

### ELMER PENNANT FLIES AT SCHOOL RAISED AT CEREMONY ON FRIDAY

The green "Elmer the Safety Elephant" pennant was raised at a ceremony at Acton public school on Friday afternoon, December 12. It will continue to fly on the flag staff unless one of the school children is involved in an accident in which all, or part of the blame falls on the child.

Forman Lawrence, president of the Acton Y's Men's club which is sponsoring Elmer, presented the flag to Dr. F. G. Oakes, who accepted it on behalf of the school board.

Corp. May Mason warned the children who witnessed the flag raising, "It's another thing to keep it up. If one of you is careless, we'll have to gather round and take it down." He said that there had been a big improvement in safety precautions.

Speaking to the school children, Dr. Oakes said, "Things have been done for your benefit and your safety," and urged them to remember to try to avoid accidents. "Elmer is going to try to help you to avoid accidents," he told them.

In the event Elmer pennant were lowered, it could not be flown again for three weeks after the accident.

The brief ceremony at the flagpole outside the school was the first of its kind ever held in Acton. It has been reported that accidents among school children have dropped considerably in schools where Elmer safety rules are stressed.

### Poet's Corner THE UNWANTED

Her button nose pressed flat against the glass. She peered into the gaily lighted room. And watched the other little children pass. Around the Christmas tree. She, in the gloom. Her unclad ankles deep in freezing snow. And hands thrust into tattered pockets, gazed with round-eyed wonder, pale cheeks aglow. Upon this happy scene. A child amazed. At all the cakes and candies, and the dolls with yellow curls left all alone. Abandoned by the carefree girls and boys. (If only she could have it for her own.) And as she watched, a tiny lot in blue. Came running cross to where a little boy thought he would like it, too. And tried to grab the frilly frock in play. Alas!—the china face smashed to the floor! Two glistening tears fell on the frosty pane. Her wee heart broken, she could watch no more. And cold and gasping, reached her lonely lane. Josephine Campbell

### FASHION HINT



The fair sex always like new things to wear, or something pretty to put on a little table, a dresser, a window sill or themselves. It's a thoughtful and personal touch, to give some small, attractive gift with a larger practical one, or particularly with a gift of money. For instance, Santa Claus husbands could give a scarf "to wear with that new coat"—and a Christmas-spirited check.

Although not many gifts are on that scale, the idea still holds. With any practical gift—an iron, tools, blanket, household equipment—add something.

Add a handkerchief—maybe you have crinkled the edge a jar of your best jelly, nail polish, or lipstick, inexpensive earrings—something special and primarily unexpected.

The smart lady pictured above wears gifts of absolutely all prices ranging from the scarf knitted at her throat to the coat itself.

### Many Candles Lit During Sacred Play

The Friendly Circle held its annual Christmas meeting in the Sunday school room of the United Church on Wednesday, December 10. The president was in charge and she welcomed some visitors to the meeting.

A copy of the new version of the bible was purchased and sent to Miss Ruth Nelson, a missionary to a group of Indians in the west. After Mrs. Helen Pickett gave the treasurer's report, Mrs. Bunny Stewart gave the secretary's report.

Miss Jean Harris presented Miss M. Z. Bennett with a bouquet of flowers which was later divided with Miss Grindley.

Group three was divided into two parts, the first part taking the Devotional Period. The group put on a sacred play under the direction of Mrs. Marguerite Taylor.

The carol "Angels from the Realms of Glory" was sung, followed by prayer by Mrs. Taylor. The Scripture lesson was read by Miss Olga Lockier. Mrs. Ann Wilkinson then introduced the portrayal of various nationalities living in Canada who worship Christ.

Mrs. Wilkinson first read about the Jewish race, represented by Mrs. Helen Cunningham, who came and lit a candle from a main candle in the centre of the table after the Magnificat had been read by the circle.

Following the introduction for the Canadian Indian, Miss Dorothy Simmons sang an Indian carol after which Mrs. Dorothy Rogavaldson lit her candle and placed it in position on the table.

After the introduction of the Eskimo, the carol "O Come all ye Faithful" was sung after which Mrs. Helen McGeachie came and lit her candle.

