

**STRANGE CONTRAPTION  
ROAMS NORTH YORK HILLS**

There's a strange contraption roaming the hills of North York, in the vicinity of the southern research station of the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests. "It's full of lugs — but if it works out, there'll be many a tired forest ranger, a great deal happier," according to the research officials.

The contraption, gadget, or call it what you will, is a summer toboggan. It's intended to carry anywhere from 500 to 700 pounds of fire fighting equipment through the heaviest bush and most rugged terrain in Ontario. And it will carry the load faster than any crew of rangers could possibly walk, even "light".

The summer toboggan was born in the days of the tremendous forest fires of last summer, when the rangers faced the almost insurmountable task of lugging portable pumps, hose and other equipment into the tough Mississagi and Chapleau countries. It is powered with a six-horsepower air cooled engine and has two tracks like a miniature tank or tractor. Through an ingenious double clutch, planned by Monty Baker, Departmental mechanical engineer, the toboggan is controlled by a pair of handles like a plough. It climbs the steepest hills in this area and seems ready to start climbing trees under Baker's directions.

One of the chief difficulties was to mount the engine on the rear of the machine and at the same time prevent it from overbalancing. The research division did it. On the front end is to be mounted a box arrangement which will carry the "business equipment". For preliminary tests the front end was loaded down with 700 pounds of large rocks and there was never a whimper from the engine. Before the machine can be shipped to the bush, however, all the bugs must be ironed out. Monty Baker, Vic McMullen and Howard Brohm, all of whom have had a hand in its construction and development are certain that the machine can be perfected so that when a ranger loads his pump, hose, shovel, axe and lunch aboard the toboggan and pulls that starter rope, all he'll have to do is hang on to the handles. The gadget will deliver the goods.

**VELLORE**

The regular monthly meeting of the Vellore Sr. Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. E. Witherspoon on Tuesday afternoon, May 3rd, with Mrs. D. Jarrett, the president in the chair.

Nineteen members were present. The roll call was answered by written suggestions for next year's programme, as well as showing our first photo. Considerable discussion took place regarding the Co-operative Programme. Don't forget the District Annual to be held June 2nd, at 10 o'clock at Maple. Mrs. D. Jarrett, Mrs. B. Farr, Mrs. R. Peelar, Mrs. A. Bishop and Mrs. Wilson were named as delegates.

A very interesting programme on Historical Research was given. The motto, Good management is better than a good income" was given by Mrs. L. McNeil. Mrs. J. Brownlee gave a very informative paper on the Early History of Vellore. The School Log of S. S. No. 9, as prepared by Miss Elma Farr, now Mrs. Stewart Rutherford was read by Mrs. L. McNeil. Many interesting facts were given by both ladies. The first school fair was held at Vellore in 1913. A manual training class was held in the evening for any interested ones in 1922. The school was raised and bricked and a basement put under it in 1925, hydro was installed in 1929. Current events were given — by Mrs. Brownlee for Mrs. Oliver.

The election of officers was conducted by Mrs. J. Snider. The annual report given by the secretary, Mrs. R. Peelar showed an increase in membership and attendance. The financial statement was most gratifying and was indicative of the enthusiastic efforts of the group. Contributions were sent to many worthwhile charities. Splendid reports were given by the convenors of Standing Committees showing the high calibre of programmes during the past year. The organization is to be congratulated for many worthwhile activities carried on.

Mrs. D. Jarrett was again chosen as president with Mrs. E. Witherspoon and Mrs. J. Kyle, vice-presidents. Mrs. R. Peelar retired as secretary-treasurer and Mrs. B. Farr will capably take her place. Mrs. J. Snider is assistant secretary-treasurer; Mrs. R. Peelar, district director; Mrs. Wilson, pianist with her assistant, Mrs. W. Bryson; Mrs. N. Kerr, Mrs. G. Burbidge and Mrs. R. Julian are directors. The flower committee, Mrs. G. Burbidge, convenor, Mrs. F. Constable, Mrs. E. Bryson, Mrs. L. Weldrick, Mrs. J. McNeil, Mrs. J. Snider and Miss Goodreham. The program committee is Mrs. F. Constable, Mrs. J. Brownlee, Mrs. A. Bishop, Mrs. J. Julian, Mrs. Roy Phillips, Mrs. A. Rutherford. Social committee, Mrs. Windas, Mrs. A. Bishop, Mrs. E. Bryson, Miss Goodreham, Mrs. F. Oliver, Mrs. W. Wilson. Auditors, Mrs. R. Peelar, Mrs. E. Bryson.

