

Elgin Mills And Jefferson News

CORRESPONDENT: LEONARD LOMAS — Phone 884-3000

Church News
St. John's Anglican Church taken to the third collect by was packed for evening prayer. Lay Reader L. M. Lomas, who and the service of dedication also read the first lesson. Lay

Sunday evening, Evensong was Reader Les Eliot read the second lesson. The dedication service was conducted by the Rt. Rev. F. H. Wilkinson, retired Bishop of Toronto.

The font ewer was dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Oliver Andrew and Alice May Boyle and given by the Boyle Family. The lectern Bible (R.S.V.) was dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Marjory Laura Snively and purchased with a donation given by her sister, Mrs. M. H. Stoker of Montreal. The balance of the donation has been used to reduce the rectory debt to \$2,000.

The new organ was dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of John Maurice Baldwin Beynon and his sister, Elda Maude Sambrook, also in memory of the men of this parish who laid down their lives in the two world wars, and was given by the Beynon Family.

Dedication of the new choir gowns took place also. Bruce Sproul, manager of the Church Organ Division of Allen Organ Company played selections from Handel and Bach before and after the service and "The Pastorale" by Rowley during the offertory.

The choir sang two anthems "Surely the Lord is in This Place" and "With a Voice of Singing".

Members of the Boyle, Beynon and Snively Families were present at the service. Refreshments were enjoyed after the service, in the lower hall.

Bishop F. H. Wilkinson and Mrs. Wilkinson were entertained prior to the service at Glenora by Captain S. C. Snively, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Jones, Major-General G. D. Wotherpoon and other members of the family.

The service next week at 10 am will be a celebration of the Holy Communion.

On Wednesday the Winchester Group of ACW travelled to "Singing Waters", Orangeville to meet Kay Golbeck.

The married couples meet this Saturday evening at the David Dunlop Observatory, Hillview Drive at 8.45 sharp. Refreshments will be served afterwards at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sid Goldsmith, Cornville.

Saturday evening the young people's group enjoyed an evening of bowling at Richmond Hill.

Neighborhood Notes
Birthday greetings are extended to Sheila Ratchford, September 19 and to Christine Beavan and Ruth Mason on the 23rd.

THE Challenge OF Cancer

Next to accidents, cancer is the greatest cause of death among school children. The research work made possible by contributions to the April Campaign of the Canadian Cancer Society is uncovering the facts about cancer. Every donation is vital.

Mrs. Beryl Riley of Gamble Road has recently returned from a motor trip through New York and Pennsylvania where she accompanied Miss Daphne Rutty, Mrs. Wynne Rutty of Hamilton and Mrs. Thelma Townsend of Guelph on an antique glass hunting expedition.

Interest in satin glass is rising due to a shortage of several old patterns in pressed glass. Stopping over at the Corning Glass Works, the party was delighted to find a bed of roses devoted to Canada, containing the Canadian Centennial Floribunda.

Community Club
On September 25 the monthly meeting will be held at Jefferson School. As there are so many new teachers and parents it is intended to have a "Meet the Teachers" evening, at which time parents will have an opportunity to inspect the portable classroom and discuss the plans for the new addition which it is anticipated will be under construction soon.

Parents from the Markham Township side of Yonge Street are of course invited to join their Vaughan neighbors in this club which acts as a home and school organization for Jefferson School on an informal basis.

Markham Ward System Had Difficult Beginning

If history repeats itself, the move by Markham Township Council at its meeting September 9 to compile information on its present ward system could lead to a lively debate if an alternative system is proposed. Councillor Anthony Roman has suggested council consider increasing the number of wards from three to five or six.

The present system of three wards and five councillors was introduced in 1954 after a lengthy period of public discussion and disagreement on what would be the most suitable arrangement.

At a special meeting in May that year council formally divided the township into three wards, after a wards committee of council had failed to agree on a ward system.

In a referendum in the fall of 1963 township residents had voted 2,066 for and 576 against the establishment of wards in Markham.

To implement the ratepayers wishes the wards committee, consisting of Councillors

Archie Little and the late Arthur Lennie, was set up in January 1954. Its job was to determine the most desirable ward system for the township and it reported in April proposing four wards, each electing a councillor, with the reeve elected from the township as a whole and the deputy-reeve chosen from council's own ranks.

