

# Thornhill And District News

TELEPHONE AVENUE 5-1571

The Liberal is always pleased to publish items of interest in the Thornhill area contributed by its readers. Our representative in Thornhill is Mrs. R. W. Fitzgerald, 18 Colborne St., Thornhill. TELEPHONE AV. 5-1571.

**Around The Village**  
Mr. and Mrs. V. J. Lennox of Arnold Avenue have returned from a visit with their daughter and son-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Parker A. Locke, Morrisburg, Ont.

Mrs. J. Billings who has been seriously ill in the Toronto General Hospital is now at home again with her daughter and son-in-law Mr. and Mrs. E. Grainger, Yonge St., and is making very good progress towards recovery.

Dr. John Webster, former psychiatrist at the Ontario Hospital, Whitby is a guest at Miss Reaman's Nursing Home. Dr. Webster, now 90 years of age, is believed to be one of the oldest living psychiatrists, and is also one of the oldest living graduates of Toronto University. He is the father of Mrs. Dalton B. Harvie, John St.

Mr. and Mrs. John Wojna and their little son Andrew, are new residents of Thornhill. Mrs. Wojna was born in Wales and Mr. Wojna, now a British subject, comes from Poland. He had just completed his education and taken a Government position as electrical engineer with the Polish Railways when war broke out. After the invasion of Poland and the fall of France he made his way to England where he joined the Polish army. Mr. and Mrs. Wojna came to Canada four years ago and settled first in Quebec. Mr. Wojna is now employed by an electrical firm in Weston and has been spending all his spare time renovating the house which he recently bought on Colborne St.

Douglas Palmer is the name of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Plaxton's new grandson. He is the two weeks old son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Plaxton, No. 7 Highway. Mrs. F. W. Plaxton is the owner of Jenny's Dress shop in the village. Alteration and repair work on the Anglican Church rectory is now almost finished. While the plastering and floor sanding were

in progress the Rev. S. A. R. Wood, Mrs. Wood, Catherine and Nora have been staying at Summit View Motel. They had planned to do light housekeeping in the Church Kitchen but received more invitations out to meals than they were able to accept.

**Correction**  
Father Cirivello entered St. Michael's Hospital on January 23 to have his tonsils removed.

**Thornhill & District Horticultural Society**  
A suggestion that some garden tours be held this summer in Thornhill was made by the President, Mr. R. C. Poulter at the meeting of Thornhill and District Horticultural Society held last Tuesday evening in the United Church hall. Mrs. E. T. Pherrill, the secretary reported that the Society now has a membership of 153 adults and 16 juniors, of which 78 were exhibitors during the past year. There are 10 Life members, one of whom, Mrs. J. A. Thompson, is the only living charter member of T. and D. Hort. Society. She served the Society as director for many years, and her late husband was both director and president.

The secretary also read an invitation from the Dale Estate in Brampton to attend the Orchid Festival, (sponsored by Brampton Rotary Club), on January 23 and 24 and January 30 and 31 between 12.30 and 4 p.m.

Dr. A. R. Scott, the treasurer read a good financial report which showed that money had been spent on Civic improvement in the Thornhill Community Park during the year.

The special speaker for the evening was Professor J. C. Taylor of the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, who was intro-

duced by Mr. Poulter. Professor Taylor, a graduate of the John Innes Horticultural Institute, and Kew Gardens, in England, is very interested in hybridizing. He is also past President of the North American Lily Society, so it was not surprising that the first coloured slides which he used to illustrate his talk showed lilies, including some new varieties which he had bred at the Ontario College of Agriculture. These beautiful and stately flowers are known to have existed at the time of the Pharaohs and are not, as some people believe, difficult to grow, said Professor Taylor. Their chief need is well drained soil.

