

Thornhill and District News

"The Liberal" is always pleased to publish items of interest contributed by its readers in the Thornhill area Our representative in Thornhill is Mrs. Margaret McLean, who may be reached by phoning AV. 5-2331.

Thornhill Notes

Home & School Association Formed, Clarke-Elgin School
Here's one Home & School Association that intends to be right up front — it has been formed before the school has been completed. Last Thursday, November 26th, a group of about 30 parents of children who will be attending the new school, temporarily referred to as the "Clarke-Elgin" School, met in the United Church and elected an executive for their Home & School Association. The meeting was opened by Mrs. R. Land, vice-president of North York Home & School Council and Mrs. Wm. Kojala, president of York-Simcoe Home & School Council.

The following executive was elected: President, Mr. Alec Brown; Vice-President, Mr. Neil Gage; Recording Secretary, Mrs. W. Mitchell; Treasurer, Mrs. J. L. Tytler. Executive members: Mrs. Ed Percival, Mrs. R. Boyter, Mr. G. Zinkan, Mr. W. H. Mitchell.

There will be an executive meeting held in December but the first meeting of the new association will not be held until January when the new school opens.

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Mr. G. Zinkan addressed the meeting and felt that an attendance of only 30 people showed a considerable lack of interest on the part of the parents. Mr. Zinkan introduced to the meeting two gentlemen who are running for the Markham Township Area No. 1 School Board, Mr. John McKay and Mr. Allan Parker. Mr. McKay, a resident of John Street for the past six years, is a graduate of the University of Toronto and of the University of Western Ontario School of Business Administration. At the present time he is the managing director of the Shoultice Hospitals Ltd. Mr. McKay is an active worker in the Thornhill Presbyterian Church and at present serves as its treasurer and as a trustee.

Mr. Allan Parker, the other candidate introduced to the meeting lives on Johnson Street and has served on the board of School Area No. 1 Markham-Vaughan for three years, the last two as vice-chairman. Mr. Parker has been chairman of the recreation, health, safety and property committees and for the past two years has been a member of the executive of the York County Elementary School Trustees' Association. He is also secretary of the Thornhill District Lions Club.

Aloha Chapter, O.E.S.
At the Community Hall, Willowdale, Wednesday, November 25th, Mr. and Mrs. E. Tobey of Oak Bank Blvd., Thornhill, were installed as Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron, Aloha Chapter, O.E.S. Mr. and Mrs. J. Madill were installed as Associate Worthy Matron and Patron.

The installations ceremonies were held following the Annual Banquet and were conducted by the following officials: Mr. G. Jones, Mr. & Mrs. A. Haines, Mrs. A. Everingham, Mrs. D. Varley, Mrs. G. Watts, Mrs. June Pearce of St. Thomas, Mrs. J. Jackson, Mr. & Mrs. K. Arm-

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strong, Mrs. C. Andy and Mrs. N. Brown.

The meeting was entertained by three lovely solos by Mrs. W. DeGuerre of Markham. Between 250 and 300 members of the Eastern Star were present, many coming long distances, some from Niagara Falls, U.S.A.

Canadian Mental Health Assn.
The York County Branch of the Canadian Mental Health Association is presently having a drive for Christmas gifts for patients who are, or have been, mentally ill and the Thornhill group is participating in this drive. Both drug stores in the village are acting as collection depots for the gifts and all gifts collected will go to homes in York County or to the hospital in Aurora.

Pamphlets are available at the collection boxes in the drug stores outlining the purpose of the drive and suggesting suitable gifts. Such things as candy, cigarettes, books, letter paper, cosmetics, hosiery, underwear would all be acceptable. Such things as crayons, coloured pencils and drawing paper would also be most welcome.

Gift wrapping is optional but tags are available at the depots for the donors to fill in. All gifts will be inspected and if necessary, wrapped, by a committee and will go to various individuals for whom they are felt to be suitable.

This, by the way, will not be any impersonal, anonymous type of giving. The members of the Thornhill group devote their time visiting these patients, or one time patients, and entertain them in their homes and because of this have a personal knowledge of just what would be suitable for each one. Here is certainly a worthy cause which many of us will be able to help in this small way.

