

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.

Roberts Favours Local Improvement Trustee McTaggart-Cowan Takes Strong Stand Village Road Paving

At a meeting which went on until after 11:30 p.m. the Thornhill Village Trustees thoroughly discussed several aspects of the village business, on Wednesday, February 8th.

All three trustees were in attendance, Chairman Timmins and Trustees MacTaggart-Cowan and Roberts. The first item of business disposed of was the signing of an authorization for Secretary, Mrs. Lambert and Trustee Roberts to have access to the safety deposit box. It was felt that Mrs. Lambert and Mr. Roberts would be in the village most of the time and were therefore the logical ones to have access to the box.

Several accounts were passed for payment, the largest being one for \$983.50 covering garbage collection for the last quarter of 1960. Repairs to village equipment accounted for four bills: \$13.46 to replace fan housing; \$20.80 for replacing shaft on brush and \$52.16 for complete overhaul and repair of the rotary motor, and \$7.80 for repair of the amplifier used at the pond. Other accounts were \$4.59 for miscellaneous hardware, \$11.70 for gas and oil and a further \$56.67 for gas and oil, \$15.00 for rent of a truck for use with the village snow plow, and a \$50.00 account from the village's solicitor for advice and services during 1960.

No New Vandals

Following the reading of the minutes of the last meeting, the subject of vandalism in the village was discussed and the trustees were pleased to note that no new acts of vandalism had been reported.

Library Board

In discussing the library board appointment, it was noted that Dr. Jackson had been appointed by the trustees in May, 1960 for the 1960-61 term, but that no other trustee appointee had been made since that time. Trustee MacTaggart-Cowan stated that Philip Whitehead had "done yeoman service" while on the library board and it was the unanimous decision of the trustees to again appoint him as their representative on the library

board for 1961-62 and the secretary was directed to send a letter to Mr. Whitehead informing him of this.

Trustee Roberts reported that the inventory of the village equipment was not quite completed but would be in the near future.

Billboards

The subject of the billboards on Yonge Street South came up for discussion when a letter was read from the village's solicitor, Mr. A. M. Ecclestone, setting forth his opinion of the legality of the sign. He was of the opinion that the sign contravened the by-laws of Markham Township and that any ratepayer could lay a charge against the township, insisting that they invoke the by-law, but that the police village has no legal status in the matter. It was suggested that a copy of the solicitor's letter should be sent to the township and Trustee MacTaggart-Cowan suggested that the trustees should ask them to request the owner to remove the sign. If this is not done, a charge could then be laid by a ratepayer. Chairman Timmins volunteered to write the necessary letter.

Street Light

A letter from Markham Township was read asking for authorization for the installation of a light on Deankin Drive, the cost to be \$21.00. Chairman Timmins asked Mr. Roberts to look into the matter and find out who had requested the light. If he felt the light to be necessary, Trustee Roberts was instructed to have the secretary write a letter authorizing its installation.

Library Budget

Next on the agenda was the financial statement of Thornhill Public Library and their estimated budget for 1961. This showed estimated receipts of \$4,756.48 and estimated disbursements of \$4,523.64. Chairman Timmins, who is automatically a member of the library board and has been attending their meetings, pointed out that the excess of receipts over disbursements was only \$232.00 which meant that this was

all the library would have to spend on books for the year. The reason for this is that the Provincial grant has gone away down, from \$1,825.00 last year to \$520.00 this year. This means the library will have no real money to purchase books. "Last year they had \$2,500 from the village," stated Mr. Timmins, "and we must give them this much this year. I can't see how we can give them more."

"To try to run a library on \$200 for books, is nonsense," stated Trustee MacTaggart-Cowan. Mr. Timmins mentioned that the library should be taxing a larger area, but that there was no solution to this problem at this time. "The county library system is being explored, but this will take time," he added. Mr. MacTaggart-Cowan made two suggestions, (1) that the trustees write to Lex MacKenzie, M.P.P. for York North stating that in the meantime the new grant system works an injustice on the library and (2) that the trustees ask for special dispensation and that a meeting be arranged with the Cabinet Minister involved.

