

THE COBOUR

VOLUME LXXVII.

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THE COBOURG WORLD, THURSDAY

THE BARNUM HOUSE AS IT APPEARED 40 YEARS AGO

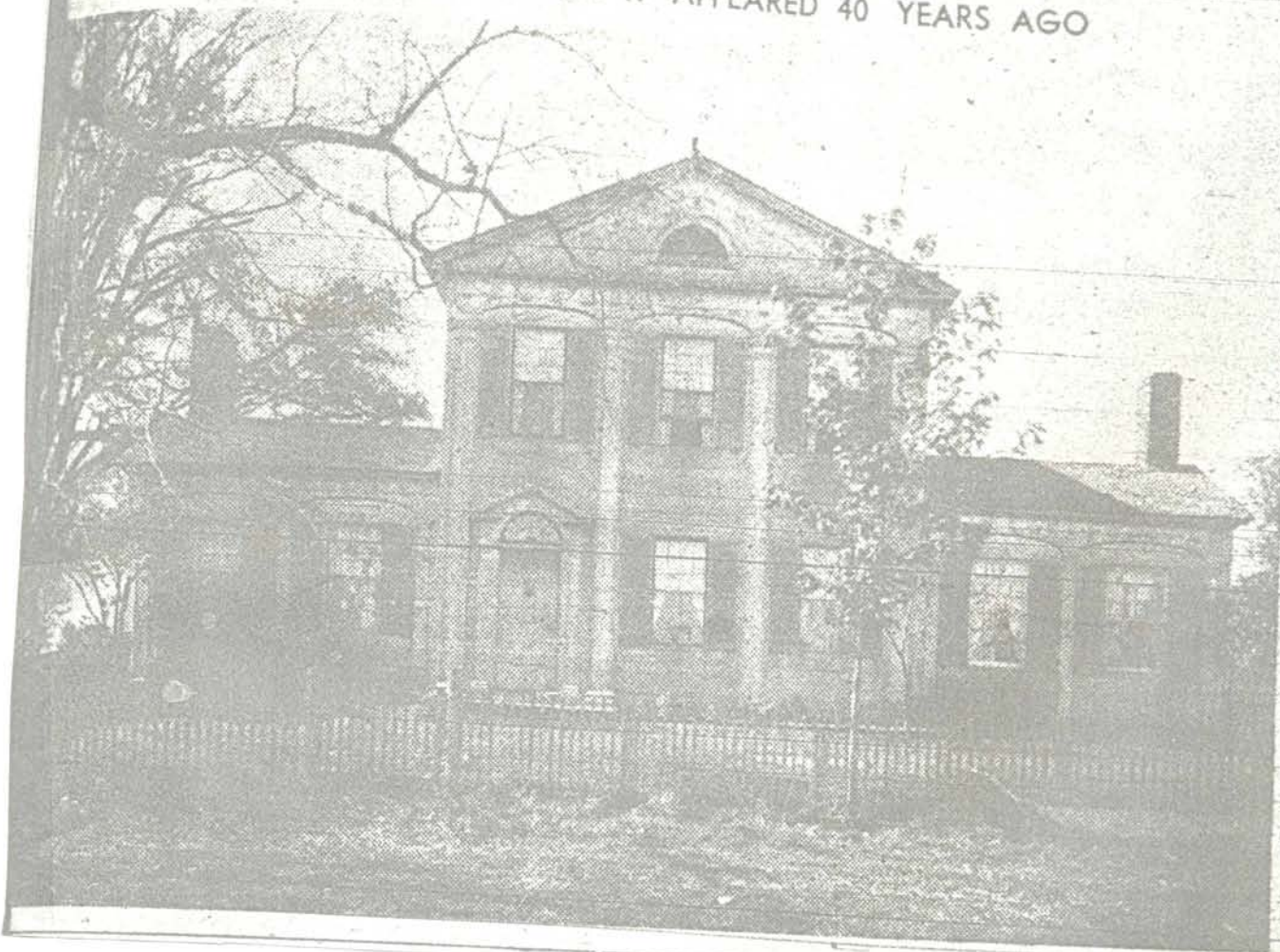


PHOTO
BY
FISHER

THE BARNUM HOUSE TODAY, AFTER REJUVENATION



OLD BARNUM HOUSE IN REJUVENATED YOUTH IS FORMALLY OPENED

Impressive Ceremony Yesterday At Grafton — The Lieutenant-Governor Officiating — Restoration of the Old Rooms a Triumph of Architectural Skill — Grounds Surrounding the House Share in the Restoration — Prominent Citizens of the Province Present to View Fine Georgian Type of Old Home

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Grounds Surrounding the House Share in the Restoration—Prominent Citizens of the Province Present to View Fine Georgian Type of Old Home

NOW TOURIST CENTRE
FOR HANDICRAFT AND
CANADIAN ARTS

Originally, the little village situated eight miles east of Cobourg, which had its small colony of settlers before Elias Jones erected his log cabin on the present site of Cobourg, came into its own yesterday when a short distance from its environs the old Barnum home, rejuvenated for the occasion, was opened up to the public and received its full complement of distinguished visitors.

