

New Flag Unfurled



All across Canada, the new Maple Leaf flag was officially unfurled on Monday. At Markham, a brief ceremony was held in front of the Municipal Building with all members of council in attendance — (left to right) councillor Douglas Allison, reeve Alma Walker, councillor Lloyd Abernethy, councillor Paul Horton and deputy reeve Albert Laidlaw.

Mennonite Group Urges Abolition of Death Penalty

The peace committee, a subsidiary of the Mennonite Central Committee, has rejected the death penalty as a legitimate prerogative of the state.

The MCC (Canada), meeting in Elmira Friday and Saturday, accepted the peace committee's recommendation.

"In view of the invalidation of the death penalty through the redemptive work of Christ, and in view of the ministry of reconciliation which is the mission of the church, we reject the death penalty," the peace committee said in its report.

"In view of the prophetic commission given to the church we appeal to the legislative assemblies and responsible administrative and judicial officials of the Dominion of Canada and its various provinces, and of the federal and state governments of the United States to discontinue the use of the death penalty as an expression of a positive attitude toward the offender, with rehabilitation as the ultimate goal."

The report also said Mennonites have fallen short of fulfillment of their obligation as ministers of reconciliation in prison visitation, in ministry to men and women in prison, in labouring for the reform of prison procedures and rehabilitation of parolees, and in efforts to improve social conditions which contribute to crime.

"We do rejoice for the modest beginning in recent years that has been made in this needy and neglected field of service."

In addition to scriptural reasons for their belief, the peace committee added that the best scientific evidence available casts serious doubt on the theory that the death penalty has any appreciable deterrent effect, so much so that the burden of proof rests with those who adhere to the theory.

The estimated number of murders in the United States in 1960 was above 9,000. It is highly questionable whether 50 or 60 executions annually in the midst of the many capital offences could have much influence as a deterrent.

The report also said many injustices arise out of the administration of capital punishment. It cited "grave inequalities" because most executions are of persons too poor to provide adequate legal counsel for themselves.

"It is especially significant that of 42 executions in the United States in 1961, 22 were Negroes; that of 412 persons executed for rape between 1930 and 1961, 90 per cent were Negroes.

The possibility of a judicial error alone outweighs all the social advantages which may be cited in support of the death penalty, the report said.

In deliberately taking the life of the criminal, the state arrogantly usurps the role of God Himself, declaring the individual beyond redemption and removing him forever from all possibility of the church's redemptive ministry.

This, the report concluded, is a blasphemous, arrogant assumption of final judgment, a role which belongs to God alone.

Annual Report of Whitchurch Twp. Police; 2,415 Hrs. Overtime

Whitchurch Twp. Police Chief, Fred Mason has recommended that two additional officers be hired to the force in 1965, raising the total personnel to 17. A comprehensive 20-page report, covering the department's first seven months of operation, was presented to council last week. It was received with favourable comment by the members.

Chief Mason praised the work of the thirteen men, including 3 sergeants, 9 constables and 1 cadet. A secretary adds to the clerical efficiency of the office in Vandorf.

Overtime Hours

Chief Mason reported that from June to December of last year, the force had put in a total of 2,415 hours of overtime work. Additional remuneration involved in extra duties totalled \$5,144.99. On a 12-month period, total payment of overtime would be \$10,534.20 or more than the salaries of two full-time 1st class constables. The Chief said that although two additional officers would not eliminate all overtime, it would do much to reduce this extra expense and also allow for the completion of duties that cannot be handled under the present system. "To put it plainly, we are understaffed for the amount of work this Department is doing," said the Chief. The Chief also advocated the purchase of a portable radio unit; a movie projector and the setting up of a training program for its full-time members.

Cases Solved

During the seven-month period 161 major crimes were investigated and 103 were successfully completed. Under the Liquor Control Act, 238 persons were charged. Seizures amounted to 1,921 bottles of beer and ale and 48 bottles of liquor and wine. The value of property stolen amounted to \$13,224.62. Stolen property recovered amounted to \$9,245.10. As the result of court convictions, \$9,259.00 was paid out in fines.

