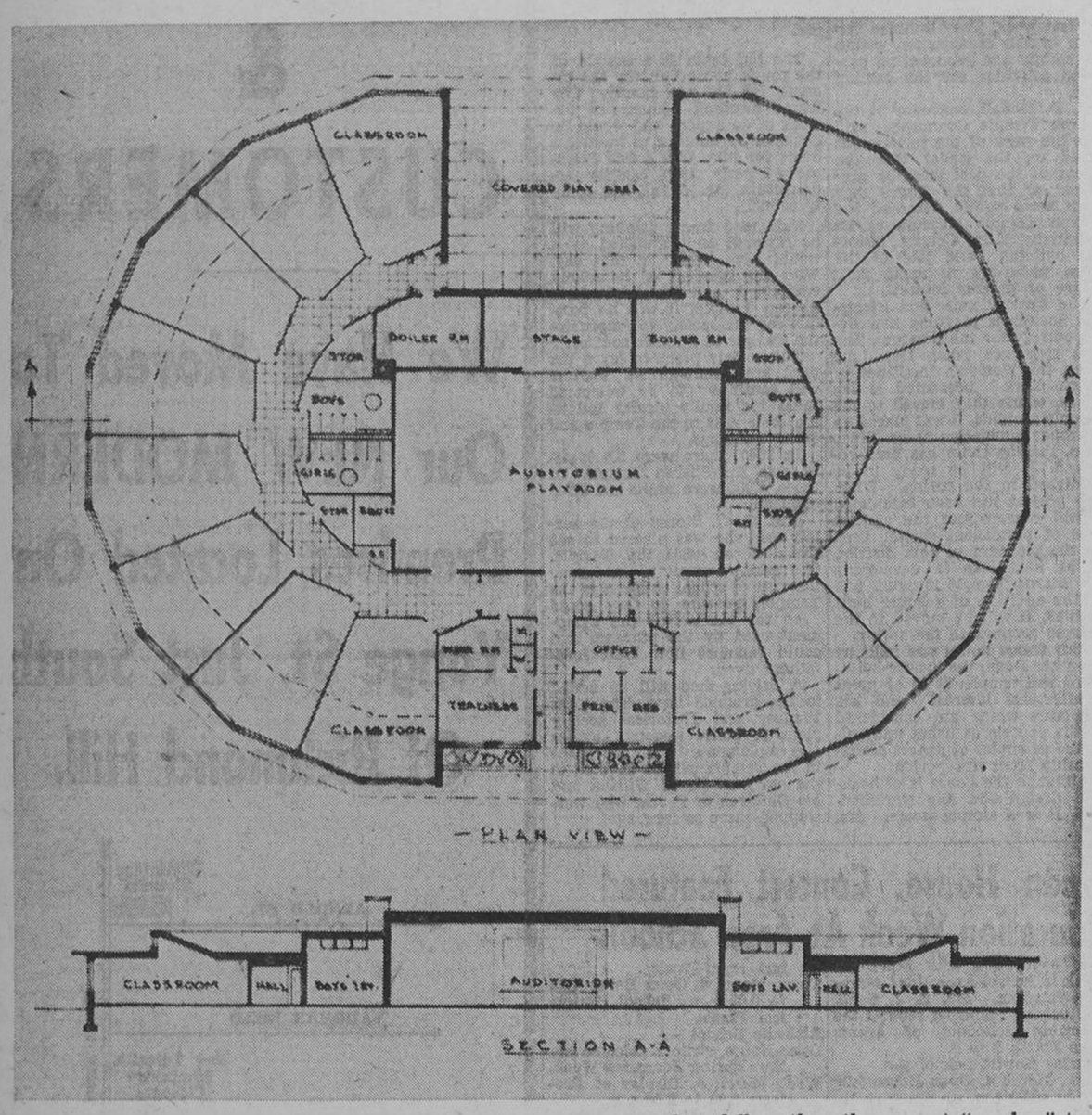
Thornhill and District News

TELEPHONE AV. 5-3558

The Liberal is always pleased to publish items of interest contributed by its readers in the Thornhill area . . . . Our representative in Thornhill is Mrs. Donald Smellie, who may be reached by phoning AV. 5-3555.

