

VON Serves North Halton Had 1400 Patients In 1970



A set of keys and a flashy new car are presented to two members of the Oakville branch of the Victorian Order of Nurses by Milton Lions Club members. Lions donated the car to the VON who serve the North Halton area. Left to right presenting the car are past president George Clements, Lions president Murray Hood, VON Oakville head nurse Mrs. Gail Beddome and Miss Barbara Kirby. The car is a fully equipped 1971 Hornet.

by Janet Bralda

Navy blue and white may not be your favourite colours, but for the young and old residents of North Halton these two most popular hues are symbolic of friendship, trust, understanding and help. And it's the girls that make the clothes as the Victorian Order of Nurses work for the county and the individual and administer bedside nursing care in over 60 homes in the North Halton area.

Two full time nurses and six relief or part time nurses work from the Oakville Branch of the VON and one of these nurses serves full time in the northern area of county. Mrs. Gail Beddome (head of the Oakville VON) Miss Barbara Kirby and Mrs. Evn Wands devote their time, and in many cases their energy to working with young and old alike and helping with injections, dressings, rehabilitation, bathing and several other medical services provided by the association.

treatment and care resulted in the hiring of another full time nurse who needed a car to serve her area. From VON funds the group purchased 2 cars for the two nurses, but Mrs. Beddome, who works part time, was also in need of an automobile. Following countless talks to service groups and clubs in the area, Milton Lions Club generously donated a brand new 1971 Hornet to the VON.

A striking royal blue and fully equipped with extras, the new car has already been put to use serving the North Halton area. Miss Barb Kirby, travels more than 100 miles a day in the new auto visiting and helping patients. She averages eight calls per day.

Almost 65 per cent of all our patients are over 60 years of age, noted Mrs. Beddome.

"Fees are paid according to what the patient can afford. The majority of patients pay a portion of the standard \$5 fee, very few pay full fee and some pay no fee at all," she continued. "What patients pay for service is confidential and each situation is assessed before a standard fee is set."

Patients who receive the VON service free are usually pensioners or welfare recipients, she explained. All monies coming directly to the VON office are put into one "small" pot and nurses wages and operation of the VON cars is taken directly from the lumped sum.

All nurses serving with the VON are graduates of recognized nursing schools and several have had university preparation before joining the staff.

"If we could get the space and a full time nurse from the area

we would certainly consider having an office in the northern sector of the county" Mrs. Beddome noted. "The case load increase in that area certainly warrants a new office."

SPEAKS TO GROUPS

In her spare time Mrs. Beddome visits clubs and service groups, and speaks to interested persons on the work of the VON. Recently she directed her conversation to the Georgetown Rotary Club, the previous week on Acton service group and next week . . . who knows?

The VON nurses work a seven and a half hour day but cover calls 24 hours of the day, 365 days a year. Since the Victorian Order of Nurses was first established in 1897, the association has been working with you and for you for your health, success, progress and prosperity.

40 AT PUBLIC MEETING Need More Personnel for County Mental Health Needs

Explanations of the work of the Canadian Mental Health Association generated plenty of enthusiasm, when about 40 attended a public meeting in Hillcrest church Thursday evening, April 22. Rev. Harry Dawson of Acton acted as chairman for the meeting in which those present "felt their way" on a new subject.

Representatives from Acton, Milton, Georgetown, Esquesing and Nassagaweya agreed on the lack of services in North Halton.

A steering committee was named including Rev. Dawson and David Swetman of Acton.

Understaffed

In north Halton, the audience learned, there is not one psychiatrist available, one psychologist with the board of education, and, apart from the Children's Aid, only one professional social worker, also with the Board of Education.

North Halton has from three

to five public health nurses — well below the recommended figure of one nurse per 5,000 urban population or 3,000 rural population.

MAKE PLANS

The new steering committee hopes to investigate service and develop better co-ordination. The group could possibly be instrumental in getting a psychiatrist or community clinic.

