

# Thornhill And District News

TELEPHONE AV. 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. Elizabeth Sumner. In order that your items may appear in The Liberal simply phone AV. 5-1338.

Thornhill Home and School Association will hold its annual meeting and election of officers on Thursday, April 21, at 8:15 p.m. Robert Priestman vice-president of the Area Recreation Centre will give a short talk on "Recreation Activities for 1955."

On Sunday, April 17, in Trinity Anglican Church at 4 p.m., Barbara Jane, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Lennox of Colborne St., was christened by the rector Rev. S. A. R. Wood. The godparents are Mr. and Mrs. Thomas W. Jackson and Mrs. Frank C. Shreff.

The Rev. James Telford of Guelph will be the guest preacher at the morning service next Sunday in the United Church.

The flowers decorating the altar last Sunday at the Presbyterian Church were placed there in memory of the late John Steele by his wife.

Guest soloist at the Presbyterian Church on Sunday, was Miss Gwen Little from Brampton.

Members of the W.A. and W.M.S. met at the home of Miss James, Bathurst St., when plans were made for the men's dinner to be held on April 28.

## Scoutmaster Guest Speaker

The next monthly meeting of First Thornhill Cub and Scout Mothers' Auxiliary will be held April 25 at 8:15 p.m. in the United Church Hall, Thornhill.

Guest speaker of the evening will be Scout Master Bolton, Cub Master Palmer of A. Pack, and Cub Master Chambers of B. Pack.

Refreshments will be served.

## April Is Cancer Month

Mall Donations to: Richmond Hill & District Unit, Canadian Cancer Society, Box 106, Richmond Hill

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## PROCLAMATION . . .

Township of Markham

## DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

will be effective IN MARKHAM TOWNSHIP. At 2 a.m., Sunday April 24

C. HOOVER Clerk A. LeMASURIER Reeve

# B-I-N-G-O

Farmers' Market Thornhill EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 8 P.M.

## DINNERWARE

Every Wednesday night, for all women attending Bingo. Lovely Colonial pattern. 10c service charge.

JACKPOT LAST WEEK \$375

59 NUMBERS CALLED

SPECIAL DRAWS

LOTS OF FUN

Thornhill District Lions Club

## Aim Of Christian Parents In India To Educate Each Child

"Easter in Canada is associated with Spring and growth and new life, but not in India," Dr. Winnifred Bryce, Ph.D., from Indore, India, told the Easter Thank - Offering meeting of Thornhill United Church Afternoon Auxiliary, W.M.S. held at the church April 12. Visitors from the auxiliaries of King, Victoria Square, Edgeley and Thornhill Evening Auxiliary were welcomed by Mrs. Ford, acting president.

The devotional period was taken by Mrs. Don Davidson.

Guest speaker, Dr. Bryce, was introduced by Mrs. E. N. Meuser, Dr. Bryce continuing that Easter in Central India is the beginning of the hot weather and it is very dry and dusty. The grass is parched and brown for there has been no rain since October. To offset the drabness of the earth, the flowering trees at this season are wonderful. In March, in the jungle, Flame of the Forest tree sets the hillsides aflame with red, heavy with clusters of crimson bloom burn through the days and glow in the moonlight nights. The roots of these trees have gone down and down and found subterranean waters from which they are nourished. Thus do they survive and flourish.

So it is with life, said Dr. Bryce, Christ is the fountain of living waters. She spoke at some length on Evangelism, Education, Social Service, and the steady rise to prominence of women in the National life of India. No country has contributed more women to public life than India. Attention was drawn to the difference in attitude of Christian and non-Christian parents towards their children. Everyone in India loves children but the personality of the child is given recognition in the Christian homes. And it is the aim of Christian parents that every child should have an education, particularly the girls in the family. This is considered immensely important for an educated woman means an educated family.

**No Child Labour**

Great progress has been made in India in the field of human relations during the last decade. Child labour is not now allowed in industry. Every mill employing women must have a creche or a day nursery. There is also a Maternity Benefit Act for women which includes statutes, six weeks leave with pay. There is however no organization responsible for the care of neglected children at Indore, similar to the one at Bombay. Dr. Bryce closed her talk with a demonstration of the draping of the Sari and how it is worn on various occasions. She also answered at length many questions regarding the customs and political attitudes of the people.

