

A banner year

The year 1984 turned out to be a very productive year for construction in Midland. A total of 230 permits were issued for a total value of construction of \$7,493,550.

During 1983, 219 permits were issued for a total value of \$3,228,690.

And December last year turned out to be a busy month for construction in the municipality with eight permits being issued for a value of \$41,290 compared to five permits being issued in December of 1983 for \$6,500.

Library News

Did you realize that we have a new books section in the library? These are books that have only been in the library for four months or less. We display a list of all these materials and will accept a reserve if the item is already circulating.

Fiction

The Artful Egg by James McClure, The First to Land by Douglas Reeman, The Corpse in the Waxworks by John Dickson Carr, Cry of the Hawk by Leigh F. James.

Non-fiction

The Audel Home Repair Series. Refrigeration: Home and Commercial. Home Appliance Servicing. Air Conditioning: Home and Commercial. Painting and Decorating.

Paperbacks

Although it can be heavy going, Mark Helprin's *Winter Tale* is a wide-ranging highly-imaginative fantasy novel. It takes place in a futuristic Manhattan in which Peter Lake, a thief, is chased across land and time by the monstrous Short Tails, a vigilante group. Peter is lucky enough to make contact with a magical flying white horse who also knows a good adventure when he sees it. Together they journey 'round Manhattan and beyond, rescuing people and escaping from others. An immense scope (Pocket, \$4.95).

For a cat lover, any book which calls itself *The Book of Cats* must go into the library. Editors George MacBeth and Martin Booth have tracked down some wonderful exhibits of prose and poetry including lighter verse such as Ogden Nash's *The Kitten* (The trouble with a kitten is THAT Eventually it becomes CAT.) Eulogies to passed-on pets include a gruesome entry, *A Case of Murder*, by Vernon Scannell, which illustrates the almost mystical power cats possess. Meaty selections these, divided into nine (hmmm) illustrative sections (Penguin, \$9.95).

When Igor Gouzenko defected in 1945 he didn't know that the information he wanted to disclose would be unwelcome. Surely the West would want to know how their security systems had been penetrated by the Soviets? But no, they didn't. "Now, late in the day, we know he was right. Moscow has been continuously informed of our innermost secrets, from the first atom bomb to the present crop of aerospace weapons, from foreign policies to new satellite defence systems, because the warning was ignored." Using the Gouzenko tragedy as a springboard for an awesome breadth of information, William Stevenson once again brings the life and time of Sir William Stephenson to life. In *Intrepid's Last Case* he tells how Stephenson was one of Gouzenko's first and few supporters. Only since Gouzenko's death in 1982 have secret reports of the British Security Coordination files been opened, and author Stevenson draws liberally on these, plus recollections of Intrepid himself, Sir William. Astonishing facts about the Cold War, former Nazis spying for the Soviets, the story of Dick Ellis (Intrepid's right hand man) who was maligned as a Soviet spy, are disclosed. Exciting and informative reading (Ballantyne, \$4.75).

One can't help leaping to conclusions when a book called *Baby Killers* is published. With the Grange Commission hearings into the deaths of babies at Toronto's Sick Children's Hospital just closing, and the mystery of that case still ripe in our minds, Joy Carroll's new book seems to be capitalizing on that scandal. But to give Carroll her due, she has constructed a dramatic story here in which hospitalized babies who are ill, but not life-threatening, suddenly suffer cardiac arrest. As in the true-life drama, the nurses are suspect, the doctors not really and outsiders are overlooked entirely. Carroll focuses on the two primary suspects—the ins and outs of hospital life, the petty jealousies—all resulting in the truth that barely anyone's life is above suspicion especially when looked at under a microscope with a suspicious mind. The pressure on the police to make an arrest is mentioned, as well as all sorts of psychological theories. Carroll leaves most of the medical and scientific detail to our imaginations. This is a quick, but interesting read (Paperjacks, \$3.95).

Patricia Job



A royal dinner indeed!

A Royal Christmas Dinner! Seated in the foreground from left to right are Chris White, Christina Hanmore, Chris Jolie, Dawna Baker, Danny Pilon and Matthew Marion. Regent Royals celebrated Christmas a little earlier than usual this year. On the last day of school before the holiday, 65 primary students, their teachers and

parent volunteers, sat down to a traditional turkey meal. The feast was a culmination of a Christmas unit that was studied by grade one, two and three students at Regent Public School. Christmas crackers, stuffed with hats, dipped candles and special baked goods—all made by the students themselves, added to the occasion.

Jan. 17

A Collingwood and Georgian Bay District Lodge of the International Ship Masters Association is being proposed. A meeting is being held Jan. 17 at 7 p.m. in Owen Sound's Holiday Inn. For more information telephone Bill Scotney (445-2227).

Jan. 21

Ecumenical pot luck supper in St. Mark's Anglican Church, at 6:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Huronia Midland District Ministerial.

Jan. 22

Huronian Chapter Trout Unlimited of Canada general meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Wye Marsh Wildlife Interpretation Centre.

Feb. 2

Big Brothers of Midland-Penatung annual Bowl for Millions Feb. 2-9, at Bayshore Lanes, Midland, and K of C Centre, Penetanguishene.

**3
BIG
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