

CASTOR REVIEW

Mrs. Susan Sullivan,
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METCALFE CHEERS MORROW'S 50TH

Metcalfe residents on June 21 dramatically returned a dose of the good feeling that Dr. Carl Edward Lynn Morrow has been dishing out to them for the past 50 years.

More than 800 village and area residents collectively administered "Dr. Lynn" a huge taste of his own medicine at a gala dinner in his honor at the Metcalfe arena.

The message was the same as that paid to Russell's Dr. Frank Kinnaird by that community earlier in June: "Thanks Doc."

And, just as Russell duly honored Dr. Kinnaird's faithful nurse "Teen" Campbell, so did its sister community on the Castor make Myrtle Morrow, Dr. Lynn's wife and nurse of more than 40 years, the object of its appreciation.

Metcalfe was actually commemorating 115 years of Morrow medical administration in the village. Dr. Calvin Morrow tended local sick for 65 years before handing over his practice to son Lynn.

Local historian Jim Rowan said that Dr. Morrow Sr., born in 1859, graduated from McGill in 1888 and opened his practice in Metcalfe in 1892. He died in 1953 at the age of 94.

Dr. Morrow Jr., 73, was born on a farm four miles north of Metcalfe in 1905, graduated from McGill in 1928 and was resident

physician at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Montreal while lecturing and researching cancer at the university until taking over the practice from his dad in 1930. He married Myrtle Stanley of Greely 43 years ago in 1935. A registered nurse, she has worked with him since.

Recognition was also paid to Ida Craig, of Metcalfe, Dr. Morrow's secretary of more than a decade.

Flanked at the head table by family members Bruce and Sheila Morrow and Kathy, Carolyn, Jack, Heather and Lynn Brownell, the good doctor listened to tributes from politician and ploughman alike.

Dr. Howard Justus, Winchester: "Metcalfe has been a much better place because of his presence."

Norm Sterling, Grenville-Carleton MLA: "Local residents feel a tremendous loyalty toward Dr. and Mrs. Morrow."

Osgoode Reeve Albert Bouwers: "He has been of invaluable assistance to my wife and I."

Walter Baker, Grenville-Carleton MP: "A man of unstinting dedication."

Former Reeve Arnold Taylor: "Dr. and Mrs. Morrow are the sort of people one likes to call friends."

And a humorous perspective from Stan Hicks, Metcalfe resident



Myrtle and Dr. Lynn share the spotlight. (Photo by Rowsell)

ent and long-time friend of Dr. Lynn's: "We have heard he was the best-dressed, best-groomed, drove the best cars and had the most money."

Dr. Morrow said he looked upon the dinner as a reunion in a close community. His own self-assessment was typical of his modesty: "I hope I have given

you love and respect and a fair measure of good health."

He was presented with commemorative plaques from village residents, the Winchester District Memorial Hospital Recreation Association, the Metcalfe and District Lions Club, of which he is a charter member, the Metcalfe Agricultural Society and from Ontario Premier William Davis.

Entertainment for the evening was presented by the Harmony Six orchestra, Phil McVery, Maureen O'Malley, Lynda Craig and Mark Mitchell. Doug Stewart was toastmaster.

Organizers of the event were expecting to net at least \$500 to be donated to the Winchester Hospital.

CASTOR DAM PLANS

The Castor River dam at Russell Village may be enlarged in a few years as part of the development program for the South Nation watershed.

Also as part of the program, a dam may be built on the Castor at Embrun, a project that has been under consideration for several years.

Cecil MacNabb, Morewood postmaster and chairman of the South Nation River Conservation

Authority, told the Castor Review the effectiveness of the Russell dam will be investigated as part of a watershed management study which will take three years to complete.

Mr. MacNabb's own feeling is that, while the dam was adequate when installed, it's really too small to hold back a sufficient supply of water during summer months. The primary requirement for the water is fire prevention.

