

## The Richmond

Richmond Hill, Ontario  
THEATRE

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.

### To-Night, Thurs., April 21 "Call Northside 777"

Friday & Saturday — April 22 & 23

WHERE EVERY GUN WROTE ITS OWN LAWS...  
AND EVERY WOMAN MADE HER OWN RULES!

## ALBUQUERQUE

starring  
**SCOTT BRITTON**  
Barbara  
**HAYES**  
Lon  
**CHANEY**

Directed by  
**RUSSELL HAYDEN**

Produced by  
**CATHERINE CRIC**

Music by  
**GEORGE CLEVELAND**

Released in  
breath-taking  
outdoor  
**CINECOLOR**

A Paramount Picture

Monday & Tuesday, April 25 & 26

This is the story of a  
reckless woman!

**Rita Orson**  
**HAYWORTH-WELLES**

## The Lady from Shanghai

with Everett SLOANE and Glenn ANDERS  
Screenplay and Production by Orson WELLES

Wednesday & Thursday, April 27 & 28

A Little Singing...  
A Little Dancing...  
and Lots of Happiness!

**DAN DAILEY**

## Give my Regards to Broadway

Color by  
**TECHNICOLOR**

Directed by  
**LESLIE BROWN**

Produced by  
**WALTER MOROSCO**

Friday & Saturday, April 29 & 30

TOLD IN THE TRADITION OF  
"HOME IN INDIANA"

**June Haver** in  
**SCUDDA-HOO!  
SCUDDA-HAY!**

Color by  
**TECHNICOLOR**

Directed by  
**F. RICH HERBERT**

Produced by  
**WALTER MOROSCO**

Always a Cartoon and News

### Horticultural Highlights

A record crowd of nature lovers attended the "Bird Night" on April 14th sponsored by the Richmond Hill Horticultural Society. Several bird pictures have been shown in the past but none quite so appealing as those taken and shown by Mr. Alfred Bunker.

A busy man employed by the C. P. R., he found time to come up from Toronto on the night before the holiday too, to share his great hobby of colored nature movies, in which he undoubtedly manifested his keen eye of an artist and patience of a true naturalist.

Another wonderful treat enjoyed by the audience was seeing the first showing of the new pink Iris. It was well named, "pink sensation", for it really was a sensation to be privileged to see this exquisite flower as well as other flowers of equal beauty. The next meeting will no doubt be the Daffodil Show in the early part of May, so get your membership in right away.

### 49TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Beatty, 3rd con. Markham celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary quietly at their home on Monday, April 18th. Mr. and Mrs. Beatty are still active on their farm and enjoy fair health. They are both members of Victoria L.O.L. 2368, Richmond Hill.

### Thornhill Workers Prepare For Bazaar



Pictured above are members of the Parish Guild, Trinity Church, Thornhill, working away at articles to be sold at the Maytime Fair to be held in that village on May 5th, 6th and 7th.

The Fair is being staged to raise funds to pay for the installation of plumbing and kitchen facilities in the Lawrence Memorial Hall.

From left to right the workers are: Mrs. R. F. Overbury, president of the Parish Guild; Mrs. S. A. R. Wood; Mrs. Charles Sowdon; Mrs. Reg. Byford, convener of the Sewing Committee for the Fair. Some of the finished work which will be shown and sold at the big bazaar is displayed on the table.

### Farm Improvement Loans Act Well Utilized By Borrowers

Farmers of Canada borrowed nearly \$30,000,000 under the Farm Improvement Loans Act during 1948, according to the annual report tabled in the House of Commons recently by Hon. Douglas Abbott, Minister of Finance. This total represents an increase of 61 per cent over 1947.

Since March 1st, 1945, when the Act came into force, just under 70,000 individual loans have been made to a total value of \$60,000,000. For the fourth successive year there have been no losses. Of the total lent under the Act 57 per cent has been repaid.

Farm implement loans have been the most widely utilized and, together with loans for farm trucks, represent 83 per cent of all loans made in 1948. It is estimated that in the three prairie provinces approximately 46 per cent of all tractors sold were

financed under the Act, 45 per cent of all combines and 62 per cent of all threshers. This highly significant development in the credit structure means that the Act, which makes loans available at 5 per cent simple interest, is reducing the cost to farmers of obtaining temporary financing. It is also helping to reduce distribution costs to implement companies.