Pond Flooding

Mr. Roberts reported that the pond was presently frozen solid. "The muskrats are coming out" and that he had called the Vaughan Township clerk and been referred to Mr. Norris of the Waterworks Department in connection with the flooding of the pond. He was finally able to convince Mr. Norris that some action should be taken (after eliciting the information that the township floods a rink in Maple) and Mr. Norris agreed to have the pond flooded once a week, provided the trustees had the ice scrape off.

Costs Excessive?

There followed a lengthy discussion about the pond and the amount of time and money the trustees spend on it which Mr. Roberts felt was somewhat excessive, in view of the fact that the pond was not actually in the village and the skating was enjoyed by hundreds of people outside the village. Trustee MacTaggart-Cowan explained that the Lions had formerly provided ice in the park in the form of a hockey cushion but that the site had been destroyed when the tennis courts had been put in by the village. The trustees at that time had promised to maintain the ice on the pond to make up for this. Mr. MacTaggart-Cowan also felt that the skating on the pond was a wonderful asset to the village and a good advertisement for it.

Pool Damage

Mr. Roberts reported that considerable damage had been done to the plumbing in the pool as a result of the furnace having gone out. Two men had spent about three days repairing the damage. The red warning light which indicates that the furnace has gone out had been broken by someone throwing stones at it, and as no-one had any occasion to go in the pool building for several days, the breakdown was not discovered. He felt that the A.R.C. should have someone check on the building regularly during the winter and felt that the warning light would be better replaced by a bell. The workmen also found the furnace in an extremely dirty condition, which could be dangerous, and he felt that it should be cleaned twice a year.

Street Cover Opposition

"All the opposition to the paving has been of the street corner type" asserted Trustee MacTaggart-Cowan. "I made it clear when I was running for office that I was in favour of paving the roads and would see that it was done. I made no bones about it. They nominated me and I have no reservation on going ahead." "Local improvement is always used to pre-date normal progress" he continued. "Those people wanted their roads paved before the rest of the village. They have had the use of the roads and we have maintained them. They also did a lot of work on the roads because of what they had done for the community in paving their roads. We also built them a sidewalk for safety of their children. This was principally done for the people north of the pond, who don't contribute to the village. We have not been unkind to these people. Now, normal progress has caught up and the village roads should be paved. In order to get the maximum grant from the Department of Highways, we have to do the whole project at the same time."

Publicize Opposition

Trustee MacTaggart-Cowan continued further: "I have gone on record for the past three years that I want this done and people have been happy to put me back in office. The townships will have their hearings and any opposition can state their case then. If the townships turn it down, this is O.K. I have done my duty. They may be able to turn it down for one year. But there is no question that if it is turned down, when the dust starts flying next year, people will start phoning us. We will have to tell them to phone those who opposed the paving. Mr. Sumner had called last year, at all hours of the night and day, asking to have the roads paved."

Trustee Roberts Opposed

Mr. McTaggart-Cowan then made a motion that the trustees send a letter to Vaughan and Markham Townships affirming that they wanted the matter handled with all haste. The motion carried, with Trustee Roberts voting against it. "If one group pays for their own roads, all the others should too" he stated.

Mr. Timmins stated that he had gone along with the other trustees in the matter of the paving, but that he had a completely open mind on the subject and that if at any time it appeared to him that it should be done differently, he was prepared to change his mind and vote against it.

Trustee Roberts agreed that he would go along with this and accordingly, asked that the records be changed and he be recorded as voting in favour of Mr. MacTaggart-Cowan's motion. This was done, and the motion was accordingly recorded as being passed unanimously.

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Trustee Roberts also reported that the pond was presently frozen solid. "The muskrats are coming out" and that he had called the Vaughan Township clerk and been referred to Mr. Norris of the Waterworks Department in connection with the flooding of the pond. He was finally able to convince Mr. Norris that some action should be taken (after eliciting the information that the township floods a rink in Maple) and Mr. Norris agreed to have the pond flooded once a week, provided the trustees had the ice scrape off.

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Thornhill Notes

Baptist Church News

The February meeting of the Anna Buck Mission Circle of the Thornhill Baptist Church was held on Wednesday, February 1, at the home of Mrs. Clifford Wilson, Thornhill.

President Mrs. J. Martin presided over the meeting. Mrs. Wm. McGowan took the devotional, which was entitled "The Love of God". Mrs. E. Roblin sang a lovely solo, "I Believe". Miss Hazel Stringer closed this part of the meeting with prayer.

