



MR. AND MRS. C. L. JOHNSTON (Photo By Robinson)

## Wedding Of Wide Interest

A wedding of wide interest in the Thornhill area took place in the Thornhill United Church August 17 when Miss Nancy Margaret Simpson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willard F. Simpson, 7681 Yonge Street, Thornhill, became the bride of Mr. Clarence Leslie Johnston, son of Rev. and Mrs. Minton C. Johnston, 8000 Yonge Street, Thornhill.

The bride, who has lived in Thornhill since childhood, is a graduate of Thornhill Secondary School, Toronto Teachers' College and McMaster University. The groom is also a graduate of McMaster University. His father is the minister of Thornhill Baptist Church.

The double-ring ceremony was performed by Rev. H. J. Rowan, assisted by Rev. Johnston. The bride, given in marriage by her father, chose a floor-length gown of candlelight brocade satin, long sleeved, styled on princess lines with a dropped waistline and back fullness falling to a chapel train. Her elbow length veil of silk illusion fell from a circlet of white blossoms and she carried a cascade of creamy sweetheart roses, stephanotis and ivy.

The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Jane Simpson as maid of honour and Mrs. Ronald Flett of Toronto and Miss Gwendolyn Rattle of Port Rowan as bridesmaids. Her attendants were gowned alike in cocktail length sleeveless dresses of Dior blue peau-de-seoie styled with A-line skirts and back fullness. The dresses were completed with matching lace overblouses. The bridesmaids carried cascades of white shasta daisies and ivy and wore matching circlets of shasta daisies on their hair.

The groom was attended by his brother, Mr. Alan Johnston of Toronto, as best man. Ushers were Mr. Roger Cunningham of Toronto and Mr. Donald Young of Woodstock.

Reception in Garden Following the ceremony, a reception was held in the garden at the home of the bride's parents. The mother of the bride received in a sheath-style

dress of rose Honan silk with a draped skirt. Her corsage was of pale mauve orchids. The groom's mother wore a sheath style dress of wheat-coloured silk and had a corsage of yellow roses.

For her going-away outfit, the bride wore a sheath-style dress of pink wool with a matching coat and hat, black accessories and an orchid corsage.

Out-of-town guests included Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lehr of Florida, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Johnston of Windsor, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jenkins of St. John, New Brunswick, Mrs. Dorothy Smith of Ottawa, Mr. and Mrs. Robert McIntosh of Orillia, Mrs. Wayman Roberts and her son Duncan of Vancouver, and Mr. and Mrs. John Dryden of Brooklyn.

On their return from a motor trip, Mr. and Mrs. Johnston will reside at Burlington. Here Nancy will teach grade 6 and vocal music while Leslie will teach geography at Saltfleet District High School in Stoney Creek.

Incidentally, Donald Plaxton made a big first in this area as far as I am concerned. He knocked on my door and left me his card and this is the first time in the 12 years I have lived in the area

that I ever had the opportunity of meeting a candidate for office face to face. (Of course I didn't think of any of the things I would have liked to ask him until after he was gone!)

Rev. H. J. Veals, assistant minister at Thornhill United Church, and Mrs. Veals also spent an enjoyable continental holiday this summer. They spent the month of June and half of July visiting their daughter, Mrs. A. Ball, and her family, at Lewes not far from Brighton in Sussex. Mr. Veals' two sisters, Miss Veals and Mrs. Vaughan of Omamee took the trip with them. Using Lewes as their home base, the four took many interesting side trips. Both native Canadians (Mr. Veals of Peterborough and Mrs. Veals of Manitoba) the Veals were interested in visiting those parts of England from which their ancestors had come.

Yorkshire and while visiting Barnard Castle there, she was also able to see two of the old farms where her people had lived. Barnard Castle is a market town and they were interested in seeing the old Market Cross, a round, pagoda-like building of stone, where farmers had for years offered their produce for sale.

They also visited the lovely old village of Halberton in Devon near Exeter, which Mr. Veals' grandfather left 120 years ago to come to Canada. Many old cathedrals were also visited - Exeter Cathedral, Salisbury Cathedral, as well as Stonehenge. They also made a day long excursion to Dieppe and visited London several times for the day. While in London they were pleased to attend a service at Wesley chapel and saw the house where he had lived there.

Of course, quite the nicest thing they saw on the trip was their nine-month old grandson, the something new that had been added since their last trip to England in 1956 when Mr. Veals officiated at his daughter's wedding. And with this added attraction, it seems a safe bet that the Veals will take another holiday "over the water" before too long.