Mrs. Wilson of Fairlawn United Church was the soloist and was accompanied by Mrs. George Russell. Mrs. W. T. Stapells thanked the speaker and the soloist. Following the service tea was served in the Church Hall, Mrs. Meuser and Mrs. Morton were the hostesses and Mrs. Hanson and Miss L. Kerfoot poured tea.

## Discuss Purpose W.M.S. Work

The Fortnights of Thornhill Presbyterian Church met recently at the home of Mrs. John MacKay, John St.

The meeting marked the association of the Fortnights group with the Women's Missionary Society and guest speakers were Miss Ruby Walker and Miss Viola Kelly.

Miss Walker gave an interesting account of the purpose and work of the Women's Missionary Society in Canada and outlined the various activities of the Society, such as the maintaining of hospitals among Indians in Western Canada, a church representative in ocean ports, such as Montreal, to greet and assist new Canadians on their arrival in Canada, a committee for community Welcome and Welfare and also a travelling library to supply literature to sparsely populated areas where none is available.

## Wilson Anstey Guest Speaker Ladies' Guild

The Ladies' Guild of Thornhill United Church held its regular meeting in the Church Hall on April 14.

Mrs. R. G. Morgan introduced the speaker, Wilson Anstey, well-known resident of Thornhill and business man of Concord. His subject was "Public Speaking." Mr. Anstey surprised his audience by saying anyone could become a good public speaker, if the fear of ridicule could be removed. He also stressed the fact there is no need for long hours of practice to become a good speaker. One needs only an education in the principles of good speaking. The ladies were particularly interested in his explanation of the correct way of introducing and thanking a speaker.

Mr. Anstey donated to the Guild two books by Dale Carnegie, "How to Start Living and Stop Worrying" and "Public Speaking". These were later won by Mrs. R. Jeffery and Mrs. George Giles.

Following the speaker the members enjoyed a "Penny Sale" from which \$14.50 was realized. This sum was donated to the fund for Homes for Senior Citizens.

During the period devoted to business the sum of \$25.00 was voted to the needy in Korea.

Figures recently released by the Ontario Division of the Canadian Cancer Society, show that of all cancer deaths during the five-year period 1948-1952, in both sexes, 43.2% were due to cancer of the digestive tract. For men the stomach was the leading site, accounting for 17.9% of the total male cancer deaths. Researchers, sponsored by the Cancer Society, are seeking a specific diagnostic test for stomach cancer.

## Thornhill Couple Marks Golden Wedding

# "No Time For Recreation With 80 Acres To Work And Six Children To Raise



Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Ball

Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Ball, Yonge St., Thornhill, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary next week. They have lived in their present home, where their children were born and raised, for 50 years, and on the day of their anniversary, April 26, their children and their children's children and a host of relatives and friends will gather to honour them in an "Open House" reception planned for that day.

by Elizabeth Sumner

Fifty years ago Helen Marguerite (Daisy), daughter of Mrs. D. A. Nelles and the late Dr. Nelles of Thornhill was married in Trinity Anglican Church to Wilfred Cyril Ball. The following is taken from a newspaper account of the wedding. "The Rev. Thomas Ball, father of the groom performed the ceremony assisted by the Rector, Rev. John Gibson. The bride was given away by her brother, Mr. Edward Nelles, and was gowned in soft pearl silk, with garniture of lace and carried a bouquet of white and pink roses. The bridesmaid, Miss Nellie Stalker of Walkerton, wore a pretty gown of Dresden muslin over mauve silk and carried a bouquet of carnations. The groom was supported by his brother, Mr. Arthur Ball and the ushers were Mr. Douglas Stalker of Walkerton and Mr. Oxley of Thornhill. A reception was held at the home of the bride after the ceremony. Among the gifts to the bride was a silver tea service and tray presented by the congregation of Trinity Church where she has presided at the organ."

Daisy Ball left for her honeymoon in Toronto dressed in a navy blue wool broadcloth suit. She wore a baby ribbon rosettes. The couple stayed at the Arlington Hotel on King St. They attended a performance of "Parasol" in the Grand Opera House and went to the Horse Show, which at that time was held in the Armory. On their return to Thornhill they moved into the house which was built originally as the rectory for the Anglican Church. It is barn framed and 125 years old. This house and 27 acres had been purchased some years earlier by Dr. Nelles and set aside as Daisy's marriage portion. Mr. Ball on his marriage to Miss Nelles bought

the adjoining 57 acres, the whole of which he farmed from 1905 to 1949 when it was sold and subdivided and is now known as the Ball subdivision.

