

Thornhill and District News

TELEPHONE AV. 5-3555

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.

Following Listowel Tragedy

Check Roofs Of Area Schools For Safety

The roofs of all school buildings have been checked for safety since the Listowel Arena tragedy, Supervising Principal E. J. Sand told trustees at the School Board meeting of Township Area 1 Markham-Vaughan Tuesday last week. Although a letter warning of flash floods, and seeking the co-operation of parents in ensuring the safety of children getting to and returning from school, had been sent to all parents on February 13, Mr. Sand was still very concerned about the matter. Because of the many creeks, ditches and culverts he wanted to stress again the importance of parents being "on guard" at danger spots until conditions returned to normal.

The portables have been inspected, and approved by the insurance company. The fire marshal will be asked to inspect the schools, giving special attention to the fire alarm systems. Mr. Sand was authorized to request water services for Thornhill School.

January and February accounts totalling \$81,302.82 were passed for payment, and the code of ethics for hiring teachers, as outlined in the February Information Bulletin of the Ontario School Trustees' council was adopted.

Mr. Sand reported that illness had taken a toll of both teachers and pupils in February, when the total area attendance was 91.15 per cent, but the picture is improving now.

Thornhill High School students who have been considering teaching as a profession were invited to attend public school classes as observers, and then, a few days later, return to practice teaching the same classes for half a day. In a letter to the board, Mr. A. S. Elson, Principal of the Thornhill High School commended the fine co-operation accorded the experiment, and said that it had given the students some direction as to whether, or not, they would choose teaching as a career.

Letters will be sent to each of the schools thanking them for their efforts in observing Education Week.

Due to the absence through illness of Trustee George Chandler of the finance chairman, it was not possible to complete the 1959 budget and Chairman Roy Bick and Trustees Parker, Taylor and

Skinner, agreed that a special meeting would have to be called. The Area school board has invited members of all the Area home and school associations to attend a meeting in Thornhill School, on Tuesday, March 17, at 8 p.m. The meeting will take the form of a regular board meeting with minutes read and discussed, and reports from committee chairmen, supervisors, and the Public School Inspector, Mr. Maynard Hallman. Questions from the floor will be answered by the board, and at the close of the meeting refreshments will be served by the Langstaff Home and School Association.

It was also announced that the next area teachers' meeting will be held in Henderson Ave. School on March 25, when Mr. H. R. Cross of the Teachers' College will speak on Science.



Seen above is the Totem Pole which received one of the top awards at the York Summit Boy Scouts Hobby Show held at the Richmond Hill Lions Hall on Saturday, February 28. The Totem Pole was entered by the Thornhill troop. Also seen is a signalling device for the Morse code and a miniature of a scout bridge.

The show was a great success with Scouts throughout the district taking part.

SELL, BUY, BARTER THROUGH LIBERAL CLASSIFIEDS PHONE TU. 4-1105

SPRING FAIR AT ROSS DOAN SCHOOL Wedrick Rd. (formerly Mill Rd.) on Saturday, Mar. 21 1:30 TO 5 P.M. RUMMAGE SALE BAKING SALE HOMEMADE CANDY FISH POND REFRESHMENT BOOTH Under auspices Ross Doan Home & School Come & Bring Your Friends

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Tinker Bell Shoppe YONGE ST., THORNHILL Spring Coats and Jackets BY MARK & JUDY Spring and Summer Dresses BY JONATHAN LOGAN Infants To Twelve Years A SMALL DEPOSIT WILL HOLD ANY ARTICLE

Thornhill Notes

Dr. and Mrs. M. Honey, Mrs. E. T. Johns and Dr. E. Sparks have returned from a vacation in Mexico.

Gary Reid, Elgin St., has returned from a holiday in Cuba. Mrs. Stanley Robinson has returned from a trip to New York. Horticultural Society

The March meeting of the local Horticultural Society will be held on March 17, in the Thornhill Public School at 8 p.m. Mr. Robert Calvert, landscape architect, will speak on Landscaping for the Suburban Garden, and there will be a small flower show featuring daffodils and flowering branches.

United Church Dear Jane Scott The W.A. of the United Church were very happy to be able to welcome so many of the ladies from the local churches to their March meeting Thursday afternoon of last week.

Mrs. Tom Barrow conducted the meeting in the absence of the president, Mrs. Ralph Thompson.

The guest speaker for the afternoon was Miss Jane Scott, well known religious writer, who was introduced by Mrs. M. Weaving. Miss Scott brought a very inspiring and thought-provoking message on "Faith", going back into her childhood and telling of her many experiences since. She was thanked by Mrs. V. Piniel.

