

# Society's veterans

It's been years since the kids have grown  
lives of their own, left us alone .....  
You know old trees just grown stronger,  
...old rivers grow wider every day.  
But old people, they just grow lonesome,  
waiting for someone to say,  
..Hello in there. Hello

— John Prine, "Hello in There"

By William Lever

Not too many decades ago, an old person in North America was one who had reached the epitome of life, who had earned respect, dignity, affection, prestige.

It's not much like that any more. A youth-dominated culture has little time, little feeling for the generation considered to have outlived its value to society.

The fact, of course, is that the overwhelming majority of senior citizens have not outlived their value — and they want and deserve something better than an uneventful retirement which simply passes the time until death.

In Ontario, these seniors have an active and articulate spokesman in Hope Holmsted, a Richmond Hill resident who is chairman of the provincial government's advisory council on senior citizens.

As head of the 19-member council, which reports to the secretary for social development, Miss Holmsted is vitally concerned with improving the image of aging.

If that can improve, she believes, so will the general treatment of old people and the quality of government policies which affect them.

"Senior citizens are beginning to get off their rocking chairs and get active," she says.

"That's the only way to create a good image of aging in society."

Acknowledging that if a retired person earns even a small salary, he loses pension and other benefits, Miss Holmsted believes he can still contribute to society through volunteer work.

A person who has been a leader all his life

# Seniors want to be useful, improve the image of aging



Hope Holmsted  
...heads advisory council

"doesn't stop being a leader just because he's reached 65, or a nurse doesn't have to stop being a nurse. These people have a great deal to contribute."

Only five to eight per cent of old people are institutionalized, Miss Holmsted points out, "and at least 70 per cent are moving around normally" as potentially valuable members of society.

For those who are infirm, she urges that governments "stop building more institutions and start giving home care."

For one thing, it would be less expensive; more importantly, it would "let people live where they choose, with dignity."

There's such a thing as too much protection, Miss Holmsted believes, and this was confirmed in the view of a council representative who investigated care-for-the-aged services in England and Sweden.

Institutions are abundant in the Swedish system, the council found out, but "everybody is over-protected. The system takes away their choice, supposedly for their own good."

The English system, which recognizes the need for home care, was found to be far more humanistic and the council hopes Ontario will follow its example.

Another major project of the council is the publication, three times a year, of a tabloid-size newspaper called *Especially for Seniors*.

It's a sharp-looking, readable paper which goes to every pensioner in Ontario. Its articles — on topics ranging from tax credits to loneliness — are all of import to seniors, and have sparked a lively dialogue with the readers.

Miss Holmsted reports the council has also held public meetings in several communities and has conducted research and opinion polls on various subjects.

"We'd like to bridge the generation gap," she says, but it's getting harder all the time in today's mobile society: More and more Canadian children don't even have contact with their own grandparents.

