

Your Legion Reports



Branch 375, Royal Canadian Legion
By Eric Chapman - 884-0045

With a federal election taking place next month it is important that the many veterans who have joined the Royal Canadian Legion in recent years should have a clear conception of our organization's position with regard to elections and politics generally. For their benefit, as well as for the information of political candidates and the general public, the off-stated stand of the Legion on this important issue is as follows:

The Legion, as an organization, is entirely non-partisan. It has to be, for no other reason than that its membership, being a complete cross-section of the Canadian people, belongs to all political parties. This policy of keeping the organization out of party politics must not, however, be interpreted as meaning that the Legion is in any way adverse to individual members taking an active part in political affairs. On the contrary, the stand the Legion has always taken in this respect is that the more war veterans there are in Parliament, the better for all ex-service men and women and for Canada.

Earlier this year the federal government passed an amendment to the existing legislation which recognizes November 11 as a statutory holiday. Various statements have since been made, and reports have been received indicating that Remembrance Day is now believed to be an official holiday for ALL Canadians. Inquiries were recently made on the subject at the Legion provincial command headquarters. The branch was informed that under present law, November 11 is a non-obligatory statutory holiday which is recognized by government departments, banks, and some private concerns. The legislation has existed since 1931 and the recent amendment merely extended the statute to cover Crown-owned corporations.

The Legion dominion president has proclaimed the seven days commencing November 5 and ending November 11 as Remembrance Week. This year Remembrance Day in Richmond Hill will be November 7. Comrade Frank Barrott, chairman of the local Remembrance Day committee, reports he has invited all local service organizations to participate in this year's ceremonies.

At the recent branch executive meeting a hard pressed and busy property chairman, Gord Baylor, agreed to build a box in the club room for the public relations officer. The box, unlike the variety normally used for the disposal of prevailing PRO's, is primarily intended to hold mail. Any Legion member, auxiliary member, or Junior Legionnaire who has an item of news, past, present, or future, either for the column or for inclusion in the bulletin is invited to deposit same in the box.

Ways and Means Chairman Alec Kernohan reports there will be a children's Christmas party again this year. In spite of the ice cream skirmishes of last year, when it seemed the entire junior population descended upon the court amid a barrage of bursting balloons to do battle with our intrepid Legionnaires. Comrade Alec reports that plans are not yet finalized, but that application forms will be provided in November's bulletin, which all Legion members in good standing will receive.

This Friday evening at 8 pm the ladies auxiliary presents the Dennis Moore School of Dancing. The show will be held in the auditorium and the admission fee is \$1.00 for adults, children 50c. The general public is invited to attend this event which will also feature members of the color guard. Although proceeds are in aid of the guard, it is doubtful whether its well built members will be seen in any tap or ballet dancing numbers.

Also this Friday the zone sports banquet will be held at the Woodbridge Legion, beginning at 7 pm. An early retirement of our own branch members at this affair has been requested to enable them to return to Richmond Hill and appreciate the finer points of ballet, tap, and modern jazz.

In the sports field, George Wood and Bill Mitchell recently emerged winners of the cribbage doubles trophy. John Greenfield took the trophy in cribbage singles and also shared the euchre championship with Comrade Kernohan.

Last Friday evening a stranger wearing Legion dress was welcomed to the court. Comrade Benji Bourget and Mrs. Bourget said they were from New Liskeard and had recently settled in Richmond Hill. It was their first visit to Branch 375 and they remarked on the differences between our branch and New Liskeard Branch 33. Comrade Bourget said he intends to transfer his membership here.

Albert Williams, who has been residing in Richmond Hill for the past five months with his son-in-law, Comrade Harry Murray and daughter Rose, was also present at the court last Friday. Eighty-year-old Mr. Williams was given good wishes by all present when it was announced that he would be returning to Birmingham, England, the following Sunday. Mr. Williams said he had enjoyed his stay, and he would have many things to tell his friends in Birmingham concerning the good way of life he had experienced in Richmond Hill and Canada.

Five Local Rangers Enjoy 10-Day Stay In Mexico

By MRS LOREN GUILD
Our Headford Correspondent

"How does a Girl Guide rate a trip to Mexico?" I asked Ranger Captain Pat Staton, York Central Division who had just returned from chaperoning a group of 14 girls on a trip to Mexico. Mrs. Staton is a resident of Headford.

