

Centennial News and Views

Toronto Markdaleites have been organized for the coming Centenary celebration. The enthusiasm in the big city is high. On Tuesday of last week we had the pleasure of banquetting with nearly two hundred ex-Markdale people in Toronto who are coming home for the big week. In the main, the meeting was attended by the older people who have left the village over the past sixty years, although there were also a number of younger people present. It is not unreasonable to expect that these people who meet in Toronto will bring with them a large number of young people to swell the population—young people are not very interested in organization meetings; they are interested in the results.

Nina Hutchinson, Sec. and Treas. Sam Edgerton, were in the receiving end of a line that plunked down a dollar each for membership in the Ontario-Markdale Club formed in Toronto. The suggestion of a dollar for membership was quickly endorsed and the money rolled in. This fund will enable the Toronto Committee to carry on a campaign of advertising among the Toronto people and incidentally, help to defray the expenses of an All-Toronto Day in the Village.

Years do not lessen enthusiasm and interest as shown by the attendance of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Smith who left Markdale a goodly number of years ago. Also Mr. Robert Blakely who is 89½ years old. Both these old-timers spoke briefly at the meeting in Toronto, and they were planning to visit the old town this summer. Mr. Smith who will be 91 on the 1st of July can remember the time of Confederation, and the election which followed. He said he can still recall the days when he was Markdale constable and it was his job to ring the bell on their garage at nine to drive the Haskett boys home. Mr. Blakely can recall being in Markdale when he was only six—that would be back in the year 1865. The town will be honored to have these old-timers and more, back with us this year.

Gordon Beaton, who outlined the Centennial Week plans at the meeting in Toronto, suggested a pyjama parade as a feature. Already your press agent has received a few protests. Seemingly pyjamas are not the night attire of all the ex-Markdaleites—some, it seems, still apparel themselves in the old fashioned night gown. This will mean an evening's discussion for the programs committee.

Again we request all the names of ex-Markdale people. Your index secretary has hundreds of names on file that have been sent in, but certainly there are more still. It will be your fault if everyone is not informed. Keep sending these in to the Standard office, and they will be forwarded on. Once listed your friends will receive the literature that will be sent out.

Those in Toronto and vicinity will write Miss Nina Hutchinson, in Detroit - Windsor district, Miss Reta Sargent, and those in the Paris, Woodstock, Brantford district, Mr. Jack Ritchie.

We like the idea in the mind of Ernie Ritchie who proposed the toast to the success of the Centennial in Toronto. He suggested that in planning for this Centennial we're going to be reaping enjoyment two ways. The pleasure we get from planning for the big event and again when it actually takes place. If everyone goes to work with that spirit there is bound to be untold pleasure all the way in this great undertaking.

We appreciate the offer of an "old-timer" this week who is contributing a series of articles to knit some of the past, the people and places of yesteryears with the Markdale of to-day. It should give many residing away from here all these years a clearer picture of how to find themselves when they come back for the Centennial.

One thing more before we leave—Toronto and Detroit people are complaining. They are not receiving the names and addresses of people residing in their area which Markdale persons are asked to forward. They are depending on you and me for this information. So we ask you again to see about it now!

We list below the names of those who registered at our at-York Masonic Temple, at 22nd, from Toronto: Mr. and Mrs. John A. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Haskett, Mrs. F. S. Reeker, Mrs. Slater, Mr. G. Myers, Miss Norma Naomni, Miss Dorothy Hare, Miss Naomi Colgan, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Gregory, Mrs. Iona Whitney, Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Perkins, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Smith, Miss Millie Lyons, Kenneth Trelford, Mrs. A. Murdoch, Mrs. N. Sanderson, Mrs. Emma Abercrombie, Mrs. L. Fingland, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Varty, Miss Hannah Smith, Miss Nellie Hodgson, Miss Ina Smith, Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Edgerton, Mr. and Mrs. E. Ritchie, Mrs. Fred Smith, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Ritchie, Mrs. Ina Acheson-Smith, Misses Lillian and Annis Hamilton, Miss Rhoda Shute, Mrs. H. Fadden, Armstrong, Miss Martha, Mrs. Clifford Armstrong, Misses Lillian and Geraldine Armstrong, Dr. W. E. Henry, Mrs. Ida Catchpole, Mrs. Bess Morrison, Mrs. Jos. Williams, Mrs. Lillian Hawken, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Bush, Miss Frances Collinson, Miss Edna Ritchie, Miss Mary Foy and Marie, Miss Isabel Foy, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Dodds, Mrs. Atkinson, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Tucker, Mrs. Fern Morgan, Mr. Fred and Miss Jean Curry, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Middleton, Mrs. E. Funnell, Mrs. Gordon Wood, Mrs. M. Graham, Mrs. Roy Macaulay, Mrs. L. R. Strange, Mrs. Jean Neil, Mr. and Mrs. G. Thibaudeau, Frances Thibaudeau, Mr. and Mrs.