### New Clearing And Breaking

The Finance Minister's report stated that 1,203 farmers in 1948 borrowed \$492,685 to clear and break about 60,000 acres of land for new crop production. Since the inception of the Act a total of 3,665 loans has been made for a total amount of \$1,402,836 for the clearing and breaking of 183,814 acres of new land for cultivation.

### From The Hilltop

A COLUMN OF VIEWS AND OBSERVATIONS

(By F. J. Picking)

First of all I'd like to draw attention to an interesting article written by Mrs. Doris M. Fitzgerald of Thornhill, and entitled "Preservation of Pioneer Sites Goal of Interested Ontarians," which appears in this issue.

Needless to say I'm all in sympathy with Mrs. Fitzgerald's ideas about the preservation of some of our old houses and other landmarks.

As the tide of city building washes up to our doorsteps there is danger that it may carry away many of the graceful and interesting buildings of an earlier day — buildings erected when houses were centres of family life rather than a stopping-off place en route to the movies and the thousand and one other outside activities which crowd our modern life.

Obviously it isn't going to be possible to retain every old house just because it is old, neither is it desirable. As a matter of fact the sooner we tear down some of the old eyesores the better. But it is to be hoped that the march of events will leave for the future some relics of the past. The interested group to which Mrs. Fitzgerald refers in her article is doing a worth-while job along these lines.

The number of cases in Richmond Hill where son or grandson is carrying on the business established by father or grandfather says much for the stability of village business. The list, when you dig into it, is surprisingly long. There are, of course, a number of cases where father and son are in the same business together today but what I have particularly in mind are the instances where the store, or whatever it may be, is being operated by the second or third generation.

There is, for example, Stan Ransom's barbering business, started by his father Moses in 1886, and which Stan, now boss of the show, entered in 1929.

Then we have a third generation set-up in the Glass butcher shop. It was a century ago that W. H. Glass, grandfather of present owner Lader Glass, started that business. He was followed by his son J. P., father of the present owner.

Our other butcher, Ted Mansbridge, is another illustration of the continuity of village business. Established by F. J. Mansbridge in 1918, the store has been carried on by son Ted since his father's death in 1938.

Turning from meat to flowers we have the case of H. J. Mills, Ltd., the Hill's big rose-growing establishment. It was founded by H. J. Mills in 1912 and today son Harold is following in his father's foot-steps. Three generations of Ramers have participated in the coal, feed and

building supplies business in the Hill, now called I. D. Ramer and Son. The concern was established in 1905 by J. H. Ramer, who was followed by his son I. D., who now operates with his son Warren.

While they are not carrying on the bakery business started by their father, David Hill, when he came to Richmond Hill in 1892, the Hill brothers are at least running businesses which stem from the planting which he did in those days and form yet another example of father-son follow-up.

Outstanding, of course, is the record of that medical family, the Langstoffs, which in three generations has looked after the bodily ills of villagers. Dr. James Langstaff was followed by his son Dr. Ralph, and his son, another Dr. James, is in turn carrying on.

The Savage family, father and son, have put in a good many years superintending His Majesty's mails for the village. Our present postmaster, A. G. Savage, has been on the job 33 years. His father, P. G. Savage, was postmaster for five years at an earlier period.

Let's tidy up! Many years in the publishing business have taught me that "beefing" about local conditions by the local paper is something to be avoided. People resent being preached at. On the other hand there comes a time when the paper, if it is to fulfill its proper function in the community, must draw attention to things as they are.

In this case I feel that it is time that something was said about untidiness. There are many in both the village and the surrounding countryside to whom these remarks have no application whatsoever. They take a pride in their properties and, winter and summer, do their utmost to preserve smartness and tidiness. But unfortunately their efforts are detracted from by careless neighbors who treat the great outdoors as a general receptacle for all surplus rubbish.

Winter leaves in its wake a certain amount of debris. In most cases that is speedily removed. In other cases the pile of tin cans, old planks and other sundries around the yard will grow with the lengthening days — spoiling the look of what is, after all, a beautiful neighbourhood and lessening the effect aimed at by those who put in many hours improving their properties.

### Elgin St. Residents Object To Widening

Objections to the widening and extension of Elgin Street, Thornhill, were voiced by a delegation of residents who appeared before the Markham Township Council at its regular meeting on April 18th.

