

ROUNDUP OF CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Board Reports Surplus Despite Record Growth

The highest enrollment in the city's seven schools was evident in 1961. Dr. R. G. Lea stated in giving the report of the Board of School Trustees last night.

He noted that 3,400 pupils are now enrolled at the schools and is an increase of 90 over the previous year. The schools have a teaching staff of 148.

He pointed out that this steady increase in enrollment has been the major factor in increasing cost over the past few years, but despite this there was a surplus on the year's operation of \$5,078.60. Adding the surplus for 1960 of \$3,153.23 there is a total

surplus for the year of \$8,231.83. This was due, he said, to increased grants received from the department of education toward teachers' salaries.

VOCATIONAL SCHOOL.

It was noted that considerable exploratory work has been done during the year concerning the building of a vocational school, by the department of education for the student population of Central Queens County. He said indications are that the department is giving favourable consideration to the provision of this new type of school for the area.

He stated that the new Prince Street School is completed and occupied except for four rooms to be added this spring with the official opening scheduled for next September. The addition of these four rooms became necessary when it was decided to leave the present site of West Kent School and build in the Brighton area.

READY IN SEPT.

The new school on Upper Queen Street, to replace the present Queen Square School, is well along and will be ready for occupancy in September. A site has been secured in the Brighton

area for the school to replace West Kent. Plans are now complete and tenders will be called shortly. It is hoped to have the school ready for occupancy by November.

"The cost of the three schools will be about \$2,002,000. During the period 1954 to 1962 therefore we will have spent \$2,440,000 for new construction, which, when it is finally and completely amortized in 1982, will have cost taxpayers over 28 years a total of \$4,453,020. This represents about \$2500 for every man, woman and child in our city.

"The Board is much aware that this is a tremendous burden for this city to shoulder in addition to the many other urgent and necessary expenditures that must be made. That this, and preceding councils have had the vision and courage to accept this great challenge must be a source of deepest satisfaction to those citizens who realize the vital importance of providing adequate educational facilities and opportunities. The school board is confident the results will justify these expenditures," he concluded.

Expansion Of Playgrounds Urgent, Says Councillor

An urgency on the part of the city to provide recreational facilities to meet the needs of a growing population, not only to have children off the streets, but to provide surroundings where they may have recreation under leadership and supervision, was noted in the report of the playground commission submitted last night by Coun. Dorothy Corrigan.

The councillor stated that the playgrounds have been taxed to capacity throughout the season, despite the addition of one new playground on Hillsboro Square east. This playground proved most popular and caused no inconvenience to residents near the western end of the square.

"The playground on Upper Prince Street did not operate due to the construction of Prince Street School, and it is possible

the playground on Kent Street East may be removed this year, as the locality is not so desirable," she said.

The report stated that with 1964 fast approaching the city is looking forward to a float parade and inviting bands to participate, it is a must to erect a band stand, which could have many uses.

SPLASH POOL.

"At a previous meeting, I suggested we add a splash pool for tots to the swimming pool in Victoria Park, but due to the erection of a bathing house, completion of paved streets, and purchase of an aerial ladder and much heavy expenditure, this was not carried out, but I hope the incoming council will give this further consideration.

It was also noted that a drinking fountain is to be installed in

Kinsman Park. The fountain has been donated by the wives of Kinsmen.

Coun. Corrigan suggested that trees be planted at this park, which, she said, would beautify the area and give protection to children from the sun.

She concluded her report with the suggestion that more open air skating areas should be provided and that, "We will give assistance when possible to one of our service clubs who would undertake this project."

Space Lack Seen Problem Of Fire Dept.

A recommendation that serious thought be given to the securing of larger premises for the staff and equipment at the fire hall was contained in the report of the fire committee submitted last night by Couns. Arthur Wright, Dorothy Corrigan and William R. MacNeil.

It was noted that difficulty is now found in the movement and handling of equipment, and that office space is lacking.

A further lowering of the fire loss for the year occurred with the year's total loss being \$137,186. The department answered 178 calls.