Trustee Suggests Spherical Not Oblong Shapes For Schools



Above is shown the suggested "new-style" layout for a school, as sketched by Trustee Alan G. Parker, Vice-Chairman of the Board of Trustees for School Area No. 1 Markham-Vaughan.

Trustee Parker presented the graph to board members and principals of the area schools recently, stating such a school, built on a circular plan, would cost the taxpayers less dollars than the present "egg-box" type of school.

Classrooms, built "around" the hall are well lighted by windows on one wall and a sky-light which circles the school overhead. Covered play area at rear of layout could provide space for two additional rooms if necessary, Trustee Parker pointed out. The plan was sympathetically received by board members.

Thornhill Notes

The Women's World Day of Prayer service was held Friday afternoon in Holy Trinity Anglican Church with an attendance of nearly 100 ladies. The members of the local churches led in the service and were as follows: for the United Church, Mrs. Harold Craig and Mrs. E. Meuser; the Baptist Church, Mrs. H. Ellam and Mrs. Irvine; the Presbyterian Church, Mrs. P. W. Williamson; Langstaff Baptist, Mrs. F. H. Carter, Mrs. McSpadden and Mrs. M. McLean; and Holy Trinity Anglican, Mrs. E. Lean and Mrs. Vaxvix.

The guest speaker, Mrs. Hayashi, a Canadian-born Japanese, brought a very inspiring message. The collection from these World Day of Prayer services goes to buy literature and pamphlets for people in foreign lands.

Baptist W.A.

The Women's Auxiliary held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 18, in the Sunday school room. Mrs. Ellam, the president, opened the meeting and also welcomed the guest speaker, Dr. Lillian Langstaff.

Since this was the first meeting under the new Women's Group Plan, Mrs. Ellam mentioned that the various group leaders would be in charge of further meetings, the leaders being Mrs. Arthur Lennie south group, Mrs. P. Willcocks centre group, and Mrs. R. Jardine north group.

Mrs. P. Willcocks led in the devotional period, then Dr. Langstaff gave a most interesting talk on Cancer — "The Prevention and Control" and demonstrated her message with a sound film.

The meeting closed with prayer and refreshments were served by the committee in charge. The March meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 18, at the home of Mrs. R. Jardine.

Commencing Sunday, March 2 and continuing each Sunday from 5 p.m. to 6.30 p.m., the congregation will meet for a "Vesper Tea." Each family will be responsible for its own basket lunch. It is hoped that those who do not have a church home will feel welcome to come and join this worthwhile hour of fellowship. Following the Vesper service the young people will meet in two groups. The B.Y.P.U., ages 18 and up, and the Hi-Fellowship group, ages 14 to 17 years, will have their own program. All young people are cordially invited.

Presbyterian Church News

The closing Sunday of Missionary Month was held February 23, with three special missionary speakers. At the morning service Dr. K. D. Toth of the Hungarian Presbyterian Church, Toronto, brought the message. At an afternoon missionary tea, the session and board of managers and their wives entertained Pastor Moti Lall of Jhansi, India, and in the evening, the Reverend Michael Fesenko of the Ukrainian Presbyterian Church, Toronto, spoke to the Young Life Club.

United Church Y.P.

The Y.P.U. is presenting "Musical Daze," an evening of song, dance and comedy, Saturday in the new United Church. Proceeds will go for Sunday School furniture.

Cub Mothers Meet

The 1st Thornhill Cub Mothers' Auxiliary met Monday evening, February 24, in the new United Church. Mrs. John Lambert, the president, was in charge of the meeting. Plans were discussed for the Father and Son banquet to be held on Friday, March 7. Mrs. Littlejohn presented Mrs. J. Maver with the past president's pin and the meeting closed with the Mizpah benediction.

