

Open house marks 50th anniversary

1981
Mr. and Mrs. Harvey J. Thompson, Main Street, West, Norwich, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with an open house on Sunday, October 4 in the Norwich United Church parlors.

Mrs. Thompson was the former Lillian Frances Kelly, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Kelly of RR 2, Norwich, and Mr. Thompson's parents were Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Thompson of Norwich. They were married October 3, 1931 at the Burgessville United Church parsonage, by Rev. Brown,

with Elizabeth Godby, friend of the bride and Harold Thompson, brother of the groom, both of Newark, the attendants.

Following their wedding they enjoyed a trip to Dunnville and the Toronto area. On their return they resided in Delhi prior to moving to the Burgessville - Norwich area where they farmed until 1959. Mr. Thompson worked for 14 years for the Assessment Department until retiring in 1975. At present he is assistant curator of the Norwich Historical Society's

museum barn.

Both he and Mrs. Thompson are members of the Norwich United Church and Mrs. Thompson is a member of the United Church Women.

They have two children, Mrs. George (Jean) Clifford and one son Donald, both of Norwich, also six grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

On Sunday over 200 relatives and friends called at the church to extend congratulations and best wishes. Attending the guest book was a granddaughter, Nancy Clifford and serving the guests were granddaughters Sharon Thompson, Lynn Robb and Winnie Clifford.

The bride's table was centered with two floral

arrangements and a three-tiered wedding cake with silver tea services at each end. Pouring tea were: Mrs. Sid Bowyer, Woodstock; Mrs. Fred Newton, Burgessville; Mrs. Neil MacPherson and Mrs. Fred Thompson, both of Norwich.

To receive the guests, Mrs. Thompson chose a floral, floor-length gown with pleated skirt and yellow rose

corsage. Mr. Thompson wore a blue-grey suit with yellow rose boutonniere.

The Thompsons were the recipients of many gifts, flowers, cards and messages of congratulations, including a plaque from the Ontario Government presented by Dick Treleaven, M.P.P. for Oxford; a plaque from The Governor-General of Canada; letters from Bruce Halliday, M.P. for Oxford, who also called at the Open House, and Joe Clark leader of the Opposition.

Guests were present from Dunnville, Rexdale, Hamilton, Ancaster, Detroit, Ingersoll, Woodstock, Port Parry, Norwich and surrounding area.

Following the open house, the family served a wedding dinner at the home of their parents, a bride and groom of 50 years.



MR. AND MRS. HARVEY THOMPSON



Craft unchanging

1981
Carolyn Jamieson of Burgessville demonstrated the ancient art of weaving to visitors at the Norwich museum's second annual Christmas open house on Sunday afternoon. She said the basic principles have remained unchanged over the years. The loom in the museum was the property of former Norwich resident Alma Clutton and dates back to the early 1800's. (NG Photo)

Last church meet of the year held

June 1981
Group 3 of the Burgessville United Church Women met at the home of Mrs. William McMillen for the last meeting of the season.

Mrs. Morley read "I'm Too Busy" in answer to the roll call. Mrs. Penny gave "Happiness" and Mrs. McMillen chose "Afternoon Tea". Mrs. Parkhill led in the singing of "The Maple Leaf Forever" in honor of Victoria Day.

Mrs. Morley's meditation was taken from Corinthians 3, verse 2, emphasizing the meaning of life depends on how we look at things.

We worry about clothes and food but these are not of first importance. Jesus had little of worldly goods but was busy serving others, said Mrs. Morley. We should choose that which is indestructible and of per-

manent value.

The remainder of the afternoon was spent sewing and playing games after which the hostess served lunch.

Mrs. Parkhill invited the group to meet at her home for the first fall meeting

PALMER - Passed away at Norvilla Nursing Home, Norwich on Saturday, January 16, 1982. Ross Albert Palmer of Burgessville, in his 78th year. Husband of Mildred (Stevens) Palmer. Father of Mrs. James (Lois) Pepper of Chatham and Ronald of Woodstock. Brother of Marian Palmer of Burgessville and Stanley of Woodstock. Grandfather of Janet and John Pepper of Chatham. Friends may call at the Arn & Son Funeral Residence in Norwich where the funeral and committal service will be held on Tuesday at 2:00 p.m., Reverend Alex Grey will officiate. Spring interment in the Norwich Cemetery. Those who wish may make memorial contributions to the charity of your choice.

A PLEA FOR STRENGTH

Lord, keep me working, keep me fit,
At window I don't want to sit
Watching my fellows hurrying by.
Let me stay busy till I die.
Grant me the strength and breath and will
Some useful thing in life to fill.
A need to serve, a task to do,
Let me each morning rise a new,
Eager and glad that I can bear
My portion of the morning's care.
Lord, I don't want to sit about
Broken and tired and all worn out,
Afraid of wind, rain, and cold.
Let me stay busy when I am old.
Although I walk a slower

pace,
Still let me meet life, face to face.
Let me a garden plant and sow,
Set phlox and peony row on row.
Hew wood for winter's cosy fire,
And at some useful labor tire.
This is my prayer as time goes by,
Lord, keep me busy till I die.
My thanks to Gordon Powell for sharing this poem with us.