

Mayor Ratcliff

Population growth 290 for Town

The population of Whitchurch-Stouffville is 11,878, or was, as of Dec. 31, 1973. The latest figure was revealed, Jan. 11, by Mayor Gordon Ratcliff. It represents an increase of 290 over the same period in '72. A 3-year breakdown follows: Nov. 30, 1971-11,039; Dec. 31, 1972-11,588 and Dec. 31, 1973-11,878.

Question: What is your choice of sites for the new tennis courts in Stouffville?

Answer: I feel the Ponderosa Park in Stouffville's West End is the logical location although there's nothing wrong with considering other sites. Tennis appears to be gaining in popularity. Perhaps some day, new courts can also be constructed in the East End of town. The Stouffville Community Centre Board will recommend a site, but the final decision rests with Council.

Question: Has a salary agreement been reached with municipal employees, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville?

Answer: No agreement has yet been finalized. The Administrator and members of the Finance Committee are working on this and will present a recommendation to Council. I hope to have the matter settled within 30 days. The agreement will be retro-active to Jan. 1. Inflation is hitting everyone and this

municipality is no exception.

Question: Is the purchase of heavier snow-removal equipment planned for use on Main Street in Stouffville?

Answer: One tractor and loader is used in Stouffville, and another kept at Vondorf. If heavier equipment is needed, it can be obtained on a rental basis. When not required for full-time use, machines of this type are not practical.

Question: Does L.I.P. serve any purpose?

Answer: The 'Local Improvement Program' established by the federal government, serves a

greater benefit now, with an area Committee established to administer it. It would now seem that Whitchurch-Stouffville could have gained additional funds for worthwhile projects, but the criteria was not clearly defined. If the Program is continued, I hope this municipality can gain more from it in the future.

Question: What was the financial status of the Town at the end of 1973?

Answer: The Town ended the year in a very strong financial position. Tax collections were very good, resulting in a sizeable surplus.

Want jury trials held in York

YORK REGION — York Region's lawyers want a planned courthouse in Newmarket to include facilities for jury trials. The Tribune has learned.

The request has been made by the North York Law Association as part of a campaign urging the provincial government to expand court facilities serving York Region.

The lawyers fear that the new courthouse, to be built on the site of old York Manor at Yonge and Eagle streets, will only relocate existing court facilities without

enlarging the scope of the service.

At present, York Region cases that require a jury trial must be heard in Toronto. York Regional officials agree with the lawyers and the two groups hope to meet with Attorney general Dalton Bales in the near future.

Both the lawyers and the region are preparing a presentation to the provincial government.

Present plans call for the relocation of provincial court's criminal and traffic divisions to the new building as well as the land registry office.



Top race winners at Kawartha Cup Meet

Bonnie vanDyke, Stouffville, R. R. 4, and Paul Howard, Fairview Avenue, Stouffville, comprise one of the area's top snowmobile racing teams. At the Kawartha-Cup Cham-

pionships in Peterboro, they scored three 1sts, one 2nd and one 5th. Their machine is a Mercury 400, provided by Gord's Marine in Claremont. — Jim Thomas

Spot checks in region

They could be full time

YORK REGION — York may have year-round spot checks thanks to the rising death toll on the region's roads, according to Chief Bruce Crawford.

Fifty-three people died in 42 accidents investigated by York Regional Police in 1973, the worse year in the region's history. In 1972, 36 were killed in 31 fatal accidents.

Chief Crawford said that his staff is studying the possibility of full-time traffic spot checks which have been employed only in December.

He added that the one, "bright spot" was the low number of fatalities in December.

The region made it through the holiday season without a single highway death.

The chief credited the spot checks for such a good record.

Provincial highway deaths in the region also reached an all-time high with 42 people dying in 29 fatal accidents compared to 36 killed in 23 crashes in 1972.

The toll has risen despite a general crackdown on speeding drivers, the addition of motorcycles and sophisticated radar units for the traffic bureau, and the use of stopwatches to clock the speed of cars.

Chief Crawford said that full-time spot checks

would hamper routine police work and would be very costly. If the spot checks are implemented they would go into effect immediately.

He added that he

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Doctor passes in B.C.

Word has been received of the passing of Dr. Howard H. Willis, a resident of West Vancouver.

Dr. Willis was the youngest of seven children in the family of the late William and Annie (Bowerman) Willis, conc. 4, Whitchurch Twp.

He was born Aug. 16, 1889, and after serving in World War I, he attended the University of Illinois. He graduated in Medicine from the University of Toronto and practiced in Vancouver for a period of 44 years.

Dr. Willis is survived by his widow, Mary; a daughter Anne, (Mrs. T. Barker); two sons, Bill and John; and 12 grandchildren, all in Vancouver.

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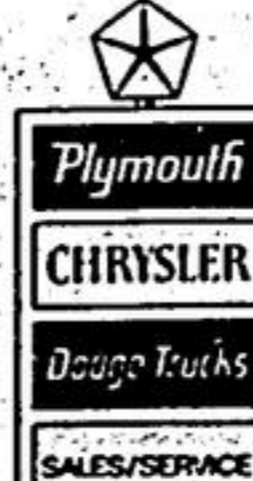
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