Mrs. Ball was born in Thornhill in November 1884 at Home-wood Hall, the present home of Morgan Boyle and his sisters. Her father came here in 1882 and bought Dr. McConnell's practice. She attended school in Thornhill in the old school-house where Boynton Weldrick's house now stands. Mr. Ball was born at Bond Head in the Anglican rectory in 1880. His father, the Rev. Thomas Ball succeeded as rector the Rev. Mr. Osler, whose famous son William was also born there. Wilfred Ball came to Thornhill at the age of 17. After he and Daisy Nelles were married they settled down to farm and to raise a family, both of which they accomplished admirably.

**No Time For Recreation**

When I was interviewing Mr. and Mrs. Ball the talk somehow turned to television and I suddenly noticed they had a set in the back sitting room. I asked them what they did for recreation of an evening in 1905 with no television, no radio and no movies. Mr. Ball replied succinctly, "Mrs. Sumner, when you are farming nigh onto 80 acres and raising six children you don't have time for recreation. Come nighttime you go to bed. Of course there were trips to the market every week — if you call that recreation — which I don't."

"What did you market?"

"Hay mostly — and apples and potatoes."

"What market did you go to?"

"The old Haymarket on Front St. We'd hitch up the wagon and set out early in the morning. It would take us two to three hours to get there what

with stopping at the stores on the way to sell our apples and potatoes. Altogether, market day was about a 16-hour stint."

**Village Tree-Shaded & Quiet**

What was Thornhill like in 1905? I asked Mrs. Ball.

"A very pretty village. The main street was tree-shaded and quiet, the pace was leisurely. We bought our groceries at Ed. and John Francis' General Store, where Elgie's is now. Traffic on Yonge St. was brisk at times but the only thing we disliked about it was the dust. Now, look at the traffic. It's fearful — and it never ceases."

"We had three hotels in those days," said Mr. Ball. "There was Hughes Hotel, known as the 'Queens' and it was where the Anstey Block is now. Then there was Doyle's Hotel, beside the creek on Yonge Street — just below the hill here — and there was Houghton's Hotel where Mrs. Charlie Smith's house is."

In spite of their busy home life, both Mr. and Mrs. Ball found time to serve this community. When Thornhill became a Police Village in 1931, Mr. Ball was a member of the first Board of Trustees. The other members of that board were William Riddell and Ed. Francis. In all, he served nearly ten years as a village trustee.

He was also, for many years, a member of Langstaff School Board and served as a Warden of Trinity Anglican under six rectors. Mrs. Ball was secretary-treasurer of Langstaff School Board for 25 years and organist at Trinity Church for 18 years.

Their six children are Lottie (Mrs. N. H. Woods of Vancouver); Cyril, living in the Ball subdivision; Nelles in Oakville, Berkeley in Toronto; Isabel (Mrs. Vincent Buriton of Willowdale) and Duncombe in the Ball subdivision. They have 13 grandchildren.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Ball are in excellent health. One is apt to imagine, without thinking, that couples who celebrate 50 years of wedded life are in their dotage. Nothing could be further from the truth. Last summer they decided to travel and went to Europe on an itinerary that included England, Ireland, Scotland, Belgium, France, Germany, Switzerland, Austria and Italy.

They have no immediate plans for further travelling but as Mr. Ball says "You never know, do you?"

PICKERING: Township police have been issued with three-foot night sticks, following a recent incident in which a policeman was injured.

## School Board Discusses Site With Thornhill Village Trustees

Thornhill village trustees met April 13 with members of the Separate School Board in a special meeting to discuss the possible site for a Separate School. John Robertson and George Cole represented the School Board.

Mr. Robertson stated their plans were still in a formative stage and no definite sites had been considered. He said the Board is taking into consideration future expansion as well as adequate play-ground space. Under these circumstances trustees did not feel the property adjacent to St. Luke's Roman Catholic Church, which was rumour-

ed as a proposed site, was large enough. The Board will continue to look for a suitable site.

**Proposed Agreement**

T. W. Jackson and P. McTaggart-Cowan, representing the Thornhill Lions Club met with the trustees and discussed a proposed agreement drawn up by Trustee George Giles whereby the Lions Club would be given control of all parks in Thornhill. This would include supervision and maintenance. This is the result of a request made by the Lions Club earlier in the year wherein that organization offered, at the time to take over full control, maintenance and improvement of parks if given a long term lease.

