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Parks Program

The proposal to develop and beautify the Mill Street pond and surrounding area made by Metro Conservation Authority has received a mixed reception in Richmond Hill. Many who feel our parks program has not kept pace with our population increase welcome the suggestion, while on the other hand others contend our parks program should be designed for the use and benefit of Richmond Hill citizens, and the present proposal is not acceptable.

Deputy-reeve Donald Plaxton, Chairman of the Parks Committee will meet with members of that body next Saturday to discuss the proposal and from this meeting likely will come a recommendation to Town Council.

We trust the Committee and subsequently the Town Council will give a most careful second look at the proposal. We hope they will take the long term view and judge the project strictly on its merits. We suggest they should not be influenced unduly by the offer of Metro Authority to contribute \$15,000.

There is general agreement that a beautification program for the pond area is desirable, but on a proposal to develop a park area which may attract hundreds of visitors and turn it into a hive of summer activity there is a great difference of opinion. People who have established homes in the area have expressed concern, and their wishes should have the consideration of coun-

We would be delighted to have the

pond area made more attractive and if possible a park area developed there which would be of use and benefit to the citizens of Richmond Hill and district. We have no desire to see this done at the expense or inconvenience of the people who live there, nor have we any wish to establish a park area which would be a mecca for large city crowds.

There are many features of the proposal which warrant a long second look by council. The estimated cost is \$30,000 and the Metro Authority has offered to pay \$15,000. Many have expressed doubt that the project as outlined can be accomplished for \$30,000. Apparently Richmond Hill will be responsible for all the cost except \$15,000. The cost of maintenance and police protection is something which should be given con-

Richmond Hill needs a program of parks development, but we want one planned to meet our own needs and not designed to provide an attraction for Metro residents.

Metro Conservation Authority has to its credit many worthwhile projects and their interest in Richmond Hill is appreciated. The proposed plan has many attractions and the offer of \$15,-000 towards the cost is very tempting. However Richmond Hill Town Council is worth it. before embarking on this very considerable expenditure should make very sure it is the kind of Park Development

How about this new cigarette advertising slogan that says "this cigarette can be lit from

Pumpkin Problem

To-morrow night is Hallowe'en. For those of us who are beginning to get a bit of snow on our roofs, this means a night of watchfulness and apprehension. We bring in the garbage cans, make sure the garage is locked, hide the soap from the kids, and sit back to await the worst.

Hallowe'en is part of growing up We forget that when we were younger, there was a delightful sense of wrongdoing in pushing over certain buildings: in snitching a pumpkin from someone's yard; and in going from door to door shouting "Shell out!"

Hallowe'en was a chance to stay up late and be off with the other kids your own age; and what's more important, a chance to establish yourself as a steadfast member of society, according to your young standards.

We doubt that any one of us deliberately became involved in malicious damage. We thought of it then as good fun, and our seniors called our late night endeavours "pranks". It is true that the next morning, several garbage cans were found atop telephone poles, and chairs found their way to a roof somehow, but these occurrences were small in number.

To-day, in a world grown dull with

various "isms" and child psychology, we are told that Hallowe'en is an opportunity for delinquency to show its face; a time when ALL children will do things they shouldn't The same tricks we used to play are today called expressions of a sadistic complex, or some such termin-

suitable for the town, and just as im-

portant that it is the kind of park de-

velopment wanted by the taxpayers.

Children never change. They are the same today as we were ten, twenty or even fifty years ago. The only change has been in the world about them; a change that can be blamed on us "mature" adults.

To-morrow night, when you hear a rustling in the leaves outside your door; or open it to come face to face with a home grown impression of the Frankenstein monster, see if it reminds you of the cherished and almost forgotten days of your childhood. If it does, then keep the Golden Rule; try to treat the kids as you would have liked to have been treated when it was your turn to howl on Hallowe'en.

If these things that are part and parcel of Hallowe'en along with pumpkins, goblins and candy, don't put you in mind of yourself at the age of eight or ten or twelve, then you are poor indeed, because you have lost the wealth of your treasured past - your child-

Halloween Appeal UNICEF

Most people will be familiar with the work of UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund - which helps the children of all countries without regard for race, colour or political belief. Here in a country where most people enjoy a good standard of living, it is hard to believe that of the 900 million children in the world, two thirds of them are sick or undernourished.

