

Norwich boy joins opera's elite

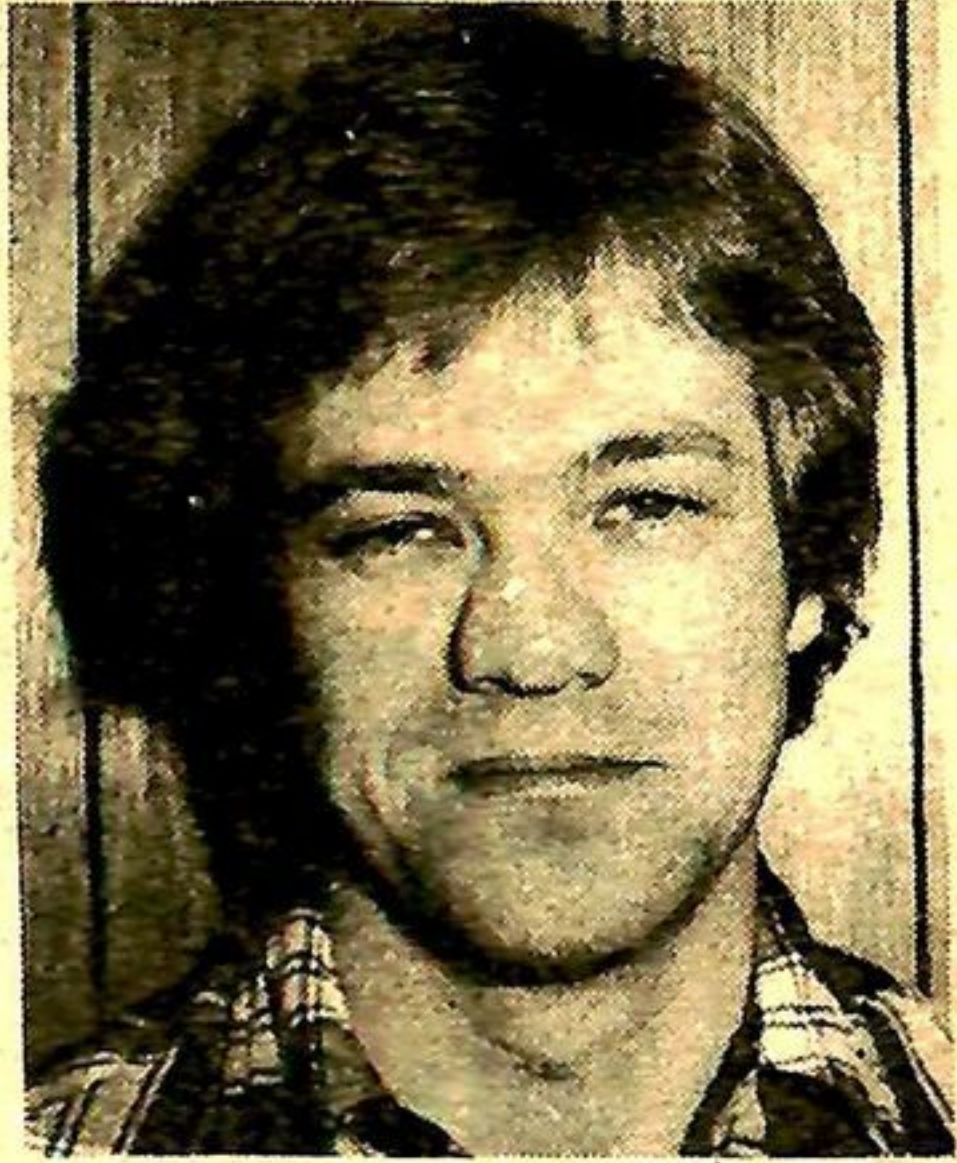
Jan/78

John Avey has come home to Norwich for Christmas from London, England where he is attending the prestigious Royal Academy of Music. The Royal Academy is one of the most famous schools of its type in the world, offering advanced training for talented singers and musicians.

Only 11 students in the three hundred and twenty-five student body are non-British. Three of the eleven are Canadian and the others come from the United States, Australia, Germany and South America. Mr. Avey "feels fortunate" to have been accepted.

John entered the Royal Academy last September and

finishes his first year on July 14th. At that time at his request his progress and potential for future growth will be considered



JOHN AVEY

by himself and his teachers. A full program to bring him to his greatest possible level of ability could take as long as eight years. At age 25 John is the oldest student attending the Royal Academy; the other students range from 18 to 22 years of age.