Gladioli, shown next on the screen, brought out the interesting news that the work of a Canadian has made possible one of Florida's largest export businesses. Dr. Palmer of the Dominion Experimental Station at Vineland developed a gladiolus which can be successfully cut while in bud and delivered to foreign markets in fresh, and excellent condition. Glads are not difficult to grow either asserted Professor Taylor, provided they are kept free of thrips. This may entail some over-the-fence spraying if a neighbour has infected plants. While showing a picture of Forsythia, he commented that the shrub was named for W. M. Forsyth who would not have cared to hear it pronounced "forchithia", as it is commonly done. One of the surprise pictures showed a large and handsome Cucumber tree growing on the grounds of O.A.C. Many in the audience were unaware that such a tree, a member of the Magnolia family, is native to Ontario. After his talk Professor Taylor spent a helpful half hour answering questions. He was thanked for his lecture by Mr. W. L. Burke.

Winners of the lucky draw were Mrs. A. Funnell, Highland Park, and Mrs. Butler of Highland Park. Prizes were vouchers for \$3.00 and \$2.00 good for purchases at Doncaster Nurseries. **Thornhill H & S Association**  
A record crowd turned out on Thursday January 21 to hear Mr. W. McCordick, secretary of the school board of Metropolitan Toronto speak on "New Trends in Education" at the meeting of the Thornhill Home and School Club. In his informative address Mr. McCordick commented upon the excellence of the "unit acceleration system" which permits bright pupils to advance at their own speed. He said that teachers today were of very high calibre and that there was a splendid "team approach" between principals and teachers to the problem of finding better ways of imparting knowledge. Mr. McCordick was thanked by Mr. Kenneth Duncan. Mr. Jackson Taylor introduced Mr. Keith Richan, chairman of the Area Schoolboard who expressed appreciation for the way in which parents had co-

operated during the period of staggered school hours. On behalf of the Thornhill Home and School Association, Mr. R. E. Fugler, the Vice Pres. presented a guest book, and 50 cups and saucers to the school. Coffee and sandwiches were served and Principal John D. Martin took parents and guests on a tour of the four classrooms in the recently finished wing. Mr. W. A. Ladell, Pres. of Thornhill H & S Association presided at this meeting.

**Lions**  
It was Induction and District Governor's Night for the Thornhill District Lions Club on Jan. 4. District Governor Bill Garver of Barrie who was present, addressed the members and was thanked by Harry Iddon. The following members were inducted to the Club, Bill Doherty, Fred Harry, Clayton Atkinson and Dick Stewart. Lion Tom Jackson introduced George Giles a charter member who had been absent for a time and was anxious to resume active membership.

**Juvenile League Hockey**  
Thornhill Black Cats will meet the Newmarket Club in Unionville Arena on Thursday Jan. 28 at 8 p.m. in the first of a series of home and home games.

**Thornhill Women's Institute**  
"What would you do with a spare hour?" was the roll call question at the meeting of Thornhill Women's Institute held on January 21 in the Masonic Hall. Answers ranged from "have a sleep," "write letters," "visit the sick, or friends," to "borrow someone's baby to enjoy."

The President Mrs. C. J. Sinclair welcomed members, and guests, and after the reports were read arrangements for the Birthday Lunch to be held on February 17 were discussed. Mrs. Mizen, the Health convener distributed penny-a-week bags to the mem-

bers. The money collected in them will be forwarded to the Canadian Mental Hospital Health Association to aid in their work. Mrs. Will Thompson, Public Relations and Community activities convener was in charge of the programme for the afternoon. Mr. Hudson, of the Department of Lands and Forests, Maple, had been invited to show some pictures. He was unable to attend but sent as deputies, his secretary Miss I. Falls and Mr. George Armitage of King. A film made in the beautiful Temagami district was shown with Miss Falls acting as commentator. She told of the terrible destruction of our forests by fires, which were often the result of carelessness and explained how forest fires were detected and located, though many miles away, by vigilant watchers in the look out towers. Fire fighters and equipment were often flown in to the bush, and emergency pumping stations set up by the nearest stream or lake.

