

### James B. Chalmers, Nonagenarian Will be 90 on Easter Sunday

James B. Chalmers, another Acton nonagenarian, will celebrate his 90th birthday on Easter Sunday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Stan Norton, 50 Church Street, Acton.

Born in Montrose, Scotland, he emigrated to Canada when a lad of six with his parents, John and Katharine, and settled first in the Scotch Block in Esquewaug Township, later moving to Owen Sound.

When he had grown into manhood, he moved to Alpena, Michigan, where he joined the army and served in the Spanish American War.

It was while he was in Alpena that he met the girl who was to become his bride, Emma Frederick, whom he married later in Toronto. The couple moved to Acton some 35 years ago, where Mr. Chalmers started in the plumbing business. He retired in 1945 his wife passed away.

The son of a sailor, Mr. Chalmers always enjoyed his hobby, that of building boats, and has a fine collection around home to show his great skill.

He has served the community as

Deputy for two years, was on council for the same period, and was always fond of lawn bowling and curling. He is a member of Wallace Lodge in Acton and Branch 197 of the Canadian Legion, having only missed one parade prior to his recent illness. In his earlier years, he was also a member of Acton Citizens' Band, nearly always first on parade with his horn.

Since his recent illness, Mr. Chalmers remains in bed and spends his leisure time reading and watching TV. He pointed out this week he still reads six library books a week plus other magazines.

Keeping him company is "Dina", the family cat, who lies on his bed, waiting for the day the boy can enjoy an outing in the fresh air. Asked what some of his fondest memories are, he replied "cherished memories of my married life."

Until recent years, he was commander of the Spanish American War Veterans' Camp in Toronto, and still keeps in contact with his former comrades.

Looking forward to meeting some of his old acquaintances on Sunday, Mr. Chalmers, bright eyed and cheery, also anticipates sipping in some of the bright sunshine in the spring weather he is bringing.



### Mrs. George Chapman, Main Street Celebrates 90th Birthday To-day

Celebrating her 90th birthday today (Thursday) is Mrs. George Chapman, 34 Main Street, who is considered one of Acton's grand old ladies and friend to all.

The middle child in a family of nine, Mrs. Chapman was born at the Grange, in Barrow, England. Her father, John Brankley, a gentleman farmer, employed a governess to teach his children until they were old enough to attend boarding school.

Right to Canada

At the age of 16, her father decided to set sail for Canada. She recalls many fond memories of their farm at Sunnydale, where the family decided to settle.

It was while on this farm she met the young man who later she was to marry, George Chapman, who hailed from the same county in England. He had come to Canada to learn farming.

The couple took their wedding vows in Stayner in 1887 and 11 years later moved to Acton, where they lived up until the time of Mr. Chapman's death eight years ago. The couple celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary in 1947.

Mr. Chapman was always a staunch Tory and faithful church warden, as well as a capable gardener who enjoyed nothing better than to putter in his garden while enjoying a pipeful of tobacco.

Living with her daughter, Madge, one of the town's librarians, and only surviving member of a family of five, Mrs. Chapman still enjoys one of her main hobbies, that of baking cookies and pastries.



Mrs. GEORGE CHAPMAN

One of her favorite visitors these days is Neil Ironside, who lives next door and seems to sense when a fresh batch of cookies is heading for the oven.

Many friends, neighbors and relatives have been dropping in to congratulate Mrs. Chapman and this evening, no doubt, there will be many more visitors to sit around and enjoy a chat over a cup of tea and one of her favorite cookies with the bright-eyed nonagenarian.

Members Attend Scottish Dance Club

The Acton Scottish Country Dance Club held their regular dance at the Parish Hall on Friday, March 28th when a number of guests from Guelph were present.

Members and guests enjoyed dancing the various Scottish dances under the supervision of Mr. and Mrs. D. Docherty.

