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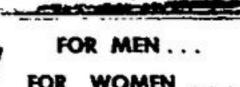
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Want Ad Page: Where Old Friends Meet

Thanks Esquesing:

WILFRID BIRD

Group Entertained By School Board

30. Progressive euchre was the order of the evening and prizes were won by Mrs. Clara Black, Mrs. Ramona Storey, Miss Lilla Garrod, Joseph Frank, Mervin Thomson and Mr. Black. David Gray of Rockwood gave his film pictures of his trip south and of the Fergus Centennial. These were enjoyed by

replied.

present. Mr. Frank being a member of the first area board in 1940. He has been present at each annual event. The absence of Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay Ferguson was regretted very much. Everyone was sorry to learn of his recent illness and hope Scotland." he will soon be well again.

ST. NICK'S SPIRIT

It is thought that St. Nicholas died about 345 A.D. and for 30 days following his festival day his genial spirit roamed the earth, filling the hearts of mankind with ally limited in those days but John the true spirit of St. Nicholas and

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Halton's Pages of the Past

John Stewart Provided Color and Controversy area board entertained the teachers and friends at S.S. 5 on November 30, Progressive euchre was the or-

by GWEN CLARKE

The history of Halton would be incomplete without a biographical sketch of Patriot John Stewart. from the Scotch Block in Esquesing Township.

John Stewart was born in Perth, Scotland, 1808. Following the Napoleonic War, there were hard The ladies served lunch, after times in the British Isles. For that which Miss Joyce Dawson of S.S. 7 reason, in 1817, John's father decidthanked the school board for a ed to emigrate to Canada with his very enjoyable evening. Stanley family. They crossed the ocean in Robinson, chairman of the board, a sailing vessel and were 13 weeks and three days on the water, arriv-Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Frank were ing in Little York (Toronto) in November, 1818.

Mr. Stewart's opinion of Toronto at that time, like that of many others, was far from complimentary. He described it as "such a miserable hole that if we had money enough we would all go back to

In 1819 John Stewart, senior, settled in the Scotch Block on Lot 9, Concession 4, Esquesing, the same supporters. Stewart, however, took year as James Hume, reputedly the a homeward direction. The crowd, first settler in the Block.

With Mackenzie's Rebels Educational facilities were naturkeenly interested in what he considered the deplorable conditions resulting from the "Family Compact." In 1834 he joined the Reform Party, became an agent for Mackenzie's paper, the Colonial Advocate, zealously promoting its distribution among people in 'the Block.' He visited Toronto about twice a year and had many long, confidential talks with William Lyon Mac-

In June, 1837, Mackenzie told Stewart of his plans to reform the Government -- by constitutional means if possible - otherwise he said the Reform Party must resort to arms to break up the Family Compact. Stewart was urged to do everything possible to arouse the interest of his friends in North Halton. Mackenzie, at that time, was addressing a series of meetings, one of which was on the Stewart farm, Stewart received a message from where, from the front steps of the present "Craiglea Guest Home", he rallied the people to action.

throw the Rebel leader out. But holding meetings in the country. Mackenzie managed to leave in

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John Stewart

safety, guarded by his many loyal frustrated by Mackenzie's get-away, followed Stewart, shouting and yelling, "Kill him . . . kill him!" But Stewart was fleet of foot and out- vived the ordeal at Van Dieman's verted the fine old homestead into love and generosity. He gave the Stewart was a clever lad and made Cardit Pivon by Pland. Conditions at the penal an attractive guest home. Credit River he plunged in and colony were so terrible it was little Plans for Rebellion

John Stewart, when he realized the political storm was at fever heat, tried to warn his brothers, one of whom was in Toronto, another in Hamilton and a third, Duncan Stewart, farming on Lot 3, Conceslittle attention to his warning.

Meanwhile Mackenzie after many secret meetings with his supporters, set December 7 as the day for the uprising of the Reformers against Scotch Block. the government. Word to this effect was sent to John Stewart. He immediately arranged with Reform sympathizers in the Scotch Block for a march to Toronto to arrive on the date specified.

Communication was not easy as spies were everywhere and Stewart's movements closely watched and reported to Tory headquarters. And then the date was changed. Hincks and John Rolph to come at once, prepared to attack. This was the message, sent to every district, The next meeting was at Church- which proved to be a strategic ille. Here the Tories rushed on to blunder by Mackenzie's Advisory the platform and attempted to Council. Mackenzie at the time was

Stewart invited his friends to meet at his house to prepare for the march. To quote from Mr. Stewart's own account: "They assembled to the number of 60, and immediately walked across two concessions to wait until I should arrive after visiting my mother, who had broken her leg during the day. When I arrived where my men were they Six. appointed me captain, but on enum-

that all had left but '22." Sentenced to Prison However, nothing daunted, they ton promised "to do our best". began their long march. At Chinguacousy they came on to a chopping bee, and the choppers rushed on Clow Instruction in both first roads within the newly acquired on the patriots with their axes. But

they changed their minds when

this time the patriots were losing naturally tempered to fit in with their zest for battle and began to his political adventures. He married drop out until only five remained— Mary Scott, daughter of David Stewart, Kilbourne, Hilton, Donald Scott, reputedly the first settler in Campbell and Wm. Robertson, Nassagaweya township, They had When they came to the Green Bush one son, also named John, and six Hotel they saw and heard that all or seven daughters, some of whom was over. They saw the Loyalists died in childhood. set fire to Gibson's house and barn | During the absence of John Stewand shoot his livestock, as they art senior, things had not gone too cheered lustily for their victory.

