

L.W.M.S. PRESENTS LIFE MEMBERSHIP TO MRS. KELLAM

The annual meeting of the Women's Missionary Society of Woodbridge United Church was held at the parsonage on Wednesday afternoon.

Mrs. C. W. Barrett conducted the election of officers which resulted as follows: President, Mrs. K. Stevenson; 1st Vice-President, Mrs. David Shannon; 2nd Vice-President, Mrs. R. Watson; Recording Secretary, Mrs. N. G. Wallace; Asst. Sec., Mrs. William Wood; Treasurer, Mrs. J. J. Watson; Financial Sec., Mrs. R. Sutton; Supply Sec., Mrs. B. Kellam; Temperance Sec., Mrs. C. W. Barrett; Strangers Sec., Mrs. G. Shore; Corresponding and Press Sec., Mrs. G. D. McLean; Missionary Monthly Sec., Mrs. A. Hollingshead.

YORK COUNTY MENNONITES

From a Letter by F. Jennings, Toronto, in the Ottawa Citizen.

The attack upon the Mennonites that appeared in a recent Citizen seems to me to be unworthy of your paper. I have never lived amongst them in Saskatchewan, but I do know the Mennonites of York county. I have lived with them, worked beside them, begged from them, and traded amongst them, and I have yet to find a better type of people.

To say they are unpatriotic and pro-German is not true of the Mennonites I know. Some of the strongest condemnations of Hitler and Stalin I've heard have come from the lips of Mennonites. The exemption from military service has always been their religion for generations. That's why they were persecuted and practically driven from Europe; and one of the chief reasons their ancestors left Pennsylvania for Canada was their persecution by American militarists because they did not fight in the independence war neither on one side nor the other, although their moral support was strong for the British constituted authority.

Poland on the Rack

By Executions and Terror Germany Tries to Crush a Free People.

Systematically, ruthlessly, Germany is endeavouring to stamp out the spirit of free Poland.

In the western provinces, already incorporated in the German Reich, persecution is unabated, often intensified. Towns have been thoroughly Germanized, even their names changed. In certain districts of Pomerania, says the Polish Ministry of Information in London, the Polish population has been compelled to change the Polish inscriptions on tombstones into German.

Polish workers' wages are half those of Germans. The social insurance office pays 16 marks weekly for such heavy labour as stone breaking or rolling barbed wire. Germans on the other hand receive sixty marks for much lighter labour. Two per cent is deducted from the Polish wages for a 'Reconstruction Fund' and a further one or two per cent under various other pretexts.

On the day Italy declared war a procession of German youth marched through the streets of Poznan, many of them dressed up as leading British, French and Polish politicians, Polish soldiers and priests. Any Poles who happened to pass were insulted and beaten up, the police making no attempt to intervene.

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In the prison on Mlynska Street executions are carried out by beheading, even for such petty offences as taking articles such as pillows from one's own home.

For the past two months round-ups have been taking place in the streets; those detained are required to show proof that they are in employment. Anyone who does not possess a certificate of employment or whose certificate is not in order is at once deported to Germany, where labour conditions are extremely bad.

Five German schools have been opened for children from seven to thirteen. Teaching is limited to two hours daily. Children over thirteen are being deported to Germany.

126 parishes have been deprived of their vicars, in many districts churches have been closed. In Poznan five churches and chapels have been closed and there are grounds for fear that the Cathedral may be demolished. A large number of priests have been deported. Mass may be celebrated publicly only on Sunday from 7 a.m. to 10.30. On weekdays masses are celebrated privately. Bishop Dymek has been imprisoned. All the priests of 35 and upwards have been deported to work in Germany, or to Austria, or to Dachau concentration camp.

OBITUARY

MRS. EMILY M. COLHOUN Mrs. Emily M. Colhoun, widow of the late John Colhoun, a former resident of Thistleton, died at her home, 333 Windermere Ave., Toronto, on Saturday, December 14th.

J. W. BODDY A well known resident of the Woodbridge area, John Wesley Boddy died on Friday, December 13 at his farm home on No. 27 Highway. Mr. Boddy was in his 75th year. Surviving him are his widow, the former Lillian Reaman, and a son, W. J. Boddy.

Funeral services at the residence, Lot 11, Concession 9, Vaughan, Monday afternoon were followed by interment in Hillcrest Cemetery, Woodbridge.

ST. PAUL'S VAUGHAN W.M.S.

