



yesterdays

by mary dawson

Superstitions - a raft of them

When two friends walked together and each chose a different path around a tree, shrub or post, both were expected to quickly chant "bread and butter" or the friendship would end in a glorious argument or petty quarrel of some kind, superstitious people of former years agreed.

After concrete sidewalks were introduced, children believed (when they thought of it) that their mother's back would break if they stepped on a crack. Since most of the time they forgot about it and stepped on cracks, mother's back was in constant peril and some did indeed break but through injuries rather than through their children's crack-stepping.

Killing a spider was a sure way of making it rain, but if a daddy-long-legs walked over any part of your apparel it meant that you were going to get, in the immediate future, a new pair of shoes, or stockings, a skirt, dress or blouse.

Since it was a spider, after it had brought promise of a new wardrobe, it could be killed to ensure rain.

A durable needle (ichneumon fly) would sew together the lips of children who told lies, it was believed. This one was probably made up by

parents to cure their children of lying and probably worked during the fly season.

No job should be started on Friday, our ancestors believed. If one was foolish enough to start a task, such as making a dress, on that day, it was a foregone conclusion that the task would never be finished.

Rheumatism sufferers were advised to carry a horse chestnut or a potato in their pocket at all times for a cure.

This was a forerunner of the copper bracelets now recommended for the same purpose. After all the chestnut or potato was cheaper and easier to come by.

To see a pin and to pick it up was a sure sign of good luck to follow.

To foretell a cold or stormy winter the pioneer observed the number of chestnuts on the trees, and if these nuts were numerous and had heavy husks it was sure to be a long cold and stormy season. Heavy husks on walnuts also indicated a cold and stormy winter in the offing.

Observation of a number of woolly bears (caterpillars) and a study of the distribution of black and red stripes of winter, also.

If most caterpillars had wide frontal stripes, the first part of the winter

would be severe.

If the stripes were wide near the back of the body, the latter part of the winter would be the coldest.

Red sky in the morning, sailors warning — red sky at night, sailors delight, is one weather forecast that still has many believers.

A crescent moon lying on its back foretold a dry spell, while one standing on edge to allow the water to run out indicated rain to come. A halo around the moon also foretold coming rainstorms.

Yes, I have a superstition that I observe at all times. When things are going well, I don't mention it.

I have found that every time I have commented on the smoothness of operation of any project on which I am working a monkey wrench is thrown into the works.

All sorts of dire happenings have occurred because I couldn't keep from bragging a bit.

Letter

He notes changes in paper

Some weeks ago I wrote to you when I tactfully complained that your coverage of local soccer left a great deal to be desired.

The purpose of this letter is to thank you for acknowledging my letter in print, for confirming its validity and, most importantly, for correcting yourselves.

This has resulted in more complete coverage of soccer in our community to the benefit, I believe, of your paper, of soccer and all those youngsters who have taken part in a great team sport.

In this day and age, we find it easy to criticize, but are somewhat lethargic in offering praise.

A sincere thank you.

Tom Waterhouse,
163 Mill St.,
Richmond Hill, Ont.

Rotary Club plans auction on Saturday

The Rotary Club of Vaughan is holding an auction sale this Saturday at the Concord Community Centre.

Action gets underway at 11 a.m.

Club president Ray Kerr-Taylor asked that anyone wishing to donate articles should call 889-2976, 889-8181 or 669-1630 and a pickup will be arranged.

Gord Orr will be auctioneer, and all proceeds from the sale will be used for community projects.

The community centre is located on Dufferin St., north of Highway 7.

Angus Mowat was one-time Hill resident

Angus McGill Mowat, 84, father of novelist Farley Mowat, died last week in Picton, the day after his sister, Mrs. Jean Cond, died.

A long time resident of Elizabeth St. in Richmond Hill, Mr. Mowat was also the grandson of Sr. Oliver Mowat, first premier of Ontario.

Mr. Mowat, who was appointed director of Ontario Public Libraries in 1937, was well known for his efforts to establish libraries for Northern Ontario Indians.

He was also outspoken about the problems on native people in Canada.

Letters

He feels Thornhill edition limited

Once again I am writing to express my concern over the manner in which your paper is published, whereby we residents in the Thornhill area are subjected to a special edition.

It is restrictive and limiting in scope.

While assembling the Thoreau MacDonald show last week a group of us were discussing your weekly paper.

We all agreed we had lost interest in it since this new format was created.

We are excluded from learning what is going on in Richmond Hill, and the rest of York Region.

We all feel we would like to know more about what is going on outside of the Thornhill area in the Region of York.