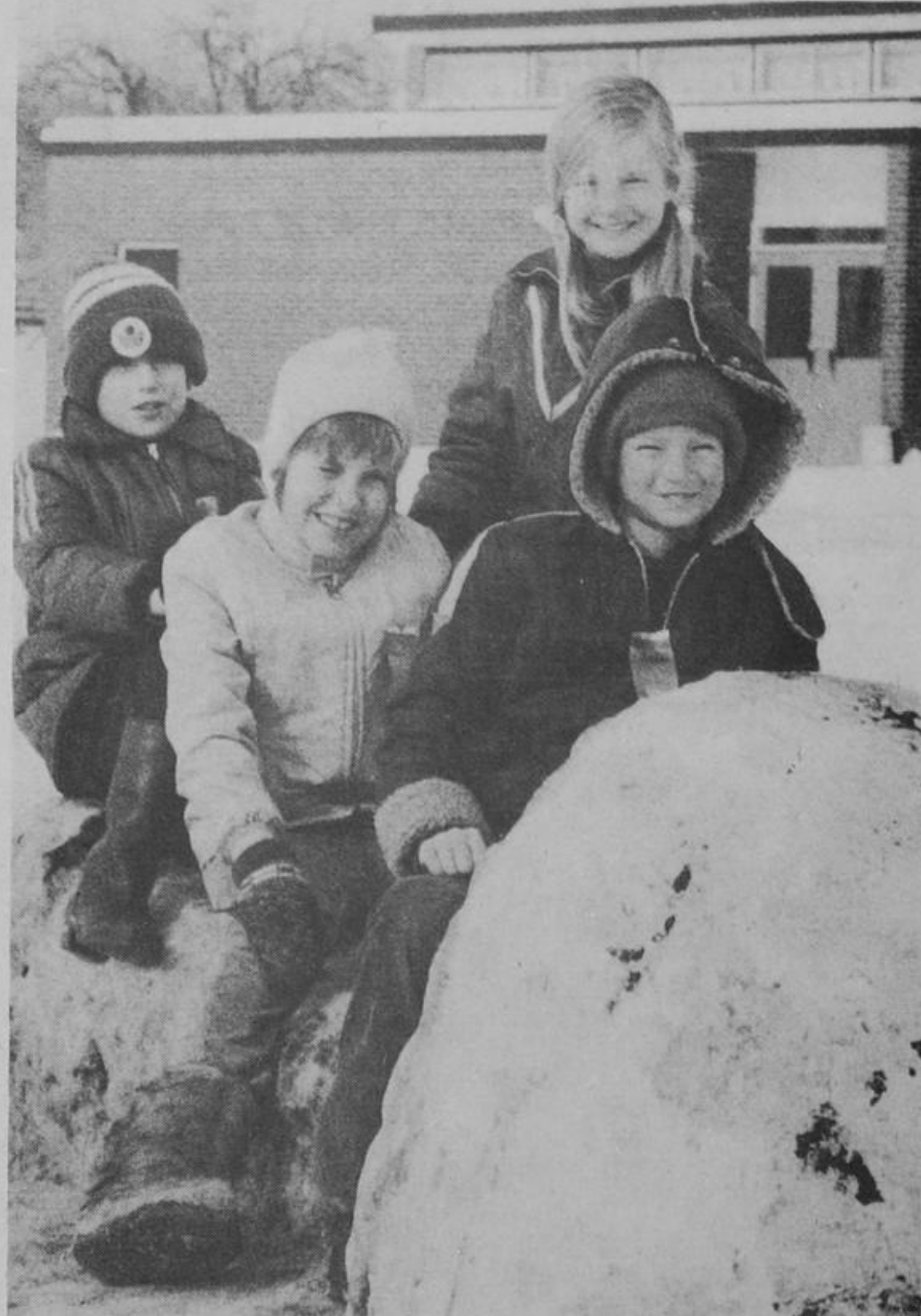
"Older people are extremely limited if they don't have contact with younger people...They just get cut off."

And by the same token, the lack of inter-generational contact is harmful for the young as well.

"Those who do not fear growing old are those who have known their grandparents, who have associated with older people," Miss Holmsted says.

The advisory council, she says, is optimistic — and ambitious — in its basic goal: "to help create a province in which it is possible to grow old with dignity and a sense of usefulness...where people have concern for the other and rejection is no longer acceptable."

This, the council realizes, "will require a greater understanding and considerable effort by people of all ages."



(Photo by Hogg)

## Young sculptors

This snowmobile isn't mobile, but it is made of snow. And it won a second place prize for four students of St. Mary's Immaculate School in their recent carnival fun day. Young sculptors shown above are (seated left to right) Billy Harry, Longhill Drive; Martha Stang, 157 Trayborn; John DeLuca, Maple; and (standing) Patricia Byrne, Chassie Court. A varied program of sports events was held along with the snow sculpture contest.

# Cancer society sets fund goal

Correspondent  
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KING CITY — Twenty volunteers of the Canadian Cancer Society met last week to hear campaign chairman Pam Ledell outline activities for the annual April campaign.

The Aurora unit objective for 1976 is \$50,000, with the King branch objective \$7,500.

The next meeting of the group will be an educational and work meeting in April.

### Thinking Day Service

Brownies, Guides, Rangers, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts of King will honor the memory of the founders of the movement, Lord and Lady Baden-Powell, with a special "Thinking Day Service" on Feb. 22 at 2:30 p.m. at All Saints' Anglican Church.

