



Mr & Mrs. George Diekey  
50th Anniversary Jan 11-1955



Mr & Mrs. William Ray  
50th Anniversary - April-1960

## Mr. and Mrs. J. Phillips, Thurlow, Mark Golden Wedding Anniversary

Plainfield, (Special)—Mr. and Mrs. James Phillips of the ninth concession of Thurlow were pleasantly surprised and almost overcome on Tuesday afternoon, when some thirty of their friends and neighbors dropped in unexpectedly upon them and presented them with a boudoir electric lamp, a mantel alarm clock and an address, it being the occasion of their golden wedding anniversary. Mr. and Mrs. Phillips have lived continuously within a short distance of their birthplaces and have made many warm and dear friends during the passing of three-quarters of a century.

Mrs. Phillips, formerly Cornelia Comins, youngest daughter of the late Denis L. Comins and Mary Fraser of Madoc, the latter being a grand-daughter of the late Colonel William Ketcheson, well known United Empire Loyalist who settled near Belleville, is in her seventy-fourth year and is enjoying good health, being able to do most of her own housework and to attend divine service frequently, a privilege she has always appreciated and enjoyed. She has played the organ in Bethel United Church for over thirty-five years, is a life member of the W.M.S. and has worked in the Sunday School since girlhood.

Mr. Phillips, third son of Marcus B. Phillips and Katharine Garrison, a descendant of the late Asa Phillips, a United Empire Loyalist, who with other relatives came to Hay Bay and later settled north of Belleville, the settlement was christened Phillipston, is in his seventy-eighth year. His health has not been good for almost two years, but is much improved at present. He has been a trustee of Bethel church for many years and led the church choir for fifty-five years.

He had no municipal aspirations, nor does he belong to any fraternal organizations. Early in life he evidenced a great interest in the manufacture of cheese, later occupying the president's chair of the Zion Cheese Factory. He was also a member of the Belleville Cheese Board. Politically he has been a staunch Liberal all his life.

Mr. and Mrs. Phillips were married at the bride's home on Sept. 28th., 1886, by Rev. E. W. Howard, Methodist minister. The most of their married life has been spent on the farm on the ninth concession which they vacated three years ago and which is now occupied by Mr. Floyd Thresher.

mit us to think only of the sunshine.

Fifty years ago today you stood before the altar, the one emblematic of all that was noble and true in manhood, the other typical of finest maidenhood. Going forth a husband and wife you launched your ship on life's stormy sea, well equipped for such a voyage. Born of pioneer parents and taught by them you have carried on the great work they had begun enriching the church and community through a home life which has always been exemplary of the highest and best, and public services as worthy efficient citizens.

You have ever manifested a kindly attitude and cheerful spirit to others, while any call made upon your services has been met by a ready response. You have rejoiced with those who rejoiced and when trouble hovered over any home you were sure of an understanding sympathy. Someone has said, "The more we love the better we are and the greater our friendships are the dearer we are to God". Not solely in the community but especially through church circles has your influence been felt. Endowed with a God-given power of song, Mr. Phillips has used this talent unstintingly in the worship and praise of God. As choir leader for fifty-five years that service cannot be measured, but we feel and believe it is recorded by the one in whose name it was given. The same tribute is equally due to Mrs. Phillips, who not only as a Women's Missionary Society President, Sunday School leader, but also in the capacity of church organist for the past thirty-five years has served faithfully and efficiently for the glory of God and the uplift and betterment of our community. Even the very walls of the church now feel your loss.

Since your plans for the coming months involve a temporary removal from Bethel we have brought these gifts trusting that they may serve as a memento of this happy event and a token of our esteem. We hope, too, that they may in your new surroundings prove a frequent and pleasant reminder of friends at home, whose thoughts will follow you in the earnest wish that life's richest blessings may be showered upon you both each and every day, so proving the truth of the poet's words when he wrote,

"Grow old along with me  
The best is yet to be.  
The last of life for which the  
first was made,  
Our times are in his hand  
Who saith, "A whole I planned,

Youth shows but half; trust God,  
see all, nor be afraid."

Signed on behalf of your friends  
and neighbors,—J. F. Ketcheson  
Roscoe Robson.

Their only child, Mrs. McGregor Eason, of Ottawa, was present for the felicitations and surprised her parents the evening before by walking in upon them quite unexpectedly. Mr. and Mrs. Phillips are planning to spend the winter with their daughter in Ottawa and expect to leave the old neighborhood about Thanksgiving time.

The mutual contentment derived from the building of one's own home; the harmony of co-operating interest; the sense of achievement culminating from hard work and mutual interests in each other's welfare, is the prescription offered to young married people if they desire to attain a ripe old age and connubial bliss, by Mr. and Mrs. Phillips.

Hand in hand, this fine old couple have wandered down through the years, living in that mutual happiness which comes from perfect understanding and sympathy, and today are spending the evening of their lives near the scene of their childhood in the rural environment they both love so well.

The simplicity and comfort of Canadian rural life never lost its appeal to Mr. and Mrs. Phillips. In this the sunset of a life, well and truly lived, they refused to leave the rustic environment which they know so well.

"We wouldn't think of leaving our friends in the country and moving to the city," said Mrs. Phillips. "We love quietness and much prefer it to the noise of life in the city".

The presentation was made by Mrs. J. F. Ketcheson and Mrs. Roscoe Robson, after the pastor the Rev. J. F. Everson of Plainfield had made a brief speech of introduction. The address was handed to Mr. and Mrs. Phillips for them to read at their leisure. Mrs. Phillips made a very suitable reply after which all joined in singing "Blessed be the Tie that Binds".

Some of those present were—Mr. and Mrs. Willard Delyea; Mrs. Fred Elliott; Miss Clara Delyea, Reg. N.; Mrs. Benjamin Sayers; Mrs. Earl Sayers; Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Robson; Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Robson; Mr. Milton Robson and Master Douglas; Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Ketcheson; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ketcheson; Mr. and Mrs. Billa Ketcheson; Mrs. Arthur Stevenson and Miss Mae; Mrs. McGregor Eason, Ottawa; Mr. and Mrs. William Caldwell, Belleville, Mrs. Arthur Casey and Rev. J. F. and Mrs. Everson, Plainfield.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Phillips—

On this the occasion of your golden wedding anniversary, we your friends of Bethel community wish to convey our heartiest congratulations and sincere good wishes. We rejoice with you in having together reached this fiftieth milestone and what joy must be yours today in looking back over those many years spent in unselfish service to God, to each other and to your family.

The half century of your married life has brought mutually shared joys and sorrows—a pathway checkered with sunshine and shadows—but today our emotions per-