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MARKDALE, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, MARCH 3rd, 1949

\$2.00 a year in Canada; \$2.50 in U.S.

The Markdale Standard

A. Gillespie, 90, on March 8

The Standard extends congratulations to Andrew Gillespie of Berkeley who will celebrate his 90th birthday on Monday, March 8th. Mr. and Mrs. Gillespie who are spending the winter in Richmond Hill are both enjoying good health but are eagerly looking forward to getting back home.

W. D. MERCER APPOINTED "JUSTICE OF THE PEACE"

Official notice of an Order-in-Council has been received by Mr. W. D. Mercer of this place investing him with his new office as Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Grey. The Order-in-Council is dated the 20th day of January, 1949.

Ice Frolics of 1949 Featured Many Locals

The "Ice Frolics" presented in the local arena last Friday evening under the auspices of Markdale Figure Skating Club, was a splendid success. As if by magic the weather turned colder, and the soft ice of the day previous was changed to a smooth hard surface. A good crowd was on hand to applaud these junior skaters, and adding an extra "touch" to the program were the two skating artists from the University Skating Club, Toronto, "Toby" Keeler, who made her first appearance in Markdale, and Mr. Norman Falkner, one-legged skater, who appeared on the local ice for the third year.

The program was certainly a credit to members of the local Club for having carried on successfully this year without an instructor and for staging their annual carnival which featured for the most part, local talent. There was good variety throughout, with costumes adding greatly to each number. They took their bow at a decorated entrance which had evergreens on either side and deer and other animal cut-outs making it resemble a fairy forest.

The opening number by Norman Falkner demonstrated remarkable skill and speed for one so handicapped. The tiny tots number "Margaret Dreams of Fairyland" depicted the characters in a story book, as the thirteen junior skaters appeared in turn and skated solo numbers and later as a group. Those taking part were Margaret Harris, Marilyn Hannah, Helen Anne Hunt, Margaret Cherry and Marion Alcox, Anna Marie Wilson, Lorraine Steer, Joy Graham, Peter and Janet Thibodeau, Janet Chamberlain, Willa Mae Lyons, Marie Ward and Jeanette Irwin.

Pair numbers were given by Lois Summers and Maxine Parliament, Georgina Whitney and Judy Sawyer, Anne Merriam and Peter Thibodeau, and Gwendolyn Burnside and Ruth Alcox. Solo numbers were by Margaret Harris in ballet costume, also Ruth Alcox, Barbara Wright, Ruth Peters, Margaret Cherry, Peter Thibodeau and Judy Sawyer. By Graham Steep, March and Chorus Line by local members were much enjoyed. The Moonlight Waltz featured pairs of senior skaters in evening dress. The Jazz Hounds by Gwen Burnside and Barbara Wright was a very good comedy number.

Other members taking part not mentioned above were: Muriel Graham, Lois Kidd, Madge Matthews, Jacqueline MacDonald, Isabel Gould, and Blanche McCullough.

"Toby" Keeler, the outstanding child skater from Toronto, appeared in two numbers and won the hearts of everyone. This 9-year-old was skating at her 58th carnival and the way she could jump, spin and rumba was "amazing." This young lady has impressed professionals and Markdale Club felt they were fortunate in having her here, and they hope to have her back again.

Much credit for the success of this annual event goes to the senior members of the local Club. Miss Audrey Kidd, past president, and Barbara Wright, vice-president, who arranged arrangements deserve special mention for a leading part. Miss Gwen Burnside had charge of the March, and Miss Lois Kidd helped with the scenery, and other members were responsible for their own numbers. Harold Whitely and Bill Fraser helped out with the music and stage setting, and Hillis Burnside and Norman Fitzsimmons of the local hydro staff, created the spot light. Frank Sawyer was commentator, announcing the events over a public address system.

Receipts exceeded \$250., and forty dollars was cleared at the dance in the Armoury which followed, with the expense side being considerably reduced from former years. Many favourable comments from the audience were heard regarding the program, and the progress made by this local group on their own.

LOCAL SKATERS STAGE SUCCESSFUL "ICE FROLICS"



When Markdale Figure Skating Club staged their third annual Ice Frolics last Friday night, a large crowd was on hand to appreciate the colorful program which was in charge of some of the senior members shown above. "Toby" Keeler, an outstanding 9-year old skater from Toronto, also shown here, thrilled the crowd with her skillful performance.

