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by Esther Taylor

The Jonestown horror? Was it an isolated tragedy, or could it happen again? According to John Peer Nugent, author of White Night, there might well be bigger Jonestowns because cults are on the increase not only in the United States, but in Canada, Europe, Australia and New Zea-

White Night: the untold story of what happened before-and beyond-Jonestown is a disturbing book, which reveals Jim Jones as a liar, con man, racist, and actor. In Nugent's judgment, the lead of People's Temple was acting for most of his 49 years. Yet he succeeded in hoodwinking upper-class whites as well as the poorer black followers. Influential Americans thought of him as a reformer, some backing his movement with money and praise. He fooled almost everyone, including the American State Department.

Towards the end of his bizarre career, the charismatic leader who took dope and indulged in kinky sex, thought of himself as God. In this role, he ordered the mass suicide of nearly 1,000 people at Jonestown, Guyana, Novermber 1978. White Night is a gripping, but chilling read.

Absorbing - more than gripping - is Mordecai Richler's Josua Then and Now. On the best-seller list, Joshua is a meaty novel with rich charcterization. Canadian readers will recognize the Then and Now of Joshua's Canada, in flashbacks from Separatist Montreal "o the smug class and race ridden" country of yesterday.

Local readers to date have mixed reactions to Richler's latest novel. One patron, while impressed by the character portrayal, admits being 'discomfabulated' by the continuous jumps from past to present often in the same chapter. "One minute, Joshua is a young man in Spain, and a second later, he's married and a successful journalist. It's a bit confusing,"

One of the most unusual characters in this best-seller is Joshua's mother, who strips for his youthful guests at the Jewish boy's bar-mitzvah. Certain to delight Tory readers is Richler's treatment of the Mackenzie King story blatantly irreverant like the account of the Mackenzie

King Memorial club organized by Josua and his

Suspense addicts who proclaimed Coma by Robin Cook a great read will be even more absorbed by Sphinx, set - you guessed it - in modern Egypt. Heroine Erica, a comely Egyptologist realizes a lifetime ambition when she arrives in Egypt, unwittingly starting a train of events that come close to ending her career. Erica is an engaging personality, extremely knowleagable about Egyptain treasures, but so dumb about men that one yearns to shake her. The library has Sphinx in paperback.

Looking for vacation reading, a blend of suspense and romance? If you have not done so, how about sampling Joan Aiken books. The Library has Three-minute Marriage, and Last Movement, the latter in large print, which is a joy to read if the old peepers are not 100 per cent.

Among the titles in a new shipment of large print books on loan from the South Central Regional Library System: The Long, Long Trail, Max Brand; The Fledgling, Elizabeth Cadell; The Lady in Black, Anna Clarke Katie, an Impertinent Fairy Tale, Beatrice Chute; Isle of Pomergranates, Iris Danbury; Gwendolyn, Clare Darcy; Beauty Sleep, Hildegrade Dolson; Family Fortune, Mignon Everhart; Every Inch a Lady, Joan Fleming; Murder by Request, Rae Foley; In My Father's House, Ernest Gaines; Night Journey, Winston Graham; The Secret Room of Morgate House, Elissa Grandower; All Change For Murdej, Victor Gunn; Airport, Arthur Hailey: A Time for Us, Arlene Hale; The Shadow of the Lynx, Victoria Holt; Killing With Kindness, Anne Morice; The Valhalla Exchange, Henry Patterson, Double, Double, Ellery Queen; The Innocents, Margery Sharp.

Nature-loving readers who hike through the Old Cemetery green en route to the park have been trading notes on the Robin tree within the fenced in area. It's a spreading Mulberry tree, patronized by Redbreasts who down the berries as fast as they ripen. One onlooker swears she spotted an inebriated young robin unable to fly after a feast of mulberries.



Acton Soccer Club held a garage and bake sale Saturday to raise money for a weekend soccer trip to Lockport. New York, later this month. Here John Wright sells Liz Solowoniuk a lamp.

Golden Age Club

Lots of seniors trips

Although it was a very warm and humid day, a large number enjoyed the August 5 afternoon meeting of the Golden Age Club which was held at St. Alban's Hall. Jean McLean presided at the piano for the singing of O Canada and Theme Song.

A moment's silence card of thanks.

transportation convener has been extremely busy with the bus trips. Our next trip was to Niagara Falls on

Tuesday, August 12. Some of our members left on a Moosonee trip the day previous. The also played. convenor asked that anyone wishing to go on the three of our Rockwood trip to Agawa canyon on members. October 5-9, to get in con-

Birthday greetings was observed in memory were sung to Anne Berry of Grace Townsley. The and Elsie Halladay. Syd secretary had read a Norris received the anniversary song. We also welcomed two new members.

possible.

Euchre was enjoyed with the winners beingladies Evelyn Near and

Our next regular meet-

Irene Davidson; gents-Earl Lambert and Joe Fuller. Cribbage was Lunch was served by

ing will be held on tact with her as soon as Wednesday, August 20 at 7:30 p.m.



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Private road a problem

Unable to solve the problem of a private road into a six house subdivision on 20 acres of working farm, Halton Hills planning board decided to defer a decision. until the next planning board meeting.

The private road would run off Highway 25 on The Berry farm, next to Chudleigh's Apple Farm, between Five and Ten Sideroads.

Town Solicitor Ray Steele told planning board there was no legally binding restrictions that could be registered on the deed, preventing buyers from coming to council and asking the road be taken over.

Councillor Pat Patterson estimated it would cost \$35,000 to bring the road up to standard, and suggested the six buyers pay it themselves.

Solicitor David Shlagbaum, appearing for the owners of the land. sign would be erected at the entrance to the road telling everyone it is a chase.

pointed out a permanent private road, and this information would be included in the offer of pur-

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