Thornhill United Church
Approximately 45 members and friends of the Thornhill United Church Men's Club met at the Church, Tuesday night, November 24th and played host to representatives from the Christian Reform Church (formerly Dutch Reform), Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Thornhill Presbyterian Church and Thornhill Baptist Church.

The meeting was one to welcome Rev. MacDonald to the church and was addressed by Rev. Mr. Higginson of Richmond Hill United Church. Rev. Higginson as a student had preached at Newtonbrook United Church and he discussed the multitude of changes which have taken place in the church and community life of the area bordering on Yonge Street since that time. Plans were made for the men to pick up 750 Christmas trees at Crown Hill which will be sold at the corner of John and Yonge Sts. Refreshments were served by ladies of the W.A.

At the baptismal services held on Sunday morning, November 29th, a group of eight very well behaved infants were baptized. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Ellis of 51 Westwood Lane was baptized Debora-Jean. Robert Ivor, was the name given the son of Mr. and Mrs. I. T. Frances of 40 Highland Park Blvd., while Mr. and Mrs. R. King of 46 Lloydminster Cres. had their son baptized William Reginald Rupert. Also baptized were Sandra Lee, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. J. Schildroth of 29 Idleswift Drive, Robert Lloyd, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Morton, now of Orillia, Nancy Mae, Thomas John and Franklin Wesley, children of Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Warnica of 556 Paul Street.

Next Sunday, December 6th will be celebrated as Laymen's Sunday at Thornhill United Church. Laymen will assist in leading of the worship and the recently formed men's choir with 40 members will take the place of the regular choir for the occasion. This choir, led by Choirmaster Mr. Hugh Martin is busy rehearsing for a Christmas Cantata, about which more later.

The Junior and Intermediate members of the Sunday School are also busy these days, rehearsing for a Christmas Pageant to be given on Christmas Sunday afternoon at 4 p.m. and directed by Mrs. R. Jones and Mrs. R. Pack.

Rev. MacDonald met last Sunday with the members of the Young People's Union who meet every Sunday evening at 7:30 p.m. and outlined plans for a greatly expanded teen-age program in the New Year. The program of the group last Sunday was a discussion of the Jewish faith, ably led by Mr. Winston Smith, a member of the group.

Thornhill Presbyterian Church
The Senior Class of the Happy Hours group of the Thornhill Presbyterian Church, including captains, held a social after their meeting in the Church Friday night and enjoyed games and refreshments. The Happy Hours group is one for children from six to eleven, and the Seniors are the 10 and 11 year olds.

On Saturday night, November 29th, about 25 members of the Young Adults club enjoyed a roller skating party at the Mutual St. Arena in Toronto. They returned to the home of Miss Myrna Hunt to enjoy a social hour and refreshments.

On Sunday, November 29th, the Monthly Congregational Fellowship Meeting was held at the church. Worship services were led by Mr. Norman Terry and the scripture lesson was read by Miss Wilhelmina Vandermey and Miss Myrna Hunt. The guest speaker was Dr. J. Stanley Glen of Elizabeth St., Thornhill, the Principal of Knox College, University of Toronto. Dr. Glen told of his trip to South America where he represented the Presbyterian Church in Canada at the World Presbyterian Alliance last August.

He gave a brief talk on the social, political and religious life of Brazil and showed slides of some of the major South American cities. He also played a beautiful recording of the choir of the First Presbyterian Church in Sao Paulo. Following the meeting refreshments were served to the 75 people present.

On Monday night, November 23rd, the Fortnighters held a special Mission night with Mrs. C. H. Chambers as the guest speaker. Mrs. Chambers discussed the study book "Africa Challenges." She was dressed in African costume and showed slides of many items of interest from Angola, Portuguese West Africa where she was born. Mrs. Chambers spent the first 17 years of her life in Angola where her parents were missionaries for over 30 years and so was well equipped to discuss the country.

Holy Trinity Anglican Church
At their meeting on Tuesday, December 1st, Mrs. David McLean instructed the girls of the Holy Trinity Girls' Auxiliary in dancing as part of their physical education badge. Mrs. J. Robinson discussed a chapter of the girls' study book "As Large as Life," a vocational guidance book. Tuesday's meeting was a supper meeting, and the girls also worked at making home made candies which they will take to shut-ins in the parish while carol singing in December.