A vote of thanks was tendered Mrs. Peelar for her splendid work. At the close of the meeting The Maple Leaf was sung as its composer, Alexander Muir, had at one time taught school at Vellore. God Save the King closed a very interesting meeting.

The June meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. J. Brownlee. Let every member be present. Everybody is welcome.

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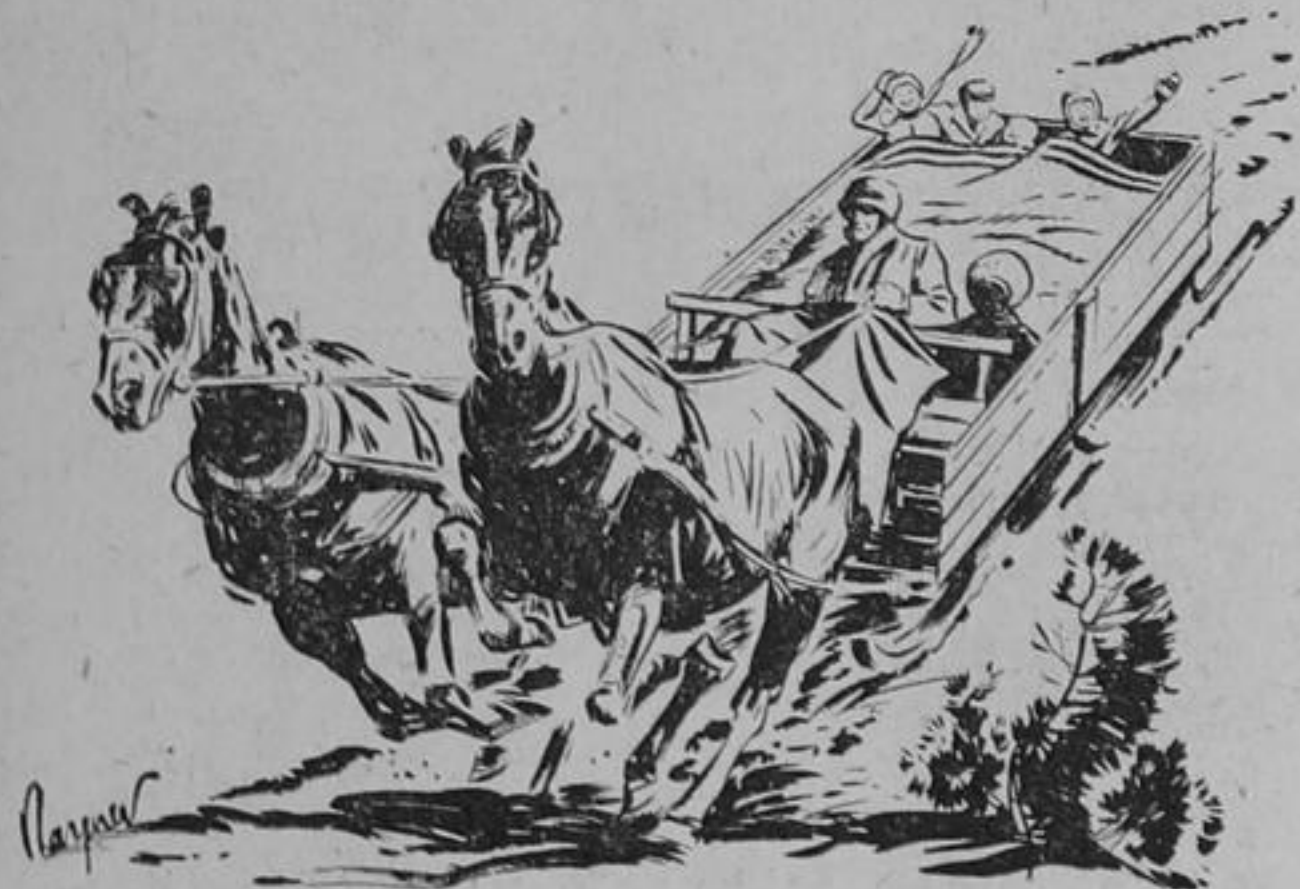
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**RICHMOND HILL  
CENTENNIAL  
FAIR**

**TUESDAY, MAY 24, 1949**

Parade from High School 10.30 A.M.

**QUEEN'S YORK RANGERS**

**BAND**

**HORSE SHOW**

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Entrants for items 1, 2 and 3 will assemble at the High School for the parade. Entrants for items 4 and 5 will join parade at Post Office. The Period Dresses will be judged at the Band Stand at 3 o'clock, the bicycles, tricycles and Doll's Carriages will be judged at the Band Stand immediately after parade.

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