

ROCKWOOD

Carol Proceeds Given to Relief

During Christmas Eve, a group of young folks well about some parts of the village, singing carols when they first set out. It was not for the sake of money, but when they returned home, they were rewarded for their efforts and had some \$13 which they turned over for Hungarian relief.

A former resident of Rockwood and Kromson township, Mr. Wm. D. Edwards passed away on Monday of last week in township, in his 88th year. The late Mr. Edwards had been making his home at the Mt. Pleasant Sanitarium for some years. For a number of years he had been caretaker at the Royal Hotel and also at the public school.

The funeral took place last Thursday with service in the United Church with Rev. J. A. Hills officiating. A number of floral wreaths were sent to the casket in which he was held by a large number of relatives and friends. Pallbearers were Messrs. Charles Thatcher, Quelp, Thomas White, Douglas Forsyth, Lorne Allan, Len McDougall, Stanley Howison, Flower bearers were Mrs. Barber, Lou Barber, Earl Barber, Ernest Campbell. Interment took place in Rockwood cemetery.

The late Mr. Edwards was predeceased by his wife, Margaret A. Hunter, and survived by daughters Mrs. F. Barber, Quelp, Mrs. Frank Hicks, Vancouver, Mrs. Stanley Robinson, Bruce Mines, Ont., his son, Mrs. Doreen MacGully, New Westminster, B.C.

Christmas Day passed off quietly in town. A service was held in St. John's church at 11 a.m. with a good attendance. Rev. E. H. Jones delivered a stirring message relative to the occasion. During the service, Holy Communion was observed and the pastor was assisted by Mr. Robert Vincent in the chancel.

Holiday visitors Mr. Dave Maltby, St. Catharines, Mr. and Mrs. George Waller and babe, Palmerston, Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Ventry, Quelp, Mr. and Mrs. John Hatch (nee Pat Lambell), London, Miss Ada Waller, Miss Ivy Collinson, Georgetown, Bruce Hoeking, Hamilton, Wayne Hoeking, Queen's University, Miss Garrett, St. Shirlburne, Miss Mary Joliffe, Stratford.

Family gatherings were the order in some homes, as at the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Guild, Dr. and Mrs. D. Finlay, Mr. and Mrs. George Laverty, Mr. and Mrs. George Day, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hodgson, former residents of Rockwood.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stout spent Christmas with their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. McCrie, Oakville.

Mrs. J. A. Little spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. H. Robinson, Toronto.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Barlow are enjoying their drive-in restaurant on the highway and having for a holiday at Miami, Florida.

Good-bye Nineteen Fifty-Six and welcome Nineteen Fifty-Seven Happy New Year.

George R. Somerville Passes Away Sunday

A life-long resident and a citizen who played a prominent part in the affairs of Acton district, George R. Somerville passed away on Sunday after a long illness at the Quelp General Hospital. He was a son of the late Fyle Somerville and Margaret Cook and was born April 23, 1862 on the Somerville homestead on the town line of Nassagaweya and Esqueping townships.

He has spent his entire life on the farm. Following his marriage in 1924 in Acton to Miss Olla B. Armstrong, the couple spent 21 years on what is now known as the Somerville farm on Highway 25, adjoining the town line of Esqueping and Hillborough. The Archway Mann farm adjoining Acton on the east side where he has since resided.

He was a successful farmer and active in farm organizations. He was past president of Acton Agricultural Society and a fair digester for many years. He was also past president of Acton Milk Producers, served on the Board of Managers of Knox church, Acton, and was a member of the Esqueping Planning Board. In these and in his interest in his people and his community, the worth of his efforts has been proven by his title of "service" by better things. He was a member of Walker Lodge, A. F. & A. M.

Besides his wife he leaves a family of children: one brother and three sisters. They are Margaret (Mrs. H. Nissen) of Sarnia; Fyle of Acton; John, R. B. (Burns) of Montreal; Miss Helen of Toronto; and Bill of Acton. Another son, Ross, predeceased him in 1934; the brother, Dr. W. R. Somerville, resides in Haileybury, and his sister, Miss Minnie Somerville, and Mrs. Pearl Kennedy, reside in Acton and Mrs. W. W. Matheson of Hillsburg. The sympathy of many friends in this community goes to the bereaved.

Norval Hill Tie-Ups Result in Petition To Dept. of Highways

Disturbed about repeated traffic tie-ups in stormy weather near Norval, Rev. C. C. Adams, Vice of Reunion, sponsored a move by the Council to petition the Minister of Highways to set up a different system of sending in the area. The petition suggests that a stock pile of sand be placed at the bottom of the hill and a bridge in the village of Norval be fixed to look after these hills.

Mr. Adams told Council that the worst tie-up at present is at Acton. During snowstorms traffic is tied up for two or three hours on the Norval hills, he said. The result was frequent collisions and loss in traffic.

Headmaster's plan were small decorated for the season.