Holy Trinity Parish Guild

The regular semi-monthly meeting of the Parish Guild was held on Tuesday, February 18, in the church hall. After the opening prayers and a short business session, the president, Mrs. Betty Ball, introduced the guest speaker, Miss Nora Lea. Miss Lea, who is information secretary of the Council for Social Service in the Anglican Church, gave a very interesting talk on the council, explaining the various phases of service work. Some of these are: meeting immigrants when they arrive in Canada, counselling and giving encouragement to the poor of the downtown parishes in the large cities; the ministering and counselling to prisoners by the prison chaplains. Mrs. Kay Shaw thanked the speaker, and a short period of questions followed, after which refreshments were served. The next meeting of the Guild will be on Tuesday, March 4.

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Receive 38 Members Dedicate Memorials

The reception of new members and Holy communion was held at the Sunday morning service of the Thornhill United Church. The guest speaker was the Rev. Frank Stymiest of North Bay, president of Toronto Conference of the United Church.

The dedication of the chancel memorials also took place and were as follows: dedication of the pulpit in loving memory of Miss Mary Smith. Given by her mother, Mrs. J. F. Smith.

Dedication of the Lectern in loving memory of Dr. W. J. and Mrs. Wesley, given by Miss Geraldyne Wesley, Frederick Wesley and Ross Wesley, M.D.

Dedication of the choir pews, clergy pews and screen, in loving memory of Mr. J. Edward Francis, given by Mr. Francis and Miss Lillian Francis.

Dedication of the communion table in loving memory of Mr. J. Charles Smith, given by Mrs. Charles Smith.

Dedication of the communion vessels in loving memory of the departed ones of the Thompson-Hopkins families, given by Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Thompson.

Thirty-eight new members were received into the fellowship of the church.

2nd Thornhill Scout News

by Ron Stagg, Jr. A. S. M.

Our recent camp was a big success for the troop. Scouts and leaders attending were: Steve Dockman, Roddy Leonard, Jim and Bob Hutchinson, Jim Eagles, Geoff Dempster, Neil Giddings and Scouter Alf Wille. The equipment was brought up in a big truck and the boys pulled the tents in on toboggans to the snow covered camp site, one half mile from the road. The boys spent the two days in two tents erected when they arrived. The meals were excellent and one boy, Steve Dockman, passed his second class cooking. During the evening a sing song was held and the scouts sang songs, and ate of course. The night was cold, but with a good supply of blankets, everyone was nice and warm.

The leaders are now giving special instruction classes. The regular patrol corner system of teaching will also carry on. A going up ceremony was held recently and two new recruits were welcomed into the troop. Each of these boys then began to work on his tenderfoot.

The Ladies' Auxiliary is going to provide accessories for the troop's band. These will serve to dress up the members. Our drum instructor is making good headway with the boys and says they will join the rest of the group soon. The band has a number of engagements planned. The first of these will be on March 17.

The group committee is conducting its annual fund raising campaign at the present time. Now that the area has moved out of Metropolitan Toronto, there is a great need for funds. Although the troop's fund raising activities have proved very successful, its expenses are very high. The troop's next fund raising project will be the sale of hot cross buns. Several companies are competing for the business.

The troop movie will be completed in a week and then the sound track will be made. The band will provide the music for this, and both the movie and the band will have their unveilings at the parents' night on April 2.

The chipmunk patrol won the last competition and as a prize went down to a hockey game on Sunday.

Competitive standing is: Rattlesnakes 1279, Bobolink 970, Nighthawks 1071. Antelope 1450, Eagle 875, Otter 1225, Beaver 1069, Chipmunk 1591.

SCARBORO : On the advice of Metro Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, Scarboro Township Council will arrange to trap the wild life, such as raccoons, skunks, squirrels and foxes roaming the township. The conservation authority advised these wild animals be caught in cage traps and liberated at conservation centres, 30 miles away. Council recommended that animals released to other areas be banded first, to see whether they come back or not.

Loss Of Southern Twps. End Of York County?

York County municipalities should demand the right for their residents to vote on the absorption of any section of the county into Metropolitan Toronto before it occurs, Warden Fred Armstrong, reeve of Woodbridge, told county councillors last week.

