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Canon & Mrs. T. Barnett Tell W.A. of Prison Work

by Doris M. FitzGerald

"Why have we so many prisoners in our jails today? All too often there are 'delinquent' parents in the background", the Rev. Canon T. W. Barnett told members of Holy Trinity Church W.A. in the course of his interesting informal address in the church hall, Thornhill. During more than 40 years of visiting, and striving to re-habilitate, inmates of detention homes, reformatories and penitentiaries, Canon Barnett has learned that many of the prisoners had no home life as youngsters, and no concept of religion. "Some one failed them," he said, "and it is up to the Church to regenerate them. We cannot convert, but we can act as sign posts directing them to God.'

Canon Barnett's interest in prison work began as a young Divinity student in Dublin, Ireland, He was ordained in the old country, and following the first world war in which he served in the artillery, he came to Canada. Though engaged in parish work he was asked to assist the Chaplain at the Don jail, and since then he has visited many penal institutions. Last year he retired after tweny-six years as rector of St. Clements, east Toronto, but he continues to visit prisoners, especially youths, some of whom he confesses are "little devils" who cultivate a tough, hard demeanor as a badge of courage, but need loving just the same. Great strides have been made in the treatment and re-establishment of prisoners in recent years, he said, largely due to the influence of the Churches, and Social Service organizations. In Toronto one of the first agencies set up was the First Offenders Club, started by the late Magistrate J. E. Jones, an Anglican. Other societies today include the John Howard, to help recently released men, and the Elizabeth Fry, for women, and Ingles House to which girls are sent by the courts.

Canon Barnett refrained from describing the grimmer aspects of prison life and cited a few instances of men who were successful in making a fresh start. He stressed the need of understanding, and kindness, and said that it is the little everyday things that count . . . "the cup of cold water, offered in the name of Christ." His talk was well larded with the Irish wit which undoubtedly makes him a cheerful and welcome visitor and confidant. His wife whom he says, has always helped him, even to the extent of having unexplained, and unexpected, guests for dinner, was also present. Mrs. Barnett, who is education secretary of the Diocesan W.A., spoke briefly on the work of the Elizabeth Fry Society, and Ingles House.

Canon and Mrs. Barnett were introduced by Mrs. Roger Priestman, and thanked by Miss M. L. Henderson. Members of Holy Trinity Church W.A. are this year studying "He Cares" by the Rev. L. F. Hatfield—the story of social service work of the Anglican Church in Canada, and it was in this connection that Canon Barnett had been invited to address the group.

York Presbyterial W.M.S. Ladies Hear Message From Late Doctor

The second annual meeting of the York Presbyterial of the Woman's Missionary Society of the United Church of Canada was held in Richmond Hill United Church with 140 women.

Dr. Margaret Arkinstall, the president, opened the session and spoke of the accomplishments and hopes of the presbyterial. Mrs. A. S. Elson and Mrs. George Irwin of the Afternoon and Evening Auxiliaries of Richmond Hill Church welcomed the presbyterial members.

Dr. Winnifred Thomas conducted the Bible study and spoke on "The Church" as "Assembled" and "Scattered." It was a very thought-provoking study and very much appreciated. Mrs. W. G. Turner followed the spirit of the meeting with two beautiful solos.

The remainder of the morning session was taken up with the business of annual meeting. Mrs. A. J. Gardhouse, literature secretary, described briefly the seven books on the book shelf. She pointed out that there was a wealth of good material and reminded members that information creates and perpetuates interest. Minutes were read by Mrs. J. D. Booth, recording secretary. The treasurer reported that the allocation of $16,200 had been exceeded by $337.39 and it was decided that this sum was to be sent to G. B. A. for the library in Ewha University, Korea. Mrs. B. Dike presented the allocation for 1959, the sum of $16,200.00, which was accepted.

At the lunch hour tea and dessert were served by the Richmond Hill ladies in the beautiful auditorium of the education building. Head table guests included officers from Toronto Conference Branch and Centre Presbyterial.

The afternoon session opened with a short worship and memorial service conducted by Mrs. H. A. Sanders. This was followed by conferences for all departments. When the members re-assembled in the sanctuary Rev. M. Jenkinson spoke on the presbyterial theme — Isaiah 54-2 — "Hold not back, lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes." He divided his message into three parts under the headings — Dig, Draw, Deliver.

Five groups were formed to discuss worship, witness, fellowship, service and education in younger groups, led by department secretaries.

