



PARK TURTLE IS CHILDREN'S PLAYTOY

The Varley Village area of Unionville is served by a convenient park. Play equipment there includes a huge turtle, enjoyed here by 4-year-old Sylvia Vermeer, 112 Fred Varley Drive.

Education - a 'human' experience

UNIONVILLE - A new concept in education, which has received a lot of attention lately, is the "community school". The idea of a school which is involved with its community has received praise from the higher levels of the educational hierarchy; the York County Board recently enthused over a slide presentation showing such schools in Baltic countries.

All the time, in a quiet way, the schools in Unionville have been accomplishing this. Residents, and especially parents, are always welcome at the three public schools in Unionville.

The response proves that people like this approach. On October 20, Mark II held an open house which, according to Principal Larry Dobson, was "very successful". Alfred Hill, Principal of Parkview, estimated the turnout at his school's open house as 94 percent of the parents, while 90 percent was the figure given by Unionville Public School Principal Fred Browning.

Matters don't stop there. The schools seem determined to make learning interesting for children, and as a result have become centres of the village life. Mark II is planning another open house on December 15, and students will be having an Activity Day on December 22, the end of the present term. This will involve displays by the pupils themselves, and will be climaxed by a skating party.

Parkview Principal Alfred Hill said the school has just had a very successful UNICEF collection. Assemblies are held twice a month, and students will hold a Hobby Show during the afternoon of November 26. Plans are also being made for a skating party for Parkview students.

At Unionville Public School, different excursions are available to students. These range from a chance to see "The Railroad Children" to participation in Simpson's puppet show. An addition is presently in the planning stages for the 73-year-old building, and drawings are expected to be submitted shortly.

For teachers, for students, and for parents, going to school in Unionville is a human experience. The cold austerity of impersonal education, so widespread in Ontario today, does not exist in the village. People get to know one another, to understand different points of view, to co-operate in a variety of projects. Isn't that really what education is all about?

Temperance papers failed

UNIONVILLE - Of the thirty-six York County weekly newspapers which span the years from 1798 to the present day, only two decided to espouse the cause of temperance as a mainstay, and both failed after only brief runs.

The first such paper made its appearance in Unionville in April of 1877. It was launched by James Wideman and known as the Unionville Progress. The publisher, either proudly (or regrettably) labelled his paper, "the only local temperance journal in the County of York". It had six pages and there is no further mention of it after December of the year it began.

However, the Unionville Progress was not the only paper to come out for the temperance cause. The first paper in Stouffville was published by the same James Wideman in July of 1877, and was known as the Stouffville Alert. Like its counterpart in Unionville it too failed to promote the cause of temperance and ceased publication after one year.

