

Thornhill And District News

TELEPHONE AVENUE 5-1333

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.

Ladies' Auxiliary
The Ladies' Auxiliary of the 1st Thornhill Group Cub and Scouts will hold the annual Father and Son banquet on Friday, November 19, at 7 p.m. in the United Church Hall. Mr. Fred Buesnel of the Metropolitan Boy Scouts will be the speaker. Another feature of the evening will be a sleight-of-hand artist, Ron Tuckley from Toronto. All tickets please come.

The regular monthly meeting

of the Auxiliary which was to be held on November 22 has been postponed to the 29th. At that meeting, Dr. Kent will speak and will install the new executive.

To Spend Winter In Florida
Sir Robert and Lady Watson-Watt, who are building a home in Thornhill have leased the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. N. C. Hill, Deanbank Drive for the winter months. Mr. and Mrs. Hill leave this week for Florida and will remain there until the end of March. Mr. Hill is taking his cocker spaniels with him and intends to show them on the Florida Circuit.

Brownies
Mrs. J. E. MacNeil, District Commissioner, Thornhill Guides, announces the list of Brownie Sixers and Seconds invested for 1954-55.

1st Thornhill Brownie Pack:
Elves: Sixer, Lynn Turner; Second, Diane MacPherson.
Fairies: Sixer, Ellen Jackson; Seconds, Susan Ball and Shirley Ramster.
Gnomes: Seconds, Cathy Higgins and Lynn Robertson.
Little People: Sixer, Linda Kojala; Second, Jackie Barbour.

2nd Thornhill Pack:
Elves: Second, Alfreda Robertson.
Fairies: Sixer, Angela Mickleborough; Seconds, Lee Davidson and Gail Gibson.
Gnomes: Seconds, Lorraine Anstey and Carol Sissons.
Imps: Sixer, Carolyn Martin; Seconds, Judy Halliwell and Pat Harding.
Pixies: Sixer, Beverley Byford.

School For Retarded Children
The Thornhill and District Association for Retarded Children will hold a meeting Thursday, November 18, at 8 p.m. at Charles Howitt Public School. A review of the background of the Association, past work, aims of the school, and hopes for the future will be given in an "Achievement Survey" by officers of the association. The group reports that the Thornhill Lions have taken over all transportation completely, thus relieving the school of one of its major problems. However, there is one little girl from Whitevale whose father has to leave work twice a day to drive her to Milliken and call for her in the afternoon. It is costing the father \$30 a month in lost time plus the \$10 a month education fee. Help is urgently needed in this case. Will anyone who has a car and some time to spare lend their aid?

The school has received a cheque for \$100 from the Milliken School Board to cover a year's tuition for its one pupil. There is a shortage of writing paper. The need is for ruled paper on which the children are taught to write. Help in this matter would be most gratefully received.

United Church News
On Sunday afternoon, November 28, there will be an every-member-canvas for the church. Pledge cards will be mailed to all members and envelope subscribers. The Stewards, assisted by the Elders will try to call on each home on this day. The Men's Club will hold its monthly dinner meeting on Tuesday, November 23, at 8:45 p.m. in the church hall. An outstanding film entitled "The Man With a Thousand Hands" will be shown. It is an evening that should not be missed.

The Ladies Guild met Thursday, November 11, in the Church hall. The president, Mrs. L. Denby was in the chair. Mrs. Clayton Atkinson and Mrs. Nelson Findlay took charge of the worship period. A donation of \$100, was voted to the Hurricane Relief Fund. At this meeting the Guild agreed to continue their support of a French child which they adopted through the Save the Children Campaign. The cost of maintaining one child is \$50 per year and this will be the fourth year that the Guild has contributed. The speaker of the afternoon was Miss Margaret Halliday, a missionary from the United Church Mission at Dondi in Africa. She lectured and showed pictures of her work there.

Ladies' Guild Hears Missionary Speaker

The Ladies' Guild of the United Church held its monthly meeting on November 11. The worship period following the Remembrance Day theme, was conducted by Mrs. Neil Findlay and Mrs. C. B. Atkinson. The president thanked the members for their co-operation in the planning and work of the annual bazaar which was a most successful affair a week ago. After a brief business period, the speaker, Miss Margaret Halliday of Angola, West Africa, was introduced.

Miss Halliday told chiefly of her work among the teen-age girls on the Dondi Mission Field. These girls have now nine schools organized, in which they learn singing, reading, cooking, sewing, basketry, pottery and knitting — which, incidentally, they do beautifully. The talk was illustrated with beautiful colored slides. It was an interesting evening and made all present realize how much we can do to help the natives of Africa, and what a driving force Christianity can be against the "isms" of the world.

