

WHITCHURCH - STOUFFVILLE - UXBRIDGE - MARKHAM, THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 1973



Mrs. Lynda Collett and son Scott, Finch Avenue, welcome the return of 'Topsy', the family's pet pony, following an absence of seven days. She had strayed more than five miles. — Jim Thomas

\$700 theft

UNIONVILLE — Construction equipment worth \$700 was stolen from the site of Carlton Village Estates between Jan. 13 and 15, according to York Regional Police.

The stolen items included a gasoline operated nine horse power generator, Briggs and Stratton engine and two five gallon gasoline cans.

The property was owned by Dixie Equipment Co., Markham.

Reject garbage from Metro

PICKERING — Metropolitan Toronto is planning to dump its garbage at three separate sites in Pickering Township and in opposition to this proposal is a movement called "Groups against garbage".

Active group member Norah Geraghty, Greenwood, told the Tribune that Metro's plan will directly affect 1200 acres of the township. "Our group feels that Metro should turn to some other alternatives such as recycling of garbage."

She claimed that the water supply near the dump sites will be polluted by seepage.

The group has organized a meeting for Jan. 31, at 8 p.m. in the Brougham Town Hall to hear all those opposed to Metro's proposal.

Pony on 'missing' list had strayed five miles

MARKHAM — When Mrs. Lynda Collett and son Scott, age 6, Finch Avenue, Scarborough, discovered their pet pony, 'Topsy' missing from a field near their home, Jan. 11, they weren't too concerned. They felt, perhaps, she had merely strayed to greener pastures next door or taken a 'shine' to a virile Shetland across the road.

However, when a couple of days passed by and 'Topsy' still hadn't returned, they began to worry. They feared she might have been stolen. Mrs. Collett inserted a 'lost' ad in the newspaper. She also notified But-

tonville Division of York Regional Police.

A week later and still no word, cast a pall of gloom over the household. "We had given up all hope," said Mrs. Collett.

Then last Thursday, the phone rang. It was a gentleman on the 7th concession of Markham, near Hwy. 7. He had found the pony, and not knowing the owner, or where it had come from, had given it shelter in his barn. He refused to accept any reward. "Country folks don't do that kind of thing," he told Mrs. Collett.

The Collett property is over five miles from Hwy. 7.

Approve drive-in gas bar

MARKHAM — A drive-in 'gas bar' will be permitted at a site on the south-east corner of Hwy. 7 and Conc. 7, but agreement on the issue didn't come easily, at a meeting of Markham Planning Committee, Jan. 16.

Solicitor James Wallace admitted the bylaw governing such operations was 'vague'. He said that if 'gas bars' were to be restricted, then the wording should be more explicit.

Planning Director Bill Power pointed out that the inclusion of a Plaza and a 'gas bar' in the same general area could lead to major traffic problems. "The people pulling in and out

will get in each others way," he said.

Ward 5 Councillor, Alma Walker, noted that a building permit had been approved. "These people have a legal right to get started," she charged. Paul W. Mingay, solicitor for Shar Construction Co., agreed, saying that the site, as presently set up, was nothing but an eyesore.

Councillor Roy Muldrew was hesitant. He said he had viewed some 'gas bars' that were quite attractive, and some that were not. He said his main concern was that the enterprise should prove beneficial to the community.

Inspect 'Open Plan' schools Board director asks parents

Trial proves benefits

MARKHAM — Parents, wishing to view first-hand, the teaching methods as practiced in Open Plan schools, have been invited to visit such classrooms, and draw their own conclusions.

The invitation was extended to a standing-room audience in the auditorium of Franklin School, Tuesday, by Sam Chapman, Director, York County Board of Education.

The meeting was organized, after residents in a section of the town learned that Reesor Park Public School, now under construction, would be modelled on the Open Concept design.

While many had voiced strong opposition to the non-structured system, others were confused and wished more information concerning it.

Mr. Chapman, and Area 4 Superintendent, Russell MacDonald said they were not surprised at the concern. They indicated a similar reaction in other communities when the Plan was first introduced.

The Reesor Park School, they said, would operate on a 60 per cent (Open Concept) to 40 per cent (Structured) ratio, and both agreed to share the full responsibility for the decision.

Mr. Chapman noted that while studies had shown little difference between the two, in basic subjects, the Open Plan had proved superior in advancing social skills. He said he was certain parents would better appreciate these benefits after the program was given a fair trial.

