

"THE LIBERAL"

Established 1878
AN INDEPENDENT WEEKLY
J. Eachern Smith, Manager

Advertising Rates on Application. TELEPHONE 9.
PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY AT RICHMOND HILL
THE LIBERAL PRINTING CO., LTD.
Member Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association
Subscription \$1.50 per year — To the United States \$2.00
Covering Canada's Best Suburban District

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4th, 1937.

HOUSING PLAN

Some much needed relief from the long, drawn-out wrangling over Hydro affairs was afforded the Legislature the other day when Hon. David Croll, Minister of Welfare, revealed that the Ontario Government has completed arrangements for a comprehensive housing scheme in the supervised municipalities of the province.

For a start there will be 560 houses erected in these municipalities, the materials and labor being supplied by the municipalities and the province paying towards the labor costs. But the scheme is not for supervised municipalities alone; it is open to every municipality in the province, and it is the government's hope that all will take advantage of the opportunity to build low-cost homes for working people of moderate means.

When Mr. Croll explained the purpose of his government to an attentive Legislature, there was no criticism forthcoming. In fact, Wilfrid Heighington, the Conservative member for St. David's, congratulated the Minister on the foresight and courage of the administration in embarking on such a plan.

In Sweden and Denmark and other parts of Europe practical housing schemes have been in effect for considerable time. But on this continent the idea has not taken hold except in a patchwork way. The benefits are numerous. First of all, it will provide work for unemployed artisans and laborers, it will stimulate the building industry and it will provide decent, sanitary homes for people who need them. Another great advantage is that it will provide wages, not a mere dole, for thousands now on relief. The beneficial effect on the morale of the jobless will be tremendous.

The government has experimented with a number of houses in York County to get an idea of cost and suitability of the types of houses constructed. Satisfied that practical homes can be built for reasonable sums and assured of public interest in the idea, the Minister of Welfare, proponent of the scheme from the start, has convinced his cabinet colleagues of the wisdom of the plan, and now it is about to be consummated on a large scale.

Of course, 560 homes is only a start. Year by Year it will be extended until every municipality where there is a housing need will have new homes for its people. And there is this added feature: shacks will be demolished. No municipality will be allowed to retain slum homes. For every new house built, it is the aim of the government to destroy one disease-ridden shack.

No finer monument to a government's term of office can be found than thousands of decent homes spread throughout the province. The usual manner of spending relief monies yields nothing of a concrete nature. It is spent and nothing remains to show for it, that is, in some tangible form.

But the erection of low-priced homes, fitted with modern conveniences, is truly a noble work, and is something that is outside the realm of politics itself. There is not likely to be criticism from the Conservatives in the Legislature. What is there to criticize?

A TEACHER'S PRAYER

Parents in Prince Edward realized anew during the mid-year school vacation that a large part of the responsibility of rearing the children is borne by the public school teachers.

Those who are not members of some parent-teacher organization do not always appreciate the high ideals most teachers have in regard to their calling. To the conscientious teacher her work is more than a job, more than a means of earning a livelihood. Consider the following from the very soul of a high-born, high-minded Southern girl, who realizes her great responsibility to her God and to her pupils. We quote from "South Carolina Education": "If you have a few moments alone offer a prayer for me.

"First, a prayer for love—that my heart may be filled with love to guide these little hearts and minds aright; to give them a start and a gentle, loving beginning on that long road of learning—so that they will see and know the beautiful things around them; to hold the little hands firmly so the little feet won't slip—so they will know where there is someone near to help them over all the rough places.

"And, oh, a prayer for patience—With the love to lead carefully and help those who are slow; and ask Him to give me a happy heart—they need it and I need it to know just when to laugh to teach them to see the funny things, to help them have all the fun they can.

"Pray that I may have a right judgment — a fair and square judgment in all things for little things mean so much to little people. Help me to understand their little troubles.

"And finally, pray that I may be worthy of their wonderful love and that I may repay them tenfold. In other words ask Him to give me love, patience, courage and strength—a big heart, a right judgment, a helping hand—and I should not forget a soft and gentle voice. These are some of the things I need to pray for.

"I am so willing to do and I will do my best, but I can't do it alone some days. There should be a special guardian angel to watch over and help teachers. Children are such queer little things, they should have the best women who live to guide them. If I could only know how to teach them—what's good and best and true. If I could only help them on to better things. Well, I will do my very best, by the help of God."

