

We Shall Miss Him

By MONA ROBERTSON
(Senior Citizen Director)

When word came last Friday that William "Bill" Medhurst had "Slept Peacefully Away", early that morning, his friends among the senior citizens of Richmond Hill, were engulfed in a wave of sorrow.

They were not sorrow over his death, for Bill, who was 71, had suffered with a painful heart ailment during the past few years, since his retirement as a policeman.

No, Bill Medhurst's "friends" said, "That was a good way for Bill to go. In his sleep." It was the only comfort they had for they had lost a dear friend.

But the sorrow came with the realization that, true to

character, Bill had slipped away from them quietly, without the fuss of saying goodbye, or any further to do.

But his friends will miss him so. The senior's day centre, which Bill so ardently supported, when his health permitted him to be out of doors, will seem just a little dark, without the sunshine of his cheerful smile, and the bright wink of an eye, especially for the ladies, which was so much a part of Bill's personality.

The pals he played 'crib' with, at the centre, and all the club members, will miss Bill Medhurst's courtesy and solicitude on their behalf. It was Bill Medhurst who was usually first on his feet, to say, "Thanks, on behalf of the club

members", whenever an individual, or a group, came to the meetings to entertain the members.

In his executive work with the senior citizens he was a charter member and the club's representative to town council. Bill was a quiet influence for good. He respected order, and peace, and fellowship. When problems arose, as they do in every club which is actively growing, Bill was the one who said, "Let's show a little faith".

Yes, we're all going to miss you, Bill Medhurst. But, we are so very glad we had the honor of knowing you. How better can we phrase the feelings of his friends, than by saying, "He had the stature of a man. Goodbye old friend, sleep well."

Theme Of Local Rally

YWCA World Membership Day

"The concern of women and girls for hunger in the world can be met by sharing our resources," was the challenging statement of Mrs. Ronald Standen, vice-president of World YWCA, as she closed her address to a large audience of young women Wednesday evening. Mrs. Standen had combined the slogans of the past three years to achieve this statement. The Richmond Hill YWCA Neighbors, who made up the audience, were observing World Membership Day at an evening rally in the education building of the Richmond Hill United Church.

Mrs. Drummond Fraser was chairman of the event. Mrs. Standen has been a member of the World Council of YWCA for the past eight years and has been chairman of the mutual service and extension committee. Mutual service, she said, implies the sharing of resources - people, money, ideas, prayer, friendship and publications. The 1963 budget has been set at \$62,630 for this purpose.

Requests are received by this committee from national associations throughout the world and although sometimes priorities have to be made, most of the needs are met, if not immediately, before the year is up, as other national associations learn of the needs and decide to answer the call for help.

Five Concerns
This year the YWCA theme is the "Concern of Women and Girls" everywhere in the world, and the speaker described these concerns as: (1) family, (2) work, (3) education, (4) women in public life, and (5) overall image of women in society today.

The World YWCA, she said is a federation of national associations in over 70 countries. It is a movement having an entity of its own and acts on its own to relieve suffering and give service where and when needed.

Mrs. Standen quoted Mitchell Sharp, newly appointed Minister of Trade & Commerce, as saying, some months ago, that Canadians should help raise the standard of living of less fortunate peoples, not because of fear of communism, not because it would be good for business, but simply because there are less fortunate people in the world today. She expressed the hope that under his leadership, Canadians would contribute more towards achieving freedom throughout the world. She said, "What we lack is not the means but the will. In 1961 the average Canadian had an income of \$1,500 - in many countries in Asia, Africa and South America, the average income is less than \$100 a year. It is sheer hypocrisy to say we cannot afford to help."

"Freedom From Hunger"
She spoke of a German pastor who by going without one meal a week and persuading others to follow this plan and contribute the money saved to the "Freedom From Hunger" campaign has been able to support many good works particularly in India.

Four other groups were organized within a year, and all carry out a very active program.

A detailed account of the local YWCA work will be found in Elizabeth Kelson's column "Rambling Around" on the editorial page of this week's issue. Last week Mrs. Kelson gave a detailed account of the history of YWCA.

Mrs. Harry Endeau, a member of the Richmond Hill Advisory Committee, as well as being a former vice-president of the national YWCA, expressed the thanks of the meeting to the guest speaker.

Also present were Mrs. W. R. Moggridge, chairman of the national extension committee; Mrs. Agnes Roy, executive director of YWCA of Canada; Mrs. Tuttle, former member of the national board; Miss Marion Foster, who has guided the local groups since their inception; and newly appointed members of the local advisory committee, Mrs. Don Little, Mrs. N. Davison, and Mrs. A. M. Loughridge.

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Supervisor Mrs. Carlotta Brodrick, Mrs. Roy Ross and several of the children watch how the sap is gathered from the trees. The children are (left to right) Kevin Smith, Ian McLean, Kevin Jamieson and Mary Ross. (Photo by Barbour)



A group of eager tots watch with interest as sap is boiled on its way to becoming maple syrup. (Photo by Barbour)

Tiny Tots Visit Baker's Bush

By MARGARET I. McLEAN
A group of nearly 30 youngsters from the Thornhill Nursery School, with almost as many mothers and three teachers had a happy time recently exploring Mr. Amos Baker's sugar bush on the Langstaff Sideroad.
The children were given a kind welcome by Mr. Baker who took them off from his work to tell how they begin to gather the sap each year "when the days get warm and the buds come back". Then taking two of the children by hand, he led the troupe into the evaporating shed where they were considerably awed by the clouds of steam rising from the tanks and the glow of the wood fire below them when the door was opened for re-fuelling.
ENJOY SYRUP
Emerging again into the sunlight, the children enjoyed samples of syrup. Licking out the little paper cups of this sweet treat kept them quiet for almost a minute.
Then they scampered along the path through the bush, with many forays to examine the

bright blue pails collecting sap, drop by drop, the tractor with its huge mud-covered wheels, the large wood piles.
PLASTIC PIPING
The bright buckets hanging from the trees will soon be a thing of the past, however, as this time-honored process changes to keep pace with modern times. Most of the sugar bush is now interlaced with gleaming strands of slender plastic piping. The strands, looped from tree to tree, glisten in the sunlight as tiny air bubbles move slowly along with the crystal sap. A dozen or so trees are linked together this way and the sap falls by gravity to a central pipe which goes underground. From here it is pumped back to the evaporating tanks.
Mr. Baker's sugar bush now has some ten miles of this plastic piping. At 5 1/2¢ per foot, this represents a considerable financial investment but of course, it saves the time and labour formerly required in driving through the bush, emptying the pails into a tank and driving it back to be boiled. It must keep the sap cleaner too, so if the syrup doesn't taste quite the same as it used to in days gone by, perhaps it

is because not so many bugs and twigs are boiled with it! And while some of the oldsters may sigh for the old ways, the nursery school youngsters were even more fascinated with the plastic piping than with the buckets. They were full of questions and carefully examined where the pipes were inserted into the trees, and followed the hose to where it joined the underground pipes. They clambered excitedly over some huge flat tree stumps, some of them nearly four feet across and watched with interest while two young men worked on some smaller fallen trees with axes.
Then they piled into the cars and home again. But don't think their visit to the sugar bush ended there. It will be relived again and again, furnishing material for not only endless chatter, but subjects for drawing and painting, as well as block building and other creative play.
So thank you, Mr. Baker, for your hospitality and the hours of past and future pleasure you have afforded these little ones.

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