

Eldest Legion branch member turns 100

Imagine the stories Georgetown resident and local Legion member, Gilbert English, who turned 100-years-old Sunday, could tell.

Having survived World War II and working as a farm laborer in the west and a lumberjack in the north, he's probably seen and experienced more things than most people.

Some of his experiences were told by Mr. English's son, Seymour English of Georgetown at a special celebration that members of the Georgetown Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 120, held for Mr. English Sunday.

He told the packed crowd at the Mill Street Legion that his father

was born in 1891 at Torquay, Devonshire, England and came to Toronto in 1912. A few years later, Mr. English joined the 75th Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Forces to fight in World War II.

It would be four years before Mr. English came back home to Toronto after serving overseas. He soon began working, first as a farming hand in Manitoba and then as a lumberjack in Northern Ontario lumber camps.

In the spring of 1921, he went to the Willowsby Agency near Georgetown to look at farms for sale in the district and settled on Robertson's acreage soon after.

Mr. English then joined the Stewarttown Church where he

met his future wife, Flora Murray. They were married in 1930 and had three children, Seymour, George and Mary (deceased four years ago). Flora passed away in 1976.

Mr. English received many congratulatory remarks, letters and plaques at the celebration from the Dominion and Provincial commanders of the Royal Canadian Legion, her Majesty the Queen, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, Lt. Governor of On-

tario, and Ontario Premier Bob Rae. Making a personal appearance to congratulate Mr. English were

M.P. Garth Turner, Regional Chairman Peter Pomeroy and Town of Halton Hills Mayor, Russ Miller.



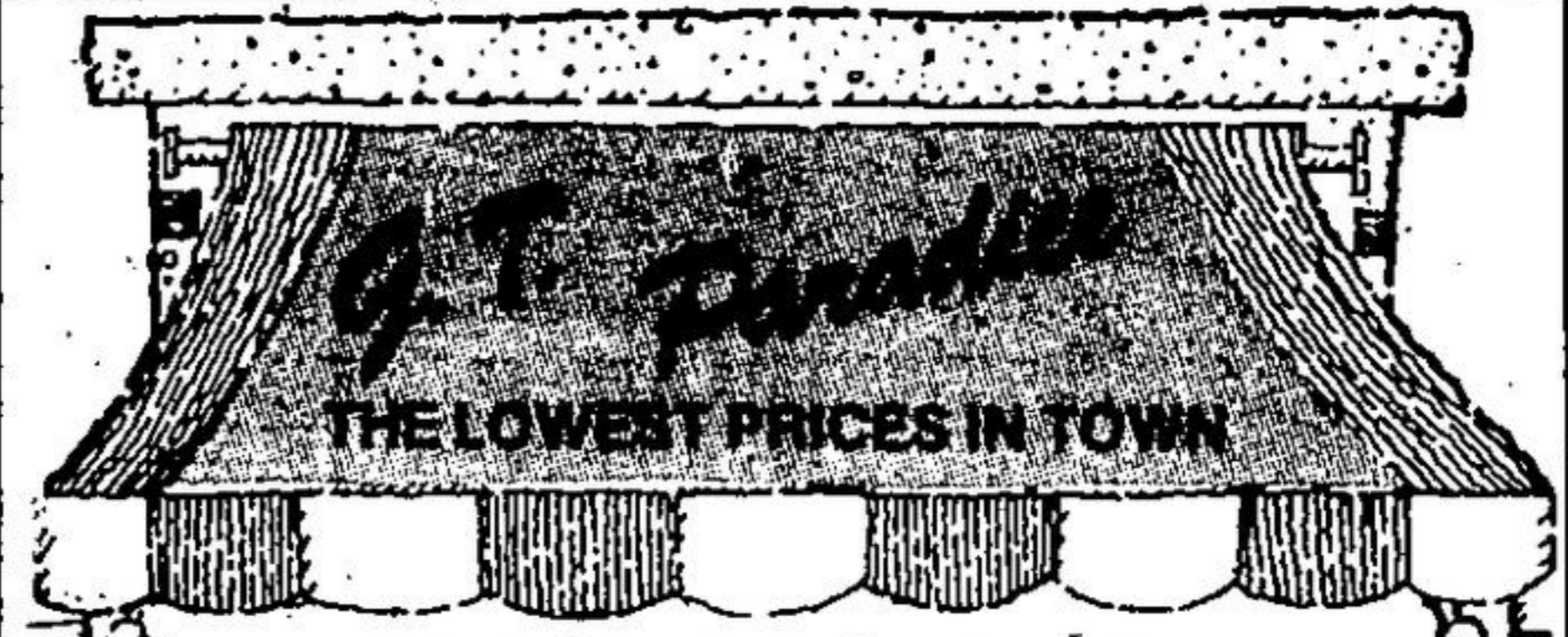
Halton-Peel M.P. Garth Turner was on hand at the Georgetown Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 120, Sunday to deliver congratulatory notes from the Queen, the Lt. Governor of Ontario, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and himself to Gilbert English who turned 100-years-old Sunday. The oldest member of the branch was also honored by his fellow Legion members, Halton Regional Chairman Peter Pomeroy, Town of Halton Hills Mayor, Russ Miller, and Bill Chard, a representative for MPP Noel Duignan. (Herald photo)



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