

Thornhill And District News

TELEPHONE: AVENUE 5-1513

The Liberal is always pleased to publish items of interest in the Thornhill area contributed by its readers. Our representative in Thornhill is Mrs. Betty Ball, 14 Helen Street, Thornhill. TELEPHONE: AV. 5-1513

Presbyterian Church News

The Annual meeting of the Fortnighters was held at the home of Miss H. Welsh on the evening of December 7th. Officers elected for the coming year are as follows: President, Mrs. G. A. Brown; Vice-president, Mrs. H. Newton; Secretary, Mrs. G. Hook; Treasurer, Mrs. S. Deska; Sewing Committee, Mrs. J. T. Campbell, convener, Mrs. A. G. Campbell and Mrs. N. Martin.

The Thornhill Women's Institute held a Christmas Party held in the Masonic Hall on December 9th, took the form of a Pot Luck Luncheon. For the occasion the tables, bearing quantities of tasty dishes of all descriptions, were decorated with timely evergreens and candles. As the luncheon got underway, the W. I. Link correspondent surprised the members with the presentation of two tins of Scotch shortbread direct from Conway, Scotland, and which was passed out for everyone to enjoy.

A short business meeting followed when the President, Mrs. C. Sinclair, sincerely thanked the hostesses for all their work in preparing the party. One minute of silence was observed for the late Mrs. A. Clapham, a member of the Institute who recently passed away.

A motion was carried to the effect that all members should remember their shut-in members with small gifts. A collection for the Sick Children's Hospital was taken, which amounted to \$20.00. Small gift-wrapped parcels were also received which would be forwarded to the York Cottage in Willowdale. In addition, wrapped jars of jams and jellies were brought to the meeting to be distributed amongst the Cancer patients in Toronto.

A very interesting talk on Christmas customs of one hundred years ago, was given by Mrs. Neil, everyone enjoyed listening to the comparison of Christmases today and back a century ago.

Mrs. Frater was in charge of the Christmas programme which consisted of a sing-song and a Wedding Party Musical contest which certainly kept everyone guessing.

The meeting was closed with "God Save the Queen", completing an afternoon that everyone enjoyed and which will be remembered for a long time to come.

The Women's Institute of Thornhill have received an invitation from Scarborough to attend their meeting at the Silver Cross Rooms, 88 Prince Arthur Avenue, on Tuesday, January 5th at 2:00 p.m. Afternoon tea and cards.

United Church News
White Gift Service
A large congregation was present at the Thornhill United Church last Sunday for the Annual White Gift Service. There was a very generous response of food and cash which will be used for hampers to be distributed amongst needy families of the area. Following a very appropriate sermon ushers collected the gifts from the congregation and the children of the Junior, Primary and Beginner classes gathered in the church to bring their gifts to the Rostrom. Assisting in this part of the service, were four C.G.I.T. girls in uniform, Gloria Briggs, Marian Davis, Joan Weekes and Morey Honey. The children retired to the Sunday School room following the Doxology and dedication of gifts.

Christmas Sunday

Plans have been made to install a P.A. system next Sunday morning to accommodate a possible overflow for the Annual Christmas Service. In addition to all the beautiful music that will be a part of this service, a number of children will be baptised. In the evening the Annual Carol Festival will take place at 7:30. The choir are placing a Lectern in the Church in memory of the late Mrs. E. E. Kent who was a faithful member of the choir. The offering at this service will be for this memorial fund.

Christmas Eve
Christmas Chimes will be heard throughout the area from 11:30 until mid-night on Christmas Eve. This will be made possible through the amplifier.

Afternoon Auxiliary (W.M.S.)
A Christmas Worship service was the core of the program for the Afternoon Auxiliary on Tuesday, December 8. Mrs. D. Balfour was in charge of the program which included a candle-lighting and group singing of a number of favorite Christmas hymns. There was a good attendance in spite of the absence of a number of members through illness.

Several associate members and guests were present including Mrs. H. E. LeMasurier who gave a beautiful solo rendition of an all Canadian Carol, the Shepherds' Song. Refreshments were served by hostesses Mrs. Honey and Mrs. Morton.

Ladies Guild
Yule logs and candles decorated the tables in the Church Hall recently, when the members of the Ladies Guild enjoyed their annual Christmas turkey dinner. The entertainment was provided by the members themselves singing carols, and vocalist Marion Fraser's beautiful rendition of Christmas numbers. Miss Donna Graham, accompanied by her mother entertained the group with some very pleasing vocal and elocution numbers.

During the short business meeting, a treasurer's report was given showing total receipts for the year amounting to \$1,387.46. The members voted on \$50.00 to again sponsor a young French girl.