The afternoon closed with refreshments being served by the members of Group I.

United Church W.A. The seven groups of the Women's Association of the United Church are sponsoring a continuous Easter Bonnet Tea on Saturday, March 14, from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m. The 50 gay Easter Bonnets are on loan through the courtesy of the Belina Shop and will be modelled by ladies from each group, some of these being Loretta Dean, Ann Bull, Mina Tamblay, Lois Curtin, Betty Headrick, Ruth Ann Walker and others. The commentator will be Mrs. Stanley G. Robinson. The group leaders will hostess for the first hour and the co-leaders for the second hour.

Dramatized Sermon The Sunday school teachers and the choir of Thornhill United Church are presenting a dramatized sermon on Sunday evening, March 22, in the church, entitled, "Did You Know Jesus?" This will be very worthwhile seeing and all in the community are most welcome to attend.

The Mission Circle of Holy Trinity Anglican Church held their March 4th meeting in the Sunday School room with Miss Gladys Stevens presiding. After opening hymn and prayer, the business was discussed. The treasurer gave her report reminding that there is still a large amount to be raised. Special prayers were given by Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Twine for missionaries and Miss Stevens read three letters from missionaries in Bolivia. Mr. Ellum gave a report on the women's conference when the Rev. Mr. Pryse was the guest speaker. A radio skit entitled, "A Visit to Oshweken," the Six Nations Indian Reserve was portrayed by four of the ladies. After closing hymn and prayer a social time was enjoyed.

The meeting on April 8 will take the form of a chicken curry dinner. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Reg. Bennett. Presbyterian Church News The Fortnighters of the Presbyterian Church will be sponsoring a spring tea at the home of Sir Robert and Lady Watson-Watt on Saturday, March 14, from 2.30 to 5.30 in the afternoon and from 7 till 9 in the evening. Receiving guests with Sir Robert and Lady Watson-Watt, will be Mrs. Gordon Patterson, president of the Fortnighters, Rev. and Mrs. Calvin Chambers and Mrs. Gerald Culey, vice-president of the Fortnighters.

Holy Trinity Parish Guild On Tuesday, March 3, the regular semi-monthly meeting of the Parish Guild was held in the church hall. The meeting opened with the president, Mrs. Kay Shaw, leading the members in the Guild prayer, followed by the prayer for the parish given by Mrs. Marilyn Lamb. A short business meeting followed the reading of the minutes by Mrs. Barbara Manning, secretary. The members then broke up into groups to work on bazaar items. Tea, coffee and light refreshments were served by the host-

esses, Mrs. Bonnie Cox, Mrs. Mabel Crawford, and Mrs. Dorcas Marks. The next meeting, which will be past presidents' night, will be held on Tuesday, March 17, in the church hall. On April 1, 2 and 3, the Footlights Club of Thornhill, under the direction of Mrs. Betty Priestman is presenting a Yorkshire comedy, "When we are Married" by J. B. Priestly at the Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Thornhill.

W.I. Celebrates 57th Birthday The Thornhill W.I. held its 57th birthday party at Mrs. R. E. Fugler's home with 19 members and 10 visitors present. The roll call, "He who borrows trouble never lends smiles," was responded to, and Mrs. Cole read a birthday wish - It's mighty nice to know you For folks like you are few, It's mighty nice to think about The pleasant times with you. It's mighty nice to greet you. In this friendly sort of way. And specially nice to wish you Many happy returns of the day.

Mrs. W. H. Cowan, the district president, who was visiting our branch brought greetings from East York District. We were pleased to have five members from Mark-Vaughan visiting with us, also Mrs. L. Zuefelt, a former member of Richmond Hill branch who now resides in Midland. Mrs. H. Mizen took charge of the program with songs and contests enjoyed by the members. She also had an elocutionist, Anne Ward, give a couple of

selections. She is a pupil of Miss Boyle. The hostess served a dainty lunch including a birthday cake which was cut by two senior members, Mrs. Brillinger and Mrs. Cole.

The Girls' Auxiliary of Holy Trinity Church held its regular weekly meeting in the church hall. Hot chocolate and cookies were enjoyed by all before working on their sewing for their Mission Study Badge. The business section of the meeting was then conducted, after which, Rev. Logan Varey discussed Mission notes with the girls.

1st Thornhill Scouts and Cubs Scouts met Monday evening in Thornhill United Church. Owing to the open house at the public school there was only a small attendance. The Cubs met Tuesday evening in Thornhill United Church. After the opening service the Cubs welcomed a new boy into the pack in Garry Hughes. The boys then practiced the tying of various knots, and continued the ways and rules of basketball.

