

By E. Lorraine Orr  
 "The Coldwater Fall Fair will be extended to three days in 1981," said Fair president, John Orr, during his address at the annual agricultural society's dinner and meeting last month.

"There were 14 activities taking place in the area of the race track on Saturday between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. not to mention the displays in the arena and it was impossible for visitors to see it all. Many of the directors never made it to the outside exhibits."

He added, "The executive have decided to extend to the Sunday afternoon, with tentative plans of moving the rabbit show, horse draw, western show and other horse events to this time. Coldwater's 1981 Fall Fair will be Friday to Sunday, Sept. 26, 27 and 28, inclusive."

The business portion of the meeting was under the able direction of master of ceremonies, Lloyd Dunlop, who with his popular "groaner" jokes kept the audience well entertained.

## Firefighters respond to three alarms

Midland firefighters have answered three calls since Friday.

Monday afternoon they were called to a Queen-Yonge Street home. Turns out it was a false alarm.

Saturday they responded to a call in the evening to 554 Russell St. There an air tight stove had created some problems.

However there was no damage reported.

And Friday morning firefighters were called to RCA at 11:45 a.m. Turns out that call was a false alarm.

Secretary-treasurer Mrs. Valerie Hamilton, read the minutes of the previous annual meeting and the financial report of the Fair. Tom Smith, 1st vice president, gave a detailed report of each Fair division, complimenting the various directors on their excellent work which made the 1980 Fair such a success.

The Man of the Hour at the annual meeting was Elmer Gratrix. Each year the Agricultural Society honors someone who has given their time and energy to the betterment of the Coldwater Fair.

Elmer has been associated with the Coldwater Fair for over 25 years. During this time he has been the director in charge of the senior section of Grains and Vegetables.

A great believer in encouraging the young people of the area to take part in the Fair, Elmer donated several varieties of potatoes each year to the three participating public schools, enabling the students to plant, cultivate and display the crop in competition at the Fair. He also introduced a category of vegetable displays specifically for high school students to enter so they would not be excluded from the Fair upon leaving public school. During his three years as president (1976-1979) Elmer was the moving force behind the decision to build new sturdy pens for the goats and swine.

He contributed many hours of time and knowledge to many other projects, also. It was with pleasure that president John Orr presented Elmer with a framed certificate acknowledging his dedication and also with a barometer/hygrometer. Mrs. Gratrix was the recipient of an arrangement of silk flowers.

Elmer was especially

pleased to have present his five sons — Charles, Murray and Garnet of this area and Lloyd of Bewdsey and Cecil of Barrie, along with their families. Also attending was Elmer's sister, Eileen, and her husband Lloyd Quantrell of Huntsville, and his brother Joe and family of Waubashene.

The evening ended with a complete review of the Fair shown on colored slides, taken by photographer Gary Pipher.

Donald Jackson, former world figure skating champion, is returning to Coldwater to star in the Coldwater Skating Club's carnival.

The show, with the theme, "The Wizard of Oz" will take to the ice on Feb. 28 and March 1. The two day show is a first for the Coldwater club. All members of the club are involved in this production.

An added attraction will be the amateur dance team of Terry Lynn Black and Mirke Savic. Tickets are \$3.50 for adults; \$2.50 for seniors and \$1.50 for students. Pre-schoolers will be admitted free.

Coldwater Canadiana executive have received a grant of \$4,781 from the Ministry of Culture and Recreation for 1981. This will help in the continuing work of the Woodrow museum.

At a recent meeting a suggestion was made by member Jean Carson that all schools in the area, as well as Penetang-Midland Coach Lines and Travelways be advised of the attractions at the museum in the hope they will include Canadiana in their tour schedules.

A motion was passed to purchase an old leather trunk owned by Pansy Mayo. The trunk, which has been in Mrs. Mayo's family for over 32 years, has reinforced leather corners with brass studs. The moulded round top is kept shut with leather

straps and the brass lock, dated 1885, was made in New Jersey. The numerous stickers indicate it was once a theatrical trunk.

At the April 28 general meeting the guest speaker will be Hugh MacMillan of the Ontario Archives. His topic will include family histories and historical points of interest in the area.

Canadiana meetings will now be held on the 4th Tuesday of each month. The 1981 agenda has been set. These events will be announced in the newspapers prior to their occurrence.

Congratulations to Terry Piggott on her recent engagement to Thomas Malloy of Orillia, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Malloy of Seebright, Ontario.

Terry is the only daughter of Jim and Lorraine Piggott of Coldwater. Wedding is planned for August, 1981.

Can you imagine having quads, triplets and twins all arriving in your family within several weeks of each other.

That is what is happening at the Bondell Goat farm, outside of Coldwater. Bonnie Gillespie's "ladies", as she fondly calls them, have had a total of 69 kids so far and more to come.

It is more unusual for a nanny to have only one kid at a time than it is to have four. Bonnie is the director of the popular Goat Show at the Coldwater Fall Fair.

"Should women enter politics" was the Roll Call to be answered by members attending the recent meeting of the Huronia Women's Institute. The group gathered at the home of Joyce Hall in Coldwater for home-made Chinese Food before conducting their meeting.

The motto for the evening was "Today's news is tomorrow's history. A course in Crewel Embroidery is being made available to the members who will join with the North River Institute ladies on January 28 to learn the intricacies of this needlework.

A delegation is to attend the February council meeting in Coldwater regarding the unsafe road conditions along the northern portion of the riverbank and in front of the doctors' office. The members are concerned with the lack of guardrails and the narrow shoulder in this area. Several cars have slid over the bank at various times.

Members were asked to give 1 cent for every window in their house, to be given to the Pennies for Friendship

fund. Citizenship and World Affairs convener, Shirley Doble, expressed her personal feelings at the time when she became a Canadian citizen.

Bob MacDonald was unanimously returned to the position of chairman of the Coldwater Businessmen's Association at their recent election. Doug Beach is to remain as secretary. The directors will be Ken Athron, Jelte Bakker, John Holgate and Will Lyms.

A motion was made to appoint one more director and from these

directors a vice-chairman will be elected.

John Holgate, who recently met with the Honorable James Show and MPP Gordon Smith, reported they discussed the concern of the business people in regard to the new highway and its affect on the businesses of Coldwater. Mr. Smith supported Coldwater's concern and arranged for the Businessmen's Association members to receive copies of maps showing the proposed changes and cloverleaf to be constructed in the area of the Moonstone Hill.

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