

## The Richmond Theatre

Richmond Hill, Ontario  
Telephone Richmond Hill 500  
York County's Newest and Most Modern Playhouse  
Shows daily, Monday through Friday at 7 and 9 p.m.  
Doors open at 6:30 p.m.  
Saturday: Matinee at 2 p.m. Doors open at 1:30 p.m.  
Continuous Show Sat. from 5 p.m. Doors open 4:45 p.m.

Friday & Saturday — March 25 & 26

**HUMPHREY BOGART**  
HITS A NEW HIGH IN HIGH ADVENTURE IN WARNER BROS. TOWERING TRIUMPH!

**TREASURE OF SIERRA MADRE**  
WALTER HUSTON - TIM HOLT - BRUCE BENNETT - JOHN HUSTON - HENRY BLANKE

Monday & Tuesday — March 28 & 29

**Franchot TONE - Janet BLAIR**  
**I LOVE TROUBLE**  
5 WOMEN... up to their lovely necks in murder!  
COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

Wednesday & Thursday — March 30 & 31

**CASBAH**  
DEN OF A THOUSAND THIEVES!  
RENDEZVOUS FOR ROMANCE!  
YVONNE DE CARLO  
TONY MARTIN  
PETER LORRE  
MARTA TOREN  
with HUGO HAAS, THOMAS GOMEZ, DOUGLAS DICK and KATHERINE DUNHAM  
and her Daring Dancers!

Friday & Saturday — April 1 & 2

**The Prince of Thieves**  
Life and love hang in the balance as Robin Hood sweeps to new dizzy adventure highs!  
Alexandre Dumas' story  
starring **JON HALL**  
with Patricia MORISON - JERGENS - MOWBRAY

**Extra**  
On the Same Program  
**THE ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE OPEN FILE 1365**  
and reveal the TRUE story of one of Canada's thrilling manhunts  
**THE CONNOR CASE**  
A National Film Board Presentation

Always a Cartoon and News

## Co-operation Likely To Aid Holding Of Markham Tax Rate

That co-operation "pays off" may be indicated to Markham Township taxpayers in a very pleasant way when the township rate for 1949 is struck.

It is likely that the 1949 rate will be substantially the same as 1948, reports Reeve Vern Griffin.

Back of the picture — which is a somewhat unique one in Ontario today — is the fact that preliminary planning has been done in order to keep taxes down.

One of the major factors in tax rates these days is steadily increasing educational costs. Some few weeks ago Reeve Griffin called a meeting of the trustees of the township's school sections. At this meeting every section but one was represented and the trustees present were asked to co-operate in keeping costs down. As a result, says Reeve Griffin, there are strong indications that no additional amounts will be asked for this year. The same policy has been followed in connection with other township expenditures.

Other efforts are also being made with a view to giving economical ad-

## Centennial Fair Here May 24th

A very enthusiastic meeting of the Centennial Committee appointed by the Board of Directors of the local Agricultural Society to plan for the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the organization of the Society was held in the Municipal building on Monday evening last.

Information was announced that the T.T.C. had acceded to the request for the loan at this year's Fair of the Thompson Bus which plied for many years between Richmond Hill and Toronto before the building of the Radial Railway, and that O'Keefe's Brewing would exhibit a six-horse team on May 24th.

Arrangements are being made for an attractive parade on the morning of the Fair, the point of assembly being the High School (the committee would like to have a good turnout of floats, trucks, etc. in parade, especially those which would represent local industries). Prizes will be given for old-period costumes, one for men and one for women. Prizes will be offered for each of the following: decorated bicycles, decorated tricycles and decorated doll carriages. To be eligible for awards the contestants in these last two items must participate in the Parade.

Mrs. H. A. Nicholls has offered to donate a beautiful prize for one of the items on the prize list, in memory of her husband who was a very efficient secretary-treasurer of the Society for over 25 years.

J. S. McNair, the honorary president, who is a past president and who has been a member of the Society for upwards of 45 years has generously donated a special centennial prize of \$25.00.

Clowns will be engaged to enliven the parade on the way to the grounds, and a band of outstanding ability will furnish music both on the parade and on the grounds.

This fair will without doubt be an outstanding event in this community.