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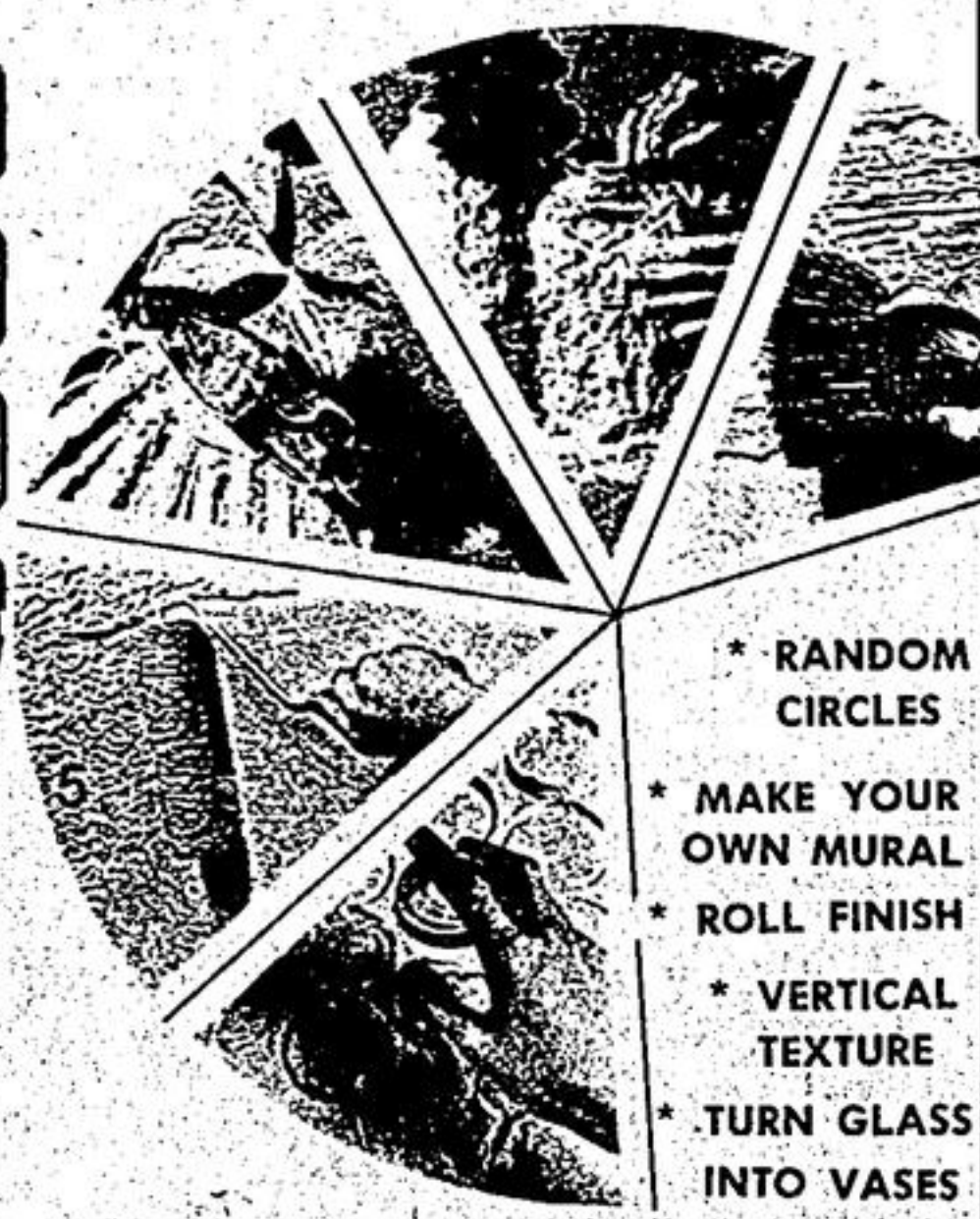
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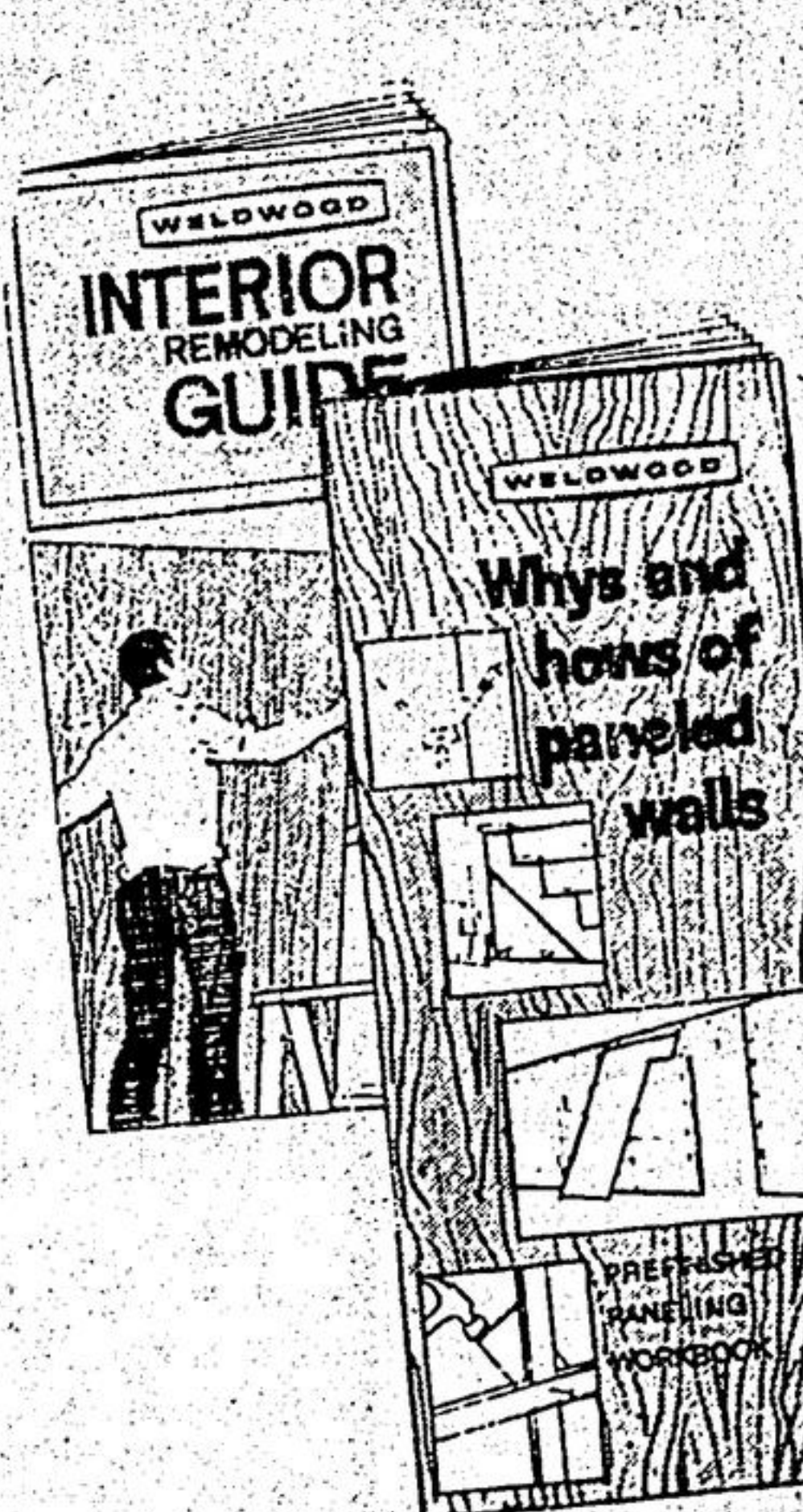
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