Mrs. J. Squire Passes

Many friends in this village and district feel they have lost a very dear friend in the passing of Mrs. Joseph Squire, on Tuesday evening, March 2nd. Her death came as a relief after several years of failing health. She was in her 75th year.

Mrs. Squire, whose maiden name was Sarah M. Westwick, was born in Toronto, and came to live in Euphrasia at the age of nine. After her marriage to Joseph Squire in 1907, they lived in Euphrasia till her husband's death in May, 1921. Since then she has resided in Markdale.

She is survived by a daughter, Kathleen, Mrs. H. H. Dennison, and two grandchildren, Norma and Jack Dennison; also William Walsh, now of Port Arthur, who made his home with her. Two sisters, Mrs. Wm. Ward of Markdale, and Mrs. S. R. Hawkins of Eugenia, are deceased.

Mrs. Squire was loved and esteemed by many for her cheery disposition and a very kind heart. She was an expert needlewoman and many fine pieces of embroidery and quilting are the product of her handwork.

She always found much pleasure in tending her plants and flowers, and was regarded as a very fine neighbor. She was a member of Christ Church, and for many years was a valued member of the Church Guild.

The funeral takes place this Thursday from her late home on Toronto street to Christ Church, for service at 2 p.m. in charge of Canon R. S. Jones. Interment will take place at Markdale.

Former Resident Buried

A former resident of this district, Mrs. Elizabeth Leitch Robertson, passed away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Thos. Shears, Owen Sound, on Thursday, February 27th. Deceased, who was in her 94th year had been in poor health for the past year.

Deceased was born at Campbellville in the county of Halton, near Milton. Her maiden name was Elizabeth White, a daughter of the late James White and Isabella Stewart White. Deceased spent her girlhood and received her early education at Campbellville. She was married at Milton about 1887 to George Leitch.

"Once Upon a Time in Our Town"

(By an Old Timer)

That little phrase may not be peculiar to our Town. But, however far afield Markdale people may have fared, you can be sure their lips will shape those very words with the ease of long practice. To-day, with a Centennial Reunion in the offing, it is the main theme wherever two or three Markdale people are gathered together.

One day coming home from up town I got thinking about this Reunion and this and that. As the Good Book says, I pondered on these things in my heart. It came to me what a wonderful reunion it would be if all the people who had ever lived here could join in celebrating. What a gathering that would be! And what if the young folks of to-day could glimpse the dreams and the vision of the oldsters. It might inspire them to determine that they too will leave something worthwhile to those who follow after.

Somehow, I have the feeling that when the call goes forth to old Markdaleites there will be a rallying cry may not see, but in memory at least, they will gather from far and near, and enjoy the reunion with us. If Towns have a spirit, and I for one believe they have, the entity of that spirit must be the sum total of every thought, word and deed that every man, woman and child calling Markdale his home has cast into the sea of its life. Influences long forgotten will make themselves felt again, and one way or another it may be there that we recognize at the reunion that we recognize.

One hundred years of building, of labour and sorrow and triumph, and still the building continues. I wonder what it will be like in 2049? You know, fundamentally, things haven't changed so very much. The sun still comes up in the east and still goes down in the west; the winters are as cold now, the summers as hot as then; tides of love and hate still ebb and flow; political and religious differences still disrupt and divide and then re-unite to reach a common goal. In short, human nature, the most enduring quality of life, is the same today as it was in 1849, though its methods of expression may have taken on new airs and graces.

I remember a little thing that happened a long, long time ago. A young lad, about 12 years old and not too strong physically, worked for a man named Trimble who ran a grocery store where Hugh Mercer now has his store. One day the young lad was picking up some eggs, and he was sent to deliver some eggs. It was in the winter and on the way some bigger boys threw snowballs at him. They were well-made balls with a good hard core and when they hit they really hurt. Naturally Johnny returned the compliment and there was a real melee and somehow the eggs got broken, which was a major catastrophe for Johnny; however he patted one or two good ones on the now-reeling assailants, picked himself up, nose bleeding and lip cut, and went back to the store where he sobbed out his story to Mrs. Trimble. He had visions of having to pay for the eggs out of his meagre wages, and even though eggs were selling then for 40c a dozen wares were correspondingly low, and it would have meant some tall finance for the youngster. The lady winked at her husband and said to Johnny, "Come away up stairs with me until we get up the bleeding stopped, and you'll just stay for dinner, so you will, and I'll cook some cabbage 'specially for you." Once upon in the warm kitchen and the damage repaired, things didn't look quite so blue; and that night Johnnie told his mother all about it and do you know what he said? He told her Mrs. Trimble could cook cabbage better than anyone else in the whole world. And he kept telling his Mother that until finally she became really impressed and made it her business to ask Mrs. Trimble at the next Ladies' Aid meeting just how she did cook the cabbage. Mrs. Trimble assured her there was nothing to it at all; that you just "shave the cabbage up fine and then cook it in the frying pan in a little milk, just a little, you know, and cook it just enough, not too much, and then add pepper and salt and a nice chunk of butter, but somehow her cooked cabbage never did come up to Mrs. Trimble's, at least according to the 12-year-old.

