

Fire Damages Home Early Tuesday Morning

Residence of Herb Murdock in South End of Town Badly Damaged By Fire of Mysterious Origin.—Six Months Old Child Injured.

Fire of mysterious origin broke out in the residence of Herb Murdock, Garafraxa street south, in the early hours of Tuesday morning, and badly damaged the upper storey and roof. According to evidence gathered by firemen, the fire broke out in or near a clothes closet in one of the bedrooms in the upper storey and burnt out that room and worked its way through the ceiling into the space under the roof, finally breaking through the roof at the peak. Holes had to be cut in the roof and a large quantity of water used before the flames were subdued. While the fire damage was confined to the upper storey the whole structure was more or less damaged by water.

The six-months old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Murdock was burned on the side, arm and face, before her parents were able to remove her from the house, and she was rushed to the Durham hospital by Traffic Officer Hood who was on hand immediately.

It is estimated that the damage to the house and contents will be in the neighborhood of \$300.00. It was a cold night with a snow storm raging at the time and this hampered the firemen in their work, as everything outside was coated with ice when the water touched it, but they did exceptionally good work and reached the blaze in record time.

Some of the furniture was removed from the lower storey, but it, too, suffered from water and ice.

GREY PRESBYTERY MET IN OWEN SOUND

Large Attendance at Regular Monthly Meeting and Much Business Discussed—Markdale Churches Have Unified

Grey Presbytery of the United Church met in Central Church, Owen Sound, on Tuesday, February 16th. As the day proved so fine and the roads were so good, there was a larger attendance than is usual at the February meeting. The Rev. Edward Baker, of Dundalk, chairman of Presbytery, presided at each of the three sessions. Rev. W. J. Scott of Flesherton, delivered the Devotional Address on the subject: "The Christian's Attitude to the Law." A whole hour was devoted to the Temperance situation, and while Presbytery decided to memorialize the Ontario Legislature asking for a change in the L. C. A., making the Local Option clause county wide, it also decided to ask the Legislature to abrogate the L. C. A. and substitute for it a Prohibitory Law.

Presbytery was gratified to hear that the union of Cooke's and Annesley churches in Markdale was consummated on 29th of December last, and Rev. W. J. Scott, interim moderator, of Cooke's church, was heartily thanked for his capable guidance during the negotiations leading up to the union.

The following items are gleaned from the statistical report:

Number of persons under pastoral oversight, 19,227; number of new members added to the Church, 316; total membership, 10,228; number of Sunday schools, 84, with a membership of 7,877; number of Young People's Societies, C.G.I.T. and C.S.S.G. groups, 79, with a membership of 2,130; number of W. M. S. organizations, 85, with a membership of 2,000; number of Ladies' Aid Societies, 61, with 1,442 members. The value of all Church property within the Presbytery amounts to \$1,007,781. Amount raised for local church expenses, \$59,266; for salaries of ministers, \$59,302; for missionary and maintenance fund, \$27,842; for W.M.S., \$11,970; for other purposes, \$2,418. The salaries paid to ordained ministers varied all the way from \$1200 to \$3000. Sixteen received the minimum of \$1800 and over, while 14 received less than the minimum.

MORE OLD COINS

Old coins in this vicinity must be some relation to the babbling brook of poetic fame in that they seem to go on forever. This week Mr. J. E. Nichol was in our office with a collection of his own in which were several old ones. They dated from 1815 onward and were comprised of coins from different locations. The oldest was a one-cent Liberty coin of the United States dated 1815, and an Irish coin of 1820. He had a P. E. I. half-penny of 1850 and a one-cent coin from the same province dated 1871.

A HISTORY OF OUR COMMUNITY

Being a History of Dromore and Vicinity, in the Township of Egremont, Prepared and Read by Miss Beattie Drimble at the Women's Institute Meeting at the Home of Mrs. W. J. Philip.—In Two Instalments.

INSTALMENT ONE

When the search for material on this subject was started I found that the boundary lines of our community were very different from present ones and that there was a close connection then with what we now consider distinct centres from ours. This part of the township was first opened about 1855. Settlers came in here mostly by way of Orchardville. The church, which is mainly the centre of interests in this district, was in its early stages a mission station supplied from Holstein Presbyterian church at Reid's and because of these two facts I think a few notes from their pioneer days will work in well with our own.

