

Council turns down library

(Continued from page 1) raised in the community. The fundraising campaign is scheduled to terminate at the end of 1977. The Latcham Foundation contributed \$36,000, local businesses

\$7,210, public contributions were \$3,705 and a further \$5,235 was raised through the board's Country Fair held in the spring and other miscellaneous activities. To date Wintario has contributed more than \$57,000.

Region wants costs limited

NEWMARKET — Garfield Wright, chairman of Regional council apparently doesn't read the agenda for council meetings.

"The first I knew of your motion," he told Lois Hancey, "was when I read it in the Aurora Banner."

"Well perhaps, you should read the agenda, first," said Mrs. Hancey. Mr. Wright was referring to a motion put forth by Mrs. Hancey that would have limited gross expenditure increases to "no more than six per cent over 1977 actual, place a freeze on permanent staff complement and place restrictions on the addition of new programs and the expansion of existing programs."

The motion also said March 11, 1978 should be designated as the adoption date for the 1978 regional budget.

During discussion of the motion — which was later defeated — Councillor Moran said the motion "guarantees a lower quality of service."

"Even with the AIB maximum allowable increase of six per cent, it will add more than six per cent to the overall budget," he said. There are lots of things that have increased by more than six per cent, such as hydro, fuel and so on. What the six per cent limit will mean is layoffs and further service reductions."

It was brought to council's attention that Chief Administrative Officer Jack Rettie had circulated a letter to all department heads concerning the 1978 budget.

The letter, signed by Mr. Rettie and Regional Treasurer John Hlynski, said departmental budget preparation should start now — the letter was dated October 27 — keeping within a maximum increase of four per cent over 1977 estimates.

There were questions about a possible conflict between the letter and Mrs. Hancey's motion but

Mr. Rettie said he didn't believe there was any conflict. Mayor Forhan in supporting the original motion, said the region should be running a balanced budget.

"We should have a budget coming in that will, in effect, give a zero per cent increase as happened in 1977," he said.

He said there was no difference between the motion and Mr. Rettie's letter.

Mrs. Hancey took the floor and told council her motion didn't need any defence.

"It shows an indication by at least two members of council — Mayor Forhan seconded the motion — that they have a sense of responsibility and we felt it was timely for a discussion of this matter at council," she said.

"It never entered either of our minds that the six per cent limit would entail layoffs or service reductions," she said.

Mayor Schiller took exception to the last clause of the motion regarding the program restrictions.

"That last clause blocks off our responsibility for the programs," he said. "Some programs may have to be dropped and others may have to be expanded. I think it's silly to propose something like that until we have all the facts at our disposal."

After defeating Mrs. Hancey's motion, council then voted to adopt the last paragraph of Mr. Rettie's letter as a motion.

Councillor Moran said he didn't dislike guidelines and said the CAO has done the job but, "Until someone shows or tells me why we shouldn't hire new staff in 1978, he couldn't support Mrs. Hancey's motion."

Council decided to adopt the last paragraph in Mr. Rettie's letter calling on all departments to stay within four per cent over 1977 estimates.

New highway is being planned

NEWMARKET — Plans are underway to construct an east-west highway just south of Lake Simcoe, regional council was told last Thursday.

George Norman from the Ministry of Transportation and Communications and John Sutherns of McCormick Rankin Consulting Engineers outlined the various routes that have been proposed and showed council a map on which all the present alternatives are marked.

The highway will run from Highway 400 on the west to Highway 12 on the east but Mr. Sutherns said there are several alternate routes to choose from taking into account environmental factors, impact on population and other factors which will be weighed before the actual route is chosen.

"The ministry will be conducting public input meetings in the various communities likely to be affected by the highway and after receiving the public's views and input

from various interest groups, the ministry will analyze all alternatives both present and possible future, before the final route is chosen," said Mr. Sutherns.

The need for an east-west highway in the area is apparent due to there being no highway running east-west through York Region except Highway 7 and people driving through York region to the Muskoka region or Peterborough either have to use Highways 7 or 401 or use regional roads and that can be bothersome.

A previous study commissioned by the ministry in 1976 estimated a daily traffic flow of 2500 cars on the proposed new highway by 1986.

Public meetings regarding the highway extension will be conducted "sometime in December" according to Mr. Sutherns. At those meetings, the public will have the opportunity to voice any objections they may have to any or all of the proposed routes.

