

Challenges in Frobisher Bay Outlined in Pastoral Letter

The Christmas letter sent by the Rev. Douglas Dittrich and his wife from Frobisher Bay is of interest to Acton friends of the family and church groups which have become connected with his work.

Anglican Mission, Box 57, Frobisher Bay, N.W.T., Christmas 1965

Here we are sending our fourth Christmas newsletter from Frobisher Bay. By now, we have stopped apologizing for not being in closer touch with our friends and trust that you understand. Our lives seem to be increasingly busy as the months go by.

In April, Jean and Ruth went to Pangnirtung, about 220 miles north of Frobisher Bay. It was their first trip in a small one-engine aircraft, and first landing with skis on sea-ice. They went with the Bishop's party going to Pangnirtung for a conference. They had an enjoyable eight day visit as guests of St. Luke's Hospital, while the Bishop went further north to visit settlements and pick up other men for the conference. Pangnirtung is a much smaller, quieter and cleaner place than Frobisher Bay. It is also very beautiful, being on a fjord almost surrounded by mountains.

Influx of Visitors

During May, because of the conference at Pangnirtung, we had what seems to have become an annual influx of visitors. Bishop and Mrs. Marsh were with us, at which time a class of 75 candidates was confirmed. This included over 30 of our older teenagers. Archdeacon Clarke of Fort Chimo, Canon Gardner of Cape Dorset, who also spent some time with us in January, and Gwen Williams of the Pangnirtung hospital were here, too. Lucy Talford of the hospital, who accompanied us to Frobisher Bay in 1962, spent a week with us before returning to Pangnirtung.

It was a privilege to have all the Diocesan Eskimo clergy visiting us, being the Revs. Gideon Kitsuak of Gjoa Haven, Noah Nasook of Igloodik, Armand Taulosie of Eskimo Point and Paulosie Kakasilik of Clyde River, the latter being delayed several weeks at Frobisher Bay awaiting transport home. He stayed with Akesshoon, our catechist, and assisted in parochial activities.

Winter Carnival

A new event for Frobisher Bay, a winter carnival, took place for a week in early May. Tunk-Tyme, as it was called (after the famous Eskimos of that name), was opened by the Rt. Hon. John Diefenbaker, and featured such events as seal skinning, skidoo racing, sports and hunting, as well as beard growing and baking.

Having built a greenhouse in September of 1964 with materials obtained locally, we had our first experience gardening in the Arctic this past summer. We started seeds in the house in April and planted in the greenhouse (which is about 10 by 6 feet) in May. By May 31, we were eating lettuce, and later successfully grew radishes, parsley, Swiss chard, cress, tomatoes, a few carrots and potatoes, and a few flowers.

In June and July, there is very little darkness at night, and with mostly sunny weather, the plants grew quickly. Unfortunately, some insects appeared, and because of the postal strike, the bug killer we wrote for was delayed. Thus we had some lost and damaged crops. August was not good growing weather, but we did have some tomatoes ripen on the vine, the remainder ripening in the house. By using a small oil heater in the greenhouse for part of the time, we were able to keep it in operation.

Georgetown Plant Begins with a Bang

A dynamic blast was used in ceremonies at Georgetown Thursday to mark the start of construction for a 150,000-square-foot plant that will manufacture business furniture and equipment. The plant is being built by The General Fireproofing Company, Youngstown, Ohio, largest U.S. manufacturer of office furniture.

Three officials pushed the plunger that detonated the charge at the groundbreaking ceremonies on the 45-acre site. They are the Hon. Stanley J. Randall, Ontario's Minister of Economics and Development; Joseph Gibbons, Mayor of Georgetown; and John A. Saunders, President of The General Fireproofing Company.

Mr. Randall, in an address to 100 guests at a luncheon following the ceremony, said that the company was making a significant move to capitalize on a growing Canadian market. According to the Canadian Business Equipment Manufacturers Association, he said, sales of office furniture for 1965 in the Dominion amounted to an estimated \$38 million, with Ontario alone accounting for about \$17 million.

until October 6, the end of a very rewarding experiment.

We welcomed in August, Canon Douglas Whitbread, his wife and three children from Spence Bay, where Canon Whitbread has been stationed for the past 10 years. He will be travelling to some of the smaller settlements which do not have ministrations of the church regularly. While in Frobisher Bay, Canon Whitbread will be assisting in the parish. He has been helping Doug with the morning radio talks, teaching in the schools, directing choir practices and teaching a class in the Eskimo syllabics.

The arrival of another family has necessitated the building of a second house. In August, we were faced with the job of moving 25 tons of building supplies and food, which arrived on the annual supply ships, from the beach to the new site four miles away. Canon Whitbread, who with his family has been temporarily accommodated in a government house, attended General Synod in Vancouver in September.

