



(Photo by Stuart's Studio)

Ball Raised \$300 For Cystic Fibrosis

Public-spirited members of the Beta Sigma Phi, Delta Lambda Chapter, Richmond Hill, held a "Yellow Rose Ball" Valentine's Day in the Lions' Hall with Mrs. Nelly Williamson serving as convener. The event raised \$300 for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

On April 15 at the home of Mrs. Phillip Marrin, 358 Sugar Maple Court, presentation of a cheque for this amount was made to representatives of the Foundation.

Pictured above are, (left to right) President Mrs. Elaine Balogh, Dance Convenors Mrs. Nelly Williamson, and Mrs. Joyce Devlin of the Beta Sigma Phi, Delta Lambda Chapter, Treasurer Fred Martin of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and President Kenneth Breakwell of the Toronto Chapter.

Noble Collection Finds Eager Buyers

By MARGARET LADE

It took Dr. and Mrs. Clark Noble more than 20 years to accumulate the vast collection of old Canadian furniture, paintings and utensils that eventually filled the old farm house they bought on 17th Avenue in the Richmond Hill area in 1946.

But it took auctioneer Marcus Lynell of Sotheby's just two days April 21 and 22 to sell the furniture, furnishings and utensils for \$29,472. It was the largest single collection sold by Sotheby's since the 225 year old English firm opened its Canadian branch a year ago.

Paintings and documents from the Noble collection were included in a large sale of Canadian art works, plans and books from a number of owners which followed on April 22 to 24.

Every item sold has a story behind it, and most of them were older than the oldest person in the crowd of 1,000 who jammed Simpson's Arcadian Court on the opening night of the sale, which brought in \$21,357.

Highest bid of the evening was \$2,000, paid by Samuel Weir of London, Ont., for an unusually large tiger-striped drop leaf table.

Sold to other bidders were a cupboard and set of eight dining chairs which had been made from some of the timber from the same tree as the table.

A smaller cupboard made from the timber was donated earlier to Black Creek Pioneer Village by the Nobles, and now is part of the furnishing of the Squire's House. They have donated other items to the Village, and some to the Royal Ontario Museum.

According to Dr. Noble, the tree grew on a farm which was part of a crown grant to Valentine Fisher, a York County pioneer, in 1803. In 1847 the farm was sold, and the new owner, a Mr. Scott, decided to clear more land for farming.

The huge maple tree was taken to Thompson's saw mill in the Don Valley, where it was sawn and dressed.

Several pieces of furniture were made from the resulting timber, probably by Jacques and Hayes, local makers of fine furniture.



Mrs. Noble takes a fond look at a pewter ale mug

A rare set of six rosewood-grained side chairs with cane seats at the auction went for \$500, and a grandfather clock for \$550.

The clock, made of maple, pine and cherrywood in late 18th century style, has an English movement by Blaylock and Carlisle and it is still keeping good time.

It is extravagantly designed with a painted dial which also had a date aperture, giving the day, the month and the year. The lacquered iron pendulum bob is decorated in red and green on a gold background.

The clock, says Dr. Noble, came from the Niagara Peninsula, and was hidden in a well in the war of 1812. It stands seven and a half feet tall.

Also sold on the first day of the sale were stoneware preserving crocks and pitchers, earthenware casseroles, basins, and kitchen utensils, a variety of hooked and braided rugs, and two woven runners.

An ink-stained child-size school desk sold for \$160, and a small pine corner cupboard brought \$630.

Corner cupboards were very popular in pioneer days, and in their years of visiting country auctions, the Nobles collected so many of them they ran out of corners.

Lamps, metal ware, treens, woodenware, and decorative and domestic glassware were on the auction block on the second day of the sale.

The crowd was smaller, but the demand was brisk and the returns for the day were \$8,115.

Four tin spice cannisters sold for \$85, a Chelsea figurine of John Brown and two slave children brought \$50, and a gleaming half-pint copper pitcher went for \$60.

When a painted wood decoy Canada goose with hand carved body, painted in tones of blue and grey, was put on the block bidding went to \$45. Another Canadian collector paid \$55 for a nest of maple spice drawers with cherrywood handles.

