

# Centennial Arena Criticism irritates Town mayor

MARKHAM-Problems related to the soaring cost of Markham's new centennial arena, were re-introduced again, Tuesday, much to the obvious irritation of Mayor Tony Roman, a 'listening post' on this issue for the past several months.

Councillor Bob Adams charged that the entire project had been "a story of mismanagement from Day-1". The statement followed a committee report, estimating the expense involved in furnishing the complex at close to \$109,000.

This time, however, Mayor Roman refused to dismiss the remark. He asked for clarification, at least to benefit the Press. Mr. Adams retreated somewhat, saying "I meant nothing personal. I withdraw my statement; for I know you have tried to clean up all the problems regarding this project, ever since the work was started 1 1/2 years ago," he said.

"I just hope that when the Thornhill complex gets underway, and you possibly have the opportunity of everseeing the committee, you will do as capable a job," replied the Mayor. He admitted the venture had been a 'headache' to him from the start.

It was councillor Ron Moran who first raised the issue. He speculated that the cost, including the site, could well exceed \$1,300,000.

On Tuesday, in the committee's report, councillor Roy Muldrew disputed a cost of \$53,000 for what he termed 'luxury' seating. He observed too, that an amount of \$14,000 for an ice-cleaning machine, had been approved previously.

Members then broke off into a private discussion. Following their return, the report was approved, with the ice-cleaner excluded.

### Harmony hoedown

MARKHAM — A musical evening entitled "Harmony Hoedown", will be presented by the Markham Melody Makers, Saturday, June 2, in the auditorium of the High School.

The program will have a country and western theme, featuring recording stars, Martha and Earl Heywood.

## Bogus \$5's

MARKHAM — Bogus \$5 bills are still surfacing York Region.

Another turned up recently at the Bank of Nova Scotia, Main Street, Markham.

It was discovered by a staff employee while checking the night deposits.

In another instance, Patricia Kaldfleisch of Senator Reesor Drive cashed a cheque at one bank and made a deposit at another. A counterfeit \$50 was found.

## Townhouses approved

MARKHAM — After a number of revisions in plans for the development of two blocks of townhouses on the south side of Carlton Road, Unionville, Village in the Valley received Planning Committee's approval May 1.

The committee turned thumbs down to the proposals presented in April because of 'poor parking' facilities and insufficient play areas for children but last week's plans resolved the problems by doubling playgrounds for the two blocks and re-arranging parking areas.

"We're satisfied that this plan is in keeping with our zoning bylaw," commented Planning Director Bill Power.

However, Councillor Roy Muldrew reiterated his statement of previous meetings that the Town should have greater flexibility in its bylaws. "Developers are always coming before this committee with plans for maximum density."

Along with approving the plans, the committee authorized the drawing up of a site plan agreement.

