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**Thornhill District News**

For years European countries realizing the need for the physical development of youth, have directed physical fitness activities which have as their object physical, mental and moral development of youth. Great Britain became interested in this subject early, and on the first day of October, 1943, Canada's National Physical Fitness Act was proclaimed, and a Council formed in 1944, at which time a specific sum was set aside for the Dominion to be distributed among the Provinces. The policy of the Council is to bring to the attention of the Canadian people measures designed for the improvement of national physical fitness, and the Act is to apply to all Canadian citizens, boys and girls, men and women, old and young, crippled children and disabled veterans.

This program can only be carried out when the necessary facilities are available. A recreational building should have a recreational building within easy access, and should be available for the entire community throughout the year.

Major Eisenhardt has been responsible for the establishment of community centres, especially among the sparsely settled communities of the Western Provinces, and he has a dynamic personality. As guest speaker of Thornhill Women's Institute, the topic of his address will be "Women's Place in National Fitness."

The deep sympathy of the community is extended to Mr. John Greer of Centre St., in the passing of his wife early Thursday morning at Toronto General Hospital. Mrs. Greer had been ill since Christmas day and failed to recover from an operation last Wednesday. Funeral service took place in the chapel of A. W. Miles, Toronto, with interment in Mount Pleasant Cemetery. The chapel was filled with friends, and the numerous floral offerings testified to the esteem in which the late Mrs. Greer was held.

Mrs. Greer was born in Ireland, and she and her husband met in an Art School there. She was very interested in Art, particularly in ceramics. She was a member of the Christian Science Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Greer moved to Thornhill several years ago and were respected members of the community. Mrs. Greer was always willing to assist in any good cause in Thornhill, and was particularly interested in Thornhill Women's Institute, of which she was a member, and her loss will be felt very keenly.

The annual board meeting of the Thornhill Public School was held on Wednesday evening, Dec. 26, in the school. Probably the icy conditions of the roads and the fact that it was the night after Christmas, contributed to the small attendance. In any event, there were very few present. This lack of interest on the part of the parents is not very encouraging to your Board of Trustees, who are responsible for the educational welfare of our children, and who welcome suggestions at any time. At this particular meeting, Irene Banas repeated her speech and was presented by the Board with two books. Mr. Bart Edwards was elected trustee for another three years.

This is to remind the members and friends of Thornhill Horticultural Society that the annual meeting will be held within the next week or so. Watch for further announcements. This is an important meeting, when your officers for the coming year will be elected, and we should all be interested enough to turn out. Each of the flower shows and the banquet were very well attended, and this meeting merits just as much enthusiasm, so plan to keep that engagement when the date is released.

Miss Marjorie Jamieson visited her Aunt in New York during the Christmas holidays.

An organization meeting of the Board of Trustees of Thornhill Public School was held on Wednesday evening, January 2nd. Mr. Hewett, School Inspector, was present at this meeting. He is a man keenly interested in the activities of the schools under his jurisdiction, and enjoys attending these meetings, and then too his knowledge is often of value. Mr. Jackson was appointed Chairman of the Board. The Director of Art for the Province of Ontario has been invited to the February meeting to speak on Arts and Crafts, but so far his reply has not been received. If he can attend, this is to be a general meeting and the parents and friends are invited. More specific details will be included in a later edition. It has also been proposed that the Home and School Club which had to be abandoned during war years be reinstated. Further particulars of this too will have to be included in a later edition.

Miss Betty Bone is taking a new course of lectures at the Children's Art Centre in Homecrafts and Art for children of pre-school age. She is, of course, still connected with nursery school work. Since the recent election of Mrs. Birchard and Mrs. Ross, the future looks very rosy insofar as nursery schools are concerned, for both of these ladies are strong supporters of this particular branch of education.

Thornhill United Church parsonage was quickly and efficiently insulated at a "Bee", held on Saturday afternoon, when half a dozen members of the church put the material in place in less than three hours.