In the old days your paper covered activities in the county extremely well.

In truth, we are more interested in what is going on in Richmond Hill than what is going on in German Mills.

I would ask that you reconsider this double-issuing of your weekly, and go back to your old format.

Perhaps it might be

interesting if parts of this letter were published in your paper to see if you get any reaction from your readers.

B. Napier Simpson, Jr.
14 Colborne St.
Thornhill, Ont.

Festival coverage 'excellent'

Thank you for the excellent coverage you gave our Thornhill Village Festival. You helped greatly in making the day.

Please pass on my thanks to Larry Johnston who took a personal interest in the events.

Is it possible for you to express our appreciation through your media to the many people who dressed up for the occasion? That community effort helped make the day.

Bill Trow,
21 Thornbank Rd.,
Thornhill, Ont.

People should be concerned that doctors are leaving

It amazes me. Six local area doctors have left, or are leaving their practices and no one has questioned why.

I wonder how many more have to leave before the obvious apathy towards the situation elevates itself to outright concern for the continuing quality and quantity of medical services provided in this community.

The only press coverage we are given on this issue, is from the physicians themselves.

Some articles read like gossip columns, relating the moves of a doctor from this town to another. One can well use their imagination and complete the paragraph by saying "and we wish him well".

Does no one realize the impact this has on each and every one of us?

Is this the sum total of appreciation we have for the years of service they have given us?

Is it going to take more doctors leaving before we realize exactly what they are leaving for?

Physicians themselves aren't unionized. If they were they'd be working to rule or on strike.

If this were the case and they were not available, we'd scream loud and clear.

But because of the nature of their profession and their gentlemanly approach to their less than desirable working conditions, they are still

tending their practices and taking care of our needs.

And how are we dealing with what should be a mutual admiration society.

We are sitting idly by, watching them leave, and obviously without too much concern.

What they want basically, is the integrity put back into their profession.

I have the right to practice medicine without the nit picking of bureaucratic controls.

I think we would feel equally harassed if someone questioned our ability, decisions, and the quality of our work.

They have the right to practice medicine with the quiet dignity and privacy it deserves.

They are human beings, not public objects whose incomes and business practices should be respected facets of their lives, not placed in an open forum where people and press so readily pass judgement on their dollar value without realizing the dedication and exhausting drain on their own existence.

Will it take the hospital doors closing before the people of this area realize that doctors have a right to life, too?

They have the right to practice medicine with the esteem, privacy and future it deserves.

The only way to accomplish this for our

physicians, is for us to deal with it at the level from which it originates.

Government intervention and controls over doctors and hospitals is what is costing us our medical care.

We can deal with it at the government level by writing our elected representative and expressing our feelings about the status of the physician in our community.

I think they deserve our support and help in maintaining the quality of medical care we have been accustomed to receiving.

We can only stand to benefit by it, after all, it's our future that's at stake, too.

Mrs. Beverley Nielson
R. R. 1,
Richmond Hill.

24 hours allowed to decide where to hook sewers

Having received a notice from town staff that the sewers on our street will not be ready before the middle of November, a work crew turned up rather unexpectedly last week and a man demanded to know where I wanted the house connection located.

He gave me 24 hours to make up my mind.

A neighbor even had only three hours for his decision.

Unfortunately, the layout of the plumbing in my house is such that the matter cannot be resolved without the help of an expert.

Several cost alternatives have to be considered.

But this requires more time than just 24 hours.

Why does the Town not instruct the firms who work on the Richvale Sewer project to approach residents at least one week in advance about connections?

Good relations to the people who pay a high price for these sewers is the least one can expect.

The Town has hustled the public enough to get the sewer project underway.

There is no need now to pressure individuals into further poorly considered decisions.

G. Springer
52 Roosevelt Drive
Thornhill

From Your Hospital

By LOIS JEMPSON

FOUNDATION

Our health needs in the York Central area naturally are escalating and will continue to do so with the tremendous population forecast.

To meet this challenge, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of York Central Hospital announces the formation of the York Central Hospital Foundation.

This is the fund-raising arm of our hospital.

It brings together all hospital campaigns and fund-raising activities in one unified effort.

ONTARIO HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

York Central Hospital has earned an Achievement Award.

Each year the Ontario Hospital Association presents the Accident Prevention Achievement Awards to the hospitals with the lowest frequency of lost time injuries among its staff.

York Central Hospital was a winner in its category, (based on hours of work).

AUXILIARY

A busy fall schedule is shaping up for the Auxiliary. Two events have already taken place in September.

