

Oh! Calcutta!

Arena Board replies —

STOUFFVILLE - The following is the only statement released by the Directors of The Stouffville Arena Limited in connection with the recent controversy concerning the proposed showing of the closed circuit T.V. production 'Oh! Calcutta!' Color Media Communications Corporation of New York rented the Arena for what was described as the showing by closed circuit television of a Broadway 'musical comedy', apparently released nightly from New York City. The Arena was not responsible for promotion of the show or for the sale of tickets. The rental fee agreed upon was \$400 and \$100 of this amount was paid with the remainder promised prior to its opening. The attendance was limited to 2,000 to adhere to fire regulations.

Let it be known that the management and Directors of the Arena had never heard of the play 'Oh! Calcutta!' at this time.

Ten days ago, the Directors had received about 10 calls voicing objection. Among these, was a request from Village Council, asking the Board to do all in its power to have the presentation quashed. As a result of these objections, the Directors called a special meeting.

Since no one on the Board had seen the show, it was impossible to pre-judge its suitability. It was agreed that the \$400 would constitute a good one-night rental fee but to cancel out, could bring about a lawsuit and financial troubles.

However, on the Friday before the show was to be

held, the Arena was informed that the O.P.P. Morality and - or Rackets Squad had obtained sufficient information to close it a few minutes after the opening scene. This, the Board learned, could lead to charges.

In the afternoon of the same day, a meeting was arranged with the Stouffville Police Chief and a representative of Color Media Communications Corporation. A program, containing some pictures from 'Oh! Calcutta!' was the final proof the Board needed. The \$100 deposit was returned and the show cancelled.

The Stouffville Arena is a limited company, owned by about 300 shareholders, most of whom still reside in the Stouffville community. The company pays approximately \$10,000 annually into the village coffers by way of taxes and P.U.C. charges and, in no way, is under the jurisdiction of the village, except by agreement to \$1.00 per year lease of the land on which the Arena is located.

The Arena Directors appreciate the response, both pro and con, in connection with opinions expressed on the issue - to the volunteer firemen, the police and The Tribune for the fair way in which they reported the incident.

The Arena Board also wishes to make clear that at no time was any story released to the Toronto Press or T.V. that had anything to do with reports of threats or violence.

Some good things have resulted from this issue. The Board had an opportunity to meet with 13 ministers in the area, some

of whom had not met each other, also an opportunity to discuss the differences in money either poured into recreation (Whit-church part) or the money made from recreation (Stouffville part). Perhaps the main thing is that our town received some publicity. As one of our good medical men apply put it - "When admitting a patient or identifying himself by name and address, I always had to spell out S-T-O-U-F-F-V-I-L-L-E. Now, it's no longer necessary. The ice will go in next week.

United appeal campaign in 1971

PICKERING TWP. - The Pickering United Appeal Fund will commence operations in 1971.

John Coates and A. W. Tyas, representing the United Appeal Study and Organization Committee acquainted Pickering Township Council, with their findings, which stated that the United Appeal in Pickering, which would benefit a number of organizations such as the Canadian Mental Health Association, the Association for Retarded Children, the Handicapped Swim Program, and others, is desirable and necessary.

They will complete a feasibility study whether the township would join



A lot of fuss about . . .

Here it is. This is the abstract piece of metal sculpture on the grounds of Union Villa that has aroused so much controversy in the community. Whether or not the figure will be 'clothed' remains a decision of the Board of Directors. The new \$2 million home for senior citizens has already been opened to its first permanent residents.

with Ajax and Pickering Village.

The first target will be \$20,000 - and, if Ajax joins, the figure will be considerably higher.

Metro Toronto will assist in organization and expertise, but not financially. There was a hope, Councillor John said, that the Township might be able to approach Metro and obtain a grant on a population basis for those who live in Pickering and pay in Toronto.

Mr. Coates said they would grant a loan if required, but after they raise the money and do the work that giving it back to the township would not be realistic.

Councillor John Williams recalled that discussion was about a campaign to pay-where-you-work and eliminate the need for a door to door canvas.

Officers of the newly organized structure are John Coates, Chairman, J. G. Spragge and George Dean, Vice Chairmen, and D. J. Plitz secretary-treasurer.

Public skating begins Saturday night in the Stouffville Arena at 8.30 p.m.

Remanded for treatment

STOUFFVILLE - A former Stouffville man, now living in Richmond Hill, has been remanded to the York County Hospital, Newmarket, for psychiatric treatment, following a court appearance, Sept. 25.

Earl Hoover faces charges of threatening his estranged wife and fraud. Judge W.A. Charles ordered Hoover from the room after he persisted in interrupting proceedings.

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legroom than a Lincoln Continental. (But outside, it's 4 feet shorter.) It has a powerful air-cooled rear engine (top speed is just under 100 mph.) but it still gets around 27 miles to a gallon of gas. It has a computerized fuel injection system like the Mercedes. But it's as easy to take care of as a Volkswagen.

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