The group was pleased to welcome Miss Carol Good who showed pictures of her recent trip to Rio de Janeiro and Bolivia. It was a wonderful trip, taken through some 16,000 miles to the sun-drenched beaches of Rio and then on to Bolivia. Some of the work of the Baptist missionaries in that country was graphically portrayed. Mrs. Martin closed the meeting with prayer. An enjoyable half hour of refreshments and good fellowship followed.

Next month's meeting is to be held in the church on Wednesday, March 1, at 8 p.m. and will be in the form of a White Cross work meeting. All the ladies of the congregation are invited to come, bringing needles, thread, pinkish shears if possible, and any white cotton material available.

The B.Y.P.U. of Thornhill Baptist Church

The evening Auxiliary of the W.M.S. of the Thornhill United Church met on Tuesday, February 7, at the home of Mrs. Robert Everett, Kirk Drive. The meeting was in charge of Miss Colleen L'Esperance of the Villa Hospital. The speaker of the evening was Dr. Jean Erb, who with her husband, Dr. John Erb, is a staff doctor and missionary at the United Memorial Hospital in Northern Nigeria. Dr. Erb spoke on Nigerian independence, and how Nigeria became a new nation so peacefully that the change was hardly noted by the world, in contrast to the Congo's turbulence. "Africans are basically a religious people. They utter the name of God often," she said.

Nigeria has developed politically in three directions, the East, North and South. The Eastern and Southern regions are more advanced intellectually and medically, while the North, which is predominantly Moslem, and pagan is progressing at a much slower rate. The people are divided three ways religiously. There are heathens who still worship their tribal gods, the Moslems, and the Christian element. The United Memorial Hospital is in a section where the natives are predominantly heathen. They are very primitive and ignorant and cook and eat under very primitive conditions. For example, Dr. Erb told how a native mother was so under the influence of the tribal spirits that she brought her sick child to the hospital after it had become stiff and rigid. She believed that the spirits had changed the child into wood. Actually, it was discovered that the baby had tetanus and it was treated and brought back to health.

Dr. Erb stated that the best hope of winning people for Christianity is among these heathens. Some of the difficulties in doing so are because of the marriage customs. Marriages are arranged by fathers and young men who are attracted to Christianity often give it up when they fear it might interfere with their chances of having wives. "It is our hope that the United Memorial Hospital will be a guiding light to the superstitious nation of Northern Nigeria, leading it to Christianity," Dr. Erb said. She also spoke of the Moslems. They revere Allah, the One God. It is a fatalistic religion and one which has no notion of redemption. One Moslem brought his daughter to the hospital with a compound fracture of the arm, after much delay, believing that it was Allah's will that it be so. The result was that the girl lost her arm because of the delay in treatment.

Dr. Erb also spoke of the nurses training school in connection with the hospital. The hospital attendants are noted for their susceptibility to bribery and as a consequence, the doctors have to keep a close watch on their antibiotics. The male nurses being trained there are eventually to go out among their villages to heal the sick and spread Christianity. After her interesting insights into the conditions in Nigeria, Dr. Erb answered many questions. She was graciously thanked by Miss Kay Sutton and the meeting closed with refreshments.

The girls of the C.G.I.T. and the ladies of the Evening Auxiliary of the W.M.S. would like to remind you of their Valentine Tea and Bake Sale, on Saturday, February 18, from 2 to 4 p.m. It will be in the auditorium of the church and as well as scrumptious items of home baking, there will be craft work and white elephants for sale.

On Sunday, February 12, the Thornhill United Church celebrated its 158th anniversary. The Church was deeply honoured to have as its guest speaker at the morning service, the Rev. Ernest E. Long, D.D., Secretary of the General Council of the United Church of Canada. Dr. Long was appointed to the chief executive position of the United Church by the 16th General Council of the United Church of Canada, in 1955 and has served in it with great distinction.

At the evening service on the same day, the film "John Wesley" was shown. This is a 77-minute colour film, telling the story of John Wesley who founded the Methodist Church at the beginning of the 18th century. The story told how Wesley was converted and how, through his subsequent ministry, all England experienced a revival of the

gospel. This inspiring film was produced by the J. Arthur Rank organization and in many ways is considered to be a sequel to "Martin Luther". It was enjoyed by a good number of the congregation.

