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J. S. McIlraith Passes; 37 Years in Durham

The citizens of Durham and vicinity mourned on learning of the death in Owen Sound last Saturday morning of John Stewart McIlraith, for thirty-seven years a prominent figure in the civic life of the town, and an earnest worker in Knox Church. Even when removing from Durham, the first of June last year, his health had begun to fail, but he continued working for some months with his son Norman in their bakery business there, until last Easter, when he suffered a stroke. A second one a month later left him bedfast the past five months with steady declining health, during which time Mrs. McIlraith, and latterly a nurse, assiduously cared for him.

The deceased was born nearly seventy-seven years ago at Hopedale, Lanark County. In young manhood he was first employed at Pakenham, then entered business for himself at Cromarty, between Mitchell and Seaford in Huron Co. After 10 or 12 years there, the family removed to Durham in 1902, when Mr. McIlraith purchased the shoe store and repair business next the Cross & Sutherland hardware, and here resided and continued in business until he sold out in May 1939, and removed to Owen Sound.

In 1895 he was united in marriage to Mary Hamilton of Cromarty, who survives with four sons and one daughter: John H. and Stewart of Toronto; Frank and Norman of Owen Sound, and Mrs. Rev. John E. Bell (Mary) of St. Johns, Newfoundland. Another daughter Elsie died many years ago in Durham. Last Wednesday marked the 45th anniversary of their wedding.

The late Mr. McIlraith also leaves three brothers, Alexander of Seattle, Wash., Hugh in Lanark County, and Thomas in Illinois, and three sisters, Annie, Mrs. William Somerville, of Lanark County, Agnes, Mrs. John Turner, of Almonte, and Euphemia, Mrs. Robert Love, of Vulcan, Alta.

Mr. McIlraith was not long in Durham before he proved himself an outstanding citizen, anxious to further any cause for the moral or material welfare of the town. He was elected a member of the Public School Board and served for over thirty years, on that body, several years as chairman. He was also on Durham Cemetery Board for years, and an enthusiastic member of Durham Curling and Lawn Bowling Clubs. In any office he held in these organizations, Mr. McIlraith always accepted his full share of responsibility, and was a popular team-mate or opponent.

In the life history of Knox United Church, the deceased left a shining record. He was ever faithful in attendance at church and Sunday School, rain or shine. He first served on the Board of Managers, since 1917 as an elder of Durham Presbyterian Church, latterly Knox United. In the Sunday School for many years he was a teacher and assistant superintendent. Since residing in Owen Sound he has attended Division St. Church there.

The funeral service was held on Monday afternoon in the Fulton funeral chapel, Owen Sound, conducted by his pastor, Rev. H. W. Vaughan, and the cortege proceeded to Durham Cemetery for the interment, where his former pastor, Rev. W. H. Smith, assisted in burial service, and the casket was opened to give many Durham friends, who had attended the McGirr funeral just previously, a last glimpse of the departed. The pall bearers were two of the session of Division St. Church, Owen Sound, Messrs J. G. Carrie and John McQuaker; two of Knox Church session, Dr. J. F. Grant and P. Ramage; and two of his former neighbors, T. Henderson and H. Cross. Many beautiful floral tokens surrounded the casket.

At Knox Sunday School session last Sunday, Supt. Dr. Grant and Mr. W. A. Glass paid lavish tribute to Mr. McIlraith's work in the S. S. in the Master's service.

Grey-Simcoe Foresters Parade thru Durham

Between ten thirty and eleven a. m. last Thursday, the largest military body ever in Durham passed through town—the Grey-Simcoe Foresters Regiment, about 900 strong. Making a three day tour of Simcoe and Grey counties, the men arrived in about forty army trucks from Hanover, and paraded down main street to Ford garage corner, some leads singing. Here they disembarked, and marched back to the main corner, thence turned east on Lambton street, followed by the trucks. Past the overhead bridge, the soldier boys climbed in the trucks, and were off to Flesherton, Markdale and Dundalk, arriving that evening back at Camp Borden.

Some hundreds of citizens viewed the march past—an impressive sight. All admired the smart appearance of the boys in uniform, and the excellent time kept while marching. It was difficult to recognize boys one knew, but we spotted two or three of the Durham lads.

The battalion was divided into 18 platoons, with bugle and brass bands to supply music. Four or five soldiers on motor cycles flanked the parade.

After reaching Camp Borden at 5.20, the men were formed up on the campus and addressed by the Commanding Officer T. J. Rutherford, when complimented all for the way they had co-operated and conducted themselves on the trip. He said that he was proud of the fact that there were no accidents of any kind in this regard praised the excellent work of the truck drivers and all those responsible for the safety of the battalion on the road.

