

United Church Members 683, Annual Meeting Told

Marked by the absence of Rev. C. B. Brethen through illness, the annual congregational meeting of the Richmond Hill United Church was held last week.

The meeting was informed that Mr. Brethen was asking permission from presbytery to retire from the active ministry because of poor health. Mr. A. E. Plewman, who was selected as chairman for the evening, said it would be necessary to appoint a committee to deal with the matter of Pastoral Relations. As a result a committee was appointed consisting of Messrs. P. E. Angle, A. E. Plewman, W. C. Wilson, Dr. A. W. R. Doan, Mrs. C. H. Sanderson, Mrs. A. R. Phipps and Mrs. Hickson.

The annual report showed that the church had finished the year with a balance of \$1,369.43, with receipts totalling \$9,521.40 and expenditures \$8,162.45. With the parsonage completed except for some landscaping and the new Sunday School extension in use for a year, it was revealed that the total involved has been \$25,585.83 of which borrowings total \$6,000.

Membership of the church is now 683 resident members, a net gain of 70 from January 1, 1950. Stewards elected for three-year terms were Jas. Grainger and M. H. Cunningham (both re-elected) and W. A. Rombrough, Russell Lynett, H. D. Sanderson and Jas. Bradley.

Members of session elected for three years were: J. R. Herrington, C. H. Sanderson, T. H. Trench, P. E. Angle, Dr. J. P. Wilson, A. R. Phipps (all re-elected) and P. G. Savage and J. R. Cross.

Dr. C. A. Chant has been made an honorary member of the session. All church organizations reported progress during the year.

The annual statements as well as those of the church, building fund, session, M. & M. Fund, Sunday School departments, of the Woman's Association, Evening Group of the W.A., Floral Department, Woman's Missionary Society, W.M.S. Evening Auxiliary, Mission Band, Mission Circle, Choir Fund, Men's Club, Young People's Union, Bible Class, Trail Rangers, Merry Men, Young Adults', 50-50 Club, C.G.I.T. and Explorers were included in the printed annual report.

Associations Mark Founding Of H&S

The Langstaff and Thornlea Home and School Associations are holding a joint Founders Day social evening on Wednesday, February 14, 1951, at 8 p.m., in the Victoria Masonic Hall, Thornhill.

Guest speaker will be Dr. Robert M. King, Director of York County Health Unit. The program will include varied entertainment and refreshments.

Invitations to attend have been extended to the newly formed Powell Road and Thornhill Associations and to interested persons of Richvale.

Red Cross assisted more than 30,000 persons in the Manitoba flood, provided food, clothing, shelter, medical aid, evacuation and welfare inquiries.

An average of 50 letters a day seeking lost relatives and friends are received by the Red Cross national Inquiry Service.

Longevity Creator Of Problems, Lions At Thornhill Told

At the February 5 meeting of the Thornhill and District Lions Club—Mr. Vern W. Heise, Deputy Minister of Public Welfare for the Province of Ontario, was guest speaker and drew to the attention of the members of the club that the increasing expectancy of life for the citizens of this country was presenting new problems which the Government and the public generally must face.

The present trend to age advancement produced a great incidence of arthritic and allied ailments, more prevalent among the aged. Employment figures were also affected as a greater percentage of unemployables became an ever pressing problem both in connection with unemployment benefits and the rehabilitation of those suffering from diseases peculiar to the aged.

At the close of his address Mr. Heise was presented with a gift from the Lions Club.

Lion Bill Lennox reported that the fur coat raffle was a complete success and that a good sum will be added to the club's coffers to further the work of the Boys and Girls committee.

Lion Gaye Zinkan, convener of the carnival held last week, reported that it too was a success and no expense to the club as the receipts of the doughnut and coffee bar had paid all the expenses incurred.

Four members of the club were appointed as delegates to the forthcoming meeting of the Vaughan Recreation Committee to be held in the Thornhill School. At this meeting it is expected an area recreation board for Thornhill will be formed to work in conjunction with the Vaughan Recreation Committee.

Five million dollars is needed by your Red Cross Society this year to carry on its work of mercy at home and abroad.