For the first time in several years, there will be a presentation of the Canada Cord. Alison Walker is the recipient, and the public is invited to attend this service and join the youngsters for refreshments.

### Women's Institute

Twenty-four members and visitors of the King branch of the WI met at the King library on Feb. 10.

Guest speaker was local artist Edith Tolman, who did a sample sketch and painting. She used only three basic colors, red, yellow and blue, but skillfully mixed to achieve many other colors.

The WI officers conference will take place on May 4 at the University of Waterloo. No delegate has yet been named.

Next meeting will be on March 9 at the home of Marilyn Munroe. Guest speaker will be Sylvia Binkley, home Service supervisor of Consumers Gas Company. She will speak on the metric system and will have door prizes, brochures and recipes for the members.

### Soccer in King

A meeting was scheduled for Feb. 17 to see how many were interested in playing soccer.

Anyone interested who missed the meeting may call Harry Bishop at 833-5785.

### Skating club competes

In the inter-club competition at the Bolton Arena Feb. 5, King Figure Skating Club placed second.

Nobleton and Schomberg clubs competed with King and Bolton skaters.

Individual skaters achieved the following results: Pre-Juvenile Boys — Brian Stemmler placed 2nd; Stephen Kucopy 3rd.

Pre-Juvenile Girls — Cindy Rayner 5th.

Juvenile Boys — Shane Snell 2nd.

Juvenile Girls — Stephanie McKim 1st.

Novice Girls — Carla Holdsworth 3rd; Catherine Phillips 4th; and Heather Snell 5th.

Similar Dance — Carolyn Ball and Nancy Hollefriend 1st; Dawna Findlay and Jean Love 3rd; Denise Finlay and Stephanie McKim 4th.

Interpretive — Heather Snell 2nd.

### No music expansion

Instrumental music programs in elementary schools will continue but will not be expanded to other schools next year, it was agreed at the Jan. 26 meeting of the York County Board of Education.

In June 1974 the board agreed to offer instrumental music for Grade 7 and 8 classes where staff was available, with the intention of expanding it to all Grade 7 and 8 classes.

In view of the financial problems the board is experiencing in 1976, it was felt no further expansion should take place this year. But wherever school staff wishes to provide the program by student rental of instruments, at no cost to the board, this will be permitted.

## king city news

### Carnival coming

The committee for the winter carnival of Sacred Heart Parish announces the festivities will be held at King Valley Ski Club on Feb. 29 at 6 p.m.

Skiing, skating, a hay ride, tobogganing, dancing, and food and drink will be offered.

Tickets are available at the church entrance after masses and from committee members. Price: family plan \$9; adults \$3; children 2 to 18, \$1.

Also on Feb. 29, King City United Church will hold a winter carnival at Cedar Glen with activities beginning at 1:30 p.m.

A roast beef dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. Adults \$4.50; children 12 and under \$2.50. Phone Gary Roseblade at 833-5057 or John Davidse at 883-5170 for tickets.

### York Humane Guild

Plans are under way for a house tour of King Township by the Humane guild again this year with Mildren Wickson as Convener.

The York Humane Guild of the Ontario Humane Society has traditionally made this its major fund-raising event of the year.

Mrs. Judith Luscomber is the new supervisor of the Aurora shelter. The shelter is in need of extra runs for the dogs and would welcome any donations specifically for this project.

### Donna's Bits & Pieces

Concerned Citizens meeting tonight (Feb. 18) at the King library, at 8 p.m. Guest speakers will be Mayor Margaret Britnell and a representative from the Taft Corporation, the company planning a "leisure centre" to be located near Maple.

Drop in to the community centre on Feb. 21 and watch Gord Orr in action as he auctions off a varied collection of furniture, antiques and collector items.

King committee meeting on Feb. 23 at 7:30 p.m.

York County University Women's Club meet on Feb. 23 at Kingcraft House at 8:30 p.m.

Pre-schoolers gather at the King library on Tuesday mornings to listen to storyteller Gillian Ball at 10:30 a.m.

Good Morning Group meets Wednesday mornings at 9:45 a.m. at All Saints' Anglican Church. Drop in for coffee and a chat. Babysitting is provided.