Mr. MacDonald said that in an Open Concept school, the leadership provided by the Principal was most important. He said 20 applications had been received for the position at Reesor Park, and each would be carefully screened. When the staff is complete, an in-service training program would be commenced, he said.

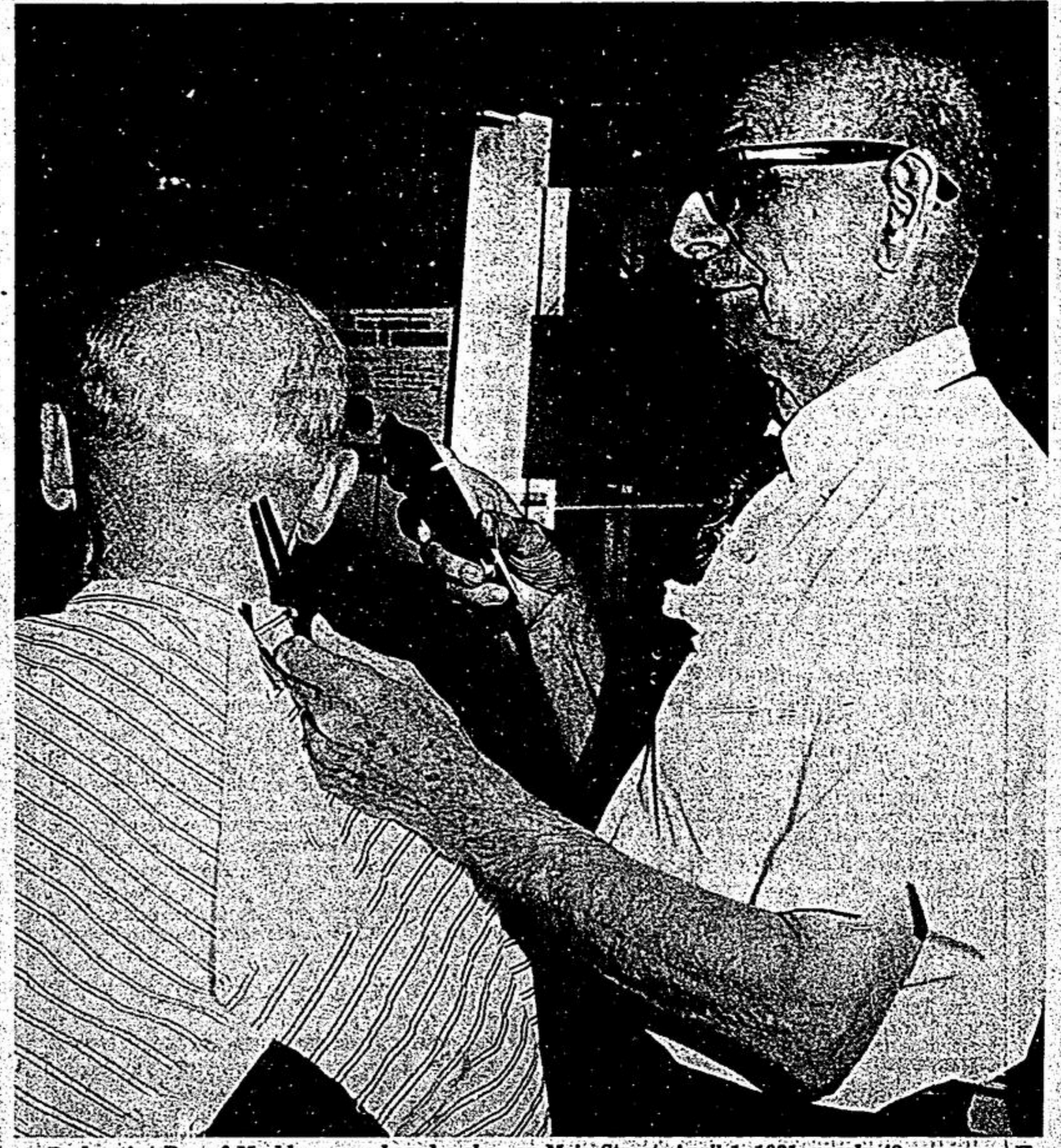
Bruce Conley, Robinson Street, a Phys. Ed. teacher in North York, said the Open Plan had benefited students in his school. Trustee, Mrs. Doreen Quirk, said she had visited several non-structured classrooms and was impressed with the programs carried on there.