The name Holstein was given to that village by an early German settler, "hols"—a wood, "stein" a stone; meaning a stony wood. Perhaps a very suitable name at the time although the stones are not much in evidence now and the woods are gone. The first school was held in a small house across from the station gate. Mr. Mearns was the first teacher. A few years later a stone school was built on the present school property. Mr. John Cushnie was the first teacher in the stone school.

The first church was a Methodist church built of brick opposite the cottage on the second concession. A few graves in the old church yard are still marked off by a fence from the rest of the field. I do not know the date of this building but it must have been about 1858.

The old log church, Presbyterian, was built out at Reid's, where the cemetery is, about 1868. Mr. Park from Durham had much to do with the establishing of this church. Rev. Hugh Crozier was their first settled pastor also ministering to the neighboring charges of Amos and Fairbairn. The land was given by Mr. William Reid for the church and cemetery and as "Reids" it continues to be known although the official name assigned was Holstein Presbyterian. The present church was erected in the village in 1884—the same year as Amos. About ten years before this the new Methodist church was built down in the village where it now is. At the time the congregation at "Reids" moved into their new church some of the eastern members were dissatisfied with the longer distance to go and a Methodist church was built in Yeovil in 1886.

The railway went through in 1880 and 1881. No passengers were carried at first. Travellers had to go to Mount Forest to get the train. Once on a big day, perhaps it was the twelfth of July a flat car loaded with folks from Durham going to the celebration in a town south became detached at the top of the grade opposite Stevenson's and rolled back into Varney "all by its jonesome". I'm thinking that some funny sensations were registered in the first few moments of freedom. The train backed up to recover its freight. Mr. Neil McKenzie was the pioneer merchant in Holstein. His son was Dromore's first resident doctor. William Romain was an early carpenter and woodworker, later living in Yeovil. Charles Kerr and James Renwick were the earliest blacksmiths, James Renwick settling in Dromore.

One of the tragedies of the early days was the disappearance of Mrs. James Reid. She left her young children in the house while she went out to drive up the cows for milking. When Mr. Reid came in the children said their mother had been gone for the cows a long time. Search was started at once. Neighbors helped look for her day and night but the mother never came back to her little family and no trace or reason for her disappearance was ever found.

Orchardville or "Out at the Front" as our grandparents would speak of it, was called after a family by name of Orchard who were early settlers there. It was the gateway to the outside towns from this community. In those days the Garafraxa road was a blazed trail, later corduroy, then gravel, now pavement—our No. 6 King's Highway. Guelph or "down below" as it was often referred to as, was "the city" in those days. All outgoing produce and incoming necessities came by way of Orchardville until roads through the township could be made. All transportation was on foot or by oxen (Continued on page 5.)

Renowned Organist Born in Durham

Kathleen Stokes, Organist in the Imperial Theatre, Toronto, and One of the "Big Three" of North America, Heard Every Sunday Evening.

The following from the last issue of the Radio Guide, is of local interest and refers to a former Durham girl, prominent in musical circles. The Radio Guide says:

Every Sunday evening the opening strains of "All the World Is Waiting for the Sunrise," are wafted over the air to tell the world of eagerly waiting radio listeners that Kathleen Stokes is at the grand organ of the Imperial Theatre, Toronto.

Heard through CFRB by remote control, this feature is one of ever-increasing popularity. Miss Stokes is not only a gifted musician but a superb entertainer, for she knows just what her public wants and loves to give it to them.

This successful young Canadian organist was born in Durham, Ontario. Educated at St. Joseph's Academy, she first won recognition in local musical circles as a brilliant and accomplished pianist. Always her real inclination had been to master the intricacies of organ technique, but whenever she expressed this long-cherished desire she was advised to be content with her pianoforte laurels.

A few years ago, when the silent drama was in its prime and organs were being installed in all the downtown theatres, an opportunity came for Kathleen Stokes to realize her great ambition and she embarked upon her career as an organist at the Rialto Theatre which formerly stood at the corner of Yonge and Shuter Sts., Toronto. Her natural aptitude for this type of instrumental work, together with her wide musical knowledge, brought rapid success and popular favor, coincident with organ engagements at the larger Toronto churches and theatres. Since, Radio listeners over an extensive area, have become happily familiar with the name of Kathleen Stokes and the witchery of her magic touch on the organ.