# 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.

## Community Happenings In Thornhill

Mrs. F. W. Plaxton of 115 John Street returned recently from a month in Europe. Much of her time was spent visiting relatives in England but she took a two-week tour visiting France, Germany, Switzerland, Belgium and Holland. While Mrs. Plaxton found the tour most enjoyable, she would have preferred to spend a little longer on it, as there was so much to see. She found Switzerland particularly beautiful and was amazed at the amount of industry in Germany and the general "business" of the people.

Mrs. Plaxton arrived home in time to be plunged head over heels into her son's election campaign. Donald Plaxton of Richmond Hill received the Liberal nomination in York North in May and Mrs. Plaxton finds herself "the G.I. Joe" of his campaign, doing a dozen different jobs as they crop up. Mrs. Plaxton is, of course, no stranger to such campaigns. She is the vice-president of the York North Liberal Women's Association. Donald, she says, comes quite naturally to his interest in things political. "He was brought up on politics."

St. Luke's was sorry to lose its principal, Sister Rose of Lima who has gone to St. Gerard's at Ottawa. The new principal will be Sister Annetus of the Sisters of St. Joseph at Morrow Park. All the teaching Sisters of St. Joseph are to have University degrees eventually and those with degrees now are being sent as principals to schools with an enrolment of over 300 pupils.

The St. Luke's Separate School Board consists of its chairman, Mr. V. DeMarco, treasurer, Mr. J. P. Loughran and trustee Mr. Ernest Brennan. Dr. W. R. LaCroix was appointed secretary, but is not a trustee. The Board's jurisdiction encompasses an area within a three mile radius of St. Luke's Church.

St. Luke's was opened in 1957 with four classrooms. Three more rooms were added in 1960, two more in 1962. Last year the kindergarten operated only half days, with 22 pupils, but this year, with 40 kindergarten students, there will be both morning and afternoon classes.

During the summer, a stage has been built in the playground, the property has been landscaped, a permanent playground has been installed and the grounds have been sodded and fenced.

Another Thornhill resident recently returned from a European holiday is Miss Helen Coleman of Elgin Street. Miss Coleman was away for six months and from her base in London, made several interesting forays into the continent. For the last six weeks of her stay, Miss Coleman had the company of her niece Kathy Percival, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Percival of Elgin Street.

Miss Dolly Ketola of 37 Meadowview Avenue returned just last week from a seven week holiday which she spent in two widely separated places, Scandinavia and South Africa.

Born in the suburbs of Helsinki, Miss Ketola left Finland at the age of three but found many relatives there on her first trip to her forgotten homeland. She spent three weeks in Finland, made a brief trip to Sweden and then flew to Johannesburg in South Africa to visit her brother. She found South Africa a beautiful country, particularly the coastal cities. These she visited while taking a cruise down the East coast on the Indian Ocean. Johannesburg, in the centre of a mining and industrial area she found not quite so beautiful but interesting. Her visit coincided with the winter season and although the days were quite comfortable with the temperature climbing sometimes as high as 75 degrees, the nights were very chilly, with the thermometer often dropping to the freezing point. As the houses are not centrally heated, Miss Ketola found them quite cool.

While she did not feel that a visit of such short duration entitled one to comment on the political situation in South Africa, Miss Ketola felt that they are faced with a very difficult situation there, which would need a good deal of time to be solved. On her return trip, Miss Ketola flew to Rome, Paris and London. Connected with Thornhill is the school for Retarded Children since its inception, in the fall Miss Ketola will initiate an adult program in connection with the school, for graduates of the school and other young people over 18 who qualify.

Did you notice that something new has been added at Maria's Travel Agency? A driving school, no less! This is a branch of the Roberts Driving School of Toronto. So Dad, instead of having fits trying to teach your teen-age daughter to drive, you can now let Roberts share the strain.

Noticed also in Maria's last week, a fine collection of interesting children's L.P. records. Included were song stories of Ali Baba, Alice in Wonderland, Snow White, Fables, and many other favourite children's stories.

Hope there will be a good turnout for tonight's display of synchronized swimming by the Thornhill Synchronized Swimming Club. Under the leadership of Pat Vlassoff and Ann Jeffreys, 15 girls have been practising this difficult art all summer, so come prepared to be impressed! The show this year is called "The Wizard's Time Machine" and will be a series of group routines illustrating the people the Wizard meets as he goes back through time and meets people of various civilizations from the ancient Egyptians to the modern beatniks. Choreography and script are by Pat Vlassoff. So be at the pool tonight at 8 sharp - that's August 29th, the Thornhill Swimming Pool.