Nomination Date Set

The date for the nomination meeting for trustees for the police village of Thornhill has been set for Friday, November 26. The meeting will commence at 7:30 p.m., extending until 8:30, and will be held at Victoria Hall.

PAINTS UNDER HANDICAP

Earl Bailly is a 49-year-old Canadian painter who has triumphed over seemingly insurmountable handicap, losing the full use of arms and legs at the age of two. Gripping the brush in his teeth, he paints the picturesque scenes of Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, with sure strokes and inspiring results. Reproductions by Earl Bailly, Currier and Ives Prints, Franz Johnston, Norman Rockwell, Manly Macdonald, Grandma Moses and many other leading artists may be purchased in Christmas card form at The Liberal. Cards are available, with or without name, in orders from 25 up, the personalized cards starting in price from 25 for \$2.50. Christmas card books are now available for inspection at the office, 63 Yonge Street South.

100th Anniversary Of Thornhill Lodge Nov. 27

100th Anniversary
One hundred years ago on the 27th of November 1854 a warrant was granted by the Grand Lodge of British America to one, Robert Wiles, whereby L.O.L. No. 91, Thornhill was established. On November 27, 1954 the centenary of the Lodge will be observed. To celebrate this event a special Lodge meeting will be held in the United Church at which Mayor Leslie Saunders, who is Deputy Grand Master of British America, will be the speaker. The Orange Degree will be exemplified by the County of East York Lecture School Degree team. On Sunday November 28, there will be a special service of Divine Worship in the United Church at 3:30 p.m. with Rev. E. Kent in charge. Taking part in the service will be Right Worshipful G. Keyes, Grand Master of Ontario West and Worshipful Brother H. Beckin, representing the County Lodge of East York. The preacher for the occasion will be the Rev. John Mills D.D., editor of "Argus" and a member of the Toronto Board of Education. A choir of children from the Loyal True Blue and Orange Home will provide the music.

Early History
One hundred years covers a good deal of history. Previous to 1854, Lodge members met more or less informally in various homes but when the warrant was granted suitable permanent premises were sought and there are reasonable grounds for conjecture that the meeting place was at the hotel operated by J. C. Steele at Steele's Corners. Mr. Steele himself was subsequently a Master of the Lodge. John Shiels was the first secretary.

Move to Victoria Hall
On May 3, 1908 the Lodge moved to Thornhill into its present location, Victoria Hall. Membership was then, as of today, comprised of people from Oak Ridges, Richmond Hill, Whitevale, Thornhill, Willowdale and Toronto.

From the Minutes
Out of the Minute Books of the Lodge have come some very interesting items. On February 4 1888, Brother Caleb Saunders walked 12½ miles to attend a meeting. In 1913, the Lodge held a ball at Hughes Hall and the expenses for the function were listed as follows: 12 loaves of bread, \$1.20; 15 large cakes, \$2.25; 3 lbs. butter, 90¢; 1 cans of coffee, 75¢; 2 hams, \$4.59. On February 2 1876 there was a motion to the effect that 5 spittoons were to be purchased and one notation that members would meet at the "rising of the sun" to be in good heart for the 12th July parade. In 1895 rent for the hall was 75¢ a month. It was also noted from the minutes that during the period 1921-1927 the Lodge had its greatest number of members. Dr. C. P. Johns was the Master at that time. **Institute Scholarships**
In 1952 the present Lodge established an annual scholarship fund for proficiency in Scripture at the L.T.B. and Orange Home. It is awarded annually. The 1954 executive has for the first time in the history of the lodge a member who is also a Grand Lodge Officer. Dr. E. E. Kent is Grand Chaplain Provincial Ontario West and County Master of East York.

The four oldest living members of the Lodge from the standpoint of membership are Wilfred C. L. Ball who joined in May 1917; Arthur Spofford, January 1918; S. S. Findlay, June 1918 and Ernest Nicholson, who is now 85 years old joined in July 1922.

Elect Officers
Last Monday, November 8, the officers for 1955 were elected and installed.

W.M., A. W. Curtis; I.P.M., Rev. E. E. Kent; D.M., T. J. Kelley; Chaplain, R. H. Kane; Sec., K. E. Richards; Fin. Sec., J. Webster; Treas., W. Scrivenner; Marshal, W. A. Curtis; 1st Lecturer, D. Barton; 2nd Lecturer, E. Willett; Committeemen, I. R. Kane, 2. P. Pool, 3. W. Totton, 4. A. Duncan, 5. A. Spofford; Tyler, W. George; Auditor, R. Kane, J. Madill.

