

Birthday for Stewart Royce celebrated

Eighty-five years later, one of Rockwood's best known and respected citizens celebrated his Sept. 17, 1889 birthday on Tuesday and, according to Stewart Royce, time of arrival was 8:15 a.m. Born in Rockwood in a frame house once located beside the former Dr. Waller's residence on Main St., Mr. Royce is one of the few remaining citizens who has extensive knowledge of village history stored in his amazing memory bank. At 83 he can remember places, people and occurrences which happened years ago and, as someone who was



According to the birthday celebrant, the home where he was born, belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Royce, his parents, has been replaced for some years by a red brick house now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Bert Smith. He was one of five boys and one girl born to the couple and, of the large, happy family of Royces, only two are still living. Dave Royce, 88, Stewart's oldest brother lives at the Elliott Home in Guelph.

A pre-birthday visit with Mr. Royce was one of friendship and congeniality as he mingled with his buddies at the St. Joseph's Senior residence in Guelph, just like a big friendly family," said the affable gentleman who left his Rockwood residence approximately four years ago when he found keeping up a house was too much for him. People would pass and say "Hi there," as they would come and go along through the hallways.

Talking with Mr. Royce is to hear an interesting account of his experience in the village. He attended the old

stone S. S. No. 9 school in Rockwood, worked for five years after his entrance graduation at what was the Massey Harris factory in the village, and then served a barbering apprenticeship with Tom Morton, a barber in Acton.

"I spent some time in Hamilton and Toronto learning more about the trade," he recollected and then explained how he then bought the barber shop located on one side of what was, until its recent sale, the Buchanan's Feed store on Main St.

In 1912 he married Frances Benson and, in 1920 he, his wife and family of two daughters moved into his final Rockwood home which they had built on Guelph St. Mr. Royce talks about combining several positions in the police village of Rockwood along with his barbering trade. He was public secretary, secretary-treasurer of hydro, and secretary-treasurer for town hall, his last position before retirement, was that of clerk-treasurer and tax collector for the township of Erasmus. He also served as school trustee for ten years for No. 9 school.

Long-haired barber The village barber for 41 years, Mr. Royce says "there were no long-haireds in those days," and makes no bones about not liking such haircuts. Filling in more of Rockwood's barbering history he explained that, after moving

to his new location, the old shop was closed down. On his retirement he sold his equipment to Al Jackson who started up his trade in the building known to later residents as Blue Star Garage and Body Shop.

According to the historian, Al Jackson moved his business from the location to the stone hotel, then St. From Lees hotel, on Main St. From there he set up business in the barber shop later purchased and operated by Lawrence Kingwell which he converted two years ago to the Horn O'Plenty food establishment.

Feeling well and almost hardy, Mr. Royce says his greatest problem is seeing. He can no longer read and his hearing is slightly impaired. Beyond these things, he will tell you he feels very well and is quite contented in his new life.

He manages to get around with drives into the country and to Rockwood occasionally with his nephew, Harold Royce who lives in Guelph. Tuesday's celebration was one of a visit from his daughter and son-in-law, Doug and Doris Patterson from London, with a birthday dinner at the Colonial Hotel in Rockwood. He is a grandfather four times over and is great-grandfather twice. Three years ago he was taken by ambulance to the Guelph General Hospital and today he is only too happy to be well located and able to really enjoy a contented 85th birthday. He received many cards of congratulations from friends who remember him well.

Coincidence beats everything and interesting is the fact that two Rockwood residents have relatives visiting from the same place in England with the same name at the same time, and neither knows the other.

Mrs. Lillian Doe is the month visitor who has come to the village to spend a month with her daughter Audrey Hudson and family. She has been in Rockwood before and made many friends who bid her a hello and welcome.

Mrs. Alice Doby in Guelph has a relative coming Thursday who is also from Surrey, England. His name is Bob Doe, a second cousin of the popular Guelph St. resident. Hi to you too, Bob.

Betty and Eric Hills just arrived home from an overseas trip and, for Eric it was his first one back home to his birthplace in 28 years. Welcome back to Canada, folks, hope you had a fine time.

Best looking dogs in town these days are three belonging to one lady on Main St. Her threesome sports beautiful collars from Kool's hardware and one dog wears beautiful purple, another shocking pink and raspberry is the shade of the other's collar. No biz like dog biz.

