

Your Legion Reports

Branch 375, Royal Canadian Legion
By Eric Chapman - 884-6021

Toronto's expensive attempts to acquire culture were criticized recently by the Rev. S. G. West, president of the Canadian Correctional Chaplaincy Association.

Mr. West was a guest speaker at the annual banquet and Remembrance ceremony of Ontario Hydro Legion Branch 277 held at the Prince George Hotel. He asked Legion members: "Are you satisfied with an inadequate Don Jail which deals with damaged lives, or are you more satisfied with new art centres and expensive sculptures as your Centennial project?"

"Take a look at that big piece of culture, the Don Jail, where we put men behind walls that are designed to keep us out. We don't even give them the dignity we give to animal husbandry." He urged Legion members to continue serving their country by assisting with the rehabilitation of offenders against society and concluded, "Service is the rent you pay for your room on earth - Service is the way to Remembrance."

Also present at the banquet and Remembrance ceremony was former Ontario Hydro Chairman Ross Strike who said, "I am grateful for the invitation to join you here tonight. You are not only the guiding light of the Ontario Command but you have been my guiding light as well."

Legion members extend hearty congratulations to Comrade Alfred Petherick and his wife Emily, of Bayview Avenue, on the occasion of their golden wedding anniversary. Comrade Alf, who is 87 years young and a Boer War veteran, completed fifty years of wedded bliss on December 6. From all appearances he looks to be in good enough shape to complete another fifty.

Comrades Les Dodd and Roy Dymond report that a few vacant seats still exist on the Legion jet charter flight to Britain scheduled for September 2, 1967. As previously reported the return fare between Malton and London is \$222 per seat with children under the age of two being charged \$25.

Duration of the trip is three weeks, but this will not necessarily all be spent in the air.

Patricia Biggs, command secretary, thanked the ladies for the more than \$20,000 contributed already towards the 1966 bursary fund. It would enable the command, he said, to award seven bursaries in each of the nine Legion districts in the province.

The Branch 375 Ladies Auxiliary held their nominations and election of officers last week and returned Lucy Rickard for a second term as president.

Also elected were Ist Vice-President Edith Titshall, Second-Vice President Grete Toner, Secretary Elsie Bernie, Recording Secretary Joan Dickson, Sgt.-At-Arms Audrie Apperly. The six executive members will be: Lillian Miller, Adelaide Mills, Rose Donnelly, Grace Lindsell, Nancy Sutcliffe and Mona Shuttleworth. Comrade Peggy Orton of the Aurora Legion, and Sgt.-At-Arms Marie Anderson, acted as scrutineers for the election.

While on the subject of ladies it is interesting to note that Aurora Legion recently elected as its president for 1967 Mrs. Betty Butler. She is well known for her secretarial work at Legion zone level. She becomes the only woman in Legion district "E" to head up a branch.

Planning a Christmas Party? The Facilities are Ideal at Maple Community Centre For Reservations - 832-2530

Pilots estimate 12 hours flying time, six there and six back, and application forms are available at the Legion Court.

Messrs. Dodd and Dymond also reported they have secured an aircraft for the trip but would not disclose whose backyard it could be located for inspection. Nor would either of them profess allegiance to a rumored Aurora and Stouffville airline and storm window company.

The entertainment committee reports that tickets are now available for the New Years Eve dance. As with other years a maximum figure has been set for attendance at the dance and it is expected the demand for tickets will again exceed the supply. This news is conveyed with reminiscences of last year when many members were disappointed and subsequent complaints were directed towards this department for lack of prior information.

This year you have been duly warned and all requests for reservations should be made with haste and directed via the telephone number appearing at the top of this column.

All other conversations and comments pertaining to the department of public relations will be received in the normal way via the usual channels.

This Thursday about 72 Canadian veterans will gather at Hong Kong's Saiwan cemetery to pay tribute to the 400 or so Canadians buried there.

It was 25 years ago, on December 8, 1941, when fighting broke out in Hong Kong. Outnumbered four to one by the Japanese, the Allies held out for three weeks but the Hong Kong garrison fell on Christmas Day.

For the survivors the fall of Hong Kong meant nearly four years in captivity. The sick and wounded were kept in Shamshu-poo POW Camp at Kowloon, across the bay from Hong Kong. The rest were sent to Japan to work in labor camps. For some, death would have been easier.

Of 2,000 Canadians from the Winnipeg Grenadiers and Quebec's Royal Rifles of Canada, sent to bolster the Hong Kong garrison, only 1,400 came home.

Sgt. Marcel Doiron, 46, of Dovercourt Rd., Toronto is one. He has joined John Stroud, president of the Toronto branch of the Hong Kong Veterans' Association of Canada, and a couple of other local vets on this week's pilgrimage to Hong Kong.

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Elgin Mills And Jefferson News

Church News
St. John's Anglican Church observed Bible Sunday December 4. Members of the congregation were given a chart prepared by the Canadian Bible Society on the history of the various translations of the Bible. They were also given a sheet containing 25 questions prepared by the rector, so that each member could test his knowledge.

The 11 am service next week will be a celebration of Holy Communion, when the theme is "The Stewards of the Mysteries of God", the sacred ministry. At the fireside at 7.30 a film on stewardship will be shown, "The Will of A. Nash."

Rehearsals for "The Christmas Story" continue Wednesdays for presentation at 7.30 pm December 18. The offering at this service will be used to help retire the mortgage on the rectory.

The married couples Christmas party will be held at 8.30 pm December 9 in the upper room at St. John's. Two films will be shown.

St. John's Women's Auxiliary will hold a Christmas Party at the rectory at 2 pm December 14. Baby sitting service will be provided, so that all women of the parish may attend.

St. John's Sunday school will hold its Christmas Party on the afternoon of December 17. The church telephone, 884-

3013, has now been disconnected, owing to the greatly increased telephone business. To contact the rector, it will now be necessary to use the rectory phone, 884-6929. The rector is usually at home between 10.30 and 12.30 during the morning.

Brownies
A party of 11 Brownies from the 1st Jefferson Pack had a pre-Christmas treat when Brown Owl Adele Costoff and Tawny Linda Diceman took them for an afternoon's bowling at the ABC Bowling Alley in Richmond Hill December 3. A hearty thank you is extended to Mrs. F. Powell and S. McDowell, who provided transportation.

The draw arranged by the mothers' auxiliary will be held December 12.

Cubs
The Cubs' Christmas Party will be held at St. John's December 15.

Forces Reunion
A party was held November 26 for former members of the 2nd Road Construction Company, Royal Canadian Engineers, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. V. J. McDougall, 11 Stancroft Drive. For many of those present it was their first reunion for 23 years. The McDougalls are eagerly looking forward to a visit from Bud Warren of Ottawa whom they saw last in England in 1943.

Community Club
A very rewarding meeting

was held November 3, featuring a talk by Hugh Martin on progress being made towards getting the Festival Choir of Vaughan to Expo in May. Afterwards, with Mr. Martin as chairman, candidates for council and public school board presented their programs to the audience. A lively question period followed. The meeting gave those present an excellent chance to decide for whom to vote. Polling for the Jefferson area will be at the school this Saturday.

Oak Ridges Arena
A very successful dinner was held at St. John's Church December 5. It was held to in-entend the intentions of the arena committee. Progress was reported - 9,000 shares have been sold.

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