The committee said its findings were based on the submissions of three groups — the Federation of Agriculture, the Joint Ratepayers Association and Markham Township Property Owners Association.

However, Township Solicitor J. D. Lucas informed councillors that it was not legally possible under provincial legislation to have four wards and only five councillors. Six or seven members would be necessary, he said.

He also told council that once a ward system had been set up, council could increase the number of wards at any time it saw fit.

The upshot was that council instructed the wards committee April 5, 1964, to plan for the introduction of a three ward system with five council members.

This committee could not manage to do. On April 29 Councillor Lennie resigned from the wards committee saying that the two main contending parties, the Federation of Agriculture and the Joint Ratepayers Association were unable to agree on a three ward system.

Consequently, council decided at the prompting of Reeve Alfred LeMasurier to call a special meeting to fix the boundaries for a ward system itself.

At the meeting, held May 3, the wards were determined as follows:

WARD I — the area between Yonge Street and Bayview Avenue bounded on the north by Whitechurch Township and on the south by Steeles Avenue;

WARD II — Concessions 2, 3, 4 and 5 including the police village of Unionville;

WARD III — Concessions 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, excluding

Unionville. The approximate population breakdown was: Ward I, 3,899; Ward II, 3,794 and Ward III, 3,118. The total population was thus 10,811 (it was 13,300 in 1967).

Of the five councillors only one, Councillor Lennie, voted against the system.

In its report on the meeting "The Liberal" commented: "The council in making a decision independent of any briefs presented to them by the Federation of Agriculture and the Joint Ratepayers, attempted to create one rural ward, one urban ward and one compromise between rural and urban."

In explaining the division Reeve LeMasurier said, "The majority of council felt the extra expense involved in a six or seven member council was not warranted, while on the other hand it was not legally possible to have a four ward system and only a five member council."

He added, "We have not reached that stage of our development where any number larger than a five member council is needed to administer our local affairs."

Before reaching its decision council permitted one representative from each of the four ratepayers groups to express their feelings on the subject. These were the three aforementioned groups and the Langstaff Ratepayers.

Only the Joint Ratepayers advocated a four ward system, with six or seven councillors. In support of their view they tabled a 480-name petition compiled from four streets in Highland Park and from Johnson Avenue in Thornhill.

In the 1954 township election in December two of the three wards were strongly contested. In Ward II Donald Deacon, now York Centre M.L.A., was returned by acclamation. Councillor Vern Griffin won Ward I and Councillor Little Ward III.

The dissenting Councillor, Arthur Lennie was defeated in his bid for deputy-reeve, losing to the incumbent, the late William Clark.

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Your Legion Reports

Branch 375, Royal Canadian Legion
By Eric Chapman - 884-0086

The events experienced by local Legion members while on vacation are sometimes very interesting. One of the most notable reports we have received to date concerns Comrade George Ellis and his wife, Ida, of Weldrick Road, Richvale.

George is a veteran of two World Wars, and during the course of his service overseas made many friends in Fleetwood, Lancashire, England. Mrs. Ellis came to Canada in 1920 — and both have always longed to return to see their friends.

Last month they did just that. In Fleetwood they were greeted, and made royally welcome in the friendly fashion that Lancashire people are famous for, and were also entertained by the mayor of that fair city. Upon departure, Mayor Nield asked if they would personally convey a plaque to the Mayor of Toronto, together with a letter containing best wishes from the citizens of Fleetwood.

When Mr. and Mrs. Ellis returned to Canada they proceeded forthwith to Mayor William Dennison at city hall, presented him with the walnut plaque, the Royal Coat of Arms of Fleetwood, and the covering letter. The Mayor of Toronto expressed great delight, and promised to reply to the letter immediately. He then presented his visitors with a medal; four tickets to the horse show at the CNE; and two box-seat tickets for the grandstand show.

The branch extends get-well-wishes to Comrade Wilf Sutcliffe, who will be unable to attend either of the foregoing functions. Our comrade is presently a patient on the fourth floor of St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto.

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