A Bantam hockey team

was formed at the Thornhill United Church early in December and played in the Protestant Youth Council League. Mr. H. Harris is assisted in the coaching department by Mr. Sam MacKinnlay. Although out of the 16 boys on the team, only three are bantam age (14) and six are 12 years old and would be eligible for Pee-wee hockey, the team has made a pretty good showing in the 10 games they have played so far.

Saturday night's papers, under T.H.L. give schedules of games and places. The Thornhill United Pee-wee Team plays in the church league at Aurora every Monday night and boasts players from three churches to make up its numbers. Mr. S. C. Hepburn and Mr. G. R. Bagg have coached the boys well; of the six games played, they have won two, tied two, one has to be played over, and their first loss came only last week. Many donations have been received for hockey equipment and the boys wish to say "Thank you" and "See you at the rink".

Communicants' classes

for those wishing to join the Church by profession of faith will begin on Sunday, February 19. Anyone interested in joining the church is asked to speak to the minister.

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the Fortnighters' Club of Thornhill Presbyterian Church, Mrs. E. H. Johnson showed pictures and told of her trip to East Nigeria. She and her husband had been invited as guests of the government for the installation of the new native Governor, Sir Francis Ibiem. Approximately 50 ladies attended the meeting and enjoyed this interesting talk.

On February 20, Group 5 of the Fortnighters, led by Mrs. J. Arnold, will be in charge of the meeting. They will have a Mrs. Miller to talk about spring fashions in hat and show how to remodel old hats. All the ladies of the congregation are invited.

Cancer Society News

You may notice mention of a meeting sponsored by the Richmond Hill Unit of the Canadian Cancer Society elsewhere in the paper. All interested persons are invited to this meeting, to be held on Wednesday, February 22, at 8:15 at the Lions Hall, Centre Street East, Richmond Hill. The speaker will be Mr. Jack Brodie, the National Chairman of Publicity and Education for the Cancer Society. His talk is entitled "First Things First" and he is recommended as a "terrific speaker". A social hour will follow. There will be no charge, no collection and everyone is invited to come and hear about the work and activities of the Canadian Cancer Society.

Odds & Ends

Our Mrs. Pajevic is still courageously boarding the 5:30 a.m. bus in Thornhill, to get downtown by 7 a.m. Isn't there someone who could give her a lift say before 6:30, and save her from turning out at this unfriendly hour. Call Mrs. Lambert, at AV. 5-2539 if you can help her out.

Are you ever at a loss when trying to buy books for children. At the Thornhill Public Library you will find for the taking a

little pamphlet entitled "How To Find Books For Children" which might help out considerably. Of the helps listed, I can personally recommend "A Parents' Guide to Children's Reading" which is available in a 35¢ pocket book edition. The leaflet also reminds you that you may call on your local children's librarian for help in book selection. (Don't blame me, Miss McLaren — that's what it says!) Also included in the leaflet is a separate release from the Director, Provincial Library Service on the ins and outs of a county library, which we are seemingly fated to have sometime in the future. You should read it.

Did you ever figure out the answer to that brain-teaser Algebra problem I gave you? It was 70 miles.

It looks as if the motto of the Lions Club, as well as the Boy Scouts, is "Be Prepared" as Lions George Chandler and Bob Roberts went down to Kingston last Saturday morning to arrange for motel accommodation there for the Lions convention in June.

The "Books for Africa" campaign is just getting into its stride, as more and more people are turning out their closets and attics, so let's keep it going. The books may be left at the Thornhill Library or at Mrs. Beale's home, 56 Arnold Avenue. Call her at AV. 5-4735. Latest suggestion is to arrange for correspondence with some of the teachers at the Umtali Teacher Training School. Anyone interested?

WILLOWDALE — North York Township says it may have to go into the sanitary land fill business in order to dispose of its garbage in a sane, safe and sanitary manner.