The Fraters have no family here but many relatives in England and feel that they would like to spend their remaining years close to them. Mrs. Frater comes from a family of ten, all the surviving members of whom are overseas. She has also warm feelings for other European countries, having travelled all over Europe and teaching school wherever she went. In World War I, she was caught in Hungary, having been teaching school in Budapest.

The Fraters went to England for three months two years ago, to see conditions there at first hand and Mrs. Frater spent last winter also in England, to see if she could put up with the winter weather. Undaunted by one of the worst winters in years, she felt that she could become acclimatized again although she knows "we will miss the blue skies of Canada". They will

miss their many friends in Thornhill and their lovely garden too, Mrs. Frater said, "but we can make another garden".

If Mrs. Frater was as generous to all her visitors as she was to me two years ago, she has contributed much to many gardens in Canada. Two plants she gave me then have bloomed abundantly in my garden ever since and will continue to call her kind generosity to mind in years to come.

Many Thornhill residents were pleased to have guests from far corners of Canada and the world during the recent Anglican Congress. Col. and Mrs. A. J. Everett of 118 Westwood Lane had as their dinner guests one evening, Bishop and Mrs. R. F. Gibson of Richmond, Virginia, Canon J. E. Wilkinson of western New York and Rev. and Mrs. D. W. Hambridge of Caledonia, B.C. Caledonia is 400 miles north of Vancouver and the Hambridges drove from there to Toronto with their three year old daughter.

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## OPENING

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### THE ONTARIO MUNICIPAL BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF Section 34 of The Planning Act (R.S.O. 1960, c. 296)

- and -

IN THE MATTER OF an application by the Corporation of the Township of Markham for approval of proposed Amendment Number 23 to the Official Plan of the Township of Markham Planning Area replacing the original Official Plan of the Township of Markham Planning Area as a reference to this Board by the Honourable the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

APPOINTMENT FOR HEARING

THE ONTARIO MUNICIPAL BOARD hereby appoints Tuesday, the 3rd day of September, 1963, at the hour of half-past ten o'clock in the forenoon (Local Time), in the Township Hall (at Buttonville), Ontario, for the hearing of all parties interested in supporting or opposing this application.

DATED at Toronto this 2nd day of August, 1963.

(Signed) B. Vickers,  
SECRETARY.

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### EXPLANATORY NOTE

This amendment constitutes a new Official Plan which replaces the present Plan which has been in effect since 1956. The new Plan was prepared in 1962 and explained at public meetings in the spring and summer of that year. It has since been referred to the Ontario Municipal Board for a hearing.

The new Plan provides for the overall development of the Municipality for a period of approximately the next 20 years and deals with land use, community development, road development and timing of urban development.

### SPECIAL NOTICE

All owners of land abutting the Township of Markham limits and located in the Village of Markham, Village of Stouffville, and Town of Richmond Hill, are hereby notified of the above-mentioned application.

### NOTICE

The entire Amendment Number 23 is available for inspection by the public during business hours from Monday to Friday inclusive at the office of the Town Clerk in the Municipal Building at Buttonville.

DATED at the Township of Markham this 15th day of August, 1963.

H. C. T. CRISP,  
Clerk,  
Township of Markham,  
R.R. No. 2, Gormley, Ontario.

# Thornhill Pool's 14th Year A Record

BY MARGARET McLEAN In its 14th year of operation, the Thornhill Swimming Pool appears to have had just about a record season. Extremely hot weather in June made some admission records - over 1,500 on one blistering day - and also made sales of season tickets well above average. This year, some 875 children, 200 students and 275 adults had season tickets to the pool.

This very heavy use of the pool, plus very warm weather created some maintenance problems, notably the growth of algae on the sides and bottom of the pool. For only the second time in its history, it was necessary to drain the pool during the season. This was after a long hot spell when the temperature of the water had been around 80 degrees for about 10 days, which favoured the growth of algae.

The water was drained out, the sides and bottom of the pool washed down and it was then refilled. To fill the pool takes some 16 hours and uses around 200,000 gallons of water. Previously supplied by a well, the pool now uses the Vaughan Township water. The pool drains out through pipes laid underneath the ball park and into the Don River.

First patrons into the newly-filled pool found to their shocked surprise that the water temperature was a chilly 57 degrees. Because of the cool spell in August, it took some little time for the water to come up to a more enjoyable temperature, but it is now around the 70 degree mark.

In spite of the very heavy use of the pool and the warm weather, the bacterial count of the water was kept within safe limits. The pool is operated under regulations set down by the Ontario Government and is inspected by a member of the York County Health Unit weekly. Samples of water are taken from both pools and sent to an Ontario Government laboratory in Toronto for bacteriological tests, and only once this year was there a poor report on the water.

