

Senior Citizens Honored at Sydenham

SYDENHAM — Thursday was a red-letter day and one always to be remembered by the senior citizens of Loughboro Township. At the first event of its kind ever to take place here, the townships older residents were feted at a Christmas dinner and party in the Town Hall.

Approximately 100 invitations were sent out to this area's senior citizens, beginning at those 75 years of age, and reaching up to age 95. However, due to various circumstances, some of those invited were unable to attend.

The idea of publicly honoring Loughboro's oldest residents for their many contributions over the years to the life of the community, originated with the Women's Institute. As the plan progressed it became a three-fold program with the Red Cross Society and Sydenham Board of Trade joining in the effort.

The happiness and contentment, evident throughout the hall on the faces of those old in years but young in spirit, revealed that everyone was thoroughly enjoying "Senior Citizens Appreciation Day."

The occasion also afforded many of the older folk, with the opportunity of renewing acquaintances with their friends of long standing, some of whom had not seen each other for periods of years.

Special guests present, outside of the senior citizens category, included Loughboro Reeve Alfred Martin and Mrs. Martin, Carleton Maybee, master of ceremonies, Fire Chief Ulie Blakslee, Earl Leonard, president of the board of trade, Mrs. Russell Wolsey and daughter Judy and Kathy Woolgar of Sunnyside.

The honor of being the oldest guest in attendance went to Mrs. Alma Amey, who is 89. Mrs. George Davy who was celebrating her 88th birthday on the same day was serenaded with "Happy Birthday". Both Mrs. Amey and Mrs. Davy were presented with flowers at the close of the party.

Reeve Martin extended a warm welcome to the gathering on behalf of the municipality, before introducing Mr. Maybee as master of ceremonies. Mr. Maybee led the group in singing Christmas carols and the favorite songs of long ago. Mrs.

Wolsey accompanied at the piano.

Featured entertainers were two of the senior citizens guests themselves. George Turnbull at 78 years of age proved he is still the top oldtime fiddle player around this area. He was accompanied at the piano by his daughter, Wilma. Mrs. F. R. Wood entertained with readings.

The young visitors from Sunnyside, Kathy Woolgar and Judy Wolsey in colorful costumes, tap danced, with musical accompaniment by the latter's mother, Mrs. R. Wolsey. Another youthful performer was Freddie Maybee, who played piano solos.

Frank Anglin in the poetic vein, on behalf of the guests expressed appreciation to the sponsoring groups for the turkey dinner and the honor extended to them by the setting aside of a special day for the purpose.

Mrs. Harold Preslar is president of the Women's Institute while Miss Irene Garvin is president of Loughboro Red Cross Society. They were assisted in serving by numerous members of their groups.

Transportation to and from the hall was provided by members of the board of trade.