

Thornhill District News

UNITED STATES COMMUNITY SPEAKS FROM EXPERIENCE AND WARNS AGAINST A RACE TRACK — RULING BY MUNICIPAL BOARD AWAKED WITH INTEREST

Proposed Race Track Causes Furore
A deputation of ratepayers from Thornhill opposing the proposed race track on Yonge St., appeared at the Municipal Board meeting in the Parliament Bldgs. last Friday afternoon. Extra chairs provided failed to seat the group representing the opposition and many were forced to stand around the room, at the door and out in the corridor. Three lawyers present were representing property owners in the district.

Feeling ran a little high at times. Thornhill is a notoriously dry community, and while sympathy for the residents of Jackes Ave. was expressed by all opposing delegates when told of the shortage of water there, many ratepayers in Thornhill who have carried water anywhere from five years to fifteen years could scarcely be expected to accept a race track in order to give the people of Jackes Ave. water.

According to a by-law, Thornhill must remain residential in character, and one of the problems confronting the Municipal Board, when it makes its decision within a week to ten days will be whether the construction of a race track would be contrary to this by-law.

The deputation based their arguments against a race track on the moral issue involved; the fact that it would lower real estate values; that it would present a traffic problem, that it would bring an undesirable type of citizen; that it would form an obstacle in the path of the normal development of the community; that it would be a counter attraction to the recreational centre being organized by the township, to be established in Thornhill.

Your correspondent is in receipt of a telegram from a Chamber of Commerce in a centre in Northeastern United States where a very large racetrack is situated. Since they have asked it be kept strictly confidential, the track and city must remain unknown. However, the following is an exact quotation:

"Merchants generally agree race track has adverse effect upon business. Many local wage earners who would otherwise be good credit risks lose credit standing at races. Many undesirable characters follow the races, which infiltrate into the community. Politicians might differ with this view."

Thornhill W. I. To Meet
Thornhill Women's Institute will hold its next regular meeting at the home of Mrs. Jamieson, Yonge St., next Thursday afternoon, January 20.

A speedy recovery to Miss Bail of Proctor Ave. who has been ill with pneumonia, and whose condition remains unchanged.

The annual meeting of Thornhill Library Association will be held at the home of Misses Welsh, Centre St., Monday evening, January 17th, at 8 p.m.

Late Henrietta Bail
After a prolonged illness, Miss Henrietta Bail died at her home on Proctor Ave. on Saturday Jan. 1st.

A resident of this community for fifteen years, the late Miss Bail was in her 82nd year. She was a member of Westminster Church in Toronto.

Surviving are one sister, at present ill, and one brother, William, and to these two remaining members of the family, sincere sympathy is extended. Another sister predeceased Miss Bail just a year ago.

Funeral services were conducted from her home on Tuesday afternoon, and interment took place in Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

Thornhill United Church Notes
On Sunday morning last, the United church was filled to capacity, and one of the largest communion services yet was observed. Eight new members were received, six by letter and two on profession of faith.

Next Sunday morning at 11 a.m., Miss Bertha Cassidy, returned missionary of the American Adventist Church, will speak on China of today.

Last Sunday morning, the Sunday School observed Promotion day. Forty-eight diplomas of merit were awarded to scholars who had attended 60% or more of the sessions. Proficiency prizes were awarded as follows: senior department, 1st, Archie Kent; 2nd, Audrey Thompson; 3rd, Clifford Garnett. Two marks are given for attendance, one for memory work and one for church attendance.

In the junior department, 1st, Joyce Blake; 2nd Donald Kent; 3rd (tie) Lois Davidson, Leslie Davidson.

Promotions were held, and three new teachers were welcomed to the staff, making a total of eleven. They were: Mrs. Jerome, Mrs. Boyd and Mrs. Shulver.

Married Couples Group
The married couples group have arranged for a social evening to take the form of a toboggan party next Tuesday. Members are to meet in the church at 8 p.m.

