

Coming Events

DANCE every Saturday night in the Legion Hall, 41 Yonge St. N., by the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 375, Don Gillies' Orchestra. tfc16

BINGO — Thursday night, 8 p.m. sharp, (note change of night) jackpot: — 4 special and 25 regular games. Our Lady Queen of The World Hall, east side of Bayview at Crosby Ave., Richmond Hill. tfc23

JANUARY 4 — Saturday, 10.30 a.m. Puppets Show, Richmond Hill Public Library. Admission free. clw27

JANUARY 6th, — Monday, 8 p.m. Epiphany Organ Recital. An open invitation to enjoy an Organ Recital by Mrs. J. L. Flynn, featuring a vocal group at St. Stephen's Anglican Church, Keele Street North, Maple. (See Maple news) clw27

JANUARY 7 — Tuesday. The R.N.A.O. will meet at the York County Hospital Cafeteria, Newmarket at 8 p.m. Programme will be advancement of Physiotherapy. Demonstrations will be given by Mrs. Jean Dobson. Also a tour of the new Physiotherapy department. clw27

JANUARY 17 — Saturday, 8.30 p.m. Vellore Old Boys' 82nd Annual Dance and Euchre. Vellore Memorial Hall. Hollingshead's Orchestra. Modern and Old Time Dancing. Admission \$1.25, lunch provided. Alex Bishop, Pres., Howard Plunkett, Sec'y., Brit Plunkett, Vice-pres., Jack Williams, Treasurer. *2w27

Fire Razes Old Building

(Continued From Page 1) who is expecting her third child in June, said she and her husband, daughter, Nancy, and son Gerd just managed to escape in their night clothes, unable to save anything else.

"We were just lucky; I thank God we are all alive," she told a "Liberal" reporter.

Mrs. Diestelmann said the family had gone to bed before 11 and when she had heard some noise she imagined it was normal Yonge Street traffic and had returned to bed only to be wakened again as the four smoke poured through their two bedroom apartment.

Assisted By Police
They had time to get out on a low roof at the back where she screamed for help and were assisted by Richmond Hill police to leave the burning building.

Firemen took on a little extra curricular duty when they hurried dig up a collection of about \$100 in not so shiny fifty cent pieces belonging to Mrs. Margaret Burr, one of the fire's victims.

The coins, part of a collection were scattered through the debris. Most of them were recovered.

The Diestelmann's who are at present staying with Mrs. Anne Taxis on North Taylor Mills Drive had lived in Richmond Hill about six months. The husband is employed with a construction firm. They said they had no immediate plans. They had lived in Toronto since coming to Canada about six

years ago from Germany. Mrs. Margaret Burr who lives in one of the second floor apartments with her eighteen year old daughter Carol for about 12 years and is a familiar face to customers at Al's Cycle and Sports Shop where she is employed also lost everything she owned in the fire.

When she smelled the smoke, she phoned police and then fled the building. Her daughter who is an employee of Richmond Hill Hydro had been visiting at her uncle and aunt's, Mr. and Mrs. W. Buchanan on Rumble Avenue and at the time of the fire wasn't home.

Both returned to the Rumble Avenue home to spend the night and later last weekend stayed with Mrs. Burr's mother in Weston.

The Davies who were taken to the Lawnwood Court home of Mrs. Patti-Lu Anderson after the blaze broke but lost nearly everything they owned in the fire mainly through smoke and water damage. Their loss was not insured.

Mrs. Davies was under doctor's care Saturday.

Their son John, 28, a truck driver returned to Richmond Hill Sunday from Sault Ste. Marie where he had been notified of the fire. Mrs. Anderson said he drove his truck home and when stopped by Barrie police was waved on when they heard why he had his truck on the highway on a Sunday.

The family has been in Richmond Hill about four years. Mr. Davies works at the University of Toronto's Hart House.

Mrs. Anderson who has had her popular dress shop in Rich-

mond Hill for the past nine years said she was called to the scene a few minutes after 11 p.m. Friday.

"You couldn't see the stores or the firetrucks for the smoke. It had a peculiar acridness that just burnt right through to your lungs," she said.

