

Born at Midland

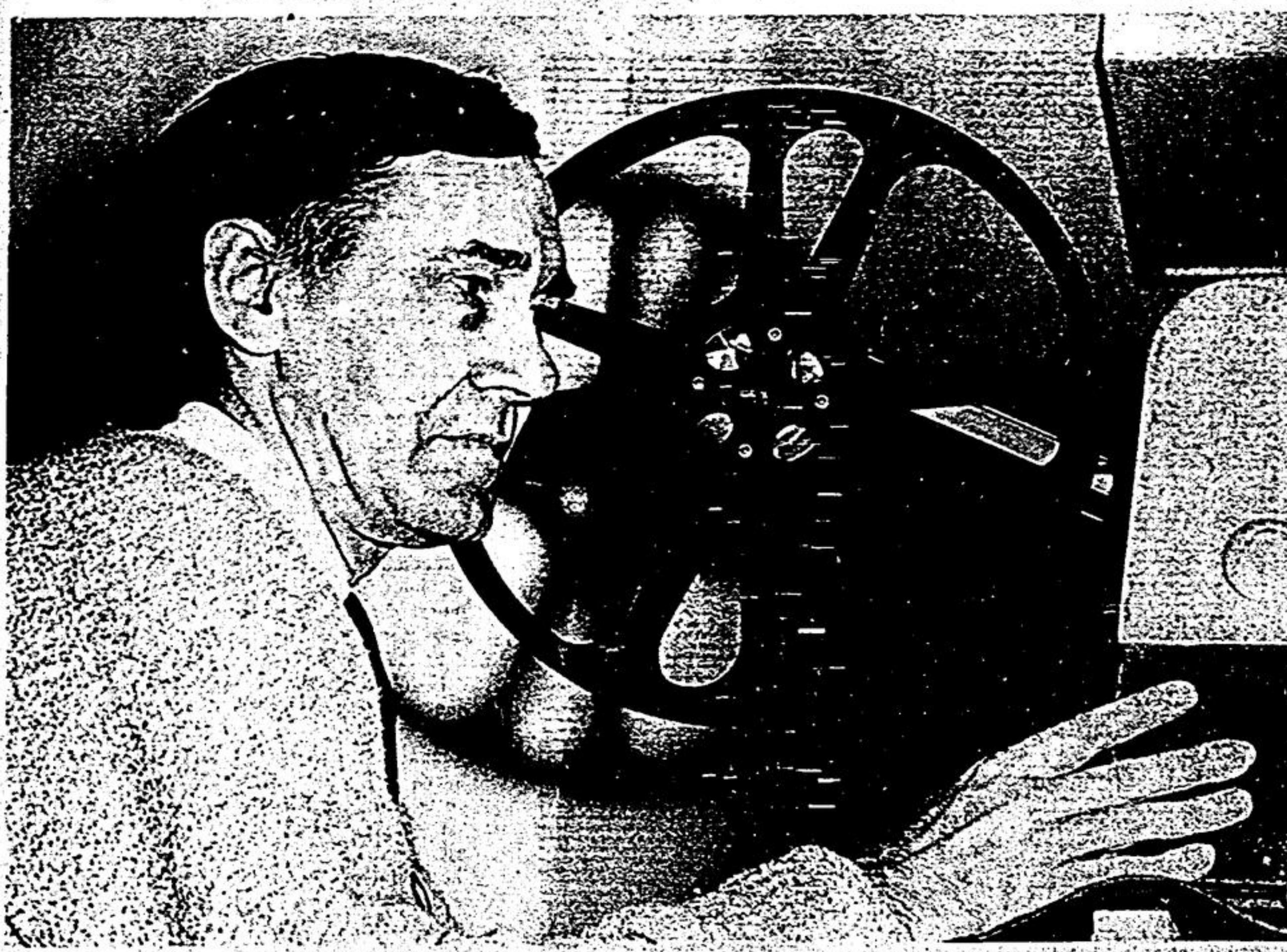
CLAREMONT — Mrs. Olive Rankin, a resident of R.R. 3, Claremont for 6 years, passed away at Resthaven Nursing Home, Aurora, Jan. 16, after a lengthy illness.

Mrs. Rankin, 74, was born in Midland daughter of John and Annie Janeson.

Her husband was a member of O'Neill's Funeral Home, by Rev. James Roy Samuel Rankin.

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Peter Croft, formerly of Hillsdale Drive, Musselman's Lake, and now of Claremont, hosts the Children's Theatre, every Saturday afternoon at 2:30 p.m., in Latcham Hall,

Stouffville. This week's feature is the "Three Worlds of Gulliver". Every adult paying the regular admission (\$1), allows one child in free. — Jim Thomas

Saturday movies thrill children

By Kathleen Job

STOUFFVILLE — How would you like to babysit between 150-200 youngsters for three hours every Saturday afternoon?

That is precisely what Peter Croft has been doing for the last four years. He operates the "Children's Theatre" at Latcham Hall. He started out at the Centennial Centre, Ballantrae, then when Latcham Hall was completed about nine months ago, he moved to Stouffville.

He rents the films from distributors. They are usually Walt Disney classics like "The Love Bug," "Treasure Island," "The Boatnicks" and many others, all suitable for children. All the films are carefully screened at home before

hand by Mr. Croft and his wife. Most are comedies.

Peter Croft came to Canada from England six years ago. He and his wife and three small children recently moved from Musselman's Lake to Claremont. He is an independent film editor and producer. In England he worked on such shows as "The Saint," "The Guns of Navarone," "The Blue Max" and "Man of the World" also two children's shows, "Thunderbirds" and "XL15."

He is currently co-producing a new documentary series for television with Rick Campbell, called "The Eye of the Beholder". He has written children's stories and for many years produced and acted in amateur theatricals. In his spare time he builds model ships and planes which fly by remote control.

What motivates a man to give up every Saturday afternoon to provide entertainment for the children of this area? "There is no profit in it. I am lucky if I take in enough from admission to pay for the rent of the main feature let alone the cartoons. I am out of pocket most weeks," he admits.

He is often disheartened with the lack of enthusiasm shown by most parents. "If only some of them would spare a few minutes to come in and see what I'm doing. I believe a lot of people

think I'm showing home movies. My screen is actually a little larger than those in some movie houses. The kids are better behaved too. I give them a little pep-talk before we start and they are remarkably well behaved." He adds rather wistfully: "I wish one or two of the parents would offer to give me a hand occasionally. I would love to take an afternoon off once in awhile."

Why does he do it? I want to bring the very best films to kids, to a price (50c) that they can afford. I am sure there are many who would never get the chance to see films of this calibre if it wasn't for "The Children's Theatre," he concludes.

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Theatre Arts Class

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STOUFFVILLE — Students of Grades 10, 11 and 12, Stouffville District Secondary School will present three performances, including two comedies and a drama, from Grade 10. The characters are played by Kim Främling, Doug White, Betsy Martin, Bev Miller and Martin Cudlipp.

The drama is entitled "Afterwards" with the following Grade 12 students taking lead roles—Julie Bell, Maurice Hallsted, Steve Etherington

and Wayne Newmarsh. "Washing Dishes" is directed by Milton Stanger. Grade 11 student performers include—Dwaine Steckley, Dean Robertson, Rosanne Kampf, Denise Kampf, Kathy Richardson, Debbie Austin and Debbie Moore.

Adult admission is \$1.25; students, 75¢; students with activity cards, 50¢ and 50¢ for children 12 and under.

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