New School For Retarded Children Ready this Month

This month marks a memorable milestone for the Thornhaven Association for Retarded Children. November will see the official opening of the new $75,000 school in Richmond Hill, designed especially for the training of retarded children in this area.

This time last year service clubs, women's associations, etc. in the communities of Thornhill, Stouffville, Willowdale, Markham, Oak Ridges, Richmond Hill, King City and Maple, were mobilized to raise $60,000 to construct the school. The campaign, under the chairmanship of Donald Deacon of Unionville, was successful in raising $50,000. Since then, the Ontario Government has contributed $22,500 to make construction of the school possible.

The 1959 Chairman, Mr. Geo. Sweeny of Richmond Hill, announced this week that a financial campaign would not be undertaken this year. Normally, such a campaign would take place during Retarded Children's Week — November 15th to 26th.

There are 30 children attending the local school which is now held in St. Mary's Anglican parish hall, Richmond Hill, until the new school is opened later this month.

Great progress is being made annually in the treatment and training of retarded children. It is estimated that three percent of all children suffer some form of mental retardation. Children who attend the Thornhaven School have an IQ of 50 or less. Here they learn simple, useful things like personal care, social manners, simple manual work and often elementary reading and writing.

Not a great deal is known about the causes of mental retardation. Some of the apparent causes include infections to the mother—such as German measles in early pregnancy, glandular disorders, conflicting parental blood types; and injuries to the child before, during and after birth.

The Thornhaven Association, although not making a full canvass for funds this year, is hopeful that the public will still support its work. Funds are needed for operating expenses and any organization or individual can assist the work by sending a cheque to Box 333, Richmond Hill.

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May Offer Crop Insurance

The Ontario government is considering the introduction of crop insurance Agriculture Minister Goodfellow said last week.

He told the Ontario Federation of Agriculture convention "the time has come when the government will have to take a look at some form of crop insurance."

"We will proceed with it if the commodity groups to be covered favor the idea."

Mr. Goodfellow said the subject is under study. The government would be pleased if the federation handled administration of such a program, he said.

This has been a bad year for Ontario farmers. Nearly half the wheat crop was lost through bad weather and there was considerable damage to tobacco and strawberry crops.

Mr. Goodfellow also said the present method of selling hogs in Ontario is not in the long-term interest of orderly marketing.

"The present program must undergo some modifications in selling techniques, but the most important development will be the adoption of a policy that breeds confidence and trust. These are essential to any marketing plan."

The hog producers organization now sells hogs through its assembly yards throughout Ontario, setting an asking price then calling for bids from packing houses. About 40 buyers make telephone bids on hogs shipped to Toronto from assembly yards.

Buttonville News

Mrs. Alick Gardner, who made such a hit as a model at the fashion show sponsored by the W.I. recently, is suffering because of her labours. She has fallen prey to dermatitis as a result of hair tinting used for the occasion.

The Cancer Society has shelved expensive conventions in favour of smaller area workshops this year. There will be a Distric Workshop at Brampton on Wednesday, Nov. 18, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for all local workers and those wishing to attend should contact Mrs. Gordon Purves at Unionville. Luncheon fee is $1.00.

The Buttonville W.I. ladies have a full calendar for November: November 12: Evening refreshments served to Milk Producers Executive; Nov. 23 — Euchre and Bridge at 2.00 p.m. in Buttonville Hall in aid of Christmas Gift Cupboard of the Cancer Society; Nov. 24 — In Buttonville Hall, from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m., "How to Plan a Meeting," discussion led by Mrs. E. Armstrong. All interested persons in the community are urged to attend. Bring a box lunch. Tea will be supplied by W. I. members.

Nov. 26 — Junior Farmers' Dinner at Buttonville Hall — W.I. to cater; Dec. 2 — Markham Fair Board Banquet.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Purves and Mr. and Mrs. Norman Reid who celebrated wedding anniversaries last week. Miss Elizabeth French, whose birthday it was on Monday of this week, came in for special attention at a potluck luncheon held by the W.I. at Buttonville Hall.

Wedding bells will ring for Milford Stots and Esther Whatitem on November 27 in Toronto, and for Dorothy Hood and Don Reesor at Brown's Corners United Church on December 26.

Mrs. Jean Cook and Mrs. John Wilkins represented Buttonville W.I. at the Area Convention of Women's Institutes at the Royal York Hotel last week. Mrs. Garnet Francy also was a convention guest and Mrs. Chas. Hooper and Mrs. Joe Robinson.