Mrs. Phil Drysdale is visiting in Eden Mills these days with her mother Mrs. Peg Abrams. Flying in from Victoria, B.C., the visitor will be returning soon with her sister Nancy Abram who will be working there. So long, girls, Eden Mills friends wish you both the best and have enjoyed having you back in the community.

Mrs. Ruby Barford and daughter Caroline have been special visitors this summer with Mrs. Lily Smith of Eden Mills. Hailing from London, England, it was an exciting three week stay at Peg Abrams' home where her mother now resides.

Those who have been waiting to meet and hear Rev. Bernie Warren of the Bezek centre will enjoy the 118th anniversary service at the Eden Mills United church Sept. 22 at 11 a.m. when he will be guest minister. St.

Some trees are losing leaves this year before even turning color.

Villagers will be sorry to learn of Clayton McLaren

Comin's and Goin's

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Toyota Community Calendar

What's doing in the North Halton Area

INTERNATIONAL PLOWING MATCH

Of interest to both urban and rural people, the 61st annual International Plowing Match and Machinery Show is being held Tuesday to Saturday, September 24 to 28 at the Craig Reid and neighboring farms just south of Georgetown. It features a large tent city of exhibits, displays and catering establishments. In addition to the classes for plowmen from all over Ontario.

ACTON FALL FAIR

Don't miss Acton's annual Fall Fair, to be held for three fun-filled days, September 20, 21 and 22, at Acton Park. Enjoy the exhibits, band concert, midway and many other events. There will be activities for the entire family. So plan to attend!

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C.W.L. holds Sept. meeting

Father Elliott opened the Sept. meeting of the Rockwood and Justice Catholic Women's League held at the parish house on Goswami St. Sixteen members were in attendance.

Correspondence was read including a letter from Brother Bob in Darjeeling, India in which he thanked the C.W.L. for the \$50 donation sent to aid him in his work with the poor and sick.

Under discussion was the Development day to be held in Waterloo at St. Agnes Church. It was decided the conveners of the standing committees should try to attend.

Tickets will soon be available for the dance sponsored by league to be held in the town hall on Nov. 9. The Wheels orchestra has been engaged for the first money-raising event of the fall season.

Mrs. Evelyn Dales was appointed to look after getting rosaries for grade eight graduates. They will be presented at a later date.

Father Elliott spoke briefly. He expressed his gratitude to league members for their loyalty and support while he has been parish priest. He said he regrets at having to resign but finds keeping up two parishes too much for him. Father Elliott announced that, beginning Sept. 22, Rockwood and Justice parishes will have as their parish priest, Father A.J. Olinski who has been pastor at St. Anne's, Riversdale, Ont.

Following adjournment of the meeting Mrs. Bernice Bacon introduced Father Michael Myroniuk, guest speaker for the evening. The visitor showed slides of Guatemala where he has spent the last five years doing missionary work. During the commentary, Father Myroniuk explained that he found his work there very interesting and rewarding. He also brought news of the foster child sponsored by the league.

Mrs. Margaret Sennhauser thanked the speaker and, while lunch was being served, he answered questions about his work.

Cabaret successful

Eighty-five to 100 people ranging in age from 18 to 80 enjoyed the party fun provided at the second Eden Mills Community Club cabaret dance held at the centre last Saturday evening.

Vince and Jeanette Montgomery were key figures at the village dance and Saturday's program was one of cards, singing, dancing or just sitting and enjoying festivities.

Mostly local villagers attended and, assisting Mrs. Tomlinson with arrangements were Fran Tolton and Donna Clifford. Door prizes were won by Bill Lowrie, George Campbell and Mr. Le Fevre. Proceeds will be included in the Community Club treasury and go towards continuation of hall renovations. The next cabaret dance is planned for Oct. 26.

Corn crops

Corn for sale signs are gradually being pulled in. Growers tell a story of smaller crops and smaller cobs due to lack of summer rains. But sweet garden corn was just as delicious as ever.

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Branch 197 - Acton

Cordially invites all of the citizens of Acton and District to view their new facilities on Sunday, September 22nd from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The new Branch is situated at the corner of Mill Street and Cameron Avenue.

Branch 197