## Yonge Street Sidewalk Is Approved By Vaughan Council

Pedestrian traffic on Yonge Street south of Richmond Hill will be considerably safer due to action taken by the Vaughan Township Council at a meeting held on March 16th, with Reeve John Hostrawser in the chair, and all council members present.

Advised by Township Clerk McDonald that the Department of Highways would subsidize necessary expenditures providing departmental regulations were observed, council instructed Mr. McDonald to arrange with Township Engineer for the work to be proceeded with.

James Grainger, secretary of Richmond Hill School Board, attended the meeting and reported that a bus was being operated to bring pupils from outlying portions of the school district to school at Richmond Hill. Of this amount, he stated, 70% was paid by Richmond Hill taxpayers. It was requested that a more equitable distribution of this cost be arrived at. Council deferred action until a later meeting.

Mr. J. V. Ludgate, District Engineer for the Department of Highways, was present while tenders for supplying, crushing and delivering of gravel for township use were opened. It was decided that councillors would inspect some of the gravel pits before awarding a contract. Improvements to the railway crossing at Elders Mills and also the drainage by till drain of Steele's Avenue west of

## Woodbridge Annexation

The direction given by the Ontario Municipal Board to the effect that the Village of Woodbridge and the Township of Vaughan should arrange if possible for an acceptable solution to the annexation of the Robinson Cotton Mills property to the village was discussed and the Township Clerk was instructed to prepare a statement showing the loss of revenue which the township would suffer in the event of annexation.

The Township Clerk was instructed to arrange for the purchase from the Department of Highways of part of Lot 26, Third Concession, to be used as a township dump.

Arrangements were made for an inspection of the structure of the Maple Community Hall in order that fire damage and disintegration might be determined. The Township Engineer reported that without such inspection the stability of the structure could not be properly determined.

No action was taken on a request from the Canadian Welfare Association and the same treatment was given to a request from the Ontario Municipal Association that the township enroll as a member of that body.

## Richmond Hill Lions Club Do Honor To St. Patrick

By Lion Bill Wagner

Richmond Hill Lions Club held one of the most colorful, friendly and interesting meetings of its career last Thursday evening when it celebrated Saint Patrick's Day in true Irish fashion.

The ladies of L.O.B.A. 894 did an outstanding job in decorating the Lions Den and the tables in paddy green cutouts of shamrocks. Pat with his clay pipe and top hat, pipe with bowtie green ribbon about their necks, large potatoes carefully hollowed and filled with shamrock, other potatoes fashioned as candle holders and bearing green candles and to top it all a dainty two inch shamrock with a neat little bow for each Lion to wear on his lapel. The dinner served and prepared by these same ladies was a special treat of Irish Stew with all the trimmings made complete with a desert of gaily decorated shamrock ice cream and cake. To all these lovely ladies, the Lions say: Thank You in all sincerity. To add to all this color each Lion wore a green tie and a neat green hankie in his pocket.

To make the occasion an outstanding one the speaker was that famous Irishman, Rev. Ray McCleary, B.A., M.B.E., of Greenwood Community Centre, Toronto, who in his own inimitable way held his audience in a state of tears and laughter for a full thirty minutes.

The meeting started in reverse by Lion Alf McLatchy thanking the speaker for his very wonderful talk and presenting him with a gift of roses before he uttered a word, this reversal of procedure nearly brought the house down with roars of laughter and no one enjoyed it more than the speaker himself. As soon as quiet again prevailed President Dick called on Lion Paul Angle to introduce the speaker and in rising Lion Paul remarked that he was in a very difficult position to introduce a man who had already been thanked for his address when actually up to now he had said nothing, however in true Lion fashion, Lion Paul gave the speaker a very fine introduction and sincere welcome.

Rev. Ray McCleary then proceeded in his true Irish fashion to present a beautiful word picture of Ireland and its own beloved Saint Patrick. Today he said is a day that peoples the world over celebrate and do honor to the beloved Saint Patrick. Many claim their land as the birthplace of Saint Patrick but the matters not, but what does matter is what the Irish did with him on that grand lit-

## Open Night At Local High School

Richmond Hill High School held a very successful "Open Night" Friday evening, March 18th, to a capacity crowd of interested parents and friends. The assembly met in the Gymnasium at 8:15 to be welcomed by Dr. E. S. Hogg, Chairman of the Richmond Hill District Board, and to receive information as to the location and timing of the various displays and demonstrations from the Principal, Mr. A. S. Elson.

