

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.



Vaughan Music Supervisor Hugh Martin directs the school choir at the Thornhill Public School Christmas concert held at Holy Trinity Parish Hall (Photo by Barbour)

Thornhill Christmas Concert

(By Margaret I. McLean)

As a small child I well remember reciting at a family Christmas "concert" the lines, "There's music in the kettle, There's music in the spout, There's music in me, But you can't get it out!", and this statement has continued true to this day.

I'm sure, however, that if I had ever had a teacher as talented as Miss Janet Dalgleish, things would have been much different. Her ability to get music out of dozens of children, of all ages and stages, was amply demonstrated at the Christmas concert presented by the students of Thornhill Public School, at Holy Trinity Parish Hall on December 18. Miss Dalgleish directed three choirs during the evening, with infinite grace and evident enthusiasm. This enthusiasm was reflected in the intent faces of the children as they followed her every gesture and produced some very fine music.

The evening was opened with the singing by some 30 children of the grade 8 choir of "O Canada" in which they were directed

by Mr. Hugh Martin, director of music for Vaughan Township public schools. Miss Dalgleish then conducted them as they sang "Rejoice Emmanuel," "In a Bleak Midwinter," "The Twelve Days of Christmas" and a jolly round, "Christmas is Coming, the Goose is Getting Fat".

Later in the program, the grade 7 choir, also conducted by Miss Dalgleish sang a group of carols of several nations, from the beautiful Huron carol of Canada, a French carol, arranged by Bizet, "March of the Three Kings", and a French-Canadian carol "Whence O Shepherd maiden" which was sung in French to the lovely Negro spiritual "Go Tell it on the Mountain".

The program closed with a group of five Christmas songs sung by the Grade 7 and 8 "Special Choir" directed by Miss Dalgleish. These students, most of them members of the other two choirs, had volunteered to form this "special" choir, which says much for the enthusiasm for singing which Miss Dalgleish has engendered in the

school. The selections by this choir were quite varied and ranged from "All my heart this night rejoices" to a lovely rendition of "The Drummer Boy" and finishing with a spirited offering of "We Wish You a Merry Christmas".

An unusual turn to this type of concert was given by the demonstration of tumbling skills put on first by boys of grade 3 and then by boys of grade 8.

The boys were put through their paces by Principal John Martin who has been drilling them at lunch time all fall. Here again was evidence of how a skillful teacher has been able to impart enthusiasm into a group of very different boys, so that each one was quite obviously doing his utmost. Their respect for Mr. Martin and their rapport with him shone through everything they did.

The grade 3 boys progressed through simple forward rolls, singly and then in pairs, to double rolls and head stands. Their valiant hand stands over Mr. Martin's broad back were a treat to see, although many of them owed their success to a little assist from Mr. Martin's helping hand.

The grade 8 tumblers led off with an impressive pyramid. They then demonstrated forward rolls, head stands, flips both over Mr. Martin and through a hula hoop. Several of the older boys then did flips over the backs of five smaller boys kneeling side by side, although Mr. Martin had demurred at this, warning the boys that they would probably scare their mothers. Mr. Martin gamely took part in most of this even doing a very creditable head stand and doing a double roll with one of the boys. This caused considerable laughter as Mr. Martin obviously had no trouble rolling the boy over, but when it came time for the student to roll Mr. Martin up and over, this was only accomplished with evident strain and after several false starts.

A very spectacular part of this display was when one of the larger boys stood with a smaller one on his shoulders and then they both started hula hoops turning about their hips. Another display that received a good hand was when four boys locked shoulders, supporting two more, who supported another upon whose back rode the smallest tumbler from the grade 3 group, Ricky Hopper. With his red hair and big grin Ricky made a fine cowboy, holding on with one hand and waving to the crowd with the other as the boys walked from one side of the stage to the other.

The whole display was one to bring cheer to any high school gym teacher who might have seen it. It was a fine thing too to see the bigger boys using their size and strength as it should be used - to support and assist those smaller and weaker than themselves, and this lesson will surely be carried over into other fields. And Mr. Martin should have a gold medal for his devotion and hard work - and also for the fact that he was able to go through all these antics, in his sock feet, and with absolutely no loss of dignity. (And while we're at it, let's give a prize to the mothers who got all those boys up on the platform with no holes in their socks!)

Variety was given to the program by the presentation of a play "In the Land of Dreams Come True" by the grade 6 class of Miss M. Auld. Chris Trow was a handsome and able narrator while the actors were Wendy Wright, Judy Ashworth, Paul Moore, David Pick, Susan Harley, Ricky Wiles, Lynn Antonaci, Ted Sues, Barbara Jeffery, Jeff Neely and Peggy Burridge. The announcer was Roddy Holme-Douglas, lights were handled by Randy Wood and sound effects were produced by Ken Matheson and Garry Hughes.

