

Thornhill and District News

TELEPHONE AV. 5-2331

"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 Family Enjoys Six Months In Japan

(by Margaret McLean)

Although she has been home for a couple of months, Mrs. J. R. Rice, of 4 Thornridge Drive is just now becoming fully adjusted to the fact. The family, including daughter Barbara, left Thornhill last April and flew by Pan-American Jet to Tokyo, via San Francisco and Honolulu. What with losing a whole day on the way (and having two Mondays on the way back) Mrs. Rice is not quite sure just how long the trip took, but the flight from Honolulu to Tokyo took nine hours. The Pan-American jets are the most luxurious planes in the air and the passengers are able to move about at will and spend time in the glass-bottomed observation room. Their enthusiasm for flying was somewhat dimmed, however, by a demonstration of how to use the life rafts, as soon as they boarded the plane. In spite of this however, the flight was quite uneventful and very smooth, with no sensation of motion.

The Rices reached Tokyo at 8 a.m. and from the air were treated by an incomparable view of Mount Fuji, a truly beautiful sight which is often obscured by clouds when viewed from the ground.

For the next six months they enjoyed the finest that Tokyo had to offer, lived in a hotel which had formerly been a Prince's palace and dined nightly at the famous Imperial Hotel, known the world over for its fine cuisine. One of its most famous foods is the Kobi beef, considered the best in the world. These prima donna cattle are raised only in one area and each animal received individual attention. They are fed, among other things, four quarts of beer a day, and their legs are massaged daily to break down the tendons and ensure tenderness. The meat is sold from \$2.00 per pound up.

By what for Mrs. Rice could have only been a happy coincidence was unavailable when they arrived in Tokyo, as apartments were available only on a one year lease, at \$400 per month, and they had, therefore to make do with hotel service. Their hotel, in downtown Tokyo, was set in sixteen acres of formal Japanese gardens, and their three-room suite had sliding Japanese walls between the rooms.

When they first arrived in Tokyo, Barbara was able to attend the American School there for six weeks. This school had 750 pupils of 33 different nationalities. In July the whole family spent two weeks at a summer resort in the Hakoni district. They found the Japanese more modern than anything here, with attractive stewardesses who served tea, and music piped in. The resort had many fabulous and very modern hotels and five different types of health baths were available.

Tokyo itself was confusing and hectic. The notorious taxicabs were quite frightening and didn't even slow down for pedestrians, even those crossing with the lights. The city itself, while beautiful & with many modern buildings, was more than a little maddening. They visited seven or eight department stores, seven or eight stories high (eight floors

being the highest allowed because of earthquakes) and found them very attractive, with modern escalators. Each floor was in the form of a mezzanine around an open centre, which has a very open, airy effect.

The theatres in Tokyo were particularly fascinating. One, the Kabuki Theatre seats 3,000 people. The ancient Japanese dramas last for five hours. Other theatres are just as wonderful - some can have as many as 300 show girls on their enormous stages at one time.

Mr. Rice was, of course entertained at a Geisha party, where the cultured and talented Geisha girls entertained with songs and music. This is quite an expensive form of entertainment as the Geishas are paid 1,000 yen per hour, or about \$276.

Although Japanese can live quite comfortably on 40 to 60 yen per day, western style living in Tokyo is quite expensive. Living accommodation at the better hotels is \$10 to \$15.00 per day and a simple lunch of sandwich, dessert and coffee costs \$2.00 at the Imperial Hotel, with dinner at night \$3.00 to \$4.00 each.

Mr. and Mrs. Rice were entertained in several Japanese homes during their stay and found them very interesting. These homes would usually be on a centre hall plan, with three or four bedrooms, and be furnished with some rooms in western style, and some in Japanese style.

Mrs. Rice and Barbara enjoyed very much the Japanese Tea ceremony and Mrs. Rice took a short course in Japanese flower arranging. She also taught a seven-year old Japanese boy English twice a week, taking him through the Pre-School Primers and rounding up a teacher to take over the lessons when she left. In Japan, English is taught from Grade 1 up and everywhere goes to school, with a University education considered a must.

Mr. Rice was in Japan for International Business Machines and Mrs. Rice and Barbara visited the I.B.M. plant in Tokyo. It is a large, well lit, modern plant with 1,200 employees. Unlike most Japanese factories, which work seven days a week, the I.B.M. plant is on a five-day week.

