

Brother 82, Sister 84, Give Up Old Home

Samuel Hoover and Sister Maria Hoover to Give up their O'Brien Avenue Home. Both Born on the Farm Close By—Town's Oldest Native Born Brother and Sister.

"Yes, it's an awful thing to be blind," said Sam Hoover 82-year-old citizen of O'Brien Avenue, to The Tribune the other morning when we sat at his beside and conversed about the war, also things long past. "I haven't seen daylight for four years, and was steadily going blind five years ago," said Mr. Hoover, but despite this terrible handicap he is cheerful, and possesses a keen mind, able to quote accurately the dates of incidents long past, and discuss intelligently the events of the day. He keeps abreast of local news by listening to the radio. In addition to his blindness this veteran is bedfast with rheumatics.

Mr. Hoover's sister Mrs. Maria Hoover who is 84 explained to the reporter that they are giving up house keeping and are offering the brick residence for sale. Mr. Hoover will live with his daughter Mrs. Percy Brown just north of Stouffville, and the sister will be at Richmond Hill with her only son Mr. Fred Hoover, manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce there. Despite her age Mrs. Hoover is in possession of all her faculties and certainly does not impress one that she is a woman even approaching 80. She did not wish to change her name when she married D. L. Hoover who died about 48

years ago. Their short married life was all spent in Ringwood and district.

Of eight children in this original Hoover family who claim as their birthplace the fine old homestead at the south end of O'Brien Avenue now the Harper farm, seven are living, namely, Maria Hoover, Samuel, Joseph, Elias all of town, Mrs. Bishop, Toronto, Mrs. Ada Boyd on the 10th, and Mrs. Susie Davidson in Brantford. The house on the homestead in which they were all born is still in excellent condition, built of stone, and erected in 1855.

We urged Mr. Hoover to tell us about his younger days, when he stated, "I married John Cleaver's sister, and we had a long life together until she died this winter, and now I am going to live on the farm again with my daughter, but it's not the farm I worked," he explained.

"I started to farm between the 8th and 9th and stuck at it for 34 years," he said. "Then I sold to McClure's, but Fred Mortson has it now." Mr. Hoover stated.

Members of the Christian Church in town, they have been unable to attend for some years because of their great age. It is with general regret that friends in town witness the breaking up of this long-established home, and the removal out of town of two of its oldest citizens. There is probably not another brother and sister in Stouffville who were born here and are anywhere near approaching the age of "Sammy Hoover and Aunt Maria," as their many relatives here call them.

Councillor Suggests All Dairies Licensed

Whitchurch Councillors Learn Recent Storm Costs Were \$2,000

"I am delighted," declared Reeve Earl Toole at the Whitchurch council meeting last Saturday when it was revealed that the recent snow storms of the month of March, the worst in 27 years in the district, cost the municipalities \$2,000. It was pointed out that some townships ran nearly double this amount for coping with this terrific storm, and all members of the council wore a gratified look of approval when they learned how they had been able to handle the situation so well. Total road accounts passed at the meeting amounted to \$2,124. It was stated by the treasurer that snow shovelling to date had cost around \$3,300, a figure below last year when the township possessed no mechanical equipment for shovelling, and could not do as good a job.

Chief Engineer Harvey Rose wrote council urging them to proceed at once with the purchase of necessary pieces of land at Boggartown and Pleasantville for the proposed widening of the county road. Mr. Rose stated that the Department does not wish to make the curves any sharper than shown on the blue prints submitted to the council some months ago. A committee of the council will look into the matter within the next week or two.

Arthur Wellesley, school attendance officer for King Township, advised the council that he was not responsible for King children attending S. S. No. 3, King and Whitchurch. He advised that some years ago this matter was dealt with when the jurisdiction of the children was placed in the hands of the Whitchurch officer.

Relief for the month of March

ENGAGEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Davis west of town announce the engagement of their second daughter Muriel Jean to John Blair Johnson only son of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Johnson, Ninth Line, Markham. The wedding will take place on Saturday, April, 20th.

totalled \$191, and store accounts for this amount were ordered paid, mostly for groceries supplied.

