

Police capture escapee

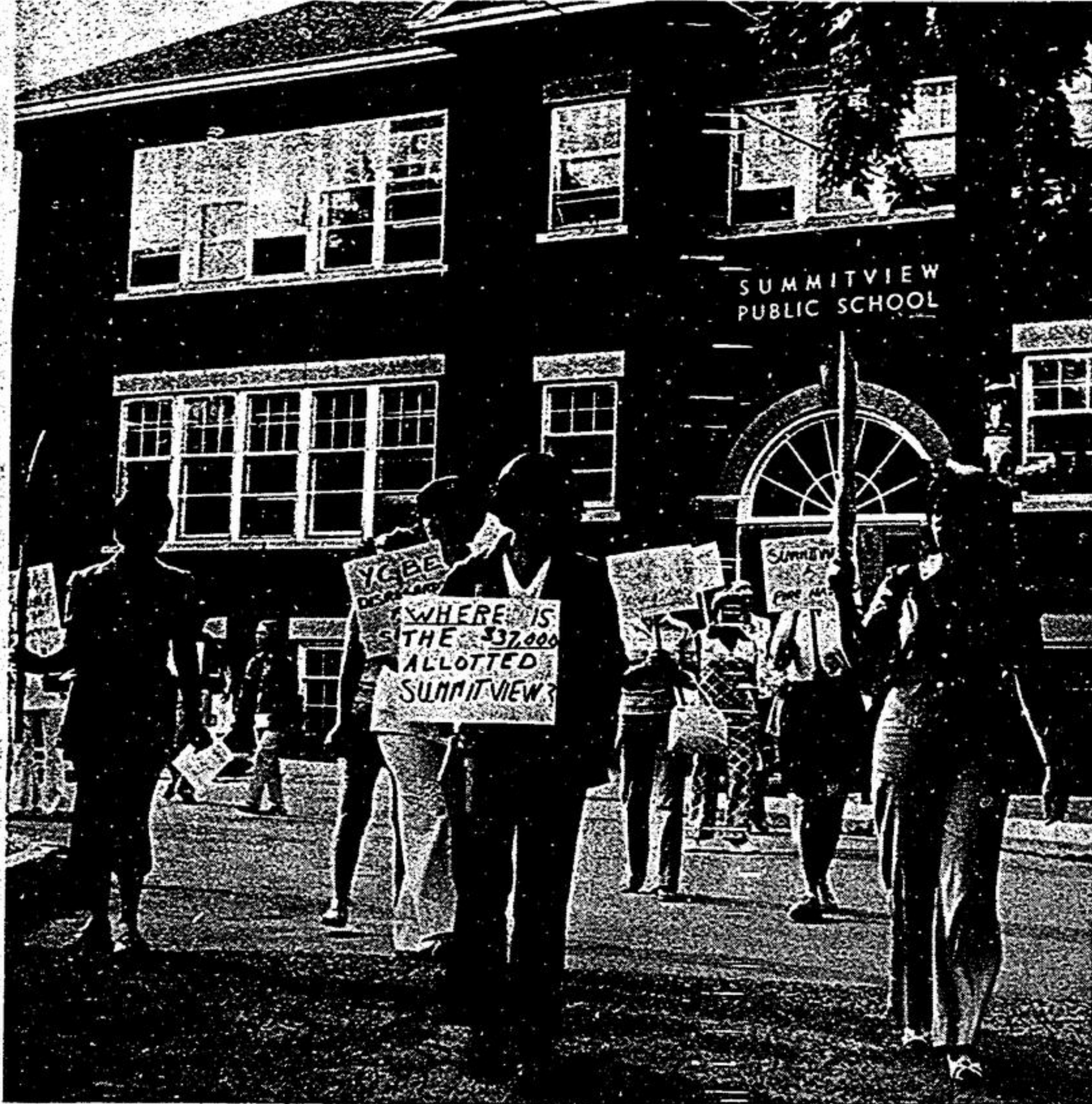
MUSS. LAKE — Some prompt police work resulted in the arrest of a fugitive near here on Monday.

An investigation, extending over two weeks, led York Regional Police to conduct a surveillance of a house in the lake area. Object of the search was one of two men who escaped from the Brampton adult retraining centre. He was considered dangerous, and a Canada-wide warrant was issued charging him with being unlawfully at large.