For the past eighteen months Miss Stokes has been a featured attraction at the Imperial Theatre on Yonge Street, where her present broadcasts originate. During a recent visit to New York it was her privilege to compare notes with Jesse Crawford and to try her skill upon the giant organ in the Paramount Theatre, under his direction.

From her radio audience both far and near, Kathleen Stokes receives many letters of appreciation each week, and many more requests than she can begin to fulfill in the short time at her disposal. In an endeavor to play as many of them as possible, she often incorporates several request numbers into medleys of her own arrangement.

In person she is very charming, with golden-brown hair and eyes, and singularly attractive voice. Her spare moments are spent in the enjoyment of motoring, tennis and swimming, but music is, of course, her chief preoccupation. It is not improbable, that Kathleen Stokes will some day add to her present fame as an organist, further renown as an equally popular composer.

WIARTON CHILDREN RESCUED BY AUNT

Miss Hazel Hackett Seriously Injured by Fire in Her Home Sunday.—The Building Was Completely Destroyed.

Miss Hazel Hackett of Wiarton is in a serious condition as the result of injuries, exposure and shock when her home was completely destroyed by fire at an early hour Sunday morning, and in effecting the rescue from the burning building of her niece, Iris Hackett and another girl, Rhoda Tyndall, who were in the house at the time.

Miss Hackett was awakened about 3 o'clock Sunday morning by the roaring of the fire and getting up made her way to the kitchen, which she found to be a mass of flames. She went for help and on her return found her way into the building barred by flames. She broke the window of the room in which the two girls were sleeping and succeeded in getting both of them safely out. In breaking the window Miss Hackett severed an artery in one of her wrists, and lost a considerable quantity of blood.

Ted: "My feet burn like the dickens; do you think a mustard bath would help?"
Ned: "Sure! There's nothing better than mustard for hot dogs!"

OBITUARY

ROBERT H. FORTUNE

At an early hour on Sunday morning, February 21st, there passed away at his home at Ayton, a very respected resident in the person of Robert H. Fortune in his 65th year, following an illness of heart trouble, with which he was confined to his home for the past few weeks. Though in failing health for several years past, death came suddenly and was a shock to his family and the entire community which he served in various ways for many years.

The late Mr. Fortune was born in the township of Brant, near Vesta, in the year 1867, and was united in marriage to Miss Ellen Cassels in 1896, who survives, and to them were born four daughters and one son, namely: Ada, at home; (Jessie) Mrs. Ezra Schenk, Durham; (Myrtle) Mrs. Isadore Schenk, Normanby; Helen, R.N., of Toronto and Woodburn at home.

He received his veterinary diploma in 1895 and for two years practiced at Wroxeter, from there moving to Ayton, where he was veterinary surgeon and auctioneer. He opened an office and carried on conveyancing and notary public business. He was also connected with Germania Fire Insurance Co., with head office at Ayton, for the past 27 years, being manager for many years. For 30 years he was clerk for the township of Normanby.

In religion he was a Presbyterian and in politics a staunch Liberal and was nominated as candidate, in 1927 but withdrew.

The funeral was held on Wednesday afternoon from his late residence at Ayton with a short service, and interment in Chesley cemetery.

MRS. DAVID KOCH

On Tuesday, February 16th, at the home of her son, Charles Koch of Conestoga, there passed away one of the pioneers of Waterloo County in the person of Mrs. David Koch, sr., aged 92 years. Her husband predeceased her sixteen years ago. She is survived by five sons and four daughters, sixty grandchildren and forty-three great grandchildren. Three sisters also survive. The funeral took place on Friday afternoon from St. Jacobs' Mennonite church, interment being made in Hawkesville Road cemetery. The late H. R. Koch, of Durham, was a son. Dr. Ward Koch, of St. Catharines and Miss Myrtle Koch, of town, attended the funeral.

GIRLS OF HIGH SCHOOL GIVE LIT PROGRAMME

Excellent Program Given Friday Afternoon at Literary Society Meeting—Interesting Debate.