**Purchase Parking Signs**

Trustees will purchase and direct all parking signs necessary to enforce parking by-laws on Yonge St. in the centre of the village. It is estimated cost of this work will be approximately \$200.00. It was also decided at the meeting to hire a part-time worker to do some of the repair and maintenance work around the village. In the past most of this work has been done by the Township roadmen, but this has proved to be impractical and inconvenient.

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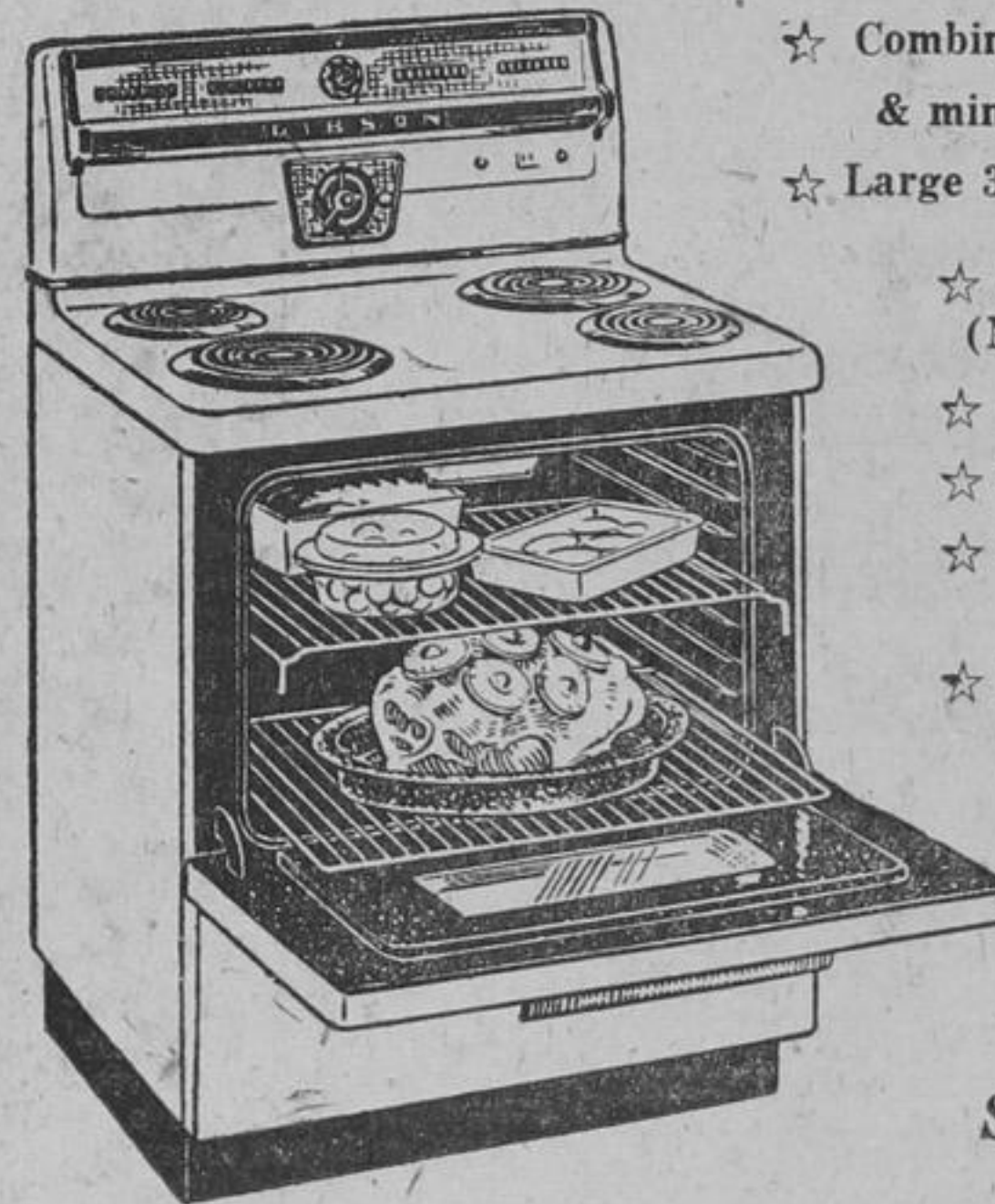
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