There are a number of reasons, all related, and the qualities add up to success in any venture. This was her answer: "The girls are intelligent, most of them averaging 70-80 in school grades along with extra curricular interests. The fact that they have come through all of the courses of Guide work testifies to their loyalty to the organization. You know," Pat continued, "wearing a uniform isn't always easy and often provokes jeers. By wearing it with poise the girls demonstrate that they are proud of it and for what it stands. It is not the uniform of conformity or style. It is a traditional uniform and is a symbol of a plan of training to develop the best in girls growing into womanhood."

Destination for the group was an International House at Cuernavaca. It is called Nuecra Cabana, which in Spanish means our house. And that is exactly what it is to the Guides of the world. There are three other International houses owned by the world organization, in England, Switzerland and India.

The cabana in Mexico is beautiful, of Mexican design set in acres of land and surrounded by exotic gardens. The whole is enclosed by a 12 foot stone wall and the entrance gates have a trefold design in brass.

Within these walls approximately 40 groups of 48 girls and their leaders from all over the world meet during the year in an effort to further world friendship. The cabana has six dormitories accommodating eight girls each, the leaders have private rooms. Room mates are selected from different countries. This fraternizing continues at meal time when placards at the tables read, "Only French spoken here," or Spanish or whatever countries are represented. There was always competition to sit at the table where a language student could brush up on her subject. Many of the girls spoke fluent English and all of them enough to be understood. The countries represented were, Canada, (York County), U.S.A. (Texas), Brazil, Mexico, Colombia and Argentina.

While at the cabana the leaders could relax and enjoy themselves as they wished as the staff took charge of the program. The program, naturally had a Mexican flavor. The guests were taught to make the famous tortilla, a crisp corn meal pancake; they had a short session in Mexican handicraft and they enjoyed the familiar campfire

activities of singing, dancing, story telling and discussions. There are no racial barriers to matters of genuine interests and subjects such as family structure, place of woman in the world and what is love stimulated participation. All this - and a marvelous swimming pool too.

Each group was expected to present a picture of her own country. The costume of the Canadian girls was much less colorful than the costumes from older countries but the three symbolic leaves in autumn colors on their skirts declared their country. They spoke of each province; they sang Canadian songs and presented each guest with a sample of Canadian wheat.

It is a tradition that on the evening of entertainment each visiting group presents a gift. This must be chosen with care because the house can hold only so much. The Canadian gift was well chosen; a book of Karsh photographs with comments by John Fisher.

Beside the great fireplace in the gathering room the flags of all nations rest in their standards and the flags of each country represented in the group are placed as tall standards on the other side of the fireplace.

Sightseeing tours were arranged which included a trip to Taxco and to the Sun Pyramid where they climbed

234 steps to enjoy the gorgeous view.

A four-day shopping jaunt to Mexico City was a highlight. Here their uniforms were taken behind scenes in the leather making factory and in the glass blowing factory. One memory of the city will long be with them, the apprehensive excitement of riding behind uninhibited taxi drivers and the evasion of donkeys and cows that wander unmolested on the highways.

Representing the Richmond Hill Ranger Company, organized three years ago on the trip to Mexico were Kay Buckland, Penny Lee, Sharon Pearson, Jo Knight and Brenda Wilson. This company which meets in Wrixon Hall, St. Mary's Anglican Church has a membership of 18. There are also companies in King and Newmarket.

The local company draws its membership from the area. Mrs. Staton has been its captain since its inception.

A pinato party was a new game to the girls and would fit in well at a Canadian Halloween party; clay-based jars are covered with frilled tissue paper in different designs then filled with confetti. The jar is suspended from a height and manipulated by the rope ends being pulled. The trick is for a blindfolded participant, hold-

ing a stick to break the jar while the onlookers call directions. The obstacle is that the rope holder endeavors to keep it out of reach. If the jar is broken the confetti and the free-for-all scramble ensues.

The gifts and souvenirs which Mrs. Staton brought home have a particular charm. The leather work is very fine in purses and jewel box and the silver jewellery exquisite, a dainty rose and a small elephant with turquoise inlay appealed to me. Very sturdy peasant dolls make a bright decorative splash of color but the enviable pieces are made of onyx-natural white, green and brown. Horsehead book ends in natural strata of brown and white and exquisite chess men in green and white are eye and interest catching items. The chessmen rest on an inlaid board of maple and boxwood which Mrs. Staton brought from Denmark several years ago when she chaperoned a group of Guides to the Danish National Camp. Another delightful piece of art is a good reproduction by Mexican artist Anoya of an appealing little girl holding a large pineapple. Her eyes hold all the wonder of a trusting child.