Reflections

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### Begin Construction On Bailey Bridge

The Kamias Construction Co. of Toronto are busy getting crib-work ready for the erection of the Bailey bridge to carry traffic while the new bridge is being erected. Loads of soil and stone have already been brought in to fill in the approach to the first crib and land on Frank Stout's farm adjoining the river has been put in position for the other end of the temporary bridge. The fine weather of the past week has been of great advantage to the men on the job.

George Baxter Passes

Following an illness of some duration, George A. Baxter passed away in Hamilton General Hospital, Saturday, in his 64th year.

During his residence in Rockwood, he was a representative of

### Funeral Products

The funeral took place Monday with service at the Rumley funeral home, Acton, with Rev. G. A. B. Moore of the United Church, and Rev. John Oliver, a former minister of the church, in charge.

A number of relatives and friends, also neighbors, were present to pay respects to the memory of the deceased. Numerous floral wreaths bore silent tribute to the esteem in which he was held.

Interment took place in Rockwood cemetery with Rev. G. A. B. Moore conducting the funeral. The sympathy of the community is extended to his wife, the former Margaret Henderson, and family and relatives.

See Out

### As a result of the mild weather of last week, the ice on the river has gone out quietly.

Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Hurd of Weston were week-end visitors with Mr. and Mrs. George Bayne and Miss Helen Bayne.

—Soon be time to oil up the fishing gear in preparation for the coming season.

### Honor Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Russell On 50th Wedding Anniversary

A very pleasant evening was spent at Hannockburn school on Tuesday night when many friends and relatives gathered to honor Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Russell on their 50th wedding anniversary. Mr. and Mrs. Russell have lived on the Fifth Line since their marriage.

Mr. Neelon in his usual jovial manner, acted as chairman for a very appropriate program, which opened with a sing-song by Mrs. M. McCullough at the piano.

Readings were given by Mrs. Joseph and Mrs. Robert McHenry and Mrs. Bert Davidson, piano solos by Mrs. McCullough and Linda Swackhamer, violin solo by Bobbie Denny, duet by Mrs. Ernie McHenry and Mrs. Norman Sinclair. When You and I were Young Maggie and Put on Your Old Grey Bonnet.

Jean McHenry then led in a sing-song including MacNamara's Band, with the music by McHenry's orchestra.

Both bride and groom made very fitting replies and everybody joined in singing. For They Are Jolly Good Fellows.

Hold Reception

A reception was held on Sunday at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Edith McEachern in Acton, when many friends gathered to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Russell.

They received many more gifts, a china service set trimmed with gold roses, a basket of yellow roses and other plants, and a beautiful basket of mums from Mrs. Russell's sister (Ellie) Mrs. J. B. Nelson, Amredale, who was bride-maid 50 years ago. The groomsmen, James Russell, is also living.

Mrs. Baakill and Mrs. William Butler poured tea. Mrs. Bruce Leitch, Mrs. Harless and Edith Thompson served lunch. Douglas McEachern answered the door. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Russell and Mrs. Edith McEachern were host and hostesses.

In Hospital

F. W. Shurtill is in Toronto General Hospital undergoing an operation. His many friends hope for a speedy recovery.

Hold Euchre

The W.I. held a euchre at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Black, Saturday night. High scores were Mrs. Norman Sinclair and Mrs. Ray Swindelhurst, James Cunningham and Art Willett.

Notice the new crushed stone in the driveway? Does something for it, don't you think?

Hector is rather a silent partner at euchre these days? ...

The dart tournament wound up on Tuesday night in the semi-finals of the four top teams, in the best of five series, Pageboys defeated Nevers Dies; Renegades defeated Fireflies. In the finals in the best of four games, Pageboys won the trophy from Renegades 3-1.

In the second division championships, in the first round, Leathernecks put out Sportmen and Harbites defeated Wanderers. Meeting in the finals Harbites collected a cool 3-0 win over Leathernecks to win the championship of this division. In the finals of the doubles George Hall and Hank Earle defeated Cyril Leighton and Eric Page for the laurels.

Dude announced this week if any interest is shown in the dart room on Tuesday night, it is possible to run off single championships as there are two trophies left over.

Don't forget to go to church this weekend for special Easter services.

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*Sandy Best*

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