

Thornhill And District News

TELEPHONE AVENUE 5-1338

The Liberal is always pleased to publish items of interest contributed by its readers in the Thornhill area . . . Our representative in Thornhill is Mrs. Alan Sumner, John St., Thornhill. TELEPHONE AV. 5-1338.

AROUND THE VILLAGE

Mr. and Mrs. Hamer Jennings, John St., are pleased to announce the birth of their second grandchild, and first granddaughter, Elizabeth Carolyn Lindsay, on November 5, at Grace Hospital. The baby is the daughter of Joan and Don Lindsay.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank W. Plaxton, John Street, Mr. and Mrs. Don Plaxton and Mr. and Mrs. Bart Edwards, Yonge St., celebrated their wedding anniversaries together at a party in the Oak Room of the King Edward Hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Plaxton are 30 years married. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards 25 years married and Mr. and Mrs. Don Plaxton 2 years. Mr. and Mrs. Ted Edwards were also members of the party.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Lennox of Colborne Street, on the birth of their daughter, Barbara Jane.

School News
Mrs. Ken Smith of John Street and Mrs. George Stratton, Thornbank, have planned an interesting experiment in Teacher-Parent relationship in connection with Grade Two pupils at Thornhill Public School. They are holding a Grade Tea for the mothers of Miss Joyce Fowler's class on

Saturday, November 13 from 3 to 5 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Smith, 47 John St. All mothers of Miss Fowler's class are cordially invited.

Home and School
At the November meeting of the Thornhill Home and School Association, the Parent-Education program will be implemented by the showing of an outstanding film on family relations. Following the film there will be an open discussion guided by Mr. D. A. McTavish, School Area Psychologist in which all members may participate. The film for the evening is one by the National Film Board entitled "Family Circle". Mr. McTavish, in addition to being the School Area psychologist is also principal of the Charles Howitt Public School, and well-known in the field of Parent Education.

Thornhill Baptist Church
The Thanksgiving meeting of the Women's Mission Circle, presided over by Mrs. Buck, the president, was well attended. Rev. W. H. Moore was in charge of the devotional period and stressed how urgent it was for all to work for the extension of God's kingdom. Miss Christina Gay, from St. Clair Baptist Church, was the soloist. She

sang "Come Unto Me" and "How Lovely are thy dwellings". A film on Bolivia and missionary work among the Amara Indians was shown. At the close of the meeting refreshments were served in the Sunday School room, the members of the executive acting as hostesses.

Thornhill United Church
The Evening Auxiliary (W.M.S.) held its regular meeting on Tuesday evening, November 2, at the home of Mrs. Don Smellie. Mrs. F. Richardson and Mrs. R. Gibson were in charge of Devotions. Mrs. Richardson gave a most interesting talk and led a discussion on a chapter of the study book "The Church in India" entitled "The Fight for Men's Minds."

W.A.
The regular meeting of the Women's Association was held on Thursday afternoon, November 4, in the Church Hall. Mrs. G. McCallum gave a report on the semi-annual meeting of the Toronto Centre Presbytery W.A. held in Queensville recently. Twenty-nine churches were represented at that meeting.

The group is beginning a study of the source and history of church music and the book they have chosen to start with is "Hymns of Canada" from which

a chapter is to be read and studied each meeting. At this particular meeting Miss S. M. Baxter began the project by reading the Foreword by Richard Roberts and the interesting preface by Rev. Alexander MacMillan, father of Sir Ernest MacMillan.

Following this Mrs. C. Thompson introduced the guest speaker, Mrs. Edward Fraser of Glebe Rd. United Church. Mrs. Fraser spoke on the Victor Home for Unmarried Girls of which she is a representative to various churches. As a result of her speech the members voted \$25.06 to the institution and plan to hold a clothing shower for mothers and babies at the next regular meeting.

Plans were also made to provide a Christmas dinner and a gift for 25 ladies of the Second Mile Club in Toronto.

Women's Guild
The Women's Guild of Thornhill United Church held a successful Bazaar and tea in the Church Halls on Saturday, Nov. 6. Mrs. Irving Ford opened the bazaar at three o'clock. Even at that early hour the halls were already jammed with people. There were rows and rows of beautiful aprons, cut flowers, Christmas table decorations, plants, a touch and take table, babies' clothes, huge Christmas candles and Christmas stockings. Over in one corner the Opportunity Shop was doing a brisk trade in everything from lamp-

shades and shoes to a copy of "Fabian of the Yard" — for 5c. There was a Fish Pond for the children and a "Kiddie Bar" where cookies and freshie were served. Tables of pies, cakes and tarts were sold. In the north hall, tea tables were set up. All members of the Guild were delighted with the attendance and pleased with the receipts which amounted to \$410.00.

Horticultural Society
Thornhill and District Horticultural Society will hold an election of officers and prize giving night on Tuesday November 16th at 8 p.m. in the United Church Hall.

Mr. St. Clair Tenant, Director of District Number 5 of the Ontario Horticultural Association will explain the organization and operation of the O.H.A. of which this society along with 200 others are a part.

