

# Push-button answering service on trial at Orchard Park



Grade 7 teacher, Ian Hodge checks the master control panel as students register their answers to a question in Geography. The MATA machine is on trial in Orchard Park School. —Staff Photo

## Total participation

STOUFFVILLE — It is a Grade 7 class in Geography at Stouffville's Orchard Park Public School.

Staff teacher, Ian Hodge, poses a question to his 32 students, listening attentively to his every word.

The reaction is instantaneous and yet not a single hand is raised. Instead, each pupil pushes a button on an individual responder placed atop every desk. The answer, right or wrong, is flashed immediately on the master control panel operated by the teacher. If a boy or girl does not answer, no light flashes at all. If he's unsure and changes his mind, the light colors also change.

A class seating plan is placed over the control panel giving the teacher a complete report on every student at the conclusion of the period.

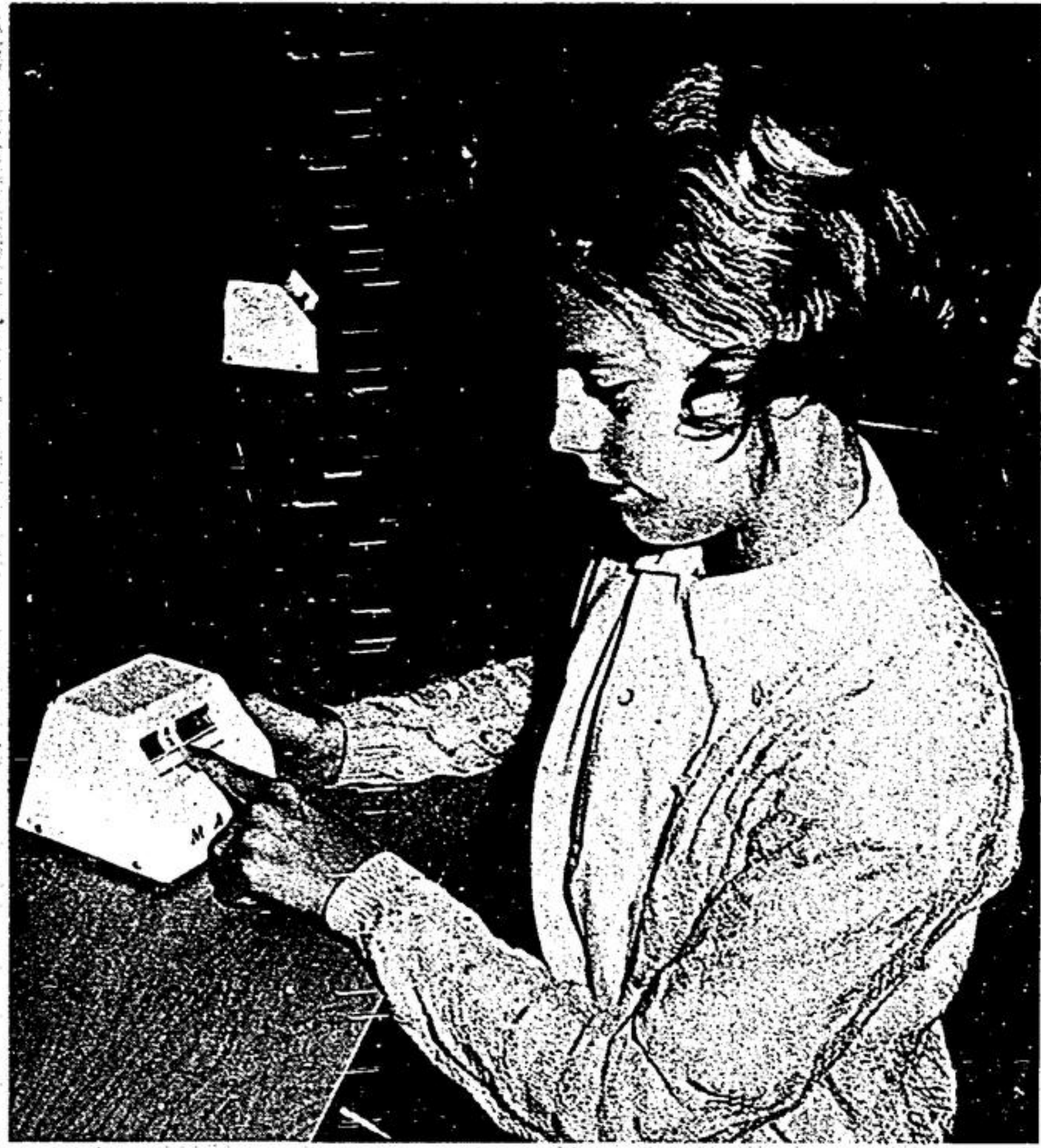
The unit, now on trial at Orchard Park, is called MATA which stands for Multiple Answering Teaching Aid. There is a wide price range, depending on the requirements of a school. The MATA machine at Orchard Park sells for \$4,000. No formal request for its purchase has yet been made.

The unit is completely mobile and can be moved from one room to another with ease. Its arrival in any class, be it grade 1 or grade 8, is greeted by enthusiasm. It presents a challenge to the students to answer questions correctly and at the same time eliminates embarrassment for the pupil who does not know or not completely sure. His identity is revealed only to the teacher.

When all answers have been flashed to the master control panel in reply to a particular question, the teacher then indicates the accuracy by illuminating the signal light on the student unit. The result (if correct) is usually greeted by a loud "hurrah" from the majority of class members.

At the conclusion of a particular lesson, each pupil unplugs his responder and returns it to a shelf in the master console.

By a strange co-incidence, the MATA system would seem to transform an otherwise boring period of teacher to student instruction into a total participation "fun thing". How times have changed.