Governments everywhere, with the help of the World Health Organization are striving to improve the health and welfare of their children. For every dollar UNICEF provides, the benefitting government contributes at least another dollar and later assumes full responsibility for programs started in this way. Countries launching mass attacks on malaria, yaws, tuberculosis, leprosy and dollar UNICEF provides the benefitting first medical supplies and equipment, and to fulfill the need for more qualified persons to carry out these campaigns UNICEF supports training schemes in hospitals and universities. All this is just a part of what is being done, yet there is still so much to the conditions which produce disease, poverty and suffering must be attacked and public health services in the underdeveloped

countries must be strengthened to continue health benefits beyond childhood. This needs funds!

Unlike most United Nations agencies UNICEF is not financed by assessment but by voluntary contributions mainly from governments, and so you are being asked this Hallowe'en to SHELL OUT FOR UNICEF

and give something to the children who need health as a foundation on which to build their future.

It is amazing how far money will go when spent by UNICEF and even the small children can understand that the cost of a comic will give 50 children a glass of milk in India and that by doing without one ice cream cone they can protect 10 children in Chile from tuberculosis. One dollar will give three years treatment for leprosy, many being permanently cured, and one hundred dollars will provide enough DDT to protect a village of 150 persons in northern Iraq from Malaria for one year.

So however little you have to give, it can do a lot for one child somewhere. If the Hallowe'en spooks should miss you any donations would be gladly received by McConaghy Home and School President, 43 Markham Road.

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Richmond

Last Sunday, a whole family arrived by car at some bushland just off the Stouffville road about two miles east of Yonge Street. Parking right under a sign which said 'No Hunting, No Trespas-sing', they proceeded to unload archery equipment including target. Is archery practice with a target included under 'No Hunting'?

The residents of Oak Ridges are finally getting some relief for their water problem. After weeks of buying water _t \$7.50 and \$8.50 per thousand gallons because their wells had run dry, recent rainfalls have given them a little water in their wells. However, some people are wondering if the relief will last until the snow falls.

A new teen town was started last Saturday night in the Bradford Arena hall. Attendance for the first night came to around 75. At 11:00 p.m. officials opened the doors and let the public in free. The attendance then jumped to nearly 100.

The experimental public skating held Wednesday night at the Richmond Hill arena had an attendance of some 100 people. Officials blame the inclement weather for the low turn-out and are expecting more this week. The Saturday night public skating is still keeping up the record mark set on opening night, with 665.

It must make all the hunters angry to see the great numbers of ring-necked pheasants crossing the roads here every morning, when they tramp for miles without even seeing one.

The main street of Unionville is even worse now than before. The whole roadway has been torn up to a depth of three feet from the sidewalk. Planks are placed across the mud for residents, but it is impassable for cars. The main pastime of storekeepers now is to watch the construction equipment go by, instead of their customers. They are probably wondering if all the convenience

both ends".

Opening

(Continued from page 1) educational purposes.

Mr. Ewart Jennings then expressed appreciation on behalf of the school board for the cooperation which had been given them in the different phases of planning the school by Mr. Mc-Leod, who accepted a gift and remarked that he was glad to represent the department in the absence of the present inspector, Mr. D. D. Adams.

Another pleasant duty for Ewart Jennings was to present Mr. and Mrs. Arwood Harmon with a lovely bouquet of flowers. They are the oldest ratepayers in the community. Mr. Harman, who has lived here all his life, almost 80 years, attended Temperanceville school 74 years ago. He was a member of the board of trustees 35 years ago and acted as chairman for three years. The Harmon family has lived in this section for 120 years and owned land on the Ridges 40 years previous. Mrs. Harmon was born here but educated elsewhere, returning after her marriage over 60 years ago. They have always had the interests of the children of the community at heart and have watched many changes, especially the rise in the cost of education. In the last ten years it has more than tripled.

Mrs. Ray Jennings, a former pupil and a former teacher who is still vitally interested in Temperanceville school condensed the history of Temperanceville school for this occasion.

Bring Greetings Mr. Ray Jennings brought greetings from the Township of King after which he introduced the Reeve ,Mr. Wm. Hodgson and Norm Taylor, a member of the council, also Mr Haroid Rose and thanked him for the help and support given to the school board. Mr. Ray Jennings congratulated the ratepayers on their fine new school, which was built well below the cost of the average school, approximately \$32,000. Mr. Hodgson remarked how happy he was to visit and see such a lovely well built school

for Temperanceville. The soloist of the evening, a former pupil, David McClure, sang by request "Bless This House", after the prayer of dedication and his own selection, "Walk Hand in Hand With Me."