The Nominating Committee will present its report and further nominations will be received from the floor. All prizes won during the year will be presented at the meeting. The prizes for juniors will also be presented.

Shed Burns

Fire broke out in an empty shed at the rear of Hal Harley's house on Sunday evening about six p.m. Mrs. Harley, unaware that anything had happened was giving her children their supper, when a neighbor, J. H. Timmins pounded on the door and gave the alarm. North York Fire Dept. responded to Mrs. Harley's call and the fire was put out within a few minutes. Danger to the near-by transport sheds was averted by the quick arrival of the fire department.

90 Leitchcroft Ayrshires Sold

Saturday, November 6 marked a change in the well established routine of Leitchcroft Farm when their great herd of Ayrshires were sold by auction. Mr. Robert Seitz of Waukesha, Wis., assisted by Mr. L. E. Franklin of Brantford, Ont., started the selling at 12:30 to a fairly large crowd of about 300 persons.

Every one of the 90 animals were auctioned. The highest priced cow went for \$545 and the highest bull for \$860.

During the long afternoon the crowd were very ably catered to by the Women's Institute of Buttonville with coffee and sandwiches.

New Books At Thornhill Library

The following is a list of books newly purchased and now on the shelves of the Thornhill Public Library.

Fiction
Lady of the Yellow River, Phyllis Gibbs; Katherine, Seton; The Toll Gate, Heyer; No More Meadows, Dickens; What Did It Mean, Thirkell; My Brother's Keeper, Davenport; Never Victorious, Never Defeated, Caldwell; Bridge at Toko-ri, Michener; The Living Earth, Russell; The Channel Shore, Bruce; The Captain's Table, Gordon; The Royal Box, Keyes; The Plouffe Family, Lemelin; The Dollmaker, Arnow; A Way Through the Wood, Balchin; The Chartered Libertine, Allen; He Went For a Walk, Smith; The White and the Gold, Costain; Immortal Rock, Salverson; Missing or Dead, Ashe; The House That Cried Murder, Nash.

Non-Fiction
Fifty Centuries of Art; Old Toronto, Kyt; Slide Rule, Shute; The Two Jacks, Bird; Trial of Kurt Meyer, MacDonald; Power of Positive Thinking, Peale; Forty Plus and Fancy Free, Kimbrough; Gold in the Grass, Leathebarrow; Fall of a Titan, Gouzenko; A Month in Paris, Henrey; Ascent of Everest, Hunt; Future Indefinite, Coward; The Journey, Smith; Along the Road, Beattie; Emily Carr as I Knew Her, Pearson; Always a Countryman, Tweedsmuir; Wings in the Wind, Merrill; Schweitzer, Feschotte.

There is also a new collection of children's books.

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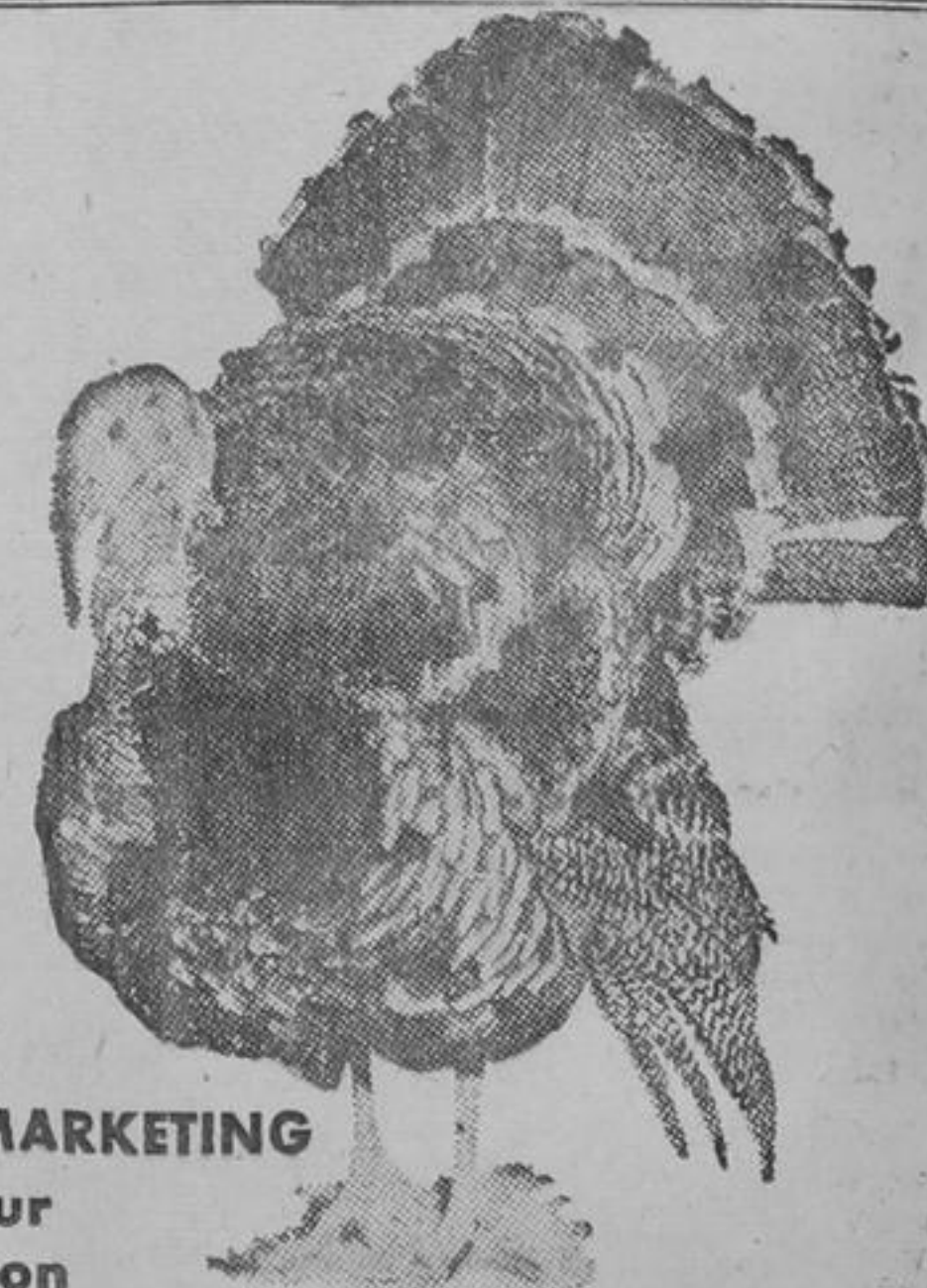
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Now Seeks New Premises