Members of the delegation explained that they had bought their properties on the street because of its quiet character and that they were anxious not to have the street turned into a thoroughfare. Stringent restrictions applicable for 20 years had, they stated, been imposed at the time of purchase, these including the building of only one house to each acre. Heavy investments had been made by property holders in order that the character of the street as a high class residential location should be maintained and they were most anxious to protect their ideals, delegation members said.

Replying to the delegation, Reeve Griffin pointed out that the interests of all property owners in the district must be considered by his council, and promised that the rights and desires of all would be considered. Many Requests

Practically the whole time of the meeting was taken up in considering requests by individuals, with the result that a further meeting to consider the rating by-law will be held at an early date.

Council, on a recorded vote with Reeve Griffin dissenting, gave permission for the establishment of a highway cabin set-up on No. 7 highway. Permission to erect a temporary dwelling was refused to an applicant who stated that, due to changed business conditions, he would have no place for his family to live.

### MR. & MRS. WILLIAM WHITE OBSERVE GOLDEN WEDDING

Fifty years of married life were completed by Mr. and Mrs. William White of 21 Yonge Street Road when they celebrated their golden wedding on April 19th. The celebration, due to the illness of Mr. White, was a quiet one.

Mr. and Mrs. White were married in England and came to Canada 41 years ago. They have lived in Richmond Hill for the last 35 years, where Mr. White has worked as a bricklayer and contractor. During their residence here the couple have been actively associated with St. Mary's Anglican Church.

They have four sons, Bernard of Toronto; Leslie in England; Eric of Fergus; Allan of Richmond Hill. One daughter, Phyllis, (Mrs. W. Phillips), lives at Humberstone, Ont. In addition there are 12 grandchildren.

Teacher: What do you know about Laura Secord?  
Johnny: She makes good candy.

would go far towards sprucing up the whole district and giving it the appearance it deserves.

You run into some queer "believe it or not" items in this business. Would you, for instance, believe it possible that a man whose parents are celebrating their golden wedding anniversary has never in his life seen his brother?

Yet we have a case like that in Richmond Hill. Here's how it happens. Al White of the British American service station, was born in this country after his parents came to Canada. They left behind in England an older brother who, because of illness, could not be brought to the Dominion at that time. Left with relatives, he has stayed there ever since. Consequently Mr. and Mrs. White have never seen their son since and Al has never seen his brother.

Instances where brothers or sisters have not seen each other for many years are common, but a case where brothers who have reached maturity have never seen each other at all is one of those one in a million things.

### Preservation Of Pioneer Sites Goal Of Interested Ontarians

(By Doris M. Fitzgerald, Thornhill)

Four favourite Thornhill landmarks known to thousands of travellers on Yonge St. are the Edey house, the Wilcocks house, Trinity Anglican Church, and Findlay's Hotel. Old twin locust trees raise their lacy branches above the wide gable and pointed windows of the substantial white plaster house, which John Edey from near London, England, planned and built himself, for his family, in the late eighteenth thirties. The white picket fence was destroyed one Hallowe'en, and the interesting old doorway has been brought very close to the highway by widenings of the road (which have spoilt many front gardens). Inside there is a graceful curving staircase, different woodwork in every room, and a basement kitchen with huge open fireplace in the English tradition. Incidentally John Edey is said to have bought that site because of the stream which ran through it. He thought it would be pleasant to sit and fish in the garden. The house is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Balfour.

The large grey painted clapboard house on the east side of Yonge, commonly called the Wilcocks house, now belongs to Mr. W. H. Wright. It was built about 1817 by Wm. Parsons, one of the first well-to-do Englishmen to arrive in the district. Filled with imported walnut woodwork and fine furnishings, it was for years a centre of hospitality. Mr. Parsons kept shop, and acted as postmaster in a building next door, now torn down. He was also one of the moving spirits behind the building of Trinity Church across the road, on land given by his brother-in-law Benjamin Thorne. Erected in 1830, the little frame church is the oldest original church building still in use in the Anglican diocese of Toronto. Among other historical features are the beautiful stained glass memorial windows. The body of Colonel Moodie, shot down during the rebellion of 1837, lies in the adjoining cemetery.

### Old Thornhill Hotel

Though part of the Thornhill Hotel has been converted into business premises, it is still one of the quaintest buildings on Yonge St. Built probably in the late eighteenth twenties by George Playter, who leased the mills on John St. built by Allen McNab, and also operated stage coaches between York (Toronto) and Holland Landing, it has lodged many a wayfarer and his mount, and has been the scene of lively political meetings, of gay balls, and even of a murder. The son of a prominent family was shot there during a card game by a transient. The old hall on top used to be rung daily at 7, 12 and 6 o'clock, but is now tolled only in case of fire.

