

## Mrs. Nease Has 89th Birthday

Mrs. Lilla Nease, who resides at Belmont House, Toronto, and who is the widow of the late Stephen Nease for many years clerk of the Township of Hillier, will reach her 89th milestone tomorrow (Friday).

Mrs. Nease will mark her important birthday by the early release of a further book of her widely read verses. This will be her third book of poetry. In 1906, William Briggs Co., Toronto, published her book "In Music's Thrall" which enjoyed a wide sale. A further book of her verses, entitled "At the End of the Road", was published in 1929.

Mrs. Nease contemplates employing the proceeds from the publication of her forthcoming book, as a gift of appreciation to Belmont House where she has resided for the past few years, following the fracture of her hip which necessitated a more retired life on her part.

Mrs. Nease is an early Pictonian. She was educated in the old Picton Union School and the only Grammar School, under the pioneer principals, D. Lennox, Dr. E. T. Crowle and J. A. Clarke. She was a gold medalist for Normal School (both Ottawa and Toronto as there was one medal for both schools in the year 1876 when Ottawa Normal was opened). Mrs. Nease taught school for 12 years in Hillier Township, prior to her marriage.

Mrs. Nease has been actively interested in writing for many years. When the family removed from Hillier to Calgary about 1910, Mrs. Nease soon became vice-president of Calgary branch of the Canadian Women's Press Club. Later she was treasurer and secretary of Calgary Women's Institute for two years. For many years she was a valued and much read contributor to The Picton Times.

Mrs. Nease's daughter, Mrs. William Wood, resides in Seattle, Wash.; a son, Ronald, lives in Alberta, and a son, Fred, lives in Toronto.

## Lilla Nease, Native Poet Dies In Toronto Near 90

by J. Herbert Hodgins

For many years a writer of lilted, poignant poetry, which ultimately was published in three books, Mrs. Lilla Nease, a native of Picton, died on Monday at Belmont House in Toronto. She would have reached her 90th birthday on October 3 of this year.

Her funeral will take place this Thursday afternoon, at 2 o'clock, burial taking place at Christ Church, Hillier. Rev. C. P. Heaven will officiate. Mrs. Nease was a charter member of The Guild of historic Christ Church, which last year marked its golden jubilee.

By unique coincidence the passing of Mrs. Nease two days following the death at Redondo Beach, California of Mrs. Maude Benson removes two of the long-time valued correspondents of The Picton Times. Mrs. Nease wrote for The Times for many years during her residence in Hillier and continued to be a Times' contributor following her removal to Calgary and in subsequent years of residence at Vancouver, B.C., and of more recent years in Toronto.

Mrs. Nease was the widow of the late Stephen Nease, who in early years of this century was clerk of the Township of Hillier.

Mrs. Nease was widely known during her more active days as a writer of fine verse. She had the distinction of signalling her 89th birthday, last October, with the publication of her final book entitled, "Compensation". This book was described by Homemaker in the Globe and Mail "as a charming booklet of verses . . . that show a quick response to beauty where it may be found, in childhood, in nature, in behaviour."

Mrs. Nease's first book, "In Music's Thrall" was published in 1906 and enjoyed wide circulation and acceptance among critical reviewers. In 1929, her second book, "At the End of the Trail" went into publication.

Result of a fractured hip, Mrs. Nease had been inactive for four or five years but her general health continued good considering her advancing years. Physically frail she however remained mentally alert until the end.

Mrs. Nease had made her home at Belmont House in Toronto for several years and frequently wrote of the happiness and contentment which she found among women contemporary with her own age.

Her decision to take up residence at Belmont House for the evening of her life was significant. Three years ago she wrote: "One day in passing a house the word 'Aged Women's Home' met my gaze. Just what I wanted—aged, not old! In my apartment I learned that happiness would depend upon association; but knew enough to keep my opinions to myself. As I was to have a room-companion I looked myself over to see if I

were fitted for the job. I thought: I will bring to mind the early instruction of childhood and when in danger grab my Readers' Digest and fit myself for the changes my new residence demand. After I had memorized the rules and become familiar with the Bay street traffic, I found the Home for the Aged a happy spot!"

Mrs. Nease employed the proceeds of her final book as a gift of appreciation to Belmont House.

Educated at Picton Union School, and the only Grammar School, under the pioneer principals, D. Lennox, Dr. E. T. Crowle and J. A. Clarke, Mrs. Nease went on to a brilliant career as a student and teacher. She was a gold medalist for Normal School (both Ottawa and Toronto as there was but one medal for both schools in the year 1876 when Ottawa Normal was inaugurated). Following Normal, Mrs. Nease taught school for 12 years in Hillier prior to her marriage.

The Nease family removed from Hillier to Calgary nearly 40 years ago. Stephen Nease died there. In Calgary, Mrs. Nease became actively associated with the Canadian Women's Press Club as a vice-president of the Calgary branch. Later she was treasurer and secretary of Calgary Women's Institute for two years.

Mrs. Nease is survived by one daughter, Mrs. W. R. Wood (Freda) of Seattle, Wash., and two sons, Fred, of Toronto and Ronald of St. John, British Columbia.

