

# Victoria Square News

Next Sunday, December 17th, is White Gift Sunday. We are told that Rev. Hunnissett at the Fred Victor Mission (where we send our gifts) can make use of almost anything we have to give. If the gifts are for children please put on the outside of the parcel whether for a boy or girl and for what age of child it is suitable for. There is nothing so disgusting as a twelve year old boy to open a parcel with all the excitement which usually accompanies such deeds, and then to find it contains a nice big doll dressed in a pretty pink satin dress. This service is open for the older ones to bring gifts as well as children.

Next Monday night, December 18, will be the December W.A. supper. Rev. A. E. Owen of Unionville will bring a Christmas message. Mrs. Aubrey Stephenson will favor us with vocal numbers and Miss Marion Boston with readings. A real good program is promised, so come along and help the W.A.

Mr. and Mrs. Britnell and Roger, Mr. and Mrs. R. Perkins and Coral had dinner on Sunday with Mr. Bert Sanderson's.

Mr. John Snider and Mr. Alvin Frisby don't intend to dig snow to get out this winter, if cleaning up a fence bottom will help any. What an improvement to scenery it will be to have all the old brush cleaned up.

Christmas concert practice is well on its way. A good programme is planned for Saturday evening, December 23rd.

S.S. No. 12 are holding their concert on Thursday evening, Dec. 21. Be sure to attend.

Mr. J. Clubine of S.S. No. 12 took the topic at our Y.P.U. on Sunday which proved very interesting, telling of the different religions and customs of India. This is the first time we have heard Mr. Clubine, and I'm sure it won't be the last.

Mr. and Mrs. Britnell, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Sanderson had tea at Mr. R. Perkins' on Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Britnell had dinner at Mrs. M. Nichols on Monday.

Now is the time to have your city cousins, before the snow flies. Miss Mabel Caseley had tea with Mr. and Mrs. W. Hill on Sunday evening.

We are pleased to report that Mr. Martin is, to say the least, not any worse. Pneumonia is a long drawn out sickness, so long before there is any change.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Sanderson had dinner with Mrs. Tarr of Whitby, formerly of this place, on Tuesday. Mrs. Tarr returned with them to spend a few days.

Those who were present at the hall on Monday night report a good time at the Buttonville Euchre. There were 28 tables.

The Red Cross committee of the Institute are sorry to say that they cannot get any yarn yet, but as soon as they do they will try and have it delivered to those willing to knit.

### SCHOOL NEWSY NOTES

We are busy this week getting our school in readiness for Christmas. We have Christmas stories on the windows, which may be seen from the outside as well as in the room. Our sandtable shows a winter scene, with snow-laden trees, deer, children at play, etc. We are also lighting up our Peace Palace for our Christmas party.

The answer to last week's puzzle, "The Man Who Preached Happiness", was "St. Francis of Assisi". Little Jimmie White celebrated his seventh birthday on Tuesday of this week.

Coral Perkins was a Toronto visitor on Monday.

We have sold all our copies of the school magazine. We could have sold almost twice as many copies, and we thank all those who encouraged us with the purchase of our paper. We hope you'll keep listening in to Claire Wallace as she is going to talk about our paper.

Just eleven more days till Christmas, and just six days until our Christmas entertainment, to be held Wednesday evening, December 20th at 7.45 p.m. At the end of our news for the week will be found our complete program. We hope you will be with us that evening.

We thought perhaps our friends might enjoy reading stories of how Christmas is celebrated in some other countries, so we bring you a

### CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS IN MANY LANDS

Holland  
By Bertie Forster  
In Holland the evening of December 5th is known as St. Nicholas Eve, and this is a real pleasure time of the children. On this evening the very spirit of fun reigns supreme. In the midst of it a knock is heard and St. Nicholas enters, and the children are speechless with surprise and joy. St. Nicholas speaks kind words of greeting mentioning each person present by name. He tells the children his opinion of their actions for the past year. He then wishes them all a Happy New Year, scatters a great shower of candies on a linen sheet spread out by the door. The children tumble over each other in their effort to secure sugar-plums, and in the excitement St. Nicholas escapes. Then each child, removing a wooden shoe that has been previously well scoured, lays it on the window sill and fills it with oats and hay or carrots for the good Saint's horse. In the morning the oats, hay and carrots are all gone, and the shoes are filled with gifts and candy.

### France

By Margaret Mortson  
On December 4th, which is the feast of "St. Barbara", the women plant St. Barbara's grain. They fill two or more plates with wheat, then set them afloat in water and place them in warm ashes of the fireplace, or on a sunny window to sprout. This is done in order to foretell the harvest of the coming year.

These plates of green grain are placed on the table when the Great Supper is served.

Fish, snails, thistle stalks, blanched like celery and eaten with garlic sauces, seven different kinds of sweets, including candied fruit, candies and cakes, fruit and wine furnish the dishes for this Feast. These are the stated dishes and cannot be changed.