John's day starts at 9:30 and ends in the evening between 7:30 and 9:30. He has classes in piano, sight reading of notes, harmony and musical technique; oral training which trains the ear to recognize different pitches; opera repertoire, which gives an analytical overview of the opera, sound repertoire, which involves the study of German lieder (song). On Wednesdays

John has an hour and a half of choir practice. He studies German and Italian and has classes in movement and exercise, the last of which serves to strengthen the stomach muscles necessary for proper singing technique.

Until two months ago John was a bass baritone. His teachers decided that he was a natural tenor, a much less common type than the bass baritone. Becoming a tenor requires him to forget much of what he has learned and adapt to a different technique. The objective is to become a particular class of tenor, a Heldentenor, Helden being German for heroic. Helden-tenors sing Wagner and heavy

Italian operas which may take as long as four hours to perform and require great control and stamina. One of the greatest Heldentenor roles is Otello by Verdi. A tenor who could master the part could make a living from singing that role alone.

In October John was a member of an Opera Works Shop performed to commemorate the opening of a new theatre. One of the three English language operas performed was Gilbert and Sullivan's "THE PATENT JURY", produced and directed for the occasion by a conductor from the Royal Opera House of London, which is also known simply as Covent Garden.

In December John was part of (Continued on Page 22)

Rev. Alex Gray leaves Burgessville Baptist Church

Feb. 1978

BURGESSVILLE (C) - The annual business meeting of the Burgessville Baptist Church was held in the fellowship room with 22 members attending. Jack Lenhardt, chairman of the Deacons board was in charge. A number of favorite hymns were sung followed with prayer. Leigh Cohoe gave the devotional reading from Romans I: 8-16. Stan Tribe, clerk gave his report for the year. The Deacon report, during the year the Deacons assisted the Pastors in guiding the spiritual life of the Church. Farewell was said to Rev. Alex Gray, the pastor. It was a pleasure to welcome back for anniversary services the former pastor, Rev. W.T. Brown. The committee has met frequently and look forward to the ministry of the chosen pastor, Rev. James Newman.

There were very good reports given by the other departments of the Church. Fred Cohoe brought in the new slate of officers for 1978 which are as follows: Clerk, Stan Tribe;

assistant clerk, Mrs. Stan Tribe; treasurer, Fred Buckrell; assistant treasurer, Mrs. Fred Buckrell; SS Superintendent, M.J. Buckrell.

Deacons: Fred Buckrell, John Cameron, Victor Moore, Russel Clifford, Jack Lenhardt, Fred Cohoe; finance committee, Mrs. C.C. Spencer, Douglas Topham, Murl Graham, Victor Moore, Mrs. Wayne Lenhardt; treasurer trustees, Mrs. Victor Moore, Mrs. M.J. Buckrell, Paul Fleming, Stan Tribe, Jack Lenhardt; ushers, Leigh Cohoe, Wayne Lenhardt, Charles Wilson, Douglas Topham, Jim Topham, Dave Topham, Allan Dickinson, Ray Meloche, Richard Pilkey.

Organist, Mrs. C.C. Spencer; assistant organist, Mrs. Fred Buckrell; pianist, Miss Faye Bailey; assistant pianist, Mrs. Wayne Lenhardt; auditors, Mrs. Douglas Topham, Mrs. Fred Lowes; good cheer, Mrs. Grant Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Fleming; treasurer, press reporter, Mrs. Fred J. Salmon,

bible society rep., M.J. Buckrell; Baptist men's rep., M.J. Buckrell; hostess and social committee, Mrs. Murl Graham, Mrs. Gordon Wills, Jr., Mrs. Floyd Roberts, Mrs. Fred Cohoe. Nominating committee, Mrs. L.R. Cobban, Mrs. Ross Hughes and Russel Clifford. Maurice Buckrell closed with prayer. Lunch was served by the social committee.

Burgessville News

BURGESSVILLE (C) - Deepest sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Ross Johnson in the recent death of the former's mother Mrs. George Johnson, Brantford.

Miss Margaret Cameron, Waterloo spent the weekend at the home of her parents Mr. and Mrs. John Cameron, Holbrook.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Cohoe have returned home after spending a month's vacation in Arizona.

