



MEMBERS OF the Golden Age Club were delighted by the program given by 38 singers from Burlington at their last meeting. St.

Alban's parish hall was packed for the special occasion despite bad weather.

Choir from Burlington entertains Golden Agers

A special musical treat was enjoyed, when a 38-voice choir from Burlington comprised of senior citizens gave an excellent program at the afternoon meeting of Acton Golden Age Club.

The ladies presented a pretty picture in their pink, blue and mauve caftans with silver trimming, and the men were handsome in beige shirts and dark trousers and bowties.

A number of choir selections from "Sound of Music" were well received. Poems were read including "The Touch of the Master's Hand." Several tunes on the ac-

cordion, started toes tapping. Harry Black gave several humorous numbers, as he portrayed Victor Borge. Several Easter numbers were sung with audience participation. Before the singing of Give Us This Day one of the male members gave a thought-provoking number Pause and Refresh which was finely an Easter message.

The final number "Amazing Grace" was a fitting climax to this outstanding program, and the choir received a standing ovation.

In spite of the untimely blustery afternoon a full house was present. Many had the opportunity of personally thanking the choir, as sandwiches and a cup of tea rounded out the afternoon.



BRUCE CANARY was in hospital when his house league team won on Championship Day, so his parents brought him the trophy there. Bruce was under observation for lung problems.

Blue Jays' opener a fine present for ball fan

Thursday afternoon at Toronto's Exhibition Park was a dream come true for Eric Maxwell.

Mr. Maxwell, an Acton-area resident for the past 22 years recently celebrated his 71st birthday. One of the gifts he received was a ticket to the opening game of the 1977 Toronto Blue Jays baseball season.

Despite the three-below Celsius temperature, Mr. Maxwell barely felt the cold. As far as he's concerned Toronto's been out in the cold for the past 10 years, ever since the Toronto Maple Leafs, a professional baseball team in the International League left town.

The Leafs were forced to close shop when their stadium was torn down, and it wasn't until last year that an enlarged Exhibition Stadium was completed, allowing professional baseball to come back to Toronto.

Eric's love for baseball dates much further back than the 1967 Leafs, however, back to the days when Toronto's ballplayers were as good as any in the United States. Mr. Maxwell played amateur baseball in Toronto back in the 1920's and 30's.

"Baseball used to be the number one sport in town," he remembers. "Bigger than hockey by far. In fact, hockey was number three behind baseball and football in those days."

The Maxwell name is well known around Acton, partly because Eric was a rural postal route deliverer for a number of years, and also



THERE WERE SOME TENSE moments during Thursday's Toronto Blue Jay game, but Toronto won 9-5. Acton resident Eric Maxwell, 71, took in the opener. The tickets were a birthday present, and the long-time baseball fan enjoyed himself thoroughly.

because the Maxwell Farm in Crewson's Corners was a large egg producer.

Any baseball talk around the Maxwell house these days brings about a stream of memories from Eric. He remembers travelling to Toronto Island, when he was

still a schoolboy in Toronto, to see Toronto play Baltimore for the International League championship.

Toronto needed only a win in the double header, but lost the first game 1-0 in 18 innings. The hometown came back to win the nightcap 1-0, and the championship.

As for the Blue Jays, Eric remains optimistic. "They're an expansion team and they'll lose a lot this year," he admits, "but they've got the best organization in baseball, and a good young team. They've gone with youth instead of older players and they can only get better because of it. Watch out for them in a few years."

Much to Eric's delight, the Jays won Thursday's game 9-5 against Chicago White Sox. It was the best birthday present he's had in a long time.

Electric RR

museum theft

A two-wheeled welding cart, cutting torch, goggles and a size Q bottle of oxygen and another of acetylene were stolen from the display building of the Ontario Electric Railway Historical Association museum on the Guelph Line.

Personals

Mr. and Mrs. Ron Gillespie and family of Ottawa visited their parents Mr. and Mrs. Earl Lambert of Acton over the Easter weekend.

Seven new families were welcomed into town by Hi Neighbor Welcome Service hostess Marlene Steckley last month.

Mr. and Mrs. Tony Bagnone and sons Robbie, Jamie and Stevie have made their home here from Weston. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Todd have come from the same place.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Leopardi and sons Robbie and Anthony have moved to Acton from Mississauga, and Michelle and Michael and parents Mr. and Mrs. Jim Carswell have arrived from Brampton.

From Thornhill come Mr. and Mrs. Vince Whelan and daughter Jill, and Mr. and Mrs. Clare Donston and daughters Shelly and Cynthia have made Acton their home after leaving Scarborough. Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Dunn have moved here from Willowdale.

Mrs. Catherine Tocher, Hillsburgh; Mrs. Fran Gibson; Mrs. Charlene Van Oosten and Miss Jane Higgins, all of Acton, spent the Easter holiday weekend in Ottawa.

