

Local Witnesses Attend Convention in Ottawa

Mr. George Brandford, presiding minister of Jehovah's Witnesses, announced last week that the Georgetown congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses has been invited to attend a four day convention to be held July 23 to 26 at Lansdowne Park, Ottawa. Mr. Brandford will head the local delegation of about 70 persons.

The convention is arranged by the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, located in Toronto, Ontario, for Jehovah's Witnesses. An attendance in excess of 12,000 is anticipated.

"The purpose of the meeting," said Mr. Brandford, "is to provide additional Bible instruction for

the Witnesses and to enable them to apply Bible principles more fully to their everyday lives and activities. For this reason the program carries the theme of "Awake Ministers." There will be morning, afternoon, and evening sessions devoted to Bible talks, discussions and practical demonstrations, he explained.

Mr. Brandford further reported that several representatives of the branch offices, including Percy Chapman, superintendent of ministers in Canada, will speak in Ottawa. Highlights of the convention will be the public address by Mr. Chapman at 3 p.m. Sun., July 26th, on "When God Speaks Peace to All Nations."

Bank Supports Conservation Article in Monthly Letter

"Conserving and Using Our Open Spaces" is the title of the Royal Bank of Canada's monthly letter, and it is a challenging essay which every conservationist and nature-lover should read. It should help dispel any idea that conservation is anything short of a top-priority concern with governments at all levels.

"Everyone has a life interest in conservation," the letter states. "For some, the stake is financial, farmers, commercial fishermen and trappers depend upon conservation of their resources for their livelihood. For others, the reward is health and recreation. Both sorts of people are concerned about preservation of our open spaces, our parks, our woodlands, our mountains and our streams."

"Preservation of these is preservation of the basic resources of the earth which men and animals must have in order to live. Our physical environment governs our lives to an extent that demands thinking about."

The letter pays tribute to such organizations as the Credit Valley Conservation Authority, one of the increasing number of such organizations dedicated to the protection and improvement of forest and soil, of water, animals, birds and fish, of natural areas ranging in extent from watersheds to roadside parks.



Diary of a Vagabond

BY DOROTHY BARKER

For many years, Shank's mare was my only means of transportation. Then I graduated and became mobile on 4 wheels. This latest addition to our standard of living was both a pleasure and a convenience, but it had many disadvantages. Being the only driver in the family, I found I was missing much of the beauty in the world about me as I kept my eyes glued to the highway.

That is why I have chosen travel by rail to cover this vast country of ours and Montreal as a starting point. I am sure my ticket will be a passport to pleasant places and an "Open Sesame" for interesting conversations with fellow travellers.

I was savouring this pleasant aspect when, with a lurch of the train as it took a curve at express speed enroute to picturesque French Canada, a youngster, still in her teens, dumped a two weeks old infant my lap and with a frantic look in her eyes said: "Will you please hold my baby for a minute? There isn't a place to park him in the washroom."

Perhaps it is this face of mine that seems to attract all kinds of incidents. Being gullible, I am often caught holding the bag, only this time it was a warm bit of humanity. "He" was a peaceful little mite with a red little face and an expression too knowing for his tender 14 days. I was happy to mind the babe for a moment, but when the moment stretched into 15 minutes, then into an hour, I began to wonder if I were the victim of a planned deception.

I suddenly realized that he had made a stop after I had been chosen as a suitable sitter for his mite. Had the teenager left the train? Was I stuck with this wily bundle? Horrors, and so far from home and my own mother's hood. Now, I thought frantically, as smart as his mother when he What would I feed him, what was

his name, where did he come from and where was he going?

A thousand other questions, for which my imagination provided fantastic answers, raced through my mind. He began to whimper and snuzzle me. I jiggled and jiggled him in rhythm with the train while searching the aisle for an approaching mother.