The Colonel ended his remarks by announcing that the bugle would sound "Reveille" at 8 a. m. instead of 6 a. m. on Friday morning and this popular announcement brought a round of cheers from the men who all looked as though they could stand a couple of extra hours for sleep.

And now the Grey-Simcoe Foresters are booked for another longer jaunt, of 3 days—to Galt, Hamilton and other points en route, leaving Tuesday morning Oct. 1st and returning evening of Oct. 3rd to Camp Borden.

Red Cross Drive Nearing Completion

With at least \$1000 objective for Durham for the Canadian Red Cross funds, the teams canvassing the town expect to complete their allotments this week, and the objective is already in sight. However more and increased donations are yet necessary, and any sum, large or small will be gratefully received. Barrister J. H. McQuarrie is chairman of the local organization, and C. W. Zilliox, Don. McQueen and W. Erwin supervisors of the three wards.

ARMY OPERATIONS COSTS REACH \$233,000,000

The operating costs for the year of the Canadian Army, that is, for pay and allowances, rations and renewals of clothing, amount to \$233,000,000. In contrast the original issue of clothing, personal equipment and arms came to the modest sum of \$28,000,000.

Voluntary Aid held Regular Monthly Tea

The weekly meeting and regular monthly tea for the Voluntary Aid to Red Cross took place on Tuesday with 46 ladies present. The meeting opened with National Anthem, played by Mrs. Aitchison. Considerable sewing and knitting was done, and a letter of appreciation, from one of our boys, who has received gift of sweater and socks, was read. The drawing for the quilt resulted in Miss Alma Hughes becoming its lucky owner. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer, led by Mrs. Priest.

Death of Mrs McGirr; W. Institute Founder

One of South Grey's most honored and best known residents, Mrs. Thos. McGirr passed quietly away at her home on Lambton St. Durham, on Saturday afternoon, after being only a week bedfast. For some weeks she has been failing in health and growing weaker, but only last Tuesday she recognized at once and conversed with her younger brother Rev. Jas. Binnie of Toronto when he arrived that day on a visit. After his departure on Wednesday, she fell into a coma, and it was seen the end was near.

The late Mrs. McGirr had attained the ripe age of 85 years last May, and almost up to the last always welcomed many friends who called. She was Elizabeth Binnie, daughter of Thomas Binnie and Isabelle Cranston, and was born at Yearning Hall, on the border of Scotland and England in 1855. The family came to Canada in 1861, stopping temporarily at Erin, but settling in Glenelg township. She attended Bunnassan public school, and in December 1881, she became the bride of Thomas McGirr. They took up farming in No. 9 school section, Glenelg, just east of Durham, their son John now owning the home farm.

In November 1915 they retired from the farm, and moved to their present home in Durham, where Mr. McGirr died in the spring of 1917. Of their family of nine, two sons predeceased them, George in infancy, and Binnie when a student in Model School. Surviving are John, reeve of Glenelg Tp. and Ernest, principal of Niagara Falls Collegiate; Mrs. Thos. Watson (Annie) of Galt; Mrs. J. C. McLea (Agnes) Shelburne; Mrs. Edwin Roberts (Christabelle) of Campbellford; Misses Isabelle and Margaret at home. There are seven grandsons and two granddaughters. She was a member of a family of nine, only two brothers now surviving: Thomas Binnie of New Westminster B. C., and Rev. James Binnie of Toronto.

Mrs. McGirr was a well-read woman, possessing a Scottish stability of character, affability and wit, coupled with a sympathetic disposition, which won her many close friends in all organizations with which she was affiliated throughout the County, as well as among her neighbors. She is best known as the "mother" of South Grey Women's Institute and Durham Branch, as she was the first president of the District, and of Durham Institute in 1902. She assisted in the organization of many Branches in the district, and gave freely of her talents as well as her time, in many a program. In later years she maintained her interest in Institute work, though not able to take an active part.

She was a faithful member of Knox United Church, with a deep interest in all branches of church life and work. She was a charter member of the Foreign Missionary Society, organized in the Presbyterian Church in Durham in 1887, and the first president of the Home Missionary Society organized in 1901. In days of good health she was always ready to take a part in W.M.S. or other meetings, and also possessed the gift of song.

A private funeral service was held at 1 p. m. Monday at the home, with over eighty relatives present. The deceased's pastor, Rev. W. H. Smith, conducted a short service, during which the Shepherd Psalm was sung and Mrs. Stonehouse and Mrs. McGirr rendered as a duet, a favorite hymn of Mrs. McGirr's, "The Home of the Soul", accompanied by Mrs. Thomas Weir. The main service was held in Knox Church, where a very large gathering listened to a comforting message from the pastor, based on Malachi 3: 16: "They that feared the Lord spoke often one to another: and the Lord hearkened and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before Him for them that feared the Lord and thought upon His name."