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National Week Make Nation-Wide Effort To Aid Many Retarded Children

By Elizabeth Sumner
This is National Week for Retarded Children. Two per cent of the population is made up of such children. They have minds which stopped growing before the age of 11. They constitute the helpless and submerged population of the mentally retarded. Some have brains which were physically crippled by fever, disease or injury before or after birth, in others the cause is not known. Although three-quarters of the mentally retarded could be trained to take a small but rewarding place in society, most of them stay idly at home, some fortunate enough to mingle with neighborhood children, but many hidden away like a guilty secret by their families. Some spend their lives unproductively in impersonal institutions.

Set Up Schools
Now, however, a nationwide effort is being made to help them both in Canada and the United States. Banded together in the National Association for Retarded Children, parents have set up clinics and organized workshops and schools where their children can learn simple skills to make them self-sufficient. With the setting-up of the Association, parents are losing their reluctance to speak frankly about the retarded child.

Local School Started
There are 29 of these schools in Ontario, one of which is in Thornhill. It meets in the United Church each week day. By means of a Government Grant, which was established in 1953, and which provides \$250 per year per child between the ages of 5 and 18, the Thornhill and Dis-

trict Association is struggling to its feet and beginning to grow. Instead of institutional life, which at best provides physical care and refuge from the outside world, this parent-run school offers what the child's spirit needs most — love, incentive to better himself and a chance to lead a rewarding life. The establishment of the school means the acceptance of the mentally handicapped in the community.

Prayer For Children
Retarded children need love and protection and here is a prayer for them:

O Lord who has protected always His faltering children, Who has given the sightless hands that feel the contours of life's beauty,

Who has given the deaf vision to behold the colours and shapes and glory of earth's rapture

Who has given the mute the language of understanding

Who has given the lame free movement in spirit amidst the world of men What hast Thou given the least of these, the retarded, who are sightless and deaf and mute and lame, in their lossness?

How shall you shield these broken little creatures who are also the children of God?

Oh Lord! Put love in the hearts of men as a shield for them. Stay the hand that would strike them Strengthen the hand that would feed them Bless the hand that would lovingly guide them and give wisdom and power to those that would comfort them in their lossness.

For if a God in His High heaven can weep - it is for these He weeps - For the retarded children.

M.O.H. Tells Of Health Unit Measures After Hurricane

Dr. Robert M. King, M.O.H., and Director of the York County Health Unit, reporting to the Board of Health, at the end of last month, gave a complete picture of the immediate health measures taken to protect the area from a serious outbreak of disease after the recent hurricane and flood.

From the report, the directors learned that, all available health personnel was immediately rushed to scenes of devastation. Assistance from further expert personnel was promptly provided from East York-Leaside Health Unit, and from the Department of Health for the Province of Ontario, and the Federal Department of Health and Welfare. "Altogether 21 sanitary engineers and inspectors became immediately available in the flooded areas in York County north of Steeles Avenue," said Dr. King.

Water Contamination
"Municipal water supplies in Aurora, Newmarket and Woodbridge suffered knock-out damage immediately. Prompt attention to disruption and possible contamination of these water supplies resulted in restoration of municipal water supplies in safe measure in these three municipalities within the matter of 24 to 48 hours, although boiling of drinking water was recommended as a necessary precaution for several days."

"In Woodbridge, Schomberg and the Holland Marsh area, a safe water supply became promptly available by tank truck by the courtesy of the Department of Works of the City of Toronto and the Fruehauf Trailer Company of Weston."

"Private wells throughout the entire area were for the most part flooded and in many cases contaminated. Artesian wells, where they occurred, were examined, and for the most part found to be satisfactory. Dug wells, however, which suffered surface contamination, can not be considered safe until the saturation of the ground in the area has been cleared and a satisfactory water test has been received."

Food Supplies
"General warnings were put out by handbills and other methods regarding contamination of food supplies from private premises where basement flooding occurred. Commercial establishments which suffered damage to stocks of food were promptly inspected by representatives of the Food and Drug Division of the Federal Department of Health and Welfare, and appropriate action taken to safeguard the public. In the Marsh area these co-operation between the Department of Agriculture for Ontario with the assistance of the Ontario Provincial Police has produced a working policy with regard to contaminated crops."

Waste Disposal
"Toilet facilities in areas not supplied with municipal sewers became an immediate emergency. With the assistance of the Canadian Army, Oakville Command, temporary measures were instituted in the emergency area where needed. Premises provided with septic tank waste disposal systems were warned of difficulties that may arise in the operation of flooded tile beds."