# Government to re-locate cemeteries

## Five sites may have to be moved

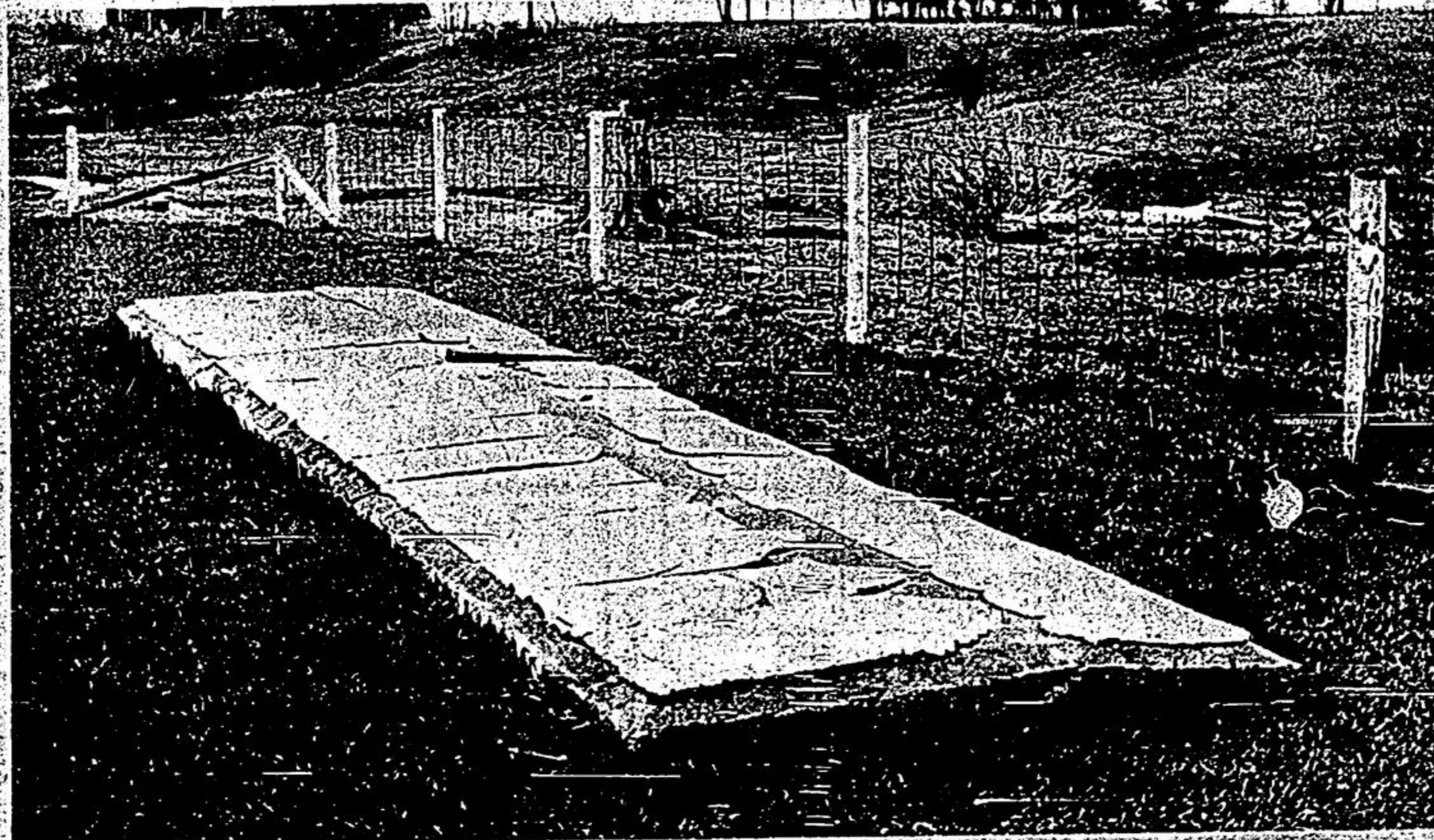
MARKHAM — The federal government is anxious to re-locate at least five cemeteries, all in the area of the proposed Pickering airport site. Four are in Pickering Township and one is in Markham.

The Markham burial ground is at part lot 23, conc. 10, south of Mongolia. Originally, it was known as the Boyle Cemetery, and although abandoned for a time, it is now cared for by the Markham Cemetery Board.

According to John Luman, local historian, 200 acres of land, between concessions 9 and 10, was granted to George Boyle, (then spelled Boills), by the Crown, in 1801. Several markers go back close to that date.

The property later changed hands, and was acquired by Ezra Brownsberger. The graveyard is thought to be the oldest in the district.

The moving of the stones will be completed at government expense.



The Boyle family burying ground, conc. 10, south of Mongolia, may be re-located, to make way for the proposed International Airport in Pickering, Twp. The federal government is also requesting permission to move four others, all in the same area.



Maurice Hamill, R.R.1, Markham and his trusty 35 mm camera, have been covering events at Markham Fair for the past fourteen years. Recently, he announced his intention to retire from this chore, but not from the hobby he enjoys so much.

Jim Thomas

# Markham Fair - in pictures

CEDAR GROVE — Ready-aim-click! The picture, be it a Great Horned Owl in Frank Barkey's bush, or a ribboned Roman Holstein at Markham Fair, it's preserved for posterity.

For when Maurice Hamill, R.R.1, Markham aims and 'fires', he seldom misses. His skill is revealed through dozens of plaques and awards; through hundreds of colored slides.

Maurice Hamill was first bitten by the camera 'bug' back about 1957. However, it was not until he began submitting entries in Agricultural Society photo competitions, that his ability was recognized. For the past 14 years, he's been Markham Fair's official photographer, and his pictures are considered among the best in eight categories across the Province. Results of judging are announced each spring at the Ontario Convention.

Maurice Hamill, a member of the Scarboro Camera Club, uses a 35 mm Contarex, plus a multitude of accessories. He even owns a glass reflector for 'shooting around corners'.

Known to most native Fairgoers, Maurice has the 'run' of the grounds and even owns a key to the arena for shooting 'after hours'. While weather can pose a problem, he feels that by attending all four days, he's sure of a little sun to brighten up his subjects. Judges and exhibitors are always co-operative, and readily comply with personal requests.

Any startling experiences, like being chased by a bull, or stomped on by a Clydesdale, he was asked.

Not really, at least none he

## Non-capital murder

MARKHAM — James Alfred Bowden, 51, of R.R.2, Markham, was to have been married in September.