Mrs. Walter Craig was a delegate from the N. York Schools attending the Ontario Association of Curriculum Development convention held in the King Edward Hotel last week.

Mrs. George Kelly, Mrs. Russell Boyington, Mrs. James Rodick, Mrs. Don Arnott, Mrs. John Donaldson and Mrs. Fred Leaf motored to Orangeville on Friday of last week for the annual meeting of the local fall fairs executives. There were 24 present from the Markham area, and Mr. Tran, Markham Fair Chairman, was pleased to bring home the cup for high attendance.

At the Victoria Square District Lions' night last week Alick Gardner speculated aloud that the lucky draw was fixed—Lawson Mumberson picked him up on it and asked Mr. Gardner to draw a number. Mr. Gardner drew his own!

Thankoffering Speaker —

The retiring executive secretary of the W.M.S. of the United Church of Canada, Mrs. Loveys, was the colourful and interesting guest speaker on Wednesday evening of last week, when Brown's Corners W.M.S. members held their autumn Thankoffering meeting.

Mrs. Loveys spent the summer months in Jamaica on W.M.S. work, and while there she put her colour camera to good use, returning with a pictorial account of that beautiful island and the life of its people. There have been no slaves in Jamaica since 1838, and the protestant church has been active since before that.

Mrs. Roscoe Chapin of Unionville conducted the devotional service, using the lesson of the Prodigal Son from the standpoint of the elder brother's attitude. The soloist was Mrs. W. J. Russell, also of Unionville, who was accompanied at the organ by Mrs. S. J. English.

Mrs. Wm. Rodick occupied the chair, Mrs. A. W. Miller performed courtesies and the offering was taken by Mrs. Douglas Hood and Mrs. Fuller, with Mrs. Norman Reid operating the lantern for Mrs. Loveys.

W. I. Euchre Series

There were 14 tables of players at Buttonville W.I. Hall on Friday evening of last week for the third game of the present euchre series.

Winners were: Mrs. Miles, Mrs. P. Smith, Mrs. O. Denby; Messrs. Bill Lunau, Matt Davie and Ashton Calvert. Mr. Freeman won the lucky draw, a chicken.

After play, refreshments were served by W. I. members. Next game Nov. 20.

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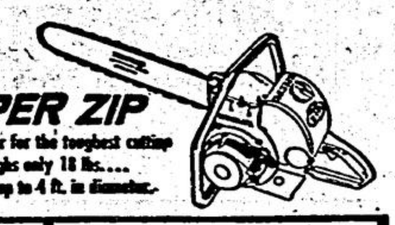

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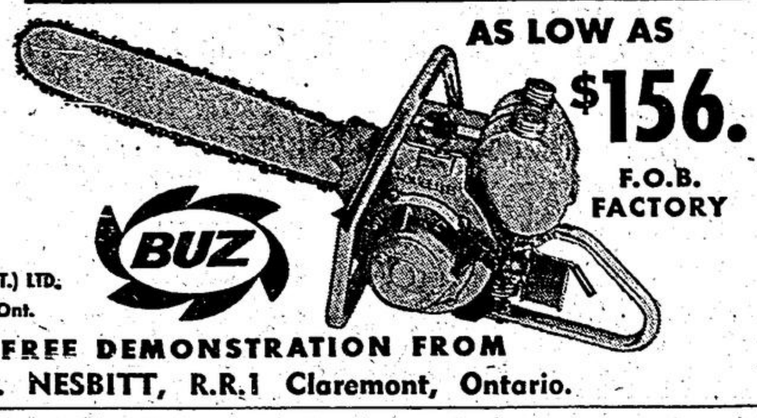