The monthly meeting of the Holy Trinity Women's Auxiliary was held on Thursday, November 26th. The Annual Reports were read and money voted for the following projects: the Bishop's Emergency Fund, the clergy Christmas cheque, the Christmas gift for a missionary, the Junior Auxiliary, social service, the church library and the theological student's summer expenses.

The following members of the 1960 executive were installed: Honorary president, Mrs. W. Askew; President, Mrs. E. Lean; 1st Vice-Pres. Mrs. R. Priestman; 2nd Vice-Pres., Mrs. G. Davie; Secretary, Mrs. H. Iddon; Treasurer, Mrs. G. Howes; Dorcas, Mrs. F. Jennings; Living Messages, Miss L. Wakeley; United Thank Offering, Mrs. P. Skipper; Appointments, Little Helpers, Mrs. G. Howe; Hostess Convener, Mrs. J. Barry; Strachan Houses, Mrs. L. Tomlinson; Rector's Representative, Mrs. G. Leacock.

Refreshments were served at the close of the meeting by hostesses Mrs. Weavers Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Hill and Mrs. Wishart.

The next meeting of the W.A. will be the Annual Christmas Party. This will be held in the Church Hall on Thursday, December 10th at 1:30 p.m. and it is hoped that all members and others who may be interested will attend and enjoy the carol singing, etc.

St. Luke's Roman Catholic Church
The Catholic Women's League of St. Luke's staged a charming smorgasbord pot-luck supper last Monday, November 23rd and some 60 members and husbands enjoyed the delightful variety of fine foods contributed — casseroles, meat dishes, meat balls, pies, cakes, salads and fancy desserts, all arranged under the co-operation of Mrs. Wm. Reeve. Among her several assistants were Mrs. Paul Johnson, Mrs. J. P. Loughran.

After the dinner, a brief C.W.L. meeting was held with Mrs. E. J. Surratt in the chair, and the group then saw two films, shown by Mr. Norman Neill of the Ontario Hydro, one on the seaway and one on the Royal visit. What makes these pot luck suppers more enjoyable is that there is no admission charge as they are not held for any fund raising purpose, and even more delightful, the ladies are given a real rest and help is hired to wash the dishes!

Thornhill Public Library
Hope you have taken the opportunity this past week to notice the really fine display in the Library window. Under the direction of Kay Elliott, the Area Art Director, the children of the various clubs of the Area have constructed a fine group of story book friends, using many interesting mediums. I saw Huckleberry Finn, Heidi, Sinbad, Freckles, Laura Secord, Alice in Wonderland, Black Beauty and Little Women, to mention a few. Books on hobbies were illustrated by samples of hand weaving, copper tooling and asbestos clay modelling.

To further celebrate Young Canada Book Week, Miss McLaren has had the following new books added to children's shelves: The Mysterious School Master, Thinking About Science, Madeleine and the Gypsies, Disappearance at Lake House, Canal Boy, Insect Builders Tell Me About Christmas Klock-Off, Horse and Pony Book, Drummer Boy for Montcalm, The Quivering Heart.

As you can guess from the titles, these books are chosen to appeal to various age groups — there should be something to keep everybody happy on these wintry days when a book beside the fire is so attractive.

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Decline \$5,000 Grant Trustees Plan Community Centre Refuse To Deed Land To Vaughan

By Margaret I. McLean
A committee from the Thornhill District Lions Club composed of Mr. Harold Keffer and Mr. Les Markle attended the meeting of the Village Trustees on Thursday, November 26th, for the purpose of seeking approval for the erection of a community centre-skating rink and bowling alley in the Thornhill park.

Mr. Markle acted as spokesman for the committee and stated that they had been looking for a suitable site for further recreational facilities in the Thornhill area and had come to the conclusion that the park was the best and most logical site. They felt that because of the water facilities available it would be most economical and because of its central location would be used by more people. While they had no concrete plans to show the trustees, they were planning tentatively for a skating rink and possibly a bowling alley. The operation of other skating rinks in adjacent areas has shown that such a rink is seldom self-sustaining because of the large amounts of ice time allotted to school and church hockey teams, skating clubs, etc. They felt that the inclusion of a bowling alley in the same building would not only provide healthful recreation for a larger number of people but would also probably support the skating rink financially.