When the hour had stretched into two and junior had just about devoured his right fist, I decided action was necessary. Clutching the little blue bundle to my bosom, I staggered and swayed toward the front of the train where I hoped to find a conductor who would relieve me of my burden. By this time my journalistic imagination had convinced me this was a founding I held so gingerly. Three cars ahead was my gal. Her pretty bronze hair had been combed into a bobbing pony tail, her lips were perfectly outlined in a shade of lipstick even I took time to admire, and her laughing brown eyes were twinkling into the blue orbs of her companion. I was so relieved at the sight of this young lady that I limply sighed "Here is your baby" instead of giving her a lecture on what I thought of mothers who deserted their young.

"Jeepers, was he bothering you? My husband and I were so relieved at not having to worry about him for a while and you seemed so pleased to be holding him, we just left him for you to enjoy."

This was the well publicized generation. It was no longer "on the way" it had "arrived" at parenthood and, as in their notorious adolescence, these two members had found a way out of their new responsibility, if only momentary.

They were a cute couple and the baby is a credit to his Canadian citizenship. Wonder if he will be as smart as his mother when he grows up?

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Pupils, Teachers Reminisce At Ashgrove School Reunion

On July 17th, a perfect summer's day, 200 former teachers and pupils of Ashgrove public school and their families met for their fifth school reunion. At noon, some 150 sat down at tables set in the shade of the school yard maples and enjoyed a tasty picnic-style dinner while renewing old friendships.

Following the noon luncheon, the children enjoyed the swings and pony rides, courtesy of Ward Brownridge, while a program of interest to the gathering, took place under the maples. Vocal solos by Barbara Cunningham, Mrs. Thomas Alderson and Nancy Hunter, all former Ashgrove pupils, and Tom Trouten, a guest baritone from Georgetown, were interspersed with other numbers; a comical recitation by Douglas Ruddlell, piano solos by Kenneth R. Harrison and duets by Adrienne Nurse and Sandra Carney, their last number being a humorous version of "This Old House" and titled "This Old School."

George Elliott, Milton, concluded the program with a controversial but thought-provoking discourse on education, teachers and schools. Robert Cunningham, the school area chairman and member of Ashgrove section, moved a vote of thanks to those participating in the program and to the reunion committee.

Photographs of the group were taken and an interesting sports schedule of races and novelty items was carried through. Special prizes were awarded to Mrs. H. M. Leslie, R R 2, a former pupil who was the oldest person in attendance; to George Murdock, Orillia, who came the farthest and to Susan Alexander, baby daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Alexander, the youngest child there.

Former pupils and teachers had sought out and brought quite a number of school photographs of former years, some quite old, and these provided an excellent opportunity for reminiscing as did the brief speeches by "older pupils" during the afternoon program.

History of the Ashgrove school reunions goes back to 1930 when former teachers Mrs. S. K. Ruddlell, now deceased, met with her former pupils at the home of M. E. Nixon in Milton. Since then the reunions have been enlarged to include all pupils and invitations are mailed. Committee in charge of the 1959 reunion, under T. J. Brownridge, chairman; Mrs. Percy Leslie, secretary and Mrs. C. B. Dick, invitations accomplished a splendid job and "threw the torch" as it were to a new committee consisting of president Howson Ruddlell, vice president Bill Wilson, secretary Mrs. John McNabb,

and assistant Mrs. James Carney. Their duty will be to decide whether it is feasible to continue this worthwhile project. Judging by the enthusiasm of those who enjoyed this one, there will be a goodly number more looking forward to their continuation.

MINOR LACROSSE

Thursday evening, July 16th, Georgetown novice and Pee Wee lacrosse teams played their first action in competitive lacrosse. Their first meeting was with Brampton, the old standby of the sport and from whom Georgetown has received a great deal of support in getting a lacrosse program underway, both in information and equipment.

The novice team suffered a 4-0 defeat while Pee Wees lost 7-2. Georgetown's goals were scored by Weiner Reid and Donny Norton.

The action shown in both games proved that the locals have both the will and ability to learn to play the game. Three of the Georgetown boys, outstanding on the Pee Wee team have been invited to try out for a Brampton all-star team.

The club at present is running a lucky draw, proceeds of which will pay for equipment and arena rental. Originally set for July 25, winners will now be chosen on August 15th, as several ticket sellers have gone on vacation without turning in their stubs.

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