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VOLUME LXXXII, NUMBER 40

RICHMOND HILL, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 1962

HOME PAPER OF THE DISTRICT SINCE 1878

SINGLE COPY 10¢

Dominion Drama Festival Regional Trophy Comes To Hill

Curtain Club's Play, Actors, Capture Many Awards

Local Fire Dept. Unusually Active

Fire departments in the area have been seasonally active during the past few weeks with the primary cause of all the excitement being the annual outbreak of minor grass fires.

Richmond Hill Fire Department has fought more than half a dozen blazes during the past week, with the biggest burning off about 30 acres of grass. That outbreak occurred Sunday afternoon on Kirk Drive in Lanstaff. Altogether Sunday, the local department dealt with four fires. They occurred on Hillside Drive south of Richmond Hill, on Elgin Street in Thornhill, at the ABC Bowling Alley in the Hill, and the large one on Kirk Drive.

Most serious of last week's fires occurred near Bayview Avenue, north of Highway 7. That fire, which burned off about 20 acres of grass over four different properties, threatened a house and a number of sheds before it was brought under control. Another fire at the ABC Bowling Alley burned about one-half acre.

Tuesday afternoon the local department fought three fires. One, which burned off about 25 acres, occurred south of Thornhill, another, covering about 10 acres, broke out at the Orange Home north of the Hill, and the third, burning about one-half acre off of grass, occurred on Duncan Road in Richvale.

Former Hill Man Found In N.W.T. After Air Crash

A former Richmond Hill resident and student, Kenneth Moore, son of Mrs. Norman Moore of 22 Richmond Street, was rescued last Tuesday from the barrens of the North West Territories after being missing for more than two days following the crash of the aircraft which he was piloting.

The craft was lost in a blizzard March 25, while on a 70-mile trip from Cambridge Bay, N.W.T. to Beaver Lodge, Saskatchewan. The plane is believed to have crashed when it ran out of fuel.

An R.C.A.F. air search was started immediately following the crash, after Moore had sent distress signals for about 20 minutes, but the searchers had some difficulty in finding the downed plane.

The crash was the second in less than a year for Moore's copilot Bert Burray. Last April he was involved in a crash 300 miles out in the Arctic ocean.

Gormley To Hill Calls Toll-free Starting In Fall

Long distance charges on telephone calls placed between Richmond Hill and Gormley will be removed this fall, W. C. Barnes, Bell Telephone manager for this region, announced this week.

There will be no increase in monthly telephone charges here, as a result of the elimination of toll charges on calls between the two exchanges.

"We have decided to introduce toll-free calling between Richmond Hill and Gormley because of the strong community of interest which exists between the two centres as reflected by the increase in long distance calling between them," Mr. Barnes explained.

The Bell manager said that studies are constantly being carried out on calling patterns between pairs of neighboring exchanges. When the volume of calling reaches a level which indicates the existence of strong community of interests which could be served better by toll-free calling, steps are taken to remove the toll charges.

"When this is done, the majority of our customers are provided with a more economical and convenient service," Mr. Barnes said.

Telephone service in four exchanges will be changed considerably this fall at the same time as the toll-free service between Richmond Hill and Gormley becomes effective. Dial telephone systems will be introduced in Unionville, Stouffville and Markham, while standard Bell Telephone dial equipment will be placed in service in Gormley. Each of these exchanges will be provided with a wider toll-free calling area.

When these changes take place, all customers in these four exchanges will receive seven-figure numbers.



Smiles of success are reflected in the faces of four members of the Richmond Hill Curtain Club following the presentation of the Dominion Drama Festival Regional Trophy and cash prize of \$100 at Hart House Theatre on Saturday evening for their presentation of "Don't Listen Ladies". (Left to right) Mary Monks, who received the L. C. Tobias

Award for best supporting actress; Margot Crack, president of the club; Ann Featherstonhaugh, winner of the Hugh Eayrs Trophy for best visual presentation and Stephen Ker Appley, who received the Edgar Stone Challenge Trophy for direction. The play will take part in the Dominion Drama Festival in Winnipeg during the week of May 14-19.