The hymns sung were "O God of Bethel" and "I to the hills". The pall bearers were nephews: George Bell, Thomas Weir, Joseph Dixon, James McGillivray, W. J. Ritchie, Clarence McGirr. The flower bearers were eight grandsons: Norman McGirr of Niagara Falls; Leslie McLean, Warkworth; Ernest McLean, Shelburne; John, Binnie and Hugh Watson, Galt; Allie McGirr, and Norman Noble.

There were many beautiful floral tributes from personal friends, and from South Grey District Institute; Durham Branch, Women's Institute; Board of Education, Niagara Falls; the Collegiate staff, Niagara Falls. Friends present from a distance at the funeral were: Robert and George Binnie, Janet and Muriel Binnie, Mr and Mrs. J. G. Sharp, Miss Maisie Sharp, Mr and Mrs. Cyril McKinney, Mr Frank Cunningham, all of Erin; Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Cranston, Mrs. Wilflier, Mr and Mrs. Fred Smith, all of Galt; Mrs. Arch. Beamish of Woodbridge; Dr. A. M. Bell, Alvinston; Mrs. Don. McLaren, Highgate; Mrs. R. F. Mann, Toronto; Mr and Mrs. John Whelan of Hamilton; Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Tane, Miss Jessie MacLennan, Mr W. F. Currie, all of Niagara Falls; Mr and Mrs. Elwood Foster, Mr and Mrs. C. Johnston, Mr and Mrs. C. Firth, Mr and Mrs. J. Lyon, Misses Naomi Firth, Isabel Lyon, Louisa White, Messrs A. Rosevear, A. Gilpin, all of Shelburne.

PERSONAL MENTION

Dr. Robert A. Smith and Mrs. Smith of Ghent, Ohio, spent a short holiday with his brothers in town, Messrs John and J. J. Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stonehouse and Miss Isabel of Dundas, spent the beginning of its week with Mr and Mrs. Bert Stonehouse.

Mrs. Burrows, Regina, a daughter of Mrs. John Campbell, is visiting for a few days with Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Milligan, Bentinck and other relatives in this vicinity. Miss Margaret Flinn, of Toronto, who has been visiting at Mr and Mrs. Howard Ritchie's, Zion, returned to Toronto Saturday. Miss Jessie Grant, returned to Toronto Saturday to commence her final year at Toronto University. Mrs. J. J. Sutherland of Sarnia, is spending a few days this week with Mrs. Thos. Banks. Mr and Mrs. Don. McQueen and family spent Sunday with Mr and Mrs. Howard Middleton, Tara. Mr and Mrs. David McIntyre of Port Arthur, Mrs. D. Rae and Mrs. J. H. Coleridge of Toronto, were callers in town Friday at Messrs H. Greenwood's, P. Ramage, and Gordon Geddes, Bentinck. They spent the past week with their sister, Mrs. John Bunston, Dromore. Mrs. Knox of Guelph, and Mr John H. Rocks of Toronto were visitors this week with the former's sister-in-law, Mrs. D. Leith and brother, Mr Geo. Leith, who is a patient in Durham hospital.

THE ROLL CALL

MRS ROBERT ALJOE In declining health for a few months, Mrs. Robert Aljoe died in Durham hospital on Monday morning, where she was taken for care and treatment four weeks before. Her husband predeceased her five months ago. A few days ago she was apparently improving, but last Wednesday she relapsed, and her suffering came to an end Monday.

The deceased lady, who has resided in Durham over fifty-one years, was formerly Ruth Crowther, born at Holland Centre seventy-seven years ago last April. Over fifty years ago she was married in Chatsworth to Robert Aljoe, and they lived four or five years in Arnot and Holland Centre before moving to upper town, Durham, where he operated a blacksmith shop at top of the hill, and they lived close by. About thirty-two years ago, they removed to lower town.

To them were born four sons and daughters: Miss Clara, teacher of Toronto; Mrs. Falls (Ruth) of Chicago; Dr. Harold, now with the Can. Army Dental Corps at Camp Borden; and Carman, who passed away twenty-nine years ago. There are four grandchildren, Mrs. Aljoe was the last surviving member of her family.

She was a devoted member of Queen St. church and Ladies' Aid Society and latterly of Knox United Church. She was also an active worker in the Red Cross Society, and even during recent months when in failing health, she was anxious to help in preparing war needs. In her home, her quiet friendly demeanor made her beloved in the community as well as among the family circle.