The German race was then introduced with the singing of the carol "Away in a manger" after which Mrs. Evelyn Lashby lit the candle.

Following this Mrs. Veldhuis and Mrs. Olson represented the other races with the lighting of their candles with the singing of the carol "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly".

After the singing of "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear", Mrs. Mercedes Hufnagel, representing Canadians, lit her candle and placed it on the table with the others.

When the church lights had been turned off, Mrs. Hufnagel and Miss Olga Lockier lit their candles, then lit the candle of each member while the hymn, "Blest Be the Tie that Binds" was sung, uniting the whole of the circle around one Christ who is the mainstay of Christian Unity.

While the other group was preparing for their skit, two other carols were sung "The Christmas Skit" was called, "Willie Plays Santa Claus" the part being played by Mrs. Mary McKenzie. The other characters were: Mrs. Doris Kentner, Mrs. Helen Waterhouse, Mrs. Annetta Van Fleet, Mrs. Edna Johnston, Mrs. H. Cox, Mrs. Joan Hollinger, Mrs. Alethea Smith, Mrs. Evelyn Lashby, Miss Jean Harris and Miss Irene Evans. Mrs. Stella Adamson directed the skit. Following the skit, Santa Claus gave presents to everyone present.

The enjoyable evening closed with refreshments and Mrs. Van Fleet thanked the group for such a happy time.

An English clergyman says birds go to heaven. We are inclined to doubt his statement, particularly insofar as jaybirds and starlings are concerned. —Kingston Whig Standard.

### SCHOOLS AS COMMUNITY CENTRES DISCUSSED; OPINIONS ARE DIFFERENT

After listening to the broadcast on Monday, December 8, on "The Hub of the Farm Community," the farm forum participants learned that the hub of the community should be a centre where young and old could congregate for their numerous organizations. Community leaders felt that it's the people and their activities that count, rather than the type of building. It's far more important to have the people gather in a spot they like, than to have a new, expensive building at a place where people do not want to go.

The first question dealt with the community that had a community centre in their area and asked "what contribution is it making to the life of the people in your farms and neighborhood?"

Seven of the 11 forum reports stated they had a community centre. In fact, in all four townships they have a township hall and, practically all communities are within 10 miles of city, town or village accommodations. Halton Community Centre, situated at Louville, in Nelson township, has at present a large baseball diamond, picnic and garden party accommodations to a degree, but as yet they do not possess a pavilion.

Limestone forum are endeavoring to have a new skating rink, as their action project.

"How could your community centre be improved?" was asked. Improved stage facilities, artificial ice for the arena and by entertainment for old and young, were suggested.

Question 2 was, "If there is not a community centre in your area, do you think one is needed and what activities should be planned?" In Limestone forum, the members felt they did not need one in their community, as the forum originated in the school, but proposed a social factory as meetings have higher attendance in the homes.

"S. S. No. 7 Nassagaweya thought a community centre was needed.

but the possibility of making the necessary additions to Brookville hall, as proper kitchen and wash room facilities, might meet the needs. Lively agreed they did not have a centre but felt they had no need for one as they were so closely situated to the town of Milton, as well as the Township Hall at Stewarttown.

North Trafalgar admitted they did not have one, but such facilities were within driving distances. Many people think the school could best serve the community if it were designed or remodelled to serve as a community centre and school. North Trafalgar maintains the school the best place for forum meetings but said it definitely would not do as a community centre. They have Hornby ball park for sport and Trafalgar Memorial Hall for larger parties.

No. 7 Nassagaweya forum stated, "We are opposed in the idea of a combined school and community centre." No. 4 Esquimaux forum have equipped their school for meetings and socials by providing chairs, dishes, electric stove and movable seats. Other groups felt a centre would only prove a white elephant.

Limestone forum state their school is most suitable for their meetings and is used continually for different gatherings. Mount Nemo claim they have several closed schools in the district which could be used as community centres.

