



Work appears to be progressing on the new addition for the Stouffville Credit Union. The addition will provide office space for the expanding business. Work on the new wing began about the beginning of September.

Cost of living cited

Teachers want more money

YORK REGION — It seems that teachers in the York County Board of Education feel they should get more money. The desire was reflected in a letter to the Board from D. B. Nixon, negotiating chairman for District 11 of the OSSTF. Trustees did not seem impressed.

"What was the cost of living clause based on?" asked trustee Conrad Thompson. The letter had referred to an increase in the COL "at an unprecedented rate," and claimed this had rendered the arbitration award clause on COL "unrealistic and virtually ineffective."

Director of Education

Sam Chapman read the complicated provisions of the clause in the arbitration agreement. A maximum of \$300 per teacher was stipulated, based on the Toronto Cost-of-Living Index.

"This is the clause that the teachers asked for," Chapman observed. "It wasn't requested by the board or dreamed up by the arbitrator. The board had proposed a different clause which would have been opened and might have meant more money for the teachers in the long run."

"The contract was negotiated, arbitrated, signed by both parties," said Thompson. "This

clause was the teachers' idea... I feel they should be prepared to live up to it. I don't particularly like the veiled threat in the last paragraph of the letter, either."

Mr. Thompson was referring to the paragraph: "A meeting of the Board and teacher representatives is imperative if an amenable solution is to be found. We request that such a meeting occur at your earliest convenience."

Markham trustee Donald Sim felt the meeting should be arranged.

"I feel any request for a meeting for any purpose is not unreasonable," he said. "It looks like Mr. Nixon is

saying they want more money right away; if that is what he wants, it won't take the board long to dispose of it."

Trustee Ross Jolliffe agreed, and agreed against the motion to receive the letter, which would mean that no action was taken.

"It won't do anything to improve the climate in York County if we just receive the request," he said.

The original motion was withdrawn, and Sim proposed a motion to have the chairman and others meet with Mr. Nixon and report to the board. This motion carried without further debate.

Parents resolution asks teacher-trustees voting be restricted

YORK REGION — With elections weeks away, a letter from the Thornhill Parents Council to the York County Board of Education had all the characteristics of an unexploded bomb during the last Board meeting.

The letter forwarded a resolution from the Parents' Council, asking for a policy change. Citing concern over possible conflict of interest, the resolution asked the Board to alter its rules so that any trustee who is also a teacher, or a member of any teaching federation, would not be allowed to vote on any matter which is a conflict between the Board and the teachers.

Trustee Margaret Coburn was the first to react.

"I think the community expects us to consider this," she said. "People perhaps feel there is some area of conflict."

She proposed a resolution to have a new policy drawn up to the effect that a trustee-teacher would not vote on a matter which is primarily between the Board and a teachers' organization.

Markham trustee Doreen Quirk seconded the motion "with great sadness," her voice trembling as she spoke.

"I don't really like the things that are happening, not just here, but in our society," she said. "We have some colleagues — whom I respect — who are members of teachers' federations."

"I am disturbed by literature I have read which indicates that the federations are urging the election of trustees who support the federation's aims... what they (the federations)

want is not necessarily what is best for the kids, and we're here to put the children first. Some of the things that have happened here in the past few months have put students at the bottom of the heap."

"We can't have these conflicts of interest," she concluded, citing the ancient legal maxim that "justice must not only be done, but must manifestly be seen to have been done."

Trustee Donald Sim said forcefully that this whole matter was ultra vires — beyond the power of — the Board.

"The legislation provides rules on conflicts of interest, and a method for challenging a member if it is felt he has a conflict," said Sim. "If the majority of voters feel teachers shouldn't vote on these matters, they shouldn't vote for teachers as trustees... if a trustee is elected, then he's a full-fledged member; we can't tell him what he can vote on and what he can't."

Trustee Mariane Gillan agreed.

"We could be all Anglicans, or all Baptists, or anything," she pointed out. "There's nothing to prevent having 20 teachers on this board... and then where are you?"

After considerable discussion, chairman Merna Colbourne ruled the motion out of order. The ruling was questioned, and debate became highly acrimonious for awhile.

Director of Education Sam Chapman, asked whether there could be a conflict, was cautious.

