building to support or reject a proposed one-room addition to the five room structure. The project was turned down by a majority of almost 3 to 1. The final count showed 49 favored the scheme while 144 opposed it. A total of 193 ballots were cast.

### Vote Illegal

Mr. Geo. Anderson was selected as chairman of the meeting. Mr. Horace Crowhurst was appointed recording secretary. Public School Inspector Adams informed the ratepayers that due to irregularities in a previous vote, the Dept. of Education had declared it to be invalid. The one-room addition was defeated at that time by a thirty-vote majority.

### Speakers Interrupted

Chairman Anderson had difficulty in keeping the meeting under control as speakers were continually interrupted. At one point, the Chairman threatened to expel a ratepayer if he persisted in talking out of order. The Chairman opened the heated discussion with a charge that the meeting was totally unnecessary. He contended that the vote conducted at a previous gathering was perfectly legal.

"The whole thing is a lot of 'hog wash', he levelled.

"I think the chairman should resign," countered Mr. Jack Wylie, a ratepayer, "he's out of order." Chairman Anderson pointed out that he had requested an opportunity to speak before accepting the position and his request had been granted.

### Had Two Votes

Mr. Herb Simpson, a ratepayer, charged that two votes had been conducted at a previous meeting. He said that the first vote was scrapped but a second one was perfectly legitimate. He charged that the Inspector was present at the meeting and witnessed the vote, then informed the ratepayers that it wasn't done properly.

"It's the dirtiest low-down piece of business I've ever seen," he said.

"Let's put it to a vote," interrupted Mr. Wylie. "You be quiet, Wylie," shot back Mr. Simpson, "you balled it up the last time."

"Let's vote on it," repeated Mr. Wylie.

"Stick you head in the lake," countered an anonymous ratepayer.

Mr. Simpson informed the gathering that two private letters had been sent to cottage-owners in Toronto. He said that some were unsigned.

### Conflicting Figures

At least three sets of attendance figures were produced. One party stated that the present enrollment was 167 pupils with the attendance reaching a high of 195. It was admitted that the attendance figures varied daily.

"The fault lies with the persons who rent their cottages to year-round residents," said Mr. Anderson, "they fill the school with children." Chairman Anderson said that some consideration should be given to the permanent land-owner who was bearing the brunt of the school's burden.

Mr. Frank Cartwright, a ratepayer, said that 61% of the students in the school came from the Musselman's Lake district. He said that an expected enrollment of 175 pupils was likely for the new term in September.

"We don't want a school and we don't need a school — any place," he said.

### Enforce Legislation

A number of ratepayers suggested that definite steps should be taken by Council to halt the rental of cottage-homes to year-round residents. Deputy-Reeve Clifford Wallwork informed the meeting that Council intended to enforce legislation to regulate the use of cottages. The information brought considerable applause from the gathering. Although permitted to address the audience, Dep.-Reeve Wallwork was repeatedly interrupted.

"We don't want to hear the Deputy-Reeve," chimed in Mr. Wylie. Deputy-Reeve Wallwork never did complete his point.

### Higher Taxes

Chairman Anderson said that an addition to the present school would constitute an increase in taxes. "Let us not kid ourselves," he said, "the money must come from somewhere." He noted that similar conditions exist throughout the entire Dominion. "No wonder with our present immigration programme," he said. He suggested that in spite of any decision, a similar problem would undoubtedly arise again in five years time.

"Will this vote be legal?" questioned one ratepayer. "It all depends who wins," joked Chairman Anderson.

Mrs. K. Rogers suggested that the ratepayers should plan for the future and not wait until they were forced to embark on a building project. Mr. Ernie Stanton suggested that a community hall at Musselman's Lake could be equipped for emergency use.

It was moved by Mr. Ray Jones and seconded by Mr. Thos. McCracken that the question should be put to a vote. It was conducted by Messrs. Eric Hadfield, Albert Rickerby, Horace Crowhurst assisted by Irene Crowhurst and Jennie Watson. Board Chairman Mr. Kim Rogers and Inspector D. Adams were also present. Although some ratepayers complained that their names should have been included on the pre-arranged list, the vote was orderly and quiet. Dozens of persons remained in the school until nearly midnight to hear the final result.

