

**Bible College Choir
at High School
Sat., March 9**

The Tribune

**Stouffville 'Singers'
at Latham Hall
Thurs., March 7**

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Fast action by fireman saves house

STOUFFVILLE — Quick response by Stouffville fire volunteers has been credited with saving the home of Mrs. Flora Forfar, 32 Clarke Street, Saturday.

Damage has been estimated at \$8,000.

Brian Forfar and Bill Bingham, tenants in the residence, were the first to notice the blaze. When they attempted to enter a room on the second storey, they were met by an explosion that threw one of the men down stairs.

Some delay was experienced in getting the fire call through. In the excitement, the operator contacted a brigade in North York, rather than Stouffville. This was quickly corrected, however, and the Stouffville unit was on the scene in minutes.

Jeff Forfar, an artist of note and a son of the owner, lost most of his drawings. He and his mother were away at the time.



Bill Bingham looks on dejectedly as firemen pour water into a second storey apartment he shared with two others at 32 Clarke Street, Stouffville. The blaze, Saturday, caused an estimated \$8,000

damage to the home of Mrs. Flora Forfar. The owner was away at the time.

— Jim Thomas.

Judgment reserved in assault

MUSS LAKE — Two nine year old schoolboys were victims of a grandmother's wrath, according to evidence in Newmarket Provincial Court.

Judge J. P. Wilch listened to conflicting reports of how Mrs. Florence Potts had allegedly hit Robert Henderson on the head with her elbow and kicked his companion, Gordon Robinson, as they stepped off a school bus.

But Mrs. Potts had a different story. "I didn't kick him, he kicked me," she called angrily across the courtroom. A torn shirt, supposedly worn by the Robinson boy, was produced as an exhibit. He said that she not only hit him and kicked him, but threw him bodily over a fence.

Mrs. Potts pleaded not guilty. She denied that she laid a hand on either of them. She admitted to being angry with the lads because they picked on her grandchild, called her names, stole her son's horse and set a dog on her.

Judge Wilch decided to reserve his decision to a later date.

Four charged after car crash

STOUFFVILLE — Four young people have been charged by York Regional Police following a single-car crash on the Ninth Line of Whitchurch-Stouffville, Feb. 28, that sent three persons to hospital and three others to the Stouffville Medical Centre.

Most seriously hurt was 15 year old Rosanne Gallamore of Stouffville. She suffered lacerations to her right hand. Penny Plaskitt, 16 and Kathy Hammerston, 15, also of Stouffville were treated and released the same night.

Other occupants of the car were Wayne Nesbitt, 18, Joseph Corcoran and Michael Harold, both 17. They have been charged with illegal possession of liquor. Miss Plaskitt is charged with careless driving.

Police said the auto had skidded out of control for a distance of 160 feet before striking a hydro pole. Total damage has been estimated at \$300.

Near Conservation site

Service road vital—Mayor

STOUFFVILLE — Two east-west roads are planned for the former village of Stouffville that, when completed, would circle the downtown area and link up with Main Street at Westlawn Crescent on the west and Stouffer Street on the east.

Recently, at a meeting of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Recreation Committee, some criticism was voiced over the proposed route to the north which, some members suggested, would cut through prime conservation land, and spoil it for future wildlife development.

This possibility has been denied by Mayor Gordon Ratcliff. The road, he explained, would extend east from the

Ninth Line, veer slightly to the north of homes owned by Lambert Stouffer and Dr. Donald Petrie and cross over the C.N.R. line, south of the conservation dam. He said approval for construction of a level crossing had been received from C.N. He noted, too, that it wouldn't be set out as a main artery but more as a local service road.

Progress on the plan is dependent on development of the Dulverton subdivision, the Mayor said. "The road has to go somewhere," he observed. He rejected the thought that local

traffic would in any way interfere with future conservation plans. "If anything," he concluded, "it will benefit the area."

Arbitration compared to Castor Oil

STOUFFVILLE — "Compulsory arbitration is not the best thing," commented Town trustee John McMurray this week, "but like Castor Oil, sometimes one has to take it."

Mr. McMurray re-discussed the current Board-teacher strike that, he admitted, (for the students) had almost reached a point of no return.

He agreed that out-of-school classes were providing some help. "It's difficult for borderline pupils," he said. At the same time, he said a lack of staff personnel made regular classes impractical. "If everyone came back we'd be dead," he said. He noted that by government order, high schools would not be opened during the winter break period, even if the strike was settled.

Mr. McMurray said the Board had been in touch with all universities with respect to accepting Grade 13 students from York. "These students must compete with those who have not been out. It's a pretty large order," he agreed.

He claimed the Board had been "caught in the squeeze" between the Department and the Federation. "It's time the government faced up to reality," he concluded.

Summer start for plant

STOUFFVILLE — With approval, construction could begin later this summer on a new plant for Volkswagen (Canada) Limited, Main Street West in Stouffville.