Damaged Premises
"Every premises, which on inspection was unfit for immediate occupancy was placarded as uninhabitable as an initial step in the sanitary clean-up campaign. Work crews, for the most part voluntary labour, proceeded in a cleaning out of mud and debris from the flooded premises. When cleaning up of the premises was

completed, disinfection crews entered and sprayed disinfectants throughout the building. Then a final inspection was done by the health inspector, and where the situation was satisfactory, the home or premises was released for occupancy."

Nurses' Visits
Public health nurses temporarily dropped their routine activities and made special visits to homes which have been re-occupied following clearance by the health inspectors. The public health nurses have given valuable assistance and advice to the families who are attempting under many difficulties to re-establish their homes again in somewhat devastated situations.

General Remarks
"The spontaneous and enthusiastic co-operation between neighbouring health departments has been greatly appreciated," said Dr. King. "In the Holland Marsh area, the Simcoe County Health Unit has worked hand in hand with the York County Health Unit with the fortunate supervision by representatives of the engineering division of the Department of Health. Problems of a sanitary nature in the Holland Marsh area have for the most part still to be met, but a program has been worked out and is in practice and a satisfactory conclusion is anticipated," he concluded.

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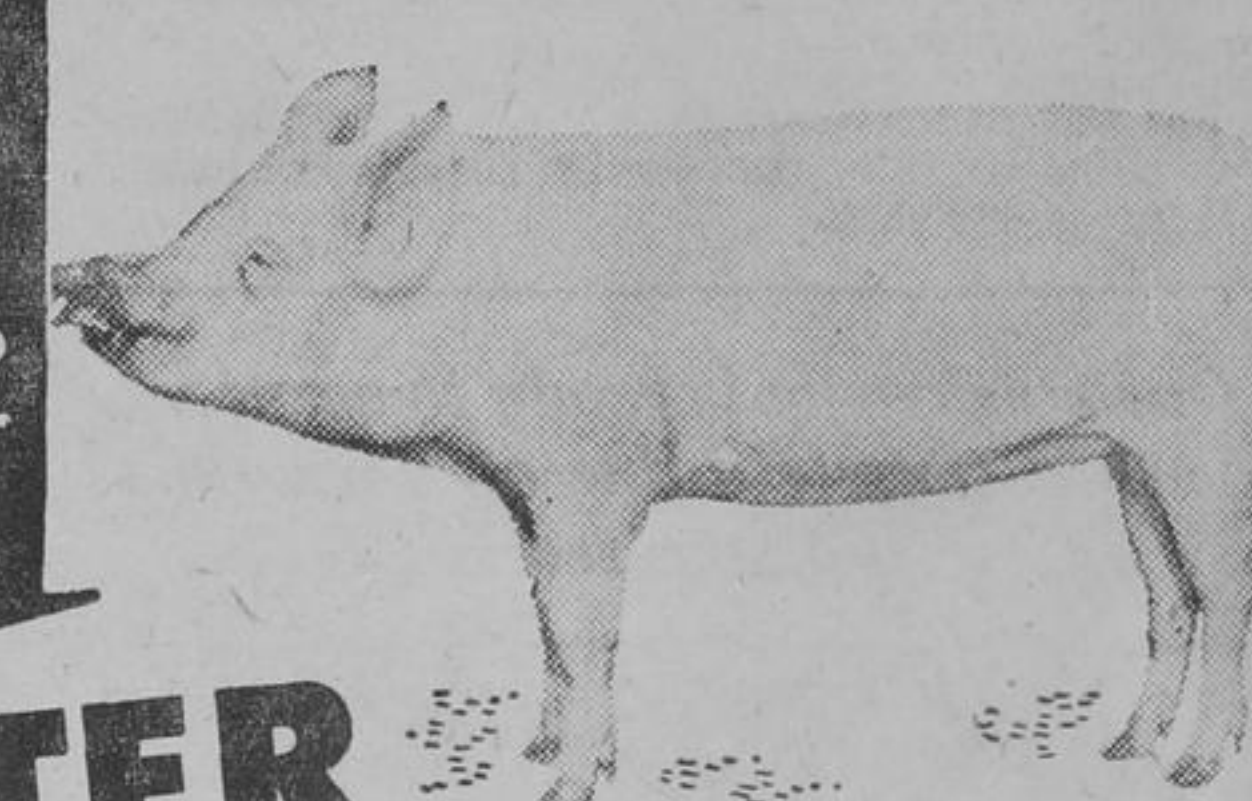
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