The two were almost captured last weekend near Minden, when a stolen truck they were driving ran out of gas. The second escapee, Gregory John Lemieux, 16, was arrested in Toronto.

York Regional Police arrested George Edward Doolittle, 20, at 7:30 a.m. Monday. Doolittle was discovered asleep in a truck.

Doolittle who lived in the Musselman's Lake area previously, appeared in court and was remanded in custody. He faces further charges of theft and possession of stolen property and contributing to juvenile delinquency.



About 100 parents of Summitview School children picketed in front of the school yesterday morning in protest of what they view as York County Board of Education's lack of action on renovations at the school. At their last meeting, the board deferred discussion of Summitview renovations to a later date. —Ted Wilcox

Kids out as parents picket Summitview

By Mark Niblett

STOUFFVILLE — Children were pulled out of school and parents manned a picket line in the latest action over Summitview Public School.

At an emotion-charged meeting Monday, members of the Parent-Teachers Association condemned long delays in making repairs needed to the old school. A Tribune reporter was barred from the meeting, apparently at the request of Stouffville Fire Chief Walter Smith.

An estimated 140 people showed up, crowding an old classroom in the school far beyond its capacity. A number of people were obliged to stand, and some were seen in the hallway straining to hear the proceedings.

"We think it was a very good turnout, especially since there was only half a day's notice," said Association president Janet Arends.

Tempers ran high during the meeting. Stouffville trustee Harry Bowes, who was present, told The Tribune he was given little chance to speak.

"I tried to explain things, but their minds were pretty well made up," he said. "They were pretty upset."

Bowes was attempting to explain the latest delay, caused when trustees referred a priority list of school construction and repair back to committee. Summitview had nothing to do with this decision, Bowes said; it was merely "one of seven schools with an 'A' priority."

Following the meeting, many parents kept their children away from school on Wednesday and Thursday, the last two days of classes. The picket line appeared on Wednesday morning.

As a long-term action, Fire Chief Smith agreed to write a

letter to the York County Board of Education setting a deadline for safety-related defects to be corrected. If the board fails to meet the deadline, the matter can be turned over to the Ontario Fire Marshal; there is a possibility the school could be closed down indefinitely.

Mrs. Arends indicated that the association members are determined to get some action. If the repairs are not done by September, she predicted many people will refuse to allow their children to return to Summitview.

Denying rumors of his impending resignation, Bowes said the whole matter will be discussed during a meeting of the planning and building committee. He has been acting chairman of this committee since the resignation of the former chairman, trustee Norm Weller. A full turnout of trustees is expected to be on hand to discuss the revised priority list, and the meeting is open to the public. It will start at 7:30 p.m. June 30, at the Aurora offices of the Board of Education.

WSMHA intervenes

Money paid but no jackets delivered

STOUFFVILLE — The minor hockey association is going to bat for local players who have paid for but not received jackets from the Adams Sportswear company in Toronto.

Whitchurch - Stouffville Minor Hockey Association president John Wilson told The Tribune that at least one team of 10 or 12 players have paid \$16.50 each for jackets and can obtain no answer as to why they haven't been delivered.

Anyone unable to receive their jacket should give their receipt to a WSMHA representative, who will collect them and go to the company to ask for the money back, Mr. Wilson said. The Tribune was unable to reach the company president for comment.

Apparently, those teams which paid in advance or paid only a portion in advance, "got their jackets right through," said Mr. Wilson. Phone calls to the company only result in a "run around" and they "haven't a clue" as to why the jackets weren't delivered.

Similar difficulty was experienced by the Stouffville

Dist. Secondary School wrestling team in ordering from Adams Sportswear. Assistant coach Bill Reed told The Tribune their jackets were ordered April 5 and were supposed to arrive in three weeks. The jackets came nine weeks later, after 10 phone calls to the company and two personal trips, he said.

Two of the SDSS wrestling jackets have yet to arrive.

The WSMHA does not handle jacket orders, but the association, "in keeping with the ideals of our organization will assist in the effort to obtain satisfaction," a letter from the executive states.

Executive members to contact about the jackets are: John Wilson, 640-5277; Ed Grimshaw, 640-2021; John Hutchinson, 640-3201; and Eldon Wagg, 640-4224.