1926 John A. Weese, Ameliasburg.  
1927 Edmund Peeling, Picton.  
1928 Harvey S. Stark, Athol.  
1929 W. H. Montgomery, Ameliasburg.  
1930 Chas. H. Kinnear, Hillier.  
1931 Don Brown, Bloomfield.  
1932 G. L. Christie, Hallowell.  
1933 T. G. Bowerman, Athol.  
1934 Amos McDonald, Hallowell.  
1935 W. S. Blakely, Picton.  
1936 M. F. Hawkins, Athol.  
1937 James Barber, Ameliasburg.  
1938 Bert Pearsoll, Hallowell.  
1939 Roy Ketcheson, Sophiasburgh.  
1940 J. H. Rutter, Wellington.  
1941 D. O. Reynolds, Hallowell.  
1942 S. G. Martin, North Marysburgh.  
1943 J. K. Welsh, Picton.  
1944 J. Earl Onderdonk, Ameliasburg.  
1945 Harold Cleave, Bloomfield.  
1946 Earl Brummell, Athol.

Wardens Since 1842  
The following is the roster of Wardens of Prince Edward County since 1842:

## Prince Edward Has Had 95 Wardens

1842 John P. Roblin, Picton. Appointed by Governor-General from January to October.  
1842 Jacob Howell, Ameliasburg. Appointed by Governor-General for balance of year and for 1843, 1844, 1845, 1846 and 1847.  
1848 David B. Stevenson, Picton. Elected by Council.  
1849 David B. Stevenson, Picton.  
1850 John Howell, Ameliasburg.  
1851-52-53 David B. Stevenson, Picton.  
1854 Absalom Greely, Sophiasburgh.  
1855 William Hubbs, Athol.  
1856-7-8-9 Absalom Greely, Sophiasburgh.  
1860 William A. Richards, Hallowell.  
1861 Willet N. Bedell, Hallowell.  
1862-3-4 Gideon Striker, Picton.  
1865 S. P. Niles, Hillier.  
1866-7 C. S. Wilson, Picton.  
1868 Sylvanus Sprague, Sophiasburgh.  
1869 Donald Campbell, Wellington.  
1870 Robert Clapp, South Marysburgh.  
1871 Lewis B. Stinson, Hallowell.  
1872 Nelson Dodge, South Marysburgh.  
1873 George C. Curry, Picton.  
1874 Joseph Pierson, Hillier.  
1875 John Prinzer, North Marysburgh.  
1876 W. R. Dempsey, Ameliasburg.  
1877 B. A. Hubbs, Athol.  
1878 Samuel N. Smith, Sophiasburgh.  
1879 James P. Thorne, Picton.  
1880 Levi Williams, North Marysburgh.  
1881 Jas. H. Knox, South Marysburgh, January to April.  
1881 Nostrand Sprague, Sophiasburgh, balance of year.  
1882 Abram Arkett, Hallowell.  
1883 Jas. H. Knox, South Marysburgh, January to May.  
1883 David Clinton, Wellington, balance of year.  
1884 William Anderson, Ameliasburg.  
1885 James N. Carter, Picton.  
1886 George Martin, Athol.  
1887 Arnold McFaul, Hallowell.  
1888 Lancelot Nethery, Hillier.  
1889 Harmon Weese, Ameliasburg.  
1890 William Fraleigh, Hallowell.  
1891 David D. McKibbin, South Marysburgh.  
1892 W. H. Williamson, Picton.  
1893 James Gibson, Athol.  
1894 James E. Glenn, Ameliasburg.  
1895 G. Nelson Rose, North Marysburgh.  
1896 Henry P. Benson, Hillier.  
1897 Parker R. Young, Picton.  
1898 William C. Killip, Ameliasburg.  
1899 Nostrand Sprague, Sophiasburgh.  
1900 Sidney Stanton, Athol.  
1901 Peter V. Beech, Ameliasburg.  
1902 P. A. Williams, Picton.  
1903 D. W. Robinson, Hillier.  
1904 R. A. Williamson, Hallowell.  
1905 D'Arcy H. Young, Hillier.  
1906 John M. Mallory, Hallowell.  
1907 A. B. Saylor, Bloomfield.  
1908 Delos Spafford, Athol.  
1909 Harry Dempsey, Ameliasburg.  
1910 D. H. Fraser, Sophiasburgh.  
1911 J. L. Shannon, North Marysburgh.  
1912 W. J. Gerow, Hallowell.  
1913 H. D. Cleminson, Wellington.  
1914 H. S. Collier, Picton.  
1915 Albert Collier, South Marysburgh.  
1916 Edward B. Purtelle, Bloomfield.  
1917 W. W. Anderson, Ameliasburg.  
1918 Clarence Mallory, Hallowell.  
1919 R. H. Fox, Ameliasburg.  
1920 John Hazel, Sophiasburgh.  
1921 Wm. Monaghan, Wellington.  
1922 A. A. Ferguson, Hillier.  
1923 Jas. L. Hughes, North Marysburgh.  
1924 Charlton Metcalfe, Athol.  
1925 Fred H. Hubbs, Hallowell.

DON THOMPSON 1947  
Jack Taylor 1948  
Alva Bowerman 1949  
Norris Whitney 1950  
Jim Cleminson 1951.