In a number of rooms classes were at work and an excellent opportunity was given to observe the different phases of school activities. The Art Room contained excellent displays of posters, paintings and various seasonal novelties. A group of students were busy with delicate shell work design, and many interesting interpretations of their craft.

Demonstration classes in Music were given by a class of lower school girls, and in the Commercial Room a small group displayed their ability in Typing. In the science laboratory representative groups from each grade were carrying on experiments and displaying various types of apparatus. Several new pieces connected with the recently introduced courses in Agriculture were observed, among them the 300 egg incubator from which a lively brood of chicks had recently been hatched. These cheeped a welcome from the electric brooder on one of the stair landings. In other rooms Social Studies, Health Guidance, Mathematics and English classes were displayed. Teachers were in their rooms to discuss student progress and courses with interested parents.

Visitors were interested in observing the Esotane equipment which is a recent acquisition in the school. A three-burner hot-plate has been installed in the Cafeteria, and cocoa and soup have been served to an average of 70 students every school day since the beginning of March. The Cafeteria is under the supervision of Mrs. F. Davis, and it will be kept operating until the warm weather sets in. It is felt that this is a big advantage to students who bring their lunch to school, many of whom come from long distances. From the storage tank, the Esotane is also piped to the Laboratory, where Bunsen burners have been installed on every desk for the use of students in experiments.

Visual Educational aids were displayed in Room 3, and their use illustrated by films in Guidance and Social Studies. In the Gymnasium classes of boys and girls gave a demonstration of tumbling, exercises on the pommel horse, calisthenics and dancing.

To conclude a highly diversified evening, a cup of tea was served in one of the class rooms. The splendid response of parents and friends of the school demonstrated the interest in this opportunity to observe the school programme and meet with the members of the Board and Staff.

## 1949 Tax Rate Increased Four Mills - School Costs Up

**\$54,000. REQUIRED FOR 1949 OPERATIONS—ARREARS OF TAXES IN SATISFACTORY POSITION**

The tax rate for Richmond Hill for 1949 has been set at 40 mills, an increase of four mills over the 1948 figure.

Total amount to be raised by taxation for the current year is \$54,350.00 — an increase of \$9,000.00 over 1948 requirements.

Breakdown of the mill rate reveals that taxes are divided as follows:

County Rate	4.10 mills
Debentures	7.50 mills
Village Rate	10.50 mills
Schools	17.60 mills

Translated into terms of dollar expenditure the cost of operation of village affairs for 1949 is as follows:

County Rate	\$ 5,260.00
Debentures	13,041.50
Village	13,470.00
Schools	22,579.00

**Education Costs Up**

As forecast in a recent issue of the LIBERAL increased school costs play a large part in the increased taxation rate. The increase over 1948 is \$12,500.00, and is largely accounted for, by expenses in connection with the new addition to the Public School, such as extra heating, the salaries of more teachers, an additional caretaker, etc. Provision is also made for the expenditure of a considerable sum on decorating.

The increase in the amount required for the operation of village services is approximately \$5,000.00. This is due to generally increased costs in all lines, the additional costs of the new police system, and the installation of new stop lights which will cost the best part of \$1,000.00.

The amount provided for the requirements of the increase is approximately \$7,000.00. Approximately \$1,000.00 is the increase in the County rate, an amount which, of course, is not controllable by Council.

**Arrears At Low Point**

An exceedingly satisfactory situation in connection with previous years' taxes is indicated. At the end of 1948 only \$2,800.00 of taxation was in arrears — an amount which has since been reduced to \$1,900.00. This compares favourably with conditions several years ago when, for instance, at the end of 1942 arrears of taxes amounted to \$29,000.00.

## From The Hilltop

A COLUMN OF VIEWS AND OBSERVATIONS  
(By F. J. Picking)

My thanks to those readers who have commented favourably on articles referring to earlier days of this community and district and to "old-timers" of the area.

Thanks, also, to those who have drawn my attention to other interesting features and to mementoes and souvenirs of days long gone by. I shall be glad to hear of any more and shall, as time and space permit, be glad to refer to them. A telephone call to the LIBERAL office, and a message left there, will receive attention.

Incidentally, through a bit of misunderstanding, it was not made clear in a recent article regarding the David Hill family that the organization in which the late David Hill and his sons achieved unique distinction of service was the Masonic order. So, in order to keep the record straight, it is now noted.