A second film showing wild fowl in their natural surroundings carried the voice of John Fisher as commentator. Afternoon tea was served at the conclusion of this interesting meeting.

Mothers are invited to bring preschool age children to the Child Health Clinic held Monday, February 1, at the Lions Hall on Centre St. East, Richmond Hill. Immunization and vaccination will be given from 1.30 to 4 p.m.

Canadian manufacturers now are producing nylon-corded tires which are rated as being among the safest and longest wearing available anywhere.

One of chemistry's important contributions to public safety is the development of fire retardant paints, now used in industrial plants and in the interiors of television and radio receivers.

## School Area Bd.



Pictured above is Mr. William A. Ladell, one of the two new Trustees elected to the 1954 Board of Trustees for School Area No. 1 Markham-Vaughan. Trustee Ladell has displayed a keen appreciation of today's educational problems through his active participation in the Home and School movement. A resident of Thornhill, he is president of the Thornhill Home and School Association.

Trustee Ladell who with Trustee-elect S. Calvert has joined Chairman K. Richan, Vice-Chairman J. Taylor and Trustee M. Roy on the School Area's five-man board of trustees.

**LIONS BINGO**  
Farmers' Market, Thornhill  
EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 8.15 P.M.  
Next Bingo, Wed., February 3  
**\$350 Jackpot**

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## Fred Haines, Noted Canadian Artist Has Studio In Thornhill

by Doris M. Fitzgerald

Mr. Fred S. Haines, one of Canada's outstanding artists has lived in Thornhill for the past 38 years. He is an unassuming man and it is possible that many of his village neighbours have been only dimly aware of his achievements, and of the important part he has been taking in the artistic and cultural life of Ontario, during that time.

Besides his duties as teacher, and later, principal of the Ontario College of Art Mr. Haines has served terms as President of the Royal Canadian Academy, Ottawa, the Ontario Society of Artists, and the Arts and Letters Club. He was Director of the Toronto Art Gallery for 5 years and of the Canadian National Exhibition for a long period. He is a member of the Royal Canadian Academy, the Ontario Society of Artists, the Painter-Gravurers Society of London England, and an honorary member of the Royal Hungarian Society of Etchers. He also belongs to a number of noted American Etching Societies.

**Paintings Acclaimed**  
His paintings and etchings have won acclaim at many exhibitions and his pictures have been purchased by the National Gallery in Ottawa, the Toronto Art Gallery and the Sarnia and Edmonton Art Galleries for their permanent collections. Many also grace private collections and homes. Mr. Haines presented one of his paintings to the Thornhill public school in memory of his friendship with the late Dr. C. P. Johns who was a trustee.

Mr. Haines was born in Meaford, Ontario and even as a very small boy he was interested in drawing and painting. He does not know of any artists among his forebears but believes that both he and his cousin the late Frank Carmichael inherited their talent through the women of the family, particularly an Irish grandmother who used to do exquisite embroidery and lace work.

**Begins at 17**  
At the age of seventeen, full of ambition and natural aptitude but with no training, he came to Toronto to make his living by commercial art. He attended evening classes at the Ontario College of Art and after managing to save a little money he took the daytime course there. When twenty-one he exhibited his first picture, and more important still, married Miss Bertha Morehouse then contralto soloist at the Metropolitan Church in Toronto. The young couple established a home and studio in Meadowdale and lived there for ten years. Then came a short interval in Antwerp, Belgium, after which they returned to Thornhill, first on John St. and then in their own studio home on Colborne St. Mrs. Haines died ten years ago and since then their daughter Mrs. Dorothy Hoover has been living with her father.

**Engraving**  
Besides painting Mr. Haines has had great success with his etchings and coloured engravings. He retired two and a half years ago after an eighteen year term as Principal of the Ontario College of Arts and now has more time to devote to landscape painting and hobbies. Two of the latter are playing the flute, and collecting snuff bottles. He has many very beautiful little bottles, some of which discovered during his travels in England and on the continent.

was held in the Church hall on Monday evening, January 25.