"Bill 80 was passed before York county residents could act," he said. "All I want is for the municipalities to ask for their democratic rights. They should recommend to the provincial government that when the time arises for Metro's boundaries to be extended north, the people be allowed to decide the question by ballot."

"At the time Bill 80 was passed the authorities felt the people were not familiar enough to make the decision," replied Deputy Reeve Robert Kirk of Vaughan township. "When their elected representatives in the legislature, who are familiar with the situation, make the decision for them, they are not losing their democratic rights," he charged.

"County representatives were not given a chance to vote on Bill 80," replied Reeve William Hodgson of King Township. "In the provincial government, only one man represented this area. County council should have had a say."

"Sections of York county are already under the noose of Metro Planning board," continued the warden. "I don't believe in piano boxes being built for houses. We should be entitled to a fair share of industry and that is not so. We can't develop as we wish. It is time we tried to have this strangulation removed.

"The nicest part of the county has been produced by natural growth," he added. "It is not where someone from outside decided how the area was to develop."

"The time may come when it will be economically sound for us in the south to be a part of Metro," said Reeve William Clark of Markham township, County commissioner. "But, when the time comes, it should be the people concerned who vote on it."

"I am wholeheartedly behind the warden," said Mr. Hodgson. "All municipalities in the county should be thinking about this problem.'

"If we lose the southern municipalities there won't be any York county," said Reeve Walter Rate of East Gwillimbury. "I agree with Mr. Clark and Mr. Kirk that it might be best for their municipalities to go with Metro, but it would not be good for the county."

'The people did not have a say in Bill 80," said Deputy Reeve Keith Nisbet of Aurora. "It was probably all one man's idea. It has caused us trouble but we had no say. It costs Aurora three times as much now as when the new county was set up. It is costing everybody money.

"It is alright to say our representatives voted for it," continued Mr. Nisbet, "but the people in northern Ontario helped make that decision, not the people of York county."

"I don't think anyone in York county wants to be taken into Metro," said Reeve W. J. Taylor of Richmond Hill, "but things may change."

'All the warden is saying is that each municipality should ask the government to let the people vote on the question,' said Reeve Jack Luck of Newmarket. 'The county municipalities should be given an opportunity to say they would oppose any attempt to legislate them into Metro without the wishes of the people they represent being expressed."

Increase 13 Per Cent

Health Unit Budget Is $229,800. Year 1958

The 1958 budget of $229,800 for York County Health Unit was presented to county council last week when the request was made for the annual grant. The request for $84,927 was referred to the finance committee.

Last year, the Health Unit asked the county for $76,250, but received $63,000. However, an operating deficit of $9,712 occurred so this year's grant is $12,215 more than the unit received from the county in 1957.

The Health Unit operated under-staff last year with only 11 public health nurses engaged at one time. If the staff had been at the basic level, 15 nurses, a greater deficit would have occurred, explained Dr. Robert King, Medical Director.

The major portion of the increase in this year's budget is to provide for additional nurses. There are now 17 on the staff, the basic number required for the present population.

Dr. King was accompanied by Mayor Kenneth Tomlin of Richmond Hill, chairman of the Health Unit Board.

Grant System

Dr. King explained that in public health work the province matches the municipal grants. The federal government requires the provision of certain basic levels before it enters the field but when it does, it pays 100 per cent of the costs involved.

The basic level or baseline requirements within the county Health Unit for public health nurses was set at 15 last year. Since the unit had 14 nurses on it staff (during part of the year there were only 11 nurses with the unit), the base line was not met and so no federal grant was received.

If the Health Unit had been able to engage 15 public health nurses ,the federal government would have provided an additional nurse, paying 100 per cent of her salary.

Similarly, in all phases of the Health Unit's work, if the base line requirements are not met, no federal grant is received. When the county cuts its grant to the Health Unit, there is a corresponding cut in the matching provincial grant, Dr. King explained.

Per Capita Cost

In the Health Unit's report to York County Council, the county's population was set at 94,000, an increase of 14 per cent over last year's figure.

Most of the new people are in the young family age groups and add directly and immediately to the demand on many health unit services," Dr. King said. " This growth actually represents an increase much greater than 14 per cent in demand on health unit services such as prenatal and maternal counselling, child health centre, school health and immunization services and sanitary and plumbing inspectional services related to new housing.