Decision Reserved in Braun Case

At last Friday's police court Magistrate Spereman reserved judgment for two weeks on Roman Braun charged with making disaffecting statements to Canada's welfare in the war. Evidence was given by Braun, who pleaded not guilty, and by Mr. Dan. McCallum. Braun was defended by Barrister Ford of Toronto, while Crown Attorney Binnie was the prosecutor. Bail was renewed. Great interest was taken in the case.

Elijah Clark brought an action to recover wages from Wm. Murdick, Bentinck. He claimed \$7.50 for 5 days' work. Murdick said it was only 3 days and had offered \$2. Murdick was ordered to pay \$3 wages and court costs of \$2.75, which was paid forthwith.

Prov. Constable A. Conacher of Kitchener has arrived in Owen Sound to be assistant to Prov. Officer Taylor there. There are now four Prov. Officers in Grey Co., three in Owen Sound, and H. C. Black at Flesherton.

COMING EVENTS

The Durham Women's Institute will hold their regular meeting at the home of Mrs. Schenk, Thursday, October 3rd.

The October meeting of Can. Greys Chapter, I. O. D. E. will be held Tuesday, Oct. 30th, at home of Mrs. Harry Kress.

Knox United Church Evening Auxiliary will hold a sale of homemade baking and serve afternoon tea at the home of Mrs. G. R. Padgett, Saturday, Sept. 28th, from 3 to 6.

The Afternoon Guild of the Anglican Church will hold an Euchre in the Parish Hall on October 2nd, at 8 p. m. Admission 25c. Everyone welcome.

Durham Baptist Anniversary, Sunday September, 29th. Morning at 11, evening at 7. Guest speaker, Professor R. J. McCracken, M. A., B. D., of McMaster University. Music by Listowel Male Quartette. Monday, September 30th, "Chicken Pie Supper" from 5.30 to 8, followed by programme of Music and Elocution by McMaster student talent. Tickets, 35 cents.

Mr and Mrs. Lawrence B. A. with Mrs. Lawrence and two daughters of Agincourt visited his brother and sister in Bentinck and aunts, in Durham last weekend. The oldest daughter is now teaching school at Sharon. Miss Agnes Macphail's former school before commencing her political career.

Mr and Mrs. John C. Stonehouse of Feversham announce the engagement of their eldest daughter, Florence Jemima, to William Lloyd Kinsman, eldest son of Mr and Mrs. William Kinsman of Proton Station, the marriage to take place quietly the latter part of September.

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A quiet wedding took place on Wednesday, September the 18th at 12 o'clock at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Stewart, 3rd concession Bentinck Township, when their daughter Vera Alberta was united in marriage to Peter Gordon second son of Mr and Mrs. Peter Krauter of Louise. The ceremony was performed by Rev. S. W. Hirtle before a setting of evergreens, ferns and late summer flowers and Mrs. Hirtle played the wedding music.

The bride given in marriage by her father wore a floor length gown of turquoise blue net over taffeta with buttoned jacket and matching shoulder-length veil caught with a wreath of tiny flowers. She carried a shower bouquet of Tallman roses and fern. The wedding dinner was served to only the immediate relatives and friends by five girlfriends of the bride. The three tiered wedding cake topped with white flowers centred the table with tapers in silver and pink holders and pink and white cosmos in low bowls.

For travelling the bride donned a navy sheer crepe frock, teal blue coat with navy accessories. After a short trip to points north Mr. and Mrs. Krauter will reside in Bentinck Township.

WAR EXPANSION IN CANADIAN INDUSTRY The erection or enlargement of more than 100 industrial plants in Canada under the government's industrial development program now involves expenditures totalling some \$180,000,000. These will help provide for Canada's growing war needs.

NOW is the time to insulate your home with Super-seal Insulating Wool, and save fuel bills. For prices phone 210, Cliff Ritchie, Durham.

Drumhead Service Sunday Afternoon

A Drumhead Service, embracing all military organizations in this district is to be held at Durham Park at 2.00 p. m. on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 29. The Canadian Legion, the Militia and the Volunteer Guard, with any other soldiers of the C. A. S. F. who may be here, are asked to assemble at Public School grounds, and parade to the Park. Rev. C. Saunders of Mulock, a returned man, will be in charge of the service.

BORN

NELSON — In Palmerston General Hospital, Sept. 18th to Mr and Mrs. Clarence Nelson (nee Hazel Moore), a daughter.

MARRIED

CLEMENTS — MANTO — At Trinity Church, Durham on Friday, Sept. 29th by the Rev. R. S. Jones, B. A., Wilhelmine Elizabeth Manto, daughter of Mr and Mrs Wm. Manto, Township of Bentinck, to Clifford Earl Clements, son of Mr. and Mrs. I. Clements, Galt, Ont.

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