In April, 1958 firemen were called out to fight a fire at the Arnold Apartments at the corner of Arnold and Yonge Streets when five families were rescued as flames shot up through the building.

It was another of Richmond Hill's landmarks, once known as the Palmer House in the days of five or six hotels in the town. Damage at the time was estimated at about \$55,000 and no one was injured. The building was eventually remodelled with four apartments and two stores, one of which is now vacant.

The store and its contents were badly damaged by smoke from the adjacent building. Mrs. Anderson said she expected to be closed until after the new year and will re-open with a fire sale.

She said she expected the Davies will stay with her until they find another place to live. "The store just doesn't seem all that important right now in the face of what they have been through."

She had high praise for Douglas Lynn of the Richmond Hill Red Cross Disaster Committee who was on the job early Saturday morning outfitting the victims with basic wardrobes. "He is an absolutely charming and sincere man who did his very best to make everyone feel better," she said.

The committee provided about \$800 worth of clothes for the adults and children. Since he took over the responsibility, this has been the eighth area fire at which Mr. Lynn has given assistance to the families involved.

Neighbours Evacuated
About one a.m. it was felt necessary to evacuate the residents of the double house to the north of the burning building.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Reynolds occupy the southern portion of this building and the northern portion is occupied by Mr. Harry Simpson, the proprietor, his wife and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds were

in bed when they heard the local fire bells stop outside.

They dressed and Mrs. Reynolds hurried next door to alert the Simpsons who were watching TV. Mrs. Simpson reports by the time she got outside the fire fighters were already at work attempting to bring the raging fire under control.

She also reports the crowd was large but orderly and watched the fire-fighting from across Yonge Street.

Later the Simpsons went to the home of relatives in Maple to spend the night.

Richmond Hill Police acted as liaison between the various fire departments, hydro and gas services and acted as watchdogs over traffic, the crowd and possible looters, Chief R. P. Robbins said.

About 10 men, including the chief, were on overtime duty in addition to regular police staff.

One of the oldest commercial buildings in Richmond Hill, "The Concrete" has served many generations of residents. Older residents recall shopping in the store as children.

Mr. C. H. Sanderson, well-known builder, explained that the term "concrete" did not mean the same then as now. It was made with lime rather than cement.

In 1888 the building housed a general store in which W. Atkinson sold dry goods, hardware, groceries, crockery, and millinery. Later the general store was operated by Switzer and Atkinson, and the Switzers lived in the attached dwelling, which featured oak panelling and trim.

Forty years ago a grocery store was operated in the building by Morley Beynon and Harold Murphy.

For more than 20 years Nixon Fisher operated a 5c to \$1 store on this location. The store was managed by his son-in-law George Fenwick. During these years Mr. Nixon made extensive additions to the building, adding a store room, an addition to the ground-floor apartment and an attractive modern store front. Alterations to the two apartments on the second floor had also been carried out.

Mr. Joseph Parisi who purchased the property a few years ago, also made alterations to the apartments and the stores. Mr. Parisi is high in his praise of the prompt response and efficient fire fighting of Richmond Hill's volunteer fire brigade.

After an inspection of the fire-gutted property a representative of the Ontario Fire Marshal said Thursday the fire was caused by overheated furnace ducts.

At 8 a.m. New Year's morning Richmond Hill's Volunteer Firemen extinguished a blaze in the wall of the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Flagler, Benson Avenue. Structural damage was slight but there was considerable smoke damage.

Derailment Re-Routes Local Trippers

About 15 northbound Richmond Hill railway passengers found themselves re-routed Boxing Day when a derailment near Zephyr slowed up travel.

The travellers were taken by taxi to Maple Station to board the 6 p.m. train to North Bay when it was re-routed following the accident throwing one car of a southbound freight train off the track. No one was injured.

Richmond Hill is normally a flag stop for passengers trains and gets little use.

The derailment was blamed on a faulty switch.

22,000 More Phone Calls On Christmas Day

Richmond Hill residents were among the happy holidayers who placed 182,000 long distance calls from the Greater Toronto Area to all parts of Canada and the United States on Christmas day.

