

Close friends head up drive to rebuild Roy Ivor aviary

By JIM BINSON

Tears welled up in the eyes of Bernice Inman as she watched a television program in which the work of Roy Ivor was being explained.

Bernice watched as Morley, a tame eagle, was shown on the screen and explained how the great eagle had been nursed back to health by Mr. Ivor.

She said legend had it that when an Indian died his soul became an eagle. Morley had been named after a young Indian boy who had found the eagle with a broken wing and sent it to Roy Ivor to be mended.

"On there's Piper!" she said and then sank back in a chair to watch Roy Ivor talk to the hawk and pointed out how the bird was listening to "Roy's words."

She was among a group of seven persons, most of them close friends of Roy Ivor, who had gathered Sunday to figure a way to reconstruct the Winding Lane Bird Sanctuary.

Among those present were Bernice, Roy's closest friend for the past six years; Don Inman; Maurice DeCuhna, a noted free-lance writer; Evelyn Reeder; and Margaret Slaney, another close friend and the director of a large Toronto advertising agency.

Their purpose was to discuss the formation of two committees which will be responsible for administering the program to rebuild Winding Lane.

TRUST FUND

A fund has already been established in the Streetsville Toronto-Dominion Bank to be held in trust and the committee will handle the money.

Mr. Inman said the committee would be made up of an accountant, a lawyer and other interested parties including one man as chairman, who is internationally known in the sports world.

"We must stress that the money will be held in trust and we must be sure that everyone knows this money will only be for the sanctuary.

"We will try to have only the most qualified personnel on this committee to make sure this money is used wisely," he said.

Since the fund began just hours after the fire which destroyed all but three of Mr. Ivor's bird's, money has started coming in.

By Monday the total was up to \$700, much of it anonymous, and the Toronto-Dominion Bank had promised to open all of its branches in Canada to accept donations.

It is the small things that really begin to show the respect many persons

have for Roy Ivor.

Bernice Inman said a man who wouldn't give his name appeared at the door of her home in Streetsville and offered several sweaters and a pair of fur-lined boots to Mr. Ivor after he had learned all his clothes were destroyed in the fire.

"They were new. I'm sure he had just gotten them for Christmas," she said.

"There is a 15-year-old boy who went from door to door seeking donations.

SAME SPEECH

"He used the same speech each time and it is amazing but he brought me \$200 in a bag and it is almost all \$1 bills," she said.

On Friday, Erindale College donated the services of their aviary and laboratories free of charge to Mr. Ivor. Robert Stevens, an Erindale College biologist, also offered himself to aid the campaign to reinstate the uniqueness of the sanctuary.

The outdoor aviary already contains Erindale's mascot owls, Wear and Tear, and the laboratory facilities are without equal.

"This was a tremendous thing on the part of the college," said Mr. Inman.

"The proximity (just across from

Winding Lane) is perfect.

"It is set in a natural laboratory area where the environment is virgin forest.

"This is in keeping with the ideas of Roy Ivor and I know it makes him happy to think that this has been so kindly offered."

Political leaders have also come to the aid of the Winding Lane Bird Sanctuary Fund by offering their services.

Mississauga Mayor Bob Speck was one of the first persons to indicate his willingness to help with the project.

Peel South MPP Doug Kennedy will be approaching the Ontario Government for assistance and MP Hyland Chappell has indicated his willingness to assist the fund organizers in obtaining federal permission for the fund to be tax exempt.

Maurice DeCuhna, a Mississauga resident and free-lance writer, will co-ordinate an information committee of writers which will try to get the appeal for funds across to Canadian daily and weekly newspapers.

"All that remains for us to do is to get the trust committee established and then appeal to the many people who want to see the work of Roy Ivor continued," Don Inman said.