



ACTON FIRE DEPARTMENT is a member of the Halton Fire Prevention Bureau, and the Bureau last year won a "special recognition" certificate in the N.F.P.A. competitions. At a banquet in Milton Saturday the award was presented to members. Bureau chairman William Hyde of Georgetown, left, holds the certificate while Acton's Deputy Fire Chief Bern Van Fleet and guest Mayor Les Duby look over the Bureau's scrapbooks on which the award was based.

(Staff Photo)

Free Press District Page

OSPRINGE

Banner centennial year urged at annual meeting of Institute

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Barry Clarke Jr. (nee Joan McCullough) who were married Saturday morning at the Church of Our Lady, in Guelph. A reception was held at the home of the bride in Arthur. They plan to make their home in Plamboro. Len Buck flew to Halifax, N.S. on a business trip last week.

Demolition of the former store and china shop at the corner is progressing quite well, to make a clear view corner.

Jack Sim of Toronto was a weekend visitor with Mr. and Mrs. D. Stewart.

Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Robertson visited with the former's aunt, Mrs. Rose Robertson, who is a patient in South Waterloo Hospital in Galt.

The annual meeting of the Ospringe Women's Institute was held at the school, with Miss Doris Pines presiding.

The secretary, Mrs. S. Fuller, read the minutes, thank you notes, correspondence and also the financial report. Roll call was answered by "paying of fees".

Achievement Day for "A World of Food in Canada" was announced for May 6 in Fergus and all ladies are invited to attend.

The president, secretary and Mrs. E. Archibald and Mrs. C. Storey were named to attend the "Travel Party" of the 4H Club girls to be held at Mrs.

R. Sinclair's home on April 22. It was decided to enter a display at the Wellington County Historical Society Centennial Hobby Show in September.

Mrs. S. Fuller and Mrs. E. Archibald offered to help in the Cancer Society drive for funds.

Mrs. S. Fuller was named chairman of the committee for the big Centennial euchre on April 28.

The members were asked to contribute a new or good used book, especially children's books for a library in the far north. These are to be brought to the next meeting.

Mrs. E. Archibald presided for the election of officers.

President, Miss Doris Pines; 1st vice-president, Mrs. E. Archibald; 2nd vice-president, Mrs. E. Fisher; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. S. Fuller; assistant secretary-treasurer, Mrs. C. Storey; district director, Mrs. E. Archibald; alternate, Mrs. Doris Pines; pianist, Mrs. G. Aitken; assistant pianist, Mrs. D. G. Robertson; press reporter, Mrs. D. G. Robertson; assistant reporter, Mrs. S. Fuller; auditors, Mrs. H. R. Howard and Mrs. D. G. Robertson.

Flower committee, Mrs. W. Milton, Mrs. D. Winter, Mrs. D. G. Robertson; and convener, Mrs. H. R. Howard; courtesy convener, Mrs. D. Winter; branch directors, Mrs. W. Milton and Mrs. H. R. Howard.

Conveners of standing committees: public relations, Mrs. C. Storey; home economics and health, Mrs. G. Young; agriculture and Canadian industries, Mrs. G. Grundy; historical research and current events, Mrs. H. R. Howard; citizenship and education, Mrs. G. Aitken; curator, Miss D. Pines; temperance, Mrs. H. Theaker; safety, Mrs. D. Winter.

Miss Pines expressed her thanks and appreciation to all for their cooperation and help, and urged all to help make this year a banner centennial one.

Mrs. Archibald, assisted by Mrs. W. Milton, served cake and ice cream to conclude the meeting.

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Dragstrip on rural roadway signal of youth's ingenuity?

North Halton's well-paved back roads, often lined with trees and sparsely populated, have for some time been ideal spots for lining up two or three "hot" cars and deciding who's really fastest.

Authorities, however, take a dim view of quarter-mile tests on public roads, and the races are held for only a few minutes at a time so noise and speed won't attract prowling critters.

Something of a more permanent nature has developed on the Seventh Line of Esquesing, though.

About a mile north of the Base line on this road, some dragster with a sense of organization measured off a one-quarter mile stretch of road with good visibility. At the southern end, he has painted in broad yellow letters, a line running from a shoulder to shoulder and two-foot letters saying "Start". Understandably the other end says "Finish".

Who could possibly say Canadian youth doesn't have ingenuity?

