

AUCTIONEERS
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York Central District High School board took steps last week at the regular monthly meeting, held at Thornhill High School, to dispose of "loafers" who are not "an asset to any school", by approving the following motion:

"That the attendance of a student in any one grade, and has reached the age of 16, should be at the discretion of the board."
Trustee R. Edean was the only member who opposed the motion.

Trustee Eric Axelson, Chairman of the Management Committee, had recommended to the board that all students who have failed for the second time, in any one grade, should be taken off the school rolls, unless, following a meeting with the parents of the student, a satisfactory solution to the problem could be found.

Trustee Stewart Rumble asked, "Doesn't the law say that anyone between the ages of 5 and 21 years may go to school?"

Principal A. S. Elson remarked, "It isn't working, he isn't an asset to the school," to which Mr. Rumble replied, "Can't we expel him?"

Principal W. Morrow said, "If a youngster has failed twice in grade 9, I don't think it's going to do him a bit of good to repeat a third time. Perhaps he should be attending a different type of school, such as a technical school."

Mr. Axelson said he thought it was ridiculous for a student to clutter up the classroom for a third year, to which Trustee L. Wainwright replied, "I think we all agree to that but what about the taxpayers?"

Mr. Axelson said: "I think they would have to realize as taxpayers it's costing more to run our schools because of repeaters."

Trustee John Honsberger said "We are not running baby-sitting classes for students."

Board Chairman Harry Sayers said he thought the principal certainly has the right to suspend the student if he is not working. "The idea is to back the principal up and give the parents the opportunity to appeal to the board if they so desire. This motion, if passed, would give the parent the right to appeal to the board."

Trustee Wesley Middleton's remark, "I guess things have changed since I was a boy," relieved the atmosphere and Trustee John Howes said, "In supporting the fact that we spend many nights racking our brains how we will house students — should we not help the situation by eliminating those who are undesirable?"

Trustee John Wilson: "The parents have the right to appeal and certainly some arrangement can be made."

Trustee M. Kinnee: "I would like to see the motion followed up."

At the present time the law says "if the principal is satisfied, the student is qualified, he may go on to a higher grade." But as Mr. Morrow pointed out, the student is already in the grade from which he has failed to pass and what can be done with him, other than pass a resolution that he be struck off the rolls.

The board will seek guidance from the Department of Education on its motion which carried with the exception of a negative vote from Trustee Bob Edean.

MT. PISGAH
Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Diceman and boys of Maple visited Mr. and Mrs. Ross Keffer and had Sunday dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Carr were among the eighty guests at the wedding on Friday evening of Miss Betty Staley and Mr. Murray Sholer in Lyndon United Church, Lyndon, Ontario.

Mr. Roy Howlett returned home from the hospital on Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Smith and boys of Guelph spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Ray Smith and girls. Bob is staying for some holidays with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Smith of Guelph, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Smith of Blackwater, Mr. Ross Smith of Oak Ridges, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Ferguson of Stouffville, with their families and Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Smith of Richmond Hill enjoyed a picnic at Stouffville Park on Sunday afternoon.

RINGWOOD
Church service at 11:10 a.m. Sunday July 26th. Speaker, Mr. LeRoy Soper. A welcome awaits you.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Morganson and family and Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Filyer spent Sunday at Canadian Keswick with Mrs. A. Reesor, Nellie and Edith.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Drewery and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Pipher enjoyed a motor trip last Monday.

Big folks and little folks enjoyed the Sunday School picnic on Wednesday afternoon in Stouffville Park. This is an ideal spot for a picnic.

Mrs. H. Yakeley spoke at the Hillsburgh Women's Institute meeting on Thursday evening on the subject "The St. Lawrence Seaway Project." Mrs. Victor Brown (Noreen Steckley) was in charge of the program.

Mrs. E. Brownberger and Mrs. Fred Steckley also attended the meeting.

You've probably heard the story about the anxious woman driver who brought her badly dented car to a car wash establishment. She requested it be washed and asked the attendant whether there was anything he could do about the wrinkled fenders. He looked at the crumpled mess and said, "Lady, we only wash 'em, we don't iron them!"