When asked what impressed her most about Japan, Mrs. Rice replied, without hesitation, "The children." She found them adorable, quiet and well behaved. All the time she was in Japan she never saw a child dirty, nor saw one in a temper tantrum. The school children walked to school in their uniforms, hand in hand and she never saw any of them fighting. The babies ride on their mothers' back and go to sleep there when tired. While the majority of Japanese wear Western-style dress during business hours, the women wear their lovely Japanese Kimonos during the evening almost exclusively. When she left Tokyo, Mrs. Rice was presented with a beautiful hand-made silk Kyota kimono by the father of her Japanese pupil.

Mrs. Rice feels that we of the West can learn much from the Japanese. She pointed out that almost their sole resource is their people and that they must export or starve and that they import forty per cent of their wheat from Canada.

The Rices left Tokyo on September 21st and made the trip home by boat, as Mr. Rice had a month's holidays due him. They spent eight days in Honolulu and after the unpleasant smells of Tokyo, appreciated very much the moist and balmy atmosphere there, with the prevailing scent of flowering trees. While they found Honolulu very much commercialized and American, it was very beautiful, particularly the wonderful beaches. They had dinner at the Moana Hotel from where the famous radio program "Hawaii Calls" is broadcast, at Waikiki Beach. They ate in the Banyan Court under a huge Banyan tree. On the trip home they were again surfeited with the rich food provided on boat and plane and were happy to settle down to some good old plain cooking.

Silver Linings

by Elizabeth Kelson

The day I cleaned my windows is one day that I'll remember. Up until then, I took windows for granted. I washed and polished them many times without acquiring a single thought about them except to be thankful when the chore was done. This particular day, as I cleaned the dull film away and polished the glass until it shone, I became aware that windows could be a bridge underneath which my thoughts flowed.

I thought of those countless other windows when I walked through the night guided by the friendly glow that emanated from them. It was always a great comfort to know that I was not alone and that life was all about me.

There were times during the lulls in my work, I stood, half-hidden by the curtains of my living-room window, gazing at the passing scene, feeling remote and detached from life as if I were merely an observer placed outside of time and space.

When the morning sun streamed through the panes of the kitchen window, I closed my eyes and let the sun spread its beneficent rays over my face. A corresponding warmth suffused my being.

There were dreary days when a chair by the window became a mourning seat and I sat alone with my cares and troubles, heart heavy, listening to the steady beat of the rain outside. The mood matched my own, yet in the steady drip, drip of the rain was the sound of peace.

It is not I alone who know the window to be a magic thing. The children spent much time dreaming there, visioning far off places and wondering always about the adventures that must surely lie beyond; if the window was sometimes their passport to joy, it has also been their prison bar, for there were times they looked out of them dejectedly and resentfully when they were confined to the house against their will. Whenever Jack Frost painted the windows with his beautiful patterns, the children tried to break through to the other side by warming pennies in their hands and making little round peep holes on the frosty panes.

Then again I sense that other people have windows as their silent companions. When there are parades to watch or unusual happenings, faces appear at the windows. Hospital patients and shut-ins observe the changing weather from the confines of their rooms. Perhaps there are windows, upon a quiet evening during the twilight, from which venerable faces peer out complacently at the drama before them, just enjoying the cool air or perhaps searching for the stars that will soon stud the velvet blackness.

Spring, summer, fall or winter, the window constantly enframes the seasonal landscapes. Windows bring beauty into every room in the house. One of them serves as my observation post, as I wait for the sound of a dear one coming home from school or work. A window is a wonderful thing, a place to watch the sun rise and the sun set and a place to dream.

Thornhill Presbyterian—

Issue Call To Reverend D. Evans Of Ingersoll

The annual meeting of Thornhill Presbyterian Church was held on January 23rd and 200 members of the congregation attended. A buffet supper was served at 6:30 p.m. following which the meeting was held in the Church Hall conducted by Rev. Prof. Donald V. Wade, Interim Moderator.

Mr. Donald Timney was re-elected secretary for 1961. New members on the Board of Managers are: Mr. W. Ponton, Mr. E. Thompson, Mr. J. Walford, Mr. W. Sharpe, Mr. N. Todd, Mr. D. Hopper and Mr. J. Townsend. These are replacing retiring members Messrs. J. MacKay, J. Mavor, J. Patton, D. Timney, P. Williamson and Owen Wilson. The minutes of the last meeting were read. The Session Report, given by Mr. D. Cooper indicated that the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was dispensed four times in 1960; there are 13 baptisms. Six new members were admitted to the church by profession of faith and 23 by certificate of transfer from other churches. The total membership now stands at 274. A 6-week Christian Education program was carried out.