Councillor Herb. Wells wanted to know why the council is not considering the passing of a by-law to license dairies peddling milk in the township. Reeve Toole warned that council had a sorry experience with one of these bylaws a few years ago, and if another one came up, he wanted it carefully considered and scrutinized before proceeding to pass it. The matter of a peddler's bylaw was also talked of, and the clerk said "one was now drafted which might be introduced at the next meeting if the council desired it."

Following a long discussion with a representative of a liability insurance company, it was decided to insure the municipality against liability for accidents to any road employee. The rate is \$3.50 per \$100 of actual wages paid the men. In all cases of accident the decision of the Workmen Compensation stands as law, and when apprized of all the facts all members of the council decided the municipality could not afford to take the risks for any possible claims. Councillor Geo. Leary and Deputy Reeve J. Cook introduced the motion instructing the clerk to take out the coverage necessary.

There has been improvement in the run of sap since the middle of last week.

LOCAL LION SPEAKS AT BRADFORD CLUB

A number of members of the local Lions's Club were guests of the Bradford club on Monday evening. The speaker for the occasion was Rev. L. E. Atkinson who was warmly praised for his interesting discourse. Those who attended from here with Mr. Atkinson were Hugh Bannerman, John Hodgins, Clayt. Baker, M. E. Watts, Jess Cook, Blake Sanders, and A. V. Nolan. Messrs. Watts and Sanders with T. B. Rae proceeded on to Barrie later in the evening to attend a lawn bowling meeting.

William Boyd 103, Buried Here Monday

The oldest man to be buried in Markham Township of whom we have any record is William J. Boyd who went to his last resting place on Monday when he was buried at First Line Baptist cemetery, following a public service in the church there. Pall bearers were his nephews. Mr. Boyd was in his 103rd year.

Mr. Boyd was born in Ireland and came to Canada over 50 years ago. After a short time in Toronto, he settled in Markham and soon took up land for himself, always living in the vicinity of the Baptist Church just south of Stouffville on the 9th concession. Six years ago his wife died, she passing away on the 15th of April and Mr. Boyd on the 13th. Mrs. Boyd lived to the remarkable age of 98.

He was a frequent visitor to Stouffville where his son Hugh lives.

Mr. Boyd lived with his youngest daughter, Mrs. Dart, Toronto, for six or seven years. He had been confined to a wheel chair for the past few weeks. Prior to that, he got around with only a walking cane for support. He was 102 last November.

The Boyd family held a reunion last year at Locust Hill, Markham township, with Mr. Boyd the centre of all activity. Around him gathered more than 100 descendants. He had 11 children, 10 now living.

They were all born in Ireland with the exception of the youngest daughter with whom he lived. The surviving members of the family, are, Adam Boyd, Toronto; Alex of Markham; Samuel of Zephyr; David on the 9th of Markham; and Hugh Boyd of Stouffville, also five daughters, Mrs. Mahaffey, Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Hornshaw, Mrs. D. Dart, and Miss Margaret.

Old Established Hardware Sold

Another new business face will be seen on Main street this week since Mr. Allen Goudie sold the long established Button Hardware which he purchased three years ago to Mr. W. Frank Riches of Lindsay. The change took place last Monday morning.

When Mr. E. A. Button gave up this business in 1937 he had completed thirty years in the hardware which he first took over in the old Spofford block (now Ratcliff's) on the south side, from Mr. D. J. Aitchison. It was always regarded as a healthy hardware concern, and the new owner will have a good background.

Mr. Bill Sanders has been retained as chief clerk.

GAVE MISSION PLAYLET

The Garret Evening Auxiliary met last Wednesday at the home of Mrs. Herbert Lee. A playlet directed by Miss Gladys Brooks was well rendered, leading

ISSUE SETTLED TO-NIGHT

Markham Juniors were scheduled to meet Grimsby Peach Buds in the fifth game of their best of five series in Maple Leaf Gardens this Wednesday night, for the Ontario Junior C Championship.

BRUCE W. MORTON JOINS THE CIVIL SERVICE

Mr. Bruce W. Morton who recently rented his farm on the 9th concession just above Stouffville to Mr. Ben. Talbot, has received an appointment to the Civil Service at Ottawa, with the Dept. of Transport.