Thornhill Library Begun 1843 By Anglican Rector

Elizabeth Sumner
The Thornhill Public Library is not only suffering from growing pains, it is fast reaching a crisis in its existence. Faced with the problems of high rent and the rising costs of running and maintaining a library, the members of the Board are seeking new premises but so far have been unable to relocate. Unlike most Public Libraries in Ontario, Thornhill library has neither free premises nor a building of its own.

The board feels that some measures must be taken immediately to cure the present situation.

Began in 1843
Thornhill Public Library has its origin in the year 1843 when the Rev. George Mortimer, then Rector of Trinity Anglican Church attempted to establish "a library of useful information" in Thornhill. By charging a membership fee of 5 shillings a year it was hoped to put reading within the reach of every one. All gentlemen in the neighbourhood subscribed but very few of them actually used the library and after a year or so the project was abandoned.

Moved to Victoria Hall
We hear of it next in the year 1897. It was then in Victoria Hall—at one end of the assembly room, discreetly sheltered by green curtains which when pulled back signified that the library was open. Mr. Ed. Francis was responsible for this revival and was elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Board in which position he remained for forty years.

When Victoria Hall was being rebuilt he moved the books, book-cases and curtains to the General Store that he and his brother John owned and set it up there. Elgie's Hardware now stands on the site. There is an account book for that year in which is noted that \$12.50 was paid by the library for six months rent. There is in existence also, a black ledger-like book which was kept on a table in the library and in which each person taking out a book wrote his name and the name of the book borrowed. No other records were kept, modern library procedure being then unknown. The fee was one dollar a year for villagers and out of this revenue 40-50 books were purchased each year. Since 1952, when the library was established as a Public Library Association the

fees for villagers are 10c a year and 400-500 books are purchased yearly.

Difficult Years
From the Francis store the Library eventually returned to quarters in Victoria Hall, a room behind Bignell's Ice Cream Parlor, where Jenny's Dress Shop is today. There it literally died. There followed years of silence until in 1935, through the efforts of the Rev. Dr. Sparling, Mrs. Arthur Thompson and Mrs. Otto James the books were moved to the board room of Thornhill Public School and the library re-established. It took a new lease of life and flourished for quite a time. But after the war the death rattle could be heard again. By 1950 it was felt that a more central location would cure the malaise. Accordingly, in 1951, the present premises were leased and in the last three years this small library has flourished amazingly and fruitfully. There are 4,000 books and over 700 members. The average number of books in circulation in a year is between ten and eleven thousand, a record in Ontario rural libraries. There is an excellent reference library, a complete set of the Encyclopedia Britannica, gift of the Thornhill Lions, a charming children's library and a very representative Canadiana Section.

There are disadvantages to the present premises however, the chief one being the long climb up the stairs. The room itself has become too small to serve the needs of a growing membership in a growing community. The other difficulty is financial. Books cost four times what they did in 1897 and since it has become a Public Library Association, a paid librarian is employed.

The Board, at the present time is studying possible sites for a permanent library and have hopes that this can be secured in the coming year.

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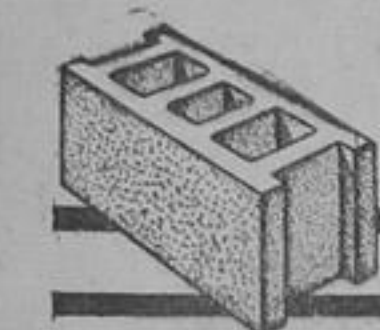
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