



GOLDEN WEDDING anniversary was celebrated by Mr. and Mrs. Fred MacArthur Saturday amid family and friends. The reception was held in the church they have attended since their marriage, Churchill community church.—(Staff Photo)

Mr., Mrs. MacArthur

## Anniversary reception at church on Saturday

The Free Press correspondent for the Churchill district omitted the main item of news of the week from her column this week. It's the account of the happy celebration Saturday when she and her husband observed their golden wedding anniversary. Irene and Fred MacArthur moved exactly 50 years ago to their home on the third line of Esquesing, south of Churchill church, and have lived there ever since. It was the farm home of Mrs. MacArthur's parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Snyder.

No holiday They've both lived all their lives in this district and, as farmers, they have never had a holiday of any length.

In the years, they have made a host of friends, and many of these were at the community church on Saturday to extend their hearty congratulations to the well-known pair.

Reception Saturday The Churchill Community church women catered for the reception in the afternoon and evening. With gold decorations and lovely refreshments, the tea table was centred with a three-tier wedding cake. Flowers, cards and gifts of gold made the church room bright.

Pouring tea were Mrs. Ethel Walker, Guelph; Mrs. Walter Fosbury, Acton; Mrs. Ed Green, Toronto, a sister-in-law; and Mrs. Edna Snyder, Toronto, another sister-in-law; Mrs. G. W. Masales and Mrs. Clifford Storey.

Grandchildren and friends served, and grandsons were in charge of the guest book.

About 150 guests came from Chatham, Toronto, Erin, Richmond Hill, London, Beamsville, Welland, Streetsville and this district.

Both sides of fence A telegram was received from Prime Minister Trudeau. ("We must have given him the idea to get married!") laughs Mr. MacArthur. Other congratulations came from both parties and both sides of the Halton-Wellington border, just north of their farm—Premier Bill Davis, Halton M.P. Rud Whiting, Halton West M.P.P. Energy minister George Kerr, Wellington South

M.P.P. Harry Worton; opposition leader Robert Stanfield, Wellington M.P. Alfreo Hales (who included Mrs. Hales in the message) and Wellington-Dufferin M.P.P. John Root.

Born in area Irene Snyder was born on the family farm, went to Lorne School, and then moved to town where the family lived in the present Lidkea home. The marriage was held there March 1, 50 years ago, conducted by the Rev. I. M. Moyer. She went back as a bride to the family farm. Fred MacArthur came from the Speyside area, son of Mr. and Mrs. Duncan MacArthur, and went to Dufferin school.

Family Their daughter Audrey (Mrs. Ernest Dawson of Oil Springs) was killed in an accident, but her two children were at the reception, Robert Gordon Dawson and his wife of Chatham and Mrs. Robert Gauvreau and her husband of London. Son LeRoy lives farther up the third line, in Erin township, and attended with his wife and their children Ronald, Barry, Timothy and Sharon.

Other guests were Mrs. MacArthur's sisters, Mrs. Vern Archer, Streetsville; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Green, Toronto.

Another sister, Edna, is in hospital in Toronto.

Church offices They have attended Churchill church for half a century. He is an elder, and she has held various offices and the presidency in women's organizations.

Their son and grandsons work their land now, but the MacArthurs are still in good health. Mrs. MacArthur has been Free Press correspondent for her area for the past eight years or so. Her interesting column appears regularly.

Sends song One of those unable to attend the party was a former minister, now 90, Rev. G. I. Stephenson of Toronto. Mr. and Mrs. Stephenson's twin daughters, now missionaries in Japan and China, played with Audrey MacArthur as children. The family loves to sing, and Mr. Stephenson sent along a well-loved poem for the occasion. It begins:

Slowly the web of life unrolls shimmering folds of gold; Sombre and bright and ashes grey woven with threads of gold. Glittering threads like sunshine fair lighting the woof of toil and care. Making the web a fabric rare, beautiful threads of gold.

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