

YORK PIONEER AND PRESENT

BY E. A. JAMES

Article 22

THE ORIOLE BRIDGE

With the widening this year of the concrete bridge at the intersection of the north limits of Lot 15, Con. III North York East and the road called the Third Concession, one recalls the development of the County.

In 1806 the Mulhollands settled on Lot 16, Con. III York East. The first crossing was a ford to the north of the present bridge site. This was followed by a log bridge built on approximately the present site. In the flood of 1878 the old log bridge was carried away and to replace it there was constructed a king-post truss on pile abutments. In 1907 this structure was condemned and plans prepared for a new structure.

Up to this time the Township of York had not attempted to use concrete for a complete bridge structure. They had used it in bridge abutments with steel super-structure but George S. Henry then Reeve of the Township, was de-



First Concrete Bridge in York Erected 1908, Enlarged 1926.

sirous of introducing concrete as a bridge material. Mr. Peter Gibson, O. L. S., who had for years been Township Engineer did not take kindly to the innovation. He knew what could be done with wood and steel but was skeptical of concrete.

Plans and specifications and tenders were submitted by Clark & Monds, Contractors and Engineers of Toronto for the construction of a concrete arch. Work was commenced on the footings and the story is told locally that 40 foot piles were driven. Mr. Peter Gibson was apprehensive of what might happen and resigned as Township Engineer on July 20th, 1908, and Jas. McDougal, C. E., was appointed Engineer to supervise the work for the Township of York.

The original concrete structure built in 1908 had a span of sixty feet and a width of the roadway of thirteen feet and cost \$3,050.00.

In recent years with the improving of the York Road and the increasing motor traffic it was apparent that the bridge was not suitable for the traffic demand and in 1926 the Toronto & York Roads Commission widened the bridge ten feet to the south and added a concrete sidewalk. These additions cost six thousand dollars.

When digging the footings for the new abutments it was found that the old bridge was resting entirely on the piles. The water having washed the clay from underneath the concrete abutments. Before the new footings were poured, yards of concrete were forced under the old structure. This addition to and strengthening of the structure should make it possible for the bridge to give years of service to the travelling public.

The original construction and the new construction, this year are a splendid example of what may be done in designing structures so that they will meet the present requirements without unduly burdening the tax payer and yet be used in the larger works that new conditions require. It is possible in years to come to make a twelve foot addition to the north side of the bridge giving a structure with a thirty-five foot roadway.

Sunday School Workers Endorse The O. T. A.

The following resolutions, bearing on the present Temperance situation in this Province were unanimously passed at the East York Convention of the Ontario Religious Educational Council at its meeting here on Nov. 10th and 11th. This convention was made up of representative Sunday School workers from the Townships of Markham, Scarborough, Etobicoke, York and Vaughan and their attitude may be regarded as typical of that of all the Sunday School workers of our Province.

(a.) That we Sunday School workers in convention assembled, recognizing the importance of Education as a means of overcoming the use of alcohol for beverage purposes, strongly recommend to all our superintendents and other workers more temperance and prohibition in the regular programs of our schools.

(b.) That in view of the present situation, we suggest that the benefits of the O. T. A. which are admitted by all be presented in our schools, not only by addresses, but also by the distribution of literature as issued by our Church Departments on Social Service.

(c.) That we go on record as believing that the only solution of our present unsatisfactory conditions, lies along the line of strengthening and enforcing, rather than along the line of relaxing or rescinding the Ontario Temperance Act.

Victoria Square

Did you hear dem bells? Ting a ling, ting a ling. Changeable weather is apparently the harvest time for the medical profession and we are sorry to report that Miss Grace Boynton is quite ill. Our smith is yet under the doctor's care. Mr. Heise's baby is in the hospital in Toronto.

The principal from one of the Barrie Public Schools, Mr. E. Morrison, accompanied by his wife and son Lloyd spent Saturday afternoon with Mr. L. Nichols.

The township visitor Mr. A. Campin, appointed by the Religious Educational Council of Markham Township visited our Sabbath School on Sunday. In his address he expressed the wish that our school might make its influence felt on December 1 and return a good majority for Temperance legislation. He expressed the belief that in his own church there wouldn't be two votes for the "Wet" policy. We can assure him Mr. Editor that if every place is as dry as Victoria Square there will be neither bootleggers dives, nor government stores, nor beer parlors in this province in the next hundred years.

Mr. Arthur Dennis who was in Miami when disaster befell that city, is spending a few weeks under the parental roof. His many friends are pleased to have him renew old friendships.

Mr. and Mrs. Avison visited friends in Barrie on Sunday. Miss Annie returned home after spending a few days with friends in Barrie and elsewhere. She intends to take up her school studies at Richmond Hill in the near future.

The Misses Arnold of Lloydtown, and Messrs. Davies spent Sunday with Miss H. Freeland.

Mr. Geo. McCague spent Sunday under the parental roof.

Mr. Craig Toppie of Toronto called on some of his old friends on Sunday evening.

Miss Ella Nichols is spending a few days with friends in Barrie.

Mr. William Morton and grandson Cecil of Saskatchewan spent the week-end with his brother Mr. J. Morton.