Similarly more than one appliance dealer would like to have said to a prospective buyer of the new and wonderful electric appliances now on the market: "Madam, we only install them, we don't supply the power!"

Undoubtedly she lives in an older house or bought a new one where essential requirements were left out. Namely, proper certified wiring. Can Be Revitalized

Of course the dealer suggests and recommends how this lack of power can be remedied. The electrical power. A locally licensed, competent electrical contractor can revitalize that old 30- and 60-ampere service to meet the modern requirements — at least a 100-ampere service — at a medalion home.

Probably the woman in question bought one of the many homes still being built with yesterday's inadequate wiring standards. This could run the waffle iron, the radio and light some lamps without blowing a fuse, perhaps, but that was all. Today, with more than sixty electrical appliances at her beck and call, what is needed in wiring and power is the quality set by the medalion home program.

The medalion home wiring requirements, in order to assure high standards of electrical excellence in new homes, provides for the following: At least a "service entrance" of 100-amperes for present and future needs.

Twenty electric circuits within the house as well as wiring for major appliances, ample outlets and switches for every need.

Wiring is the basis for a modern home, though. Once it is sound and sufficient, the rest follows naturally. Modern electrical wiring homes is not to be confused with "code requirements." "Code" wiring is safe wiring, but it does not necessarily provide sufficient electrical capacity to serve present or future needs of the home.

Tea and Bake Sale July 25— A Tea and Bake Sale is to be held Saturday, July 25, from 2 to 5 p.m., at the home of Mrs. Wm. Paul Still Meadow Farm, R.R. 2, Stouffville.

This tea and sale is sponsored by Ringwood Home & School Assoc. and if necessary, transportation will be available from Ringwood School. There will be pony rides for the children.

thought council should give the matter serious consideration. He felt a municipality the size of Markham should have an ambulance service available for emergencies. Deputy-reeve W. Dean wondered if the people in the south-west corner of the township didn't rely more on the Willowdale ambulance than they did on Richmond Hill.

Council will discuss the matter with the newly organized joint committee for Markham, Vaughan and Richmond Hill, before making a decision on the request.

Mr. R. J. Cundy, owner of the Richmond Hill Ambulance Service, appeared before Markham Township Council last week to ascertain if Markham would be willing to share in a joint subsidy in order to keep the service operating.

Mr. Cundy estimated it would cost \$2,400 annually to operate a subsidized service. Approximately one eighth of his calls come from Markham Township. Markham's annual share would be \$300.00.

Councillor L. Mumberson

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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(Continued from page 2)
Verse 3—"And in every province, whithersoever the king's commandment . . . came . . . great mourning among the Jews . . . fasting . . . weeping . . . walling . . . many lay in sackcloth and ashes." This verse emphasizes Israel's universal grief—the extreme urgency of the hour. Everywhere the Jews were horrified at the national disaster confronting them. The fasting was unto the Lord. While some gave vent to tears, others followed Mordecai's procedure and publicized their grief.

Verse 10—"Again Esther spake unto Hatach, and gave him commandment unto Mordecai." Hatach, a "chamberlain" (door-keeper) of the palace, was a eunuch assigned to wait upon the queen. He was Esther's "go-between," her messenger to her cousin Mordecai.

Verse 11—"All the king's servants, and the people . . . do know, that whosoever . . . shall come unto the king into the inner court, who is not called, there is one law . . . death, except such to whom the king shall hold out the golden sceptre . . . I have not been called . . . these thirty days." Every citizen of the realm understood that "one is his law" (Heb., i.e., the law has no exceptions); no one would be tolerated in the intimacy of the king's presence without his express permission or invitation. This was doubtless to exalt as well as to protect the ruler. Esther's danger lay in the possibility that the royal mood might easily be unfavorable toward her. She was the queen, but had not been summoned to her royal spouse for a month. Could his affections now be focused upon another?

Verse 12—"And they told to Mordecai Esther's words." The issue is placed squarely before the man. Why should not Esther share her plight with her relative, who was like a father (2:7) and whose courage and wisdom were well known to her?