On his return, we began construction of the new house. Many of the men from the parish have put in long hours of volunteer labor. By the time you read this, we will probably have moved into the new house. It is at the Base, a little over three miles from Apex Hill, our home for the past three and a half years. The Whitbread's will be living in the new house, we have erected a parish hall. It is a sectional building, over 80 feet long, and was purchased last summer and moved a half mile and re-erected. The hall is not yet in use, as the

OUR READERS WRITE

Dog Control

Has Acton gone to the dogs? One would think this to be true to see the number of dogs running at large in many parts of the town.

They invade our property, and ruin our trees.

And scatter our garbage just as they please.

They come in groups from near and far.

And show no respect for the wheels of our car.

We come out of our house to chase them away.

They snarl at you, as much as to say,

Give me your garbage and don't delay!

They finally leave in groups of three.

To sniff around the nursery trees. Acton pays for dog-control which has now become an annual dole.

It is not our right these dogs to kill.

So we will just rename the town Dogville.

When the pet convention rolls around.

We will invite the dogs from out-of-town.

Just spray your shrubs with dog skiddoo.

And practice how to side-step, too.

Disgusted.

Vestry plans to make improvements to the interior in the coming year.

New Baby

For us, the most newsworthy event was, of course, the arrival of our second daughter, Christina, on October 18. She is a good baby, healthy and growing quickly. Ruth seems very pleased with her little sister and likes to hold her and "help" take care of her. Jean carries Christina on her back, and as Ruth now has a parka like Jean's to carry her doll, they go for walks with their "babies".

Doug's mother (Mrs. Laura Dittrich of Acton) visited us for a month to take care of things while Jean was in hospital and getting back on her feet. It was very nice having her with us for a while and helping us to welcome Christina. Canon Whitbread baptized Christina on October 31, the Sunday before her grandmother went home.

For Church

At Apex Hill, the women's group has made a beautiful seal-skin mat for the chancel aisle and is now making seal-skin kneeling cushions for the whole church. They also made robes and hats for the women in the choir. The inside of St. Simon's church was painted last summer and new lights installed. The women at Ikaluik will be making choir robes and hats in the new year. It is hoped that the interior of St. Jude's church will be redecorated soon, after some carpentry work has been done.

Our Sunday Schools involve considerable work, as lessons and activities have to be translated into Eskimo each week and notes dictated to the teachers. This is felt to be very worthwhile and attendance is steadily increasing. We now have 14 teachers for our Eskimo-speaking classes and five for our English-speaking pupils, with a total of about 250 children each Sunday.

First Council

Doug has been busy in community activities, serving on the Boy Scout group committee which sends some of the Eskimo boys south to camp each summer, and on a committee which organized the election in November of Frobisher Bay's first community council, whose 13 councillors include eight Eskimos. Jean is treasurer of the Girl Guide committee. She is kept busy with our two little girls, and does quite a bit of sewing for herself and them.

Many challenges still face us and we value your prayers for the church's work in the North. We give thanks for the things which have been accomplished through God's help. The need for a full time catechist and an ordained man fluent in the Eskimo language have both been met, and we are grateful that many new tasks have thereby been undertaken. Gradually we are training and guiding Eskimo people to accept more responsibility in the life of the parish. We try to play our part in helping them adjust to the new life of a town, an adjustment made so much easier for those who share the new life God revealed in the Saviour whose birth we joyfully celebrate at this time.

Douglas and Jean Dittrich.

Federal Proposal Splits Halton in Three Sections

A new federal electoral map which splits Halton County into three sections was presented to Parliament. Members now have 30 days to protest the previously-announced redistribution.

The present Halton County will become part of three different federal ridings — Halton, Halton-Wentworth and Wellington — if the recommendations are accepted.

Standard Population

The Electoral Boundaries Commission was set up by Parliament under redistribution legislation a year ago December, to form constituencies with population of 70,865 without varying more than 25 per cent up or down.

The Halton County riding would retain its name but change in area to include Milton, Acton, Oakville, Georgetown and the townships of Esquimes and Erin. The present riding consists of Milton, Acton, Oakville, Burlington, Georgetown and the townships of Esquimes and Nassagaweya. The new population would be 72,254.

New Riding

The proposed changes would create a new riding of Wellington, which would include Guelph, Paris and the townships of Nassagaweya, Guelph, Eramosa, Puslinch, Beverley and South Dufferin, and would have a population of 68,612. A new riding of Halton - Wentworth would also be formed to include all of Burlington, Dundas and West Flamborough with a population of 73,099.

The recommendations of the Electoral Boundaries Commission, a non-political commission, would result in the disappearance of 43 of Ontario's 85 federal constituencies and would create 46 new ridings, or a total of 88 ridings. The commission is headed by Justice E. A. Richardson of the Ontario Supreme Court.