LIBERAL CLASSIFIEDS BRING RESULTS PHONE TU. 4-1105

High School Presentation "The Reluctant Dragon" Carries Thornhill To Finals

"The Reluctant Dragon", the winning play from Thornhill High School's drama night against Earl Haig and Northern Secondary School held recently went on to compete in the Simpson's High School Drama Festival at Earl Haig Collegiate, Thursday evening, March 5. First place went to Earl Haig's polished and beautifully dressed production of Act II of Moliere's comedy, "The Imaginary Invalid."

Thornhill's contribution of a rustic comedy was highly praised for its sets and costumes, which were made by the students, headed by Mrs. Trot and Pat Dinoff. Saint George, played by Winston Smith, appeared in shining armour on his "horse", which showed independence of spirit by throwing its rider and leaving the fight in disgust. A large green dragon, played by Bill Dawson,

Dedicate New Thornhill Presbyterian Church

The Opening Dedication service of the new Thornhill Presbyterian Church was held Sunday, March 8, at 8 p.m. A capacity congregation occupied the sanctuary with a large overflow congregation in the church hall. Close to 600 people attended the service conducted by the Presbytery of East Toronto. The moderator, Rev. James Donald conducted the dedication.

Rev. Frank Conkey, M.A., led in the Pastoral prayer, Rev. Alex MacLean read the scripture lessons. Dr. William Fitch of Knox Church, Toronto, preached the sermon, the theme being "The Function of the Church in the Community." The choir rendered two selections under the direction of Rudolph Heydens, the guest organist from First Presbyterian Church in Orillia.

In the Ceremony of the Keys, the following members took part, Mr. Alec Brown, a representative elder; Mr. Frank Gordon, chairman of the building committee; Mr. John MacKay, trustee; Mr. John Mover, chairman of the board of managers; Mr. Basil Hall, the architect; and Rev. C. Chambers, the minister of the church. Mr. Douglas Cooper Sr., clerk

of the session and Mr. Frank Teasdale took part in the ceremony of the opening of the doors.

Next Sunday, March 15, will be a Thanksgiving service and dedication of memorial gifts.

Lieutenant-Governor, the Honourable Kehler MacKay and Mrs. MacKay will attend this service.

In the evening the community is invited to attend the "Community Night" service when the ministers of the various local churches will participate. Dr. Stanley Glen of Knox College will preach and Mr. Bob Merrill will give an organ recital. Following the service a Fellowship Hour will be held in the church hall, when greetings will be extended from civic and church groups. Refreshments will follow.

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Education Week At Thornhill Public School

by Doris FitzGerald

Shocked by the high percentage of illiteracy revealed when men were drafted for service in the first World War, the American Legion started Education Week in the United States in 1921, in an effort to promote interest in the schools and in education in general. The idea was introduced to Canada in 1935 by the Canadian Teachers Federation, and has since received strong support from many Provincial and Dominion Associations concerned with education. If Thornhill Public School is any criterion the public is now well aware that "Education Is Everybody's Business". Expressing himself as very much pleased with the interest shown, Principal John D. Martin said reports from the teachers indicated that one or both parents of all but two or three children in each grade were present at the "Open House" on Monday evening, March 2, and many of the 480 pupils enrolled came with their parents to introduce them to the teachers, and guide them through the school. The day-time periods on the following Wednesday were also very well attended by mothers. In the kindergarten primary where children first enter the public school world, observation periods were held daily all week. Groups of mothers were invited at specified times, and were served a cup of tea by the girls of grade 8.

After both an evening and a daytime tour of the school, including a peep in to Custodian Percy Simpkins new office under the front steps, we still felt dazzled by the colour, originality, and scope of the art work shown in every room, beginning with the soap paintings and paper sculptures in the kindergarten primary, and ending with the poets corner in grade 8, which showed favourite poems transcribed and illustrated by the students. In each room there were also layouts, or murals, based upon current studies, and upon which the whole class had worked.

In grade 1, the Eskimo enterprise, in grade 2, and the story of Balboa in grade 5 to name only a few. Silhouettes of the class, and posters for the concert which the junior grades are giving on March 18 and 19, were also much admired.

Other exhibits included bird houses and feeding stations made in woodworking classes; and an electric magnet, electrically operated quizz games, model fire extinguisher, space man, diorama, and fish bowl terrarium made by science students.

The neat note books displayed came in for a lot of scrutiny. In grade 8 an interesting little mimeographed bulletin, "The Classroom" written specially for the occasion by members of the grade was also on view.