Extra wiring has been installed in Thornhill United Church as the wiring which has served has been insufficient to carry the load of the lights and the organ.

Dr. and Mrs. J. S. Duncan celebrated the 35th anniversary of their wedding on Saturday, January 5th. Included among their gifts was a beautiful bouquet of roses from the

Women's Association and the W.M.S. of the church.

**Harvey-Findlay**  
 On Saturday, December 29, 1945, at Thornhill, Ont., by the Rev. J. D. Cunningham, Eva Hilda, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Findlay, to David Warren, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Harvey.

An executive meeting of Thornhill Women's Institute was held on Wednesday afternoon, Jan. 9 at the home of Mrs. P. Bone. The meeting was called primarily to discuss details of Major Eisenhardt's visit, and it was decided to hold a general meeting in Thornhill United Church Sunday School room on Thursday evening, Jan. 17th at 8 o'clock. Mrs. S. Findlay and Mrs. A. Brillinger were appointed program convenors for the occasion, and every adult in the community is invited to hear Major Eisenhardt.

Mrs. Neil was then appointed convenor of the Summary Day to be held in Agincourt in March.

A rally is to be held in McGill Y.M.C.A. on Jan. 31st with Publicity and Press as the subject, and all members are invited.

A letter was received from Mrs. Kear of London, England, thanking the W.I. members for their kindness to her. Mrs. Brillinger had already sent her a parcel, and since Mrs. Kear had been asked to send the name of a friend, it was decided to send her a parcel too. The friend, Mrs. Brown, is an expectant mother.

A "relative" shower was held for Mrs. Harvey, formerly Eva Findlay, at the home of her aunt, Mrs. Talbert Findlay of Centre St., on Monday evening, Jan. 7th. Eva received many beautiful and practical gifts. Best wishes of the community are extended to the happy couple.

His many friends will be very glad to hear of the death on Monday of Rev. J. Harvey Colclough, B.A., B.D., former rector of Trinity Anglican Church. He was stricken with a heart attack while attending a meeting. Born at Clinton, he was graduated from the University of Toronto and Wycliffe College in 1910. For ten years he was rector of Scarborough parishes before coming to Thornhill in 1938, and in 1944 he took charge of Christ Anglican Church, Oshawa. Funeral service was held in St. George's Anglican Church, Oshawa, on Thursday, Jan. 10th, with interment in St. Margaret's Cemetery, Scarborough. He is survived by his widow, Adelaide Armstrong Colclough.

The regular monthly meeting of the Evening Auxiliary of the W.M.S. of Thornhill United Church was held at the home of the Advisory President, Mrs. Geo. Russell, on Thursday, January 3rd. Mrs. Lawrence Dunby presided. The opening worship service was conducted by Betty Sumner, and the topic "Education for the Living" was taken by Betty Bone. This concluded with a discussion on the kind of education that the youth of Africa, and particularly of Oagola, need today.

The treasurer, Elizabeth Eaton, reported that the Auxiliary's allocation of fifty dollars had been forwarded to the Presbyterian, and that a considerable bank balance would aid in purchasing supplies for 1946. Layettes and an afghan were among the work of the Auxiliary in 1946. Several new members were welcomed at this meeting.

Her many friends will be glad to hear that Mrs. H. Rowsell is recovering nicely from her recent illness.

Mrs. Blackburn wishes to announce the removal of her stock of gifts and hand-crafts from the present location to the building one door south of the B.A. station at the corner of Yonge and Centre Streets, around the 17th of January. At that time, she also expects a new shipment of wool.

