

# 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.

## Set At \$23,760 Again This Year

# Thornhill Village Trustees Hold The Line On Their 1961 Budget

## Discuss Many Subjects St. Lights, Paving, Library

(by Margaret I. McLean)

At their meeting of Thursday of last week, the Thornhill Village Trustees brought in a budget for 1961 of \$23,760.00, the same as last year. Chairman James Timmins reported that the delay in bringing down the budget was because of hold up in obtaining figures for last year's operations from the two townships concerned. Markham Township advises that there is a balance due to the trustees of \$1,075.47; while the figures received that day from Vaughan Township indicated that the trustees had over-spent their budget there by \$1,509.42.

"We have overspent by approximately \$500.00," stated Chairman Timmins, "but last year's budget included a \$2,600.00 deficit from 1958 which had not been brought to our attention at that time". Mr. Timmins expressed the hope that by setting this year's budget the same as last year's they might end up with a surplus but that the taxpayers would benefit from this in 1962.

### Critical of Townships

Mr. Timmins deplored the fact that the trustees did not have a comprehensive system for submitting a budget and stated that he had included in this year's budget an estimate for accounting to take care of this. The trustees all expressed dissatisfaction that the figures received from the two townships were not complete. They did not include, for instance, the exact amount spent on roads. In fact, the figures from Vaughan Township had only been given orally on the telephone and the trustees had no way of checking the figures given them by either of the townships.

### Citizens Attend

Chairman Timmins and Trustee Roberts were present at the meeting, and were surprised and pleased to have four residents of the village on hand, two with representations to make to the trustees and two "just observing". Mr. John Cole attended the meeting on behalf of the Thornhill Business Men's Association with a request for better street lights in the business section of the village. Mr. Cole had investigated and found that the cost of changing the lights from the present 300 watts to 500 watts would be \$10.00 per light per year. He felt however, following his investigations, that sodium vapour lights, said to cost \$20.00 per year would be more satisfactory and suggested that this type of light could be installed on the four vacant poles now on Yonge Street in the business section. He suggested that the trustees decide how many would be wanted and get an estimate on installing them. Chairman Timmins stated that the trustees would "look into the cost of putting up new lights and will find out about them before next month's meeting and make a decision at that time".

### Road Paving

Dr. J. L. Saunders of 18 Brooke Street attended the meeting on the invitation of Mr. Roberts who had suggested that he air his complaints about the village road paving to the trustees as a whole. Dr. Saunders stated that he had attended the public meeting held on March 30th to inform the ratepayers about the proposed road paving and that the various proposals had been well explained at that time. He reminded the trustees that the vote taken at the meeting had been in favour of paving the roads and stated that speaking for the residents of the south-west portion of the village there was no doubt that the residents wanted the paving. "The people on Brooke, Jane, Elizabeth Streets and Thornbridge Drive, have been choking with dust and wallowing in mud for years and have asked for paved roads but have not obtained them." He acknowledged that he had been very indignant over this when he had called Trustee Roberts, "and I am still mad that this has been delayed and delayed. Now there is this ridiculous call for a questionnaire when it has been decided by the trustees to go ahead with the paving and both Markham and Vaughan have approved it". With respect to those people who have gone ahead with the paving of their roads on a local option basis he stated that it was very easy for these people to call for

### Legal

J. N. Mulholland, Q.C. 80 Richmond St. West, Toronto. Consultation by Appointment. Phones: Thornhill AV. 5-3315 Toronto EM 4-2780

### Maintenance man for the park and pool.

### No Entrance Off Yonge

A letter was read from the Department of Highways relative to the speed limit at the north end of the village. Mr. Timmins advised that Uplands Pharmacy had been informed that they could not have a permit for an entrance onto Yonge Street because of the 40 mile speed limit there. The trustees had therefore written the department requesting a reduction in the speed limit to 30 m.p.h. In their letter, however, the Department of Highways stated that their re-

usal of the permit was not because of the speed limit and that they felt the reduction to 30 m.p.h. was not justified. In the light of this information, the trustees decided they could do nothing further in the matter.