Greetings from the Home and School Association were expressed by the president, Mr. Wilfred

Mr. Wilbert Jennings introduced other members of the board of trustees; the teachers, Mrs. John Gillham, principal; Mrs. Blackburn and Mr. Mann; the Home and School executive and the architect, Mr. I. D. Boigon; ;and contractor, Mr. G. C. Romano. Three members of the Snowball ratepayers and the secretarytreasurer of Strange were also welcomed.

The school was decorated by a beautiful basket of mums in white and mauve from Mr. Romano and one of bronze and gold from Mr. and Mrs. Ray Jennings. From the prettily decorated tea table in the hall a buffet lunch was served by the ladies of the nome and school association.

AURORA : In a surprise move, the Aurora town council has dispensed with the services of Proctor & Redfern who have been the town's consulting engineers for many years past. The company has until November 1 to wind up its business with the town. This is the same company that has is the same company that has been acting in an advisory capacity to Bichmond Hill for many

Over Hill, Over Dale

by Cicely Thomson

In the old Celtic calendar the last night of October was "old year's night", the night of all the witches, which the Church transformed into the Eve of All Saints. At the beginning and end of summer great festivals were held, all the fires in the district were extinguished; the "needfire" was then kindled with great solemnity and from this sacrificial fire the domestic hearths were rekindled. To Christianize the rites the church associated them with ecclesiastical festivals, so that in Germany and many parts of Europe "bonfires" are lighted on St. John's Eve (midsummer) and Holy Saturday also had its firerites as did All Hallows' eve on the night preceding the feast of All Saints.

To drive away evil influences foul smoke has sometimes been produced and it was supposed to be considered "healthy" for men to walk between two fires, and for the cattle to be driven through them. November being the month of the dead, harmful ghosts and witches have to be scared away by ringing bells, fireworks and similar devices, while the departed are honoured with lamps and fires at their graves and soul-cakes are eaten, representing possibly an earlier feast of the dead.

The Romans held a feast about the first of November in honor of Pomona the goddess of the fruit trees, whose priests were however of the lowest order

of priesthood.

Nowadays we leave the observance of this special day to the young people, but we cover our bets on this business of the evil spirits by paying due heed to the ceremonies. As the decorated tree is one of the symbols of our Christmas celebrations so is the pumpkin's macabre grinning face with the light inside it our unconscious tribute to the spirits of the night. So we keep a supply of goodies on hand for the callers' at the door.

The traditional games become distorted with the years but traces of the ancient festivals can easily be seen in them. "Comb your hair at midnight, standing alone before a mirror lighted by a candle. If a face appears in the glass looking over your shoulder it will be that of your future partner".

Name two nuts and place them on a shovel over an open fire. Repeat this charm:

'Nuts I place upon the fire And to each nut I give a sweetheart's name'.

If either of the nuts hisses or steams it shows that the owner of the name has a cranky temper. If the nuts pop together and toward each other the friendship between the two persons will grow warmer. If one does not pop at all, or they fall away from each other their feeling for each other will grow cooler and the friends will be divided".

The apple games are numerous, and no doubt have Pomona herself watching over them. This one also involve the celtic fire. "Hang by a stout cord, attached to a hook in the ceiling, a shortstick, about 18 inches long. It must be fastened so that it will balance horizontally. At one end of the stick fasten a short piece of lighted candle, at the other fix an apple. Set the stick revolving rapidly (another reaching back to the rites for re-strengthening the sun?) and let the players try to snatch the apple from it with their teeth."

