

Legion Ladies donate \$1,000



The Ladies Auxiliary of Royal Canadian Legion, Stouffville branch 459, helped the Recreation Complex Fund reach its goal of \$200,000. Here, auxiliary president Ruth Sheppard, (left) and first vice-president Gladys Clarkson, (right), present a \$1,000 cheque to Grant Larmer of the Rec Centre Coordinating Committee. The ladies raised the money at a businessmen's luncheon, Feb. 27.

—Chris Shanahan

Editor's Mail

Education still 'first priority'

Dear Jim:

It is a fairly well-known fact that the "speech or letter written in anger is the one a person will live to regret". No doubt Phyllis Craine will have had sufficient time to "cool out" and feel somewhat embarrassed by her letter re "Paying the Shot" and therefore being entitled to preferential treatment.

I wonder just how her "paying the shot taxes" would look when placed beside the total York Region Board of Education budget of many millions of dollars? It would perhaps be like comparing a flea to an elephant. Two or three thousand dollars in tax money, if spent wholly on education could hardly be called "paying the shot." But, when combined with the taxes of everyone else in York Region, based upon equalized assessment, can meet the needs adequately, although not entirely what we expect.

Anything is possible if people are willing to pay for it, (i.e.) everything has a price. If we are willing to pay for it, it is ours.

Mrs Craine chose to live in Raymerville, (Markham), of her own free will. Taxes are a part of the deal, to provide the municipal and educational services involved in a proportional amount shared by all.

Trustees are provided roughly on the basis of one representative for every 13,000 persons whether they reside in Markham, Whitchurch-Stouffville or Georgina. Thus, every area of the Region is represented on the York Region Board of Education. It is not to follow, however, that a trustee must confine his/her efforts wholly towards achieving benefits to meet the needs pertinent to that electorate only. Indeed, it is my feeling that the overall needs of student education in York Region should be of first priority, (i.e. educational equality). Thus, it may appear that trustees are "ganging up" on others when, in reality, they are exercising the right to provide equality of educational opportunities for ALL students.

Most trustees normally function in this manner. However, since this is an election year, there are some who are suddenly jolted back to the realization that their constituents expect SOME action and, indeed, are often pointed in the direction for the action to be taken. It is good for the public image that is extremely important during this vital year.

Please, Mrs Craine, don't secede from the Region!!! We will do our utmost to help you "pay the shot" TOGETHER. It's much easier to work as a team.

No one wins them all. I know this. But it

does make life interesting when you have at least tried fairly and squarely to achieve it.

Sincerely,
J.C. McMurray,
Elm Road,
Stouffville

Country Doctor

Inside the Community Hall at Goodwood is a framed photograph of Dr. R.E. Darling, (1869-1947).

Below it is a poem composed by (Mrs) Elizabeth Beach entitled "The Country Doctor". It reads as follows:

He was only a country doctor,
But I'm sure all will agree,
The memories he left behind him,
Are lessons for you and me.

Say a kind word, give a helping hand,
As we travel along life's way,
For this faithful country doctor,
Tried to do this every day.

Many a night when the cold wind was blowing,
And the roads were filled with snow,
We'd call for this country doctor,
Who was always willing to go.

He was more than a country doctor,
He was father and friend to all,
Wherever sickness called him,
And he had to make a call.

When our hearts were sad and weary,
Death's angel had called our way,
Kind words from this country doctor,
Brought comfort though dark was day.

So sleep on dear country doctor,
You've earned your rich reward,
May we try to live as you lived,
And be ready for the Master's call.

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