The boys and girls of No. 7, were delighted with the result of their visit to Buttonville. A return contest is planned the last of this month.

The Young People's League are planning a visit to White Rose in the near future.

Our general merchant, Mr. J. W. Walker is improving the front of his store by adding some white paint.

Miss Margaret Glover, the young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Glover was baptized at the public service here on Sunday afternoon.

Prize Winners at East York Match

The following are the prize winners at the Annual match of the East York branch of the Ontario Plowmen's Association held on Wednesday last on the farm of John Walton near Agincourt.

Class 1 (in sod)—1 Eddie Timbers, Milliken; 2, W. L. Clark, Gormley; 3, Fred Timbers, Stouffville; 4, Lloyd Steckley, Stouffville; 5, A. E. Kennedy, Agincourt. Best crown, Fred Timbers. Best finish, Eddie Timbers.

Class 2, in sod—1, Robert Laurie, Greenwood; 2, F. Feeney, Agincourt. Best crown and finish, Ormerod.

Class 3, in sod (boys under 13)—1, Garnet Cowie, Markham; 2, Ernest Timbers, Milliken; 3, Arthur Daniels, Armadale; Russell Little, Agincourt. Best crown and finish, Cowie. Ins-and-outs, Russell Little.

Class 4, in sod (jointer plows)—1, Lorne Weldrick, Maple; 2, W. G. Ormerod, Greenwood; 3, Lloyd Turner, Stouffville; 4, W. G. Maxwell, Markham; 5, Chas. Tapsco, Milliken. Best Crown, Turner; best finish, Weldrick.

Class 5, in sod—1, Murray Clendenning, Stouffville; 2, Al Meyers, Dixon Hill. Best crown and finish, Clendenning.

Class 6, in stubble—1, Stanley Thompson, Claremont; 2, H. J. Couperwaite, Agincourt; 3, Bert Clemens, Agincourt; 4, Jas. Tooley, Milliken; 5, Thomas McGriskin, Agincourt. Best crown and finish, Thompson.

Class 7, in stubble—1, Willis Jarvis, Milliken; 2, Clarence Plaxton, Locust Hill; 3, T. Malcolmson, Milliken; 4, Arthur Little, Agincourt. Best crown and finish, Jarvis.

Class 8, (boys under 16) 1, Donald Jarvis, Milliken; 2, Wilfrid Ferguson, Stouffville; 3, W. Tapsco, Milliken; 4, Anthony Featherstone, Markham; Best crown and finish Jarvis. Youngest boy plowing, W. Tapsco, 13 years. Featherstone was also 13, but a couple of months older than Tapsco.

Class 9, tractors—1, Winfred Timbers, Stouffville; 2, Clark Young, Milliken; 3, Chas. Clubine, Aur'a; 4, Clifford Benson, Woodville; 5, John Kennedy, Milliken. Best crown, Timbers. Best Finish, Young.

Council Received A Unique Claim

The members of the Markham Township Council were confronted with an unusual case at their last regular meeting. Mr. Russell Forster of Locust Hill asked compensation for a horse injured when he was working on the road. Mr. Forster's story was (and his statement was corroborated by the road foreman, David Graham) that he was working on the road with his team on April 22nd last, on the 10th concession at "Riggfoot" when a heavy milk truck got stuck in the mud at the side of the road. Mr. Graham suggested that one of the teamsters working on the road pull him out, and he, having the mightiest team, volunteered to do so. In pulling out the truck the mare injured herself so badly that he has not been able to work her since, and according to his veterinary, she may never recover. He wanted to know if he was entitled compensation. The mare, about 8 years old, was worth easily \$225, and he did not feel that he should suffer the loss.

The Reeve informed him that the case was unique. The council carried an insurance in the Globe Indemnity Company, but even if the policy covered his case, they should have been notified at the time. But on the other hand the accident did not occur while working for the township but in pulling the truck out of the mud, in doing an act of kindness. He advised Mr. Forster to put in his claim to the Globe Indemnity Co., who would probably investigate. But he had not much hope of the claim being recognized by the company.

WIVES AND HUSBANDS ATTENTION!

On Tuesday evening November 23rd at eight o'clock in the High School gymnasium Miss Grace Hunter, B. A., L. B. one of the most interesting women speakers in Toronto and one of the best informed will address a joint meeting of the Home and School Council and the Women's Institute on the subject of how far and in what ways a wife may pledge her husband's credit. This lecture will be as interesting and as informing to men as women and will cover some of the financial problems nearest the home. Many unhappy homes might be made happy if women knew more about the legal status of the wife. Miss Hunter will make this matter clear and will show in detail to just what extent a wife has to be financed by a husband and exactly where and when this obligation ceases.

This is an open meeting and everybody will be welcome, musical numbers will precede the lecture.



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PUBLIC MEETINGS

KLEINBURG, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20th.
DOWNSVIEW, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd.
FAIRBANK NORTH, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd.
MAPLE, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24th.
THORNHILL, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25th.
WOODBRIDGE, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27th.

ALL MEETINGS AT 8 p.m.

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