

Board sidesteps corporal punishment issue

Department policy

YORK CTY. — A recommendation that the York County Board of Education appeal to the Minister of Education to retain corporal punishment in the schools has been sidestepped by trustees.

Making the request was Markham TSA 1 Committee.

The Department of Education let it be known in a public announcement that it was advising school officials to use corporal punishment at the "greatest of discretion," even though it still remains in effect.

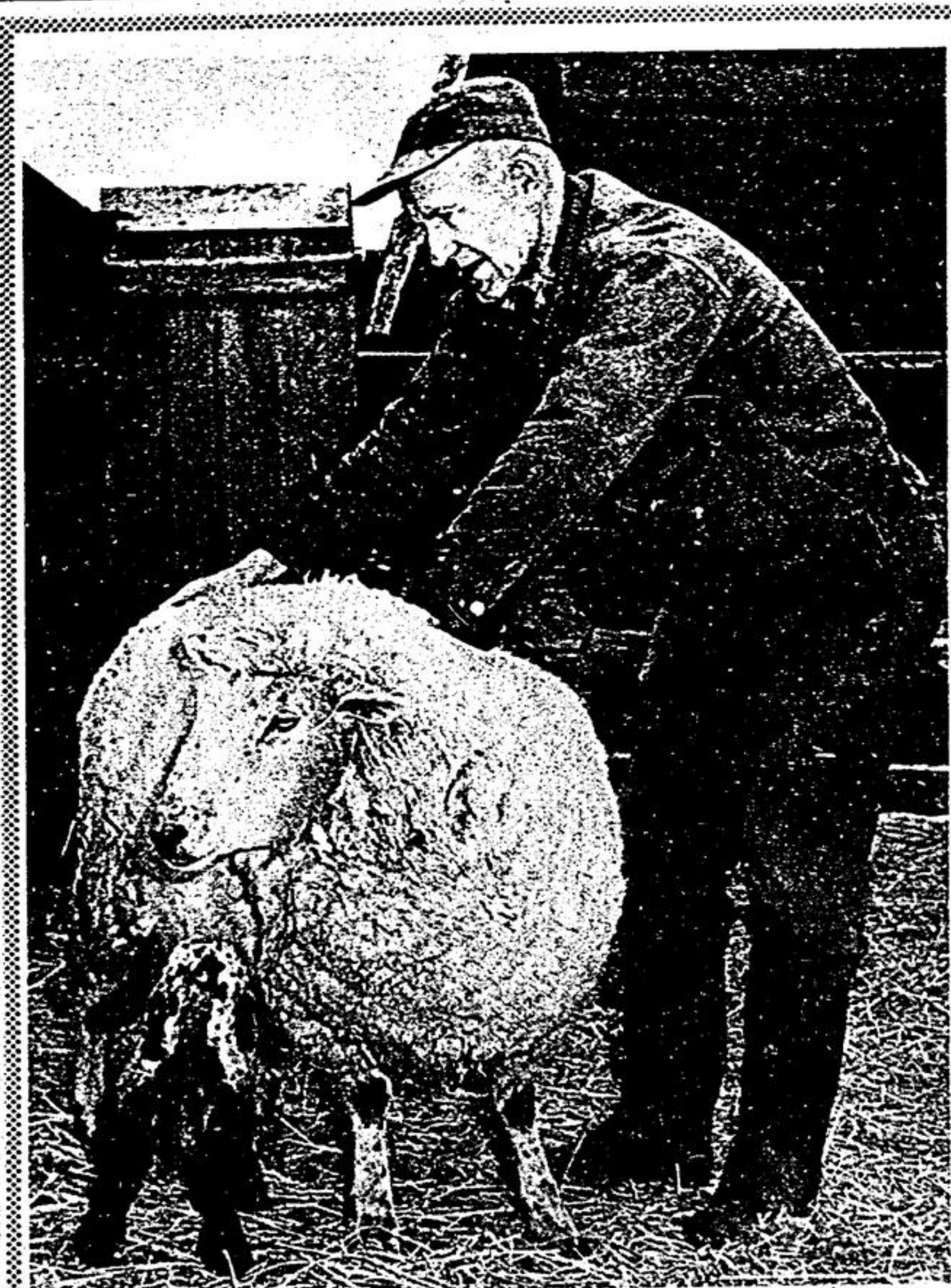
The committee cited in a letter that corporal punishment appeared to be on its way out and that it felt it should be retained as a necessary deterrent to wayward students.

It noted the current deterioration in the behaviour pattern of students since the unofficial decision at the high school level to dispense with corporal punishment.

"This could become a problem in the higher grades at the public school level if the trend is allowed to continue," the letter said.

Board Superintendent Sam Chapman thought the trustees would be "ill advised to support the recommendation to retain corporal punishment. It's a matter of government policy," he said, "and I don't think this board should get involved."