Reports of the rector and wardens showed that there had been a steady increase in attendance at every service in 1953, and that the regular Sunday evening service had been resumed after a lapse of 10 years. Capital indebtedness was greatly reduced during the year. Receipts in the general account amounted to \$9,291.47 of which \$1,288.00 went to missions, and \$171.07 to flood relief in Europe. The envelope campaign for which Mr. E. C. Napier acted as chairman attained its objective of \$22,000 and the budget presented, and accepted, for 1954 will be more than double that set for 1953 and will include provisions to establish a sinking fund.

Mr. R. C. Byford, and Mr. W. J. Lennox automatically retired as Peoples and Rector's Warden each having completed the three year term. They will be succeeded by Mr. G. P. Howe and Mr. S. W. Kertland who served as junior wardens last year. Other appointments for 1954 are as follows: Envelope Secretary, R. C. Napier; lay delegates to the Synod, S. W. Kertland, R. B. Priestman, R. C. Byford and Martin Powell as alternate. Vestry representatives to the Parish Council G. E. L'Aventure, R. E. Priestman, H. H. Iddon, Douglas V. Ridout, Mrs. Duncan Ball, Frank Brock, P. D. McTaggart, Cowan, and R. D. Usher. Vestry clerk, Mrs. H. T. Girard. Hon Auditors, H. H. Iddon and R. W. Fitzgerald; nucleus of committee to plan for the 125th anniversary celebration in 1955, the Wardens and Mrs. R. W. Fitzgerald. The Wardens were authorized to appoint sidesmen for the ensuing year.

Refreshments were served at the end of the meeting by members of the W. A.

**Handmade Shoes**  
The Thornhill area used to support four or five shoemakers in bygone days when father, mother and all the children were regularly measured for hand made boots. Since the appearance of mass produced factory shoes there has been a demand for shoe repairs, but little work in any community for skilled craftsmen who could design, cut and make a pair of shoes. It was therefore a surprise to discover that Mr. George Laba is a qualified shoemaker and that he has made shoes for residents of Thornhill. Some of his customers had feet that were difficult to fit, others liked personal quality of made to order shoes.

**Leans Trade in Poland**  
Mr. Laba learned his trade in Poland where at the age of twelve he became an unpaid apprentice for three years. After that he was able to take examinations and to obtain the necessary papers entitling him to work as a shoemaker in his native land. Since coming to Canada in 1926 he has done a good deal in the way of making or rebuilding orthopaedic shoes for crippled children in Toronto. His wife is a competent shoe repairer, having learned the business from her husband and is probably one of the very few women engaged in such a trade.

Asked what he considered the greatest change in shoemaking methods during recent years Mr. Laba thought that it was the substitution of cement for stitching. The Labas have been residents of Langstaff for nine years. In 1949 they moved their Walk-Rite shoe business from St. Clair and Yonge, Toronto to their present location because they believed that Thornhill is a healthful suburb with a future.