A tape recording of an interview with the late Dr. Marion Hilliard was heard with interest. Her plea was for women to have a real and articulate faith. At the close of the message one woman looked at another and the unspoken thought was that the old Bible statement "although being dead yet speaketh" was indeed true.

Mrs. G. E. K. Howe, president of Toronto Conference Branch, brought greetings and presided for the election, then installed the officers for 1959.

Rev. Douglas Pilkey held the audience spellbound during the evening session, after dinner, as he told of the task facing Christians in today's world, the title of his challenging address was "Who is Winning?" The film "I Found a New World" was of special interest to young people.

Benediction was pronounced by Rev. C. Higginson, the minister of Richmond Hill United Church. The journey home to Sutton, Schomberg, Unionville, et al, was slow and difficult but all agreed that the sessions were as good as the weather was bad.

Officers elected for 1959 were as follows: President, Dr. Margaret Arkinstall, Newmarket; vice presidents, Mrs. Wm. Hodgson, Kettleby; Mrs. J. P. Wilson, Richmond Hill; Mrs. R. W. Pollock, Uxbridge; Mrs. G. S. Jourdan, Markham; Mrs. Harold Bray, Keswick.

Recording secretary, Mrs. J. D. Booth, Kettleby. Corresponding secretary, Mrs. M. R. Jenkinson, King City. Treasurer, Mrs. A. M. Wood, Stouffville.

Secretaries — Christian Stewardship, Mrs. B. Dike, Queensville; Mission Circle, Mrs. W. J. Rodick, Milliken; C.G.I.T., Mrs. L. Mumberson, Gormley; Explorers, Mrs. W. G. Turner, King; Mission Bands, Mrs. Floyd Perkins, Richmond Hill; Baby Bands, Mrs. A. E. Agar, Keswick; Associate members, Miss Lottie Hamer, Aurora; Candidate, Mrs. H. D. McCague, Richmond Hill; Citizenship, Mrs. Gordon Sisco, Stouffville; Community Friendship, Mrs. Leonard Gates, Pickering; Literature, Mrs. A. J. Gardhouse, Unionville; Miss. Monthly, World Friends, Miss Marjorie McMurchy, King; Press, Mrs. Archie Huson, Schomberg; Supply, Mrs. Nelson Scott, Newmarket; Archives, Mrs. H. D. McCague, Richmond Hill.

Victor Home Representative, Mrs. Wm. Hodgson, Kettleby.

Nominating Committee — Mrs. J. D. Booth, Kettleby; Miss Lottie Hamer, Aurora; Mrs. Harvey Rose, Markham; Mrs. G. H. Purchase, Aurora; Mrs. Norman Green, Schomberg; Mrs. G. Martin, Unionville; Mrs. Albert Cleland, Zephyr.

LANGSTAFF NEWS

CORRESPONDENT: MRS. M. J. ROY
Phone AVenue 5-2806

Young Women's Institute

The February meeting of the Young Women's Institute will be held on Wednesday, February 11, at the home of Mrs. Peggy Morris, Yonge St. The convenor for the evening will be Mrs. Betty Pattison, and the topic "Institute Work." The roll call will be "How to Make Our Institute Interesting and Profitable."

Baptist Church News

Mrs. Leslie Cockeram, returned missionary from South America, is to be the guest speaker at the February meeting of the Evening Mission Circle to be held in the church on Thursday evening, February 12th. Mrs. Cockeram will be speaking and showing slides on her missionary work. There will be special music.

Valentines will be the theme of the meeting and refreshments will be served. This is an open meeting and an invitation is extended to all ladies of the community.

School News

The date for the next meeting of the Langstaff Home and School Association will be Tuesday, February 10th at 8:15 p.m. sharp. The subject will be "The Role of the Home in Education." Discussion of such questions as "Is the school taking over the responsibility of the home or are we passing the buck? When the parents are indifferent, can the school succeed? Are we losing some of the old virtues such as punctuality, keeping one's word and pride in good work?" should result in a lively and interesting meeting.

Two well qualified and interesting guest speakers will be present, Mr. Verne Trott, M.A., counselling services of Forest Hill Collegiate, and Mr. Len Chelew, B.A. principal of Forest Hill Junior High School.

They will be introduced by Dr. Bob Jackson, director of educational research, Ontario College of Education.

It is sincerely hoped that every parent who is interested in the progress and development of his child will turn out to help make this a successful meeting.

Langstaff lost their first hockey game to Thornhill with a score of 2-0. They played Powell Road on Monday, February 2nd. The pupils were encouraged by the number of parents who turned out to help with the transportation and form a cheering section.