Another interesting number was given by Miss L. Acheson's grade 5 class who exhibited considerable skill in choral speaking, a type of group recitation. They gave two numbers, "Skating" and an amusing story in verse called "The Enchanted Shirt".

An interesting contribution to the musical side of the evening was that presented by a group of Grade 7 and 8 students playing recorders. They were directed by Mr. Hugh Martin and played a varied group of songs including "Santa Lucia", "Oh How Lovely is the Evening", "Come All Ye Faithful" and "Silent Night".

Mr. John Martin made an entertaining M.C. and introduced to the audience Mr. J. Gibson, superintendent of schools for Vaughan, Inspector R. MacDonald and Trustee T. Goodwin. He also introduced Rev. and Mrs. Minton Johnston of Thornhill Baptist Church and Rev. and Mrs. D. Evans of Thornhill Presbyterian Church who were in the audience.

A comedy bit was supplied by a "Symphony Orchestra". This consisted of Don Sproule at the piano and an orchestra made up of a banjo, a pair of bongo drums and several recorders. They were given a good hand for "Calypso Boy". Their second number, after a good deal of impressive "tuning up" turned out to be some hearty hand clapping to accompany the piano.

After the program was over, this musical ensemble provided the music for an impromptu exhibition of "twisting" first by the older grades and finally by the grade 3's - who appeared prepared to keep it up all night when this reporter left the hall!

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Thornhill Notes

Baptist Church News

Mrs. R. Jardine's home at Richmond Hill was the scene of the Christmas meeting of the WA and mission circle of Thornhill Baptist Church on December 11. Mrs. M. Martin, president of the mission circle opened the meeting with a Christmas poem and prayer. After the election of officers for 1963, Mrs. R. Knight, president of the WA conducted a short business session and brought to the ladies' attention the new cook books that had been compiled and were ready for sale. A cot quilt put together by the senior ladies was presented to Mrs. D. McWilliam for her new daughter. The presentation was made by Mrs. McConnell who was out for the first time after suffering a broken hip.

Mrs. H. Ellam, leader of the south group then took charge of the meeting and Christmas poems and readings were given by Mrs. J. Calvert, Mrs. H. Wilson and Mrs. R. Knight. Mrs. Ellam read a poem composed by herself. Interspersed between the readings, some of the lesser known carols were sung by Mrs. H. Howlett, Mrs. H. Evans, Mrs. H. Ellam and Miss G. Stevens, with Mrs. A. Kent at the piano. To conclude, a sing-song of carols was enjoyed by all. The refreshments were served by ladies of the south group and were highlighted by delicious mince tarts.

The couple's club held their Christmas dinner at the Summit View Restaurant. It is understood that those who were unable to attend missed a very fine evening of food, fun and fellowship. Small gifts were exchanged and the evening ended with carol singing.

On Saturday, December 15, the children gathered at the church for dessert and a cold drink which was the beginning of another very successful Sunday school Christmas party. Almost every class prepared something to contribute to the program, from the very youngest child up to the junior classes. The arrival of Santa bearing a gift for each child ended another successful afternoon.

Against a tableau of the manger scene with Mary (Leslie Knight) and Joseph (Jimmy Calvert), the Sunday school children and the adults presented their white gifts at the morning service on December 16th. Later, the members of the Junior high fellowship helped sort and pack the various articles, and they were later taken down to Miss Stella Garverlock of the Christian friendship committee, to be used in packing hampers for various of the not-so-fortunate New Canadian Baptist families in the down-town area.

The evening service on December 16th was in charge of the CGIT when they led the congregation in the national Christmas vespers service. This service, which was used across Canada, was prepared by Mrs. Charles Milton of Pickering, and was under the direction of Mrs. June Schope and Mrs. Grace Payne.

Lions Club Christmas Party
A group of some 90 youngsters of the Thornhill area were entertained by the Thornhill Lions Club at their annual Christmas party on December 17th, at Thornhill United Church. After enjoying hot dogs, ice cream and cookies, the children had a sing-song, led by Lion Ellert Sand, accompanied by his violin. They were then treated to a fine puppet show produced by Mrs. E. Crabtree and her son Brian of Toronto. As well as the traditional Punch and Judy show, the children saw a hilarious production which saw a group of bad snow men trying to prevent Santa from doing his traditional Christmas eve chores. They were finally routed by Santa's reindeers however, and all ended happily. Mrs. Crabtree is a professional puppeteer and the Lions were very lucky to have obtained her services for their party, a fact which was well borne out by the children's delight in the performance.

Highlight of the evening was of course the visit from Santa Claus, who at other times of the year answers to the name of Bill Baker. As well as a fat Christmas stocking, Santa had a handsome present for each child, so everyone went home stuffed to the gills and blissfully happy.