## Thornhill Lions Club Sponsors Bingo And Teen Square Dance

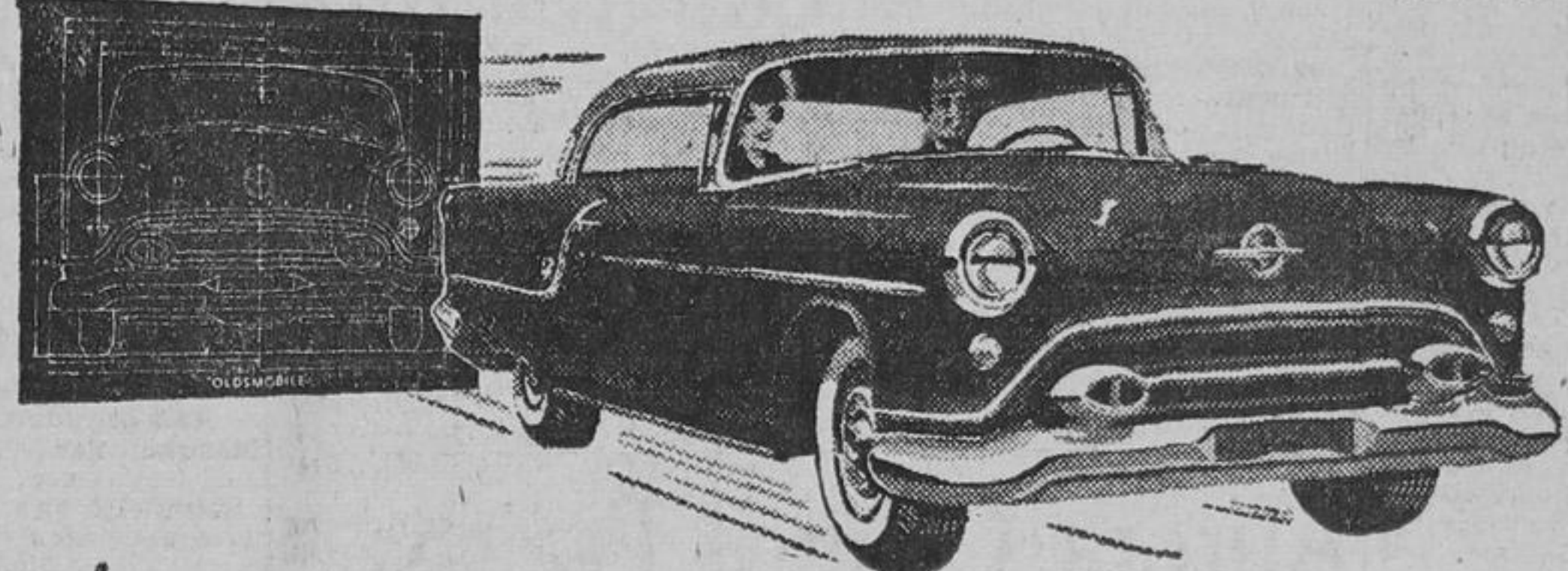
The Thornhill District Lions Club is sponsoring two projects this winter which deserve better patronage in the village. The first is the weekly Bingo held every Wednesday evening in the York Farmers' Market to raise funds for the Club's Welfare Work. The second is the series of Square Dances for teen-agers conducted every other Tuesday evening from 7.30 to 9 p.m. in the York Farmers' market.

**Jackpot and Prizes**  
The Bingo begins at 8.15, and 22 games are played during the evening. The \$300.00 jackpot was not collected on January 20, so stood at \$350.00 for the game last night. Other prizes are for \$3, and \$5 with 4 special prizes, and a "share the wealth" game. There are also draws for door prizes. According to Lion D. Booth, some enthusiasts play as many as nine cards at a time and there are lots of rabbits' feet and lucky charms in evidence. Attendance has been good, 299 for the Christmas Bingo, and 190 on January 20, but the Lions would like to see more people from Thornhill joining in the fun and excitement.