The 1958 budget provides for an increase of 13.7 per cent from municipal funds.

Last year's health unit services cost the residents of York county $72,712. This represents a per capita cost of 88.6 cents. With the increase in the county's population, despite the higher budget this year, the cost of the services is only 88 cents per person, Chairman Tomlin told county council.

THORNLEA

Correspondent:
Mrs. J. C. Donnelly
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The February meeting of the Home and School Association was held in the school on Wednesday February 12. The president, Mr. Wilkins, was in the chair. The monthly attendance prize was won by Mr. Learn's room.

Miss Nicholson introduced the guest speaker, Mr. Hugh Martin, Music Supervisor of he School Area.

In a very humorous and informal manner, Mr. Martin showed how music is taught in schools from Grade 1 to Grade 8. Several of the students from Mr. Learn's room were present to demonstate.

In Grade 1, the children are taught to sing many small songs, and all children are encouraged to sing, rather than only those who have good voices. At the Grade 2 level, they begin the scales and also more songs. By the time the children reach Grade 8, they have some training in scales, sequentials, rounds, two, three and four part harmony.

Mr. Martin had the audience take part in the singing, which created much enjoyment and laughter. The senior students are to be congratulated on their fine singing.

Mr. Blackburn moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Martin for a delightful evening. Refreshments were served by the committee.

The March meeting will take the form of a panel discussion with many well-known members taking part. Questions for the most part will be on "Vocational Guidance". The first week in March will be "Education Week" and an Open House is planned at the school for Thursday, March 6.

District Notes

Mr. Edward Wood, No. 7 Highway, has been a patient in Sunnybrook hospital for several weeks, following surgery. His many friends wish him a speedy recovery.

Philip Covell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Covell, Doncrest Rd., returned home from Halifax recently, after serving five years with the Royal Canadian Navy.

The sympathy of the community is extended to Mr. and Mrs. S. Ingimundson, Bayview on the recent passing of Mr. Ingimundson's father at Winnipeg, Man.

Mrs. Ingimundson flew to Winnipeg to attend funeral services, returning last week.

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Enthusiastic Gardeners Hear Panel Discuss Horticultural Pointers

You can't dampen the enthusasm of gardeners even if the temperature is in low brackets. A large number of members with friends turned out to look over the location for this year's meetings and flower shows. The meeting was held in Thornhill Public School, Mrs. J. Bridges in the chair. After the general business was disposed of the president turned the meeting over to Mr. Phil Delf, who conducted a panel chosen from the members. The subject for discussion was "From Seed to Show," the title decided on by the program committee.

The chairman first called on Mr. J. Wain to advise what was new in this season's catalogues. This member is a professional florist and an authority on plant life. He warned members to be careful in their selection of seeds, and suggested a varied assortment which he considered might be planted with good results, attention was stressed regarding aster wilt. This weakness was likely to last for several years but it is expected there will be members who will go ahead and cultivate aster seed just to try to prove asters can be grown. We shall hope to see the aster classes in our shows.

Mr. Alan Sumner then spoke on the culture of those seeds, giving time of planting and when to bed out to get best results.

Mr. A. Dolan advised her fellow members how to condition the flowers from their own gardens. Pencils were kept busy writing the instructions. To enter arrangements in the decorative classes blooms must be in first class shape, a glance will tell the judge if the exhibit has winning points, a few well selected flowers and properly conditioned will earn the red ticket.

The container must be carefully considered and Mrs. G. Horton told the members what to look for to gain top honors. Keep containers to the quieter colors, pastel shades are suitable as they will blend with the natural garden flowers Tall vases should have open necks to allow free circulation of air. Shallow containers should have pleasing lines. Sufficient water is important in certain classes.

Mr. Whatley finished a successful evening with his advice on what to grow in the vegetable area of the garden; the choice of varieties and finally how to store them for long winter use. Although it was zero, he told the members how to store parsnips and cabbage in the open, below the snow belt, by using leaves, soil and I think some faith because he goes out on a Saturday morning and looks for a marker, reaches down and pulls up a parsnip for Sunday dinner. This he put into a pail of water and suggests that you deep-fry the cut-up pieces.