Thanks go to the supporters of the Junior Auxiliary Car Wash on Saturday, Sept. 17 and the Family Hair Cut-a-thon on September 18.

Special thanks are extended to the beauty salons who participated in this event — Apollo II Coiffure, Bruno's Beauty Salon, La Casa Loma Beauty Salon, The Golden Curl Coiffure, The Hairstyling Place, Minerva Beauty Salon, and The Village Coiffure.

On October 5, the Auxiliary will host the Fall Conference of the District No. 7 Hospital Auxiliaries Association.

Approximately 200 delegates will spend the day at York Central — touring the hospital, attending the Annual Meeting of the District and taking part in roundtable discussion groups.

The Annual Bridge and Euchre of the East Central Branch will be held on Tuesday, October 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Richmond Hill Lions Hall. Tickets at \$2 each may be purchased from Mrs. Zelma Ross, 884-1788.

Gormley, Headford and Victoria Square Branch are holding a Luncheon and Bazaar on Wednesday, October 26, at the Victoria Square Community Centre.

Luncheon will be served at 12.30 and 1 p.m.

Tickets are \$2 for adults and \$1 for preschoolers. The Bazaar will take place from 1.30 to 3.30 p.m. Call Mrs. Ethel Boyd (887-5806) for tickets.

On Saturday, October 29 at 1.30 p.m. the Allenbrae Branch will hold an auction at the Consumers' Gas Blue Flame Room on Elgin Mills Road East, Richmond Hill.

STAR SALE!

4.99 EACH RECORD
5.99 EACH TAPE



"DREAMBOAT ANNIE" Heart



"DESTROYER" Kiss



"I'M IN YOU" Peter Dinklage



"MORE THAN A FEELING" Boston



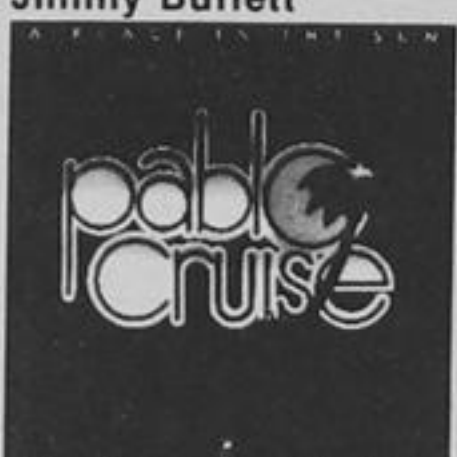
"RAMBLIN' MAN" Merle Haggard



"DAYTIME FRIENDS" Kenny Rogers



"CHANGES IN LATITUDE" Jimmy Buffett



"A PLACE IN THE SUN" Pablo Cruise



"PART III" K.C. and the Sunshine Band



"347 EST" Klaatu

The Hits You Want! The Prices You Want To Pay.

4.99 each record
6.99 each tape



"MAKING A GOOD THING BETTER" Olivia Newton-John



"KNOCK 'EM DEAD KID" Trooper



"MUSIC MAN" Paul Anka



"WE MUST BELIEVE IN MAGIC" Crystal Gayle



"LITTLE QUEEN" Heart



"SONGS OF KRISTOFFERSON" Kris Kristofferson



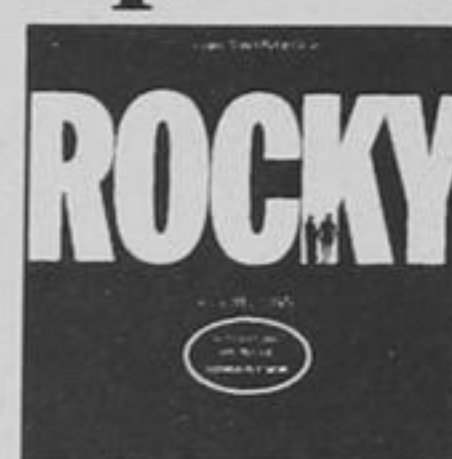
"FLOWING RIVERS" Andy Gibb



"EVEN IN THE QUIETEST MOMENTS" Supertramp



"THE BEST OF FREDDY FENDER" Freddy Fender



"ROCKY" (Soundtrack) Bill Conti

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Our store merchandise is to have every advertised item in stock on our shelves at an advertised price. It is not available for purchase due to any unforeseen reason. A check will show in store. Check on availability for the merchandise to be purchased at the sale price when items are available or will sell with a comparable quality item at a comparable reduction in price. Our policy is to give our customers a merchandise check.

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