The 20 acre site was acquired by the well-known auto firm in 1973. In addition to staff employees who could re-locate here, about 100 personnel from

this area will be needed to fill various positions, once the building is completed.

To accommodate an industry of this kind, an amendment is required to the Town's Official Plan. In this connection, a public meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 14, at 8 p.m. in the council chambers, Stouffville.

Signals get 'green light'

STOUFFVILLE — Council is likely to proceed with the installation of a mid-block, pedestrian-operated, traffic light, despite warnings from a Plaza merchant that it could worsen rather than improve congestion downtown.

Victor Orchard of Orchard Men's and Boy's Wear explained the difficulties now experienced in attempting to enter Main Street, particularly on a Saturday.

He put forward his opinions at a public meeting, Feb. 27.

Off-street parking Merchants recognize benefits

STOUFFVILLE — The solution to Stouffville's downtown parking problems can be found in the creation of an off-street parking area. Such a project can be accomplished through an expenditure of \$170 per year (on a \$20,000 commercial assessment) over a 20-year period.

These facts were revealed by councillor Eldred King, chairman of a committee on Traffic and Parking, at a public meeting in Stouffville, Feb. 27. Only business places bet-

tween Lloyd Avenue on the west and Park Drive on the east would be included, councillor King explained. A yearly tax of 8.5 mills on a commercial assessment of \$1,200,000 would raise \$100,000, Mr. King said. With these funds, sufficient land could be acquired to provide a minimum of 57 parking spaces.

"We feel the cost should be assessed against owners and tenants who will benefit by it," the chairman continued, "and not against people in such communities as Vandorf and Musselman's Lake." He said he was certain properties would be available as parking sites but declined to pin-point particular areas.

"We are concerned over the future of the downtown," admitted Mr. King, "we feel it's character should remain."

Jack Chambers, owner and manager of the I.G.A. said Stouffville was fortunate to have a Council that was obviously interested in the downtown core. "This is not the case in every municipality," he said.

Brian Wilkes said the future of Stouffville was plain. "We all know what's coming: new industry, new homes and more people. We must decide whether to stand up and be counted or do nothing and let business pass us by. Now is the time to do something and it won't be done for nothing."

Victor Orchard, a Plaza merchant, but an interested spectator, considered the anticipated cost to be very reasonable. "I pay more than your yearly estimate every month," he said.

Mayor Gordon Ratcliff said the total expenditure, while considerable, was really not excessive to achieve the desired results: maintain the downtown as a viable unit.

May issue writ against School Board

STOUFFVILLE — With more than 600 teachers out on strike and hundreds of students out of the classroom, the York County Board of Education could be faced with yet another problem — a writ.

A reliable informant, who asked that his identity not be revealed, told The Tribune that a writ was pending in which the Board is accused of not providing an educational service as demanded by the act.

"If this is so," he said, "a very interesting court case could result."

Margaret McLean, Information Officer for the Board, said there were rumors of such a thing, but nothing in writing had been received.

Students give up their year

STOUFFVILLE — The present teacher-board dispute has some casualties. Included are a number of Grade 13 students at Stouffville District Secondary School who have quit classes permanently.

A spokesman told The Tribune a few had dropped out. "They have just given up, and are looking for jobs." "After more than a month, they feel it's a waste of time."

The remainder are organizing a mass demonstration, which they hope will include all high school students in York County. It is planned for March 27 (today) at Queen's Park.



One hundred pounds of pulling power

Mrs. Jean Churchill is a Kindergarten teacher on the staff of Orchard Park School in Stouffville. Recently, she attended class as usual, but not alone. She brought along the family's beautiful St. Bernard dog named Thor. During the noon-hour period, the children were treated to sleigh-rides around the yard, with Thor providing the pulling

power. Unfortunately, The Tribune's photographer was not available to record the event so, the following Saturday, he travelled to Mrs. Churchill's home on the Vandorf Road to see Thor in action. And he took his 5 year old son along. Shown here are — Jeff Churchill, 13, (front), Neil Thomas, 5; and Jay Churchill, 11.

Claremont kids to buy a Baboon

CLAREMONT — Three hundred and fourteen students at Claremont Public School will soon have a rare Hamadryas Baboon to call their very own.

No, he won't occupy a seat of learning in one of the classrooms, but a reserved location in the new Metro Zoo.

The Baboon was the choice of the majority, winning out over a beautiful black Buck in an election from Kindergarten through Grade 8. The cost is \$400. So far, the children have raised \$240.

Principal Alban Ward explained how the students established a financial goal, then wrote away for an animal catalogue to find out what was available within the price they could pay. The selection was reduced to five and later, by the process of elimination, was cut back to two.

The Baboon won out over the black Buck by 2 to 1, Mr. Ward said. "The African native has been placed on the reserve list for Claremont. All we have to do is raise the money and send them a cheque," the principal concluded.