

Thinks something smells

To the editor: This is a letter I have written to Mr. Snow, in regard to the appraisal done on my farm and I would appreciate it if you would publish the same in the paper.

James Snow, M.P.P. No. R.R. 2, Georgetown.

August 8, 1975.

Dear Sir:

This is concerning two lots I have been trying to sever and the sale of my farm to the Credit Valley Conservation Authorities for the past year.

I am getting very tired of the runaround I am getting. Our mayor Tom Hill finally got the C.V.C.A. to do an appraisal on the property. This appraisal was done by H. Hilton & Associates; the appraisal was \$1,200 per acre. They appraised my property at 80 acres for \$1,200 per acre. This seems very strange when land around me within two miles is selling from \$2,000 to \$3,000 per acre, for vacant land.

The C.V.C.A. bought 25 acres for \$2,000 per acre in 1973 or 1974 in the same area as my property, another 100 acre farm was bought for \$1,200 per acre and is nothing but red clay hills and hawthorn trees. My farm, 20 acres ravine land and 80 acres good farm land, that produces 100 bushels of corn per acre, and they say it is worth the same as scrub land. Something is wrong.

When the manager of C.V.C.A. offered me \$90,000 for 80 acres, he said he could

increase it 10 per cent. He said my property is not worth as much now because the Niagara Escarpment Commission has control of the land. The C.V.C.A. has been trying to buy this land since 1970.

I think something stinks, and it is time I got an answer. Either they buy this property at a reasonable price or take me out of Special Area No. 1 and let me do what I want to. If the government can pay \$600,000 for 250 acres at Cheltenham, they can pay me the same.

When I said to the manager of the C.V.C.A. I was going to get an appraisal of my own, he said if that was the way I felt, that he might as well start expropriation papers now. This is a great way to do business. Something stinks and I intend to find out just what is going on.

The C.V.C.A. is buying a parcel of land that is not even in the acquisition area for Silver Creek Park, 40.8 acres for \$63,000 at Lot 32, Con. 5. The C.V.C.A. has tried to purchase 12 acres at Lot 30, Con. 10; the appraised value was \$75,000 for 12 acres and the C.V.C.A. offered this lawyer, who owns the property, \$100,000, and the offer was refused.

How much of an increase is this? A lot more than 10 per cent. I guess it makes a difference if you are just a little guy or a lawyer. They didn't say they were going to expropriate him.

An Unfortunate Escarpment Property Owner Douglas Starrett



WILLIAM WRAGG of Ospringe sits in exactly the same spot he did 61 years ago in his former school room in Mirfield, England. Students from that school enjoyed their Canadian visitor.

O.F.Y. concert for Golden Age

By Mrs. D. G. Robertson In spite of the current heat wave over 40 attended the regular afternoon meeting of the Acton Golden Age Club.

R. L. Davidson presided for a short business session, when plans were formed for a trip to Marineland early in September, and names are being taken of those wishing to go. Mention was made of sev-

eral sick and hospitalized members.

A musical treat was enjoyed for an hour when members of the O.F.Y. band presented a fine concert. Credit is due to the leaders, David Marcoux, Mary Watson, Janet Allen and Brenda Kingsmill, for giving of their time and talents to encourage the younger ones to pursue this musical career.

In expressing thanks to the musicians R. L. Davidson congratulated them and encouraged them to keep up their good work, and invited them back again.

Birthday greetings were for Mrs. M. Wallace, Mrs. E. Harris and Max Milne.

Crust bread and a cup of tea was enjoyed and a social time was spent.

Like salmon swimming upstream to their birth place, William Wragg of R. R. 2, Acton, (Ospringe) went back to his hometown of Mirfield, Yorkshire, England last month to re-experience some of his boyhood memories.

While there, Mr. Wragg stopped back into time some 61 years and attended school again. He attended classes in the same classroom he graduated from grade eight during 1914.

The Huddersfield Daily Examiner reporter arrived on the scene and interviewed Mr. Wragg's picture appeared in that newspaper surrounded by children of the present class.

Didn't change

According to Mr. Wragg, The Knowl First School hadn't changed much on the outside at all. The innovation of indoor plumbing was one of the more convenient features of the school which have been added since his graduation. In his time, there were 100 separate glass doors which could separate various parts of the room. Now, there are partitions making the one main room classroom into several rooms.

Mr. Wragg got to sit in exactly the same spot he sat 61 years ago. He says he wasn't exactly surprised to see the original desk had gone as he sat back and felt the waves of nostalgia come over him.

Obituary

H. Webster was mail carrier

A rural mail carrier for 45 years as well as a farmer, Samuel Harold Webster died August 1 at St. Joseph's hospital, Guelph.

Mr. Webster, his late wife and their family lived at R.R. 4, Acton, coming here from Hury, Quebec, 55 years ago.

While farming, he also delivered the rural mail for R.R. 2 and R.R. 4, Acton.

He served as organist, warden, Sunday school superintendent and lay reader at St. Alban's church, Acton.

For many years he was active in local school boards in various positions including secretary-treasurer, until the original of area boards.

Their farm home was always a meeting place for young people of the community where many happy hours were spent with their friends and neighbors.

As of late he made his home with his sisters, Mrs. Downes, in Rockwood, where he made many friends.

Mr. Webster was always willing and active in church, community and school events.

Family

He was born at Hury, Quebec, May 1, 1888 and was married at Brookbury, Quebec, October 19, 1909. His

wife Enid Sylvia Bennett predeceased him.

He is survived by sons and daughters, Mrs. Maxine Ellerby of Erin, Lawrence of Guelph, Clifford of Acton, Vera (Mrs. Angus Murchison) of Acton, Lewis (Bud) of Rockwood, Roy of Acton, brother Anthony, West Palm Beach, Florida, sister Mrs. Lila Downes, Rockwood, 15 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife and one son Howard.

He attended St. Alban's, Acton and St. John's, Rockwood, churches. The Rev. R. McMurray conducted the funeral service at the Rumley-Shoemaker funeral home August 4, and interment was in Fairview cemetery.

Funeral services were held at the home of Mrs. Downes, Wayne Webster, Donald Barr, Kelly Webster and Stephen Webster, Flower bearers were Terry Webster, Danny Webster and Murray Webster, all grandsons.

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Free Press

WHO DOES IT

DIRECTORY

A large directory grid containing various service advertisements such as 'ALUMINUM', 'CONCRETE PRODUCTS', 'ELECTRICAL SERVICE', 'FUEL', 'GLASS SERVICES', 'OPTICIANS', 'PLUMBING & HEATING', 'SEPTIC TANKS', 'TV SALES, SERVICE', 'ARCHITECTURAL SERVICE', 'EXCAVATING', 'HOME HEAT SERVICE', 'PAINTING and DECORATING', 'ROOFING', 'TOWING', 'CAR CARE', 'DENTAL', 'FLOOR REFINISHING', 'FUNERAL DIRECTORS', 'CHIROPRACTIC', 'ELECTRICAL SERVICE', 'SEPTIC TANKS', 'WELDING', 'SPEYSIDE Portable Welding Service', 'W. KAMMINGA', 'GET HIP!! READ THE WANT ADS'.