Stouffville Municipal Council will convene in regular session this Thursday night.

Contributions to the Current Easter Seal campaign being conducted locally by the Lions Club have now mounted to over \$1,300. Send in your donation to-day.

## OK High School Addition

Markham Township council has approved an addition to the Stouffville District High School to cost \$125,000. This amount will be less \$22,000 of available money left from the previous building program.

Mr. Albert King, Markham Township representative on the Stouffville Board, appeared before council on Monday night, and explained the new expenditure. The new debenture will provide for the larger cafeteria at the school which is being made available under the increased government grant system. Major portion of the expenditure is for additional classrooms.

Miss Doris Steckley, daughter of Prof. and Mrs. J. C. Steckley of Stouffville, is currently visiting with family and friends in this district. Miss Steckley is enjoying leave of one month from her post at the Canadian Embassy in Djakarta, Indonesia.

## Dickson Hill Girl Recovering From Auto Accident at Ringwood

Fifteen year old Nancy Robertson of Dickson Hill is recovering in the Toronto General Hospital from injuries received in a two-car crash on No. 43 Highway, south of Ringwood on Sunday afternoon. She was a passenger in a northbound auto driven by John Robertson, 19. He is in the York County Hospital, Newmarket.

The other vehicle was driven by Wesley Kemp of Brockville. He, his wife Pauline and three children, Clifford 11, Melody 8, and Daniel, 8 months, all were injured. The driver received a broken jaw.

The collision attracted a huge crowd of sightseers and traffic for a time, was confined to a single lane. Police Chief Frank Edwards of Stouffville assisted the Vandorf Detachment of the O.P.P. in keeping the cars moving.

First reports at the accident scene gave little hope for Miss Robertson's recovery. She never lost consciousness, however, which was a prime factor in her present satisfactory condition.



She will be confined to hospital for a time. Nancy is a grade nine student at the Stouffville District High School. Both cars were badly damaged.



## Reject Addition

On Thursday evening, 193 property owners in the Ballantrae district lined up to cast their ballot on the question of

a new one-room addition to the present five-room building. The project was defeated by a vote of 144 to 49. Checking

the voters' names is Eric Hadfield (left) and Albert Rickerby. A ratepayer, Mr. Bill Simpson (extreme left) prepares to cast his ballot.

## Markham Tp. Council To Consider Selling Water To Vaughan

Markham Township Council in session Monday promised to give favourable consideration to a proposal from Vaughan Township Council that they supply water to the Steeles Avenue West area between Yonge St. and Bathurst St. Councillor B. Ralph of Vaughan Council who attended Monday's meeting said they had been petitioned by their residents on the north side of Steeles Avenue for water, but the existing facilities are inadequate and Vaughan is unable to meet the request. Mr. Ralph estimated there are 60 to 70 homes in the Steeles Avenue area and that the requirements would not be heavy. The Vaughan Township well on Bathurst Street serving the Crestwood Road area is already working at full capacity.

Councillor J. MacNeil, chairman of the water committee, reported that the committee and engineer have already made a survey of the available supply in Water Area No. 1 and that Markham is operating at a surplus of 100,000 gallons daily. Councillor Ralph stated Vaughan is planning to lay a water main down Yonge Street to the limits of the Spring Farm this week. Reeve W. L. Clark, while agreeing that the two townships should co-operate on the matter, suggested council might be criticized for selling water outside the township, after refusing to extend the limits of water area No. 1 for the benefit of its own residents. Mr. Clark stated John Street and the Arnold Subdivision were two areas where re-laying the same title.

## Public School Is Renamed

The name of Stouffville's Main St. Public School has been officially changed to Summitview Public School. Through the means of a name contest recently, the name chosen for the school was Hillcrest. However, an official protest from the Board of the Hillcrest Public School, 6th concession of Whitchurch Township, resulted in the Stouffville Board reconsidering their decision. The new name was second choice in the contest and was approved by the Board at a meeting last week, after consideration of the rural school's protest.

Hillcrest Public School, Whitchurch, was a name established there more than three-quarters of a century ago and the rural Board believed that confusion could result from both schools bearing the same title.

