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**York Mental Health Clinic To Be A Reality**

A large gathering in Richmond Hill of members, volunteer workers, professional people and interested citizens applauded an announcement last Wednesday evening by President Mrs. John Martin of the York County Branch, Canadian Mental Health Association, that their original goal, the establishment of a mental health clinic in York County, had been achieved. The occasion was the branch's annual meeting which was held in Wrixon Hall, St. Mary's Anglican Church.

"Recently," reported Mrs. Martin, "we received official notification from the York County Board of Health that they are proceeding immediately to establish a mental health clinic in the York County Health Unit area". This was thrilling news for the enthusiastic and dedicated individuals who have devoted much time and effort to making a dream a reality.

Dr. R. M. King, Director of the York County Health Unit, in introducing the guest speaker, congratulated the branch on the very important advancements which had been made in mental health in the county since its inception two years ago.

Dr. H. W. Henderson, Ontario Director of Community Mental Health, Department of Health, also congratulated the branch on its achievement, adding that York County has given him the model he was looking for to demonstrate to other communities the manner in which a clinic may be established.

He went on to quote some startling figures to demonstrate the immensity of the problem of mental illness in Ontario. There are approximately 13,200 patients in 17 mental hospitals throughout the province, or 4 out of every 1,000 residents. Seven thousand patients per year are being admitted to mental hospitals, and one out of every 15 children born in Ontario today will be admitted to a mental institution at some time in his life. He added that these figures represent only the known cases of mental disturbance.

Dr. Henderson pointed out that most of our efforts in the field of mental health to date have been directed to diagnostic and treatment services. He emphasized the need now to attempt to reduce the incidence of mental disorder. He described the home as the basis for adult living. "There is nothing more important to a child than the influence of the home." Other important influences are the school, industry, the church, recreational and cultural activities. "We must help parents, teachers, employers, to realize the role they can play in promoting mental health," he added.

This emphasis on prevention places a great responsibility on the community. "The greatest single obstacle we have to overcome," declared Dr. Henderson, "is the attitude of the general public towards these conditions. The apparent apathy, ignorance and fear are hard to understand, although there are indications that these attitudes are changing."

Dr. Henderson concluded his remarks by saying, "The care of the mentally sick in any country depends not only on the skill available, but on the attitude of the general public. It is only by changing public opinion that we can develop better methods of treating and preventing these disorders. This is the cause we have taken up—this is the challenge we face."

Rev. Robert J. McNaught of Queensville, thanked Dr. Henderson for his inspiring remarks. **Volunteers Honoured**

The volunteer workers were honoured at the meeting with the presentation to them of CMHA pins by their chairman, Mrs. P. Townshend-Carter of Thornhill. Recipients were approximately 75 volunteers from Richmond Hill, Thornhill, Markham and Aurora who visit regularly residents in 8 of the 17 approved homes in the county. Similarly honoured were the social workers and hostesses of the homes who work closely with the volunteers, and the Senior Citizens of Richmond Hill, who have helped the organization in many ways and whose pin was accepted on their behalf by Chairman Mr. A. E. Plewman.

In the annual report, Mrs.

Townshend-Carter outlined the tangible results of the White Cross volunteer program in the county. "The re-admission rate to hospital has been cut by 25%. Fifteen residents have improved sufficiently that relatives have taken them home. Seven have become gainfully employed and are now discharged and self-supporting. If it costs a minimum of \$1,200 to keep a patient in hospital, then we have saved the taxpayer \$25,000."

Rev. Douglas Davis of Stouffville opened the meeting with prayer after which the Warden of the County and Reeve of Markham Township, Mr. William Clark, brought greetings and presented Mrs. Martin with a cheque for \$500. This represents this year's county grant to the York County Branch, C.M.H.A. Mrs. Martin thanked Mr. Clark for County Council's interest and generous financial support.

The "Yorkorders," a choral group from the county under the direction of Mr. W. R. Outerbridge of Aurora, a board member, entertained the meeting again this year with their delightful music.

A very pleasant coffee party preceded the meeting for which the ladies of the St. Mary's Anglican Church W.A. catered. Mrs. Clark, wife of Warden Clark, and Mrs. William Hodgson, wife of last year's warden and an active volunteer worker, poured coffee.