Last Friday afternoon the girls of the High School Literary Society presented a program to the assembled school and visitors.

A feature of the program was a debate: "Resolved that for the People of North America, travel in Canada and the United States is more desirable." Misses Susie Bell, Alix Tobin and Olive Ball upheld the affirmative and were opposed by Misses Anne Baldwin, Clara Jack and Muriel Brown. The judges, Mrs. M. Mortimer, Miss M. J. McGirr and Mr. W. H. Kriss awarded the decision to the negative side. The debate was interesting and enjoyable, each speaker giving a good discussion of the subject.

A folk dance by twelve girls was much appreciated by the audience and a duet by Misses Jean Rowe and Ollida Hahn and a solo by Miss Elizabeth Harding were also enjoyed. Readings were given by Elsie Connolly and Mabel Sharpe. Selections by the Glee Club and orchestra were also part of the program.

A skit, "Too Many Beans" and a play, "When Tom Laughed," added much humor to the program. Lucy Robins, Velma Blyth, Isabelle Pirth, Mary Anderson, Dorothy Bogle and Hazel Moore were the characters.

The report of the critics, Misses Alma Hughes and Margaret Hunter and Rev. E. Hayes, will be given at the March meeting. The program will be given by the boys on March 18th.

Caller: "Wouldn't you walk as far as the street car with me, Tommy?"
Age Seven: "I can't."
"Why not?"
"Cause we're gonna have dinner as soon as you go."

TEMPERATURES FOR PAST WEEK

	8 a.m.	Max.	Min.	Snow
Thursday	11	24	9	½
Friday	24	28	23	3
Saturday	5	24	4	—
Sunday	22	36	16	—
Monday	30	34	24	—
Tuesday	10	16	9	2
Wednesday	20	35	10	2

EARLY HATCHED CHICKS COME HOME TO ROOST

Bentnick Farmer Had Hen Which Walked Home with First Brood Last Week—A Record for This District.

The prevailing mild winter has had the coal men up in the air, and now the depression has reached the ice men, as there seems to be no ice ahead so far. It was not thought, though, that the backward season would get the farmyard colonies twisted in their dates, but if a report that comes from Bentnick is true, and we believe it is, it is so.

Last Saturday morning Mr. George Twamley of that township was rather surprised when he saw one of his hens come strutting home with her first hatch of the season, five husky chicks, which had been hatched out somewhere about the premises unknown to him. The brood appeared quite healthy and if they continue to develop will be in the broiler class at about the time that prices are high. The hen and her brood did not seem to notice that they were at least a month or two ahead of time, but this, like a lot of other happenings, may be attributed to the depression, the mild weather, or the government.

BRUCE PATRIARCH IS DEAD AGED 105

Richard Gibbons, Southampton, Sailed Lake Sixty Years Ago.

The death has occurred at Southampton of Richard Gibbons, believed to be the oldest person in the County of Bruce.

Mr. Gibbons, who was born in Princeton, Ont., was reputed to be 105 years old. In Princeton and Paris he spent his early days, after which he moved with his parents to Brantford, where he went into the brick-making business. In those days the clay was mixed by hand and each brick was baked in a single mold.

Some time later he went to Goderich when he began sailing the lakes, between that port and Southampton. Sixty years ago he moved to Southampton and returned to brick making, using modern methods, and greatly increasing his output. This business he carried on successfully for many years.

Mr. Gibbons enjoyed good health, with all his faculties to within a few weeks of his death. At the age of 90 he worked on the highway, doing manual labor. In 1858 he married Mary Pringle of Southampton, who predeceased him 18 years ago.

OIL TRUCK TURNS TURTLE

"Boss" Hauert, of Hanover, driver of the British American Oil Truck, had a close call from serious injuries on Friday afternoon, when his gas truck overturned at the post office corner at Walkerton. "Boss" was endeavoring to escape hitting another car which was coming on to the intersection, and in doing so had to take a big swing to the left, the rear of the truck hit the curbing and upset, on its side. One wheel was knocked off, and some twenty gallons of gasoline leaked out of the big tank. "Boss" himself escaped from the cab with a shaking up.