NOTHING TO FOOL WITH

There is a great deal that the doctors do not know about influenza, but they do know pretty well what to do about it. In all varieties of it, it may be laid down as a general principal that you had better coddle yourself a bit about it, before you get it and after; and that, if you get it, you had better on no account try to "tough it out."

This is old-fashioned treatment, but the best doctors seem to agree that it is the best. It means going to bed and staying warm for a day or two; and it means put in the converse, not going out to expose yourself to further chills and infections, and the risk of pneumonia.

It means also not going where you can contribute your own collection of germs to the general infection. Influenza, even of the mild sort, is a bad thing to fool with.—Vancouver Province.

Newtonbrook United Church Reports Year of Progress and Varied Program of Undertakings

A Candlelight Installation Service was held last Sunday evening in the United Church for the new officers of 1937. In addressing the young people the pastor spoke on "The Qualities of a Leader."

The Canadian Girls in Training met last Tuesday evening. They have announced a St. Valentine tea to be held on Saturday, February 13 from 2.30 to 5 at the home of Mr. A. W. Galbraith. Everybody welcome.

We are pleased to state that Miss Denora McCammon is making a good recovery from her accident.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Street and Miss Edna attended the funeral of Mr. Street's brother, Mr. Joseph Street, in Toronto last Tuesday.

A Missionary program will be presented in the United Church next Sunday morning.

A Temperance program was presented last Sunday morning at the close of the Lesson period. Lantern slides were shown on "Why Santa Claus did not come." It pictured a home where the father spent all his money in alcohol and his four children were denied the joys of Christmas and were disappointed in finding their stockings empty. Their father reformed and signed the pledge which resulted in a happy home and Christmas was enjoyed by all the following year.

A very interesting meeting of the Young People's Union was held last Monday evening under the direction of Mr. Harold Duggan, first vice-president. Miss Gladys Riddell read the Scripture Lesson and prayer was offered by Rev. A. H. Halbert. The main feature of the program was a debate "Resolved that women are of equal intelligence to men" and was won by the affirmative which was upheld by four young ladies, Misses Beatrice Johnston, Margaret Shaw, Mary Douglas and Gwendolyn Barber.

Those on the negative side were Harold Duggan, Harold Smith, Clifford Brett, Irwin Brown and Kenneth Foreman. The debate showed that keen interest had been taken and careful preparation, all taking their parts in a very creditable manner. Three vocal numbers were given by the Home and School Glee Club and two piano solos by Miss Patsy Foreman. All were very much enjoyed. The judges were Rev. A. H. Halbert, Mr. L. Grisdale, Mrs. W. T. New and Mr. W. T. Wells. There was an attendance of forty-one. Miss Gwendolyn Barber, Missionary convener, will be in charge of the Y.P.U. meeting next Monday evening.

A Congregational Supper featured the annual meeting of Newtonbrook United Church last Thursday evening with a good attendance. At 6.45 p.m. all was in readiness, the ladies having prepared a delicious hot dinner and all spent a delightful hour around the festive board as one large family. The business meeting followed. Prayer was offered by the pastor. Miss Margaret Shaw, sec'y, presented the Sunday School report. There is a total membership of 269. Miss Edna Street, supt. of the Home Dept. reported 25 members. Number of calls made were 55. Collections amounted to \$18.55.

Mrs. Leslie Grisdale, supt. of the Cradle Roll reported 59 members during the year. 7 were promoted and 5 moved away leaving a membership now of 47 members. She had made 123 calls.

The W.M.S. entertained the Cradle Roll and Baby Band members in June.

A Christmas Party was also given the mothers and babies with 70 present. Miss Semmens was the guest speaker. Afternoon tea was served to the mothers and the little tots sat down to a table gaily decorated with Christmas decorations and all the goodies that go with it. Each child received a gift. They were also remembered with a birthday card on their birthday.

Mothers' Day and Rally Day were observed when the S. S. took part in the morning service. On Dec. 13, 1936 the 80th anniversary of the Sunday School was celebrated with Rev. A. P. Brace, a former pastor of 34 years ago, as special speaker, and was assisted by Rev. A. H. Halbert. A White Gift Service was also a special feature on this occasion.