### Horticultural Grant

A letter from the Thornhill and District Horticultural Society was read, in which they requested a grant of \$100.00 towards the improvement of the park and other lands around the village which the society has cared for. A resolution was passed to pay this grant again this year. Considerable satisfaction was expressed

### United Church News

The Sunday evening services on April 23rd and April 30th will feature an "Open Season on the Preacher," in which Mr. MacDonald will answer a number of questions which have been submitted to him by the congregation, ranging from "What About Religious Education In The Public Schools," to "Why Do Protestants Not Show Greater Reverence For Mary." With the service on April 30th, the current series of evening services will draw to a close. These services, which have been well attended, have featured a wide variety of subjects; excellent motion pictures, "A Man Called Peter" and "The Heart is a Rebel"; outstanding speakers, Dr. Gordon Bell of the Bell Clinic for Alcoholism, and Mr. Tom Knott of the Ontario Temperance Federation. Special mention should be made of the "Adventure in Understanding" series when, in turn, a Mormon Elder, a Christian Scientist and a Seventh Day Adventist visited our congregation to answer questions about their faith. On several occasions during the winter months, the services were under the direction of members of the Y.P.U. and H.C. groups, and all these young people are to be congratulated on their efforts. Evening services will be resumed in the latter part of September. The Y.P.U. and the H.C. groups will continue to meet on Sunday evening, assembling at 7:30 p.m.

### Dr. E. M. Honey, of 45 John Street, a member of the congregation of Thornhill United Church was presented with a leather bound copy of the Revised Standard Version of the Bible by Rev. MacDonald prior to his leaving for Ratlam, India for service as a dental missionary. When Dr. Honey arrives at his mission station, he will let the congregation know of the challenge which faces him and may be able to suggest some specific missionary projects which Thornhill United could undertake. Dr. Honey will be working at the same mission post as Miss Muriel Stephenson, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. G. I. Stephenson, also of the congregation.

### The report of the Sector Follow-Up Committee is most encouraging. During January, February and March, the averaged attendance increased by 100 persons over the same period last year. One hundred new members have been received this year. A total of 900 persons attended the three services on Easter Sunday, making this the most effective day in the history of the church.

### The Christian Education Committee has announced that the annual picnic for all who are in any way associated with Thornhill United Church will be held at Greenwood Park on Saturday, June 3rd. More details will be announced later.

### H.C. Highlights: "Boy Meets Girl" and "Boy Dates Girl" were the titles of two filmstrips shown at a meeting in March. Lively discussion followed as the young people considered what makes an ideal date, what are some factors to consider about blind dates, is going steady a smart thing to do, etc. In another meet-

### Library Grant

A letter was read from Mr. A. A. MacKenzie, M.P.P., advising that an appointment had been made for two of the trustees to meet with the Minister of Education on May 8th to discuss the revising of the grant structure to the village library. It was pointed out to the meeting however, that due to the widespread discontent throughout the Province with the new grant structure, changes have already been made in it and that Trustee MacTaggart-Cowan and Councillor Alan Sumner, who were to attend the meeting, should be advised of this before they go.

### Library Finances Brighter

The report of the library board was submitted to the meeting, showing expected receipts of \$4,756.48 and disbursements of \$4,525.64 and noting that the only allowance for new books was the difference between these two figures. Mr. Timmins advised however, that since the report had been made, the Lions Club had donated \$150.00 for the purchase of new books; the Township of Markham had relieved the board of payment of taxes in 1961, in the amount of \$325.00; and the Provincial grant which had been announced first in the amount of \$520.00, will, on account of the revised grant structure be approximately \$1,000.00. In view of this optimistic outlook for the library, the trustees decided to make the same grant to the library board as last year, namely \$2,500.00.

### The area recreation agreement was approved and signed by the trustees. Chairman Timmins instructed Secretary Mrs. Lambert to write asking the A.R.C. to write the trustees a letter, putting on record their agreement to pay \$1,500.00 towards the salary of a

## Thornhill Notes

ing, the group talked about friendships with those of the same sex. Besides enjoying some outstanding films at the evening service, the H.C.'s met with the Y.P.U. on two occasions. Social activities included a Valentine Party and a joint Y.P.U.-H.C. dance.