Dilation of the stomach, caused by drinking a combination of hard cider and whiskey, was given as the cause of death of Andrew Kunkel, forty-year-old Carrick Township farmer, by the coroner's jury which investigated his death. No blame was attached to anybody by the jury. Kunkel died last Tuesday after a drinking party in which Alex. McDonald of Sullivan, Jacob Specht of Holland and A. Poehman of Pormosa, were all involved. Liquor charges will be laid against these three men but no blame whatever was attached to them in connection with Kunkel's death, which the jury found to have been caused by the dilation of the stomach caused by the liquor force in Kunkel's heart out of position. This verdict was based on the report of two autopsists, Dr. H. H. Sinclair, of Walkerton and Dr. O'Toole of Midway.

Listowel Men Were Killed in Accident

Struck at Cooksville Crossing of C.P.R. Met Instant Death As Truck Was Carried by Engine Over Three-quarters of a Mile.

Edmund Weber and George Moore, Listowel, met instant death about 7 o'clock Monday morning when the truck in which they were riding, and driven by Moore, was proceeding from Listowel to Toronto with a load of market produce. Both men were farmers and highly regarded in Listowel, the news of their deaths being a shock to the locality.

The truck, one of the light variety, was loaded with dressed fowl, sheep and other produce, and when nearing the Cooksville crossing the men apparently did not see nor hear the approach of the Chicago-Montreal C. P. R. flier on its way to Toronto. The men were killed instantly and their light machine carried down the track three-quarters of a mile before the train could be brought to a stop.

According to an official statement of the C. P. R. the accident cannot be accounted for. The crossing is equipped with a wig-wag signal, which was working at the time, the visibility was good and the tracks visible for some distance on each side of the crossing.

The car was a complete wreck. The writer had a glimpse of it about noon on Monday while passing the garage at Cooksville. It was positively the worst looking mess of scrap iron we had ever witnessed, and now that the particulars of the accident are known to us, we are sorry we did not stop and look it over more closely. At the time, we were on our way home from Toronto and classed it as "just another wreck".

One cause of the wreck might have been the cold morning, and the men may have been so wrapped up with clothing and cold from the long drive from Listowel that they were not so alert as they would otherwise have been. The Cooksville crossing is a dangerous one owing to the speed at which the through trains travel at this point, and the heavy motor traffic. While numerous accidents have occurred here, this is the first fatal accident in five years.

HARD CIDER AND WHISKEY CAUSE DEATH

Albert Kunkel, of Carrick Township, Died from Effects of Drink—No Blame Attached by Jury.

Dilation of the stomach, caused by drinking a combination of hard cider and whiskey, was given as the cause of death of Andrew Kunkel, forty-year-old Carrick Township farmer, by the coroner's jury which investigated his death. No blame was attached to anybody by the jury. Kunkel died last Tuesday after a drinking party in which Alex. McDonald of Sullivan, Jacob Specht of Holland and A. Poehman of Pormosa, were all involved. Liquor charges will be laid against these three men but no blame whatever was attached to them in connection with Kunkel's death, which the jury found to have been caused by the dilation of the stomach caused by the liquor force in Kunkel's heart out of position. This verdict was based on the report of two autopsists, Dr. H. H. Sinclair, of Walkerton and Dr. O'Toole of Midway.