Miss Betty C. Graham of Newmarket, presented the report of the nominating committee. The 1966 Board of Directors is as follows: Mrs. Elton Armstrong, Armitage; Dr. G. M. Burrows, Sutton West; Mrs. George Burrows, Sutton West; Rev. Douglas Davis, Stouffville; Mr. Gordon Duncan, Markham; Mr. Douglas Fisher, Aurora; Mrs. Campbell French, Woodbridge; Mrs. A. Gamble, Unionville; Mr. Marnard Hallman, Richmond Hill; Mrs. F. C. Jackson, Richmond Hill; Dr. R. M. King, Newmarket; Rev. H. H. Mark, Newmarket; Mrs. John Martin, Maple; Rev. R. J. McNaught, Queensville; Mrs. Florence Murray, Aurora; Mr. Wilfrid Scott, Woodbridge; Miss Verna Smyth, Newmarket; Mr. Harry Toombs, Queensville; Mrs. P. Townshend-Carter, Thornhill.

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**GORMLEY NEWS**  
CORRESPONDENT: MRS. CHAS. MILSTED  
Telephone Gormley 5201

Master Doyle Heise entertained his little friends at his birthday party on Tuesday.

Mr. B. J. Nixon, a former Gormley resident and just recently returned from a visit to England had dinner on Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. J. Campey, Mrs. Nixon and two daughters will be returning from England next week end.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Frayne moved on Saturday from Mr. Jos. Jones' house to Toronto.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam. Doner had supper on Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Elias Elliott.

Mr. J. R. Steckley and Miss Miriam Steckley visited Mr. and Mrs. George French on Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. Roy Nigh spent a few days last week with her friend Mrs. Lloyd at Lisle.

A donation to the Canadian Cancer Society is an investment in health. It's almost time for the Cancer Campaign again.

How can cancer be prevented? Because we do not know the cause of cancer, it is therefore not possible to prevent it. If you notice any change from your normal good health it is only common sense to ask your doctor's advice.

Although both the incidence and death rates of cancer are increasing each year, the death rate is increasing more slowly than the incidence rate, indicating that slow but steady progress is being made in the treatment of cancer.

Be your own "private eye". Watch out for the danger signals that might indicate cancer.

Mr. R. C. Baycroft arrived home from Western Hospital, Toronto, on Saturday, and Mrs. Gordon Stewart arrived home on Thursday from Private Patients' Pavilion, Toronto.

Belated congratulations to Mr. Ed. Leary who celebrated his 87th birthday on Friday.

Mrs. Ab Shaffer was buried on Monday from the O'Neill funeral home, Stouffville, with interment at Heise Hill Cemetery.

Miss Carole Steckley of Harrisburg, Penna., spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Levi Steckley.

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Baker and Mr. Evan Gavham had supper on Saturday with Mrs. Beulah Jones.

Mrs. Lloyd Harvey, Dean, Brenda and Bonnie all have been sick with mumps.

The semi-annual Love Feast was held at Heise Hill church on Saturday and Sunday. Rev. Ray Sider was the guest speaker.

Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Heise and Cathy of Montreal visited friends here over the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Morley Jones and family and Mr. Jos. Jones visited Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Boyle of King City on Sunday.

The intermediate room at the Lloyd School and their teacher, Mr. John Mullings, enjoyed a trip to the Royal Ontario Museum and the zoo on April 1. The class had previously earned the money for this trip by selling Christmas cards last fall.

The Gormley Women's Institute presented the junior and senior rooms at the Lloyd School with safety plaques. These two rooms were accident free for a six month period of time.

Mr. and Mrs. Eric Morby and family spent Sunday with his parents at Stayner.

Parents' night was held at the Lloyd School on Thursday evening, March 31. A very good number of parents attended despite muddy roads. Refreshments were served by several of the senior girls.

Misses Velma, Mildred, Jean and Vera Brillinger, Miss Miriam Heise and the Misses Henderson

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In letting nature do the work you will enjoy seeing your garden and lawns being built with your added ambition.

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