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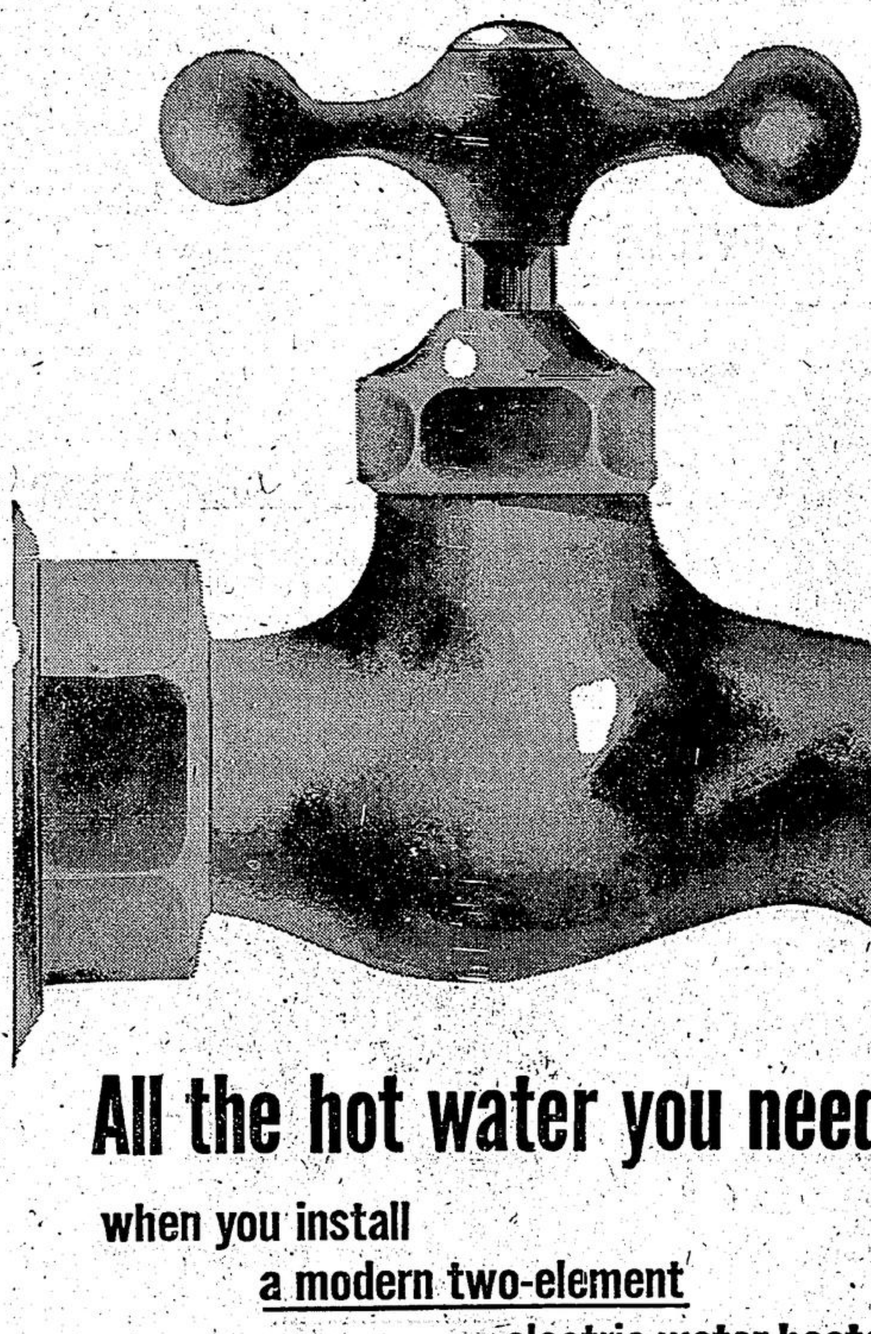

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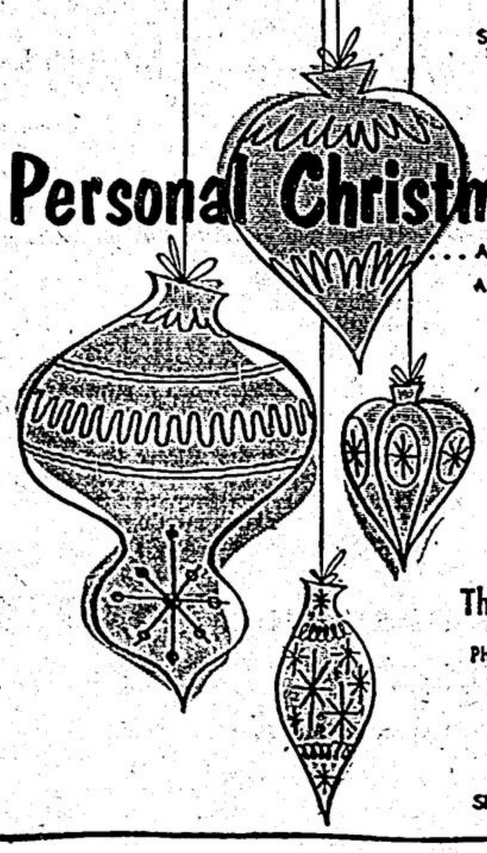

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