Well, as I said, that happened a long, long time ago and I've noticed that same human nature crops up in this new generation now writing Markdale's history. This I can vouch for because last week I saw a real little lad tackle a hill—well, one a little bigger than an ant hill, on a bran new sled. But when the sled got started, the young lad was so busy hanging on he just hadn't any time to do any steering, with the inevitable result: he hit a bump, caromed off to the other side where he hit a bank, scraped along its crusty surface on his face, and then sled and boy and snowbank were purely mixed up. And believe it or not, any self-respecting wolf would have been ashamed of his howling after listening to that small tad. Well, somehow a woman appeared out of nowhere, righted the sled and the small fry wiped his nose, took his hand and as they passed me I heard her telling about some wonderful cookies she had that were guaranteed, guaranteed mind you, to make his hurts all better.

I grinned as I went about my business thinking of the woman and of that other woman of the long ago, and then back to the present, to the Red Cross with its instant facilities for help in time of disaster, and of the Service Clubs, those Johnnies-on-wheels, recognizing that unity is strength, have thrown in their varied experience, business ability, money, and most valuable of all, their time and sympathy, to the end that life may be made richer and fuller for all alike. A little different guise, but the same human nature. I am glad we have such a lot of it in little old Markdale.

Markdale Meat Market Sold to Dundalk Man

Markdale Meat Market, a long established business on Markdale Main street will be under new management this month. The business, including property and equipment, was bought from the executors of the C. W. Olive-estate last week, by Mr. Aubrey Hibbert of Dundalk, who gets possession on March 14th. The new proprietor has had considerable experience in the butcher and retail business and at the same time has operated a farm near Dundalk for several years.

Mr. Hibbert is a brother of Mrs. W. J. Colgan of Markdale. His wife is the former Ellen Daly of Macoun, Saskatchewan, whose "parents now reside in Dundalk, and they have a little daughter, Lynda.

Local Council Pass Accounts

The absence of snow during the past month did much to reduce the village expense accounts presented on Tuesday night when the bill for snowplowing was \$87.50 and the cost of labour was \$25., totalling \$112.50. Last year snow removal during the month of February had cost the village \$119.50.

The resignation of Milson Henry from the provisional board of the Centre Grey Hospital was received. Council deferred action and will deal with appointing a successor at a special meeting of Council to be held later this month. The position of Assessor for the village had not been filled to date and the Council decided to advertise again for a suitable person to fill the position.

Card Party Enjoyed

The "Eastern Star" bridge and euchre party in the Oddfellows Hall on Tuesday evening was well patronized with about sixteen tables of bridge in play and four of euchre. Bridge prizes were won by Mrs. W. E. Fisher and Mr. Albert E. Hunt; euchre, Mrs. Ran Bradey and Geo. Swanton, and luck prizes went to Bert Carter, Robt. McLoughry and Art Norris. Two baskets of groceries were auctioned off by W. J. Plewes and lunch was served. Arrangements were convayed by Mrs. W. Ellison. Proceeds will be used to carry out several benevolent projects undertaken by Freedom Chapter.

Honored at Holland Centre

Neighbors, friends and members of St. Stanislaus Church, Chatsworth, assembled at the Holland Centre Township Hall, Friday evening, February 18th, to bid farewell to Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Moore and family who will leave soon to reside near Durham. The large crowd in attendance was a tribute to the esteem in which the family are held in the community.

The early part of the evening was spent playing progressive euchre with prizes going to Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Young. Later all joined in dancing to music rendered by the ever popular Hartley orchestra of Markdale.

Rebuilding Power Lines Not Cause of Lights Off

Distribution power lines in town are being rebuilt these days under the direction of Harry McArthur. When the lights didn't come on Wednesday evening it wasn't the fault of the hydro men, they tell us, but rather the result of the present 'series' system. When they have the new 'multiple' system in use, these troubles won't occur. With the old set up it's something like your Christmas tree-lights, when one goes out they have to check on the other hundred to locate the trouble. Some fun!