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EBENEZER

Growth of church denominations reviewed at meeting of U.C.W.

The president, Mrs. Malcolm Moffat, opened the recent U.C.W. meeting with a verse, "What Counts?" The answer, "What God Sees." The hymn, "Guide me, O Thou Great Jehovah" was sung. Mrs. Keith Anderson read the Scripture, Psalm 72. Mrs. Hayward gave two patriotic solos, "Something to Sing About" and "They all Call it Canada." Mrs. Ward led in St. Francis' prayer.

Mrs. Art Norrish gave a very comprehensive and interesting resume of part of the study book, from Jacques Cartier to Confederation, with special reference to the growth of the different church denominations.

In Champlain's time, 1608, a little effort was made to teach the Indians about God. The Recollet Fathers showed missionary zeal, and later Jesuits, whose work is commemorated at the Midland Shrine. Fathers Brebeuf and Lalemont and others gave all they had — their work and their lives — freely and gladly. To them we owe the first Christmas carol, *Faithers* which made the growth of the church difficult were disagreements between tribes, movements of the tribes, liquor and the fur traders being against settlement.

Governor Laval united the church and the government. How slow the growth of population was during the first 100 years of French control is illustrated by the fact that Canada's population increased by only 300 souls, while in the last two years the population of Nassagaweya has increased by 200.

Then came 1759; after the battle of the Plains of Abraham the French were allowed to keep their own language and religion. In 1761, the Constitutional Act was passed, by which Upper and Lower Canada were formed. The farms along the river were long and narrow, with houses close together for safety. Often the parish priest was the only one who could read or write.

In Newfoundland, Protestants were forbidden to sing Psalms beyond the ten mile limit. The first recorded Communion Service was held in Newfoundland in 1577.

The first church was built in 1758; the schools followed the churches. In Upper Canada, the Family Compact and the "Clergy Reserves", by which every seventh lot in the county was set aside for the support of the Anglican Church, hindered development. The Presbyterians and the Methodists did not think such preferential treatment was fair.

Presbyterians, Anglicans and Baptists were strong in the Maritimes.

Travelling Methodist, (saddle bag) ministers brought news, often had strong voices and brought a touch of color to the settlers' drab life.

Moravians entered by Windsor, up the Thames River to London. They were glad to sow, didn't care who did the reaping. They brought music, baptism and soap to the Indians.

The first Methodist church was built at Hay River, (Bay of Quinte). The five Ryerson boys were Anglicans, five of them turned into Methodist ministers. Egerton R., of course, the best known. William Lyon Mackenzie was a pal of Egerton Ryerson; the former reformed the govern-

ment, the latter, the educational system.

In 1867, all denominations took a stand against drinking. In 1869, an Irish Methodist named Timothy Eaton started his store in Toronto. The store's policy at that time was to sell no tobacco nor playing cards.

All the churches founded colleges, when the country was young.

During the Civil War in the States, many run-away slaves came to Canada. Baptists in the Maritimes welcomed them. Now, some of them live in very poor conditions. "Tolerance is not enough." There is a strong Baptist Church for Negro settlers in Dresden, Ontario.

Lutherans were granted land in Dundas County and around Markham, Ontario.

Mennonites abhor war. At Elmira, they won't register with the Milk Board.

Quakers are noted for their participation in national and international life. This sect was founded by George Fox. They do not preach from a pulpit. They were the only ones who bought their land from the Indians. Fry, Cadbury and Rowntree were all Quakers, so they are "sweet people." They carried out many reforms without violence. By 1944, they were practically all united with other congregations.

Mrs. Norrish then mentioned several early churches in our district, Corwin, Campbellville, Knatchbul, St. John's, Church of England was built in 1844.

Eighteen ladies answered the roll call with a Scripture verse containing the word "hope". Plans were discussed for the May Tea to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the "Ladies Aid," now the United Church Women. It is to be held on May 11.

Mrs. Walt Lucas and Mrs. Jack Teasdale served lunch.

Valeria Wild, Debbie Gall, Shirley Moore, Heather Dunbar, Sandra Early, Paula Kitching, Denise Diagle and Mona Blyth took part in the Sunday School opening exercises on Sunday.

A number of the community residents are busy with the maple syrup crop. Last week's freak storm played havoc with some septic tank drainage systems.

Mr. Percy Kitching is a patient in General Hospital, in Guelph, with a return of the back trouble which bothered him last year.

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