

SPORT SPOTS

by Ron Craine

This year the City of Woodstock played host for the annual Ontario Amateur Softball Association convention which officially got under way on Friday, April 1. The Richmond Hill delegation did not arrive until Saturday morning for the very important Saturday afternoon meeting at which the election of officers took place as well as voting on rule changes to be applicable this year.

Sil Steffan, Stan Ransom, Mickey Smith and yours truly were on hand at the meeting and feel that a lot of praise should go to the Woodstock Minor Softball Association who made all the arrangements for the two-day convention.

Registrations were made at the New Commercial Hotel and from then until noon we were free to circulate among the other delegates, renewing old acquaintances and forming new ones. At 12 noon a civic luncheon was held in Woodstock College and following this the business meeting was held at 2 p.m.

Clare Butler, a well-known figure in local softball circles was elected to the executive committee of the O.A.S.A. and the Richmond Hill delegation were delighted to have contributed in some small measure to Mr. Butler's election to office. Clare loves softball and having him close at hand and readily available — he is always willing to help — should ensure us a good softball season in Richmond Hill.

Dynes Jewellers are again entered in Intermediate "A" competition and will be affiliated with the North York League. Wimbridge Cleaners are entered in the Inter-County League and will be playing in the Intermediate "AA" bracket. It is also hoped that this year we may be able to enter Squirt, Peewee, Midget and Bantam teams in competition in the O.A.S.A. playdowns as well as operating one or two softball tournaments in Richmond Hill. If all tentative plans reach maturity this should be the biggest year for softball action in Richmond Hill's history.

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Prior to the opening of the softball season, the seminar for coaches and umpires will be held at McConaghy school. It is hoped that as a result of this seminar a group of interested and informed adults will be able to operate softball in an efficient manner so that the kids will derive a lot of benefit from the game.

We can only hope that all team coaches fully realize that the game was designed for the kids, not the kids for the game. Coaches have a great responsibility to discharge as, in most cases, the young players will look to them for leadership and guidance. A poor attitude towards the rules of general good sportsmanship on the part of the coach will be reflected back to him by the actions of his players. The best test of how good a job a coach is doing will be the way in which his players conduct themselves at and during games. If a boy flagrantly abuses the rules of good conduct it could be that the coach needs to do a little soul-searching to see just where he failed in the performance of his duties.

It sounds like a big job and it certainly is. There is no sense in minimizing the coach's responsibility and his importance to the success of the programme. We can only hope that a sense of duty, decency, common sense and observance of laid down rules will be the rule and that exceptions to this credo will be dealt with promptly and efficiently. There is an old saw that says, "as the twig is bent, so grows the tree", so let's have the first twig, sorry the word is batter, and let's get on with the game.

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Montreal Canadiens once more are going into the final playoffs for Lord Stanley's silverware. It almost forms a parallel with the career of the New York Yankees of a few years ago when the world series was always, "The Yanks and some opponent to be decided through the season." Someone got so fed up with things as they were that a hit Broadway musical was written called "The Dam Yankees". Wonder when somebody will write an opus called "Those (censored) Canadiens"? Bet you money that Punch Imlach could contribute a few choice thoughts.

The Yankee monopoly of series championships was finally broken but Canadiens show no signs of giving ground at all. They seem to be waist deep in hockey talent than can be summoned forth on a moment's notice and undoubtedly have the best farm system in major hockey. People used to attend games to see who would win whereas it seems now that they go to see when, if ever Montreal will be beaten. It could happen this year and Ted Williams could play for the baseball Leafs but it just doesn't seem possible and likely will never happen. So, let's get the show on the road, hand le coupe Stanley to Maurice Richard and ring the curtain down on another hockey season in "this great land of ours" (apologies to Imperial Oil) and start on some summer activities.

DISTRICT SPORT NEWS

Richmond Hill High School Sports News

Wednesday, April 13 will see the students of Richmond Hill High School present their Athletic Achievement Night program. There will be a full card of entertainment with something designed to appeal to all tastes. Members of the public are cordially invited to attend with the admission price being just .50c.

The boys gymnastic team will present a dazzling display of gymnastic ability followed by the girls who will give an exhibition of folk dancing. For those who prefer the quieter sports the school wrestling team will be seen in action. On this night the famous Masked Marvel will again appear to defend his somewhat shaky wrestling reputation.

One exciting feature of the evening will be a display of spine tingling trampoline routines that

will thrill and entertain. There will also be demonstrations of class procedures in weight lifting along with a demonstration of the famous R.C.A.F. five B.X. exercise plan with whole classes taking part. The girls will present a series of rhythmic exercises to round out a full program. Money raised through this endeavour will be used to defray the cost of athletic pursuits at Richmond Hill High School.

