

**BALLINAFAD**

**WMS GROUP MEETS AT MRS. MCKAY'S**

The February meeting of the WMS was held at the home of Mrs. Alex McKay. The theme of the worship service was "The Lord's Supper," and was led by Mrs. McKay with scripture passages read by other members. Several articles for the sale were brought in. Plans were made for the spring thank-offering late in April with all WMS groups participating. The topic on the Church of Christ in Angola was in charge of Mrs. J. Kirkwood. It told the story of training African pastors and deaconesses, also schools are held for catechists. How old and young alike travel on foot for miles to attend these training classes, so great is their longing to hear the gospel and to learn to read their own bibles. A reading on Christian Stewardship by B. Hills told how we can make our everyday tasks and duties part of our worship by doing our best in a spirit of thankfulness for work to do and strength to do it. This was followed by a

period of sentence prayers. Lunch was served and a social time enjoyed.

Mr. E. W. Brearly of Appleby is staying with her daughter, Mrs. W. Gibb for a few weeks. Dorothy Warne and Shirley Thompson of Hamilton Normal School are student teachers at Blue Mountain School.

**Young People's Group Conducts Church Service**

Sunday morning at St. John's United Church, the theme of the service was: "The Everlasting God," based on the emblem of the 8th window in the series, the signs of the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet, Alpha and Omega. These would probably be suggested by the Scripture verse in Revelation 1:8: "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty." The same Everlasting God Isaiah speaks about in his 40th Chapter: "Hast thou not known? Hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? There is no searching of His understanding."

In his meditation Rev. John M. Smith pointed out that the Everlasting God was too great for us to understand fully or describe, yet our Christian faith assures us, as Isaiah and John, that He is a reality in our world and universe, that these things didn't just happen, that the Everlasting God is behind and in them all, that He is the Creator of these things, the Creator of the ends of the earth, who sustains us not only in our material things, but who "giveth power to the faint and increaseth strength to them that hath no might." But though we may know all this about Him, it is still little to us unless we know Him as a Personal Spirit, one who can commune with us, and we with Him. He has placed within us something much greater than our physical bodies, our soul or spirit, call it what you will, something which reaches out to our God, and Him to us through it, in a realm higher than our material life. And above this He is sovereign Lord of the universe He has created. We sometimes question this when we think of the state of our world, but we need to remember that He does not wish to make us mere puppets. He has given us the discernment to know that which is good, and that which is evil; also the power to choose which we will serve. He has exhorted us to do good; He has taught us that evil brings dire consequences; so until we choose to follow His way of good, we can not have the world we would like, even the world He desires. We need to remember that He is also a righteous Judge. With the free will He has given us, and the nature we have developed, any other would bring utter ruin and disaster to our world. Spare the rod and spoil the child, applies even in God's realm. He must be just, for our own good, for the good of others, and for the ultimate good of His world. So, as we are told "The mills of God grind slowly, but they grind exceedingly small." But with His Righteous Judgment, we know He is a loving Father, ready to forgive when we recognize our guilt; confess our wrongdoing, and our penitence is sincere. Like as a father pitieth his children so does God with us. How can we be so sure of God's nature? We believe He is revealed to us in Jesus. From the early ministry of Jesus, until His death, He sought to teach us very definitely that He was revealing the nature of God to us, in the example of His life, in all His sayings about His father. If we would know God, we should see Him in Jesus. In His love and kindness, forgiveness and sacrifice, even in His righteous indignation, but probably greatest in the Spirit of His last tragic hour on the cross when He said, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." Truly the spirit of "The Everlasting God."

The choir's anthem was "Praise ye the Father," also a solo by Ruth Evans "Bless This House." The evening service was conducted by the Young People's Fellowship, with Audrey Bishop leading the service of praise. After the devotional exercises, a coloured sound movie was shown, entitled "The

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**SCOUT NEWS**  
The annual Father & Son banquet was held on Thursday evening, February 26th, in St. John's Memorial Hall. The Ladies Auxiliary did a splendid job in catering to the 215 lads and dads who sat down to eat. The meal was 'tops' complete with pie a la mode — well prepared and well served. Thank you ladies.  
Robert Hartman, chairman of the Boy Scout Committee was M.C. of the evening. After the singing of the National Anthem tribute was paid to Lord Baden Powell, founder of the movement and a period of silence was observed in his memory.  
Field Commissioner C. S. (Scotty) Fleming was present and brought greetings from the district and introduced the guest speaker,

King's Man." It depicted very vividly the actual conditions in that part of Africa covered by United Church missions in the Angola district. It told the story of a young African boy, living in the usual poverty, amid fear and superstition, who came in touch with the Mission and developed into a strong natural Christian leader, teacher and preacher, so that he became known as "The King's Man." He drew large numbers of his fellow countrymen into a much higher way of life, into a happy, healthier, truly Christian Fellowship. Truly a worthwhile Christian service.

of the evening. R. F. (Red) Bourne, assistant regional commissioner for Rover Scouts. Mr. Bourne held the interest of fathers and sons as he talked along in his quiet manner, demonstrating some fascinating knot tricks, and illustrating by nature stories the importance of boy development in body, mind and spirit.  
The evening was brought to a close with an hour of movies which were heartily enjoyed.  
Our aim this week is to have every Cub and Scout out at the Troop and Pack meetings and present at worship in his church on Sunday.  
Owing to the big hockey day being held in Georgetown on Saturday, 14th, the paper collection has been postponed until a later date.

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See next week's column.  
The Scout Ladies Auxiliary are grateful to the mothers of the boys who supplied pies and help for the banquet.