

Father Morgan 30 Years As Acton Parish Priest



Father V. J. Morgan, who had charge of Holy Cross church here from 1941 to 1968, relaxes with "Harmony" his pet St. Bernard. —Free Press Photo

Thirty years as pastor of St. Joseph's Church, Acton, is the outstanding record of Father V. J. Morgan, veteran of all Acton clergymen, has chalked up. Father Morgan was also in charge of Holy Cross church in Georgetown from 1941 until 1968 when the Capuchin fathers took it over.

MANY CHANGES

During his pastorate, the church, rectory and cemetery at Dublin have undergone several major improvements. "When I came to Acton, the roof of the church leaked in 3 places," Father Morgan recalls with a smile. "I had to have the roof shingled and the attic air-conditioned and insulated." Father Morgan attributes other

improvements, such as redecorating of the interior of the church three times, installation of a larger gallery and new pews and erection of a mausoleum at the cemetery to the generosity of "oldtime parishioners."

FOND MEMORIES

Although he says the size of the congregation hasn't grown tremendously in 30 years, Father has fond memories of parishioners he has served. Many who served him as altar boys are now adult parishioners. "When they first started as altar boys, some of them were so short they couldn't reach the altar to move the missal," he remembers.

Miss Bernadette Whelan,

whom he describes as a "wonderful housekeeper" has looked after his material needs for 20 years. Always fond of animals, Father Morgan's constant companion around the rectory is his huge, lovable St. Bernard "Harmony", who quickly makes friends with all visitors.

Gym, Library in Future Plans for Holy Cross

A gymnasium and a library resource centre will be added to Holy Cross school if current plans of the Halton County Separate School Board are approved by the Department of Education.

At last week's meeting, held for the first time in Georgetown, chairman Dr. Leno Brada stated that Holy Cross was one of only two separate schools in the county without a gymnasium.

The cost of the proposed addition is estimated at \$150,000. One of the proposals suggests a new addition, and the other suggests the use of two existing classrooms, remodelled. The loss of two classrooms would be compensated by the completion of the new \$343,000 St. Francis of Assisi School, at Sinclair and Duncan.

Holy Cross school has 21 classrooms, and six portables in use at present.

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Buffalo Herd Thriving, Now Four New Calves

Frank Timmermans has become a part time mid-wife — to a herd of buffalo cows, that is.

As wildlife technician for the Halton Region Conservation Authority, Mr. Timmermans' job is varied and unpredictable, but rarely as tricky as when he has to deal with four independent, defensive and pregnant buffalo cows, for, while the cows never seem to have much trouble giving birth, they are as protective of their 40 lb. calves as every human mother is of her new baby.

Three of the four cows have delivered in the last week and the fourth calf is expected to arrive in the next few days.

CHANGE BLOOD LINES

When the four females and the herd bull, Bashful Bobby arrived in 1965, from the Buffalo National Park, Alberta, they were the first free-roaming buffalo in Ontario.

Although the cows have calved for the past three years, the Authority has only 13 buffalo in the Compound at the present time. A number of the offspring have been traded or given away to other institutions or Conservation Authorities and a new bull

has been purchased recently to change herd bloodlines. The animals graze in their 80 acre woodland and pasture valley as if they had always been in the area, although it is unlikely that their species ever inhabited the region.

TWO VIEWS

Although they once numbered at least 60 million in North America, there are no wild buffalo today. The surviving 30,000 head in Canada and the United States are protected in public and private herds.

The public can view the buffalo from two locations: from the walking trails along the escarpment at Rattlesnake Point Conservation Area or from the Buffalo Corral area located at the northern limit of Walker's Line.

To Rattlesnake Point Conservation Area is located on Appleby Line, north of No. 10 Sideroad (Derry Road West) and approximately 3 miles west of Milton.

To reach the corral area on Walker's Line, go one concession road west of Appleby Line on No. 10 Sideroad, turn north or right to the dead end and the corral is on the east side of Walker's Line.

ASHGROVE

Found Norwegians Were a Proud, Independent People

The Women's Institute meeting was held on Monday evening May 17 at the home of Mrs. Fred Nurse with a large attendance of members and two visitors present. President Mrs. Percy Cox opened the meeting asking everyone to sing the Institute hymn and repeat the Mary Stewart Collect. The new secretary-treasurer Mrs. James McPhail read minutes and called the roll which was answered by showing an article from another country and telling the story behind it.

One brought an ink well her father had been given from Ireland over a hundred years ago. Another had a brooch that had been passed down from relatives.

An invitation was received from Limehouse W. I. to their 50th anniversary on June 9 and one from the Sunshine School to a tea and bake sale the end of May. Mrs. John Ruddell spoke a few words on the excellent job the past secretary-treasurer had done and presented her with a gift, a colourful tray, for which Mrs. Fred Nurse thanked the members.

The program was in charge of Mrs. Frank Ruddell who gave some interesting facts about the ACWW and said it represents six million women and homemakers in 62 countries. It started in 1929 when rural women got together at a meeting and it still provides women with first hand information about the United Nations.

The motto by Mrs. Vern Pickett, "All people smile in the same language" had some grand thoughts in it. Accordion numbers played by Carolyn Bird charmed everyone. Current events by Mrs. Gordon Barnes was followed by a trav-

elogue on Norway told by Mrs. William Cromar who said that through correspondence started by her daughter years ago with a family in Norway, twelve years ago she and her husband were able to go and visit this part of the world. With coloured pictures she showed the people, their homes, mountains and rivers and fjords that surround them. It is a very important country and a very independent people who love, live and die for the country.

A contest on the guessing of the 62 countries united with the ACWW was won by Mrs. E. Bird and Mrs. Bob Alexander. Mrs. George Wilson gave the courtesies and after singing the Hymn of All Nations, a social hour followed.

On the weekend Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Wickson attended the golden wedding anniversary of his brother and sister-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Garnet Wickson at their daughter's home in Mississauga.

All her friends are glad that Mrs. T. J. Brownridge is home from hospital in Toronto following her recent eye operation.

— Mrs. J. Bellbody

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