

# Speaker urges parents to buy Canadian books

By LOUI TAYLOR  
Herald Staff Writer

Of all the children's books sold in Canada, 93 per cent are imported from outside the country.

Phyllis Yaffe, director of the Children's Book Centre in Toronto, used that statistic in her speech to Georgetown's University Women's Club last week to point out the need to encourage Canadian authors of children's books.

The Children's Book Centre is a non-profit organization, funded by the federal and provincial governments, designed to assist with the writing, selling and reading of Canadian children's books, Ms. Yaffe said.

"In this country we have cultural importers, not cultural exporters," she said. "I don't believe in nationalism, but I think it's important that we read Canadian books to our children."

Ms. Yaffe said that she believes one of the worst things people have done is to let architects design their homes. The architects put closets in the bedrooms, cupboards in the kitchens and other fixtures where we expect them to be, she said, but most houses have no built-in bookshelves. If there are bookshelves, they are usually in one room.

"That's one of the ways we have alienated children from books, by not surrounding them with books in every room in the house," Ms. Yaffe said. "I'm not a doom-sayer about children reading, though, I don't think we've lost children to television."

Ms. Yaffe said studies indicate there is no way to tell whether or not a child is a "reader." There are three factors which could give some idea of whether or not a child will read. A girl is more likely to read than a boy, throughout her life, because the socialization process encourages girls to engage in more sedate activities, she said.

The child's ability to read is also a factor, Ms. Yaffe said. If a child finds it difficult to read, he or she is less likely to read for pleasure. The number of books in the home which the family actually owns, as opposed to those borrowed from the library, will also be a factor, Ms. Yaffe said.

"If the child sees his or her parents reading, they get the idea that it's alright for them to read, too," she said.

"We're publishing more and better Canadian children's books all the time. The problem is not that we don't have the talent, or that the books aren't available or that people like you aren't interested in supporting Canadian books, it's because the publishing situation is so bad. Publishers get a low return on children's books."

"We need to increase print runs and sell more copies of these books," she said. "No publisher can afford to keep doing children's books and not get a return financially."

Ms. Yaffe urged the audience to support the independent book sellers, because most of the larger book stores don't stock Canadian children's books. There are a few years ago, there were no children's book stores around, there are now about 14 in Canada which specialize in children's books, she said.

"Whether or not you are a parent, I hope we can agree that children's books are an element of literature and of growing up," Ms. Yaffe said.

books anything a child reads, or has read to him, is a children's book. "The Eaton's catalogue is a children's book if you're desperate enough to keep the child still for a while."

"The important thing is to remember that children's books are an important way children are introduced to many things," Ms. Yaffe said. "If a child grows up without that introduction to reading and literature, it is more difficult to become a reader when they get older."

**BOOKSHELVES**

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## BEAVER SWIM-UP

Beavers Scott Adams and Ian Vint of the 2nd Georgetown Beavers swam up to cubs last Tuesday evening in a ceremony at St. George's Anglican Church Hall. Shown with the two new cubs is "Koo" Ian McKay.

(Herald photo)

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### Come to Church

<p><b>ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH</b> Anglican REV. ROSWELL TEES Sunday, February 17, 1980 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 9:00 a.m. Family Eucharist Church School, Nursery 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Thursday - Eucharist February 20, EUCHARIST 7:30 A.M. 9 A.M. 7 P.M.</p>	<p><b>MAPLE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH</b> 177 Maple Ave. Georgetown PASTOR EDWIN H. MITCHELL Telephone 877-0320 Sunday February 17, 1980 9:45 Family Bible School Transportation 838-2330 11 A.M. Christian Communion Positive &amp; Negative 6:30 P.M. Satan's Strategy THE MIND Parade and Participation Children's Church Nursery at all Services 1980 IS OUR 25TH ANNIVERSARY. JOIN US AS WE GROW FOR THE GLORY OF GOD.</p>
<p><b>GEORGETOWN ALLIANCE CHURCH</b> 14 Main St. S. PASTOR PETER RALPH Sunday February, 17, 1980 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship 11 a.m. Evening Service 6:30 p.m. Come and Make our Church Your Church Everyone Welcome P. RALPH 877-9816 853-3923</p>	<p><b>IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> Windsor Road at Carole St. Vacancy Pastor REV. ARTHUR RADER Sunday February 17, 1980 10:15 a.m. Sunday School Church of the Lutheran Hour</p>

## Dufrane in court Mar. 27

A Georgetown man allegedly involved in an incident leading to the fatal wounding of a man in Mississauga by two Peel Regional Police officers will appear in court for a preliminary hearing March 27 on four charges connected with the incident.

Paul Dufrane, 26, of Gurney Drive, has been charged with two counts of breaking and entering, one charge of possession of a dangerous weapon and one charge of possession of a restricted drug for the purposes of trafficking.

Mr. Dufrane is alleged to be the second man who, along with Robert John Hurst, 29, broke into an apartment in Mississauga while two police officers were inside talking to two women about a complaint of assault.

Mr. Hurst is said by police to have been carrying a baseball bat and to have been wearing a butcher knife at his side when he forced his way into the apartment. He approached the two officers, Det. Richard Woods and Constable Donald McLoxry, swinging the baseball bat. When Mr. Hurst ignored the officers' warnings to drop the bat, both drew their revolvers and fired.

Mr. Hurst was pronounced dead on arrival at Mississauga General Hospital. An inquest will be held into the shooting death, the first in the history of the six-year-old regional force.

## Norval Carnival Saturday

The annual Norval Winter Carnival will be held this Saturday at the Norval Community Centre, and organizers are hoping for some snow by then.

The day's events will begin at 2 p.m. with a skating party, and people can skate as long as they like. At 3 p.m. the competitions begin with a "hit the clown" contest. The organizers don't have final arrangements made yet, but are hopeful that some well-known local "clowns" can be persuaded to be targets for some wet sponges.

Other activities will include a snowshoe race, a ski relay, crazy car races, tug-of-war, toboggan relays, doughnut-eating contests and log-sawing contests. There will be snowmobile rides all day.

Inside the community centre, there will be a booth with hot dogs, hamburgers, chili and other food to warm up the insides. Meanwhile, there will be a bonfire outside all day to keep the toes warm.

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11:00 A.M. - NATIONAL WOMEN'S MINISTRIES DAY  
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