others, was taken prisoner, and the stamina and personality charlodged in the Parliament Buildings, acteristic of his father. Eventually The men were sick at heart when John Stewart, the father, found it they heard Lount and Matthews necessary to sell the property, inwere condemned to death. Stewart cluding the fine old homestead. It expected the same fate for himself, was sold to Thomas Hagyard, who but his sentence was imprisonment was succeeded by his son Stephen, for life at the penal colony at Van The Stewart family moved to Pais-Lieman's Land (Tasmania). Af- ley when John Stewart senior died ter being sentenced the prisoners in 1899. were sent to Fort Henry at Kingston, there to await a steamer to though a gift from the Crown, retake them to their place of incar- mained in the Stewart family for

ed John Stewart's remarkable es- years. It was given the name cape from Fort Henry. Had he been "Craiglea" - a combination of fam. unsuccessful in his daring attempt ily names-when the late Mr. Hagit is doubtful if he would have sur- yard's sister, Mrs. Isabel Stark, congifts without thought of return— use of every opportunity that came thus effectually evaded his enemies. Short of a living death, in fact those By Dills Printing & Publishing Company who did serve time on the island welcomed death as a merciful release from their sufferings. Granted Amnesty

The patriots who escaped from Fort Henry sought refuge in the United States. Some years later sion 3, Esquesing. But they paid they were granted amnesty. John Galey Two Pages of Past N . -ihise Stewart came home and resumed once more the peaceful occupation | Halton county-landwise, that is, of tilling the soil on his farm in the



With only three more Cub meetings left before Christmas and the end of the present six competitions, residential and commercial purthe Yellow Six seems to be proving poses and at least a part of this will itself better than last time winners eventually be used for multiple of the Tawny Six. For three con- | fam.ly dwellings secutive weeks the Yellows have; Under an agreement with managed to stay on top but by only Georgetown. Heslop has guaranvery slim margin Six standings teed to bring industry into the are: Yellow 113, Blue 99. White town at a sufficient rate to keep 99. Red 96. Tawny 90. Green 89.

Immediately following the grand lots will be sold at a maximum eration I found to my amazement | how | the investiture of two new price of \$5,000 an acre and industchums was witnessed by the pack rial buyers will be forced to build as Wayne Bowen and Phillip Sut- within two years of the time of Games during the evening were taken by Ray Parkhouse and Gord-

and second star tests followed. The campfire program consisted ated. of a sing-song and a story by

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they heard the click of muskets. By | John Stewart's domestic life wa

well on the farm. The son took lit-John Stewart, along with many tle interest in farming and lacked

Thus this historic property, alonly 56 years, but was retained by In a previous column we describ- the Hagyards, father and son for 77

O.K. Georgetown **Annexation Plan**

Beginning January 1 Georgetown will become the biggest town in Annexation of 1700 acres, awarded following a Municipal Board hearing almost triples Georgelown's size, which at the moment totals 909 acres, slightly less than

Oakville's area. Mr. Heslop, whose Delrex Developments Ltd. owns nearly all of the 1700 acres, says home building will begin in earnest early in the spring. The 188 acre H. C. Reid farm will be subdivided into 752 lots and homes will be built capable of providing for some 2,600

In all 1200 acres of the newly acquired land will be set aside for

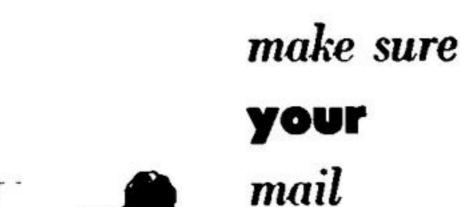
the town's overall assessment rat-Last week's meeting was opened to at a 60-40 residential - industrial with the grand howlled by Acting level. To do this he will service Sixer Donald Price of the Yellow more than 350 acres of the new land for industrial purposes. Large

Heslop has also agreed to supply all sewer and water services and area. School sites will also be don-

Esques ng township supported the annexation request and in re---- Murray Scoyne, Akela turn receives a flat payment of \$3,000 plus three years' taxes on the

> property annexed. The five hour hearing ended with Ontario Municipal Board vice-chairman R C Rowland givi.g. mmed ate approval to the annexation Although the original appi cation asked for only 1,250 acres, the board also approved annexation of another 450 acres which was requested after the hearing got un-

The annexed land lies south-east of Georgetown and straddles No. 7 highway A section at the porthern end borders on a CNR line and this will be used to provide a spur line the industrial section



mail is in time for their

Christmas!

Observe these simple precautions

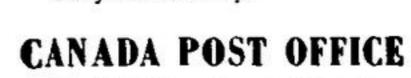
WALTER LINHAM

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