There were 151 major accidents (over \$100 damage) and 31 of a minor nature (under \$100). Three persons were killed and 38 were injured. Under the Highway Traffic Act, 366 charges were laid.

The majority of the major accidents occurred on the Don Mills Road. Other accident prone areas included the resort



Police Chief Fred J. Mason — Staff Photo.

York North Split To Form New Provincial Riding

The boundaries of the provincial riding of York North have been redrawn to create the new riding of York Centre. This new riding which will serve the southern part of York County will be one of nine new seats which will be added to the Legislature following adoption of the report of the three member Electoral Redistribution Commission. The Legislature will then have 117 seats instead of the present 108.

The commissioners which were named in 1962 are: Justice Edward A. Richardson of the Ontario Supreme Court, chairman; K. Grant Crawford, professor of political science at Queen's University; and Roderick Lewis, clerk of Legislature.

In tabling the report in the Legislature last week Premier John Roberts said it will be enacted into law after the introduction of the necessary legislation and consideration of it by the Legislature's Privileges and Election Committee. This same committee will recommend how Ontario's seats in the federal Parliament will be redistributed. Federal redistribution is not expected to take place until 1966.

The last major redistribution in Ontario took place in 1953 when both provincial and federal changes were made. Since then the population of the province has risen by more than 25% with much of the growth in the urban areas. An interim redistribution by the same commission in December 1962 created 10 new ridings in the suburban Metro area.

The new riding of York Centre will serve the three large southern municipalities of Markham, Vaughan and Richmond Hill and the Villages of Woodbridge and Markham. The new riding will have a population of 58,607. The continuing riding of York North will contain the municipalities of King, Whitchurch, East Gwillimbury, Aurora, Newmarket and Stouffville. This riding will have 53,069 inhabitants.

The three far northern municipalities of North Gwillimbury, Georgina and the Village of Sutton will become part of the continuing riding of Ontario. This which will serve a large part of Ontario County will have a population of 33,098.

The former provincial riding of York North extended from Steeles Avenue on the south to Lake Simcoe on the north and had a population of approximately 120 thousand. The federal riding of York North extends from No. 7 Highway on the south to Lake Simcoe on the north. It was broken up in 1954 when the new federal ridings of York Centre and York Scarborough were created.

York North has been represented in the Legislature by Progressive Conservative Lex Mackenzie since 1945. One of the most successful politicians the county has ever produced Mr. Mackenzie first entered provincial politics in 1943 when he was defeated by CCF candidate George Mitchell. He ran again in 1945 and won the seat for the Tories. Mr. Mackenzie has won five general elections since then each time with comfortable majorities. A resident of Woodbridge he is now the oldest living member of the Legislature. During the Hepburn era from 1934 to 1943 Liberal Morgan Baker represented York North.

As a result of the changes, Metro will have 26 seats out of 117 in the House — 10 city and 16 suburban. It now has 29 seats — 13 and 16 — out of 108.

The commission estimated that the minimum population of a riding after redistribution would be 25,000 and the maximum 75,000. It said in its interim report that an urban riding should have a range of 60,000 to 75,000, a rural riding 25,000 to 50,000 and an urban-rural district 50,000 to 60,000. This would result, it said then, in a Legislature of no more than 120 members.

Under its final report, the largest population of a riding will be 66,653 (Peel North, a new riding) and the smallest will be 32,728 (Thunder Bay).

Southern Ontario will gain 6 seats and Northern Ontario 3.

The increase in Southern Ontario is mainly in urban areas and the problem in Northern Ontario was to reorganize ridings that were greatly out of balance.

The present York North Returning Officer is King City lawyer Donald Findlay, Q.C. The Roberts' administration will now have to appoint a new returning officer for the new riding of York Centre.

