

# CLAREMONT

By Staff Correspondent

Tribunes on sale at Boose's Grocery every Thursday.

Mr. Nelson Sanderson was home over the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bushby visited with his mother Mrs. J. Bushby on Sunday.

Mr. Morgan Pugh is sporting a new car.

Mrs. Cecil Story and daughter Mary we understand are not improving in health as fast as friends would like to see.

Miss Harvey has returned to the home of Mrs. Reedman after holidaying at her home near Blackwater.

Mr. and Mrs. Herb Forsyth and family have moved to Toronto, having been in Claremont since their return from France.

Mr. Ross Watson who lives north of the village was stricken with pneumonia during the past week. Some difficulty was encountered in opening the road to permit the doctor's car to reach the sick bed.

Mrs. Walford has arrived home after spending the winter with her relatives across the line.

Mr. David Scott of Fenelon Falls called on his brother Geo. Scott last week.

Mrs. William Hill is somewhat improved after her illness. Mrs. George Hill, a daughter, is remaining in the home for a time.

Keep in mind the Park Board concert this Friday evening, April 12th, in the Community Hall. All home talent, so come out and boost the cause.

Mr. Charles Slack of Cedar Springs near Chatham has been in town for a few days during the sudden passing of his mother, Mrs. E. Slack.

The Ladies' Circle of the

Baptist Church met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Evans Ward on Tuesday evening of last week. The program for the evening was presented by the young peoples' society.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee of Toronto also Mr. and Mrs. Sherwin of Ashburn called at the home of Mrs. John Coates on Sunday.

Mrs. Roy Thompson and baby of Tweed were recent visitors with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Loyst. Miss Mildred of Toronto was also home for the weekend.

**Culvert Washed Out**  
The spring break-up resulted on Saturday in a washout at the culvert in front of the John Pallister farm on the townline, north. Monday traffic was warned against using the bridge.

**Here's a Record**  
Mr. Alvin Redshaw of the 5th concession reports that he has a sow with a litter of eighteen pigs and what's more they're raising the entire eighteen. The mother herself is handling fourteen while the other four are bottle fed babies.

**Kitchen Shower for Newlyweds**  
The young people of the Baptist church journeyed to Mount Zion last Thursday evening, where a kitchen shower was tendered Mr. and Mrs. Norval McAvoy, the event taking place at the home of the groom's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. McAvoy.

**Collides with Grocery Truck**  
Mr. Harry Boose was involved in a collision last week when the truck which he was driving enroute to Port Colbourne was crashed by a Dunnville man who it is understood turned into the Boose outfit as it at-

temped to pass. Damage was slight.

**Institute Meets Wednesday**  
The regular meeting of the W. I. will be held on Wednesday of next week, April 17th, at the home of Mrs. I. Dopking. A paper on "Country Etiquette" will be presented by Mrs. Frank Carson while a discussion on "Built-in Conveniences for the Kitchen" will be led by Mrs. N. F. Tomlinson.

**Bad Roads Prevent Crowd**  
Only thirteen tables were in attendance at the euchre held in the Community Hall last Wednesday under auspices of the Institute and in the interests of their war-work. The bad weather conditions prevented a larger attendance. Mrs. Reynolds is the convener of the group which sponsored the evening.

**Three in City Hospital**  
Three of our local residents are in St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto, all suffering from appendicitis. Mr. Frank Cooper was removed suddenly a week ago and has been, we understand in very critical condition. Delbert Booth operated on some time ago is reported to be fast regaining good health. Mrs. Roy Coppins from north of the village is also recovering from a similar operation.

**Crashes Guard Rail**  
Mr. Harry McHavey an employee of Nelson Wagg narrowly escaped serious injury on Saturday night when the car which he was driving plunged through the guard rail on the hill south of the village and rolled down the steep embankment. Save for a bad shaking up neither the driver nor his companion Carson Wagg were any the worse for the smash, although the car was badly wrecked.

**Some Unique Antiques**  
In the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Dawson, just north of the village is a set of dominos cut out of bone. The set is over a hundred years old and was brought out to this country from England many years ago. Among other valued antiques which The Tribune was recently privileged to see at the Dawson home, is a gold ring, also well over the century mark. The top of the ring is a small glass globe containing a lock of hair, while on the inside is inscribed the date 1827.