Group Goes To Winnipeg After National Honours

The Curtain Club once again has brought fame to Richmond Hill.

On Saturday night "Don't Listen Ladies" won all the major awards in the 1962 Central Ontario Drama Festival. The club now goes forward for the Dominion finals to be held in Winnipeg the week of May 14th to 19th.

The adjudicator, Guy Beaulne was unstinting in his admiration for "a brilliant production done with taste, very intelligent direction and a perfect cast. Director Stephen Ker Appley's expert handling of a very gay comedy was warmly applauded by Mr. Beaulne and Ann Featherstonhaugh, the set designer, received high praise for the visual presentation. Every detail of the production was perfect said Mr. Beaulne — the hair styles (D. Albert Brown Coiffures), the furniture (Sue Sweeney, Roz Anderson, Lou Donnelly), the clothes (Flavia Redelmeier, Laura Youle-White), the properties (Joy Madden and Gwen Sands), and not least the beautiful furs (Leslie Wise Ltd.) combining to produce the sophisticated elegance so important in this type of play. High praise indeed for Producer Esther Postlethwaite.

The casting was said to be near perfect. Gerry Crack impressed Mr. Beaulne with his interpretation of the very demanding role of Daniel Bachelier — "He has a wonderful flair for comedy, and Suzanne Grey as Madeleine was "ravishing". Valentine, Daniel's first wife, played by Margot Crack, and Blainet (David Coon) were also extremely well played and Mr. Beaulne felt very "fatherly" towards the delightful little maid (Margaret Cross). Alan Stebbings gave the audience a very amusing portrayal as Michel. Bill Ferguson as the Baron and Lou Donnelly as the Porter both gave faultless performances and made the adjudicator "very happy". Mary Monks playing the role of Julie, a red head in the true Toulouse-Lautree tradition convinced Mr. Beaulne to say that here was "the true actress".

As can be seen from these brief notes taken at the adjudication, Mr. Beaulne was greatly impressed with the Curtain Club's presentation and with the final announcement of the awards Richmond Hill's triumph was complete. The Curtain Club's awards are listed below:

Dominion Drama Festival Regional Trophy — Curtain Club for best production of a play.
Edgar Stone Challenge Trophy for Best Director — Stephen Ker Appley.

Hugh Eayrs Trophy for Best Visual Presentation — Ann Featherstonhaugh.
L. C. Tobias Award for Best Supporting Actress — Mary Monks.

Special Honourable Mention Best Actor — Gerry Crack.

Honourable Mention — Best Actress — Suzanne Grey.
Best Supporting Actor — Lou Donnelly.

Thus the Curtain Club either won or had honourable mentions in every category. Quite an achievement.

This has been a wonderful year for the Curtain Club. Last Fall, after very hard work throughout a hot summer, a grimy, oily garage was converted into a tastefully decorated bright little studio theatre. The very first production was a success winning the Canadian One Act Festival as the best Canadian play. A very successful run of "Quiet Weekend" followed and then the traditional English Fantomine at Christmas. The citizens of Richmond Hill salute you and wish you the very best of luck in your efforts to win the Dominion trophy. One thing is sure, this very lively and talented group of people who constitute the Curtain Club have worked very hard for their success. All they ask is the support of the public. Let us give it to them in full measure. They have earned it.

Markham Raise Back-dated

Policemen Given Bonus Increase Date Changed

Markham Township Police were given an additional bonus over and above the remainder of the municipality's staff when township council at its meeting this week adopted a new salary schedule and made increases retroactive to January 1st.

At a previous meeting council adopted a report giving an across-the-board increase of five per cent to all municipal employees, to be effective from March 1st. By the new arrangement the police will get this increase, plus-but will gain a benefit of a two-month back-dating on their increase. In case of a first-class constable this will amount to approximately \$35 to \$40.

Members of the township police forces have formerly had their telephone accounts paid by the township. This arrangement

Court Of Revision Set

Enumeration Completed For Vote On April 28th

The enumeration of voters in connection with the liquor licence vote scheduled for April 28th in Richmond Hill has been completed, says Town Clerk Russell Lynett, returning officer. This has been necessary as the vote is conducted on the same basis as a provincial vote.