Thinking of David Hill, one of the village's earlier business leaders brings to mind the many changes in retailing which have taken place since he first set up shop in the Hill.

Gone are the days of the ol' cracker barrel — the wide open displays of this and that in bulk. The lowly and humble pruce has travelled a long way from its one-time home in a big case under the grocer's counter to its present position of honour on one of the display shelves where, dressed up in a silver paper box, it competes for attention with equally gaily bedecked articles of everyday use — all packaged to catch the eye of the shopping housewife.

It's just the same in the hardware store, the butchers, the shoe store. Everywhere it's packaging, colour, convenience. Cellophane rules the roost. Whether the change is a good one or not is debatable — and I don't propose to debate it here and now. Whether or not we live longer because we use a toothbrush which hasn't been touched by human hands on its journey from raw product to user's gums is, for the moment, beside the point.

Whether or not our cost of living has been increased by present merchandising methods is another argument which I don't propose to enter into. Being somewhat of a realist (or at least hoping I am) I'm content to let things stand as they are and admit that, rightly or wrongly, whether we like it or not, the change in the methods by which our day to day requirements are presented for our approval and purchase is here to stay.

It's of the man behind the goods that I am thinking at the present moment — the merchant who, in one line or another, makes his living by concentrating in his place of business the articles which his fellow-citizens require.

**Old As History**

To say that trading is as old as history is to emphasize the commonplace. And, at the hour of night it happens to be, when all decent citizens should be in bed (and that even includes newspapermen) I haven't the slightest intention of writing a lengthy treatise on some such subject as relationship of trade and the progress of civilization.

But I do want to say a word or two on the subject of local merchants. It's a ticklish subject in a way, for it might well turn to a discussion of that vexed subject — big stores vs. local merchants. Again it's time for realism and a frank admission on more that whether we like them or not, chain stores or department stores, call them what you will, are here to stay. So I hereby serve notice that my intention is not to create any sort of argument between big store and little store. Each has its function — its proper place in the scheme of things.

It seems to me, however, that often too little attention is paid to the true part which local merchants play in the development and maintenance of communities and districts such as ours.

First of all, the local merchant has a stake in his community. In the majority of cases he is a property owner

## Ezinicki To Become Thornhill Resident

One of the Dominion's leading sports figures is to become a summer resident of the district.

He is "Wild Bill" Ezinicki, Toronto Maple Leaf winger and leading golfer, who has been appointed professional at the New Uplands Golf and Country Club, Thornhill. His new job will start as soon as the Leafs wind up their NHL play for the season.

Ezinicki, whose home is in Winnipeg, has formerly spent his summers away from the Toronto area.

The Uplands course, which "went under" during the war, has been closed since 1942. It has been purchased by William Kojola (pronounced Kayola) real estate and insurance broker of Toronto, who could speak no English when he arrived in Toronto from his native Finland eighteen years ago. The new set-up of the club will embrace both membership and "pay-as-you-play" privileges.

A long-time golfer, the 25-year-old Ezinicki turned professional last year to compete in money tournaments. He served as assistant pro at the Sharon Springs, N.Y., club for a short time last summer.

A special feature of the remodelled Uplands club will be a steam bath for male members. First of its kind in any club in the Toronto area, it follows ancient Finnish usage. Many other improvements are being made to the course and its buildings.

## STORE WINDOW SMASHED

A severe loss was sustained by the Davies' Dry Goods Store, 62 Yonge Street, when one of the large side windows at the entrance to the store was smashed on Sunday, March 20th.

The cause of the breakage is not known, and the loss is not covered by insurance.

## BOY SCOUT PAPER COLLECTION

The Boy Scouts of Richmond Hill will make a paper collection in Richmond Hill on Saturday, April 2nd. Co-operation of all citizens in having all salvage paper ready when Scouts call will be greatly appreciated.

## R.H.S.S. SRS. WIN, JRS. LOSE

**IN BASKETBALL PLAY-OFFS**

R.H.S.S. seniors won the first game of their C.O.S.S.A. playdowns Wednesday evening the score being 36-33.

The entire team was glistering but Jim Rycraft and Willis Stephenson played an outstanding game for the winners. The next game of the series will be played at Brantford on Friday, March 25. The juniors lost their first game to Orillia 38-17.