**Honored on Birthday**  
Two handsome presentations were made to Mr. Thos. Paterson last Wednesday evening at the meeting of the Masonic lodge, it being the occasion of his 70th birthday. Mr. Paterson who has been a member of the order for thirty-eight years, and was master thirty-two years ago was taken completely by surprise, when following the regular order of business, he was confronted with a beautiful birthday cake while Milton Burke, presiding master presented this highly esteemed gentleman with a handsome table lamp. From Rt. Wor. Bro. Eckblad and V. Wor. Bro. Rawson of Toronto, Mr. Paterson also received a gold watch and knife in honor of his birthday and long years as a real brother Mason. Mr. Paterson was born in Claremont and has spent his entire life in the village.

**Toronto Man Takes Claremont Bride.**  
A pretty wedding was solemnized at St. Johns Norway, Toronto on Saturday, April 6, at 3 p.m., when Catherine Jeanne Symes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Symes of Claremont became the bride of William Ernest Robb, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Robb of Toronto. Rev. B. Brown officiated.

The bride given in marriage by her father was smartly attired in a suit of air-force blue with pink accessories and carried a cascade of Briercliff roses. She was attended by Evelyn Symes who was attired in a heaven blue dress with matching accessories and carried a bouquet of Canna roses. Ernest W. Stapleton, a cousin of the groom's acted as best man.

Following the ceremony the guests gathered at the home of the bride's parents which was daintily decorated with pink and white streamers, for a wedding breakfast. The bride's table was centred with a beauti-

ful four storey cake. Misses Anne Symes, Margaret Wilson and Minnie Sellars poured tea.

Following a short honeymoon the couple will make their home at 73 Gates Avenue, Toronto.

**Life-Long Resident Buried**  
The funeral was held from the late home on Tuesday of Mrs. Emanuel Slack who passed away here on Saturday evening, April 6th, in her 82nd year. Public service was held in the Baptist Church with Rev. P. Augustine and Rev. I. Kennedy in charge, and interment made in Claremont Union Cemetery. Pallbearers were Messrs. Floyd Coates, Dave Coates, Jas. Coates, Robert Fuller, Perry Slack and Charles Slack.

The late Mrs. Slack was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Lewis born on the 4th concession of Uxbridge. Her husband predeceased her in 1929, the couple having farmed for many years on the 7th of Whitby township. Mrs. Slack was a life-long resident of the district, attended the Baptist Church and was held in high esteem by her many friends in the community. Her death was not altogether unexpected as she had suffered several minor strokes within the past few weeks.

The deceased is survived by three half-brothers, Charles Lee, Cecil Lee of Goodwood and Geo. Lee, Toronto; four sisters, Mrs. T. Hayward, Mt. Albert, Mrs. Alf Hayward, Ardbeg, Mrs. Jas. Davey, Toronto and Miss Minnie Lee of Goodwood. Two sons are Perry Slack of Bristol, Indiana, Charles Slack of Cedar Springs, Ontario and one daughter Mrs. John Coates, Claremont. A brother and sister and an infant son died some years ago.

## BROUGHAM

Tribunes on sale at Mathew's Hotel every Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Hamilton visited at the Frank Ham home on Sunday.

The D. A. Beer family visited with friends in Oshawa on Sunday last.

Miss Conny Hedge and friend were with her parents here, over the weekend.

Miss Phylis Farley has taken a position in Whitby.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Crocker and Mrs. Witter of Toronto visited with the latter's brother L. Matthews, on Sunday.

Sorry to report Barbara Mairs under the doctor's care this week. Hope she will soon be better.

Mr. and Mrs. Phillips of Toronto called on Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton on Saturday.

Congratulations to Mr. T. C. Brown who celebrated his 82nd birthday one day last week.

Miss Wanda Varneum of Toronto visited with her sister and other friends over the weekend. Mrs. W. E. Holtby was in Toronto on Saturday, attending the funeral of her sister Mrs. Marshall.

## Late Newt. Wagg's Death Recalls Early Uxbridge History

Goodwood has produced some men of prominence in the industrial world of old Ontario, and one of them was the late Newton Kirby Wagg of Midland who died in Miami, Florida, last month.

