

Bobcaygeon Yacht and Country Club, recently launched with a charter membership of twenty business men of the area, officially opened "Shore Acres" last Friday night. The guest of the evening was Hon. Leslie M. Frost upon whom was bestowed a life membership in the Club.

"Shore Acres" built in 1890 by W. C. T. Boyd is a fabulous mansion of red brick containing 22 rooms. In later years a colourful occupant and owner was a man named Neville, son of a former Bobcaygeon clergyman, who was penalized for amassing a fortune by undercover methods. As a spender he was good for many thousands of dollars worth of business spread among Bobcaygeon people.

The succeeding owner was one of Bobcaygeon's most gallant and successful native sons, the late William Henderson M.D. His success in his chosen profession in New York eventually led to his building a large hospital which he in time donated to the City.

Dr. Henderson spent many happy summers at "Shore Acres". He maintained and developed the historic old home which was built on a five acre site, with a large and splendid dock, over one thousand feet of shore line, an interesting totem pole, an Olympic sized swimming pool with bath houses and flood lights. Dr. Moore usually came to his summer home each year in his palatial 110 foot yacht which he moored at his own dock.

This was the meeting place Friday for the Village Council as hosts in co-operation with the new owner Mr. Lou Pantaleo.

Mr. Pantaleo has now invested some 150 thousand dollars in the mansion, which is now advertised locally and in the United States as a lodge with exceptional appointments, and is now open for business.

The original invitation list for the testimonial dinner of

thirty guests overflowed by the addition of cameramen, news reporters, and radio staff members from Oshawa and Cobourg.

The assemblage had all the earmarks of a Tory conclave, the guests including Hon. Michael Starr (Oshawa) minister of labour; Clayton W. Hodgson of Haliburton, widely known and popular former member of the Federal house; Albert Walker, Provincial member for Ontario County riding, Glen Hodgson, M.P.P. for Victoria and Haliburton, reeve Hilliard Murphy, three times president of the Progressive Conservative Association, as well as the provincial organizer of the party, a party publicity representative and a personnel manager.

Hon. Leslie Frost obliged radio staff members with a taped interview, and Hon. Michael Starr held a press conference.

What actually transpired in the big panelled dining room is not known to the writer as the doors were closed and publicity media were served dinner in a second, much smaller, but delightfully historic dining room.

There was ample time to wander about "Shore Acres" and examine in detail many of the antique ornaments and furnishings. A novel bell alarm on the front white french doors caught the attention of almost every-one. It consisted of a large metal ring some 12 inches in diameter with ten cutter-shaft bells mounted on the outside and inside perimeter of the ring. A crank arrangement rotated the ring and caused the bells to chime.

A large foyer or reception plaza is complete in old white pine, nicely stained. The tall winding stairway is topped at the landing some fifteen feet up at the second floor level with an old grandfather's clock, and flanked on one side by a beautiful stained glass window.

The mansion contains some

twenty rooms, with original fire places designed for burning logs in all main rooms. The huge fire-place in the foyer was ready for lighting, with large wooden blocks for fuel.

The new owner has installed a new heating system, and converted the original kitchen into a billiard room. The closing in of an area between two of the wings has provided a beautiful large dining room, and another wing was converted into a hotel type kitchen. In all other respects the new owner plans to retain the original layout and structure.

Many of the windows, of the French type, descend almost to the floor and are painted white. The appointments include a lovely old fashioned library with pannelled walls, and with book shelves reaching from the floor almost to the ceiling. The billiard room is cozy, a game room has Indian regional history hand written in three inch high letters that extends completely around the room. The kitchen is large with good lighting and spotlessly clean. The furnishings include chairs of the medieval type with plush seats and tapestry backs, and a number of wooden chairs which are similar to the chairs found in hotels only much more dainty. Wall decorations included paintings and tapestries.