The party was arranged by the boys and girls committee, under the chairmanship of Lion Robert Priestman. As well as the annual Christmas party, this committee is responsible for the sponsoring of the junior ten team at the high school, sponsorship of hockey and baseball teams, and the contributions to Guides and Brownies, Cubs and Scouts and the annual donation of \$150.00 to the library for children's books. These and many other activities, keep this committee one of the busiest in the organization.

Christmas Thoughts
Well, kind folks and gentle readers, by the time you read this, Christmas of 1962 will be well over and your nervous and digestive systems should be getting on an even keel again, in time to cope with New Year's celebrations. As I write this, however, (in the wee, small hours) all the Christmas alarms and excursions lie before me and it is thus with faint heart that I pen these lines. May I say however, that I hope your Christmas festivities were merry and not too exhausting, and that the New Year will bring if not your heart's desire, at least a close approximation to it.

I would like also to thank at this time, all you lovely people who have so kindly and graciously supplied me with news during the past year. How I love to hear that voice on the end of the line that says "Mrs. McLean, I have some news for you." It is both interesting and amazing to hear of the variety of activities that go on in the Thornhill area and I love meeting all you people on the phone. It is quite a thrill to finally meet someone in the flesh too, after I have known them on the phone for months.

So keep the calls coming in the new year. I'm never too busy to take down another piece of news!

Richvale News

Correspondent
Mrs. Anne Hewitt
78, 16th Ave.
TU. 4-7645

The 1st Richvale Scouts and Cubs held their annual Christmas party on December 18 at the Legion hall on Carrville Rd. The mothers, fathers, sisters and brothers were invited. There were around 90 children there. Carols were sung and refreshments served by the 1st Richvale Ladies Auxiliary of Cubs and Scouts. Santa Claus arrived during the singing of Jingle Bells, presents were distributed and all the children received a bag of candies. During the evening the draw for turkeys was held. First prize went to Mrs. D. Godman, Duncan Road, second to Collins Hardwaré and third prize to Mrs. Dunsome of Britt, Ont.

Deepest sympathy is extended to Mr. T. B. Elliott, Oak Ave. and his family in the passing of his beloved wife and mother, Mrs. S. Elliott.

The community was shocked in hearing of the death of Mrs. Kay Reynolds Edgar Avenue. Mrs. Reynolds has lived in the area for a long time. Deepest sympathy is extended to her husband and family.

On December 16, Mr. J. Rider while cleaning snow off the roof of their home fell and broke his hip. He is in Branson Hospital and will be there for another three weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Hewitt of Toronto, Mr. and Mrs. J. Rukaruck and family of Oshawa were recent visitors at the home of Mr and Mrs. C. Hewitt, 16th Avenue.

Your correspondent would like to take this time to wish all her readers a Happy New Year.

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High on our list of holiday joys is the opportunity of meeting and greeting our many friends throughout the district.

Our sincere best wishes to all with the prayer that the coming year may be one of peace and contentment

*"You are my sunshine...
My only sunshine..."*

*"You make me happy,
when skies are grey!"*

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Correspondent:
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AV. 5-4001

Christmas At Church
Rev. Higgins was in the pulpit at Carrville United Church Sunday morning to deliver his Christmas message which was based on the Christmas Story "No Room at the Inn".

He commented on the beautiful red poinsettias which were placed in the church by the Carrville United Church Women.

Neighborhood Notes
The newly formed Carrville Animal Defenders Club enjoyed a Christmas party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Wark, Thursday, December 20. More details about this new club later.

David Wark who is doing very well with his music played selections on the piano at the Thistleton Hospital Christmas party and also at the Toronto Vegetarian Group recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Risebrough spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Bone.

Your correspondent takes this opportunity to wish one and all the very best there is for a happy, prosperous New Year.

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BAKER ELECTRONIC SERVICE

Co-convenors of the affair were Mrs. George Baxter and Mrs. G. R. Durrant.

Guests of honor were Rev. Ralph Villella and Rev. Charles Zanoni assistants at St. Paschal's.

A gala Christmas buffet was held by St. Paschal's Baylon Catholic Women's League in the parish hall December 17. A holiday program was enjoyed after the supper.

Mr. G. W. Marlatt was auctioneer for the evening. Guests joined in singing their favorite Christmas carols.

Mr. and Mrs. Les Brown, Crestwood Road, attended the christening of their first grandson Robert Ross Wilson last Sunday in Scarborough. Proud parents were Mr. and Mrs. K. Wilson of Scarborough (the former Jean Brown).

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence McDonald and family arrived recently from Germany, where they have been stationed with the Canadian forces, to visit with his sister and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ray McEwen.

They haven't seen each other for five years. He is now stationed in Canada at Petawawa Camp.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Risebrough spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Bone.