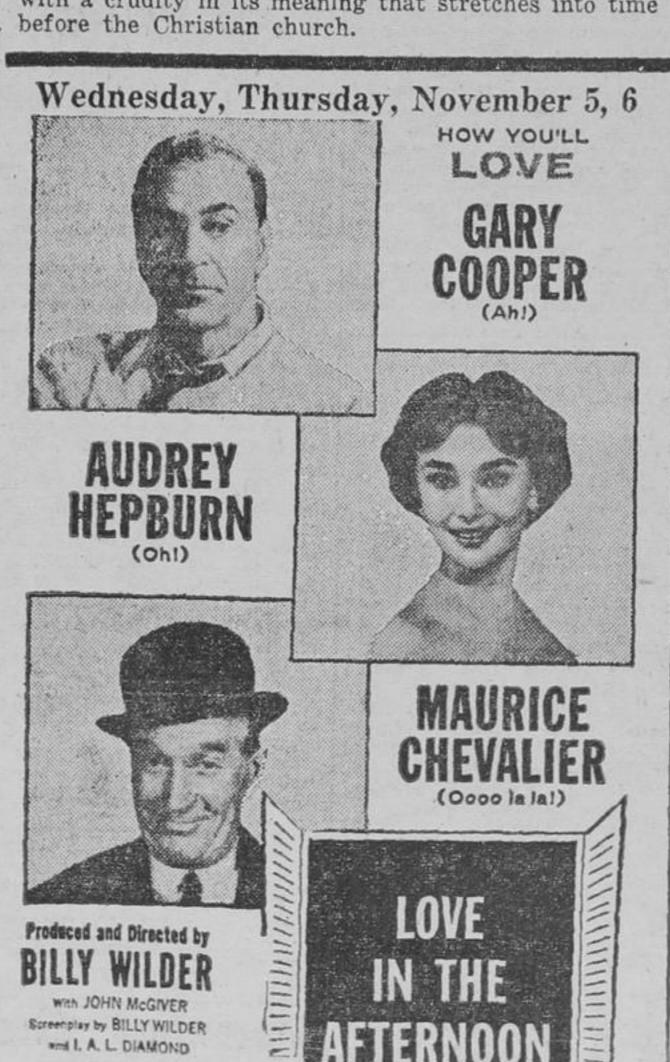
Apples are also placed in tubs of water, one for boys and one for girls, with names on them. The young people kneel with their hands fastened behind them and attempt to reach out an apple (with the "right" name on it no doubt) with their teeth.

The cry along the streets is still "shell out, shell out" and "trick or treat". These young people in their disguises are no doubt impersonating the imps and bad spirits that have to be placated. (Nowadays we are attempting to turn the evil to good and in many places they 'collect' for such organizations as UNICEF).

If the night is foggy and a white swirling mist isolates one little party of a small witch, devil and white rabbit, say, so that only the weird shrieks and screams of others come thickly through the dank atmosphere, then the emotions of our pagan ancestors are very close to today's enactors of the ancient rites. As the older boys perform their pranks and mis-

chief upon others they too are re-enacting the sport of the evil spirits that have haunted the night since time before history.

Worthy organizations try to have successful parties to minimize the demands upon the householders of the tricksters and wandering beggars, but the young usually arrange their schedules so that they include both and have the best of all possible worlds. And as the festival retains much of its nostalgia for the older generation, tolerance is very much the order of the night, especially as the adults recall exploits of daring and mischief that they cannot reveal to the younger generation. And so the night of All Hallow's Eve continues to be observed, pagan in its origins, with a crudity in its meaning that stretches into time



Adult

FACTS and

A Weekly Comment On

WE OWE TO GOD

Christian Life And Action

- By Calvin H. Chambers -

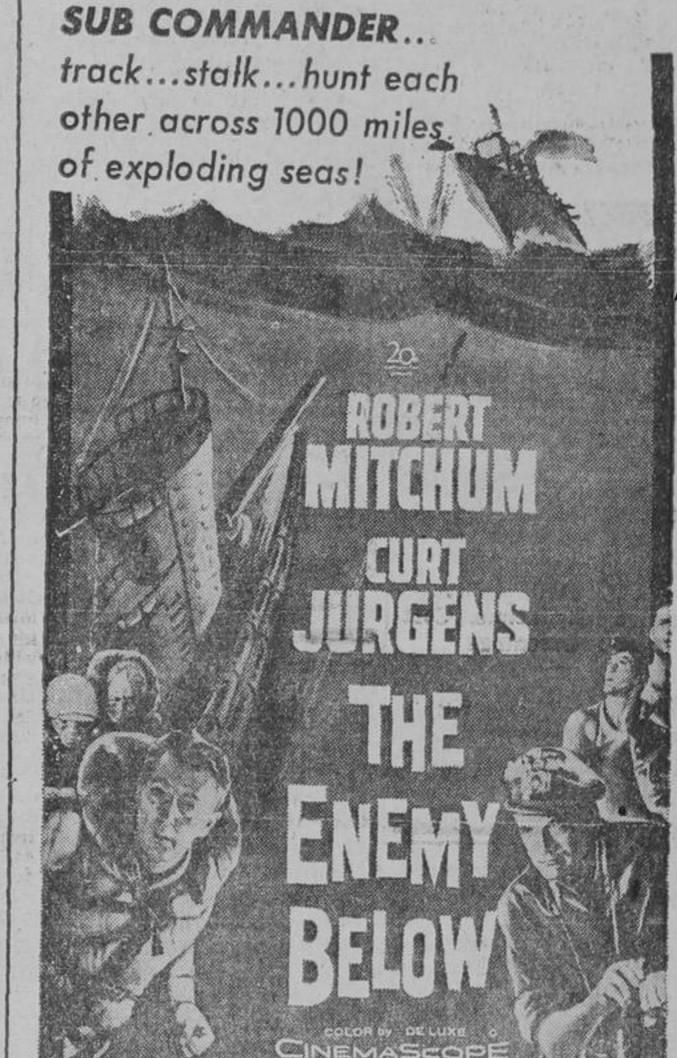
WORSHIP - THE FIRST DUTY | Church attendance becomes an imposition rather than a privi-The Christian faith makes the lege. Besides, isn't "religion" a bold claim that public or corpor- private affair which cannot be ate worship is indispensable to shared? Does church worship mature spiritual growth. Per- really improve a person or is it haps you would challenge this just an empty custom which we claim. Can't a person be a Chris- have grown used to, and don't tian without attending a church like to give up entirely for social, service, you ask? Surely it is just business and sentimental rea-

