



**COMPETITION FOR SANTA!**

So who says Santa Claus is a fella! For many lucky Castor area residents, the part of St. Nick will be filled by Mrs. Lydia McAllister, left, and Mrs. Beatrice Monest, of the La Palme Nursing Home in

Embrun. The girls are shown here with an array of the hand-fashioned gifts that will turn up under many a local tree this Christmas. (Photo by Rowsell).

**Seniors' menu —**

**Turkey and business**

The festively-decorated Russell senior citizens' drop-in centre was the setting of a recent Christmas dinner and business meeting. Along with a turkey dinner and trimmings, those in attendance digested the secretary's report from Helen Loucks as well as the treasurer's report from Mildred Harrison which showed a healthy bank balance. The meeting had opened with a prayer composed by Helen Steiner Rice.

The highlight of the afternoon was the unveiling of the Queen's picture accompanied by an address from John Morrice. Russell Reeve Gaston Patenaude and provincial government representative Maurice Berthiaume officiated.

A frame for the picture as well as a gavel and mallet were donated by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Gamble while Mr. and Mrs. Ewart Campbell donated a reflector light placed above the picture.

In his remarks, Mr. Berthiaume described the Russell seniors' group as one of the thriftiest he helped organize. Mr. Patenaude expressed pleasure at being invited to participate. Prescott-Russell Conservative MLA Albert Belanger expressed regrets at being unable to attend.

Jean Dennison of the Bearbrook senior citizens and Eileen Hamelin, president of Russell Women's Institute were invited to attend. Ina Kincaid organized a group of 10 persons to attend a play in Ottawa.

The seniors were asked to help with refreshments at an old-time dance, part of winter carnival week in February. Proceeds are to go to junior hockey.

**Russell Fire Brigade report**

With the onset of winter, many residents in the area have invested in auxiliary heating systems. However, wood burning stoves, with their obvious economic advantages and rustic appeal, can initiate destructive house fires. The Russell fire

department was recently called to extinguish a fire caused by improper stove placement. Although the damage was minimal, common sense and conformance to the building code could have prevented this mishap. Those interested in installing a wood

burning stove are urged to obtain, free of charge, a copy of "Heating with Wood Safely" available from Central Mortgage and Housing in Ottawa.

For the first time in many years, a budget was submitted to, and approved by the Russell Township Council. This has allowed the upgrading of the present facilities and procurement of equipment which will increase the departments' efficiency and capabilities. The new equipment includes a rescue saw, a portable pump, safety clothing and a liner for the existing cistern, increasing the water storage to approximately 12,000 gallons.

Members of the brigade are presently distributing fluorescent orange stickers displaying the Russell Fire Dept. telephone number. Each household in the area will receive sufficient stickers for their needs. Upon receipt, you are urged to place the sticker near the phone where it is easily seen.

On a parting note, the fire chief and all the fire fighters, would like to wish everyone a safe and very Merry Christmas.

**Nursery School Registrations**

Metcalfe Co-operative Nursery School in Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Victoria St., Metcalfe. Ages 2½ to 5 years. Starting Feb. 6 to May 31, 1979. Two half days per week, \$23 monthly. Registration fee \$10 per family per annum, non-refundable. Registrations Dec. 14. For late registration, call Mary Rawlings, 821-3013, or President Joan Bruce-Nibogie, 821-1756 before Dec. 21. Total of 54 children, 18 per class.

**Pigott launches Bazaar**

An overflow crowd attended the St. Andrew's and St. Paul's United Church annual bazaar in Russell, Nov. 18. Special guest, Conservative MP Jean Pigott, was welcomed to the church by women's president, Mrs. Alex Graham.

Mrs. Pigott, who launched the bazaar with "Go girls, go," said she was happy to be in Russell again, having skated on the Castor River a few years ago while she was a guest of the late Morgan Warner. She remarked on the warm welcome to the bazaar and said a similar open door policy is badly needed for Canada.

"We do not keep our family together by locking doors. We must let other Canadians know that we want and need them," she said.

The bazaar items and the hot luncheon were well received by the guests. The treasurer reported a sum slightly over \$2,000.

Arthur Pigott accompanied his wife and took the opportunity to renew old friendships. Indeed, the lectern from which Jean spoke was the same one Arthur had used on visits here as a member of the Conservative Young People's Association.

Door prizes were won and donated by: May Wadell, Edwards, (Nations Flowers, Limoges); Mary Boland, Russell, (Jackie's Beauty Salon, Russell); M. Wheeler, Embrun, (Country Gardens, Edwards); Phoebe MacDonald, Winchester, (K-Mart); Gladys Wallell, Kenmore, (Boutique La Couturiere).

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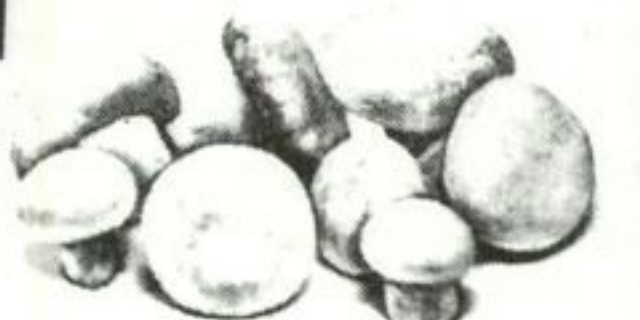


**WHO KNOWS?**

The Castor Review received this 1927 photograph anonymously. The cryptic note attached read, "Maybe you know some of these people." We don't but maybe some of our readers do. If so, let us know. (Photo courtesy?)

**CONTINENTAL MUSHROOM FARM**

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