Friends are sorry to learn Mrs. Fred Salt is a patient in hospital in Guelph. Mr. and Mrs. Salt had just returned from Florida when she became ill.

A record number of Acton and district people have had most enjoyable holidays in the south this winter. Items for this column are welcome and appreciated; give us a call.

Equus, the controversial play by Peter Shaffer, is currently playing at the Royal Alexandra Theatre in Toronto.

Knowing that part of the film was shot in Georgetown and hearing the story centred around a boy's warped love for horses, this horse lover was delighted to be able to see the stage play recently.

I knew something of the plot. The play consists predominantly of dialogue between the disturbed boy and his psychiatrist after he's been arrested for mutilating six horses. The well-advertised nude scenes, emphasis on sadism, and undisputed sexual overtones, made me very wary of actually enjoying the play. However, anything with horses in it attracts me, so I went.

Instead of finding an offensive arty-arty production, I was enthralled by the presentation, a powerful gripping statement of the definition of insanity.

The boy worships horses, the great god Equus, and finds an outlet for his intense passion in adoring the horses he cares for and rides. The pagan rites of his worship are so moving any real horse lover finds himself completely in sympathy with the boy's feelings.

It's only when the boy has a disastrous first experience with a stable girl that he becomes overwhelmed with horror and puts out the eyes of the horses who have witnessed his very humanness. The scene is done with such incredible power, the audience can actually sympathize with the act.

Having met the young star, Dennis Erdman, I was delighted to see the calibre of acting displayed by this boy in his first major role. Douglas Campbell was so convincing as the psychiatrist, I'd go to him anytime.

But it was the horses I loved. In the movie, the directors will use real horses and all the realism they have at their disposal. But in the surreal stage production, where there's no scenery or costumes, the horses were played by five elegant men, two black, three white, wearing open steel work platforms on their feet to simulate hooves and beautiful sculptured horses' head masks on top of their heads.

The ballet of their movements was exquisite—they were the epitome of horse flesh. Such proud haughty beats they were that the audience fell just as much in love with them as the boy.

I found myself totally in empathy with the boy throughout the play and recommend its viewing to everyone, be they horse lover or not.

I.O.D.E. members plan Jubilee Tea for May

Regent Helen Jocque chaired the April meeting of the Lakeside Chapter IODE, held in the board room of the Legion on Tuesday evening last. 34 members attending.

Arrangements were finalized for the Jubilee Tea to be held at the home of Marguerite Taylor on May 11.

A report of plans for the 60th anniversary banquet to be held in October was presented.

A talent auction was con-

Strike on at Dufferin works

A picket line was set up in front of Dufferin Quarry near here by 31 members of local 366 Cement, Limestone and Gypsum Workers because of an impasse in negotiations for a new contract. The old contract ran out November 1 of last year. Union officials want a letter of intent included in the new contract that would set a higher than the agreed wage once Ottawa lifts the Anti-Inflation Board (AIB) limits. Company officials maintain they are offering the most money permitted under AIB legislation.

Bike gone

A Churchill Road North resident reported to police that unknown persons removed his three-speed red framed Mira-Mari bicycle from M. Z. Bennett public school. The boys bike also has highrise handlebars with black grips, chrome fenders and a black banana seat.

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Acton woman to attend conference

An artist, geneticist, and a member of parliament will be among the special guests attending the 57th annual meeting of the Provincial Chapter of Ontario, IODE, on April 13 and 14 at the Royal Connaught Hotel, Hamilton. Over 450 women representing chapters throughout the province have registered for the two-day meeting. Mrs. C. E. Nelles will be the Lakeside chapter delegate, and will attend on April 14.

Mrs. G. L. Furness of Hamilton, Provincial President, will preside over all sessions beginning with the opening ceremonies Wednesday morning at 10, to be followed by the annual reports of the Provincial Officers.

At 1:30 Wednesday afternoon, Dr. Nancy Simpson of Kingston, President of the Association of Genetic Counsellors of Ontario, and Drs. Helen Hughes and Noreen Rudd of the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, will speak on the IODE Concern for Children Project in Genetic Counselling. At 2:15, Dr. J. Ronald D. Bayne, Medical Director of St. Peter's Centre, Hamilton, will speak on 'Concern for the Elderly'. At 3:00, Mrs. Winifred Petchey Marsh, Toronto, the artist whose collection of paintings of the Padlimit Tribe of the Caribou Eskimo has been purchased by the National Chapter IODE as a Silver Jubilee gift to be presented to the

idents

An update on the picture in the Free Press two weeks ago of the high school class in 1928: Blanche Smith should read Jean Smith. One of the people whose name was missing is Anna Allison.

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