According to W.C. Barnes, local Bell Telephone Company manager, 22,000 more calls were placed than on Christmas day last year.

"Over 1,000 operators were needed to handle the calls, about 100 more than a normal business day, when the number of calls is usually 140,000," he said.

Vandals Throw Floodlights Thru Front Windows

Mr. and Mrs. G. Boreham, 25 Cartier Crescent got a chilly reception when they returned home New Year's Eve.

Someone had heaved outside Christmas lights through five front windows.

The Boreham's had been gone only 40 minutes when the vandalism occurred. A second house at 60 Cartier Crescent was also damaged, when a floodlight was thrown through a storm, police said.



Hampers Of Happiness

So that every family in Richmond Hill and vicinity could enjoy a merry Christmas, members of the co-ordinating welfare group spent the afternoon of Sunday, December 22, in packing and distributing boxes of good things to eat. Shown from (left to right) behind some of the boxes which were ready to send out are Hugh Wight of the local branch of the Red Cross Society; Al Clayton representing Richmond Hill Lions; Horace Roberts, Richmond Hill Civitan, who is chairman of co-ordinating welfare; Harry Thomson, Richmond Hill Kinsmen; Stephanie Barnes and Bea Houston, IODE, and John Bailey of the Richvale Lions.

Steeles Avenue Slated To Be Re-Constructed

Steeles Avenue is slated for a massive five year reconstruction program beginning this year, Vaughan Township Council announced this week.

The township will share 3.5% of the total cost of about \$400,000 for the first year or \$12,250 which will include reconstruction and storm sewers from Yonge Street to Bathurst in 1964.

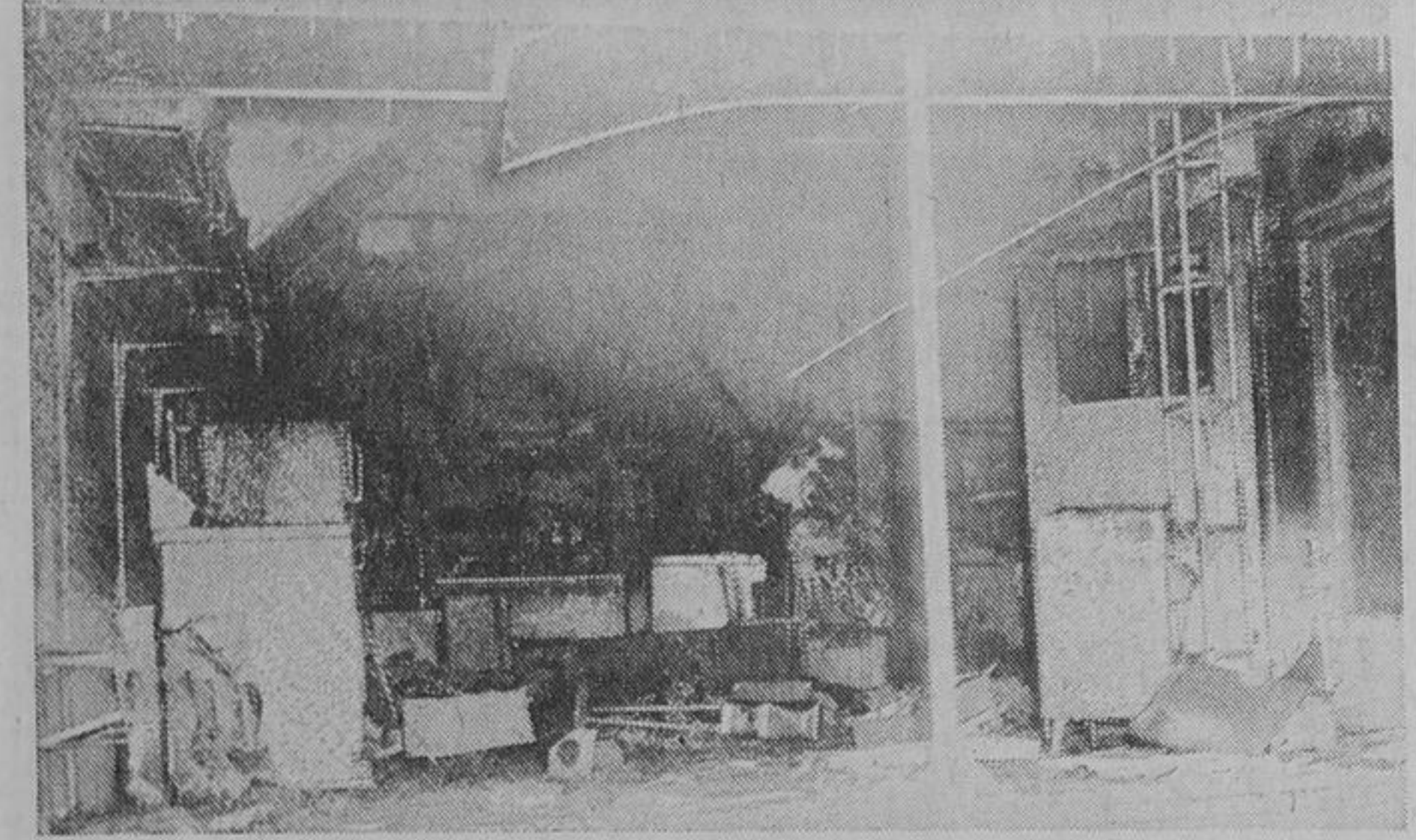
Installation of storm sewers from Bathurst to Dufferin Street will also be undertaken this year to keep the sewer project one section ahead of the roadwork.