On April 18th Vic Suzuki and Gary Magwood will be competing in the Individual Gymnastic Championships at Hart House, University of Toronto. On April 21st the school gym team will be in Belleville to take part in the Ontario Championship Gym meet. We would like to take this opportunity to wish all competitors the best of luck and good hunting.

Thornhill Sports Notes

This week the grade 9 Volleyball Championships were wound up. This event was entirely attended run and operated and provided good competition for all those who took part. It would seem that activities directed by a group of responsible students are both popular and successful.

The Thornhill High School Curling Team will be heading for Orillia on April 16th to compete in the first Georgian Bay Bonspiel. Skip of the rink is Greg Harley with Brian Magee as vice-skip, Fraser Craig as first lead and Ken Hallman. This 'spiel is a new venture for schools in this area and we wish Thornhill the best of luck in their quest for the trophy.

Richmond Hill Minor Hockey League

Littles downed Wimbridge Cleaners by a 3-1 count in the opening game of the two game series. Goals to count series, Eric Prosser, Bob Mutch and Bill Meraska were the sharpshooters who were responsible for the Little Forx's goals. Doug Jamieson registered the only goal scored by Wimbridge Cleaners.

In the second and final game of this Little Forx's - Wimbridge Cleaner series, Littles entered the game leading by a 3-1 score. Then Tom Clapp unleashed his scoring power and banged in four goals for Wimbridge Cleaners. Tom's efforts spurred the Cleaner team to great heights as Doug Simpson and Doug Jamieson scored singletons.

Dave Taylor played a great game for the Cleaner team as he allowed Littles only two goals, both of them scored by the scrappy Eric Prosser. Prosser's efforts were not enough and Wimbridge

eliminated Littles from the playoffs by outscoring them 7-5 over the two game series. Birrells Chevs and Bayview Plaza opened their two game series by holding each other to two goals and finishing the first game in a dead heat. Peter Crack and Pete Maddeaux scored for the Chevs with assists going to Hartley Janssen and Fred Henderson.

Harton Amos and Jim Fenwick scored for Bayview as Hugh Cameron and Dave Grant picked up assists.

In the second game of the Birrell-Bayview series, Birrells scored twice while Bayview scored only once. Birrells won the two game series by a total score of 4-3 to eliminate the Merchant team. Noel Gillings and Hartley Janssen were the Chevie goal getters while Harton Amos scored the lone Bayview goal.

Hockey Results

Camp Borden Flyers 1 Blue liners 0

The strangest playoff game on record was played last April 4th at the local arena when the Richmond Hill Blue liners were eliminated by a one to zero score by the Camp Borden Flyers. The strange part of it all was that there was less than two full periods of regulation time played in this hard fought game. The visiting team arrived late and were even later getting on the ice, making the actual playing time very short. Due to the house league playoffs it was impossible to allow any extra time for this all important North York League semi final game both teams having tied two-all previously. It seems a shame that no extra time could be allotted to an out of town team that came so far to play. It seems to this writer that there could have been at least one more short period allowed for this game because as every hockey fan knows, in such a short game, the breaks make or break any club. The loss deserved much better fate than a short game such as this for a semi final playoff event. We are certain that if the score had been the other way the game would have been replayed at a later date. The Borden team were good and they deserved the goal they got, but the Blue liners were the better hockey club, and were outplayed on several occasions. The officiating was also very poor, with the visiting referee making no bones about which team he favored, or at least so it appeared to us. Of the local club, Bruce Walker played hard, up front and was strongly backed by big John Greaves on the second line, with Ritchie Elliott and Pete Histott playing well on defense.

Richmond Hill Blue liners 6 Lancers 3

Last Wednesday night at Aurora Arena the Blue liner midget hockey club hung a 6 to 3 defeat on the West End Lancers team. Due to the high school exams the locals were short several of their players and were without star goalie Don Lawrie. Centre man Tommy Reynolds went in the net for the Richmond Hill team and did a pretty good job limiting the Lancers to three goals, two of which were scored when the Blue liners were a player short. It was perhaps fortunate that we were playing one of the weaker teams in the T.H.L. as the team played a rather poor effort and played very spotty hockey. Dean Wainwright was the big gun as he tallied three times, once in each period with Ted "Moose" Tomlin getting two from the point and Ritchie Elliott making a fine rush for his goal. The Blue liners have yet to lose a game in T.H.L. competition but manager Ernie Brennan stated out, it's a long way to the end of the playoff schedule, and we have some top teams to play yet.