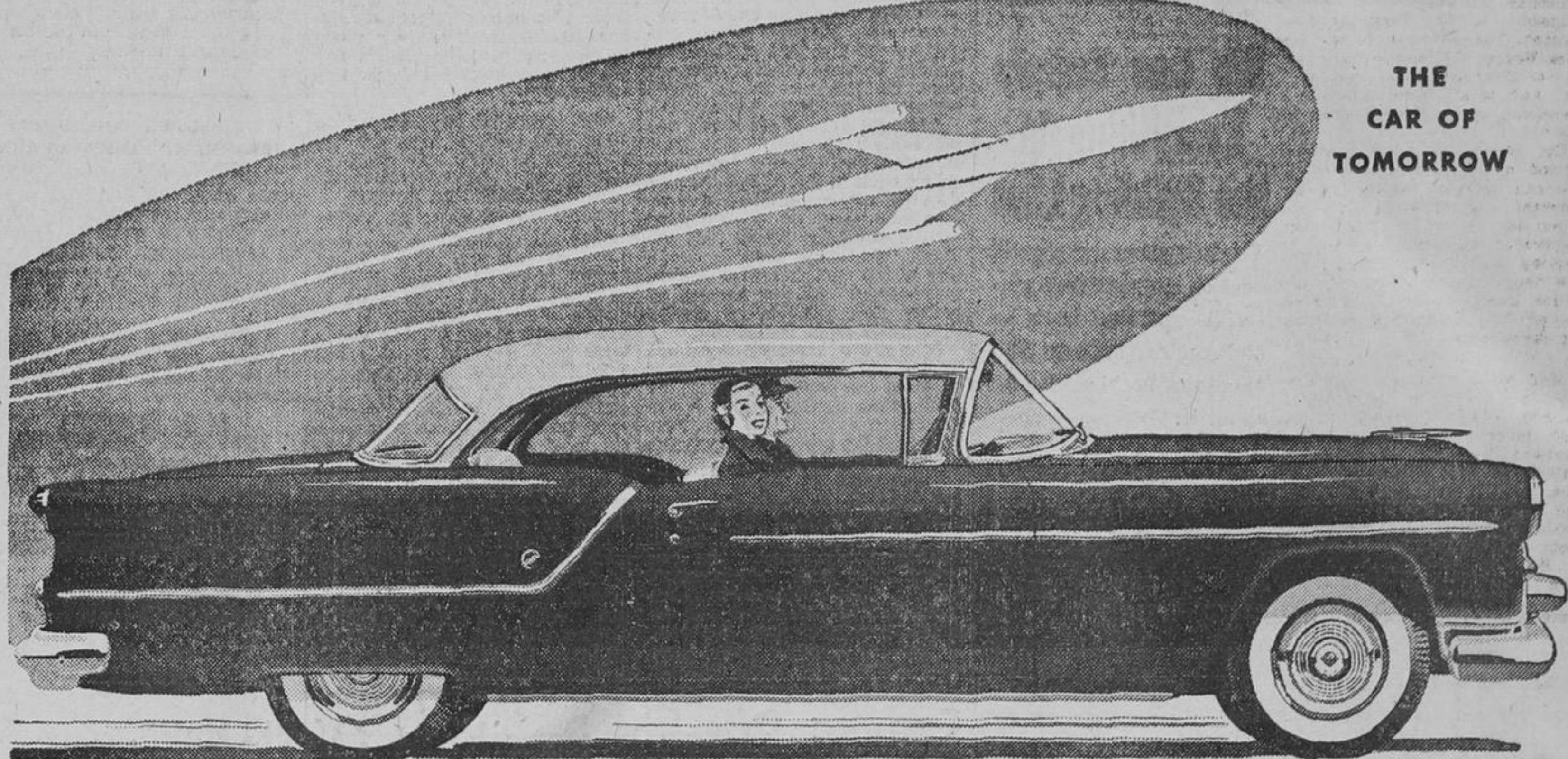
**40 Attend Dances**  
Tommy Thompson of Willowdale calls for the Square Dances for teen-agers in the York Farmers' Market. The youngsters have picked up the steps very quickly and are having a wonderful time. About 40 are now attending but more could be accommodated. The next dance will be held on Tuesday, February 9 from 7.30 to 9 p.m. and there is no admission charge. Incidentally 15 Lions give three hours each Wednesday evening to staff the Bingo, and at least four more are on hand for a couple of hours every other Tuesday at the square dances for teenagers. So a little multiplication and addition and you will find that members of Thornhill Lions Club are contributing a minimum of 192 hours of work per month to these two Club projects alone. This, we might add, involves co-operation on the part of their wives and families too, and deserves the support of the community.