There were butter scoops, wheelwright's, mallets, tobacco cutters, a coffee grinder, rolling pins, a butternut sugar bucket, and a pair of Mennonite candle boxes, among the household utensils. "This is Mennonite country," said Dr. Noble in referring to the area around the old farmhouse. Mennonite style was severe and utilitarian, and a large part of his collection is of Mennonite origin.

Wooden farm implements all went under the hammer of the auctioneer. An ash hickory rake, cut from a single staff of hickory, split at the lower end to form three prongs separated by bowed rods had aroused Dr. Noble's curiosity. "I don't know how they did it," he said, referring to the wide spread of the prongs.

Dr. and Mrs. Noble sold their collection because Dr. Noble is retiring, and they are moving to Arizona "for health reasons."

They have owned property in Arizona for some time, and do not intend to stop collecting. They have already made a few expeditions looking for items native to the area in which they will be living.

His pine, maple and cherrywood furniture would not stand up to the climate in Arizona, said Dr. Noble. "It is more valuable here, and should remain here."

They started their collection at a time when early Canadian furniture was plentiful, and cheap, and were considered oddities at auction sales.

"My wife and I tried to get to every farm sale within easy driving distance of our farm. We didn't dress up, we went as farmers. But the real farmers nudged each other and smiled when we bought the "useless" stuff.

"I remember at one farm auction I bought a gallon crock with the words "Picton, C.W." on it. I got it for 25c. I was naive enough to explain to the auctioneer that the C.W. meant Canada West and the crock was made before confederation. At the next auction the same auctioneer started a similar crock at \$2!"

Dr. Noble graduated from University of Toronto Faculty of Medicine in 1925, and during World War II was in charge of the RCAF medical services overseas. He was awarded the Order of the British Empire by King George VI.

After the war he returned to private practise in Toronto, and has been medical director of Global Life Insurance Company and Zurich Life Insurance Company.

When the Nobles were first married they lived in Rosedale and collected Georgian and Queen Anne antiques to furnish their Georgian style house, but when they moved to the farm they decided that mahogany and walnut furnishings were unsuited to their new home.

Now they are starting again — searching for Spanish and Mexican type furnishings for their Spanish style adobe home in Arizona.

LANDSCAPING

COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL PRUNING OF SHRUBS AND TREES

Richmond Hill Tree Service and Forestry Co. Limited

884-7774

Machine Operators

Men with mechanical background in industry and experience on production machinery required to load and operate high speed equipment. Excellent wages and benefits.

Please note: Only those applicants with record of previous employ in the mechanic's field will be considered.

Please write full particulars to:

BOX 8, "THE LIBERAL"

ELKS

LIGHTWEIGHT

2 PANT SUITS

Regularly 89.50

ELKS SPECIAL PURCHASE

69.95

2 FOR \$135

The cool one

Come on cool . . . put it on . . . feel the freshness of a season . . . the luxury of a look . . . the pleasure of saving up to \$50 on 2 suits . . . Cool!

Comfort comes cool in this very special suit: With 2 pants . . . and still less than \$70. Custom tailored from Terylene and wool worsted . . . especially for ELKS . . . and especially to ELKS painstaking specifications. This is a suit to remember . . . and she will. So light, so cool for even the warmest day . . . yet so smart, so well made, you can wear it Spring into Fall . . . in fact you can wear it ten months a year. Smartly styled with 2 buttons and side or centre vents. Hot colours of bronze blue, whisky and golden. Reg, short and tall. Sizes 36 to 46. It's the Cool One from ELKS!

ELKS EXCLUSIVE

12 MONTH FIT Guarantee

Gain or lose weight . . . whatever the alteration . . . it's FREE within 12 months of your receiving the suit.

open an ELKS CHARGE ACCOUNT OR CHARGE X

There's a Friendly **ELKS** in your neighbourhood

RICHMOND HEIGHTS CENTRE
RICHMOND HILL
OPEN THURSDAY & FRIDAY 'TIL 9 P.M.

You Can Use The Extra Pants As Slacks