But all persons present were not convinced.

One woman, a former teacher, said she would consider taking her child out of school, if such a system was introduced.

Many others appeared concerned over the discipline (or lack of it). Some suggested that pupils requiring 'personal' instruction, would be "lost".

Newly-elected trustee, Donald Sim, Church Street, said he had two opinions on the issue.



Barber Art Rae of Markham purchased a shop on Main Street, April 1, 1931, nearly 42 years ago. He now provides the same service from his home, 14 Joseph Street. — Jim Thomas

Markham barber over forty years

MARKHAM — For 27 years, barber Art Rae worked out of a compact, tidy little shop on Main Street. When he came to the village, in April, 1931, Markham boasted a population of 1,310 people. It wasn't long until Art could call the majority of male folks by their first names.

The location, just south of the well-known Tremont Hotel, was his 'second home'.

In two months, Art Rae will mark his 42nd anniversary in business here. Today, the location is his 'home'.

From Tuesday through Saturday, Art serves a steady stream of clientele at 14 Joseph Street. The atmosphere is as 'homey' as the site, with African violets blooming in the

walls.

Art Rae's had his start in the barbering business in 1927 when, down on the farm near Solina, he would often cut hair for his country neighbors and friends. He later enrolled at Danforth Barber College, Toronto, and purchased the Main Street shop following graduation.

The early 30's were times most folks would just as soon forget. Those were the days when a haircut cost twenty-five cents, and a shave, fifteen. Now, the price is \$2 and up, with the shaving service almost a thing of the past.

Art Rae doesn't consider himself a 'hair stylist', in fact, he admits to cutting hair in much the same way now as he did "away back when". "Us old coots haven't changed with the times," he admits with a smile — and neither has his price list. It must be the only place 40 miles north of Metro, where \$1.75 remains flat; \$1.50 for high school students, and \$1.25 for children. Art suggests, however, that with the cost of other commodities today, \$2.25 is not out of line.

Art Rae is obviously a man "in love with his work". And with the kind of company he keeps, no wonder. He's been serving some of them over 40 years. But, most satisfying of all, his barbershop is his home. It's less than ten steps to the dinner table.

Airport yes or no

PICKERING TOWNSHIP — While rumors persist that the controversial International Airport, proposed for Pickering Township, is to be "scrapped" and the property placed in a government authorized "land bank", no one in authority is either supporting or denying the claim.

However, the answer, direct from Ottawa, could come this week, since a decision on expropriation plans, has been promised by Feb. 2.

Expansion cost \$339,000 — Town Offices too small

MARKHAM — Markham's Municipal Offices are too small, according to a report presented to Planning Committee Jan. 16. But it was only in 1968 when the township paid out \$339,500 for an addition to the building.

The report claims that if the population of Markham is to reach an estimated 65,000 soon, the Office at Buttonville will have to be enlarged — again.

"The administrative arm of Markham government must be capable of responding to problems created by rapid growth," the report stated.

Not only is office space inadequate, but the various municipal departments are 'decentralized'. For example, the main administrative offices are located on Don Mills Road; the engineering department is one and a half miles to the south; and the recreation department is located six and a half miles to the east, in the old Town of Markham.

This decentralization results in the "inability of various departments to function. Markham's rapid growth dictates that its administration be able to respond rapidly and give council quick, well-supported recommendations. This can only be done through close daily contact."

The report pointed out that all departments are over-crowded and "professional employees do not have private or semi-private space which is essential if they are to function properly."

According to calculations mentioned in the report, the amount of office space available will have to be doubled.

The report recommended that if construction of additional offices is to take place, a planning target to year 1980 should be considered, and a "new structure should be designed so that it can be expanded vertically or horizontally in the future."

Four recommendations were set out in the report. They were: that a committee be formed of department officials and council to select a consulting firm; a portable unit be acquired to house the planning department during construction; make plans to re-locate the works yard; and temporary space for the building department.

However, the report did not include any estimate, and a spokesman for the planning department said "costs haven't yet been worked out". The spokesman gave no indication as to when finalized figures would be announced.



In 1968, renovations to the Markham Twp. municipal building at Buttonville, cost \$339,500. On Jan. 16, a report to Town Planning Committee, ruled accommodation too limited and departments too decentralized. — Jim Thomas