Some member of the family usually sees to it that the cat receives a large supply of food while the feast is going on, for it is well known that should the cat meow on Xmas Eve, and especially while the supper is in progress, very dreadful things will happen to the family during the next year.

### Norway

By Coral Perkins  
They have a pretty legend that on every Xmas Eve the little Christ-Child wanders all over the world bearing on His shoulders a bundle of evergreens. Through wind, rain, snow and cold He travels, to be welcomed or rejected at the doors where He pleads for help. Those who would invite Him and long for His coming set a lighted candle in the window to guide Him on His way. They also believe that He comes to them in the guise of any aimscraving wandering person who knocks humbly at their doors—thus testing their goodness.

### Russia

By Mina Stickley  
In Russia they have the story of Babousca. When the three wise men, seeing the star, started in search of the Christ-Child, they stopped at Dame Babousca's hut and asked her the way to Bethlehem. She refused to tell them, but after they had gone, she was sorry, and filling a basket of toys said to herself, "I will find the men and together we will search for the Child and lay these gifts at His feet." So she goes about every Xmas Eve, the same as our Santa Claus with her pack of presents, and when the children find their toys on Xmas morning they cry out "Old Babousca has passed this way."

### SWEDEN

By Barry Collard  
They always prepare for the Christmas festival by a thorough housecleaning, in which everything indoors and out is made spotless. At all times in the year they believe that "cleanliness is next to godliness", and so in honour of the day, they prepare to celebrate it in a godly house. Nor do they forget the birds of the air. A sheaf of wheat is placed on a pole in front of each house to provide them with food. The horses, cows, cats and dogs are not forgotten, but are given an extra portion of the best for supper, because when the Christ-Child was born His cradle was in a

## Red Cross Notes

The Richmond Hill Red Cross Society desires to extend its appreciation to the members of the Richmond Hill Glee Club, and its director, Mr. Richard Edmunds, for the very enjoyable musical concert provided last Thursday evening. The gratifying sum of \$45.75 has been added to the treasury, and to all assistants and supporters of the entertainment the Red Cross expresses sincere thanks.

A business meeting of the Red Cross Society will be held on Friday, December 15th at 3 p.m. in the Red Cross Work Room. In accordance with a bulletin issued from Headquarters, advising that work rooms be closed during the Christmas and New Year holiday season, the Richmond Hill Red Cross Work Room will remain closed from Friday, December 15th until Wednesday, January 3rd.

### ANNOUNCEMENT

The St. John Ambulance Association will hold courses in First Aid and Home Nursing, to begin after the New Year, provided sufficient number of persons would care to enroll. Those interested please phone Richmond Hill 147, before December 31st.

### EX-WARDEN BURIED

The funeral of the late Alexander "Sandy" McMurchy held from his King Township home last Saturday, December 9th was one of the largest ever held in the district. The late Mr. McMurchy, widely known for his long years spent in the municipal life of King Township and the County of York died suddenly Thursday, December 7th and was in his 85th year.

manger among the cattle.

### GERMANY

By Sylvia Meads

No German household is without its Christmas tree, and it is from the Germans that other countries have learned to use it. In some of the smaller villages, the presents made by the parents are sent to some one person, who, in high buskins, a white robe, a mask, and an enormous flax wig, goes from house to house, bearing hampers and bags of gifts. This is Knecht Rupert. He is received with great solemnity, inquires into the characters of the children, and then proceeds to deliver toys to the deserving, and a rod from a bunch which he carries, to the naughty.

### OUR CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME

- Wednesday, Dec. 20, 7.45 p.m.
1. Opening, "A Welcome"; June Marie Collard; Chorus, "Our Latch String Hangs Outside"; Exercise, "What Christmas Means"; Chorus, A Merry Christmas.
  2. "A barrel of fun", Sylvia, Rita and Doreen Meads.
  3. Comic dialogue, Aunt Doleful's Ailments.
  4. Solo, When I grow too old to dream, June Marie; guitar accompaniment, Barry Collard.
  5. A Christmas spirit play, "Squire Hawley's Christmas."

### ACT I

1. Trio, "The Naughtly Elf", Rita, Sylvia and Doreen.
2. ACT II
3. Comic action song, "The Little Washerwomen".
4. Recitations, Primary Class.
5. Musical play, "Christmas Secrets."
6. Recitation, Harold Forster.
7. Duet by Coral and Sylvia.
8. A Fairy play, "The Unsuccessful Hunt."
9. A Nativity scene, Bethlehem, Angels, Shepherds and Wisemen; duet, "It came upon the midnight", Bertie and Mina; "Silent Night", three part singing by angels, June, Sylvia and Margaret; Chorus, Noel, part singing; carol, Away in a Manger, Primary class; Chorus, Joy to the World.
10. Carol singing by audience.
11. "Over the Radio", a "Treasure Trail Time"; a "gold" dollar for every correctly answered question, and a "grand draw" for special prize at the end.
12. Come and see "Ray Purdy" and "Al Savage" at their best.