Verse 13—"Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not . . . that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews." The royal decree was to exterminate all the Jews. Esther's identity, if not already known, would quickly be discovered and she would die. Mordecai begins to marshal his arguments in urging Esther to perform her necessary, if precarious, duty.

Verse 14—"For if thou also, together holdest thy peace . . . then shall . . . deliverance arise to thee from another place . . . thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed." Who knows whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" Mordecai's appeal is pointed and persuasive: (1) Esther's silence would protect neither her nor her family, for she was a Jewess; (2) God, not willing that His people Israel should become extinct, would intervene on their behalf in spite of her; (3) but this was perhaps the hour of heroic privilege toward which all her previous experiences had pointed.

Verse 15—"Then Esther answered them return Mordecai this answer." The queen had had no personal access to Mordecai. The conversation continued through intermediaries.

Verse 16—"Go, gather together all the Jews . . . in Shushan . . . fast ye for me . . . three days . . . I also and my maidens will fast . . . so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law . . . If I perish, I perish." Esther's innate strength of character plus the reasoning of Mordecai brought her to this firm re-

solve. The three-day fast implied prayer to God, utter dependence upon His mercy, and expectation of aid if He so willed. Esther's "maidens" may have been of Jewish blood or converts to the Hebrew faith. Esther's words, "If I perish, I perish," are among the noblest utterances in literature; they reflect submission to God's will. Chapter 9:20 — "Mordecai wrote these things, and sent letters unto all the Jews . . . in all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus . . . In commemoration of the deliverance God had wrought, Mordecai, now promoted to a position of authority (8:2, 15; 9:4), notified all the Jews throughout the kingdom of these "things", concerning the remarkable intervention and the new feast about to be established. "Letters" is actually "books" (Heb.). The document widely distributed was more than a mere epistle.

Verse 21—"To establish this . . . that they should keep the fourteenth day of . . . Adar, and the fifteenth day . . . yearly." The notification was official and formal as well as lengthy. Two days were to be set aside annually. The month of Adar is March. The 14th day was selected because on that day (9:15) they had a great victory in Shushan (Susa, the capital).

Verse 22—"As the days wherein the Jews rested from their enemies, and the month . . . turned . . . from sorrow to joy . . . that they should make them days of feasting and joy . . . of sending portions . . . and gifts to the poor." This is the origin of the Feast of Purim "lots," Heb.; see 9:24). The reason for celebration: rest from their foes. The manner of celebration: joyous festivities, exchanging gifts, and remembrance of the needy.

The Heart of the Lesson
The word God does not occur in Esther. But few books reveal the presence and preserving care of God more than this. The Lord had promised to bless the seed of Abraham and in spite of their transgressions to bring them back to the Promised Land. Neither the wickedness of Haman nor the callous indifference of King Xerxes could thwart God's purposes for His people. What He promised He fulfilled. His instrument in protecting the Hebrews was Esther, a beautiful, courageous queen.

And so through subsequent centuries the Almighty has kept Israel. Even Hitler could not exterminate her. As she returned to Palestine from captivity in Persia years ago, so she is returning today to her land. God remembered His covenant in Esther's day. He has not forgotten that covenant now. Understand the Feast of Purim. "Pur" means "lot." Lots were cast to choose a date for the massacre of the Hebrews (Esther 9:24). Orthodox Jews assemble today at the appropriate time to commemorate their deliverance from Haman's foul plot.

The courage of Queen Esther was magnificent. It was not brash. She appreciated her peril, knew the moody indecision of her husband, Xerxes, and was aware of Haman's subtle machinations. Yet she cast herself upon her God, entered the royal presence uninvited, and risked sudden death for the sake of her people the Jews. "If I perish, I perish" — grand, classic words which reflect resolute, unflinching bravery.

Esther was audacious, of course. But let us emulate her daring dedication in the service of the Lord.

The baby's first steps are the ones that start him off getting into things he shouldn't.

You'd better enjoy the heat now—think of what it's going to cost you next winter.

Making new mistakes is at least a lot better than making the same old ones.

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