

MAGAZINE SECTION (cont'd)

Tribute to the late Mr. Leonard Clause:- Tekawennake is privileged to publish this tribute to the late Mr. Leonard Clause.

Leonard Clause was born in Simcoe and passed away on March 8, 1970 in his 43rd year. He grew up in Simcoe and later moved to the Reserve with his father Mr. Edmond Clause. He worked for a time for Mr. Lloyd Culver model farming. He helped his father as a mechanic for a number of years. He married Mabel (a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Hill, Sr.) and built a home near the corner known as Clause' Corners on third line. During the past eight years he was employed by the Williams Wrecking Co. of Burford.

One day while he was driving down third line, he noticed a bunch of fellows playing ball in a field at Smoothtown Corners. He stopped and was soon talking to the boys. The result was a baseball game - Clause' Corners vs. the Smoothtown boys. This went on for a time and other boys from different parts of the Reserve joined in and this is how he formed the team. The boys from Clause's Corners had a meeting with the Smoothtowners and Mr. Clause was elected as manager, later President. The teams amalgamated and became the Smoothtown Athletic Club. They got a piece of land near the corner owned by Mr. Ken Montour and here they practised and played and the team improved. Mr. Clause and his team challenged the Sixty Niners to games. Before long other teams were challenged and soon a Reserve League was going strong. The teams competing were Ohsweken, Sixty Niners, New Credit, Medina, Martins Corners, Bombers, Cayugas and Smoothtown Athletics. All games were played under the lights in the village of Ohsweken. The Sixty Niners finally won out and Smoothtown finished in third place. During this time the proceeds from the games went to each club.

With the help of Mr. Clause the money was used to buy more equipment and ball sweaters. He also received support from the community and had enough funds to equip the Smoothtown Hockey Team. Exhibition games were played in Hagersville, Caledonia and Brantford and the proceeds also went to the club. He guided the team up until two years ago when most of the players went off to work in different cities and a lot of them got married. However, Mr. Leonard Clause was known and well liked by everyone. He was given the name of "Chief". He and his wife Mabel never had any children of their own and I think this is why they liked sports so much. He was a good member of Rev. Daniel Butler's church in Ohsweken.

During the future years the club members will be seeking another "Chief" to take his place. It's going to be hard to get a replacement like him, but there are a lot of athletes now in the younger generation. Everything is there just waiting for someone to take the lead.

Signed - Carl White, Team Captain.

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Note: Here is a direct challenge for the sports loving public. We have never known of Indians to retreat from a challenge. - Editors.

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Brier - Good Friday - by E. Pauline Johnson (Tekahionwake)

Because, dear Christ, your tender, wounded arm  
Bends back the brier that edges life's long way,  
That no hurt comes to heart, to soul no harm,  
I do not feel the thorns so much to-day.

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Because I never knew your care to tire,  
Your hand to weary guiding me aright,  
Because you walk before and crush the brier,  
It does not pierce my feet so much to-night.

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Because so often you have hearkened to  
My selfish prayers, I ask but one thing now,  
That these harsh hands of mine add not unto  
The crown of thorns upon your bleeding brow.

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