Kingcraft General meeting is at 1:15 p.m. on Feb. 25. Hostess group is needlecraft.

For those with a cupboard full of clothes and nothing to wear, a next-to-new shop has opened in Bayview Plaza in Richmond Hill. Here's a chance to turn those items you've grown tired of into ready cash and perhaps find something new to wear at the same time. Call 884-4622 for an appointment.

### Hospital auxiliary

Eleven members of the King branch of York Central Hospital Auxiliary attended a meeting Feb. 5 at the home of Dorothy Hobson.

Evelyn Smith, projects convener, reported that several projects enabled the King branch to contribute \$1,595 to the auxiliary.

Rene Bamford announced the slate of officers to serve for the next two years: Chairman, Jean Heaslip; vice-chairman, Dorothy Hobson; secretary, Cathy Hall; treasurer, Erica Mueller; projects, Dorothy Hobson and Yvonne Collard; membership, Peggy Mitchell; publicity, Rene Bamford; cards, Dorothy Lawson; phoning, Marion Curran and Dilys Stevens.

Volunteers are always needed for this worthwhile organization. Anyone interested could call membership convener Peggy Mitchell at 833-6465.

York Central Hospital also has an active junior auxiliary (Candy-Strippers) for girls 14 and older.

# The Liberal Section C community news

Wednesday, February 18, 1976

## Fund-raising groups seeking your support

Correspondent  
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RICHMOND HILL — There will be much knocking on doors during the next few weeks by campaigners for the heart fund and the cancer society.

Not only do funds from these organizations help to fund research to prevent disease, but they also provide care, transportation and rehabilitation services. Anyone who has had any member of the family affected knows only too well how important these services are.

Another group of door-knockers will be a younger variety. The Canadian Progress Club is sponsoring a "Bowlathon" with proceeds going to the children's ward of York Central Hospital.

Children from schools in the area will be asking for sponsors for pins knocked down. The minimum taking will be \$1, and each child taking part will have a drink and some potato chips provided by the club. These types of charity drives are good not only for the funds they provide, but for the encouragement it gives to young people to think and do for others less fortunate than themselves.

"You and your adolescent" is the title of an evening with Stan Shapiro, psychologist, to be presented by the Roselawn Association.

The evening will begin at 8 p.m. on Feb. 24 at Roselawn Senior Public School and refreshments will be served. Admission is by pre-registration only. The fee is \$1 and can be made either

## hill ward 3

to the principal of your school or directly to the President, Roselawn Association, 422 Carrville Road.

John Birchall, councillor for Ward 3, recently issued a newsletter to residents. He explained that the town collects taxes for three bodies: the Town of Richmond Hill — 37 per cent of the total tax in 1975; the Region — 13.7 per cent of the total; and the York County Board of Education — 49.3 per cent.

Joy Horton, trustee for Markham, has warned recently in the press that the education taxes will probably be increased again for 1976. Mrs. Horton was on the negotiating team which gave the teachers up to 43 per cent pay increases last year.

Birchall in his letter, urges everyone to contact the trustees or regional councillors. Apparently people seldom call school trustees regarding expenditures.

With professional activity days costing the taxpayer an estimated \$1½ million per year and teacher salary negotiations coming up again, it is understandable why the taxpayer pays the largest share for education costs.

Local school trustees are Doug Allen, chairman of the board, 884-3746; Warren Baillie, 889-2324; and Bob Houghton, 773-5561.

# Young scientists exhibit their work

Correspondent  
Millie Stewart  
773-4424

OAK RIDGES — The local schools are both holding Science Fairs, Oak Ridges Public School on Feb. 26 from 1:30 to 5 p.m. and from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., and Lake Wilcox Public School on Feb. 25. The public is invited.

Both schools are also busy with public speaking contents. Students at Oak Ridges already have competed and the students at Lake Wilcox will have their chance on Feb. 20.

Winners from both schools will attend the Area 2 contest to be held at Aurora Heights Public School.

### Seniors meeting

The seniors had a good turnout to the meeting on Feb. 10 but the trip to Allen Gardens has been cancelled because the response was not as expected.