**NOTICE**  
THORNHILL AREA RECREATION COMMITTEE is accepting applications for the position of SECRETARY-TREASURER for the committee. Please send replies to Box 291, Thornhill, Ont., by February 6

## ON DISPLAY TODAY AT YOUR OLDSMOBILE DEALER'S



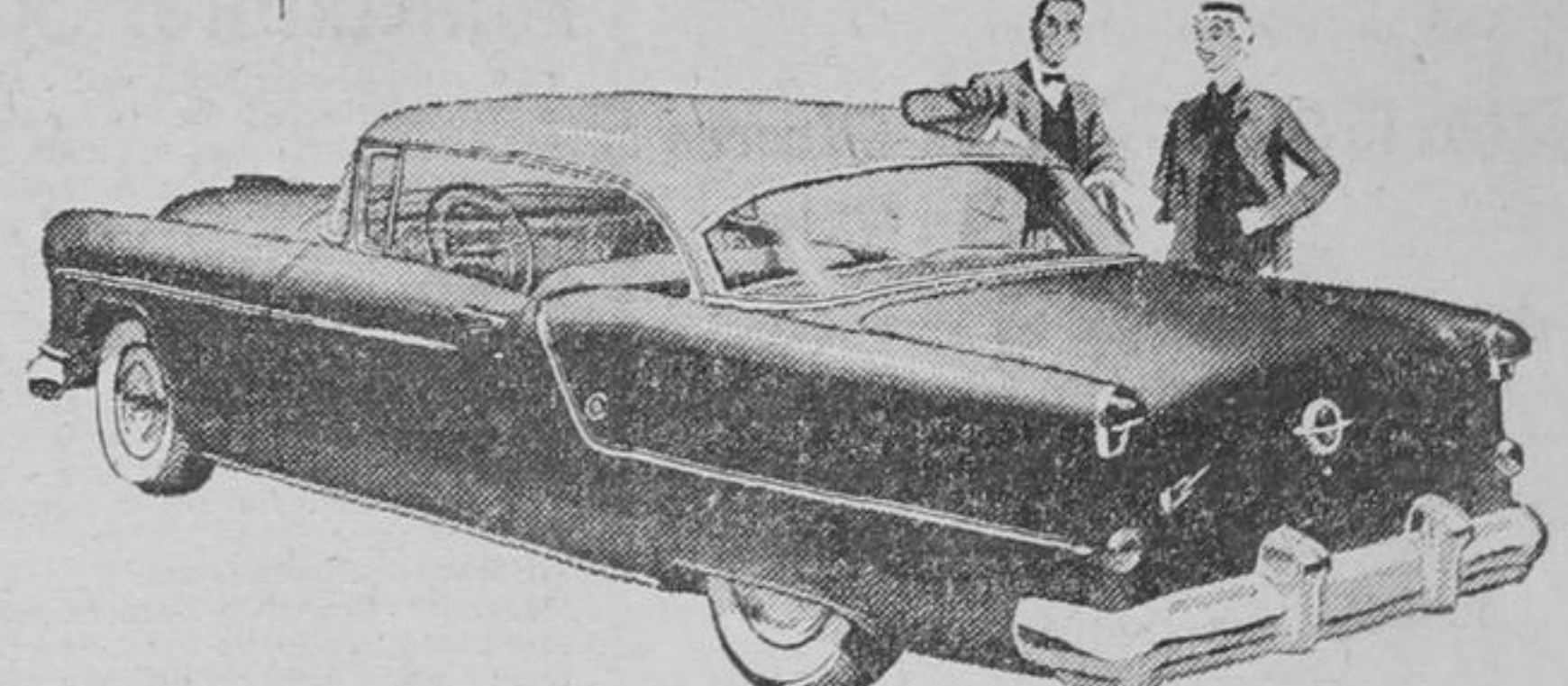
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