The Trustees were all in agreement that such an addition to the recreational facilities of the Village would be entirely welcome to the people of Thornhill and were also in agreement that a site in the park would be economical and convenient. The only point of dispute was the manner in which it might be arranged.

Under the Community Centres Act of the Province of Ontario, projects such as a skating rink or swimming pool, etc. qualify for a Provincial grant of \$5,000.00 but it is required that the structure be in the hands of a qualified, governing body, i.e., in this case, the Township of Vaughan.

It was suggested by Mr. McTaggart-Cowan however, that there is a will of the Provincial Department concerned to support such a project and that the act was not meant to exclude but wanted only to ensure that such a project would be in the hands of a responsible authority. "If it is in keeping with the intent of the act and is the desire of the people, an Order in Council can amend the Act," stated Trustee McTaggart-Cowan.

He pointed out that even if retention of title to the land by the Village did mean the loss of the \$5,000 grant, this could be more than compensated for if the shower and toilet facilities in the pool building could be incorporated in the new structure. Mr. McTaggart-Cowan suggested that rather than jeopardize the whole project, the Committee leave the matter of the grant with the Trustees and go ahead and prepare definite plans for the building.

Mr. Markle and Mr. Keffer were quite gratified by the support from their project and stated that they envisaged the building built into the side of the hill, on two levels, so that it would cover only land which is really of little value as park land. Before any final plans are made, Mr. Markle stated that the committee would be approaching various church and other groups in their community for a cross-section of opinion as to what would best serve the needs of the community. It had been suggested that a meeting hall be included in the structure (which would also qualify for a further grant of \$5,000.00) but that with the two new churches and the High School auditorium, it was questionable whether another hall is required.

To avoid the possibility of any misunderstanding, it was suggested by Trustee Timmins that the Trustees should incorporate their

idea in a letter to the Committee and the following draft proposal was outlined and ordered to be sent to the Committee:

1. The trustees are in favour of the facilities outlined by the committee, skating rink, bowling alley and hall to be located on the park property.
2. The Trustees are not in favour of deeding a parcel of land to Vaughan Township but will explore other ways of getting funds from the Provincial Government.
3. The Trustees would like (a) Plans of the facilities proposed (b) its proposed location in the park and (c) an economic study of the operational aspects of the facilities, to be operated by the Area Recreational Committee or its equivalent and held in trust by the Trustees.

The trustees then proceeded to the formal business of their meeting. After the formal reading of the minutes of the last meeting it was noted that the estimates for the paving of John Street were not yet in but that the sidewalk on Centre Street had been started.

With reference to the road closures, a letter from Markham Township was read stating that the matter had been placed before Council and that a survey had been ordered and after this was prepared the question of the closures would be considered.

A letter from Mr. J. D. Honsberger was read, with respect to the proposal to clear the snow from the footpath across his property for the use of the school children. He agreed to this proposal under the following terms:

1. The trustees do this as a license and the permission could be revoked at any time.
2. Permission to clear the path should result in no claim for a right of way, easement or encumbrance.
3. He would be indemnified for any negligence of the Trustees in connection with this snow removal.
4. The footpath was to be for pedestrians and bicyclists only and not for motorists.