New Rector For Holy Trinity Church

The Reverend H. Reginald Howden, new rector of Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Thornhill, has had a long, varied and distinguished church career. Born at Peterborough, he received his B.A. from the University of Toronto in 1934 and two years later graduated from the Faculty of Divinity College with the degree of Licentiate of Theology. He was ordained Deacon the same year and Priest in 1937. He will preach his first sermon at Holy Trinity on Sunday, April 30th.

In the past 24 years Reverend Howden has served widely in Canada and the United States. He served as rector in North Toronto, Lakefield, Barrie, and in Detroit and Southfield, Michigan. A past chaplain of the Lakefield Preparatory School, he is also a past chairman of the Board of Education, Barrie.

He is, as well, a former director of the Upper Canada Bible Society and a member of the Executive Committee of the Missionary Society of the Anglican Church of Canada. Between 1956 and 1961 he was widely known to the Michigan state radio audience as preacher on the Diocese of Michigan Radio Program.

Mrs. Howden (Edythe Haughland) is a graduate in English and History of the University of Toronto, the Ontario College of Education and the Upper Canada Law School. She was practised at the Bar in 1936 and worked law in Toronto. Mrs. Howden is presently a member of the Diocesan Board of Episcopal Churchwomen in the Diocese of Michigan and Parliamentarian for Episcopal Churchwomen.

Mr. and Mrs. Howden have two sons; Peter, who is in Third Year at Trinity College in the University of Toronto and Lee, who is attending Upper Canada College.

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Urge County Act—

Mental Health Clinic Only Cost .07 Mills

"A mental health clinic for York County would cost \$34,000 per year, and the federal grant would cover two-thirds of this, leaving the cost to the county only \$12,000 per year. This would cost us only .07 mills on our taxes," advised Mrs. Philip Townshend-Carter as she addressed the parents' group of the Thornhill Nursery School at the home of Mrs. H. Welsh, 12 Cavalier Cres., on Tuesday, February 7th.

As opposed to this, Mrs. Townshend-Carter outlined how \$2,255 was spent in a six-months period on one family when the mother became mentally disturbed. Because she had no help in the early stages of her illness, it progressed until she had to be committed to a mental hospital.

As her illness progressed, the husband had to give up his job to stay with the children, they lost their home and the whole family became a public charge. This could have been prevented if there had been a mental health clinic where this mother could have had help. And the local Children's Aid recently had four cases like this in one week.

440 Cases in County

Recently, in this area, a 14-year-old boy became so disturbed and unmanageable that to protect the rest of the class, he had to be expelled from school. He was expelled to nowhere. There was nowhere to send him. A recent survey showed that 440 cases in York County needed help — and these were only the ones which had come to the attention of the welfare agencies. General practitioners estimate that one in five of their patients has a psychosomatic basis for their illness. The only assistance available for these people, before they get bad enough to be committed to

hospital, is at the out-patients clinics at the Ontario Hospitals and at the clinics in Toronto there is a two to six months waiting list.

Mrs. Townshend-Carter advised that Dr. King of the York County Health Unit is including the \$12,000 figure in his budget for this year for submission to the county council and suggested that those present might like to contact their local reeve or deputy-reeve, encouraging them to approve this item.

"The Mental Health Association is also an association of action," continued Mrs. Townshend-Carter and mentioned that the association has spoken to 650 different organizations on all aspects of mental health and the cause and prevention of mental illness. They are endeavouring to prepare the people for a mental health clinic and tell them how such a clinic can be used.

Approved Homes

The association is also active in the White Cross volunteer program, which was sparked largely by Mrs. Townshend-Carter herself. Under this program, volunteers visit the "approved homes" where former patients in mental hospitals are sent as a preparation for taking up life again in the community. She outlined how the volunteers strive to create a new environment for these people who need above all, friendship and recognition and something to look forward to, as well as an example of how to live.

Mrs. Townshend-Carter reminded the group that as parents, they should have dignity, peace and joy in their homes, that the pattern of their children's lives may not go awry. She showed the group a film entitled "Roots of Happiness", filmed in Puerto Rico, which showed that even in a home with only the barest material possessions, a pattern of dignity and happiness can be provided for children to follow.

The meeting was chaired by the president, Mrs. A. McDonald. Secretary Mrs. Dow reported that there are now 32 children attending the school. Plans are being made to take the children to visit a firehall, a farm, the North York Library, and Toronto Island.

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Legal

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