"Last spring, when we were dealing not with our own teachers but with the Bay Street affiliate of the OSSTF, I wondered about it at times," Mr. Chapman said. "I wasn't sure whether Mr. Houghton might have a conflict of interest in the matter... it made me uncomfortable at times. I think it would require interpretation."

A motion by Mr. Sim to receive the letter was carried, but a motion by trustee Ross Jolliffe to contact the Ministry of Education for clarification of conflict of interest rules touched off a new round of debate.

"I have been working on boards of education for seven years," said Stouffville trustee John McMurray, also a teacher. "I've never failed to put the students first... I have to live with myself. I'm classed as a 'hard-line' trustee by the federation."

He referred to a list published by OSSTF showing how each trustee voted on the issue of receiving the teachers' resignations last March.

"Is a trustee who represents any organized group acting more properly in his voting than a teacher? People have a right to have their representative vote for them in the way they want."

48TH MOTOR HOTEL

ENTERTAINMENT 7 DAYS A WEEK

PLANNING A CHRISTMAS PARTY? MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!
OR
PLANNING A NEW YEAR'S PARTY ALSO MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!

3 MILES SOUTH OF SUTTON ON HWY No. 48 IN BALDWIN FULLY LICENSED

21 Comfortable motel units for your accommodations.

CALL 722-3333

RE-ELECT ELDRED KING

WARD 6 — WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE

For a self-contained community where you can live, work and play.

Controlled development to enhance and improve existing physical services and landscapes.

VOTE KING X

on Dec. 2 1974

Community board's independence upheld

STOUFFVILLE Council will continue to leave the Community Centre Boards free to set their own rates for use of the centre facilities.

A letter from W. B. Hartshorne to council (see Letters to the editor, page five) complaining of the way the Whitchurch Centennial Centre is run, opened up the subject.

Mr. Hartshorne states, "I suggest it is time the present community board was told that the centre is for the people to use. The Community centre receives an operating budget paid for by the taxpayers; their property and buildings belong to the same taxpayers. The community centre is not expected to make a profit, but to serve the community."

Mr. Hartshorne apparently objects to community groups being charged for use of the centre.

Councillor Jim Wong supported the objection, "Cubs and brownies are being charged; I'd like to see the situation remedied." He said he

would like to see non-profit organizations use the centre, "for a very nominal charge."

Mr. Wong asked that some sort of uniform policy be established but Mr. Starr disagreed, saying, "the needs are different in different areas."

Mayor Gordon Ratcliff concluded the argument in favor of the centre boards, "We appoint the community arena boards and we must have faith in their decisions."

HOUSE OF HERBS NOW OPEN HEALTH FOODS

- * THUNA AND SWISS HERBAL REMEDIES
- * OVER 100 HERBS IN STOCK
- * 10% OFF ALL VITAMINS

For Limited time only.

HOUSE OF HERBS

54 Wellington St. W. Markham Shopping Centre

294-6880

A wine for all reasons. Mateus Rosé.

Product of Portugal.

Marketed across Canada by Canadian Schenley Distilleries Ltd.

VOTE RON MORAN REGIONAL COUNCIL

LOW OVERHEAD MEANS LOW PRICES — HIGHEST TRADE ALLOWED on any Chrysler Plymouth Valiant

★ the deals are right ★ the cars are right ★ the time is right ★

THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS '74 CRICKETS

LITTLE BUT LOADED

Brand new Crickets in stock. Start as low as **\$2976.00**

Highest Price on Trade-ins

- LIGHT DUTY DODGE TRUCKS AT DISCOUNT PRICES
- OUR '75'S USE ANY GAS LEADED OR UNLEADED
- NEW 12 MONTH UNLIMITED MILEAGE WARRANTY
- WE HAVE A LARGE SELECTION OF NEW CARS
- MANY GOOD USED CARS AND TRUCKS

EMERALD ISLE MOTORS LIMITED

Main St. W. Stouffville 887-5787 or 640-2400

Chrysler Dodge Trucks SALES SERVICE



RE-ELECT JUNE BUTTON COUNCILLOR WARD 5

TIME ★ ★ EXPERIENCE ★ ★ ABILITY