Russell Township Reeve Gaston Patenaude, an executive member of the conservation authority, said a dam is needed at Embrun to help prevent slippage of the sensitive river banks.

Mr. Patenaude noted that tons of stone had to be dumped behind the Caisse Populaire to reinforce the bank at that point. He added that he would like to see the Russell dam raised a few feet.

Earlier in June, Natural Resources Minister Frank Miller announced initial channelization of the South Nation between Chesterville and Brinston, a distance of about 12 miles. The work is expected to alleviate the flooding nuisance.

Mr. Miller also announced studies would begin in preparation for minor flood reduction work at Plantagenet. A rock outcrop there impedes free flow of the South Nation.

Both projects are part of the development program which also includes the \$2.3 million Chesterville dam now under construction. Implementation of the entire program is expected to take several years and cost as much as \$100 million.

Mr. MacNabb emphasized that all South Nation tributaries - the Castor, Scotch, Payne, and Bearbrook rivers - will be included in the management study.

The main problem with the Castor and other tributaries is that they don't contain enough water during the summer, the chairman said. It's hoped the problem can be rectified under the development program.

The chief objective of the program is to create sufficient water quality and quantity as well as reduce flooding. Combined with sewage treatment facilities being installed in many communities in the watershed, the South Nation system can hopefully be rehabilitated for greater recreational use including sport fishing.

Mr. MacNabb noted the Castor will once a year carry off waste water from the lagoons that will handle Russell and Embrun Sewage. The water will be treated and won't harm the river.

Turning to another subject, the chairman said channelization of the Petite Castor River from Highway 31 into Russell Township is almost complete after two years of work and an expenditure of more than \$1 million. The project will put an end to summer flash floods.

Mr. Patenaude said he is satisfied with the Petite Castor channelization but not with cleanup operations, pointing out that there have been complaints from property owners about excess dirt and rock still to be removed.

Sidewalk Talk

By Mark Van Dusen
Smirking Stairs



The worst part about rebuilding a veranda is tearing the old one down.

On the surface, the boards looked rotten enough and she listed like a junked scow.

Simple, lay the crowbar to 'er and flatten 'er. Well, maybe they don't make crowbars as good as they used to (I checked mine after a while to make sure it wasn't a new Nerf toy).

The tongue-and-groove boards gave alright but with a screeching and groaning that sounded like the ghouls of hell unleashed.

She was framed with rough-sawn timber pounded into place with heavy square spikes. No wonder!

Once dismantled, things went smoothly - for a while. Slap up the new frame - fresh lumber, shiny nails, level, square, new floor, whack, whack. Slick.

Slap up the stairs - ah, yes, the stairs. Two sets of ruined stringers, a lot of time and the odd "Oh, heck" is what it finally cost to put up those blithering stairs, to erect civilized access to the new verandah.

Stairs. One of the oldest and simplest inventions of Man. The Romans had them, so did the Greeks. They were masters at stair-building.

Why, then, oh, why, with 20th century power tools and graphic illustrations was it so hard?

Advice was plentiful and free. Figure your run and rise, said one. Allow for nosing, said another, three treads instead of four.

"It'll never fly," observed a card.

Right. A ramp was beginning to make more sense.

Finally, with expert assistance from neighbor Ron Veh and motivation from Ottawa pal Mike McDermott (who dropped a hunk of 2 x 10 on Ron's head while trying to shake hands with him), the stairs went up. Snug.

The old stairs are still out behind the garage. I pass them once in a while. They seem to smirk.



Ode to Doc

A poem composed by Russell's Shirley Van Dusen, writer, artist, and mother of seven children was read June 2 when Dr. Frank Kinnaird was honored for 40 years of devotion to Castor area residents. Illustrated by Mrs. Van Dusen the poem is reproduced on page 6. Research was done by Lois Romboough who asked Mrs. Van Dusen to attempt the poem for inclusion in a special scrapbook depicting Dr. Kinnaird's career.