Weston 3 - Putters 2

The Uplands Golf Club sponsored Putters played on three successive nights as they had games on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Out of the three games they won one by a single goal margin, losing two by a one goal deficit.

On Thursday night a fast-kicking Weston team nipped the Putters 3-2. The local Squirt team seemed to be a little disorganized and had difficulty getting un-

tracked. Putter goals were scored by Harvey Gordon, assisted by Wayne Harrington and Mark Reynolds assisted by Gary Methé.

Newmarket 4 - Putters 3

Newmarket visited Richmond Hill on Friday and went home with a 4-3 win. The Putter marksmen were Gary Methé and Dave Broderick. Dave had a good night as he scored two goals. Assists went to Harvey Gordon, John Peck and John Cottrell.

Putters 2 - Brampton 1

On Saturday night Earl Methé took his young charges to Brampton. The Putters played good hockey to defeat Brampton 2-1. Dave Broderick scored, assisted by Harvey Gordon and Mark Reynolds scored with assists going to Gary Methé and Jimmy Wilson.

In this game, John Cottrell showed that he is fast rounding into one of the outstanding defence men on the team. The parents of the players are giving the team lots of support by attending all their games both at home and away. We only wish that this was so in all cases.

Next Friday night, Newmarket will provide the opposition during the big hockey night display. Come on out and cheer for your favorite hockey player.

Thornhill All Stars 5 Richmond Hill Hornets 4

Last Friday night a visiting Thornhill team dumped the Peewee Hornets 5-4. The visitors were boys 15 years old and under and consequently were a much larger, heavier team than the Hornets.

In the first few minutes of the game the local team seemed to be over-awed by the size of their opponents and Thornhill jumped into an early 3-0 lead.

As the game progressed the Hornets seemed to regain their lost poise and started to play serious hockey. From this point until the end of the game the peewee team provided real opposition for the Thornhill crew.

Doug Acomb opened the scoring for the Hornets with Phil Dobbs and Gary Charity assisting. A few minutes later this line hit the score sheet again as Charity scored on a play set up by Acomb and Dobbs.

Terry Stewart scored a pretty goal engineered by Bob Patfield and the final Hornet goal was scored by Gary Charity assisted by Robert Gropp. Bill McVeau played an excellent game in the Hornet goal and in the early stages of the game his steady play kept the Thornhill team from making a complete rout of the contest.

On April 8, the first of two big hockey nights will be held at the Richmond Hill Arena. The feature of the evening will be an exhibition of Mite Hockey by boys under eight years of age who have been attending the local hockey school. Last Saturday two Mite teams clashed in their first game as the Little Tepees defeated the Little Marlboros by a 3 to 0 score.

Don't forget the April 24 meeting of the Hockey Association at the Lions Hall. At this meeting plans for ways and means of building a new arena will be discussed. This issue is of vital importance to the future of hockey in Richmond Hill. This is a general meeting so plan to attend and bring your ideas with you.

Midget Softball Players Needed

Players for a Richmond Hill Midget Softball team entered in the North York Softball Association are urgently required. Contact Police Cadets Bill Oakley and Bob Deighton at TU. 4-4433 or be sure to attend the monthly team meeting on April 12th at 7:30 p.m. in the Richmond Hill Public Library (old building), Yonge St. N.

Players applying for the team must be 17 years of age and under as of January 1st, 1960. This team will be a representative of Richmond Hill in the post-season O.A.S.A. playoffs and will be travelling to such towns as Woodstock, St. Catharines, Peterborough and Brampton. Home games will be played in Richmond Hill and away games at Goulding Park, Willowdale.

Any players who played the 1959 season in the Richmond Hill minor softball midget league are eligible for this team. Uniforms and coaching will be handled by General Manager Bill Oakley and field manager-coach Bob Deighton.

If you have not applied for the team as yet phone TU. 4-4433 or attend the April 12th meeting.

R. Hill Mercantile Hockey League

Craigies Even Mercantile League Final

In a hard fought second game Craigies evened the final series against the Allencourt team who went into tonight's game with a one to nothing lead in games in the best two out of three set. Allencourt's seemed sluggish to start the game and Craigies jumped into a 3 to 0 lead on goals by Thornton Jones and Patterson. Craigies seemed fired up for this game and good work by Don Macmillan in the Allencourt nets kept the score down in the first few minutes in what was to be a hard hitting good checking game. Allencourt started to roll and get back in the game at 16:20 of the first period on a goal by Jim Wells and another at 18:40 by Norm Roberts, the first period ending that way.