Recently, a provincial voting redistribution plan was announced that would split the present Halton riding into two pieces. One with the suggested name of "Burlington" riding, would include

Burlington, Nassagaweya, Acton and the uppermost 10 lots of Esquimes Township. The second riding would be called "Oakville" and would include Oakville, Milton, Georgetown and the lower 22 lots in Esquimes.

Members Comment

The changes were first announced last June. Dr. Harry Harley, Halton's M.P., received no complaints from constituents.

Dr. Harley said the redistribution seemed fair and added that Burlington and Oakville were now too large to be together in one riding.

George Kerr, Halton's M.P.P., said the redistribution "only confuses the issue, especially after the provincial redistribution proposal."

Under the revised provincial electoral boundaries proposal, Halton riding is split on an east-west basis. "Now you have four ridings including the present provincial and federal ones," said Mr. Kerr.

No Peel

The riding of Peel will disappear completely under the revised electoral boundaries, to be replaced with two newly created ridings, Peel-Dufferin and Peel South.

Harold Coulson Chairs Halton Fire Prevention

Captain Harold Coulson, a member of the Milton Area Fire Department, was named 1966 chairman of the Halton County Fire Prevention Bureau at the group's annual meeting held recently in Milton Fire Hall. He succeeds Insp. Wes Miller of Oakville, who held the post for the past year and a half.

William Hyde of Georgetown was named vice-chairman, Peter Campbell of Oakville is secretary, and Harry Wilson of Oakville was returned as treasurer.

The Bureau also named six members to chair committees covering the various aspects of its year-round fire prevention programs. Chief A. E. Clement of Milton was named public relations chairman, Chiefs M. Holmes of Acton and E. Lewis of Georgetown are in-charge of blitz inspections, Glenn Stringer of Milton is poster contest chairman, the Christmas campaign will be handled by District Chief George Wright of Oakville, and Oakville Chief Douglas Wilson chairs the literature committees. Auditors are W. Miller, District Chief Wright and William Beck, all of Oakville.

Five Accidents

(Continued from Page One)

On Monday of this week the constable investigated an accident on Mill Street involving an east-bound car owned by Tyler Transport and driven by Ted Tyler Sr. and a westbound car driven by Douglas Collins, Waterloo. Damage to the Tyler vehicle was estimated around \$300 and the Collins car around \$150. Constable Campbell charged Mr. Collins with failing to leave half the roadway free.

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Personal Notes . . .

Of Actonians Visiting Out-of-Town Points and of Visitors in Acton Homes

Miss Jean McDonald Young St. has been a patient in Guelph General Hospital.

Mrs. Fred Turner, Arthur St. has been a patient at Guelph hospital.

Friends are sorry to learn Mrs. Fred Kingsmill is a patient in Guelph General Hospital.

Mr. John Mann is home after an operation in Guelph General Hospital.

Mrs. Robert Algie returned last Saturday after a two month holiday at the home of her daughter and family at Philadelphia and later at Florida.

Larry Holmes, 13-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Holmes, was hospitalized with a serious eye injury. He was treated in Guelph General Hospital.

Peter Homer received his graduation diploma Thursday of last week during graduation exercises at King George School in Guelph. Mr. Homer completed a 10 month special commercial course sponsored by the Department of Education. He attended Acton High School.

Swims' Office

Swim Laboratories of Canada, formerly of Acton and presently of Richmond Hill, has opened an office in the Delfex building in Georgetown. One of the three brothers in the business, Cyril Swim, lives still in Acton and two other brothers in Georgetown. The plant is still at Richmond Hill. They sell in Canada to drug houses and export pharmaceuticals and vitamin products.

The Scottish Rite annual banquet and dance was held Friday evening in the Elizabeth Room of the Royal Hotel, Guelph. Attending from Acton were Dr. and Mrs. A. J. Buchanan, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Elliott and Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Rognvaldson. Mr. S. Snow, Master of the lodge, was at the head table.

Bill Coats' bridge instruction class concluded Tuesday of last week. His "graduates" this time are Mrs. Jim Ledger, Mr. and Mrs. Reg Hoare, Mrs. Hartley Coles, Mrs. C. Ashley, Mrs. Chas. Berry, Mrs. V. Bristow, Mrs. Shadbolt, Mrs. C. L. Rognvaldson, Mrs. A. Nolan, C. Renwick, David Lidkea of Acton; T. Marsh and Mrs. L. Potter, Milton; and Mr. and Mrs. H. Greig, Georgetown.

Two typographical errors occurred in last week's report of the Nassagaweya Township Council meeting. In a statement by Allan Ackman he referred to a "superficial zoning plan" costing far more than \$5,900, not far more than \$55,900 as appeared in the paper.

A statement by Reeve William Coulter referred to 45,000 acres in the Township, not to 455,000 as was reported. We regret any inconvenience these errors may have caused.

FRED A. HOFFMAN
Optometrist
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