THORNBURY MAN

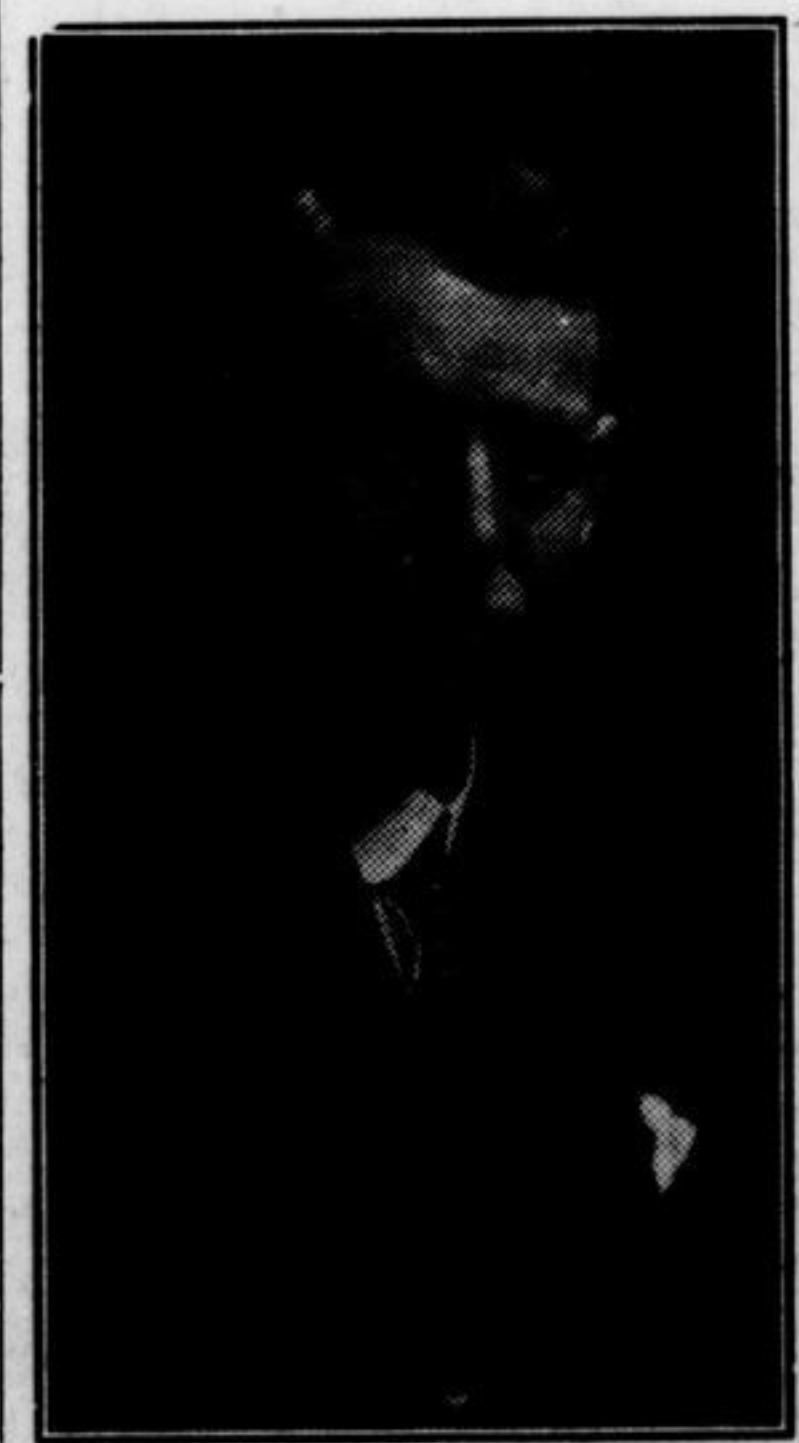
KILLED IN ACCIDENT

Was Cleaning Revolver When Weapon Discharged and Bullet Entered Heart.

A shooting accident occurred at Thornbury on Thursday afternoon which resulted in the death of Mr. N. O. Harvey, a resident of that town. It appears Mr. Harvey was cleaning a small revolver and he accidentally left a cartridge in the weapon. The result was the cartridge passed through the unfortunate man's heart. He was alone in the house at the time of the accident, Mrs. Harvey and her mother, Mrs. N. Herbert, having gone to Collingwood earlier in the afternoon while three children were at school close by.

The body was discovered shortly after four o'clock when the children, returning from their respective schools, found their father lying on the floor dead. Dr. Moore, the family physician, was immediately called to the scene of the fatality but Harvey was beyond medical aid when he arrived.

The late Mr. Harvey was about 52 years of age and was engaged as a travelling salesman. He covered a wide territory both in Canada and the United States. He is survived by his wife and four children.



THE LATE R. H. FORTUNE
Prominent Normanby Township resident, who died at his home at Ayton on Sunday and whose funeral was held yesterday. Dr. Fortune was said to be the largest landholder in the township and for 30 years was closely connected with the municipal affairs of the municipality. He was the father of Mrs. E. J. Schenk of Durham.