The care of vegetables is needed when showing. Don't scrub too hard and be sure the vegetables are selected as to size and condition. A judge selects only the natural growth and appearance of the entry.

For relaxation a draw was held with some wonderful plants grown by Mr. E. Kohler with two prizes in the book line on decorative arrangements. Mr. Lennox thanked the panel and Mr. Delf for their interesting presentation of FROM SEED TO SHOW.

Please keep in mind Thornhill Public School as your place of meeting throughout the coming season. Make it a family affair.

Area Trustees Answer Questions & Discuss Policy

On Tuesday, February 18, the Board of Trustees of School Area No. 1 of Markham and Vaughan met representatives of home and school associations within the area. to receive their questions and present the policies of the board.

Mr. E. J. Sand, Supervising Principal, reviewed the progressive characteristics of philosophies of education beginning with Plato who believed that goodness was the natural result of education, therefore education was desirable to produce citizens who were good. Aristotle held the view the aim of education was to cover as many subjects as possible, rather than to restrict the student to a practical course. Comenius felt that education should lead to the dignity of man, and respect and affection of man for man.

Mr. Sand went on to describe others. Locke's idea was that education was for the purpose of educating gentlemen for living. Rousseau believed that education should be child-centred. Herbert felt that education should develop character and prepare students for social usefulness. Spencer thought that education was necessary for self preservation. Dewey's theory was pragmatism — the casting aside of formal discipline, leaving the door open for any number of subjects. He believed that education is a process of living, not a process for living. Pragmatism regards experience as authority.

Sir Richard Livingstone believed that education should set high standards and develop the sense of values which recognizes that which is first rate.

Mr. Sand pointed out the necessity of arriving in our time at some basic philosophy of education. He stressed the importance of a co-operative effort on the part of the educators and the community to place education in its proper perspective.

During the discussion on kindergartens between the board and the home and school members, the difference between a plebiscite, which was binding on municipal authority, and a questionnaire, which sounded public opinion, but had no legal status, was clarified by Chairman Roy Bick.

Trustee J. J. Taylor showed by a chart of grade levels the current rate of fall-out of pupils from grade 8 through to grade 13. He also described the importance of work being done in the special classes and looked for ward to the day when classes for retarded children would be incorporated into the Ontario public school system.

John Lennox To Represent School

On February 17, at the monthly meeting of the Thornhill Home and School Association, the Grade 8 Public Speaking Finals took place. There were six finalists: Linda Horn, Susan Fielding, Caroline Rick, John Rendall, Frank Hall and John Lennox. Each speaker gave a talk on a topic of his or her own choice and an impromptu speech. The pupils are to be congratulated on the excellence of their speeches. John Lennox was final choice of the judges to represent Thornhill Public School at the area finals on March 3 in the Charles Howitt School.

Mrs. Kays, President of the York-Simcoe Council gave a brief resume of the work done by the Home & School Federation across the Dominion. Among various projects the H & S has conducted a comic clean-up, TV survey, sponsored leader training courses, made a province-wide study of Canadian family life, the findings of which were presented at the recent conference on Education in Ottawa. The H & S is also sponsoring scholarships for future students at the Teachers' College. Mrs. Kays feels that parents' interest in and attendance at H & S is not too great a sacrifice for any parent in view of the benefits to the whole community and the world.

Mr Hrr.Hrra etaoin etaoineta

Mr. Harrington announced the Spring Bonnet bridge to be held on Saturday, March 15, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m. in the school. Mrs. Bornhold's class won the attendance prize.

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THE LOCAL BRANCH of the CANADIAN LEGION, Richmond Hill Branch No. 375 is having a Joint Initiation and Social Evening, MARCH 4th at 8 p.m. in the Legion Hall, Carrville Road, Richvale. An Invitation is extended to all veterans and their wives. Dancing and Refreshments. Admission Free . GEORGE WOOD, Secretary