### Group 7 of the W.A. of Thornhill United Church, under the leadership of Mrs. E. Tobey, held their April meeting at the home of Mrs. George Mickleborough.

Mrs. P. Large led the devotional Mrs. W. Buckler was in charge of the Penny Sale which was a feature of the evening, all proceeds going to the Sunshine Club for sending remembrances to sick friends, etc. Plans were made for the annual rummage sale which is to be held at the North York Community Hall on Saturday, May 27th. Assisting the hostesses were Mrs. J. Weavers and Mrs. J. Stockton.

### The W.A. Spring Luncheon is to be held on Thursday, May 4th at 1 p.m. Miss Carol Taylor will speak on the "Seal of Approval". The event is being convened by Mrs. Buchanan, assisted by Mrs. J. Rice and Mrs. F. Maw.

A long-playing record is being made of the thrilling Easter music from Handel's "The Messiah" sung by the combined choirs of Thornhill United and Royal York Road United Churches. Anyone wishing a copy is asked to phone Mr. Leslie Clark at AV. 5-2101 and place their order.

### In observance of Ecumenical Sunday, Rev. H. R. MacDonald preached at Anglican churches in the Thornhill area on Sunday, April 17th, preaching at the evening service in Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Thornhill.

The Sacrament of Baptism will be observed on Sunday, April 30th and any parents who desire this sacrament for their children are asked to contact one of the ministers as soon as possible.

### Prebyterian Church News

Mrs. D. T. Evans, wife of Rev. D. T. Evans, the new minister at Thornhill Presbyterian Church, was the guest of honour at a dessert luncheon given by Mrs. James Boyd, Kirk Drive, on Friday, April 13th. Twelve ladies were present, among them, Mrs. H. R. MacDonald, wife of Rev. H. R. MacDonald of Thornhill United Church.

At a civil ceremony in Toronto

### Henderson Ave H. & S.

Describe Teaching Oral French To Elementary School Children

Oral French as it can be taught at the elementary school level was explained and demonstrated to 140 interested persons at Henderson Avenue Home and School meeting on Monday, April 7th.

Dr. Robert Gauthier, who is Director of French Instruction for the Ontario Department of Education, was the principal speaker. He explained that he had acquired the idea behind the Tan-Gau method of teaching a second language to young children when he was on a UNESCO mission in Burma and worked with Dr. Tan Gwan Leong. The method is based on the principle of learning a second language by the same method that a young child uses in beginning to speak his mother tongue.

The practical application of the Tan-Gau method of teaching oral French to children was witnessed by the audience, Mr. Raymond Duplantie, who teaches in the Oakville Public School system, gave two demonstration lessons using 10 Grade 5 children from Henderson Avenue school. These children knew no French and did not know Mr. Duplantie. During the lessons, Mr. Duplantie spoke only French and the children responded in English to his questions. The audience was attentive and watched the children's faces change from expressions of bewilderment to enjoyable enthusiasm, as they comprehended the French spoken to them.

Mr. Allan J. Fish, who is the Business Administrator and Supervising Principal for the Oakville Public School Board joined Dr. Gauthier and Mr. Duplantie in answering questions put by members of the audience.

The speakers were introduced by Mr. E. J. Sand, Supervising Principal and Business Administrator for T.S.A. No. 1, Markham.

by the trustees and the visitors at the meeting over the fine work the society has done in the village.

It was also agreed to grant permission to the Scouts to hold a Cub and Scout Rally in the park on June 10th from 5 to 8 p.m. and Trustee Roberts, the trustees' representative on the A.R.C. was asked to remind the A.R.C. to have extra supplies on hand in the snack bar.

### Insurance

The trustees heard read a letter from Frank Cowan Company Limited, municipal insurance underwriters, asking how the trustees wished the \$148.00 insurance commissions on the village insurance divided this year. Mr. Timmins informed the meeting that under the insurance laws, when a firm of municipal insurance agents writes a municipality's policies, the commissions which would otherwise have gone to a local agent, are divided among such local agents at the discretion of the trustees. A letter was also read from Mr. G. T. Parmenter, concerning about "our just commission distribution, as last year". The matter was deferred to the next meeting and Chairman Timmins stated that he would enquire about this distribution.