Markham trustee John Honsberger agreed, stating, "this is not the type of thing this board should be doing. I think we would be taking a backward step if we supported this recommendation." It was decided to set



A ewe on the farm of Neil Posthill, Green River, gave birth to three lambs last week but only one survived. The other two were Siamese twins, joined at the shoulders. Both were stillborn. Mr. Posthill is shown here with the mother and her lone offspring. — Staff Photo

Health Unit merger - 'political blackmail'

ONTARIO CTY. — A proposal that the Ontario County Health Unit merge with the York-Oshawa Regional Health Unit has been turned down by county council after a lengthy debate.

Instead council decided to go over the head of Health Minister Dr. M. B. Dymond and approach Prime Minister John Roberts with a request that the county health unit be given a 75 per cent grant rather than the 50 per cent grant it now receives and which it would have received had the unit merged with the regional unit.

Warden Edward Oyler's advisory committee, Deputy Reeve Wesley Stitt, Rama Township, chairman of the county board of health and Administrator William G. Manning were authorized to arrange the interview with Mr. Roberts.

Later, on a 21 to 18 recorded vote, council approved the budget of the county health unit at \$421,238. Of this the county's share is \$208,784.

At the opening of the session, Reeve Henry Polak, Ajax, moved, that as the services given by the county and regional units were comparable in type and quality, that the county support the merger of the county unit into the regional unit and that steps to merge the two units be started as early as possible.

"I consider this the most sophisticated form of blackmail. In 1968 we asked the health minister to designate us a region so we could get a 75 per cent subsidy. If we received 75 per cent our cost would be \$104,000. I feel unless we keep the jurisdiction within the county we are going to lose control," said Reeve John Williams, Pickering Township.

Reeve Williams said the federal authorities are contributing to health services in the province. If the provincial authorities were withholding money which rightfully should go to the county it was guilty of fraud.

throw \$100,000 out the window. The minister of health should know better. He must have the funds as other regions are being set up. Where is the money going?"

"I represent the people of Ajax and I am not here as the representative of any political party," countered Reeve Polak. "I refuse to become involved in any political overtones and I resent any suggestion I am pushing this matter for any political purpose. I am only trying to save the county money."

Deputy Reeve Robert Atterley, Whitby, said his council had discussed the matter and favored the county unit remaining as it is.

"I consulted Dr. Dymond on a number of occasions last year in an effort to get a 75 per cent subsidy. There is no way you are going to get it without going into the regional unit. I feel it would be a waste of time going back to him. If the service is comparable why not save the taxpayers \$100,000 this year? After all we lost between \$75,000 and \$80,000 last year by not merging," said Reeve Ross Murison, Pickering Village.

During the afternoon session Dr. Hoffman, Ontario County MOH; Dr. C. C. Stewart, medical director and Dr. Shaughnessy, acting administrator of the York-Oshawa Unit, answered questions from council members.

Dr. Stewart said there had been no political overtones arising from the merger of the Oshawa and York unit. He could not foresee a tremendous increase in costs. The aim of the unit, he said, is the prevention of disease, which is less costly than treatment.

Commenting on the motion to approach the prime minister, Mr. Gould said it was a waste of time and would accomplish nothing. Mr. Atterley disagreed, stating the prime minister is the head of the cabinet and can tell his ministers what to do.

Breaks thumb

By Marion Wells
LEMONVILLE — Susie Hirsch suffered a broken thumb on a recent ski trip to Dagmar. It is presently confined to a cast.

The World Day of Prayer for this area will be held March 7 at 2 p.m. in the Lemonville Church.

The Scouts, Cubs and Brownies participated in their annual church parade, Sunday evening. The guest speaker was Mr. Walter Terry, Scarborough. Leaders present included: Mr. Roy Ashbridge, Mr. P. Dupont, Mrs. B. Bonnar, Mrs. M. Turner, Mrs. A. Hartwick and Mrs. A. May.

Mrs. Bruce Burton provided a demonstration in flower arranging at a U.C.W. meeting held in the home of Mrs. Murray Wagg.

Mrs. Courage, Mrs. Nauta and Mrs. Wells enjoyed a planned tour of the Royal Ontario Museum.

Mrs. A. Nauta, Mrs. Wally Koster and Mr. and

Mrs. Grant Wells were Mt. Albert United Church, guests of the Cheerio Club, Saturday evening.

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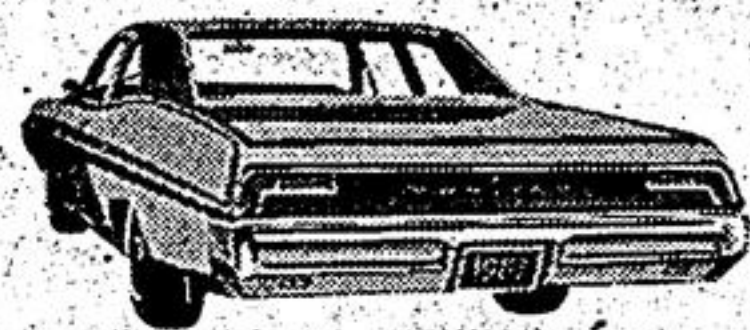
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