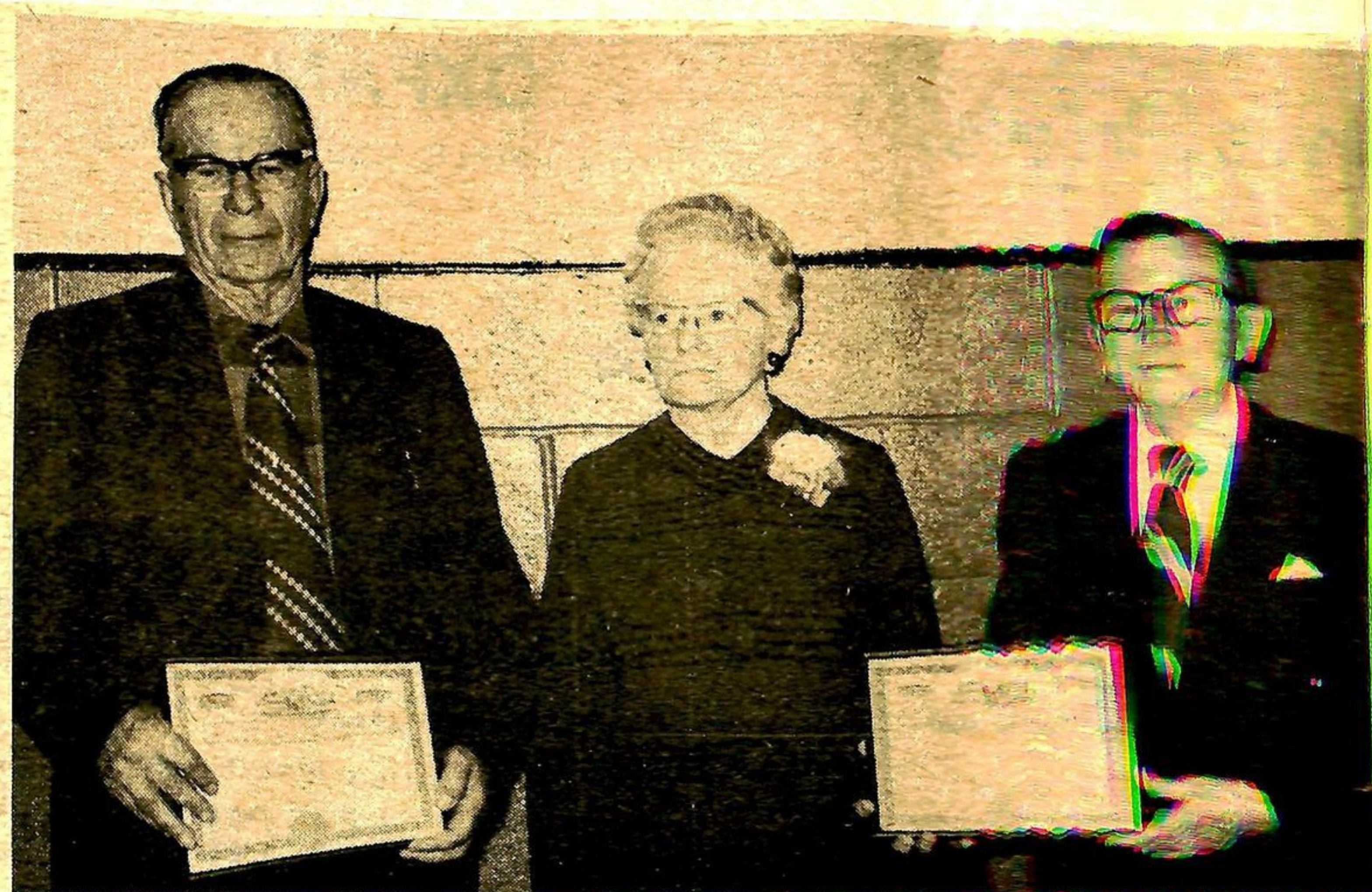
Mr. and Mrs. John Ruther-

ford, Curries entertained Mr. and Mrs. Mertten Penny on Sunday to a surprise dinner party in honor of Mrs. Penny's birthday when 20 members of her party attended. Happy Birthday Norma.

Rev. Frank Ward, Paris was the guest speaker on Sunday at the Burgessville Baptist Church.

Unit 2 of the 4-H girls club held their first meeting of the year at Maple Heights school with their leader Mrs. Bob Moore and assistant leader Mrs. Victor Moore. Their work will be "Sewing with Cottons."

The death occurred in Peterborough on Saturday of Mrs. Marilyn Bunce, daughter of Mrs. Clara Curtis and the late Rev. John Curtis who was a former pastor of the Burgessville Baptist Church. Her funeral was held on Tuesday at Peterborough.



Three retiring business people were honoured in a ceremony during the Ladies Night Chamber of Commerce dinner on the evening of Tuesday, February 7th. Presented with certificates were John Poernic and Gladys and William Waring, all of Norwich. 1978