The nominating committee presented a slate of officers which were installed by Dr. E. E. Kent. They are as follows: President, Mrs. L. Denby; 1st vice-president, Mrs. S. Kent; 2nd vice-president, Mrs. Doris Mickelborough; recording secretary, Mrs. Mary Atkinson; corresponding secretary, Mrs. V. Collins; treasurer, Mrs. E. Leusby; parsonage committee, Miss L. Francis; Mrs. D. Law and Mrs. Marian Craig; pianist, Mrs. Marian Craig; social committee, Miss L. Dean; Mrs. Grace Buckler and Mrs. Corinne Ladell; sunshine committee, Mrs. Marie McGhie, Mrs. Lily Jamieson, Mrs. Bernice Crutcher and Mrs. Flora McMullan; decorating committee, Mrs. Kay Findlay, Mrs. Marian Sharpless and Mrs. Lila Short; auditors, Mrs. June Griffin and Mrs. Dorothy Anstey; representative to Welfare Council, Mrs. L. Pherrill, Y.P.U.

A good attendance of members was present for the regular meeting of the Young People's Union held last Sunday evening with President Arthur Bone presiding. The members were divided into two groups for a thought-provoking Bible quiz led by Miss Betty Empringham. The scripture lesson was read by Ron Flett who also accompanied the group on the piano for carol singing.

Highland Park News

CORRESPONDENT: MRS. WALTER SANDERS
23 Drury Ave.
Telephone AV. 5-2116

Personals

Bobbie Burton, 20 Woodward Avenue, was run over by a car on the Loblaw's parking lot last week, but his injuries were not too serious.

The accident of Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, 21 Woodward Avenue, wasn't quite as serious as first suspected and Mrs. Taylor is in hospital with a very bad break to her collarbone but Mr. Taylor suffered no injuries.

Trinity Church News

The Christmas Party of Trinity Anglican Church W.A. was held Thursday, December 10, at the home of Mrs. S. Tobias and was greatly enjoyed by 30 members and friends.

The meeting was opened with prayers by the Rev. S. A. R. Wood and carols were sung accompanied on the piano by Mrs. W. Howard. Mrs. W. Frater gave a most interesting account of her trip to England for the Coronation and Mrs. S. A. R. Wood read a most informative article on traditions and customs from Advent to Candlemas.

Christmas gifts were brought for the two elderly ladies in the Trinity Church W.A. room at Strachan Houses. The hostesses were Mrs. L. Redman and Mrs. E. Lean who served luncheon. The next regular W.A. meeting will be held in the Church Hall on January 14 at 1:30 p.m.

Girls' Guide News

At a badge day held recently, Corrie Heydens tried and successfully passed her Emergency Helper Test. On Wednesday last a number of the Thornhill Guides together with their Lieutenant, Miss Evelyn Thornecroft, attended the presentation of the Christmas Story at Holy Trinity Church in Toronto.

Birthdays

Among those celebrating their birthdays last week were David Bare and Jackie Duncan of Arnold Avenue.

Prize Winners At Richvale Draw

At a social evening held by the Friendship Circle Club of Richmond Hill and Richvale area, in the Richvale Legion Hall, Tuesday night, the following won lucky prizes:

Turkey, H. Ledrew, Toronto; chicken, R. Prillendragh, Toronto; duck, Mrs. J. Bushell, Toronto; fowl, Marilyn Hawman, Oak Ridges; Xmas cake, Allan Hawlett, Montreal; Christmas pudding, Mrs. F. Simpson, Toronto; candy, W. Churchill, Westwood Lane; mystery prize, W. J. Murdy, Garden Ave., Langstaff.

Friar Will Induct

Rev. Father Leo of the Order of Friars Minor and pastor of St. Agnes Church Toronto, will receive new members into the Third Order of St. Francis next Sunday at 5 p.m. in St. Luke's Church Thornhill.

The Third Order was founded by St. Francis in the Thirteenth Century and has a world membership now of upward of over 5,000,000. It followed formation of a monastic order for men and a cloister for women under the initial direction of St. Clare. The aim of the Third Order is to help men and women observe the commandments and maintain a spirit of devotion in the conscientious fulfillment of daily duties.

About Books And Reading

By the Thornhill Librarian

Frederick Phillip Grove died in 1934. It is perhaps too soon after his death to evaluate his place in Canadian literature. It is certain, however, that Grove's works will some day be rediscovered and I believe that he will attain his rightful place on the merits of two autobiographical books — "In Search of America" and "In Search of Myself".