The committee was also concerned with the lack of an adequate water supply at the east end of the city, noting that the four-inch main, near the Hillsboro Bridge, is inadequate to supply water volume for the pumper.

It was stated that an inspection of the equipment at the fire hall shows it to be carefully attended and in good condition.

'Efforts Ignored'

A letter from the assistant deputy minister of health, read by Dr. W. L. MacDonald, city health officer, as he gave his annual report to city council last night stated that "It would appear from the results of the Charlottetown plants that our efforts to improve the milk situation have been largely ignored by these plants."

The letter further stated that the plants are either getting worse or at the most holding their poor level and noted that "perhaps it is time to resort to more severe measures than we have been employing."

Dr. MacDonald noted that it was "all too easy to be critical but I also realize that, in this day and age, where milk is such an every day part of our food, those handling milk should have a more rigid inspection of their equipment than they probably have been having in the past."

SEEM TO SLIP.

A restaurant inspection was also carried out during the year and Dr. MacDonald noted that "At times we thought that we had made considerable progress but, as soon as we eased up, the restaurant keepers seemed to slip back to where they had been in the past."

The health officer stated that 1961 showed the usual contagious diseases but there were no reported cases of poliomyelitis in or around Charlottetown during the year.

He stated that there was a marked improvement in the city dump area and the refuse is pretty well taken care of to accumulate over a period of weeks.

Applicants' Age Concerns Coun.

The increasing number of young applicants applying for assistance, when they should be taking more responsibility themselves, is causing some concern to welfare directors, Coun. Dorothy Corrigan, said in giving the report of the welfare committee last night.

Coun. Corrigan noted that the past winter was a very difficult one, and for the welfare agencies there was no exception, but they were fortunate to keep within the estimates.

The councillor observed that the completion of the housing survey is awaited with interest and when completed should set the wheels in motion for a long felt need of improved housing conditions.

Coun. Corrigan was disappointed that the dental clinic had not been opened but was expected from Dr. O'Meara in the near future.

"The work at Victoria Park, under the winter works program, is employing about 25 men, who would otherwise be idle. This project is also supplying a large amount of wood which is being distributed to many needy families," Coun. Corrigan concluded.



NAME LINKED TO PRINCESS

Prince William of Gloucester, shown strolling in Venice's St. Mark's Square in 1960, appeared in London's popular press as a likely candidate for the hand of Princess Margrethe, heiress to the 1,000-year-old Danish throne. The London Daily Sketch, a mass

circulation tabloid, carried their picture side by side as rumors circulated that Queen Ingrid would soon bring her daughter to England. Prince William is the son of the Duke of Gloucester and a cousin of Queen Elizabeth II. (AP Wirephoto via radio from London)

Four Big Strides Made In Planning

At least four big strides were taken in the field of town planning during 1961, town planning committee chairman W. J. Cox told the meeting.

He defined these as the complete aerial mapping and survey of the city, the replanning and mapping of the new north-west section of the city, the establishment of the co-op housing project in the extreme north-west end of the city and representations to the government concerning the importance of having the proposed provincial government administration building located in the city.

Concerning the aerial maps, Mr. Cox stated that all material with the exception of a few minor details has been received and town planner Walter de Silva will now be able to report on his housing study early in the spring? He reported also that the provincial department of industry will pay a portion of the cost of the maps.

ROAD EXTENSION.

Also noted in the committee report as being of major importance was the attendance of many of the city councillors at the town planning convention in Halifax.

One of the foremost recommendations made in the report was the Victoria Park roadway be extended along the bank of the North River to a point above

the co-op housing site. It was stated that this would be an important project in view of the rising status of Charlottetown as a tourist city.

The report also stated that a recommendation be made to the provincial government that the proposed Queens County Vocational School be located in Charlottetown.

Other recommendations called for consideration of the city re-zoning to make industrial and commercial sites available and legislation to promote better town planning.

Compulsory Collection Is Requested

A recommendation that future city councils give consideration to compulsory garbage collections was made at last night's meeting.