This is achieved by several means. Chlorine is added to the water constantly to keep the bacterial count down. The water is also constantly being pumped through diatomaceous filters. These are filters filled with very finely powdered shells of dead sea creatures. This earth is mined off South America and exported all over the world for this purpose.

The surface of the water is also cleared of insects and other debris by screens daily. This is necessary because the drain outlets are in the water and such debris would remain floating on the surface.

As well as checking the bacterial count and the chlorine count daily (the chlorine count is kept at 3 to 6 parts per million gallons) it is also necessary to check what is called the PH count of the water. This is a measure of the acidity of the water. The continual addition of chlorine causes the water to become acid, which is irritating to the skin and eyes.

To counteract this, fused soda ash is added to the water each evening. The PH count ranges from zero to 14. A count of seven means the water is neutral and a count of below seven means the water is acid. The maintenance staff tries to keep the PH count at 7.6.

As well as providing lots of good, clean fun, both figuratively and literally, for area children, the pool also conducts swimming lessons for eight weeks during July and August. The six instructors, all of whom are qualified by the Red Cross to give the lessons, give a total of approximately 1,250 lessons during this period. Their classes vary in size according to the weather and the number of families on holiday and may have anywhere from three to four to 20 youngsters in them. During the last week of August, the Red Cross sends up examiners and the children are tested and given certificates if they pass the tests. Those who satisfactorily complete their class, move up into the next category next summer.

The pool has a staff of some 20 young people who spend a very busy summer keeping it quite complicated operation running smoothly. Along with the manager and his assistant, there are senior guards and instructors, junior guards, maintenance men, tuck shop operators, a cashier and seven youngsters who man the counter at various times.

The pool has a very good safety record, which says much for its staff. Their inhalator equipment has been used only once since the pool's opening. Last year there were 11 "rescues" either by a guard or by throwing in a ring buoy and this season only seven youngsters have required assistance. Most of these, stated the manager, John Hanna, were youngsters who panicked for some reason. About 90% of the difficulties, Mr. Hanna continued, are caused by children who are not strong swimmers going off the diving boards, often as a result of a dare.

The staff this year has concentrated on preventing these emergencies before they arise, by challenging any youngster who appears hesitant or unsure when preparing to dive. Such a child is taken to the shallow end of the pool and made to swim across it and back. If this cannot be done in a reasonable length of time, the youngster is forced to remain only at the shallow end of the pool.

All the youngsters who got into difficulties this year, only swallowed a little water and were able to go right back into the pool, but before this, were given a good lecture and told to remain in the shallow end until they were stronger swimmers.

And how did all this come about - this handsome pool, alive all summer with tanned and happy youngsters, watched and guided by this able group of teen-agers and young adults?

Well, it didn't all "just happen". It was the result of the combined efforts of a large group of public spirited people in the Thornhill area.

Built in 1949 and opened in 1950, the idea for the pool was the brainchild of the late

Gordon C. Leitch, owner of what was then known as Leitchcroft Farm and is now called the Master Feeds Farm on No. 7 Highway, east of Langstaff.

Mr. Leitch approached Rev. S.A.R. Wood who was then rector of Holy Trinity Anglican Church in 1948 and offered as a challenge to the community, to donate \$40,000 for the installation of a community swimming pool, if some organization would raise the balance and see that it was built.

Rev. Wood took the challenge to the Thornhill Lions Club, who immediately accepted it. Committees were set up headed by Mr. Thomas Jackson and Mr. Charles Saunders and through the efforts of these gentlemen and other members of the Lions Club, the pool was built.

A large block of money was raised through the raffling of a car at the CNE that year. Through the co-operation of General Motors the club got a Chevrolet car at a reduced price, and Mr. Leitch who was president of the exhibition that year was able to get permission for the sale of the tickets there (the first time this had ever been done). Needless to say, the club has never been able to receive this privilege since. The raffle raised \$20,000 and substantial donations were received from such notables in the general area as Lady Eaton, the late George McCullagh and also the late C. L. Burton.

Mr. Willard Simpson headed a committee which undertook a general house-to-house canvass of the Thorn-

hill area and this hardworking group succeeded in raising a further \$8,000. The balance of the money was raised by the Lions Club through carnivals, street dances and bingoes.

The formal opening of the pool took place during a drenching down-pour, with the Honourable Ray Lawson, then Lieutenant Governor of Ontario presiding. The pool was then turned over to the Thornhill Area Recreation Committee who have operated it ever since. This committee is a voluntary one, composed of community-minded individuals, none of whom are paid for their services. They oversee the management of the pool and look after all the business details.