Mrs. Staton says that one has to look and shop with care to get true Mexican art since, like our own shops, the counters have many shoddy eye catchers for tourists.

School Beckons Flying Student

A student pilot in Vaughan Township is going to have to go back to school for a little while longer.

While flying his two-seater aircraft from the Maple Airport, Hugh Patterson Campbell, 20, of Downsview, clipped a high tension wire, did a nose dive and flipped over on his back onto a field in Whitchurch Township.

Campbell, who received minor injuries, was practising emergency landings at the time.

Whitchurch Police also reported another unusual accident on the weekend when a horse and a car tangled south on Concession 7.

Police said Donald Melnuk, Toronto, had tried to pass the horse, but when he drew abreast the horse shied and ran into the side of the car. Riding the horse was Lloyd Sutcliffe, Toronto.

Both the horse and the car received minor scrapes.

Elgin Mills And Jefferson News

EVENING BRANCH ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH - 884-3008

Hospital Auxiliary
Elgin Mills-Jefferson Branch of YCHA will meet at the home of Mrs. E. Gamble, Yonge Street, Wednesday morning at 10.

Road Block
Whitchurch Township Police's recent action in stopping all cars in the municipality after 1 a.m. is having the desired effect, a spokesman for the department said this week.

Police stop the cars, record the particulars from the occupants, and if all seems normal, the driver is allowed to proceed. If an offense occurs later, however, the motorist could possibly be questioned again.

Last week, Chief Fred Mason informed the township council that the practice had resulted in a noticeable decrease in break-ins, with only five occurring in September.

Another member of the department said that "B and Es are away down, so they stay away."

Community Club
The next meeting will be held at the school October 27 at 8 pm. Mrs. Gardiner of Willowdale will give a demonstration of metalwork. It is hoped everyone will attend.

St. John's Church News
October 17 was Laymen's Sunday and the sermon was given by Leonard Lomas.

Chitter Chatter
Happy birthday wishes are extended to Mary-Lou Evison for October 21.

Mr. and Mrs. William Bell spent a few days in the Muskoka area last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Lymburner of Barrie had Thanksgiving dinner last Monday with Mr. and Mrs. F. Powell and family.

Mrs. Stanley Leno attended a baby shower at the home of Mrs. J. Monkman in Richmond Hill Saturday evening in honor of Mrs. Ken Rodberg of Thornhill.

Sincere sympathy of the community is extended to the family of the late Mrs. E. J. Bartlett.

October 5, Mr. and Mrs. Hans Hallgren and family of Brookside Drive, drove Mrs. Hallgren's mother, Mrs. A. Sundquist of Kipling to Malton Airport where she boarded a plane for Stockholm, Sweden. Mrs. Sundquist will spend five weeks visiting her brothers and sisters, whom she hasn't seen for 52 years. The Hallgren family then spent Thanksgiving weekend in Kipling with Mr. Sundquist.

We are pleased to report that Mrs. Neil Dibb has returned home from hospital. Mrs. E. Terry, Mrs. J. Hall, Mrs. S. Leno and Mrs. J. Passmore visited last Thursday with Mrs. J. A. Copeland in Oakville. For several years the

Copelands lived at Jefferson. Last Saturday, Mr. and Mrs. Ross Kerwin attended the wedding of Mr. Donald C. Legge to Miss Karen Goring. The ceremony was held in the Christian Baptist Church, Newmarket, and a reception followed at the Aurora Highlands Golf Club. The groom is a grandson of Ernest Legge, who was a resident of this area many years ago and a member of St. John's Church.

Guides and Brownies
Approximately 10 Brownies of the Jefferson pack attended the first open air service of this district last Sunday at Oak Ridges Plaza. The opening prayer was given by Lynn McDowell of the Jefferson pack.

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BEEF STEAKETTES	69¢	52¢
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BEEF KIDNEYS	49¢	37¢
BEEF HEART	39¢	29¢
BEEF TONGUES	65¢	49¢

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