Known as one of the most beautiful examples of Georgian domestic architecture this fine old home was released from the decay into which it had fallen since its erection a century and a quarter ago and was formally opened to the public by the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario at an impressive ceremony held yesterday afternoon at three o'clock. Present were many notable people from Toronto and other places, as well as this district who have taken an interest in its restoration.

Re-decoration of the house purchased several months ago by the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario was carried out on Friday last by members of the Canadian Handicraft Guild and the Society of Interior Decorators of Ontario. The Canadian Society of Landscape Artists are now restoring the grounds.

Into the old home were returned many original furnishings lent by their present owners to museums throughout Canada. These fine old articles show the excellent cabinet making of old Canada and yesterday were an object of much interest. Other furniture was carefully selected in matching design to supplement the original furniture, making a harmonious whole of the furnishings of the historic old home. It was a matter of regret that in this locality there are so few people left belonging to the Barnum family. Their ancestor, Col. Eliakim Barnum, according to old records, settled in Haldimand Tp. in the 1790's and quickly became a man of wealth and importance.

Prof. Eric Arthur is head of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario who purchased the old Barnum homestead last fall. Mrs. F. Grant Marriott is in charge of the handicrafts division of the project and Mr. H. B. Dunnington Grubb is chairman of the committee of Canadian Society of Landscape Artists who are co-operating in the restoration of

(Continued on page 8)

MARYLAND

IN TECHNICOLOR!



FAY BURNETT
BRENDA JOYCE
JOHN PAYNE
CHARLIE RUGGLES
MATTIE MCDANIEL
MARJORIE WEAVER
Directed by
HENRY KING
Associate Producer Gene
Markes. Original Screen Play
by Ethel Hill and Jack Andrews
A
20th Century-Fox
Picture

Old Barnum House in Rejuvenated Youth is Formally Opened

(Continued from page 11)

the property.

An interesting story of the construction work necessary to the restoration of the old Barnum house at Grafton appeared in Saturday Night of Aug. 3rd, written by Bernice Coffey, from which we reproduce the following paragraphs.

"For many years travellers on the highway which follows the eastern shoreline of Lake Ontario have been slowing and often stopping their cars as they caught sight of the old Barnum house near the side of the road at Grafton, Ont. For even to the untutored eye painless shabbiness could not conceal the purity and grace in every aristocratic line of this fine Georgian mansion. Those who have admired it, or who have yet to see it, will be pleased to know that the old has come into its own again.

"The old Barnum house, and the ninety-seven acres of farmland surrounding it, were purchased by the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario—an organization which besides restoring old landmarks, photographs and makes duplicate drawings of Ontario's finest old houses and puts them away in vaults for posterity. According to one of the officials of the Conservancy there is nothing in the United States to rival the Barnum house's exquisite architectural proportion and detail. At the time it was built, it is pointed out, Jefferson

was building Virginia University and Bullfinch was doing some of his best work in Boston. No one knows where Col. Barnum got his plans but it is known that he imported several American workmen when the house was being built.

Built 125 Years Ago

"Construction took place 125 years ago when Col. Eliakim Barnum decided to replace a former house accidentally set afire by troops billeted there during the retreat to Kingston of the defenders of Fort York (now Toronto) in the war of 1812. At that time Col. Barnum was the tycoon of the district. He owned thousands of acres of surrounding land on which there were numerous tenant houses, a distillery and a grist mill. As his family grew up he built houses for them elsewhere on the estate. It is obvious that he was a man of highly cultivated tastes and a firm appreciation of the comforts and luxuries life could offer him. He drove about the countryside in carriages imported from New York, and was served by a household staff which included butlers and footmen. According to one record he wore a silk hat at all times of the year.

"One of the most surprising things about the house is its structural soundness. The exterior is of white pine—one of the most enduring woods—and needed only white paint to bring a return of its original glory. Despite the century and a quarter which has passed over its venerable head it stands straight to its original line, and only a few doors were discovered to be slightly out of plumb.

"Architects in charge of the re-

On Monday afternoon while a carpenter was being... and sentenced for burning... Ezra Harper's barn, a far different feeling was being manifested by neighbours and friends of Mr. Harper, who were out some sixty strong to obtain contributions to help replace the building that was burned in malice.

