

Most Parents Approve Sex Education In Public Schools

Need Qualified Teachers

STOUFFVILLE.—Unlike most schools in Metro, sex education is not included as part of the elementary curriculum at either Summit View or Orchard Park schools in Stouffville.

Last week, this topic was discussed at a meeting of the Stouffville Home and School Association. Although the majority of parents who expressed views on the subject, appeared in favor of its inclusion in the course of study, less than thirty were present to register an opinion. This week, The Tribune contacted personally a number of mothers of public school pupils to acquire their reaction to such a program here. The opinions of each is as follows:

A PARENTS' DUTY

"It's really the parents' responsibility," said Mrs. Howard Mills, Main Street West. "Sex education shouldn't be pushed off on the public school any more than religious instruction should be left entirely to the Sunday School." Mrs. Mills said that training of this kind was provided in their home. She agreed that the use of clinical type films would be helpful and classroom instruction would also be good if provided by a qualified doctor or nurse. "I'm all for it, if approached in the proper manner," she said.

"It's too late to introduce sex education once a boy or girl reaches high school," said Mrs. Jim Priestley, Mill Street. "It should be taught at the age of 12 or 13 or even before." She suggested that the parents should get behind the program and let the board know that they are anxious that this kind of instruction be provided.

"I think it's a good idea," said Mrs. Dorothy Broadley, Church Street, North, "it's the only way that children will get the facts straight."

EXPECTING TOO MUCH

"Children hear all sorts of things and often get the wrong impressions," said Mrs. D. Wightman, Tenth Line North. "They need to know the facts." Mrs. Wightman spoke in favor of sex education in Stouffville's two public schools, but felt it would be unfair to expect the regular staff teachers to provide it. She said that her son had been impressed with the course offered for the first time in Grade 9 and had discussed it at home. "They need straight-forward answers to their questions," she said.

"I'm definitely in favor," said Mrs. Gordon Stewart, Manitoba Street. "I feel that the board should indicate their support. Whether this year or next, it will become part of the curriculum here."

Mrs. Stewart said that most parents try to provide this kind of training but it sometimes proves embarrassing to both the mother and daughter or the father and son. "It's hard for a parent to know how far to go," she felt that it was too late to begin sex education in high school and recommended a start in Grade 7 or even earlier. "Problems arise in even the best of homes and parents are becoming more aware of it every day," Mrs. Stewart suggested that qualified personnel should be brought in to provide the instruction needed.

START IN GRADE 1

Both Mrs. Bruce Will, O'Brien Avenue and Mrs. Blair Mitchell, Orchard Park Boulevard felt that limited instruction could be provided as early as Grade 1. Mrs. Will felt that the primary teachers could provide the necessary instruction in their classes but more qualified persons should be used in the intermediate and senior grades. Mrs. Mitchell recommended the use of clinical type films sanctioned by the Department of Health.

"Yes, I'm in favor, but the teachers would need special training," agreed Mrs. Neil Patrick, Burkholder Street.

"Teachers seem to have a way with children more than some parents," said Mrs. A. A. Spence, Glad Park Avenue, "so perhaps that is where sex education should be provided in the school." She recommended that training in the primary grades should be reduced to a level that children would understand.

"They learn about everything else in school today, so why not sex education too," said Mrs. Reginald Hie, Elm Road. Mrs. Hie supported the program, especially through the use of approved films.

"My children have been taught the facts of life since they were in diapers and we have seven," said Mrs. Donald MacDonald-Ross, Main Street West. "We have always talked things over together and they have no fears." Mrs. MacDonald-Ross suggested that sex education not presented in a proper manner would do more harm than no instruction at all. "The teachers must be qualified," she said. She also recommended that training of this kind in school should not begin until Grade 9.