He died, May 2, and two 17 year olds face charges of non-capital murder.

The victim was found in a ditch near Hwy. 48, north of 17th Avenue. Death has been attributed to 'exsilia'.

Bowden, described as an "excellent worker" had been employed for the past two years with the firm of Larkin

Equipment Limited, conc. 6 and the Stouffville-Gormley Road. A long-time resident in the area of 14th Avenue and Kennedy Road (Hagerman), he had been living at the Markham Motel in recent months.

Andrew Ralph Kessel, formerly of Markham and Robin Glenn Thornton, no fixed address, turned themselves in voluntarily at the Buttonville Division, York Regional Police. They are being held in custody pending bail.

## Vandals are busy

MARKHAM — New homes, under construction, are falling victim to vandals, with losses soaring each week.

On May 4, a fire at lot 510 Sir Galahad Place, caused an estimated \$2,000 damage.

An employee of Sidney Homes Corporation told police the blaze started in the second storey. Six boys had been observed in the vicinity a short time before.

Also, between April 30 and May 1, four business premises were vandalized on Hwy. 48. In addition, items were stolen, amounting to \$144.

Properties hit included: House of Plumbing, Philmar Lumber, Weller Antiques Limited and Markham Pool and Sauna.

## Hand-carvings left to museum

MARKHAM — Two beautiful hand-carvings, replicas of a farm wagon with a team of horses, and a horse and buggy, have been bequeathed to Markham Museum by Hughbert McPherson.

Mr. McPherson, who passed away last month at age 73, carved the miniatures when he was a young man employed in his father's prestigious carriage works near the south-east corner at Ringwood.

His father, John, an expert cabinetmaker had inherited the business and his skill from his father, Hugh.

The buggies and carriages made at Ringwood were sold throughout Ontario.

Hughbert's sister, Mrs. Dorothy Daniels lives in the Dublin Place apartments in Markham and clearly recalls her father's patience and skill in woodworking; the carefully wrought buggies, delicately decorated with painted roses, with elegant velvet dashes.

She also remembers the painstaking hours her brother spent on his carvings which took over four winters to perfect. "They were so real, I used to ask him when he was going to feed his horses."

The McPherson carriage works were sold around 1918. With the advent of the automobile the prominence of the carriage craftsman faded.

Fortunately for Markham, a miniature monument to this skill has been preserved in its Museum.

## Attempted murder charge dismissed

MARKHAM — Randolph James Slaven, the 27-year-old Markham man who 'flew the coop' from the cells of Richmond Hill Provincial Court April 26, pleaded guilty to four charges and was dismissed of an attempted murder charge, Tuesday.

Slaven admitted to attempt theft, robbery, pointing a firearm and escaping custody.

Det. Sgt. Clifford Cox of York Regional Police testified that on Feb. 7, the accused, with a 15-year-old girl 'planned' to steal a truck owned by Clarence Rose of James Speight Road, Markham, by 'jumping' the wires.

Mr. Rose was awakened by the sound of a motor and investigated. But when he went to the door, Slaven pointed a starter's pistol at him. The two, along with Philip Dupuis, a partner in the incident, fled the scene.

Mr. Rose called police and Constable William Miller, Buttonville Division, took up the chase after he found footprints in the snow near the Woodland Motor Court, Hwy. 7 and the 9th Conc.

Det. Sgt. Cox said the constable followed the tracks to a cabin, but when he drew nearer, the light in the cabin went out. P.C. Miller later saw Slaven and the girl escape out the back door.

When the constable approached the accused, he brandished the gun, demanding P.C. Miller to lie face-down on the ground. Slaven disarmed and manacled the constable with his own handcuffs.

After P.C. Miller was freed by a nearby resident, he continued the chase that eventually led to Participation House, Conc. 9 and Church Street.

Francis Hill, a caretaker, narrowly escaped being shot in the head during a scuffle with Slaven in the corridor of the building.

After seizing the gun from the accused, Mr. Hill fired a shot at Slaven but missed.

While trying to escape, Slaven was grabbed by P.C. Miller. The 15-year-old girl was arrested nearby.

Following testimony by Det. Sgt. Cox, the defence counsel said the case revealed the insufficient protective measures of the Provincial Court cells.

Crown Attorney Kerr commented that this was a 'pretty wild' night and Slaven a 'very dangerous' man.

Slaven was dismissed on charges including attempt murder, conspiring to commit theft, carrying a weapon, resisting arrest, possession of a weapon dangerous to the public peace and discharging a firearm with the intent to kill.

He will be sentenced May 18.

Michael Gerhardt