The trustees then examined and passed for payment an accumulation of accounts from local tradesmen, and the meeting adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

### SOMETHING TO RENT

PHONE TU. 4-1105

## Senior Citizen Mrs. F. Williamson Enjoys Flight To Mexico

(By Margaret McLean)

Mrs. F. Williamson of 7490 Yonge Street finally gave up trying to catch up on her sleep on Monday, April 10th, because so many people were calling her to hear how she had enjoyed her trip to Mexico.

With a purchase made last month at Dean's Feed and Seed Store in Thornhill, Mrs. Williamson had filled in a Mexican Fiesta coupon and as a result, was the surprised but game winner of a week for two in Mexico. Also included in her prize was a complete outfit, a suit and dress jewelry, shoes and a camera, as well

as medicines and a clock radio. Mr. Wilfred Dean, the Reeve of Markham Township, in whose store Mrs. Williamson deposited her winning coupon, was also awarded a prize - a week-end holiday in New York, for himself and his wife.

Thus equipped and accoutred, Mrs. Williamson flew from Malton Airport, with her daughter, Mrs. William Barker of Richvale, on Sunday, April 2nd and flew directly to Mexico City. They stayed in the new hotel there, the Metropol, arriving Sunday night. The next day they toured the city, which Mrs. Williamson reports is very up-to-date, almost like Toronto, and on Tuesday were driven by a guide to Cuernavaca. This is a city of perpetual spring where the temperature stays between 65 and 75 degrees. It is 7,280 feet above sea level, and is an old town, built originally by the Spaniards.

From there, they went to the silver mining town of Paxco, an ancient native town, with the hotel built on top of a silver mine, and the streets paved with cobblestones. The site was discovered in the 1700's reports Mrs. Williamson. An American who made himself a multi-millionaire from the silver, in appreciation, built an unbelievably beautiful church, costing between two and three million dollars. Another curiosity of the place is an old cement house with walls six feet thick, containing twenty-six rooms, but only two windows. This had previously been used as a place of punishment, but is now used by a well-known painter who is converting it into an art gallery.

Next stop was Acapulco, on the bay, a one-time Navy stronghold. Within the last 25 years, however, it has become a modern resort city with nothing but hotels and motels on the main road. Mrs. Williamson stayed in a hotel sev-

en stories high, and others were 9, 10 and 13 stories high. All the hotels were crammed with people, she reported, many of them Canadians. She was told that there were more Canadians than Americans there this year. Many American film stars have built mansions around the bay, John Wayne and Elizabeth Taylor to mention two.

Back to Mexico City by plane, a tour of the museums and art galleries there, and then by plane back to Malton to end a whirlwind week.

Of course, all this activity is just routine for Mrs. Williamson. Born at Cataract on the Credit River, she went to school in Orangethorpe and Streetsville, and after her marriage to Russell Williamson, made her home on a farm between King and Albion for 47 years. Her only son, Ward, a pilot, was killed in the war in 1942. Her two daughters live near at hand, Marjorie (Mrs. Wm. Barker) in Richvale and Norma (Mrs. John Boyd) in Woodbridge. Mrs. Williamson has lived in Thornhill for the last two years, is a member of Thornhill United Church, belongs to the W. A. and the W.M.S. and teaches Sunday School there. She belongs to the senior citizens club and bowls regularly with them. She studied oil painting years ago, recently took it up again, spending a year at night classes at Thornhill High School. At the present time, she attends a painting class every Saturday, given by Mr. Otto Grebe. And this past winter she started in a new course of study and attended classes in typing at the high school. "Why typing?" I asked her. "Well," she replied, "I'm getting old, and my handwriting's not so good. Now I type my letters."

So, if there is to be any voting on Thornhill's Woman of the year, I cast my ballot for Mrs. Florence Williamson.

She will celebrate her 77th birthday on May 12th!

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MRS. F. WILLIAMSON

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