The Intermediate S. S. choir under the direction of Miss Soden and Miss Cora Good, rendered special music. Twenty baskets were given out among the needy at Christmas time. This was made possible by the White Gift Service.

On March 14 the S. S. scholars were entertained at a Supper followed by Lantern Slides of an educational nature. On June 20th the annual picnic took place to Elm Park at Woodbridge.

The S. S. Garden Party was held on July 10th. On Dec. 16th the

Christmas Tree entertainment was presented by the scholars. This has become very popular and this year the building was filled to capacity and many turned away.

Temperance programs are given quarterly and a donation of \$12.47 was given to the Ontario Temperance Federation. Missionary Sunday is the first Sunday in every month with a special program. The S. S. raised \$56.61 for missions.

A Bible Study Test has been introduced during the past year and has proved very satisfactory. This is given at the end of each quarter on Review Sunday. There are nineteen classes in the S. S. with teachers for every class and one assistant. Special mention is made every Sunday of the classes with perfect attendance. The Young Ladies' Class (Mrs. Halbert's) headed the list with most Sundays of perfect attendance during the year.

The Young Men's Organized Class meets at 2.15 p.m. They have a membership of 20. They held two social evenings and a concert. As a result of money collected through the concert and the balance brought over from the previous year, and some donations, they raised \$91.57. With this they purchased 125 small Hymnaries and 6 choir Hymnaries with music which were presented to the Church last April.

A Scout Group has been organized recently and the Intermediate boys are looking forward to many activities in 1937.

Mr. Harold Duggan presented the report of the Young People's Union. In addition to the regular weekly meetings five socials were held and one banquet. Several guest speakers had contributed to the program along the line of missions, League of Nations, the Separate School Question and inspirational addresses. The local Y.P.U. had the pleasure of entertaining neighboring societies which included Carrville, Edgeley, Willowdale United, Lansing United and St. George's Anglican. The Y.P.U. Rally was held in Newtonbrook United Church in Sept. with Dr. T. H. Sun of China as guest speaker.

Another important event was the Parents' Banquet held at the opening of the Fall season when the parents of the Young People were our honored guests.

The Y. P. meetings closed for the summer months but get-togethers were planned to keep the members together. Some of the summer activities were: A Bacon Fry at Mr. Harry Smith's farm at Bayview Ave. the latter part of May sponsored by the losing side in the membership campaign when all enjoyed a happy evening around the Camp Fire singing songs, popping corn and eating delicious hot bacon sandwiches. The next social event was the Steamer Cruise to Port Dalhousie on June 6th. A Hike and Paper Chase to Bathurst St. Park on June 27th with a picnic lunch at the end of the trail was also enjoyed. A delightful picnic to Alcona Beach in July was held. The treasurer, Irwin Brown, reported a substantial balance in treasury. \$25.00 had been contributed by the Y.P.U. to local church funds and \$25.00 to missions.

Mrs. A. Wiltshire gave a concise report of the Woman's Association. It has a membership of 36 with 3 new members. Ten meetings were held and four quilting meetings. The W. A. members had made 481 church calls. These are reported at every meeting in the roll call. They had two suppers and three concerts. The annual picnic to Centre Island in July was enjoyed by all. Total amount raised by W. A. was \$329.00.

Mrs. W. T. New presented the report of the W.M.S. Eleven meetings were held with an average attendance of twenty-one. The W. M. S. Sunday was held in May with Miss Olive Brand of Smoky Lake, Alberta as special speaker. Among the guest speakers during the year were: Dr. Margaret McKellar of India; Mrs. Benton who spoke on Christian Stewardship; Mrs. Bartlett on Temperance and a visit from our vice-president, Mrs. Jaquith. Mrs. Gardiner attended the Sept. meeting when the Associate Helpers Sec'y had charge.

A St. Patrick Tea was held on March 17 at the home of Mrs. J. C. Bales when Miss Preston, a former missionary of Japan, and Mrs. Harai were our guests. A Morality Play entitled "Every Man" was presented in November by Centennial United Church Choir, Toronto. The Missionary Bale sent in June was valued at \$62.00. The Study Book took an important place on the program and was made bright and interesting.