Design Contest For Markham Cenotaph

A cenotaph committee has been organized in Markham to promote the erection of a town memorial in remembrance of those who served in two World Wars in all branches of the armed forces.

To instill more interest in this worthwhile project, the committee is sponsoring a cenotaph design contest and entries are welcomed. The rules of the competition are as follows.

1. Drawings shall be submitted on paper and on sheets 14" x 18" in size.
2. The name and address of the contestant shall be printed on the back.
3. Any person except Committee Members may enter and may submit more than one entry.
4. Entries shall be judged for originality of expression and design.
5. All entries are submitted on the condition and understanding that the drawing and ideas and concepts expressed become the property of the Committee and may be used in whole or in part and in conjunction with any other idea or concept.
6. All entries shall be post-marked not later than March 25th, 1965 and shall be mailed prepaid to the "Committee at Box 801, Markham, Ontario.

Prizes: Submissions will be judged by the Committee and all decisions shall be final. The Committee shall choose from the submissions, three to be awarded prizes of \$25.00 for First, \$15.00 for Second and \$5.00 for Third, in order of merit.

centres of Musselman's and Wilcox Lakes; the intersection of conc. 6, Markham and the Whitchurch Townline and the corner of Gorham Street and conc. 3, Whitchurch. By an odd coincidence, none of the three fatal accidents occurred on the Don Mills Road in spite of the number of collisions on that highway.

Over 107,000 Miles

The two regular police cruisers plus one spare car travelled 107,021 miles in seven months. Operational expenses incurred by the vehicles during this period totalled \$3,827.56.

Total expenditures in the operation of all departments within the force during 1964 were \$73,015.61. Minus the fines collected in court, the total is cut to \$69,014.60. Revenue from licences issued according to township by-laws totalled \$703.00. Parking tags brought in \$482.00.

In concluding his report, Chief Mason said that his Department had received excellent co-operation, not only through the courts and with other police forces but also from local citizens who had volunteered information and assistance when required.



Lex Mackenzie M.L.A. York North Member since 1945

BETHESDA

The icy roads of Wednesday, Feb. 10 will not soon be forgotten. Many enjoyed enforced holidays. A large number of those who ventured out on the slippery, concession and side roads had to leave cars stranded till the ice broke up later in the day. Mr. and Mrs. Len Brillinger were very relieved to arrive home safely that morning after a precarious drive and sliding a short distance from the lane to a road in the gravel pit.

Everett Preston of Nipissing spent a few days lately with Mr. and Mrs. Burn Preston and family.

Ivan Preston, accompanied by two other students from Emmanuel Bible College, Kitchener, Miss Donna Moore of Strathroy and Miss Carla Hill of Michigan, spent Saturday Feb. 6 with the Prestons.



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CLAREMONT, ONT.

Altona Dealer Visits New Idea Equip. Show

Mr. Fred Lewis of Altona Feed & Supplies, Ltd., has been in Dayton and Coldwater, Ohio to attend dealer introductory meetings for New Idea's new Uni-System line of self-propelled harvesting equipment.

The unique harvesting system features a single power unit which propels, powers and carries four different, interchangeable implements which can be used to harvest a variety of crops. It is designed to meet the changing needs and improve the profitability of the diversified family farm.

Included on the list of harvesting equipment presently available to add to the power unit are a combine with an 11 or 13-foot grain platform, a combine with a two-row cornhead, a corn picker and a sheller. The picker and sheller are the only machines of their kind to be self-propelled.

The harvesting units are designed to separate over the front axle so that they may be mounted or removed, without a hoist or special tools, in just one man-hour.

Uni-System offers a distinct cost advantage to farmers. There is only one investment in engine, transmission, tires, wheels, controls, and related parts. The farmer can use the same power unit throughout the entire harvesting season by adding the specialized machines he needs.

Part of the dealer introductory meeting included a trip to Coldwater, Ohio for a tour of New Idea Farm Equipment Co. 22-acre factory, where Uni-System is engineered and manufactured.

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