These are but four local examples of hundreds of fine old colonial

houses and buildings erected between 1790 and 1840 by early settlers in the province. Scattered throughout southern Ontario, they enrich the landscape with the charm of their simple designs and pleasing proportions, and their historic associations. Across the border similar houses are jealously preserved and treasured by our more appreciative and astute American neighbours. As a result tourists from all over the world flock to the New England states to wander about the tranquil, tree shaded streets of little towns, where old white houses with green shutters, and lovely gardens, exude an atmosphere of romance and history.

### Aiming At Preservation

Unfortunately in Ontario we are not yet fully aware of the great value of our pioneer heritage. Many good buildings have already been demolished, and others disfigured by hit and miss 'improvements'. Professor E. R. Arthur of the University of Toronto has long been interested in early Canadian architecture. Alarmed by the general indifference shown to the subject he approached two fellow architects, A. S. Mathers and Mackenzie Waters. The three of them rounded up a group of public spirited citizens to form, in 1933, the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario. The object of the society is to preserve buildings of architectural merit, and sites of natural beauty and historic interest through co-operation of the owners, and the stimulation of public interest.

Their first research money was devoted to making measured drawings of about 100 buildings, and taking over 1000 photographs. These records will be preserved and added to, and have already proved a valuable source of information to students of history and architecture.

The first major achievement of the society, the restoration of St. Andrew's Church (circa 1828) Niagara-on-the-Lake, and was made possible by funds donated by the late Thomas Foster, one time Mayor of Toronto.

The second big achievement was the purchase and restoration of Barnum house, (circa 1817) near Grubbton, with money raised by public subscription. It was scarcely completed when war curtailed further activities. Now the Society is planning to resume its very worth-while work, and ready to welcome new members. Towards the end of April seven Toronto houses will be thrown open, as a fund raising venture. This interesting tour will be free to members who present their cards. The fee is \$2.00 a year. Further particulars may be obtained from the Recording Secretary, Mrs. H. W. Macdonell, Steele's Ave. E. (the old Evans house) whose postal address is R.R. 1 York Mills, Ont.

### Taxpayers Authorize Purchase New Jefferson School Site

Erection of a new school at Jefferson, approximately a mile north of the Elgin Side Road, moved a decisive step forward on April 13 when ratepayers of S.S. 4, Markham and S.S. 21, Vaughan, gave completely unanimous endorsement to a recommendation made by the trustees covering the purchase of a new site.

A clear-cut report, presented by Professor John Passmore, chairman, detailed the steps taken by the trustees, revealed that it was not possible to expand the present site on the east side of Yonge Street.

The new site is practically opposite the old one and consists of 2½ acres, with a frontage of 185 feet on Yonge Street. Purchase price is \$1,900.

Following the meeting's approval of the purchase of a new site a general discussion regarding the proposed new building took place and a number of suggestions were advanced to the trustees. A resolution moved by George Topper and seconded by L. Follitt suggested the formation of an advisory committee composed of residents who could be helpful to the trustees in dealing with the project.

Trustees of the union school sec-

tion are John Passmore, Arthur Gibson and Neil Dobb, with Norman Burnett as secretary-treasurer.

### CENTENNIAL FAIR PRIZE FEATURES

At their Centennial Fair on May 24th next, the Board of Directors are pleased to announce that the Hydro-Electric will provide a special exhibit, which will, among other things, show the development of the electric light from its inception to its present state of efficiency.

The Board is pleased also to be able to state that there will be offered a prize of \$10.00 cash to each of a man's Period Dress and a woman's Period Dress, the same to be judged at the band stand at 3 o'clock, and prizes for Decorated Bicycles, Decorated Tricycles, and Decorated Doll Carriages, as follows: 1st, \$2.00; 2nd, \$1.00; 3rd, 50c. and to each of the others who enter these competitions 25c. These will be judged at the band stand immediately after the parade. The entrants in the events mentioned are required to participate in the parade on the morning of the 24th.

### PROCLAMATION

### DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

In accordance with resolution of the municipal council I call upon all citizens of Richmond Hill to change their timepieces to Daylight Saving Time at 2 a.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 24th

Your co-operation will be appreciated.

P. C. HILL, Reeve