Mr. John MacKay presented the Board of Managers' report, for 1960, the first full year in the new church. Income from all sources for 1960 was \$30,618.73. Envelope receipts totalled \$22,651.00. Thus the total receipts for 1960 were almost double the receipts of five years ago, 1956, when the total was \$16,164.00. For next year the budget has been tentatively set at \$34,890.00, given by Mr. Alec Brown indicated that attendance at the church school remains steady with 30 children in the junior department, 35 in the primary and 20 in the kindergarten classes.

Mrs. P. Williamson gave the report of the W.M.S. and told of the work program for the year. The ladies made a layette, a quilt, and collected new and used children's clothing. These were turned over to Knox Presbyterian Church for distribution.

In her report, Mrs. A. McKechnie stated that the Fortnighters now has 45 active members. This group of ladies provides the support for the Young Life Club meetings and supervise the Nursery during Sunday morning service. They catered for several banquets and teas during the year and donated \$300.00 to the Board of Managers.

Brief reports were given by Brian Henderson for the Young Life Club, Myrna Hunt for the Young Adults, and Mr. E. Cummings for the Men's Club. This group meets four times a year

and has 60 members. It was reported that the Happy Hour group has an average attendance of 20. This group is led by Mr. John H. Kerr, assisted by Mrs. J. H. Kerr, Mrs. Mary Boyd, Mrs. Mary MacKay, Miss Marion Tucker and Miss Myrna Hunt.

Mrs. C. Atkinson reported for the Couples Club and invited any couples who desired a new lease on life to join their club. They have an average attendance of 33. Mrs. Allan McKechnie gave the report on the Prayer Fellowship. Mr. C. Mowat and Mr. G. D. Alley were re-elected auditors. Mr. J. Boyd was elected treasurer.

The meeting passed a motion to consider disposing of the Manse which needs considerable work done on it.

The meeting also issued a call to Rev. D. Evans of Ingersoll. This will be presented to the Presbytery of East Toronto on February 7th.

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Notice To Creditors AND OTHERS

IN THE ESTATE OF Reginald Spragg Cooper, deceased. All persons having claims against the Estate of the above named deceased, late of the Town of Richmond Hill, County of York, who died on or about the 22nd day of July, 1960, are hereby notified to send particulars of the same to the undersigned Executors, on or before the 16th day of February, 1961, after which date the Estate will be distributed with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice, and the undersigned will not be liable to any person of whose claim they shall not then have notice. DATED at Richmond Hill this 5th day of January, 1961.

Janet S. Cooper, and Harold Black, Executors, by Stuart P. Parker, Q.C., their Solicitor, 7 Dufferin Street, Richmond Hill, Ont.

Books For Africa Campaign Off To A Good Start

By Mrs. M. I. McLean
Many residents of the Thornhill area have been busy these past weeks, ferretting out books to send to Africa. The campaign was sparked by Mrs. Colin R. Beale of 56 Arnold Avenue, who enlisted the Lions Club in support of the project. Mrs. Beale whose parents have been doctors in Africa for the past ten years, lived for six years in Durban, South Africa and for one year in Rhodesia and was thus personally familiar with the crying need for education in these areas. Reading an article by Alal Stevenson last year, about his recent trip to Africa, she noted his statement that books were badly needed and promptly got in touch with three institutions mentioned in the article.

Each of the three organizations Mrs. Beale contacted replied immediately and all expressed gratitude and pleasure that people so far away were concerned with their plight.

The Director of the Umtali Teacher Training School in Southern Rhodesia advised that they are building a library for the teachers' leisure hours, and also hope to establish small branch libraries. They would welcome any classic of the English language, all types of reference books and indeed, "any sort of wholesome literature." Now there's a wide open field for you. If you have had youngsters in high school at some time in the past, you probably have copies of Dickens and Shakespeare tucked away in cupboards, and no doubt several anthologies of English prose and poetry, any of which would be welcome. I found in my cupboards works by Mark Twain, Damon Runyan, William Faulkner all in paperback, but in good condition.

The Deza Secondary School at Nyasaland would appreciate books on science and the arts, mathematics, botany, zoology,

physics, chemistry and world history. Now do I bless those squirrely-type characteristics which won't let me throw anything away, especially books. I found textbooks in all these categories in my cupboards. Why I saved Geometry textbook which gave me nightmares, I'll never know and in spite of the fact that probably twenty or thirty different texts on the subject have been prescribed in Ontario during the same number of years, I'll venture to state that the information they provided was much the same, as that imparted by the older text. I also turned up a less than three Physics textbooks, and while none of them dealt with, or even mention atomic physics, surely the properties of heat, light and sound which we were taught, are still basic to the understanding of more advanced work.