The Township of York North picks up 96.5% of the cost figured on a percentage basis according to assessment. The project is entitled to about a 50% grant from the Department of Highways which will bring Vaughan's 1964 share to about \$7,000 this year.

In 1965, the section from Bathurst to Dufferin will be rebuilt and the sewers put in from Dufferin to Keele Street; in 1966 the project will be Dufferin to Keele and sewers from Keele to Jane; in 1967 it will be Keele Street to Jane Street and sewers from Jane to Islington Avenue. The last leg between Jane and Islington will be completed in 1968.

There are about nine miles involved. Steeles is the north end boundary of Metropolitan Toronto and touches on Etobicoke, Markham, North York and Vaughan Townships.

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Here's a smile for you

Mrs. Jones was lecturing her husband about drinking so much at the local country club dance. "You've been to the bar at least six times tonight," she said. "People will be talking."

"It's alright, dear," her husband replied. "I've been telling them that I'm getting them for you."

People judge us by our appearance and nothing will do more to make a good impression faster than a suit or dress that looks fresh and clean.

Form a good habit by getting your clothes cleaned frequently. You will be repaid by looking better and having your garments last longer.



Phil Barth

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The \$120,000 Yonge Street South fire was battled (lower photograph) from below and above as Richmond Hill firemen poured thousands of gallons of water to douse the flames and keep them from jumping to adjacent stores and homes. The two stores burnt out were a shambles of twisted wreckage (top photograph).

LAST FEW DAYS!
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COPACO Pure Pork SAUSAGE 1 LB. TRAY PACK 39¢	BONELESS SHOULDER POT ROAST LB. 45¢
LEAN Minced Beef LB. 39¢	BLADE or SHORT RIB BLADE BONE REMOVED ROASTS LB. 49¢
MITCHELL'S APPLE SAUCE 2 20 OZ. TINS 37¢	MAXWELL HOUSE INSTANT COFFEE 12 OZ. JAR \$1.49
MAN SIZE KLEENEX TISSUES 2 FOR 49¢	NABISCO SHREDDED WHEAT 2 GIANT SIZE 18 OZ. 69¢
MITCHELL'S APPLE JUICE 2 48 OZ. TINS 63¢	DEL MONTE FANCY FRUIT COCKTAIL 2 15 OZ. TINS 55¢
YORK PORK & BEANS 2 20 OZ. TINS 39¢	NO. 1 CALIFORNIA LETTUCE head 19¢
NO. 1 GOLDEN YELLOW Bananas 2 lbs. 25¢	No. 1 Mexican Tomatoes Cello Pkg. 25¢