Twelve year old Chrystal Farrier, Main Street, indicates her reply by pushing a button on her student responder. —Staff Photo

## Plan joint meetings

MARKHAM TWP. — Barney Danson, Liberal member for the Provincial Riding of York Centre, whose ridings overlap considerably, particularly in the area of the southern six municipalities — Markham and Vaughan Townships, Markham Village, Woodbridge and Richmond Hill — plan to hold joint public meetings throughout the area on a joint basis. At a dinner meeting held at the Yangtze Pagoda on Saturday, November 10, both Mr. Danson and Mr. Deacon stressed their desire to maintain a close association within their respective ridings, keeping in touch with the electorate.

Since his election as the first member of York Centre in October, 1967, Mr. Deacon has met regularly with small non-partisan groups from across the riding to get their feeling on various matters pertaining to legislation.

On October 30, Mr. Danson held a successful "sit-in" at the Richmond Hill Public Library which was attended by residents in York North riding, when various federal matters were aired.

Both members believe it would be beneficial to hold such meetings at regular intervals throughout the ridings.

One is scheduled for December 6, in Willowdale, at a place to be specified, a second will be held at Markham on January 24.

Attending the meeting at the Yangtze Pagoda were area captains and executives for the ridings.

to develop necessary services to compete with neighboring municipalities. And beauty spots must be preserved.

Mr. Roman said he has been instrumental in developing services which are important to industrial development.

## Ontario County

### Votes to retain identity

ONTARIO CTY. — Although more than an hour of the Ontario County Council session, was devoted to a discussion of the implications of Regional Government, little was accomplished.

It was decided, however, that the county should retain its identity; that a larger delegation should represent the county when it meets with Municipal Affairs Minister McKeough, and that a full day of the January session be given over to a discussion

of regional government. Representatives of the City of Oshawa will be invited to this meeting.

The majority of the members were in favor of the county remaining as it is. They felt Oshawa should be part of the regional government but that the northerly sections should have a larger representation on that body.

Deputy-reeve Gordon Hanna, chairman of the standing committee on county matters, defended

Whitby's action in drawing up a plan for the region but said he did not agree to the northerly boundary should be the boundaries of Pickering, Whitby, East Whitby and Darlington Townships.

Whitby recognized, he said, that it could not stand alone. It must be in a position, with Oshawa to jointly develop a drainage basin. He would personally like to see Pickering Township remain in the region as it was more

closely associated with Oshawa than with Toronto. In addition to Toronto being large enough, the design for metropolitan areas was to create buffers against such a large area.

Deputy-reeve John Doble, Brock Twp., stressed the need for more representation and responsible government. "There was a need, he said, for a compact unit so its representatives could be close to the people. He felt Oshawa's large industrial assessment should be used to help the poorer areas of the country; but the poorer areas should not stand on their own.

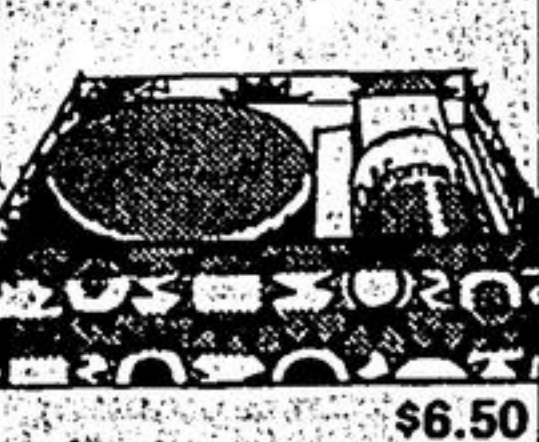
It was suggested by Reeve Edward O'Leary, Reach Twp., that poor grade land in the northerly sections of the county should be used for industrial development rather than the south where good land, badly needed to grow food, was being gobbled up.

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Markham Township

FOR TRANSPORTATION CALL 362-2605

- For better transportation facilities to and from Toronto via commuter train service and extension of the Don Valley Parkway.
- To assist the orderly expansion of the Township toward the maintenance of balanced assessment by attracting more industry.

## Legion Ladies

STOUFFVILLE—Joan VanKoughnet topped the 200 mark twice, Nov. 19 in the Legion Ladies' Bowling League. Her scores were 209 and 205.

Doris Jackson had the night's high single with 246. The high triple went to Chuck Valleau, 575.

## Robert J. Sloane

### Amalgamation of Southern Six

MARKHAM TWP. — Robert J. Sloane, who served Markham Twp. as councillor in Ward 1 in the 1964 Council is opposing Reeve Stewart Rumble. He told the nomination audience, Nov. 18 that he believes Markham Twp. must take the lead in the amalgamation of the Southern Six. He felt the municipality needs new direction, but not at the expense of the residents.

S. J. Gadsby, present deputy-reeve of the Twp. seeking re-election said he is running because: "I have the time and training, and because a municipal office should not be sought by anyone not in control of his time."

Mr. Gadsby has criticized Councillor Anthony Roman, who opposes him in the race for the deputy-reeveship, for his absence from council on several occasions.

Mr. Gadsby said he recommends setting up a Development Advisory Committee, and told the meeting that as chairman of finance in the past two years he has instituted a salary schedule for employees, where other municipalities had hired consultants to do this work.

Anthony Roman, who opposes Mr. Gadsby, said that in this day of rapid change, new proposals by senior governments could change the municipal picture. In this regard he felt Markham Twp. "should be masters in their own house, and endeavour to have control of development in our own township."

He said there must be aesthetic development, with improved services, to encourage a prosperous and beautiful community.

Mr. Roman said there must be a working industrial development board

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