Mr. Wilson said that WSMHA has not been involved in hockey purchases for the past three years, but after this fiasco, will act as purchasing agents and get all jackets from one company.

According to Mr. Reed, the company "makes good jackets, but it's small and seems overextended."

Uxbridge seeks injunction against gravel pit

UXBRIDGE — In the face of warnings that the municipality could be liable for "hundreds of thousands of dollars" in revenue lost by a gravel pit near Coppins Corners, Uxbridge Township council has resolved to go ahead in its court case with the company.

The operation, which has been a source of controversy since its recent opening, has been before the courts for some time now. The township is seeking an interlocutory injunction to suspend activity at the site until such time as the full case is argued in court.

The agenda for the latest council meeting included a letter from township solicitor Alec McLennan. He warned that "the court may feel" that it would be on balance too inconvenient for the defendants to order an injunction before trial.

He recommended, however, that the township continue to seek such an order. Later information submitted to council indicated that, if such an injunction is granted, the municipality could be responsible for all losses suffered by the pit operators as a result. While no figures were given, an estimate of \$10,000 per day was made.

The township's position is

that the pit was opened without conforming to the relevant bylaws. A permit was given at the provincial level, and the gravel extracted is being used on provincial projects.

Because of the warning about liability, council considered a motion introduced by regional councillor Bill Ballinger, seconded by councillor Joe Esmonde.

The motion basically authorized the mayor and clerk to accept a liability ruling by the court pending the outcome of the case itself and re-affirmed council's intention to proceed against John B. Regan Co. Ltd., Armbr Materials & Construction Ltd., and other principals.

Ballinger pointed out earlier that this resolution is basically a repeat of earlier resolutions. Mayor Carl Puterbaugh agreed, but Councillor Maustyn McKnight indicated he would vote against the motion.

"I have to oppose this because of the tremendous costs the municipality could incur," he said. "I agree we should take these people to court, and we can't always go to court on a sure thing. But in this case, the risks are too great. We could be liable for hundreds of thousands of dollars."

alternate water source or compensated.

The question of compensation is a difficult one, according to MPP Dr. Charles Godfrey (NDP - Durham West). Dr. Godfrey raised a question in the Legislature last week, when a report was tabled concerning a similar situation near Owen Sound. That report urged abandonment of the landfill site and its replacement with another, as well as compensation to people whose supply of water was impaired.

"I asked the Minister where people should turn for this compensation, in view of the fact that his ministry had issued a permit for the site," Godfrey told The Tribune. "His reply was to the effect that people would have to take court action."

The Member also wondered if a similar study has been made about the York Sanitation dump and, if so, what it found.

Mayor Ratcliff was also unsure on the question of liability. The meeting was attended by MPP Bill Hodgson, as well as officials of Kerr's ministry.

Other members disagreed with this viewpoint.

"When we have an issue like this, we have to stand up and be counted," said Mr. Esmonde.

"If we back off now, we've backed off forever," said Councillor Mac Meyers.

Ballinger was strongly in favour of proceeding, and he condemned the role of the provincial government in the affair. Referring to an earlier resolution to prosecute a man who is alleged to have built a house without proper permission, he urged council to proceed with the gravel-pit case as well.

"I'm getting sick and tired of this... we have a provincial government that encourages us to pass bylaws," he said. "Then they turn around and flagrantly issue a permit in contravention of the bylaw they've been telling us to pass."

"If we're going to enforce bylaws against the little guy, we have to enforce them against the big guy as well."

After some debate, Mayor Puterbaugh called a vote.

"I want to make sure everybody is fully aware of what we're doing," he said.

Claremont Subdivision of 50 homes is proposed

CLAREMONT — Up to 50 new lots would be created in Claremont if a recently submitted subdivision plan is accepted by Pickering council.

Action on the proposal by DM Consultants Ltd. to develop a 25-acre parcel north of concession 9 and west of the old Brock Rd., was deferred until planning studies for the area are completed.

Those studies include the secondary plan for Claremont as well as a consultant's report on servicing, there, according to Councillor Jack Anderson.

The subdivision, mostly to be located just south of the CP tracks, "would have to be serviced on septic tanks and possibly a communal water system," said Mr. Anderson.