Born in Sweden in 1871 of wealthy parents, he was magnificently educated, traveled luxuriously about Europe, mingling with men of letters and achievement in the capitals of Europe. His early years are in the sharpest contrast to his life in America after his 21st year. In 1892 he landed in New York to be greeted with the news that his family fortunes had crashed and he was a pauper. Up and down the continent he wandered, working in cheap restaurants, following the western harvests, lumber camps; and out of this vagrant life came his "In Search of America" in 1893. His manuscript came back regularly from the publishers, perhaps because he wrote in longhand on both sides of the paper. At long last in 1922, a carefully revised manuscript was accepted.

It is almost inconceivable that a man with his cultured background should have found in the pioneer province of Manitoba in the early days of this century, his spiritual home. He may have been influenced by Hardy's novels, the theme of his novels was similar but in a greatly different setting. "The Settlers of the Marsh", "The Yoke of Life", "Our Daily Bread" all have the same thread — man's pitiful attempt to repel the crushing cosmic forces. Sex and romantic love, Grove regarded as a curse, but his realism even in the third decade of this century, was condemned as indecent. When Grove attempted to weld romanticism to realism, he failed. But there is a "power" in all his novels which raises him to the levels of the great — Hardy, Dostoevski and Balzac. When the reader lays down his novel, there is a deep sense of frustration. But the book cannot be forgotten and long after other and much more popular books have been completely forgotten, there remains the element of the indestructible, the feeling of "power", the unforgettable. Yet one would like to forget the picture of the immigrant settler and his wife watching the summer hailstorm smashing and threshing the first crop.

We have on our shelves "In Search of Myself". This is no failure but a noble book. Notwithstanding his poverty, the lack of literary recognition for which his soul longed, he emerges as a figure of great stature.

Tentative Budget Indicates A 2 Mill Tax Drop, King City

Donald M. Findlay, chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Police Village of King City, brought down a tentative budget for 1954 which will reduce the tax rate of the village to 10 mills, when the trustees held their last regular meeting of this year, on Monday evening. The tax rate for the past two years has been 12 mills.

The tentative budget has been drawn to the total sum of \$3,990 to facilitate the fixing of a budget in the New Year. This sum depends on the assessment figures and upon the share granted to King City by the new system of Provincial grants to municipalities.

It was moved by Donald Findlay and seconded by Robert McLeod, that a copy of the tentative budget be forwarded to King City by the new system of Provincial grants to municipalities.

Request Figures

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Census

It was moved by commissioner Robert McLeod and seconded by William A. Carson, that local voluntary organizations be approached with the request that one of them conduct a census of the village at the end of 1953. The Provincial grant is based on the Dominion census figures of 1951, and can only be altered when such figures have changed by the brackets of seven per cent of the latest figures used, whether above, or below, the last census.

Corn Club Results

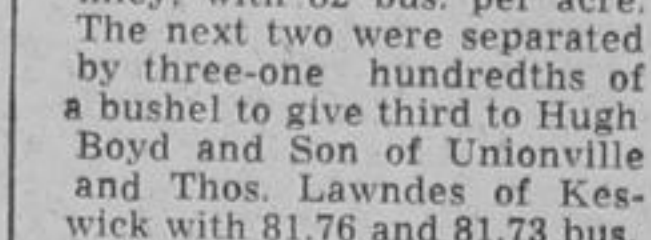
The results of the 75 Bushel Corn Club, sponsored by the York County Soil & Crop Improvement Association, just released by the secretary, W. M. Cockburn, Newmarket, show the yields to be down somewhat from previous years due to adverse weather conditions at the time the ears should have been filling. A newcomer to the contest, Allan Hoover of Gormley, headed the list this year with 89 bushels of dry shelled corn, followed by Clifford Winger, also of Gormley, with 82 bush. per acre. The next two were separated by three-one hundredths of a bushel to give third to Hugh Boyd and Son of Unionville and Thos. Lawndes of Keswick with 81.76 and 81.73 bush. respectively.

Other prize winners in order were Maurice Farquharson, Gormley; M-H Farms, Milliken; Harrison Sileter, Gormley; Jas. Darlington, Maple; W. J. Brodie, Stouffville and Leitchcroft Farm, Thornhill. In all, 21 entered the contest of which 19 completed.

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Highland Park News

CORRESPONDENT: MRS. WALTER SANDERS
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Personals

The Haynes children of 27 Grandview Ave. are on the recovery list after their recent illness with colds etc.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Baxter and family, formerly of 81 Highland Park, left by plane December 14, to take up residence at Winnipeg. Your correspondent would like to take this opportunity to wish all the readers a Merry Christmas and happy holidays.

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