

Children's learning disabilities

Board commitment called 'shabby'

AURORA — York's school board has been accused of a "shabby" commitment to children with learning disabilities, and specifically of not supplying enough convention money for its staff to attend instructional conferences on the subject.

The accusation was made recently by Rosemary Underwood, executive director of the Ontario Association for Children with Learning Disabilities.

Mrs. Underwood stood by the charge even after she learned that 40 per cent of the board's conference funds—money which was cut drastically in this year's budget revision—goes to special education conferences.

The York chapter of the association has requested that the board allocate funds for five delegates—including special education superintendent Frank Wilkinson—to attend a national conference in Ottawa this October.

The cost of the trip would be about \$250 per delegate, Mrs. Underwood said.

In addition, the association requested that the board allocate \$5,000 for the five delegates to attend a Council for Exceptional Children conference, to be attended annually.

In making the request, Mrs. Underwood argued that the field of

learning disabilities is a new area of study, and that continued efforts must be made to educate both supervisors and teachers.

While trustees appeared sympathetic to Mrs. Underwood's concern, they bristled visibly when she suggested that York—because it makes less money available than Metro Toronto—has a "boondocks" mentality.

When asked by trustees for comment, education director Sam Chapman cautioned the board against jumping at partial solutions to staff development problems.

"While it's important

to understand the needs (these children) have, it's also important that we don't stab in the dark," Mr. Chapman said.

The board is involved in a "big thrust" toward special education which includes classes for children with learning disabilities—and is spending about 40 per cent of its conference funds on special education seminars, Mr. Chapman said.

A report on special education, containing 60 recommendations for a major program over the next five years, is now before the board.

Gormley man spared jail term

NEWMARKET — A 50-year-old Gormley man who pleaded guilty to two counts of impaired driving, was spared a jail term because of ill health but was fined a whopping \$750 or a total of 45 days in jail last week.

Norman Tyndall was also suspended from driving for a period of three years by Provincial Judge F.D. White who reminded the Gormley man that breathalyzer readings indicated that he was intoxicated rather than just impaired.

Mr. Tyndall was charged with having the care and control of a vehicle while impaired last March when he was found in a ditch on the Bloomington Sideroad, a second charge was laid last May by York Regional Police when he was nabbed in the parking lot of the Burger Bar there.

Counsel for the accused said his client was recovering from a serious accident and might need further surgery. "How are we going to get him to stop drinking?" Judge White asked when counsel pleaded for leniency.

3 youths charged

NEWMARKET — Three Whitchurch-Stouffville youths charged with breaking into the summer home of a Whitchurch Township man all pleaded guilty before Judge F.D. White here last week.


Robert Benson, Lee Raymond, and Paul Cook will be sentenced November 2nd following a pre-sentence report ordered by the court.

Three Whitchurch-Stouffville youths charged with breaking into the summer home of a Whitchurch Township man all pleaded guilty before Judge F.D. White here last week.

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Grant Turner, of 49 Main St. E., looks over his copy of the 1902 Christmas edition put out by the old Stouffville Pilot. The magazine was found in Mr. Turner's attic, along with two very old Ladies Home Journals.

Old town magazine found in home

Grant Turner's house on 49, Main St. E. is turning into a private little museum from the number of the things on Stouffville's past found in it.

The latest piece of Stouffville's, yesteryear discovered by Mr. Turner is a 1902 Christmas edition of the now defunct Stouffville Pilot newspaper. The edition, in remarkably new condition, sold for 25 cents back then. It shows that inflation hasn't hit too hard as The Tribune's special centennial issue also sells for 25 cents.

Mr. Turner, who has lived in the house for 12 years, said he came across the edition while putting up insulation in his attic. It was found stuffed into the roof overhang along with a 1905 and 1906 copy of the Ladies Home Journal.

Looking through the Christmas edition, Mr. Turner commented that its magazine format was devoted mainly to short stories and pictures about the Christmas season.

"Except for the numerous adds about town businesses, some of which are still here, the magazine really doesn't tell much about life in Stouffville at that time. However, it is still an extremely interesting publication and I wonder how many more of them are still around. It's certainly worth keeping," Mr. Turner said.

One ad in the magazine was for Todd's carriage works, who had built Mr. Turner's present home, estimated around 1895.

Mr. Turner, who was born in Stouffville, has also found other stores of the past in the house.

Some of the things found include a magazine called Picture Canada, published by Queen's University at the turn of the century. It contains some very clear and good pictures of Canada at that time.

He has also un-

More road allowance

STOUFFVILLE — Half a road allowance is not enough, planning board decided last week.

The firm of Marshall, Macklin and Monaghan submitted a draft plan of subdivision for a 48 lot site located in Ballantrae, immediately west of the community centre, but planning board did not approve it.

Their main area of concern was the road layout, since the Schickendanz plans showed only half a road allowance on the side where the proposed subdivision adjoins another developer's land.

There was also some question about the location of parkland

Police problems

NEWMARKET — The heating and cooling systems at the new Richmond Hill Police Station has not been working properly for some time now, despite both the contractors and sub-contractors work on the problem.

Aerodynamics was called in to rebalance the system and the ventilation has been corrected, but temperature controls, costing \$1,400 still remain to be re-adjusted, according to a report received by the Police Commission last week.

A second problem regarding the motor in the central air conditioning unit has also been causing headaches. The contract specifically called for a Carrier unit with a 20 horse power motor. The contractor, however, substituted a Singer Unit with a 15 horse power motor instead of the 20 h.p. necessary. The bill for that ran to \$1,700.

The Police Commission of course have been reluctant to pay the shot but following advice from Regional Solicitor Edward Oakes, last Wednesday, Commissioners agreed to pay up and have asked the Regional Solicitor to try and recover the monies from the parties involved.

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