The Deza School would also appreciate classics and any relevant worthwhile fiction.

From the Municipal Council in Ntola, a branch of the African Affairs Department of Northern Rhodesia, came warm thanks and a request for elementary school texts and works of elementary botany and zoology. Well, I didn't turn up many of these, but if you have been in the habit of purchasing texts for extra home-work in say, spelling and arithmetic for your youngsters, you will probably have some of these around - and they could be useful.

Won't you take a good look and see what you can turn up. Bring the books to the Thornhill Public Library during library hours, but if you can't come to the library, you could take them directly to Mrs. Beale at 56 Arnold Avenue. They will be sorted there, and the Lions Club will take care of the crating and packing. Call Mrs. Beale at AV. 5-4735, if there is anything else you'd like to know.

Thornhill Notes

C.Y.O.
The C.Y.O. of St. Lukes Church has been meeting regularly every Sunday evening and on Sunday, January 29th, held their meeting in the new school auditorium and Mr. Foster Oster was chaperone and a group of about thirty young people enjoyed a lively dance. Carole Lacey and John Cole won a prize in the elimination dance. They also made plans for the holding of a Valentine Party on February 12th.

A table tennis was loaned to the group by Don and Bob Cameron and the table tennis proved almost more popular than the dancing, while both activities caused heavy inroads on the supply of "pop" on hand.

Holy Trinity Parish Guild
The first general meeting of the Parish Guild of Holy Trinity Church, Thornhill for 1961 was held on Tuesday, January 17th. Mrs. Edna Trent presided and the meeting was opened with the Guild Prayer, followed by the reading of the minutes of the December meeting.

Several items of business were discussed and plans for the coming year's projects were presented and voted on. The first of these is to be the Valentine Card Party on Tuesday evening, February 14th at 8:15 p.m. in the Parish Hall. The opportunity sale will be on Saturday afternoon, April 15th and the annual bazaar will be next October 28th.

It was announced that the next general meeting will be held on February 21st, at which time the south group will act as hostesses. Arrangements are being made to have a speaker on the Wedgwood china at that time. The meeting was adjourned and refreshments served by members of the Alpha group.

United Church News
With Rev. MacDonald away at Hartland, New Brunswick, the Rev. H. Veals preached the sermon at Thornhill United Church on Sunday morning, January 29th, the title being "The Joy of the Lord." On Sunday evening, another in the series of outstanding science films made by the Moody Institute was shown "Voice of the Deep." This was a colour picture which showed some of the miracles of creation in the depths of the ocean.

Communicants' classes for those wishing to join the Church by profession of faith will begin on Sunday, February 19th. Anyone interested in joining the Church is asked to speak to Rev. MacDonald at AV. 5-2131.

Beginning on Sunday, February 5th and continuing until Easter, Rev. MacDonald will preach a series of sermons based on the Apostles' Creed. The dates will be as follows: Feb. 5th, "I Believe"; Feb. 12th, "One Lord and Fifty Eighth Anniversary Service"; Guest speaker, the Rev. Dr. E. E. Long; Feb. 19th, "I Believe in God the Father"; Feb. 26th, "I Believe in Jesus Christ"; March 5th, "I Believe in the Holy Spirit"; March 12th, "I Believe in the Holy Catholic Church"; March 19th, "I Believe in the Communion of Saints"; March 26th, (Palm Sunday, Communion) "I Believe in the Forgiveness of Sins"; April 2nd (Easter Sunday) "I Believe in the Life Everlasting."

The Couples Club of Thornhill United Church will hold their regular monthly meeting on Saturday, February 11th next in the Lower Christian Education Room of the Church. The meeting will be in the form of a Valentine Dance and special entertainment will be provided. The group in charge will be, Mr. and Mrs. Alan Beckwith, Mr. and Mrs. D. Dobson, Mr. and Mrs. N. Hall and Mr. and Mrs. H. Johnson. All couples are welcome to have further information, call AV. 5-2185.

