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### Better Library Service For Rural Districts Discussed

Way and means of getting better library service to the residents of the district were discussed at a special meeting last week in the Kleinburg Public Library. Kleinburg board members were hosts to neighboring district members at the meeting and examined the possibility of pooling their resources in buying and distributing books.

Mrs. J. R. Leslie, chairman of the Kleinburg Board, said "The current trend of libraries is altogether towards integration of service and work. One suggestion would be to have a working plan with other boards whereby books would be purchased, catalogued and sent out from the largest single library, where the combined finances of all the co-operating libraries would employ, full time, a main staff to keep up a high standard of library service."

**Bookmobiles**  
Ideally, bookmobiles might be maintained to increase that service, but she pointed out that they cost about \$5,000 each to buy and several thousand dollars a year to run.

Angus Mowat, head of the public libraries branch of the Department of Education, has said, "County libraries — that is, pooled resources, etc., from a central point are the most important single development that has taken place in the library service in the province in the last 50 years."

There are now about a dozen in successful operation in Ontario. He adds that "The individual library retains its individuality and remains under its present management as established by the Public Libraries Act."

Board delegates from all libraries agreed that one of the big problems was a scattered and sparse population, and Kleinburg members were amazed to find, in some cases, their circulation of books was, percentage wise, greater than that of some of the surrounding libraries.

**Delegates**

Other delegates at the meeting included Mrs. R. W. Johnston and Miss K. L. Ball, from Richmond Hill; Mrs. Ralph Edwards, Miss A. McLaren, Mrs. D. Caruthers and Mr. R. H. Neil of Thornhill and Mrs. A. Howl and Mr. A. C. Bell of Woodbridge. Members of the Kleinburg

board also include Mrs. Walter Griffith, Mrs. R. W. Cain, Mrs. T. E. Matthews, Mrs. J. F. Renwick, Miss W. K. Balshaw, Mr. E. W. Seiden, Mrs. Chuck Ellis, Mrs. Gordon King, Mrs. Pierre Berton, Mrs. W. H. Maude and Mr. H. Burnfield.

**Various Systems**  
Various systems used in each library were outlined and one of the difficulties in the Kleinburg area, for example, is keeping the library open enough hours, while mostly dependent on volunteer help, mainly busy housewives with small children.

Mr. R. H. Neil pointed out that a central county library while having many advantages, would still have the problem of competition from city libraries.

**The Small District**  
Mrs. A. O. Miller, former librarian said, "The biggest obstacle we have encountered in trying to give library service to our small district is that the books should be read by a sufficient number of persons to warrant their purchase price. The circulation has never been large enough, except in children's books, to 'pay the way' of each book."

She added that recently she had removed from the shelves more than 200 books which had not circulated for two years or more, just to make room for incoming stock. "The tragedy of the affair is that most of the books — all good and highly readable had not circulated more than five or six times during their whole time of perhaps five years on the shelves."

Mrs. M. Leslie said it was this point that had led her and Mrs. Miller to consult Miss Elizabeth Hardy of the Fishhook Library — and they found that co-operating with other library boards might be the most efficient method of operation.

Mrs. Howl, Woodbridge librarian, said adult fiction, for example might be purchased jointly and shared, to make the cost worthwhile.

The meeting decided to further discuss the problems with their own boards and aim for better library service for more people.

### THORNLEA NEWS

Correspondent:  
Mrs. J. C. Donnelly  
Phone AV. 5-1777

**Home and School Association**  
The regular meeting of the Thornlea Home and School Association was held in the school on Wednesday evening, March 6, with Mr. W. C. Pocklington presiding.

Guest speaker for the evening was Mr. Roy Bick, Chairman of the finance committee of the school board. Mr. Bick outlined the budget for the school area for 1957 and compared it with the budget for the previous year. At the conclusion of the address, the meeting was thrown open for questions and discussion. The members of the teaching staff outlined some ways by which the home can help the school in the education of the child, and the need for co-operation between home and school.

The prize for attendance was won by Mr. Learn's room. Following the meeting refreshments were served by the committee. A good many parents attended Open House at the school which was held from 11 to 12 a.m. and from 7 to 8.30 p.m. on March 6. The students' work books were on display during the evening. Principal Gordon Learn was greatly pleased with the interest shown by the splendid attendance both at the Open House and the Home and School meeting.

**Thornlea Notes**  
Birthday greetings to Howard Curtis, Greenlane, who was fifteen years old on March 10. Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Donnelly had as their guests last week Mrs. Donnelly's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Mather of Estevan, Sask., who were en route home after a three months visit to England.

### Wedding

LAK-MacKEIGAN

Thornhill United Church was the setting at 4 p.m. on Saturday, March 2, when Catherine MacKeigan, only daughter of Mrs. Laura MacKeigan, Toronto, became the bride of Gordon Lak, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lak, Greenlane Ave. The ceremony was performed by Rev. R. Morton.