The monthly meeting of the Group Committee associated with the First Thornhill Boy Scouts and the First Thornhill Cub Pack, was held on January 7th. The following members attended: C. Jaeger, T. Jackson, L. Jamieson, J. McNeill, H. Neil, A. Sumner and G. Giles. Reports from the various committees were heard, including that from the Building Committee. This committee has been investigating the matter of securing permanent headquarters for the Troop. Considerable discussion followed the introduction of the Building Committee report, and it was decided that they should continue their investigation and report back at a later meeting. Mr. Chatterton, the Scout Master, announced that the first meeting of the 1946 season for Boy Scouts would be held on Friday, January 11th, at 8 p.m. in Thornhill Public School. All Scouts are urged to turn out for this meeting. Mr. Chatterton is the new Scoutmaster, and he has many things planned. It was also announced that the First Thornhill Cub Pack will hold a party at Lawrence Memorial Hall on Jan. 10th at 7.45 p.m.

The absent-minded professor looked in most of the stores in town for his lost umbrella and finally located it.

"Oh, thanks, thanks so much," he exclaimed. "You're the only honest store in town. All the others said they didn't have it."

Nowadays if a man refers to a pleasure ride the chances are he didn't take it in a 1938 job.

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**Thornhill School**

(Continued from Page 4)  
 estate trends in Thornhill are any indication, within the next two or three years we can expect a marked increase in our school attendance. An increase of 25 or 30 pupils would result in the 25 over-crowding of our class rooms. Your board proposes to keep before it the possibility of building requirements within the next two or three years, and are already visualizing the type of building which will be required to meet our modern educational requirements.

In the past four or five years that I have been chairman of the board I have urged continuously the necessity for close co-operation between the teacher and parent. I cannot avoid using the hackneyed phrase "I view with alarm" the tendency of parents to shift the onus of child-training from the onus of the school. Every thinking individual realizes the importance that a teacher plays in building up the character of a child, but such influence is infinitesimal as compared with the influence of the home. The teacher has control of the child for about five hours a day, for five days a week. The parent is supposed to have control for the remaining 19 hours. Important as is the influence of the teacher, he or she can scarcely be expected to compete with the parent in moulding the child's character for good or evil. The type of citizen which will develop from our small boys and girls depends in the final analysis on the influence of the parent, and not the teacher. It is with this in mind that your school board hopes to re-establish in the coming year, the Home and School Club. I know of no organization that can keep both your teaching staff and your school board on its toes, as an energetic and aggressive Home and School Association. You will recall at the outbreak of war, that the Home and School Club simply changed its name to the Red Cross. The nucleus of the Home and School Club still remains. The Home and School Club is one phase of adult education, and in this country we are still in the horse and buggy days insofar as that part of education is concerned.

I desire to direct the attention of the ratepayers to the record of our school in the purchase of War Savings Stamps. From September 1944 to June 1945 the pupils purchased stamps amounting to \$553.75. In the same period the pupils purchased bonds totalling \$1,400. There is keen competition between the four stamps in respect of the purchase of stamps and bonds. This is a very commendable record.

In closing I would like to pay tribute to my two colleagues, Mr. Jackson and my retiring trustee Mr. Edwards, who, of course, is eligible for re-election. The work which we do on the school board has many compensating features, one of which is being the goodwill which casts amongst the members of the board. I feel sure that the ratepayers will understand that your trustees are busy men with only limited time to devote to the work of the board. I doubt if it would be possible for any one of the three of us to hold office if we did not have at our disposal the assistance of a competent secretary-treasurer.

At the beginning of our school year our former secretary-treasurer, Mr. Arthur Thompson, was compelled to retire, because of ill health, and we were most fortunate in obtaining the services of Mrs. Eaton. Ramifications of even a small school section are vastly different from that of a few years ago. Now, income taxes, superannuation funds, and complicated reports, have to be completed. Close check made of municipal and provincial grants for equipment, salaries paid, accounts paid and correspondence attended to make the duties of the secretary no sinecure.

I would also like to pay tribute to the excellent co-operation of the Provincial Department of Education. Mr. Jackson will bear me out when I say that one is struck with the co-operative and competent type of officials in the Department who at all times are most willing and anxious to discuss any problem which might arise in connection with the school. All of which is respectfully submitted.

Richard H. Neil,  
 Chairman.

There continues to be scarcity in lumber. But we have the usual number of block-heads.

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