Newton Kirby Wagg was born in Goodwood, on September 29, some sixty three years ago. His father, Colman Wagg, was a veterinary surgeon and his mother was Elizabeth H. Kirby. His parents had originally been farmers in Manitoulin Island, where they lived among the Indians near Mindemoya. The pioneer farmer cut ties for the railway at 8 cents apiece and floated them down the river to Province Bay. Such ties are worth \$300 a thousand now. Tiring of farming, the senior Wagg went to Toronto, attended the Ontario College of Veterinary Surgeons, and started practice at Goodwood, where young Newton was born. The future Midlander attended school in Uxbridge, but quit when he was thirteen.

"My grandfather wanted me to go on to school," said he, "but I wanted to earn my own living. I started in at a brickyard where I earned \$1 a week and the hours were from seven to six. If it rained we could not work at the bricks, but my boss had a big patch of potatoes in which to keep me busy. I certainly earned that dollar a week."

### Earned Pair Of Boots

Mr. Wagg's next job was with E. A. Woods, general merchant. He got 25 cents a day for delivering parcels in his bare feet. "I earned myself a pair of boots," he recalled. "Mr. Woods held back 25 or 50 cents a week and gave the balance to mother. Then a storekeeper named Henry, whose place was across the road, offered me \$2.50 per week, and I stayed with him until he failed. A man named J. F. Brownscombe bought the stock and he is there yet. I worked for him as clerk and earned \$4.00. The next job was with W. A. Broddy, a storekeeper. I earned \$6 and was one of his best clerks. Mr. Broddy was a good business man and he really taught me by the art of salesmanship. He bought boots at \$1 and sold them at \$1.25. One day he jumped on me when I failed to make a sale, and said he could get a slot machine that could sell shoes as well as I was doing. Then he showed me how to make sure of selling to every prospect that came into the shop instead of letting half of them walk out. We've got a lot of slot machines in our Midland stores," added Mr. Wagg. "They just stand around and let the customers do as they please."

### Bicycle Racing

It was about this time that the young shoe clerk became interested in bicycle riding. "Safeties" were just coming in and Newton Wagg thought there was a future in selling as well as fun in riding them. He had saved \$36 and with that as capital went into the business of selling bicycles and mending umbrellas. He sold scores of Red Bird bicycles during the next few years and became a racing rider of note, competing in events all round the countryside. He won cups galore and was very proud of a Diamond Jubilee medal which he won in a one mile race in the time of 2.10. The bicycle manufac-

turers provided him with racing machines and sent him around to the different bicycle meets. In those days it was the ambition of every cyclist to complete a century, and young Wagg on one occasion rode from Midland to Uxbridge and completed the hundred miles by doing 18 on the track. There was no distinction between amateur and professional then and young Wagg was such a star attraction that he was able to command \$10 for making his appearance at a race track. "I took money whenever I could get it," said he. His fine collection of cups was destroyed in the fire which burned his laundry in Midland some eight or nine years ago.

### Bought A Laundry

Convinced that he was getting too old to continue in the bicycle game Mr. Wagg took the money he had made and bought the Uxbridge Steam Laundry. "I thought it looked like a money maker," said he, "but I got a trimming. I sold out to a Chinaman."

"Then I went up to Midland to see what I could find. I had always wanted to be close to the water. I went down to the dock. The old 'Rosedale' was in. I'll always remember that day for Joe Argue was carrying a case of eggs from Preston's store across the railway track when the bottom of the case fell out and the eggs broke all over the ground. I took Joe's picture with my camera."

"Along with my partner, Jim Coombe—we had only \$500 between us—I bought the laundry that was being operated by Letherby and Wallace," said Mr. Wagg. "We had a very hard time of it. I worked at everything myself. Finally Coombe got discouraged and left for the mining country. I stayed on and have operated the business ever since under my own name."

Newton Wagg became one of Midland's most prominent business men, and the town flag was at half mast on his death. Former United Church pastor of Markham village W. R. Auld spoke of his spirit of venture, a great quality which had played such a part in the tourist development of this area. His quality of courage which enabled him to face life's ups and downs with equanimity was also commended as was his care for his mother, when, as the eldest of the family, responsibilities fell on him at an early age.

Relatives from a distance attending the service included Mrs. F. Palmer of Uxbridge; Messrs. E. Wagg and Roy Stewart of Mount Albert; Mr. and Mrs. Leland Johnston of Stouffville; and Mrs. C. Wardell of Huntsville.

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