The report, given by public property committee chairman Coun. Arthur Gormley said the two biggest problems facing the committee were the city dump and government pond.

Coun. Gormley said the city may have to soon find another

location for the dump "as we feel the provincial government will be asking us to vacate the site within a short period of time."

On Government Pond the report stated that the committee has received requests to have it filled in and others to beautify it. "We feel that unless the provincial government takes this site for the new proposed provincial administration building we will have to go to a major expenditure in looking after this pond."

The report also recommended the replacing of the wooden breastwork at Victoria Park with a concrete wall and the erection of a second bath house at the swimming area in Victoria Park.

Action Asked On Water-Wasters

Drastic measures may be taken in an effort to prevent residents from wasting water. It was revealed in the report of the commissioners of sewers and water supply presented last night.

It was stated that the commission has "every reason to believe that large quantities of water is being unnecessarily wasted by consumers."

It was pointed out that if it had not been for the heavy snow of last winter, plus the rain in the spring which filled the wells, a shortage as in the summer of 1960, would have been experienced last year.

"The commission does not wish to deprive any consumer of the water necessary for his various requirements, but all consumers must learn to save water, otherwise a shortage can again be experienced and the only thing the commission can do to alleviate such a situation is to resort to drastic measures. A full report on this will be submitted to the council and the public by the new commission."

It was noted that the Pitometer Association of New York was called in to make a survey of the water supply, which was completed in September, 1961. The report has been received and will "require considerable study."



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'Pay-As-You-Go' Policy Advised For Streets, 'Walks'

A "pay-as-you-go" policy for new streets and sidewalks was advocated for the city in the report of the street committee given at the annual meeting last night by Councillor Elmer MacRae, committee chairman.

The report stated "We should not wait until there are several streets that have to be paved, but as soon as there is an area where all the water and sewers have been installed and a reasonable number of homes completed, upwards of one-half mile as necessary of permanent street should be laid and paid for out of current revenue."

"We suggest that in future, the council should adopt a 'pay-as-you-go' policy for new streets and sidewalks as well as other services."

ALL STREETS PAVED.

The report noted that all

streets located within the old boundaries of the city have now been paved and, as well, a number of streets in Ward Six have been paved as agreed in the terms of amalgamation.

During the year the city cooperated with Warren Maritimes Limited in a street paving experiment. The paving company resurfaced a portion of Queen Street, at no cost to the city, with a new formula for asphalt base.

If this experiment proves "satisfactory, it will result in lower costs for rebuilding and repaving streets."

A total of 37,451.9 square feet of new sidewalk were laid at a cost of \$26,651.91 and 15,285 square yards of parking areas were built between the city's sidewalks and streets at a cost of \$3.09 per yard.

Snow Removal Costs Set Record

Snow removal last year was one of the most expensive operations in the city's history, Norman Stewart said last night in giving his report as city engineer and surveyor.

Although the snow removal cost was high, he pointed out that "all streets were kept open and the snow was cleared from the main commercial streets so that business was able to operate efficiently."

Two crews were engaged in repaving sidewalks during the summer. A total length of 1.78 miles new concrete sidewalks of a four foot width were constructed.

Mr. Stewart stated that an even more extensive program of paving between the existing curb lines and the sidewalks was carried out in 1961 than in 1960. A total of 12,341 square yards of city streets were re-paved during the year.

STREET PAVING.

The paving of city streets under contract to Warren Mar-

times Ltd., which saw 5.67 miles of base pavement laid on various streets in 1960, was continued in 1961 and the contract was completed. A total of 71 streets or portions of streets were paved under this two-year program.

Perhaps the main project during the year was the paving of North River Road, from McGill Avenue to the new city limits, a distance of .34 miles. Work started on the project in early August and was completed, except for some grading on the shoulders, in early November.

During the year, 175 permits were issued covering a total value of construction of \$5,110,785.40. This represents an increase of 127 percent in the number of permits and 195 per cent in the value of the permits issued over the previous year.

A notable feature of the year was the issuing of 54 permits for single residential units to the members of the co-op housing group on North River Road.

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