Bride-To-Be Is Honored

PINE ORCHARD — Miss Mary Lehman, bride-to-be on Saturday, has been the recipient of several bridal showers, the most recent at the home of Mrs. Lorne Shropshire. A speedy recovery is wished for our hospitalized residents, Miss Dennie in Brierbush Hospital, Stouffville, Mrs. H. Reesor and Mr. Ford Lehman in York County Hospital, Newmarket.

Mrs. Douglas Hope was hostess to the Willing Workers when Mrs. Mason and Mrs. Cody had charge of the meeting. We welcome Mr. and Mrs. J. Rule and daughter



Recovering From Surgery

By VERA LEACH

ASHBURN.—We are pleased to report that Mrs. Norman Anderson is making a satisfactory recovery following a recent eye operation in Oshawa General Hospital.

Rev. and Mrs. W. B. Mitchell of Toronto, a former minister of the Ashburn charge, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Stiver of Unionville and Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Ashton were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Heron.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Porter, daughters Lynda and

Debbie of Guelph spent Sunday with Mrs. M. Sparks.

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Cassidy of Toronto were Sunday callers at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Fisher.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Moore of Oshawa were visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lynde.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Anderson of Elora were recent visitors at the Anderson home here.

Rev. A. Lennox of Port Elgin had charge of the worship service in the Centennial Centre Sunday,

May 7. Mrs. W. Hamilton rendered a solo.

Rev. Lennox was a dinner-guest of Mr. and Mrs. H. Ashton.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Ashton and Mrs. W. Rogers of Brooklin spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. H. Kerry at Epsom.

Antique Cars

Antique automobile collectors and buffs will be able to inspect a host of such vehicles at Black Creek Pioneer Village, Jane St. and Steeles Ave., on Sunday, May 14, between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

The Antique and Classic Car Club of Canada will visit the Black Creek area at that time and display between 30 and 40 venerable automobiles dating back to the turn of the century.

Honeymoon Trip To Expo

By EVELYN MILSTED

GORMLEY.—Mr. and Mrs. Walter Brillinger arrived home, May 2 from an extended honeymoon trip that took them to Atlantic City, Quebec and Expo '67. The couple have taken up residence in Mrs. Pope's apartment, New Gormley.

Mr. Ross Brillinger was taken by ambulance on Saturday afternoon to York Central Hospital, Richmond Hill.

Mrs. E. K. Luther of Markham was guest soloist Sunday evening at the United Missionary Church, Gormley Youth Fellow-

ship will meet at 8 p.m. May 12 with Mr. Glen Bolder on the speaker.

On Sunday night, May 14 at 9:15 p.m. the film entitled The Grey Man will be shown at the Parkside Youth Centre.

Mr. Harry Kruse is still in the Workmen's Compensation Hospital at 115 Torbarrie Rd., Downsview. He is gradually improving after his many weeks there.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Baker who celebrated their 25th Wedding Anniversary with their families at Summit

View Restaurant Saturday evening friends gave them a pleasant surprise at their residence, R.R. 4, Stouffville.

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Nature Trips This Weekend

The first series of conducted field trips this season will be held for the general public in five of the conservation areas this weekend (Saturday and Sunday, May 13-14) by the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.

Experienced Authority personnel will serve as guides on the walks which will take about one-hour to complete along the picturesque nature trails where native wild flowers, trees and wildlife will be in evidence.

The hikes will take place at the following areas:

Saturday—Albion Hills, five miles north of Bolton, on No. 50 highway, at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.; Boyd area, near Woodbridge, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.; and Bruce's Mill, located between No.

7 highway and the Gormley sideroad in Markham Township, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Sunday—Albion Hills, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.; Boyd area, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.; Bruce's Mill, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.; Claremont area, in north of No. 7 highway on Pickering Twp., 1 1/2 miles No. 10 sideroad, at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.; and the Greenwood area, 4 miles north of Pickering on the Greenwood road, at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

There is no charge for the hikes, only the nominal parking fee for cars. The groups will meet at the entrance to the nature trails.

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