At a meeting of citizens held in the township hall at Cold Springs on Aug. 14th with Reeve Chas. Burri-son presiding, it was decided to make a canvass of the township and sixty men were appointed to do the work. The township was divided into sub-sections in order to facilitate the work and the canvassers are now busy. The Harper family came to Hamilton Twp. in 1847 and descendants have resided there continuously since. The building, which was burned was erected eighty years ago.

restoration had to become detectives to discover alterations made during intervening years to the original interior. They learned, for instance, that a large central chimney which has a base fourteen feet square in the basement had been cut down at the second story and replaced by a smaller chimney. This probably happened about the time when stoves replaced fireplaces for heating.

"The front of the second story was divided into three rooms when the house came into possession of the Conservancy. After examining the floorboards and walls, it was deduced that originally the three rooms must have been one very large room. So a sporting chance was taken, partitions were pulled down, and to everyone's satisfaction it was learned they had guessed correctly. Floorboards and dado ran from end to end without interruption. They since have come to the conclusion that this very large room must have been a sleeping-drawing-room—a some what unusual arrangement of some time ago. Then it probably was furnished with a large four-poster bed and the usual drawing-room appointments. An adjoining dressing-room seems to bear out this theory.

"With the assistance of records and the memories of 'oldest inhabitants,' it has been ascertained that the house was not furnished in the simple early Canadian manner—spool beds, and so on—but in the highly sophisticated Georgian and Regency styles. And it is from these periods that the house takes on its old gracious atmosphere with furniture being loaned and given for the purpose. For instance the 'little' drawing-room where the fireplace is a particularly fine example with its graceful urns carved in relief. Here the woodwork and fireplace are painted a dead white, and the walls papered a soft grey. One of the appointments is a Hepplewhite sofa, said to be a perfect specimen, which is upholstered in brilliant cherry red and oyster brocade. And in the hall there is an 18th century messenger's bench.

"Grounds surrounding the house are sharing in its restoration. Again a small brook will sing its unobstructed way through a meadow, past an orchard and green lawns. And the government is restoring a large pond to add to the beauty of the scene.

Not the least interesting part of the whole scheme is...

"Happy Hollow" afternoon. It was the afternoon that dead man and those him, was learned, severe injuries, and were unable to be.

The deceased Health Inspector W. Reid, his son, George Rose avenue, Toronto daughter, Mrs. Jam Fifth avenue east, motoring to the Mrs. Reid's son, Les Oht., when the bearing license No. by Mrs. Grant, Dodge coupe, bear 536-L-8, driven by Buller street, Woods accompanied by Mrs. 42 Wellington street, Mrs. Helen Baldwin.

The Woodstock on a trip to Montreal on Wednesday morning back to Woodstock dent occurred.

Further particulars are from the daily press.

Cars Met II

The two cars met at the bottom of the stock car travelling Toronto car travelling of the impact was so front ends of both were demolished, frames broken and both appeared beyond repair. Ford was touching the posts and wire and he was close to the south facing the centre of the about three feet apart.

The sound of the nearby residents who W. S. Millman and C. Oshawa who rushed to render first aid, and of the Luke Burial Co. take the injured to the eral Hospital. Shortly injured were removed from the Dodge coupe caught short-circuit wire, but put out the blaze.

Provincial traffic Morris, of Bowmanville, on the scene and routes the dirt road south of until a tow truck wrecked cars.

Mrs. Charlotte Reid, deceased man sustained legs, lacerations to the possibly a fractured skull Reid, son of the deceased fractured nose, lacerated scalp and possibly fractured Mrs. Grant, is apparently injured of the four in the She received a number of scratches and suffered shock.

The two ladies in the car were both severely injured. Derby has a fractured right ankle, fractured lacerations to the face and Helen Baldwin received right femur, lacerations and bruises. John Bryce the car, received lacerated scalp, cut over the right possibly a slight fractured skull.

Dr. Harold...

BINDER TWINE

ANOTHER SHIPMENT OF "BLUE BELL"

TWINE JUST ARRIVED

600'—5 lb. balls

SPECIAL PRICE THIS WEEK-END

10c lb.

Buy your supply now for next year.

C. P. RALLS

and the memories of "olden inhabitants," it has been ascertained that the house was not furnished in the simple early Canadian manner—spool beds, and so on—but in the highly sophisticated Georgian and Regency styles. And it is from these periods that the house takes on its old gracious atmosphere with furniture being loaned and given for the purpose. For instance the little drawing-room where the fireplace is a particularly fine example with its graceful urns carved in relief. Here the woodwork and fireplace are painted a dead white, and the walls papered a soft grey. One of the appointments is a Hepplewhite sofa, said to be a perfect specimen, which is upholstered in brilliant cherry red and oyster brocade. And in the hall there is an 18th century messenger's bench.