The December meeting of St. Paul's, Vaughan, W.M.S. was held at the home of Mrs. James Robson with a good attendance. The president, Mrs. J. McNeil presiding. The meeting opened with hymn 599 followed by sentence prayers. The lesson was taken from 2nd chapter Luke verses 1 to 20, a Christmas chapter, after which hymn 170 followed and a prayer was given by Mrs. Nelson Kerr. Minutes of previous meeting and treasurer report was given. The roll call was answered by the word 'child'. A splendid paper was given by Mrs. Ruth-erford. The 'Saviour' or 'the name of a child' and the gleaming from the glad tidings was given by Mrs. Nelson Kerr and a duet was sung by Mrs. J. Robson and Miss A. Kerr. 'Ring the Bells' after which Mrs. McNeil declared all offices vacant and election of officers for 1941 followed. Mr. Bowman was appointed chairman and Mrs. H. Farr secretary for the election of officers. Mrs. H. Farr was appointed as our new president and Mrs. J. McNeil Hon. Pres.; 1st Vice-Pres., Mrs. H. Dooks; 2nd Vice-Pres., Mrs. E. Bryson; Sec., Mrs. A. Cameron; Treas., Mrs. E. Harris; pianists, Mrs. T. Witherspoon, Miss A. Kerr; Expense fund, Mrs. L. Weldrick; Lit. Sec., Mrs. Rutherford, Mrs. J. Brownlee; Supply Sec., Mrs. N. Kerr, Mrs. A. Rutherford; Home Helpers, Mrs. A. L. McNeil, Mrs. J. McGillivray; Welcome and Welfare, Mrs. J. McNeil; Flower Com., Mrs. Bryson, Miss J. Egan, Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. Bishop; Glad Tidings Sec., Mrs. J. McNeil; Key Woman, Miss J. Egan; Life Membership, Mrs. J. Brownlee, Miss A. Kerr, Miss G. Egan; Program Com., Mrs. N. Kerr, Mrs. A. Rutherford, Mrs. A. L. McNeil, Mrs. Bowman; Auditors, Mrs. J. Constable, Mrs. Jarrett; Press Sec., Miss A. Kerr. Splendid reports were given by all officers of 1940 and Mr. Bowman closed the meeting with prayer and a social hour was spent. Lunch was served by the hostess and committee in charge. The January meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. T. Witherspoon on January 9 at 2.30 p.m.

BUSINESS

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ANGLICAN WOMEN ELECT MRS. H. N. SMITH PRESIDENT

At the regular meeting of the Afternoon Branch of the Women's Auxiliary of Christ Church, Woodbridge, held last week at the home of Mrs. H. N. Smith, the following officers were elected for the year 1941: Hon. Pres., Mrs. J. H. Kidd; Pres., Mrs. H. N. Smith; Vice-Pres., Mrs. R. E. Willis; Secretary, Miss Bessie Wallace; Treas., Mrs. Ross Livingston; Dorcas Sec., Mrs. G. H. Maxey; Literature Sec., Mrs. J. H. Kidd; Living Message Sec., Mrs. E. P. Barker; Junior Supt., Mrs. A. S. Howl; Little Helpers Sec., Mrs. Sidney A. Stratford; Recor's Nominees, Mrs. Arthur Weatherill, Mrs. A. Thompson; Sick Visiting Com., Mrs. Thomas Cole, Mrs. J. Robb; Mrs. E. Ring; Chancel Guild, Mrs. J. H. Kidd, Mrs. F. Stark; Auditors, Mrs. T. Cole, Miss Mary Wallace. The rector, Rev. J. H. Kidd, presided and Miss Mary Wallace acted as secretary.

OPPORTUNITY TO HELP GALLANT LITTLE NATION

In the last war the German Government through its ambassador asked that Greece attack Serbia, and after the war she should receive a slice of Serbian territory as recognition of her service. Premier Venizelos asked leave to put the offer into his own language. 'You ask us,' he said, 'to attack our neighbor, and as a reward you will give us part of the corpse we have helped to slay. My country is too little to commit so great a crime.'

The story was told recently by K. Tsolainos, secretary of the Greek war relief committee in New York, in a most moving and eloquent plea for assistance to his country which, though so small, is proud to fight beside Britain for principles which they both share. The plea has been taken up in this province by an Ontario committee of which Premier Hepburn is honorary chairman.

No words of his, says Premier Hepburn in a letter supporting the appeal, are necessary to describe the epic deeds Greece is daily performing in the cause of freedom. The whole world knows the story. But behind the lines, wounded soldiers and civilians need medical supplies, blankets, hospital comforts and clothing.

The heroism of the Greeks has been an inspiration to freedom-loving British people. Their cause is our cause. There is an opportunity to do something tangible for them by responding to this appeal. Donations may be made through any branch of the Royal Bank, or by cheques to the Greek War Relief Fund addressed to headquarters at 385 Yonge Street, Toronto.

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