A feature of our concert is that every number on our programme will be given in a large spotlight of colour, which ought to add to the beauty of each exercise.

We wish to announce at this time that we have arranged to have the Star's "Royal Tour" pictures on Friday evening, April 12. It seems a long time until then, so we'll keep reminding you now and again.

The pupils of this school and their teacher, Miss Holden, wish the readers of this column the Merriest Christmas ever, and a New Year filled with Health, Happiness and Prosperity.

## Social and Personal

Mr. James C. Young is on a business trip to Montreal this week.

We regret that Mr. Godfrey Willis has been laid up through illness during the past week and we join with his many friends in wishing him a speedy recovery.

Santa Claus will visit any home in the district by appointment which may be made through The Liberal Office.

Miss Lillian Petch, who for eleven years has served as operator with the Bell Telephone Company here has accepted a position with Grand & Toy in Toronto.

Sympathy is extended to Miss Gertrude Lever of the local post office staff in the death of her father, Mr. Thomas R. Lever at Flesherston on Friday of last week. The funeral was held on Monday at Flesherston.

### POULTRY EUCHRE

The next regular Euchre in the Lodge series will be held on Thursday evening, December 21st when poultry will be given for prizes. Lucky tickets on Christmas poultry prizes will be drawn. The scores at this euchre will count in the grand prizes. Refreshments. Everybody welcome.

### UNITED CHURCH EVENING AUXILIARY

The Evening Auxiliary of the United Church will hold their Christmas meeting at the home of Mrs. S. Ransom, Yonge Street, on Tuesday, December 19th at 8 p.m. A special Christmas message and music will be included in the program.

### DIED

DUNCAN, William Armstrong — Suddenly, at Niagara Falls, Ont., Wednesday, December 13th, 1939, William Armstrong Duncan, beloved husband of Daisy Shaw Duncan.

The late Mr. Duncan is resting at Wright and Taylor's funeral home, Richmond Hill, where service will be held on Friday, 15th instant, at 2.30. Interment Richmond Hill cemetery.

### UNITED CHURCH W.M.S. OFFICERS

The officers for 1940 of the Afternoon Auxiliary of the United Church Women's Missionary Society are as follows: Honorary Presidents, Mrs. Wm. Cook, Mrs. C. W. Follett; Past President, Mrs. G. Gee; President, Mrs. D. Hill; 1st Vice-Pres., Mrs. W. W. A. Trench; 2nd Vice-Pres., Mrs. W. T. Edmunds; 3rd Vice-Pres., Mrs. W. A. Wright; Recording Secretary, Miss M. Harrison; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. F. Coulter; Press Secretary, Mrs. W. Scott; Treasurer, Mrs. J. F. Burr; Christian Fellowship Secretary, Mrs. J. F. Burr; Supply Secretary, Mrs. H. Thompson; Community Friendship Sec., Mrs. A. E. Plewman; Literature Sec., Mrs. Ferguson; Associate Helpers Sec., Mrs. Cuntance; Temperance and Christian Fellowship Sec., Mrs. C. W. Follett; Missionary Monthly Sec., Mrs. Ness; Pianist, Mrs. A. L. Phipps; Superintendent Mission Band, Miss F. Richardson; Arrangers, Mrs. S. Ransom, Miss Dorothy Barnaclough.

### REV. J. S. ROE ACCEPTS CALL TO BURLINGTON

The Rev. James S. Roe of Woodbridge has accepted a call to Knox Presbyterian Church in Burlington, Ont. The call came up for consideration at the meeting of the Presbytery of Toronto held in Toronto on Tuesday and Mr. Roe signified his intention to accept the call at that time. Woodbridge and Knox Church, Vaughan, is Mr. Roe's first field of labour, as he came here in 1935 shortly after graduating from Princeton Theological Seminary. His ordination service was conducted in the fall of that year in the Woodbridge church.

The Burlington church is in a growing community on the outskirts of Hamilton and gives an opportunity for wide service. The induction service into the new charge is scheduled for Thursday evening, December 14th, so that Mr. and Mrs. Roe and family will leave for Burlington on that date or shortly after. Their departure will be widely regretted in the Woodbridge area, as they have occupied a prominent place in community life. In addition to his church work Mr. Roe found time to assume the position of Scoutmaster of the 1st Woodbridge troop and has done much valuable work with the boys of the town.