The Thornhill District Guilders held a meeting on Tuesday, January 24th at the home of the

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A winter drive can be a pleasure jaunt when your destination is the quaint White Studio at the south end of Aurora. Here you will find an interesting and carefully made selection of handicrafts, objets d'art, and pictures, for gifts or personal enjoyment. Every month the Studio features the work of a local artist, and the beautiful oil paintings in the current exhibition are by Al. Jewell, art instructor at Pickering College, Newmarket. There are two tables for those of you who would like to order tea or coffee, and sandwiches in bright and pleasant surroundings.
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Old Time Druggist Grew Remedies
"His garden must be at hand with plenty of herbs, seeds, and roots . . . he is to remember that his office is only to be physician's cook . . . he is neither to increase nor diminish the physician's prescriptions . . . he must not sell rotten drugs." These recommendations were made by an eminent English apothecary during the reign of Henry VIII, to guide those practicing the ancient art of preparing, preserving and compounding medicines according to the prescriptions of physicians. It is only during the past century that Pharmacy has been put upon a scientific footing, and that those entering this important profession have had to qualify by taking courses that embrace an extensive study of botany, zoology, mineralogy, and chemistry, and then pass examinations. "And," said Mr. Hal Harley, our able Thornhill prescription specialist, who graduated from the Ontario College of Pharmacy in 1939, "a good druggist continues to study in order to keep up with new discoveries in medicine."

Hal Harley spends no time cultivating an herb garden for all basic drugs are now prepared in the laboratories of pharmaceutical firms. He does however compound many special mixtures, ointments, pills, suppositories, and eye drops. Your doctor can telephone him when you need a medicine, and it will be delivered to your door if it is inconvenient for you to pick it up.
HARLEY PHARMACY 7715 Yonge St. Thornhill AV. 5-1577

A Thornhill Success Story
Commenting on the long spell of cold weather, Mr. George Kelson said, "our electric ice melting machine has proved a valuable piece of equipment this winter. It has been in continuous use thawing out underground pipes. However, attention to frozen plumbing is only one of the many and varied services offered by businesses." A plumbing and heating contractor of wide experience, Mr. Kelson served his apprenticeship in Picton, Ontario, worked as foreman on such big projects as the Government Power House for the U.S. Naval base in Newfoundland, during the last war, and Polymer, in Sarnia. He went into business for himself in Kirkland Lake, Ont., in 1933, and moved to Thornhill in 1942. During the past ten years his contracts for plumbing and heating have included about 40 schools, among them Thornhill High, Woodbridge High, York Mills Collegiate, the addition to Richmond Hill High, and the 28-room King City High now in course of construction. He maintains a year round staff of six, increased as occasion demands to 40 or 50 men.

On the personal side George Kelson coached and played on the Thornhill Softball team for several years, and he has eight other good reasons for being well known in this district - seven children, and his wife Elizabeth, who writes a weekly column for "The Liberal".
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Rain, Snow or Hurricane, the Market is Open

Last Friday's snow storm made me wonder if bad weather ever prevented our farmer friends in the townships from bringing their produce to York Farmers Market, so I asked a few questions while shopping on Saturday morning. Mrs. Herbert Wideman, Markham, who specializes in capons, turkeys and eggs, and Mrs. Charles Seaton, King, who sells eggs, honey and canned chicken, both said they lived near highways, and had experienced no difficulty. "I don't think I've missed a market day in 18 years," said Mrs. Allan Reesor, Markham, who brings eggs, honey, and apple cider (in season) to her stall, "but I've been delayed sometimes when the driving was poor." George Sayers, Gormley, has a 40 year record of market going and his daughter, Miss Ruby, believes that he has missed only once due to the weather. That was a stormy day last winter when they got their truck, loaded with homemade bread, preserves and plants, out of their own driveway, only to find the highway blocked by drifting snow.

"Aside from Hurricane Hazel time have you ever been unable to come to market?" I asked Cornelius Brouwer, one of the Holland Marsh vegetable growers who suffered losses from flooding. "No", he said, "and we were at the market as usual on the Saturday of the hurricane. We packed the truck Friday afternoon and decided to make an early start. At a garage in Richvale we heard that the bridge at Thornhill had been washed out, so stayed over night in Richmond Hill and early next morning reached Thornhill by way of the Maple sideroad and Highway 401." Mr. Bert Palmer, Temperanceville, is another who has not missed a market day in many years. On the Friday evening of the hurricane he was slicing meat at the market when his wife phoned & begged him to start for home. Unalarmed he finished his work, then found he could neither go, nor telephone. In the morning he drove up to King, met his very worried wife walking out to Yonge Street, and brought her to the market. But getting to market is not the whole story. One Saturday last winter market president Edward Gladding and his family, and several other stall holders were storm bound and unable to get home. All of which goes to show that our farmers are determined not to disappoint their customers.
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