as possible to worship God in sons? one's garden, the golf course, or You may have asked these in a car motoring down one of questions, either directly or inour speedways, as it is in a directly. They might all be exchurch building. Isn't public pressed in the more basic inchurch worship a tradition which quiry, "Why worship?" I believe we will ultimately have to forget the Church has always insisted about, especially in our modern upon the necessity of corporate world where life is so busy, that (Continued on page 12)

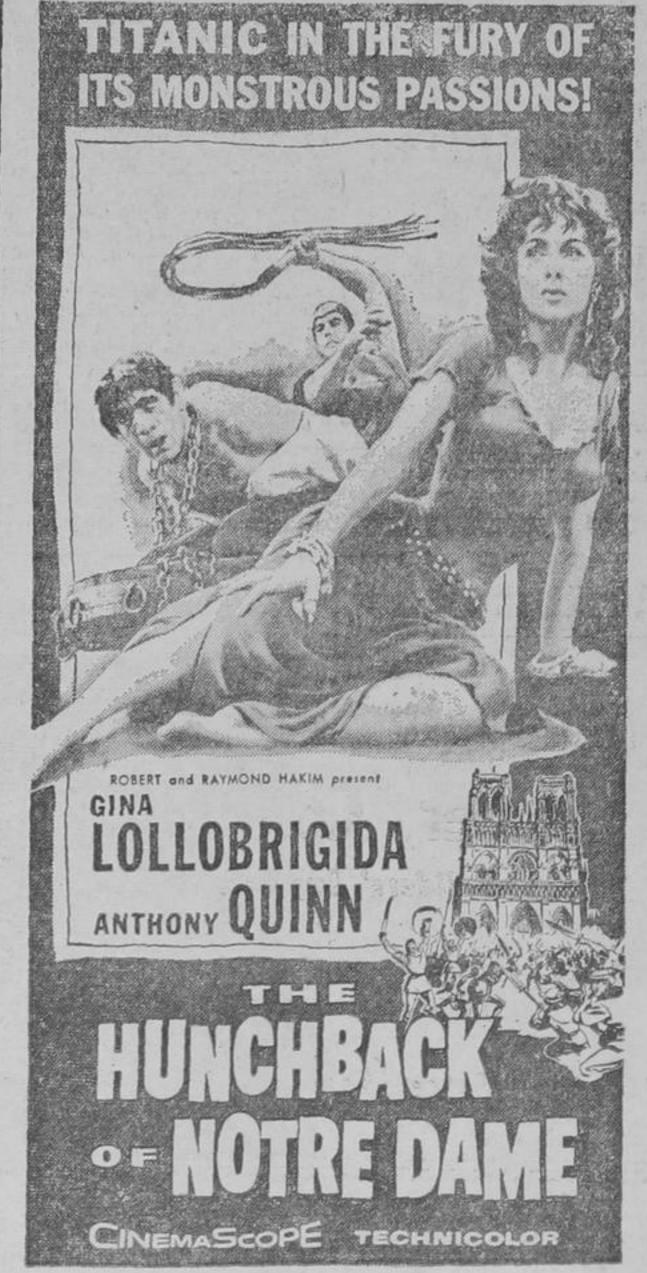


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