### MARGUERITE BOYLE

(Graduate of the Owen A. Smiley Studio)  
ELOCUTION and DRAMATIC ART  
"Homewood Hall" Thornhill

## PRIZES PRESENTED TO FARM CONTEST WINNERS

Prizes were presented to winners of the Farm Improvement Competition sponsored by the Richmond Hill Agricultural Society at a meeting held in the Municipal Hall Wednesday evening. Prizes were presented by President Harry Charles after which Mr. P. E. Angle delivered an interesting talk congratulating the competitors on their efforts and the Agricultural Society on encouraging farm improvement in this district. Mr. John F. Clark of the Department of Agriculture then gave a highly interesting and very instructive illustrated lecture on rural beautification showing the improvement possible in farm and town homes by the practice of planting trees, shrubs and flowers. He told of a province wide movement for the beautification of rural Ontario. Those who received prizes in the farm competition were: F. S. Tyndall, Richmond Hill; J. E. Hadwen, Maple; H. T. Jackson, Maple; Carl James, Markham Twp., and G. W. Bowes of Vaughan. A presentation was made to Mr. P. E. Angle in appreciation of his work as judge of the competition.

### 87TH BIRTHDAY

We extend congratulations to Mr. John Charles Snider of Downsview who last Sunday celebrated his 87th birthday. He received the congratulations of members of his family, other relatives and hosts of friends.

### NOTICE

Will the orchestra members do their best to get out to orchestra practice Saturday night because we are putting on a concert in the near future. New members are always welcome.

### SHOOTING MATCH

A Shooting Match will be held on Saturday, December 16th at 1 p.m. for geese on the farm of H. D. McCague, Lot 28, Con. 3, Markham. Shotguns and 22 Rifles. Shell supplied for shotguns.

### PLOWMEN'S BANQUET

The annual banquet of the King and Vaughan Plowmen's Association was held in Nobleton Hall Tuesday evening. Following a very delightful supper and program the business meeting was held.

## HEADFORD

Headford School Section No. 3 are holding an Achievement Day and Christmas concert on Tuesday, December 19th, at 2 p.m. Parents and friends are invited to attend.

A White Gift service will be held in the church on Sunday, December 17th at 10.45 a.m. An invitation is extended to all to come and bring gifts for the needy.

The Sunday School Christmas Tree will be held on Thursday, December 21st, the program to commence at 8 o'clock sharp.

## GIFT SHOPPE

Just to inform you of our Pre-Christmas Sale, consisting of Barber-Ellis stationery, smart novelties in compacts, gift powder puffs, costume jewelry, China, glass, silverware

Come in and bring your Christmas list, your shopping basket, your purse and your friends

MRS. JERRY SMITH

30 YONGE ST. RICHMOND HILL

# ROYAL THEATRE AURORA

SHOWS START AT 7.30 and 9.30 EACH NIGHT

TODAY, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14  
LLOYD NOLAN, PANICE LOGAN, J. CARROL NAISH in  
"UNDERCOVER DOCTOR"

An interesting gangster film with ample suspense and thrills.  
Also ROBERT YOUNG and ANNABELLA in  
"BRIDAL SUITE"

You'll get a lot of laughs out of the mix-ups—A grand comedy drama.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, DEC. 15, 16 TWO FEATURES  
BONITA GRANVILLE, FRANKIE THOMAS in  
"NANCY DREW AND THE HIDDEN STAIRCASE"

Abundance of action and excitement  
Also JOHN WAYNE, RAYMOND HATTON in  
"WYOMING OUTLAW"

Western melodrama, brimming with action

MONDAY & TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 19  
ANN SOTHERN, LINDA DARNELL, JAMES ELLISON in  
"HOTEL FOR WOMEN"

An amusing, clever, human interest story. Lot of snappy dialogue.

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 21  
WALTER PIDGEON, VIRGINIA BRUCE in  
"STRONGER THAN DESIRE"

An interesting dramatic story. An absorbing social drama.

## NEWTONBROOK

The annual Sunday School anniversary and white gift service will be held Sunday, December 17th in Newtonbrook United Church. The annual entertainment will be held Tuesday evening, December 19th.

## VELLORE SCHOOL CONCERT

will be held on  
WED., DECEMBER 20

At 8 o'clock  
TOWNSHIP HALL  
VELLORE

One-Act Play  
"THE PAMPERED DARLING"

Admission 25c. and 15c.



For your trip South add the enjoyment of a carefree drive on the open highway...go one route, return by another...ask your local agent to plan your trip...he has the answer to your travel problems.

between	TORONTO and
Miami	.. \$40.15
San Antonio	44.60
New Orleans	.. \$33.95
ROUND TRIP	



G. A. DONNELLY, tel. 177

## GRAY COACH LINES

### GORDON MORTSON

Is offering a Fruit Nappie with every \$1.00 Cash and Carry order between December 18th and December 25th, providing each order contains 1/2 lb. of After Dinner Mints or 2 lbs. Christmas Candy.