During the day time we were especially impressed with the bright and spacious rooms, and the orderly way in which the classes carried on despite the intrusion of visitors.

While art and handicrafts, music and sports are all important, and desirable school subjects, there is more to education than meets the eye. From Mr. Martin we learned that the levels system, being used with success at Thornhill and other area schools, permits brighter pupils to progress in their academic studies at an accelerated pace, and without skipping a class, finish the course in seven instead of eight years. By the same system slower pupils may take a year longer than the average eight, without repeat-

ing a grade. Between the two grade sevens, and the one grade eight, to whom Mr. Martin teaches science, there is an arrangement of teacher rotation. There are also two remedial classes at Thornhill School - the junior for children under 12, and the senior for those over 12. These children requiring special help and attention are brought in by bus, and eventually most of them will be returning to their own schools in the area.

Thornhill School also benefits from the part time services of specialists such as Area Art Supervisor Mrs. Kathleen Elliott, Area Music Supervisor Mr. Hugh Martin (grades 3 & 4), Mrs. L. Achon, and Public Health Nurse Mrs. Phyllis Campbell who is in attendance every Thursday morning. A regular toxoid immunization program is also being conducted.

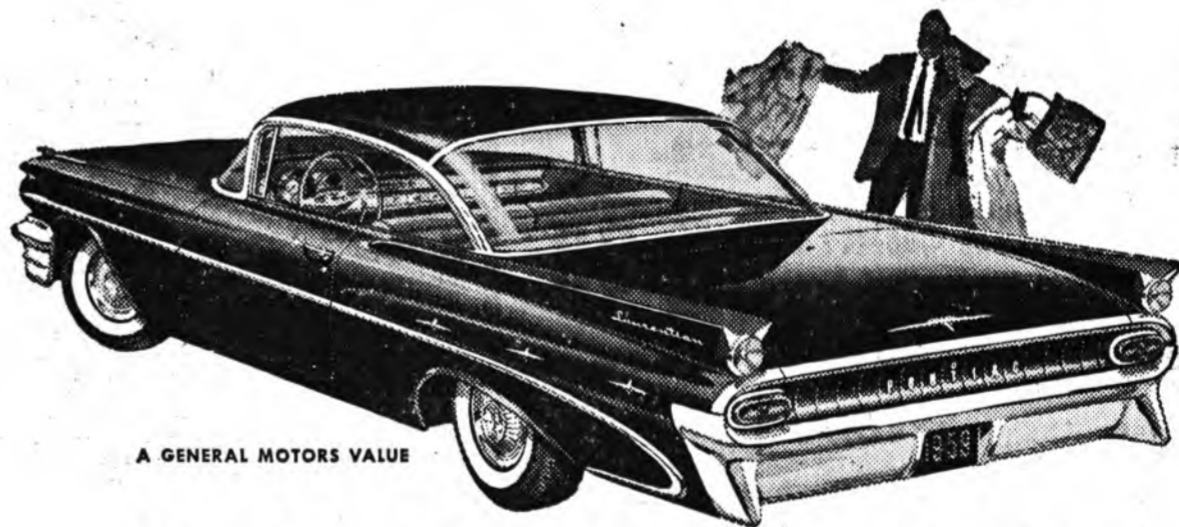
One of the school projects this year was the making of several hundred valentines to be used on trays in the Hospital for Sick Children, and included were a number of very nice ones from pupils in the remedial classes.

Thornhill Softball Team, coached by Miss V. Bursik won the Area Trophy last spring, and on March 2, in the playoffs, in Unionville Arena, the senior boys, coached by Mr. Doug McElhinney defeated Thornlea 5-2 to win the F. Morris Hockey trophy. This game, played between five and six o'clock meant that the teachers who attended went without dinner in order to be back in time for the "Open House" at 7 o'clock.

Assisting Principal Martin in welcoming and chatting with parents were the following: Mrs. M. Bornhold (grade 8), Miss V. Bursik, Mr. D. McElhinney (grade 7), Mrs. B. McDowell (grade 6), Mrs. Jean Hill (grade 5), Mrs. Isobel Bowen (grade 4), Mrs. A. McBride (grades 3 & 4), Mrs. L. Achon (grade 2) Miss H. Urowitz (grades 2 and 3), Miss G. Wesley, Miss A. Cleverdon (grade 1), Mrs. Dorothy Buckingham, Miss M. Linton (Kindergarten-primary), Mrs. Hazel Hill (junior remedial), Mr. John Armstrong (senior remedial).

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