Those present agreed the public should voice opinions to see results in services.

DID YOU KNOW?

Benjamin Disraeli helped to "engineer" the building of the Suez Canal while Ferdinand de Lesseps actually engineered it.

Hornby Orange Holds Successful Euchre Night

No. 245 Orange Lodge held a successful euchre on Friday evening. Winners at euchre were ladies 1st Mrs. Preston; 2nd Mrs. George Inglis. High for men, Elwood Snow, 2nd Tom Hamilton. There were two lucky cards, prizes going to Mrs. Britton and A. Pemberton. Door prize also was won by A. Pemberton. The beautiful quilt made by Mrs. Drouillard and donated to the lodge was drawn for. Mr. George Burt held the winning ticket.

DOCTOR'S ORDERS

"We will care for anybody" said Mrs. Gail Beddome, spokesman for the group. "Whether they're rich or poor it is of little concern to us, but care is only given if a patient has been recommended by a doctor to us," she noted. "Anyone can refer a patient to us, but we must have orders from the family doctor before we visit a home."

The VON association depends largely on funds from the Oakville extension, a grant from VON Ontario and a county grant from Halton to operate. Last year the Oakville branch also received a \$500 grant from the town of Acton as extra monies were needed, and support also comes directly from the United Appeal, Canadian Cancer Society, Blue Cross, insurance companies and the Nurses' Services Act.

"It may seem like quite a considerable amount in one lump sum" said Mrs. Beddome, "but we increased from 300 patients in 1969 to 1,400 in 1970 and operated with a \$5,000 deficit last year."

CLUB DONATES CAR

The case load increase in the number of patients needing



THE GUILD GUIDES OF CANADA
PRESENTER
KING ARTHUR
AND THE KNIGHTS
OF THE ROUND TABLE
POSTERSMITH

Brenda Smith, a Guide from the 7th Georgetown Company, was the winner in poster making competitions recently held by the Georgetown North District and Halton Division of Guides. The posters were in promotion of the play King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table being presented by Girl Guides and Rangers of the White Oaks Area, Friday and Saturday in Post Credit. Brenda's poster was a close runner-up in the White Oaks Area competition. She will receive official recognition when Georgetown North Guide Commissioner Mrs. M. Silk and Halton Public Relations Officer Mrs. W. Hall make a presentation to her at a future Guide meeting.

LET'S PLAY BRIDGE

BY BILL COATS

It's too bad that bridge players cannot get their good bidding and good play together at the same time. On some hands you play brilliantly to make ten tricks but you only bid two so you get a poor result. On the next hand you bid like an expert to a grand slam but you make only twelve tricks for another poor result.

Here is one, of the latter type from last week's action at the Acton Bridge Club. South dealt with North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
S-K 8 3
H-A K 5 4
D-K
C-K Q J 3

WEST **EAST**
S-5 S-10 9 8 4
H-Q 10 7 3 2 H-J 8
D-Q 10 6 4 2 D-J 9 5
C-9 8 C-10 7 4 2

SOUTH
S-A Q 7 1
H-9 6
D-A 8 7 3
C-A 6 5

The bidding:

WEST SOUTH NORTH EAST
2NT 1C Dbld. Pass
Pass 3S 4NT Pass
Pass 5S 7S All Pass

South was one of the bridge players who follows the current fad of opening balanced hands with a bid of one club. Some day he will get in trouble but not on this hand. West made a valiant effort to block the bidding with a 2 no trump bid. At favourable vulnerability (not vulnerable as vulnerable) he is looking for a sacrifice in either red suit.

POWER HOUSE

North has a powerhouse opposite an opening bid. His double announced that he has something. South shows his spade suit and North took off. After a Blackwood sequence, North bids a grand slam in spades.

West led a heart and declarer should take stock. It looks like four spade tricks, two in hearts two in diamonds and four in clubs. That's only 12 tricks, so another trick is required. It's obvious, if you take time to look that a diamond ruff in dummy is the easiest way to get this.

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