SNOW, BELOW-ZERO temperatures, high winds and disrupted equipment all combined to harass firefighters at a barn fire Saturday evening. Livestock was lost in the blaze which completely destroyed the barn owned by E. Jennings. With a tractor saved from the flames, loss was estimated at \$7,000. Firemen were on the scene for 10 hours during the coldest night of the season to date, checking that the fire would not break out again and possibly

spread to neighboring homes which had previously been threatened. A mutual aid call brought assistance from a Georgetown pump.

Acton trucks suffered frost and mechanical difficulties at the fire and were both out of action at once. The Georgetown pump also developed frost problems and a portable pump was used. Firemen are pictured in action in the two photographs above.

Photo by Dick Halburn, Toronto Star

EDEN MILLS

Church Groups Hold Christmas Meetings

The Christmas meeting of the W.M.S. and Ladies' Aid of the Presbyterian Church was held in the home of Mrs. H. Gilbertson.

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Decision Won't Upset Adoptions

The following editorial, which recently appeared in the Toronto Star, was submitted by G. F. Thompson of the Halton County Children's Aid Society. Mr. Thompson believes it will be of some assistance to those who are connected with the adoption of children through such agencies.

The recent decision of the Ontario appeal court upholding the private placement of twin boys and returning them to the custody of their natural parents is surprising many people who have adopted children.

They fear the decision, which is being appealed, could mean that the children they have adopted may be taken from them if the natural parents try to regain custody.

"This fear is not shared by adoption authorities in Ontario, who point out that there has never been a case in the province in which an official court adoption order has been granted and then upset by the higher court. There was no official adoption order in the case of the twin boys. It was a private placement.

Last year 1,000 adoption orders were granted by the courts, an all-time record for Ontario, and 600 more than the previous year. The orders are issued following application to director of child welfare for the province and after a year of probation in which a child and society designated by the director satisfies itself that the adoption is a proper one. Until four years ago the probation period was two years.

Under the Child Welfare Act, which almost assures an adoption order unless the director is satisfied that the adoption is a proper one. Eighty per cent of the adoption orders granted last year were the result of placements by children's aid societies. The rest were private placements followed up by applications and then adoption orders. In previous years the number of such placements ran closer to 90 per cent.

Since Jan. 1, 1935, the Child Welfare Act has required that all private placements must be registered with the child welfare branch. Cases in which adoptions are arranged privately by doctors, lawyers, and others who are not followed up by an order for adoption. The thousands of adopting parents who have obtained orders or whose applications are now in process, should be reassured as a result of the knowledge that none have been upset.

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Holiday Visitors In District Homes

Visitors over the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cutting and Mrs. Norton and Tommy were Miss Marjorie Cutting, Hamilton and Miss Ethel Houston, Quelp.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Horlop and family and Mrs. W. H. Horlop attended a dinner party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Horlop, Blackwood, Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. John Alton and Miss Jennie Tuvel spent New Year's Day with Mr. and Mrs. Alton and family.

New Year's Day visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Ted Justice and family were Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Cutting and Raymond, Acton, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Justice and Bob and Miss George Justice.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Fountain and Miss Jennie Tuvel spent New Year's Day with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fountain and family.

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Review Stone School History At Special Meeting, Social

To mark the passing of the 100-year-old School Section No. 18, popularly known as the Stone School, the ratepayers were invited to a special meeting and social by the School Board on Friday, December 31, Mount Pleasant school to give it its proper name, entire the school area in the New Year.

Mr. John Glynn presided and took the chair for the meeting in the presence of the board chairman, Mr. George Henderson and Miss Charlotte McCullough, secretary.

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In 1837 the population of Georgetown was 6,228 including Georgetown and Acton, 1912 being of school age. Of this number only 242 attended full time and it graded down to 125 who attended only 30 days in the year. Needless to say, it was before the day of the transit officer.

Five teachers at No. 18 prior to 1879 were William Glenn Stewart, who was Mr. Gordon Smith's grand father, Robert Stewart of W. War, Mrs. Evelyn Miller, an aunt of Mr. Bob Miller's, and Alpheus Smith. The average salary in 1880 was \$212. Incidentally, an indigent school in those days cost the township \$4.

Following Mr. Lindsay's talk, Mr. George Henderson presented the report of the school to Mr. Bob Henderson, chairman of the Acton Board. Who assured the group the school would be as much "our school as ever". A social hour then followed. A friendly game of cards was played, and the official lunch served.

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Georgetown History Recalled at Opening

GEORGETOWN—Ontario hydro is the most efficient public utility in the world," said Lt.-Col. A. A. Kennedy, D.S.O., E.D., who officially declared the new Georgetown hydro building open after cutting the ribbon.

Col. Kennedy, Ontario hydro commissioner, was one of a group of dignitaries who attended the opening of a new, modern building beside the post office.

Georgetown has special significance to him, he said, because his family firm, Wm. Kennedy and Sons, supplied hydraulic turbines to help power the Barber paper mill in the 1870's and the hydro plant two miles down stream which was the first long distance transmission of electrical energy in the world.

Comparing Georgetown's hydro requirements in a three year period, the speaker said that in 1912, there were 354 customers using 72 kilowatts and in 1935, 2,007 customers using 4,007 kilowatts.

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