The bride entered the church to the strains of Mendelssohn's Wedding March, played by Miss Jean Muirhead of Hagerman's Corners. She was given in marriage by Mr. Joseph Dunleavy. She wore a strapless waltz length gown of white tulle with a lace bodice. The lace bolero had long pointed sleeves, and the bouffant skirt was trimmed with lace points. A coronet of opalescent sequins and pearls held her fingertip veil, and she carried a cascade of red roses, white 'mums and clematis.

The maid of honor, Miss Mary Lou Jones, wore forest green nylon tulle over taffeta. The groom's sister, Miss Jean Lak, wore a similar gown of champagne tulle over taffeta. Both carried bouquets of yellow 'mums.

Gordon Miller of Gormley was best man. Ushers were Tom Betty, Gordon Sharp and Frank Thorneycroft.

Immediately after the ceremony, a reception was held in the church hall. The bride's mother received, wearing a gown of navy blue and white printed silk shantung, with white accessories, with a corsage of red roses. Mrs. Henry Lak assisted, wearing navy shantung with pink accessories. Her corsage was pink roses.

Mr. and Mrs. Lak left on a honeymoon trip to Ottawa, Montreal and Rochester. They will make their home on Greenlane Ave.

### DONCASTER

Correspondent:  
David Barbour  
Henderson Ave.  
Phone Avenue 5-2288

**Socials**  
Birthday greetings to Denise Adkins of 10 Procter Ave., who was six years old on March 13, but celebrated with a party on Saturday, March 16; and to Liada Dale, 25 Procter Ave., who was six years old on March 17, but had her party with 15 guests on Monday, March 18.

Mrs. Sheppard of Procter Ave., returned home from a nine day holiday in Florida on Monday.

On Wednesday, March 13, the mothers of the 3rd Thornhill Brownie Pack met at the home of Mrs. Eagles (Brown Owl) of 37 Highland Park to organize a Brownie Mothers' Auxiliary to help Brownie work in the area.

The Commissioner, Mrs. Sissons was present at the meeting to outline the function of the auxiliary. Several other important matters were also discussed.

Fortunately no Doncaster residents were involved in an accident on Yonge St. between Glen Cameron and Morgan Ave. Sunday evening. Apparently the worst of this mishap was the broken glass and gasoline spilled over the highway and a badly damaged car.

Mr. E. Tobey, of Tobey diesel electric on Yonge St. was host to an emergency meeting of the Thornhill and District hockey club last Sunday. Present were President James Mason; Treasurer David Barbour; Secretary Bill Menzies; coach Clarence Greenfield; referee Ross Lang and sports writer Jim McKean of The Liberal.

### Obituary

MRS. MARGARET DOWDALL

Mrs. Margaret Dowdall passed away at St. Joseph's Hospital, Toronto, on Sunday, March 3, following a sudden illness. She was in her 73rd year.

The deceased had resided in Doncaster for the past year with her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Jordan, 109 Morgan Ave., and her grandchildren Keith, Doreen and Gary Jordan. Mrs. Dowdall was born in England.

Rev. W. E. Askew of Trinity Anglican Church, Thornhill, officiated at the commitment service which took place at the Crematorium, Winchester St., Toronto.

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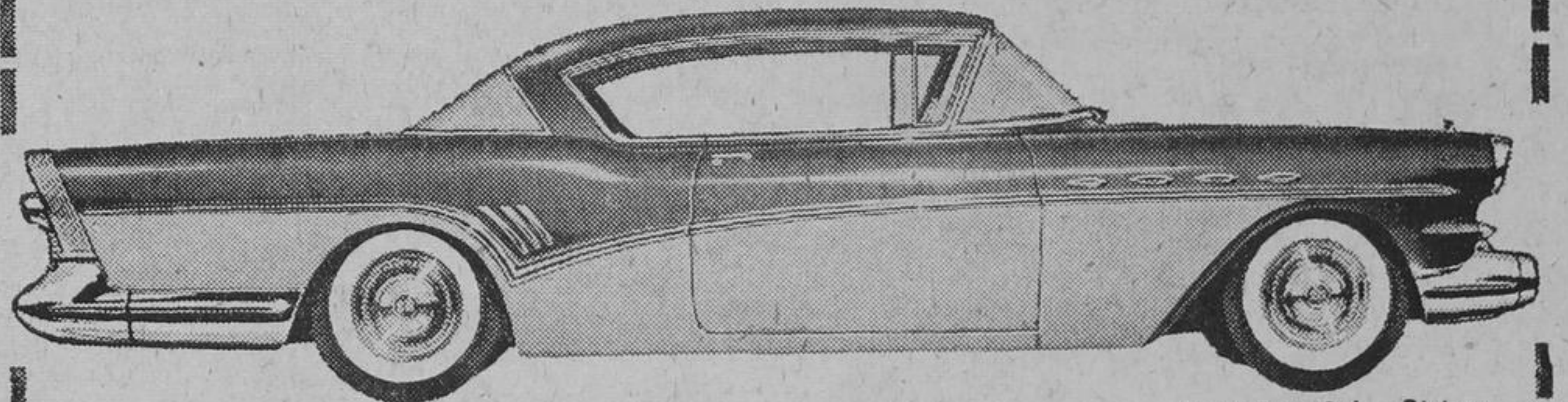
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