The second period started the same way with the Allencourt team unable to get untracked and Craigies again taking advantage for 2 goals, the first by Jake Smith at 2:40 and the second by John Drummond at 12:45 and after some exciting end to end rushes and hard body checking by

both teams the second period ended with the score Craigies 5, Allencourt 2. In the 3rd period Allencourt started strong with a bid to pull the game out and win the championship, with Matt Kinari scoring at 2:35. But to night the breaks were not with them and with Craigies a man short hit the goal post twice, and after applying the pressure for 2 full minutes could not break through with a goal. Craigies then and with Craigies a man strength to score three goals. Thornton, Patterson and Smith counting. But Allencourt never gave up the ship and after a series of good passing plays, clicked on a beautiful goal by Moe Williamson at 14:10 and another on a goal by 19:10 to end the scoring at 8 to 5 in favour of Craigies. This has developed into a terrific series and should have a packed house for the deciding game next Tuesday.

Thornhill Hockey Finals Saturday

The finals of the Thornhill and District Hockey Club House League will take place in the Richmond Hill Arena, on Saturday, April 9, starting at 10 a.m. The intermediates will play-off first with Mr. Norm Davidson's mighty Mustangs opposing Ted Lougheed's Wings for top honours.

In the second event Mr. George's Rangers will attempt to wrest the Plaque from last years champions, the Jets, now coached by Mr. Don Heer.

It is hoped that dignitaries will be on hand to present the silverware to the winners.

All the parents and friends of the young performers are urged to be on hand to cheer their favourites on the victory.

Unfortunately the Dinosaurs lost out due to a mistake by the officials in the semi finals against the Mustangs which was played last Sunday.

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Register Soon For Richmond Hill Ball

The Richmond Hill Ball Association will be sending registration forms to the school for distribution this week. The completed forms accompanied by the registration fee of \$1.00 in addition to proof of age are to be handed in at the Scout Hall next to the Arena on Saturday, April 23rd and Saturday, April 30th between the hours of 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

These registrations MUST be completed on the above mentioned dates in order to complete game schedules. Will parents see that these forms are completed, properly and that they reach the registrars on the dates previously mentioned. The success of this undertaking rests with YOU. Let's make sure that YOUR child is not left out.