Council Will Invite Expert On Town Planning To Talk About Expansion Problems

Dr. E. G. Faludi, well-known town planning expert is to be invited to Richmond Hill to consult with the municipal council on the feasibility of making a survey of the village, it was agreed at Monday night's meeting of council. The visit, it was emphasized, would be an exploratory one and would not of itself commit the council to any expenditures in initial stages.

The decision followed a long discussion on planning for the future, sparked by Councillor Tomlin. "I'm not going to sit here and talk and talk and do nothing," he asserted, reminding fellow-members that he had promised voters prior to the election that town and industrial planning would be dealt with. "There is no room for delay in planning," he asserted, "We badly need an industrial area."

"We have to expand," he continued. "Why?" asked Councillor Middleton. "You have the idea of expanding," said the latter. "I'd like to see us stay where we are."

"Most of us concern ourselves too much with what is happening this year," said Councillor Tomlin. "We must have something to work to over a period. Many of our troubles are due to lack of planning twenty-five years ago. We can grow like Topsy grew — or we can plan."

Suggests Long-term Plan

"We don't have to do the work all at once," said Councillor Floyd Perkins. "We can at least make a long-term plan and spread the work over a number of years. If streets are too narrow we don't have to widen all of them at once." He too expressed the thought that industrial development was important and suggested setting up of an industrial commission. "The village should be squared off," he said in referring to planning.

"I'm not in favour of spending \$1,000 this year on such a project," said Councillor Middleton, stating that he thought such a propos-

ition would be too expensive. He voted, however, in favour of having Dr. Faludi consult with the council on a preliminary basis.

Scout Committee To Meet Feb. 15

The Annual Meeting of the Boy Scout Group Committee will be held in the Public School Auditorium on Thursday, February 15, 1951, at 8 p.m.

The parents of scouts and cubs are cordially invited to attend. An invitation is also extended to all other people of Richmond Hill who are interested in boys' activities.

Scouting in Richmond Hill is a very active organization, currently looking after about 90 young men, comprising senior scouts, scouts and two cub packs. There is a waiting list for a third cub pack as soon as leaders are available, and if anyone has any suggestions to make in this regard they should get in touch with the Committee Chairman, Mr. Jack Wharton.

The annual Financial Campaign for scout funds commenced on February 5. This campaign has two major objectives, firstly to raise funds for the scouts' and cubs' current activities, and secondly to raise funds towards the building of some modest headquarters in which to store scouting equipment and to hold meetings in the winter and during inclement weather.

TO THE ELECTORS OF RICHMOND HILL

For several days I have had the pleasure of visiting many homes and discussing some of the election issues. It is not possible, however, to know or visit everyone in the village — Richmond Hill is now too big for that — and I am therefore taking this last chance to answer some questions that may be in your minds.

Is An Election Necessary

I have heard it said that "there was no need for an election at this time," and that "it is a great expense" to the village.

Such statements are either made thoughtlessly or maliciously, in an effort to discourage the public from taking an interest in its own affairs. There have been too many public offices filled by acclamation. Competition and public elections are the essence of our democracy, should be welcomed by everyone, especially by those who hold themselves out as public servants. A substantial part of the 1951 term of office remains to run and it is important to us as voters that we should have as wide a choice of candidates as possible.

The cost of the election to the village is less than 5 cents per person, a cheap price to pay for our democratic franchise.

Have I The Experience To Do The Job ?

As a solicitor, a great deal of my time has been spent on municipal affairs. I have had years of training and experience in these matters — have been consulted by many municipalities and individuals with regard to problems involving transportation, planning boards, building by-laws, restrictions and schools.

I am familiar with the Municipal Board and government departments through whose hands most important municipal matters must pass.

I have had considerable experience of boards and committees dealing with municipal affairs.

Every job requires some special qualification and experience and I believe that the important issues of growth and development which are facing Richmond Hill today need to be met by someone of wide experience and vision.

Have I The Time To Do The Job . . . ?

I believe that anyone in public office must devote a lot of time to the job if he is going to do it properly. His private business must therefore be allowed to suffer in the meantime.

I have made arrangements which will allow me to neglect my private business during the course of the balance of this year, in order that I shall be free to give as much time as is necessary to the affairs of the village.

I regret that there is no more time to discuss these issues with you personally, but trust that you will give them your serious consideration and will be able to exercise your vote to-morrow.

Stuart Parker

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