## H. Beckett Dies In 77th Year

Hugh W. Beckett, resident of Stouffville for the past twelve years, passed away in the Brierbush Hospital on Sunday, April 12th. Mr. and Mrs. Beckett who marked their golden wedding anniversary in February of this year, have been residents of Clark St.

Mr. Beckett was born in Scarborough, the son of Richard and Margaret Beckett. He attended Box Grove public school where his parents resided while he was a small boy. The couple lived for a short time at Ellesmere and farmed for 25 years at Melville, prior to coming to Stouffville.

Mrs. Beckett, who survives her husband, was the former Louise Thomas. There also survive one sister, Elizabeth (Mrs. J. R. Miller) of Cashel, and two brothers, Charles of Unionville and William of Markham.

The funeral on Wednesday afternoon was conducted from the Dixon Funeral Chapel with interment in Elmwood Cemetery, Markham.

Sunday visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Moyer, Church St., were Mr. Albert Heise, Roy and Alma of Gormley.

Tea & Bake Sale — The W.A. of Christ Church (Anglican) will hold an afternoon tea and home baking sale on Saturday, April 18 from 3 to 5 p.m.

## Six "One-eyed Motorists" Fined At Vandorf

It was evident from the dock-ets of cases in Vandorf traffic court on Tuesday that special attention is being given to drivers operating with only one headlight. There were no less than six such cases on the docket. Five were completed and one dismissed as the Officer could not be on hand when the case was called. Fines in each of the other cases was \$5 and costs.

It was necessary to fail to heed a stop light, was fined \$19 and costs or four days. Traffic was approaching from the opposite direction and he was told by the court that he was creating a traffic hazard.

Martins Coppins was fined \$14 and costs on a similar charge of failing to stop at a Stop street.

Winston Fierheller, charged with speeding, did not appear, but he was fined \$19 and costs on the evidence of the Officer laying the charge.

## Find Body Of Doctor In Markham Bush

The body of a Willowdale medical doctor was discovered in a wooded area near the 5th concession of Markham Township early Sunday afternoon. He had been dead for at least ten hours. Mr. Geo. Guest of Scarborough made the discovery. P.C. Don Dukes, P.C. Allan Chadwick of Markham Twp. Police Dept. and P.C. Chester Gillatt of Markham Village conducted an immediate investigation. A post mortem at the Scarborough General Hospital has proven

death was caused by suicide. Strychnine poison had been consumed by the deceased.

Police found a convertible sports car parked in the ditch nearby. The right front tire was flat and the hub cap was missing. His doctor's kit was inside the car. The keys were in his pocket.

When police first arrived on the scene, they suspected foul play. There were no marks, however, on the body. He was only 36 years old.

## 20 Full-Time Teachers For Public Schools Next Sept.

Stouffville's Hillcrest and Orchard Pk. public schools will require a total of twenty full-time teachers and one part-time teacher beginning next September. There are presently eighteen teachers on the staff. Both schools are expected to be nearing capacity again by the end of 1960.

Little Salary Change — Salary changes for the coming year are not expected to affect the budget to any large degree. New government grants are helping to offset rising costs.

Chief alteration in this year's new salary contract is the payment of \$200 for each year's experience to be paid for five years rather than just 3 years. The minimum salary which was

increased two hundred dollars last year from \$2700 to \$2900, will remain the same, as will be the increment which is \$200 for the first three years and then \$300.

The maximum salary was increased from \$3200 to \$3500. A maximum of \$3500, offered by the Board, was rejected. Several of the teachers who have spent many years on the local staff, will receive the maximum in the coming year.

A separate salary schedule is being established for principals and this has not yet been completed. The cumulative sick leave also remains to be agreed upon. Teachers presently receive 20 days per year for a maximum of sixty days. They have suggested a maximum of

200 days.

53% Government Grant — Stouffville Public Schools received a 53% grant during the current year and despite the fact that two and a half new teachers plus the salary boost will mean an increase of \$20,000 in costs for next season, additional grants are expected to offset the expenditures by a large degree, according to Board Chairman Cec. Hendricks.

The Board was able to keep the maintenance costs of the public schools to less than a thousand dollars above 1958. The budget would have shown only about a \$700 upswing, had it not been for the addition of the debenture payment on the new school.