The Girls' Mission Circle held nine meetings and two quilting meetings during the year. The Study Book

was used and some of the chapters dramatized which made it more interesting. Special speakers included Miss E. Follett, Miss Gollan and Dr. Margaret McKellar. A bale consisting of babies' layettes, children's clothing and one warm quilt was sent to Headquarters in June. It was valued at \$23.00. Another bale valued at \$20.00 was sent to Northern Ontario before Christmas to a family whose home had been burned. A letter of appreciation was received thanking the Circle for the Christmas bale and pictured their Christmas Tree "with gifts for everyone," fourteen in all. The Girls' Circle had exceeded their objective.

The Mission Band showed increased interest and had an increased attendance during the year. The members are enjoying very much the new Study Book "Friends Around the World." Ten meetings were held with a membership of 23. There was an average attendance of 18. The Baby Band has a membership of 55.

The W.M.S. entertained the Baby Band members and their mothers at the June meeting. Lantern slides of "Mothers and Babies of other lands" were shown. After the program afternoon tea was served the mothers and a tea party for the children.

A Canadian Girls in Training group has been recently organized which makes the W.M.S. family complete. A carefully prepared report of the church was well presented by Mr. Harry Smith. The collections for Good Friday Service amounting to \$20.56 was paid direct to the Sick Children's Hospital in Toronto.

Rev. A. H. Halbert reported 16 new members added to the church during the year. He had officiated at 9 weddings, 13 baptisms and conducted 7 funerals, had preached 87 sermons. He made 972 calls and attended 166 meetings. Five members had died during the year. These were Mr. Bartindale, Mr. Stephen, Mr. O. D. Bales, Mrs. Robert Cox and Mrs. Fred Danby. The election of officers followed.

Mr. Clarence O. Bales was elected to the Session and Messrs. Norman Anderson and Frank Schmidt to the Board of Stewards.

A hearty vote of appreciation was extended to Rev. and Mrs. A. H. Halbert for their faithful leadership and a unanimous invitation was extended to Rev. Mr. Halbert to remain as their pastor. He is now completing his seventh year.

A vote of appreciation was also extended to the organist, Mr. Roy Dobney, for his very efficient services. Also to Mr. and Mrs. William Pharaoh who look after the church so efficiently and courteously. Mr. E. J. Brett closed the meeting with prayer.

JAMES PETTIT

Residents of Palgrave and district learned with deep regret of the accidental death of James Pettitt, a highly esteemed resident of the village. Mr. Pettitt along with Leo Grogan was motoring to Barrie on Thursday morning of last week and the car driven by Mr. Pettitt slid off the icy road near Thornton. Sustaining what proved to be fatal injury he died in Barrie Hospital a few hours later. Deceased was born in Adjala township near Ballycroy 62 years ago and was a son of the late Edward Pettitt. His wife, formerly Mary Ann Dale of Tecumseth, predeceased him several years ago. One son Murray of Kirkland Lake survives. The funeral was held from the Presbyterian Church, Tottenham on Sunday afternoon with interment in Mount Legart Cemetery. Rev. Mr. Cranston conducted the service.

Sea lions in the London zoo are fed 40 pounds of fish daily.

KING CITY

New officers of Robertson Lodge, A.F. & A.M., No. 292, G.R.C., were installed, the ceremonies being conducted by Right Wor. Bro. Colonel B. H. Brown, who was assisted by Past Masters from Aurora, Maple, Caledon East and Schomberg. Those included: Wor. Master, B. Badger; Senior Warden, D. Lockhart; Junior Warden, W. Barker; Chaplain, Geo. Hately; Treasurer, W. Badger; Secretary, F. E. Boys; Senior Deacon, R. Walkington, and Director of ceremonies, D. M. Ross. Members of the lodge entertained the ladies at a banquet following the installation of officers.

DOUGLAS - HILLIARD

The wedding took place on Saturday, January 16th, of Laura Margaret Hilliard and Frank Douglas. Rev. F. V. Abbott of Schomberg officiated. They will reside in King township.

Birds possess the keenest and farthest-sighted vision.

FREE! BOOK ON HOCKEY

A Great Book "How to Become a Hockey Star" by T. P. "Tommy" Gorman, manager and coach of the Montreal "Maroons", profusely illustrated and containing many valuable tips on how to play the game.

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