Soil tests now taking place will indicate if the ground there is suitable for septic tanks and an individual well system, he said.

The current position of council concerning Claremont is that there should be "some limited infilling and development," the councillor added.

On a recorded vote the motion carried, with only Councillor McKnight opposed.

NDP picks Scott, Bob Lewis loses

VANDORF — Bob Lewis, two-time New Democratic Party candidate for the legislature for North York, Monday night lost his bid for the party nomination.

Mr. Lewis, a Stouffville resident and former councillor, was defeated by Newmarket high school librarian Ian Scott. Mr. Scott is also the riding association president.

There were 53 voting delegates at the meeting but the vote count was not made public. The delegates agreed to destroy the ballots.

Mr. Lewis pledged to aid

Mr. Scott in the next election. NDP leader Stephen Lewis attended the meeting and following the election he made a speech critical of the provincial government's handling of the York Sanitation dump.

Mr. Lewis said the "intelligent and straightforward" thing to do is to close the dump as the Ministry of the Environment has discovered what they "called euphemistically a chemical imbalance."

The problem, he said, is a direct result of the government's "refusal to institute recycling."

Solar heating proposal gets little encouragement

STOUFFVILLE — Little enthusiasm was shown for a development plan that would include three-acre lots and some solar-heated homes, by planning board last week.

John Fritz was feeling out the board's reaction to the proposal to develop part of lot 16, concession 9.

He said the solar-heated homes would handle "up to 70 per cent of the heating bills" and "ecologically, sound really good." The homes, he added, would require open space as well as some trees to make them "aesthetically pleasing."

Mr. Fritz asked planning board if it would be possible that they could create a "new planning category" since subdivision or estate residential guidelines do not fit the bill for his proposal.

"It would be very difficult to get a new category," said Councillor Eldred King.

The land, Mr. Fritz said, had good drainage, poor topsoil, but scattered trees. Mayor Gordon Ratcliff commented that perhaps such tracts of land "should be brought back to trees." He said it would have to be considered in the official plan draft.

Contract ratified

YORK REGION — Teachers have voted heavily in favour of a new contract worked out between negotiations for the OSSTF District 11 and the York County Board of Education.

The vote to ratify was 391-55 in favour.

Local artist has painting chosen for OSA exhibit

STOUFFVILLE — Local artist and teacher John Roberts has recently been honored by the selection of one of his works to hang in the Ontario Society of Artists exhibits.

The painting "Snow Patterns" has been on display at First Canadian Place since the exhibit opened at the beginning of this month. It won the artist favorable mention from a major reviewer.

According to Mr. Roberts, the painting derives from work he has done recently compiling subjects for the planned Centennial sketchbook. It features a

wintertime scene of two local houses.

A member of the Centennial Committee, Roberts has been active in compiling sketches and paintings of Stouffville homes. Not only has he executed a number of works himself, some of which are currently hanging in the York Fine Art Gallery near Aurora, but he has encouraged his students to make their own drawings of local homes. Some of these student drawings will be featured in the Tribune over the next few weeks.

The OSA show ends tomorrow, June 25.



Tracey Wellington of Ballantrae Public School, won no "best-dressed" awards for her attire during the "mini-Olympics" held Thursday at the school, but she did manage to successfully complete her turn at the Denmark Dress-up Relay. Kindergarten to Grade 3 students participated in the activities, with each team representing a different country as part of the Olympic theme.

Kerr noncommittal, dump to stay open

STOUFFVILLE — This week's meeting between members of town council and Minister of the Environment George Kerr was less than the answer to council's prayers.

Mayor Gordon Ratcliff, accompanied by five councillors, submitted a brief outlining the town's position. This stated that pollution is moving outward from the York Sanitation dump, and moving to an unknown extent which could endanger public and private wells. It attacked the "attenuation theory" relied upon by the Environmental Hearing Board, and reported that changes in at least two wells are a cause for concern.

The town's submission termed it "imperative that the site be closed and the surface capped" to avoid "impending disaster."

According to the mayor, Kerr was non-committal and took no position either way on the issue of closing the dump. He did state that a stepped-up monitoring program would be used to check various factors within the site itself, and repeated an earlier view that people affected by pollution should be supplied with an