



yesterdays
by mary dawson

Lots of entertainment in community

Besides entertainment in the home, there were many opportunities in the community — plays, musical evenings, school and church concerts, dances and house parties. The plays were usually presented by amateur performers to raise money for churches, clubs and charities. Some of them were indeed amateurish and poorly produced, really only glorified school dialogues, but others started with good scripts and were honed and polished over a six-week to two-month period until

they were excellent productions. A few had professional help. The producer would arrive in town with the scenery, costumes and props and in a period of two to three weeks would mold the amateur cast into giving a polished and pleasing performance. The first of these that I remember was "Alice In Wonderland" probably because in it I made my first appearance behind the footlights on the stage of the town hall. At four years, I was the youngest member of a chorus line of twelve girls appearing between acts, singing an

action song, "I'm nothing but an old rag doll". All of us were dressed in frilly white dresses with enormous satin bows in our hair. Now my hair was straight, short and fine, so before long the bow had slid down and threatened to fall off. I removed it and tucked it under my arm. When it interfered with my arm movements, I stepped across the footlights and perched on the narrow rim handed the bow to my mother in the front row with the words, "Here, Mommy, hold this for me." Stepping back into

line I didn't miss any of the action. Naturally the audience was reduced to peels of laughter and I was never allowed to forget my acting debut. The only other part of this production I remember is seeing the Mad Hatter and the March Hare trying to shove the Dormouse into a large teapot. I was deeply concerned about that because the Dormouse was being played by my brother's red-haired pal, Ernie, of whom I was very fond. Other productions of this nature included "Abie's Irish Rose" and a

couple of musical comedies in which I participated. I was supposed to sing a solo in one, but when I opened my mouth to sing nothing came out, so I recited the words to the music and nobody in the audience was the wiser. In the late fall of 1918 my mother began rehearsals for "The Birds' Christmas Carol," to raise funds for her mission band. Since all rehearsals were held in our parlor I soon knew everybody's role perfectly, although I was not a member of the cast. My only involvement was as

one of the four angels who brought the baby Carol to the Bird home on Christmas Eve. When opening night was less than a week away my brother came down with the 'flu and mother hastily inserted me into the cast to play his role of Clem Ruggles. Alas my hopes of being an instant star were dashed when the 'flu reached epidemic proportions and all public gatherings were cancelled. By the time the play could be presented in February my brother was completely recovered and able to play his part and once again I became an angel.

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THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK BLOOMINGTON ROAD
(Regional Road No. 40)

THE COUNCIL OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK PROPOSES TO PASS A BY-LAW AUTHORIZING:

the widening and construction of Bloomington Road (Regional Road No. 40) from 3rd Line, Leslie Street (Regional Road No. 12) to the CNR tracks in the Third Concession in the Towns of Richmond Hill and Aurora to a basic width of 100 feet with additional widening at cuts, fills and its intersection with 3rd Line, Leslie Street (Regional Road No. 12); the site preparation and fencing, and the grading, graveling and paving thereof to provide a basic two lane roadway with additional turning lanes at the intersection at 3rd Line, Leslie Street (Regional Road No. 12); the construction of culverts, drainage works and all other related works and undertakings; and the acquisition of the necessary lands and interests in lands.

Pursuant to section 446 of The Municipal Act, the Engineering Committee of the Regional Council will, at its meeting to be held at 2:00 p.m. on the 8th day of January, 1980, at the Engineering Building on the west side of Woodbine Avenue one and one quarter miles north of the Aurora Sideroad, hear any person who claims that his lands will be prejudicially affected by the by-law and who applies to be heard. Anyone wishing to be heard is requested to advise the undersigned prior to the meeting. If any party entitled to be heard does not attend at the hearing, the Committee may proceed in his absence and he will not be entitled to any further notice in the proceedings.

Plans showing the above proposed work may be seen at the office of Ronald Gee, Planning and Design Engineer, at the Engineering Building (Tel: 895-2303 or 364-8731).

DATED at Newmarket this 22nd day of November 1979.

ROBERT N. VERNON
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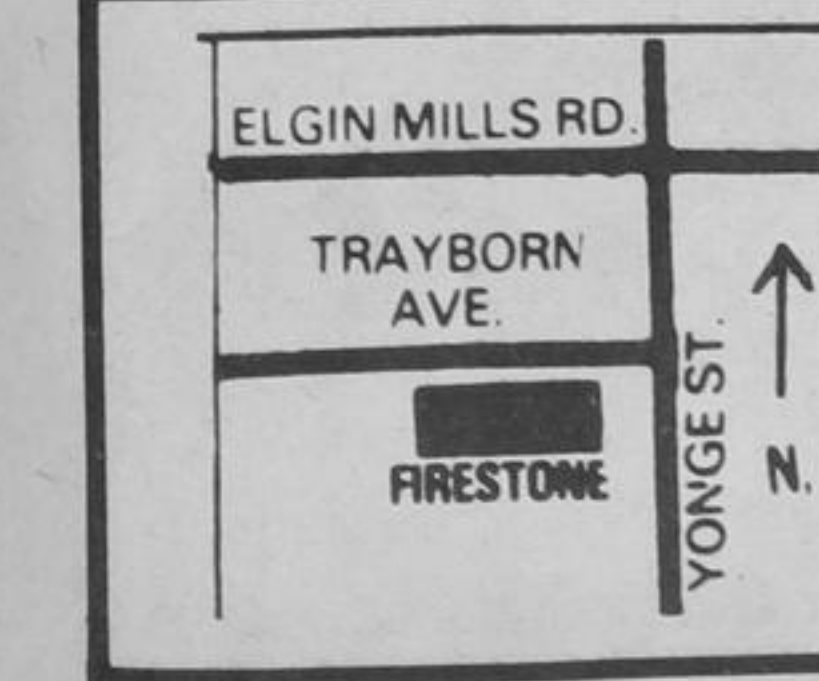
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