A court of revision will be held on Friday, April 13th, in the municipal building. Revising officer will be local solicitor Norman Todd and clerk will be Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Mack Clement. The court will sit from 11 a.m. to noon; from 2 to 4 p.m. and from 7 to 9 p.m. Any person having any complaint about inclusion or non-inclusion of names may appear and lodge a complaint.

There are 21 polls in the town, with 8,175 voters. Those eligible to vote must be British subjects, 21 years old or more and must have resided in Richmond Hill not later than February 28th. The polling stations will be in schools and at the town office. Lists of polling places will be published. An

Wins \$537 Jackpot

A Richvale resident rode home on clouds last Monday when Mrs. O'Brien of 51 Birch Avenue captured the jackpot at the weekly bingo of the Richmond Hill Lions Club.

The odds were long. 537 players were present when Mrs. O'Brien excitedly shrieked 'bingo' to capture the worthwhile jackpot. Crowds at the event have been increasing steadily in recent weeks, aiding local Lions in their drive for funds for charitable purposes.

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J. J. Waddell First President

Shrine Club Is Formed In Hill

The inaugural meeting of the new Shrine Club was held at Richmond Heights Plaza Restaurant on April 2nd, with 33 members and visitors present. It is the first in the immediate district and covers the area from Steeles Avenue to Newmarket. The club has been authorized by Rameses Temple and Illustrious Potentate Eber J. Hall.

The club was founded by J. J. Waddell of Richmond Hill, who is the president for 1962. Other officers are Jack Harrop, vice-president; Jack Chown, secretary; William Harvey, treasurer. The organization was given the title of "El Shamalay." Four Past Potentates of the Rameses Temple took part in the inauguration.

Speker for the first gathering was Past Potentate Charles A. Fraser, who dwelt on what has been called "the world's

Appeal To Minister Gets Results

Top Level Crossings Conference Seen As Result Of Ottawa Visit

Canada's Minister of Transport was told at Ottawa last week that the new CNR bypass leading to the big marshalling yards in Vaughan Township was not helpful to Markham Township but was hurting it all down the line, intimated the municipality's solicitor, J. Douglas Lucas, Q.C., as he reported to Markham Township Council on a trip to Ottawa last week to discuss the crossing problems created for Markham. In the group from Markham were Reeve Wilfred Dean, Councillor Charles Hooper, Eric Jergensen, consulting engineer for the township, and Mr. Lucas. They met Hon. Leon Balcer, Minister of Transport, and complained about the railway crossings which the CNR was trying to force on the township.

The township was originally promised by the railway, it has been reported on numerous occasions, that there would be no level crossings. The Minister was very patient and listened carefully, giving the deputation an hour and a half, said Mr. Lucas. He suggested a top level conference which would include representatives from Markham and Metro Planning Boards, the township council, railway and township engineers. Markham Council at its meeting early this week, decided to try and arrange the date at a joint meeting of council and planning board scheduled for April 5th. Co-operation Acknowledged

Mr. Lucas said that it was a good thing that the township had sent a deputation to Ottawa. He believed that something practical had been accomplished. He paid special tribute, as did others on the delegation, to the assistance of Frank McGhee, M.P. for York-Scarboro. "He really went to bat for us," said Reeve Wilfred Dean. Mr. C. A.

Sorry! Bad News On Way

Tax Increase Is Certain 'Uncontrollables' Known

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The formal bad news isn't ready yet insofar as Richmond Hill is concerned. Department and board and committee and commission heads and others have turned in their annual requests for funds and councillors in long sessions have started the paring process. Unless they can come up with a miracle, which according to advance information seems unlikely, taxpayers can be certain of an increase. As always, figures over which the seven persons elected to council have no control, influence the situation.

The climb in the cost of education will once again take a big bite at the tax dollar. The increase in high school costs will account for an extra 1.65 mills. The public school board is asking for approximately two-thirds of a mill more. York County will chew up still another mill. So, even if town

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