Grounds surrounding the house are sharing in its restoration. Again a small brook will sing its unobstructed way through a meadow, past an orchard and green lawns. And the government is restoring a large pond to add to the beauty of the scene.

Not the least interesting part of the whole scheme to bring to Canadians and visitors to Canada something of this country's architectural beauties, is the manner in which the project is being carried out. The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, which is composed of a number of public spirited persons interested in preserving the province's most beautiful landmarks, owns the house and property and acts as trustee. It is this group which has restored the house. Working with them was the Society of Interior Decorators of Ontario who are responsible for the re-decoration of the interior. The Canadian Society of Landscape Architects is looking after the grounds. In addition to being restored to active life, the house will contribute to the development of Canadian crafts for, through its tenants, the Canadian Handicrafts Guild, visitors from all parts of the world will have an opportunity to view Canadian crafts and arts which will be developed and displayed there.

"If the shade of the doughty Col. Barnum still lingers about, it is altogether likely that August 21 was a day of great pride and satisfaction. On that day his cherished house had its official opening in the presence of many of the Province's notables. From now on it will be open to the appreciative public."

Mr. J. E. Skidmore returned on Thursday from St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto, where he has been receiving treatment for several weeks.

put out the blaze.

Provincial traffic officer Price Morris, of Bowmanville, was quickly on the scene and routed traffic over the dirt road south of the highway, until a tow truck removed the wrecked cars.

Mrs. Charlotte Reid, wife of the deceased man sustained fractured legs, lacerations to the scalp and possibly a fractured skull. George Reid, son of the deceased, received a fractured nose, lacerations to the scalp and possibly fractured ribs. Mrs. Grant is apparently the least injured of the four in the Ford sedan. She received a number of bruises and scratches and suffered a severe shock.

The two ladies in the Woodstock car were both severely injured. Miss Derby has a fractured jaw, fractured right ankle, fractured right leg, lacerations to the face and scalp. Mrs. Helen Baldwin received a fractured right femur, lacerations to the head and bruises. John Bryce, driver of the car, received lacerations to the scalp, cut over the right eye, and possibly a slight fracture of the skull.

Dr. Harold Ferguson, of Bowmanville, coroner for the district, was called to the scene and after releasing the body to a Bowmanville undertaker, decided that an inquest would be held as soon as the injured people in the hospital could attend the hearing. A jury was impanelled and viewed the body and then adjourned to be called by the coroner.

Provincial Traffic Officer D. P. Morris, Bowmanville, who investigated, took the names of witnesses, people in other cars who saw the accident.

Later—Mrs. Charlotte Reid after remaining in a state of coma after the accident for several days, passed away on Monday in Oshawa General Hospital as a result of her injuries.

SCHOOL GIRLS TO HELP SELL WAR CERTIFICATES

Under the direction of the Ontario Government, a special committee is now engaged in working out details of a scheme to put across a gigantic drive for the sale of War Certificates. When the proposal was first made by Mr. Hepburn to the Ottawa Government, it was enthusiastically received, and the Province is now proceeding with a plan which will enlist the help of all the Secondary School girls.

They will be enrolled by the local Soldiers of the Soil Committees and school teachers will be asked to help by exercising supervision over the

driving. I had a sleep in my truck that night.

"The next morning we early and had to start back as Paris was taken. French were folding up a motorcycle from a chap another chap to drive my night have noticed an paper about a Cooper in our outfit. Well, he was a motorcycle. I was the last him. We have just re that he had an accident hospital in France. I am alive. We drove all day all night, quitting about morning. Boy! Was I tired.

"I slept in a ditch about 30 miles from Brest and waited for our turn the boats.

"Our Colonel, four old the guns down and got The Germans were pur we had to wreck eye make a run for it. Was loading the highly ex We made Brest all Ostrander was riding in me. We had to stop and wreck the rest of our marched the rest of the boats.

"It was hard to see the French people's faces. I France about five days were sold out.

"We ran up against columnists. The women when we went down to got on board all right afternoon. We were the board. The Germans v next day.

"We landed at . . . They bombed the ship in front of us, but did had nothing to eat for most of our personal kit shaved or washed either port we got a train and night, and arrived in morning. Boy! I was fe Went back in our old a good bath and shave better.

"You can be sure only complete outfit France and that is a about those other units.

"Our Colonel has promoted to Brigadier and terday. He gave us a speech. Well I hope this and dad a pretty fair id "Ar

Miss Lois Paul of Po a few days last week Miss Jean Hircock, Jar

war undertakings," said. "Here is a tang