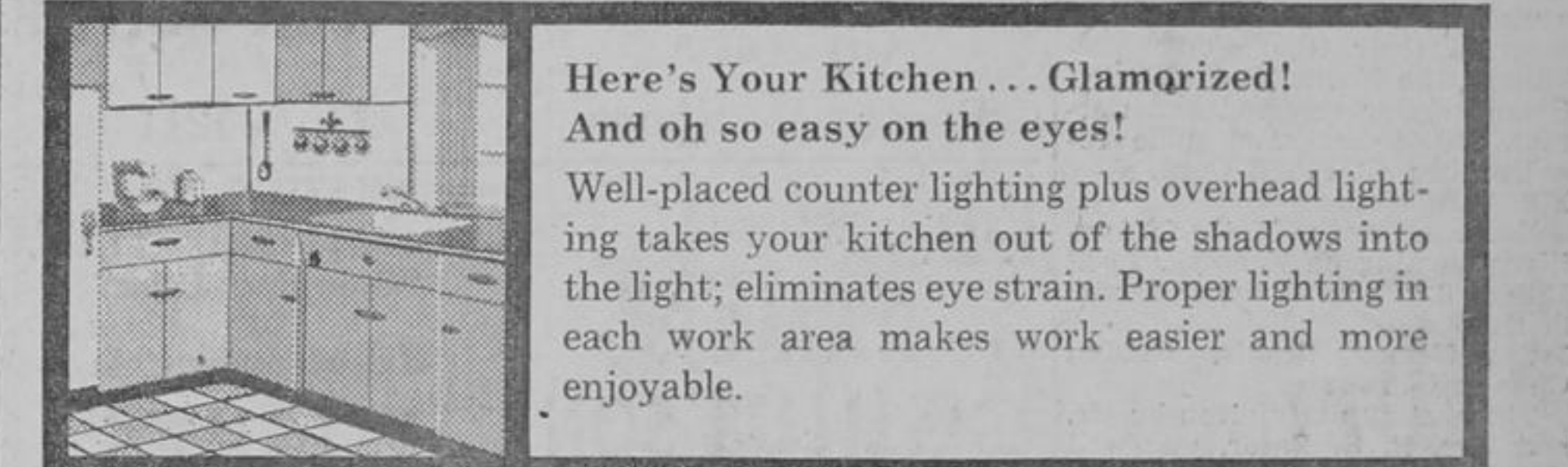
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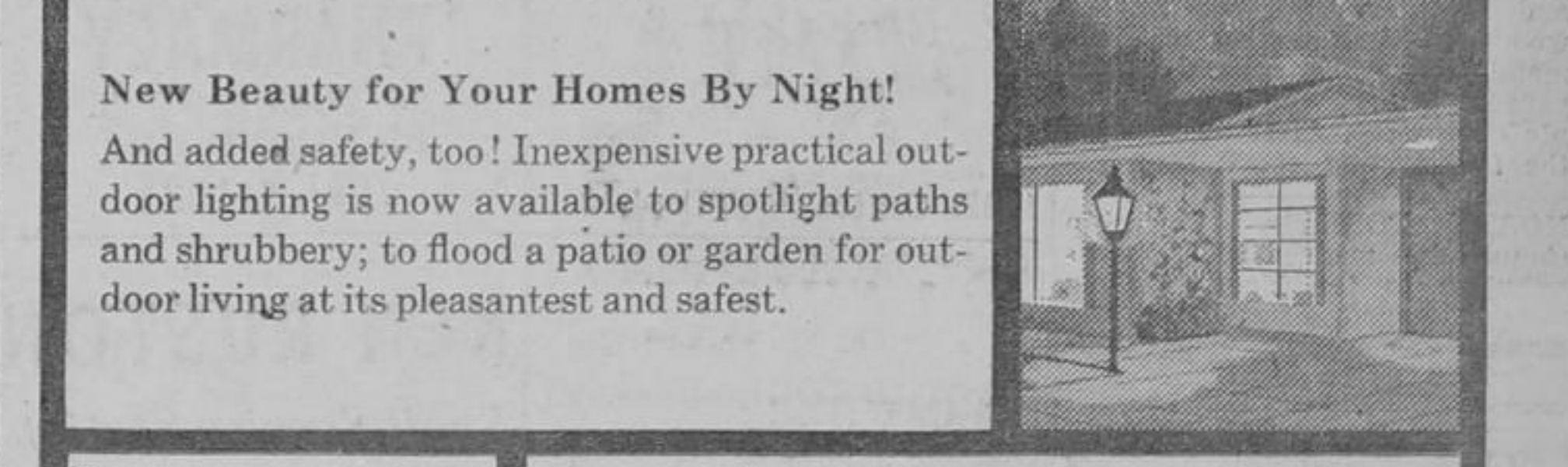
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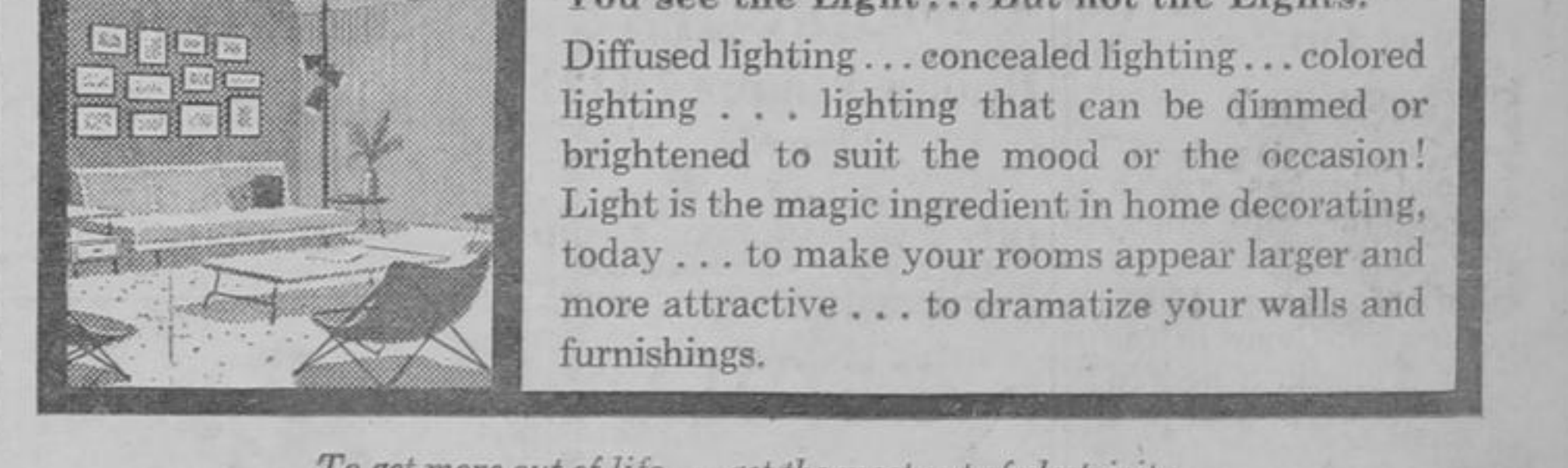
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