Personals

Belated birthday greetings to David Weavers, Brian and Bruce Good of Boyle Drive who celebrated birthdays recently.

Many Langstaff residents who knew Mr. Hunt, father of Mrs. A. Watt, formerly of Sussex Avenue, will be sorry to hear that he passed away on Friday, January 30th, at Scarboro General Hospital. Funeral was held on Monday, February 2nd, at Prospect Cemetery.

Keneu Pack, 1st Langstaff Cubs

On invitation from the leaders and Cub Pack of 1st Unionville, and with the co-operation of the fathers from Langstaff, the cubs of "Keneu" Pack, 1st Langstaff, made the jaunt to Unionville on Wednesday evening, January 28, to join in the regular pack meeting. Mrs. Jan Gundy and Mrs. Lee Chezzie, leaders of the Unionville Pack, together with their cubs and the members of their group committee, made the visit a most enjoyable one. "Keneu" Pack was met at the door by Senior Sixer Tony Gundy who introduced them to their young hosts, and the evening passed all too quickly with active games, a cub question circle (with treats for correct answers) and a happy campfire with the boys lustily singing their favourites. The evening finished off with eats served by the Unionville fathers with the assistance of those from Langstaff.

Recent investitures of tenderpad cubs in "Keneu" Pack by Akela, Bob Boulden, have included Ron Wilson, John Glassey, Mike Lipp, Paul Kajola, Brent Leamen, Dennis Gariepy Simon Hann and Gary Dalley. All these boys were welcomed into the great Brotherhood of Scouts and are now working through their 1st Star work.

With the Akela handling things on his own, there is room for anyone who feels they could undertake full time assistance in the pack and help with their activities.

GORMLEY NEWS

CORRESPONDENT: MRS. CHAS. MILSTED
Telephone Gormley 5201

The Whitchurch Conservation Club has opened a contest to all schools in the township. These projects are to be displayed and judged at Vandorf early in March. Worthwhile prizes and trophies will be presented to all schools entering.

The Home and School meeting of S.S. 7 and 6, Whitchurch, was held on Tuesday evening, February 3 at S.S. No. 7, Whitchurch. There was a debate, "Is Home and School Worthwhile?"

Mr. and Mrs. London Steckley visited Mr. and Mrs. George French on Wednesday afternoon.

Misses Erma Waldman and Marilyn Bader were student teachers at S.S. No. 7, Markham, last week.

Mr. Cecil Elliott of Fort St. John, B.C., spent Wednesday with his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Elliott.

Mr. and Mrs. Wes Cullen of Kindersley, Sask., but at one time Gormley residents, are spending the winter in California.

We wish a speedy recovery for Mr. A. T. Hawkins who had an operation on Monday in Scarboro General Hospital.

Master Bobby Ratke was able to come home from Sick Children's Hospital and is now making his home with his father in Scarboro.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Harvey and Mr. and Mrs. Elias Elliott had supper on Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. Ern Harvey of Newmarket, in honour of Mr. Ern Harvey's birthday.

Miss Jillian Parrott of Toronto is spending two weeks with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. M. Hazel.

The young people of the United Missionary Church had a crokinole party on Friday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Yake.

Mr. Geo. Cober left on Friday for a visit in Florida. Mr. Cober was spending the weekend with relatives in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Jacob Cober of Toronto was buried on Monday afternoon with service in Heise Hill Church. His wife, the former Elsie Conner, was a Gormley girl. Mr. Cober was one of the partners of Cober Elevator Manufacturing Co. and years ago became sole owner. He suffered a stroke a few weeks ago and died in the Doctors' Hospital in Toronto.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Heise, and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Baker of Kindersley, Sask., left on Thursday for Florida. However, they were called home for Mr. Baker's brother's funeral (Mr. Jacob Cober) on Monday.

Sympathy is extended to Mrs. Sam Fretz in the passing of her husband last week.

Mr. George Lyons, 95 years old, died in Aurora and was buried at Heise Hill cemetery on Saturday. Mr. Lyons farmed at one time on the 3rd concession of Markham.

Mr. Charles Milsted visited his sister, Mrs. F. Metheral of Zephyr in Newmarket Hospital on Sunday. Mrs. Metheral fell and broke her leg in two places.

For the months of February and March a contest in attendance is being held in the Junior Sunday School at the United Missionary Church.

NORTH YORK : North York Board of Education has asked for approval on a $12,000,000. budget, as a bare minimum, the Metro school board reports it will approve $1,500,000. less.

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