



W. EARLE GORDON

1891 – 1968

In 1931, youth leader W. Earle Gordon founded “The Knights of the Round Table (KRT).” Not related to the famous knights of Arthurian legend, rather KRT was an organization created to assist young men during the Great Depression. Its motto was “to make better... nobler men.” It took only ten years for the organization to grow to twenty-seven chapters.

In 1937, Gordon was quoted at a KRT service. “There is unrest today that cannot be solved in dollars. But when you hear young men get up and stress service and spiritual things: things with eternal values, it augurs well for the future of this country. I am one of those men who has a one-hundred per cent confidence in our youth.” In three decades, Gordon counselled 25,000 adolescents and young adults.

In addition to Gordon’s work with young men, he assisted in both civic and benevolent activities. Gordon was a director for ten companies and an organizer of the Air Cadets movement. Gordon assisted in planning the new Islington United Church and founded the Etobicoke YMCA on Bloor Street, becoming its first President. He helped establish a Relief Board to assist those in need during the Depression. Additionally, he was Chairman of the War Auxiliary and was Civil Defence Chairman, all in Etobicoke.

On three different occasions, service clubs named him “Man of the Year” in recognition of his many contributions to society. Gordon was inducted into the Etobicoke Hall of Fame in its inaugural year.

Inducted into the Etobicoke Hall of Fame in 1974