United Way fizzles fundraising extended

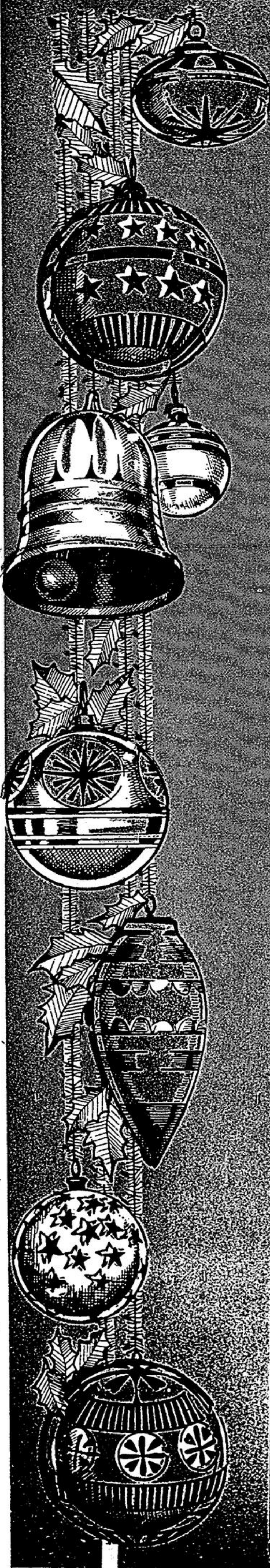
YORK REGION — The United Way fund raising campaign here, because it has fallen far short of its objective, will be extended indefinitely. The target this year in York was \$400,000 and at last report only \$145,753 had been raised.

Approximately \$100,000 of that had been pledged before the commencement of the campaign.

The campaigning was to have stopped Nov. 15 but will continue until all planned canvasses have been completed.

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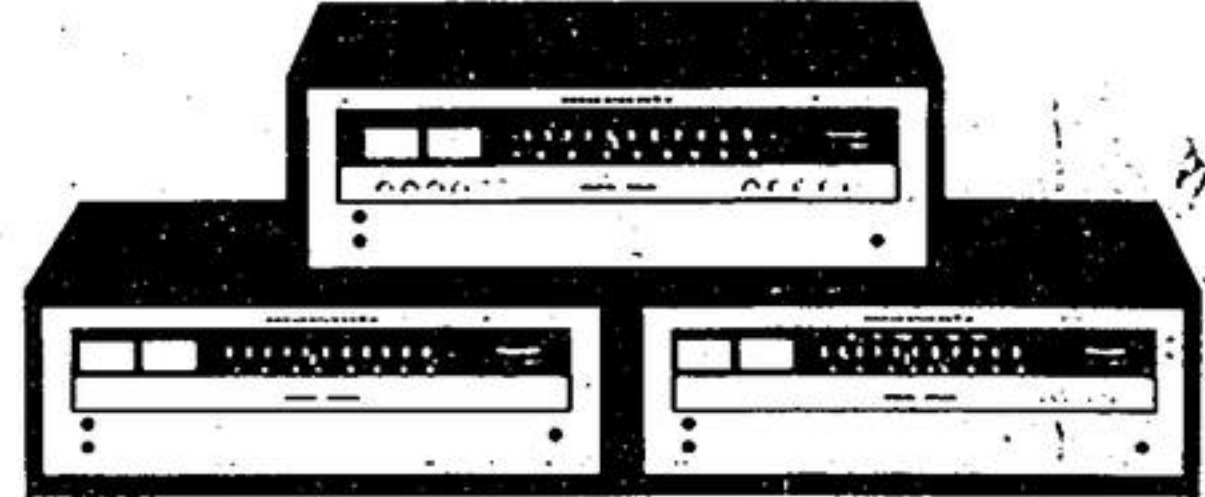
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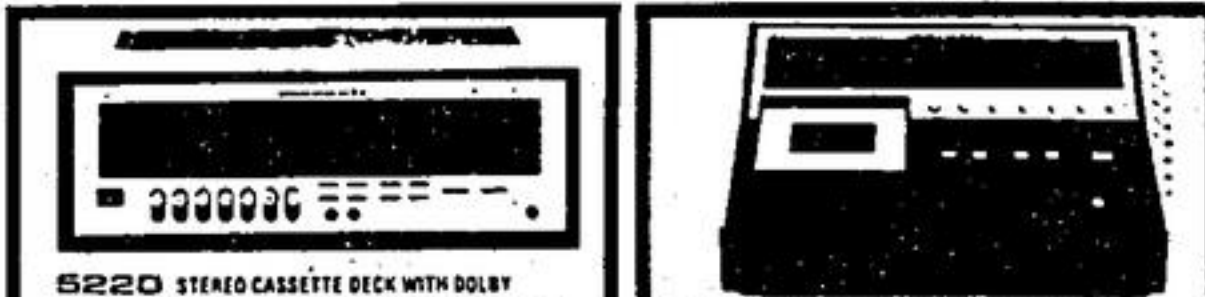
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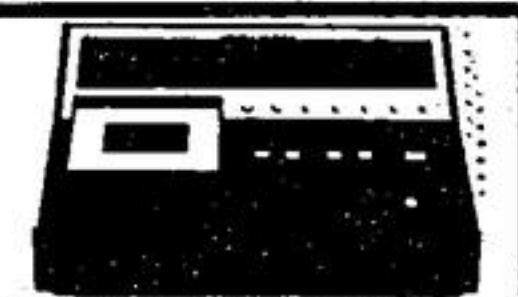


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