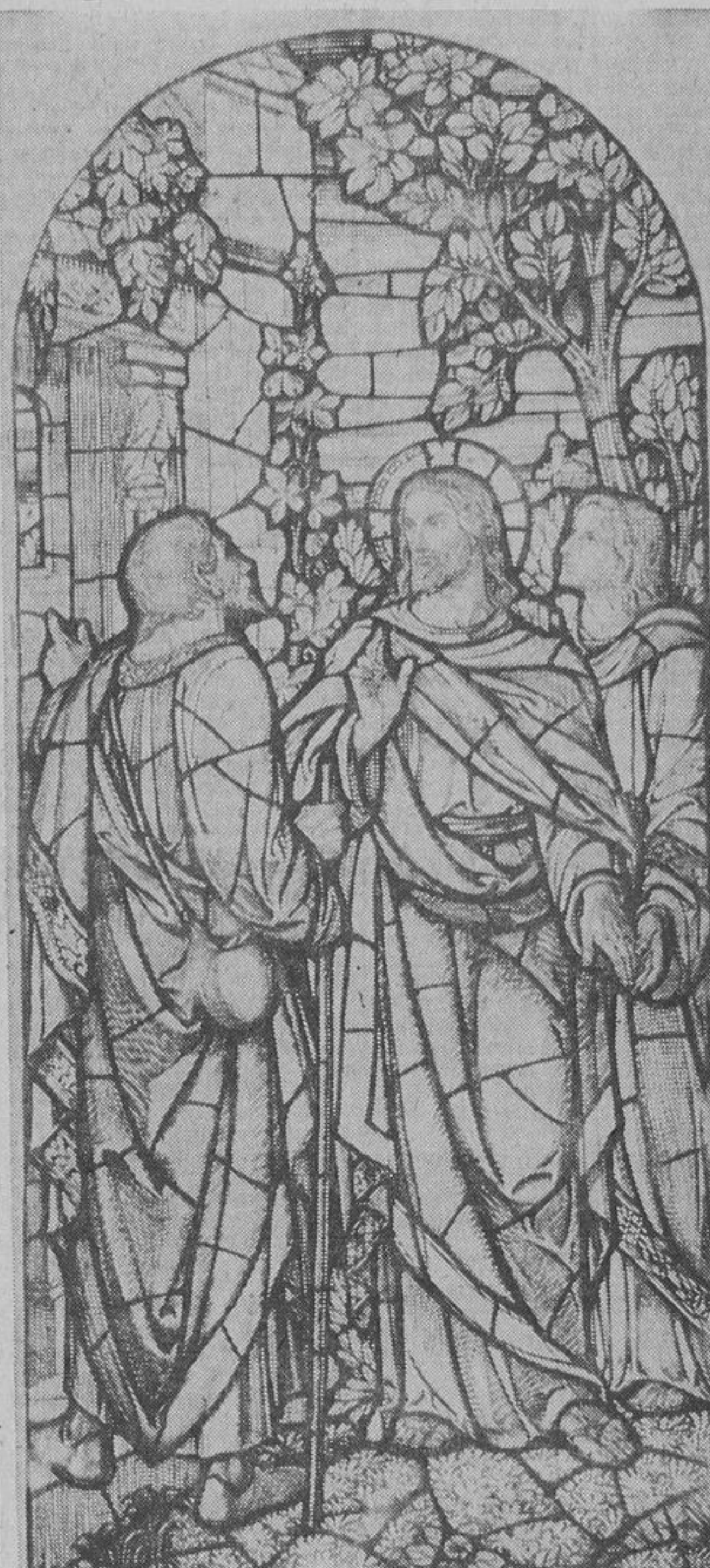
Mr. Honsberger also requested that there be no digging or dumping on his property as a result of his permission and asked for a letter accepting his terms. The Trustees then passed a resolution agreeing to Mr. Honsberger's terms and directed that a letter be sent him to this effect.

A letter from the Thornhill Horticultural Society was read, thanking the Trustees for their \$100.00 grant for improvement of the park area. It was noted that the cheque had already been cashed and the trees planted in the park.

The meeting adjourned at 10.30 after plans had been made to hold the next Trustees meeting on December 22nd.

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Gift of Ball Family



On Sunday morning, November 22nd, in Holy Trinity Church, Thornhill, a stained glass window depicting our Lord with two disciples on the road to Emmaus, was dedicated to the Glory of God and in memory of Helen Marguerite Blackwell Nelles, wife of Wilfred Cyril Lingham Ball, and family. The text beneath the window reads: "Abide with us, for it is toward evening and the day is far spent."

The window was the gift of Mr. Ball and its dedication most appropriate as both the Nelles and Ball families have been connected with Holy Trinity for many years; Mr. Ball was a warden for 25 years. The day chosen for the dedication was Mrs. Ball's birth date and the white-mums beneath the window and at the altar were placed by her grandchildren.

This window, designed and installed by the Robert McCausland Company of Toronto—who have done all the other windows—completes the windows in the church.

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