Never a dull moment when you visit Markdale in August. — Make your plans now.

Miller - Barron Wedding

The marriage of Laura Fern Barron, daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Barron, and the late James Barron, to Mr. Alexander Wright Miller, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Richard Miller, was a lovely ceremony on Saturday afternoon, February 26, at the home of the bride's mother, Markdale. Canon R. S. Jones heard the marriage vows and Mrs. A. M. Brown played the wedding music, and during the signing of the register she sang "O Perfect Love."

The bride was given in marriage by her cousin, Mr. John Gray of Toronto, and was wearing a wedding gown of ivory satin, fashioned with nylon yoke full skirt, with long sleeves pointed over the hands. Her finger-tip veil fell from a halo head-dress and she wore a three-strand pearl necklace. Her arm bouquet was of red roses and fern. The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Pearl Barron, who wore a gown of yellow nylon over taffeta round neckling bell. The bride's table was of matching flowers, and she carried a bouquet of pink, yellow and mauve carnations. The groom was attended by his cousin, Mr. Charles Miller.

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A request from H. H. Mercer to remove three shade trees from in front of his property was referred to the Chairman of the property Committee. General account passed for payment included: salaries, \$229.30; Fire Brigade, \$76.; County of Grey for Emma Levi \$74.00, and the remainder supplies and current expenses.

Delbert Hill, local International Harvester dealer, waited on the Council with regard to building an addition to his implement shop on the corner of Argyle and Lorne streets, his request being granted.

Mr. H. S. Merrison presided at the meeting in the absence of Reeve Dr. R. L. Carefoot.

LOCAL BRIDE HONOURED

Mrs. A. H. Miller, a bride of last Saturday, was guest of honour on two occasions during the past week. On Tuesday evening the regular meeting of Cooke's Church Y.P.S. was held at the Barron home, and during the social hour which followed, Mrs. A. H. Miller served the guests. Mrs. Edna Griffith read an address and Mrs. Peter Jackson presented the bride with a silver dish and fruit juice set. The evening was pleasantly spent with a mock wedding, music and contests, followed by lunch.

Neighbors and friends honored Mrs. Miller at a miscellaneous shower at the home of Mrs. Earl Brown on Thursday evening last week, when an address was read by Mrs. Grace Shaw, complimenting this popular local bride. Mrs. Norman Fitzsimmons and Mrs. Earl Brown assisted in opening the gifts and reading the accompanying verses. During the evening the guests present compiled a book of amusing recipes, entitled, "Never a Dull Meal." Some of these were written in humorous verse, and provided some very good entertainment. Contests were enjoyed and refreshments served. The guest of honour expressed her thanks to all present for their good wishes and the lovely gifts received.

Prior to her marriage Miss Laura Barron who has been employed in the store and office of F. T. Hill & Co. here for the past 21 years, was presented with a pair of rose woollen blankets from F. T. Hill & Co., and from the staff she received a tea set of Royal Albert china.

Rotarians were interested in learning about the Alaska Highway at their supper meeting this week when Canon R. S. Jones gave an illustrated address, showing views of this famous highway from St. John to Fairbanks, Alaska, with comment on the main points of interest.

Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Lohney of Berkeley wish to announce the engagement of their second daughter, Helen Elaine, to Ivan Charles Howard Connell, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Connell of Holland Centre. The marriage will take place quietly on March 5th, in Owen Sound.

ENGAGEMENT

During the month of February pupils in the Public Schools were asked to help the Junior Red Cross with funds. As the result of donations, such as candy, etc., \$59.10 was sent from the Markdale Public School to Inspector W. G. Rae to be forwarded to headquarters of the Junior Red Cross.

McNamara's band has nothing on the Perkins Brass Band at Burks Falls. When Bill Perkins, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Perkins of Markdale, went there to begin his teaching career last fall, he organized a band of his high school students after a series of practice sessions they made their debut at the commencement and later played at the opening of the new arena there recently. Brass bands are scarce in smaller places these days and no doubt their efforts are doubly appreciated.

Coming Events

THE WOMEN'S MISSIONARY WORLD DAY OF PRAYER will be held in the Gospel Workers' Church on Friday, March 4th, at 3 o'clock. Ladies of all denominations are cordially invited.

RESERVE MARCH 17th FOR ST. Patrick's Dance in Markdale. Armories, with Norm Hartley and his orchestra; and don't forget dancing in Meaford Town Hall every Saturday night.