Young Ladies Guild
The Young Ladies' Guild will meet on Thursday evening of this week at the home of Mrs. Anstey at 8 p.m. The W. A. met in the Sunday

School room on Thursday afternoon last week with a fair attendance. Mrs. Wesley was in charge of devotions. Arrangements were made for the refreshments to be served at the annual meeting on the 28th of January and Parsonage Committee submitted a report on improvements to the parsonage which was approved by the meeting. Annual reports were received.

The Women's Missionary Society met at the home of Mrs. J. Michell, Lansing, on Tuesday evening. The study book "West of Gorges" was taken by Miss A. Boyle, who read a synopsis prepared by Mrs. Otto James on the first three chapters, and by Mrs. J. Michell and her daughter, Patricia, on Chapter 4, which was quite interesting. Annual reports were received from the Mission Band, the Baby Band, Treasurer and other officers of the organization.

Mrs. Wells was appointed supply secretary, and arrangements were made for the annual bale.

Next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. H. Burke, Thornbank Rd. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. E. Grigsby of Elgin St., on the birth of their daughter, Rosemary Susan, on Thursday, January 6th.

C.G.I.T. Holds Elections
On Monday evening, January 3rd, the local group of C.G.I.T. under the leadership of Mrs. A. Martindale held elections for 1949. Following were elected: President, Virginia Jones; vice-president, Lois Forsythe; secretary, Lotise Broderick; treasurer, Shirley Galbraith. The girls are planning a skating party for next Monday evening, January 17th.

Earl Haig Home and School Association to Hold Career Night

Parents of all students of Earl Haig Collegiate are invited to attend Career Night, sponsored by the Home and School Association, in co-operation with the Guidance Department. This splendid opportunity was extended last year for the first time for all parents as well as students of third, fourth and fifth forms, and proved very popular and most helpful in choosing future careers. Ten occupations and professions have been selected, and speakers, well qualified and outstanding in his

or her own field, have been obtained. Everyone will have the opportunity of hearing two of the speakers. Assembly in the gymnasium will be at 8 p.m. sharp.

Doncaster Ladies' Club
Meeting at the home of Mrs. Law on Tuesday evening, January 4th, Doncaster Ladies' Club held their first meeting of the new year. Mrs. Peacock read an item dealing with this New Year. After the business had been transacted, discussion centred on an afternoon tea and sale of homecooking, to be held some afternoon in March, with a euchre and dance scheduled for the evening of the same day. An added attraction will be a lucky draw on a pair of Hudson Bay blankets. Sympathy was extended to Miss Bail and Mr. Bail in the loss of their sister, Miss Henrietta Bail. Birthday greetings were extended to Mrs. Drake, Mrs. Westcott and Mrs. Russell and the meeting closed with a social half hour.

Next meeting will be at Mrs. Peacock's home on Proctor Ave.

Women's Institute Notes
In a recent letter from the president of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario, Mrs. J. R. Fitcher, writes that a committee appointed by the Provincial Board in session are busy planning for the Officer's Conference at Guelph the first week in May. Because of the cost of transportation, the conference will be limited this year to presidents and secretaries of areas and districts, although Branch presidents and secretaries who care to attend at their own expense will be welcomed.

In July, a holiday for Institute members will be given at Guelph and Mrs. Fitcher has asked that a carload come from each Institute.

A summary of the reports brought in by the Board Directors showed that the majority of our Ontario membership is in favour of the raise in Institute fees from 25c to 50c.

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Hello Gang !!

Well I don't know if you all have had time to recuperate after New Year's or not. You know I feel a-kind-a-doggy myself. Must be the weather . . . or something.

However, let's get back to business.

I'm having a 20 per cent discount sale of everything Friday and Saturday. No, it's not a lot — 20 cents on the dollar — but it might give you a chance to buy that ski sweater, fleece lined boot, or maybe the family needs shoes.

Looking forward to seeing you Friday and Saturday.

R. J. "Bob" Craigie

P.S.—You know I got stuck in a snowbank New Year's eve (and how) . . . brother I was in there . . . (well) . . . I had forgotten to take that shovel with me. All I had was the broom . . . (I threw the darned thing away).

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