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### Erin Area Approves \$2,658.14 Account

The regular meeting of Erin Township School Area No. 1 was held at Ospringe School on Wednesday, December 10 with all members of the Board being present. It was moved by Marshall and Watson, that the following accounts be paid up to December 31, 1952: teachers' salaries for Nov., \$1,193.55; janitors' salaries, \$155.00; Receiver General, income tax, \$143.57; Mrs. Myrtle White, account, \$1.00; Teachers' Federation, \$74.00; Clarence Johnston, account, \$7.50; Jas. Hall, B's, cords cedar, \$34.00; Bert Berry, salary and maintenance, \$55.50; Ward Bruce, sawing wood at S. S. 13, \$6.00; Clarence Johnston, account, \$6.44; C. H. D. Reid, labor at S. S. 13, \$11.50; W. L. Marshall, mileage, \$80.00; Allan Watson, mileage, \$72.00; H. M. Reid, mileage, \$70.00; J. M. Leitch, mileage, \$70.00; J. E. Pearen, mileage, \$70.00; Globe and Mail re teachers want ad, \$7.20 Total, \$2,658.14

### Exchange Gifts At Dublin Institute

The home of Mrs. Wilmer Watkins, first line, was prettily decorated with Christmas decorations for the Dublin Women's Institute meeting last Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Charles Thompson, first vice-president, presided for the meeting. The Institute Ode was sung and was followed by the Mary Stewart Collect Prayer. Two minutes' silence was observed in memory of the late Mrs. W. D. Barber, one of the members who passed away recently.

The roll call was answered by presenting a sample of home made candy. Several work meetings had been reported during the month and the three quilts which had been completed for Korea, were displayed at the meeting.

"Helpful hints" prepared by Mrs. J. M. Steele, was read by Mrs. A. Ross. A number of Christmas carols were sung with Mrs. C. J. Van Goozen at the piano. Mrs. J. Dennis gave the final report of the Area Convention held at Kitchener recently and told of Miss Isabel McBeth's address on "Jury Duty as It Affects Women," which was very timely.

Miss Mildred Wilson gave a paper on the "Origin of Christmas Carols." A happy time around the Christmas tree was enjoyed when the gifts were exchanged among the members took place. A large collection of used clothing was brought to the meeting and later packed, to be given to the United Nations Relief.

A festive holiday supper was served by the hostess, Miss Minnie Samoville. Mrs. P. Kennedy and Mrs. T. A. Storey and was enjoyed by all. A large attendance of women and children were present at the meeting.

Mrs. Duncan Moffat expressed the thanks of everyone to Mrs. Watkins, the hostess, and to all who had taken part in the program and lunch committees.

### OBITUARY Mrs. T. Forsythe Dies in 76th Year

Funeral service was held Tuesday afternoon, December 9, for Mrs. Thomas Forsythe at her home, R.R. 1, Rockwood. Mrs. Forsythe died on Sunday, December 7, at the home of her son, Max Forsythe, of Guelph, at the age of 75. She had been ill for the past nine weeks.

Pallbearers were friends and neighbors: Lorne Allan, Clifford Swanson, Albert Gray, Kenneth Lush, Allan Burnett and Rae West, of Acton.

Rev. McTaggart of Barryhill United Church officiated at the service. Interment was in Johnston's Cemetery, Eramosa.

Born in Guelph township, Mrs. Forsythe was the former Nellie Barclay and daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. David Barclay. She was married in 1906 to the late Thomas Forsythe, of R.R. 1, Rockwood. After their marriage they took up residence on the farm there.

Mrs. Forsythe was a member of Barryhill United Church in Eramosa township. She belonged to both the women's association and missionary society.

Surviving are three sons, Barclay and Douglas, both of Rockwood, and Max, of Guelph; two daughters insofar as Mrs. A. Gordon, of Ahergyle, and Mrs. Jack Cutler, of Guelph. There are nine grandchildren.



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# Don't let an ACCIDENT spoil your Holiday!

Christmas and The New Year again usher in a season of festivity and good fellowship.

As in the past it will also be marked by increased dangers — more traffic, more hours of darkness, slippery roads, and holiday haste and impatience.

I appeal to Ontario citizens to overcome these added hazards by greater care and common sense when walking or driving.

Don't let an accident spoil holiday happiness for yourself or for others.

**1 JANUARY**

*Leo D. Aoucelly*  
 MINISTER

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