Members of the Wheelhouse club have announced that on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, there

## oak ridges lake wilcox

will be a euchre at 1:30 p.m. Admission is 25 cents, and everyone is welcome.

The monthly evening euchre will be on Feb. 23 at 7:30 p.m. Admission for this is \$1 per person, and refreshments will be provided.

### St. John's Anglican

A Holy Communion service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Feb. 22. The revised liturgy will be used.

On Feb. 23, the Spiritual Life Fellowship will meet at Grace Church, Markham at 8 p.m.

Feb. 24 is the annual clergy pre-entire quiet day and will be held this year at St. Andrews Church in Scarborough. Speaker for the day will be the bishop of Montreal.

# UCW officers installed

By  
Correspondent  
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TEMPERANCEVILLE — Installation of officers of the United Church Women was held at the morning service Feb. 8.

New officers are Mrs. Fred Hare, president; Mrs. Norman Hearsum, secretary; Mrs. Robert Beynon, treasurer; Mrs. Wilfred James, supply and social assistance convener and secretary of the afternoon unit; Mrs. Wilbert Jennings, leader of the afternoon unit; and Mrs. Everett Phillips, treasurer of the afternoon unit.

Rev. Arthur Thomson performed a violin solo at the service.

A planning meeting of the UCW was held at the home of Mrs. Fred Hare. Coming events include World Day of Prayer service at St. Johns Anglican Church, March 5; strawberry supper, June 23 and a turkey supper, Oct. 27.

Mrs. Wilfred James, Mrs. William Thompson, Mrs. Hugh Orser and Mrs. Arnold Winter, 4H Homemaking club

## temperanceville

leaders, attended the training school for the spring project "Let's Bake Bread". Any girls interested in joining the project may contact any of the leaders.

The Temperanceville-Wesley Couples Club held its Valentine party at the Vandorf hall, combined with the square dance night. The evening was convoked by Jean and Norm Babcock, Irene and Harry Libby, and Ruth and Clayton Pogue.

For the March event, the group has planned a visit to the communications branch of Metro police on March 12. A bus will leave Wesley Church at 7 p.m. To reserve a seat, contact one of the committee, Ralph and Alda Carr, Gordon and Wreatha Boak or Wilbert and Grace Jennings. Tickets are \$2.

Mrs. Wilfred James, Mrs. William Thompson, Mrs. Hugh Orser and Mrs. Arnold Winter, 4H Homemaking club

# McBride named King historical 1976 president

KING CITY — Jack McBride, printer at Black Creek Pioneer Village, has been elected 1976 president of the King Township Historical Society.

Other officers elected at the group's annual meeting last week are:

Fred Colburn, vice-president; Ena Peddie, treasurer; Maida George, recording secretary; Doris Willoughby, corresponding secretary; Bill Poulis, past president; and directors Muriel Beatty, Margaret Britnell, Alden Winter, Bill Forhan, Eleanor Gallagher and John Smythes.

## civic corner

The following meetings of civic interest have been scheduled during the next two weeks in Richmond Hill:

Feb. 18, 7:30 p.m. - By-Laws, procedures, fire & personnel committee, committee room 'B'.

Among the items to be discussed are transient traders' licenses, and the recent fire at the Roselawn school.

Feb. 19, 8 a.m. - Engineering committee, works commissioner's office, to discuss the transit review study.

Feb. 19, 7:30 p.m. - Civic improvement committee, committee room 'B'.

Feb. 24, 7:30 p.m. - Lake Wilcox working committee, St. Paul's United Church.

March 1, 7:15 p.m. - Council chambers - regular council meeting.

March 3, 7 p.m. - Committee room 'B' - By-laws, procedures, fire & personnel committee.



(Photo by Hogg)

## It's old news

Historian's delight, this well-preserved copy of a 271-year-old newspaper, *The Times of London*, is on display at Richmond Hill library courtesy of its owner, Peter Petterson of Westwood Lane, Richvale. The newspaper gives an account of the

Oct. 21, 1805 Battle of Trafalgar, where Horatio Nelson defeated the French and Spanish fleets but lost his own life. It was here that Nelson's flagship signalled the famous words: "England expects that every man will do his duty."