Mr. Morton left last week to take up his position, while Mrs. Morton will remain with friends at Ringwood. Mr. Morton is a steady industrious man and the Department will find they have one who will be competent and willing to bend every effort to the work assigned to him.

THURSDAY NIGHT MIN- STREL SHOW

This Thursday evening in Ratcliff's Hall the local I.O.O.F. will present the minstrel show of the Ryerson Press, of which every member is an employee of the United Church Publishing House in Toronto. It is an old time minstrel show with end men, jokes, songs, choruses, and fun galore. The admission is fixed at only 25c for adults and 15c for children, so that everyone who wishes may enjoy again one of the funny shows that bring merriment to all.

Housebreaker Out On \$1000 Bail

Earl Quinn of Toronto charged with housebreaking, was remanded for hearing April 19, and was released on \$1,000 bail when he appeared in County court on Saturday morning.

Quinn was charged with entering the house of Robert Duffield of Unionville and stealing a gold watch and chain and 50 cents in money, and entering the house of Charles Stiver also of Unionville and stealing a watch, gold cuff links, a gold and diamond ring, and \$3.00.

According to Constable Geyman who along with Constable Daniels of Markham Village made the arrest, the house breaker has also confessed to similar robberies in Markham Village, Richmond Hill and Thornhill. The system used by Quinn was to call at various homes, and if anyone answered to ask for an unknown Mr. Smith. In the event no one was home the intruder went to work unmolested. However, while in Markham last Friday he unwittingly tried this stunt at the Constable's door, and Mrs. Daniels hastily summoned her husband.

The only home entered in Markham Village was that of Mrs. Lugsdin, where a purse and gold watch were missing.

LOCAL FIRM CONDUCTS GRAIN SHOW

The last three days of this week will be marked by a seed grain show conducted by Stiver Bros. who have secured the former Delbert Holden stand just west of their own place of business to place their added display. Reliable Brand Seeds will be on display, and farmers are invited to be in hand when a specialist in seed grain will answer questions and offer suggestions to the farmers' problems.

characters being Miss Janet Brodie and Mrs. Woodburn. Miss Eva Hoover discussed a chapter from the "Study Book", and a piano selection was given by Ruth Lehman. Mrs. J. M. Storey and Miss Gertrude Todd, as tea hostesses, served dainty refreshments. Miss Lillian Dowsell presided.

First Trains Through Here Are Recalled

On His 100th Birthday William Hill Smilingly Recalls Doubts Held by Farmers that Trains Would Ever be Safe.

One hundred years old last Monday, Mr. William Hill said there are times when he feels like a boy, and certainly his complexion and skin is as fresh as one could expect with a person of 50. Life-long resident



William Hill

of Bloomington, Mr. Hill moved into town only the Saturday before his birthday and with his one daughter Miss Laura, will occupy part of Miss Nora Stapleton's residence.

Many floral bouquets, a shower of cards and friends calling to congratulate Mr. Hill on his great age, marked the occasion. Mr. Hill attended the old log school at Bloomington long since gone. Mrs. Hanna Fairles, is the only living person who attended school with Mr. Hill. He was quite grown up when Mrs. Fairles started in. Few people at 80 have the sound health and fresh appearance which Mr. Hill enjoys. "I don't see why people should call a man old just because he's 100," said Mr. Hill. "Some people are old at 40. It's all how you feel and how you look at things. I kept on pitching hay and plowing until just a few years ago. It's hard work, good ancestors and a smile that keeps you young at 100. I never worried in my life. Never could see any sense to it. And my father's mother lived to be 104. So why shouldn't I?"

Smoked For 40 Years One of Mr. Hill's mottos is: "Don't take things seriously." And his sunny smile is proof that he doesn't. He's never been really sick although he confesses he once took one dose of medicine half a century ago and has always refused to take another dose since.

He enjoys smoking, and does not claim to be a prohibitionist.

First Train Blows Up. "I can remember when there were wolves and foxes and all kinds of wild animals roaming around the country," said Mr. Hill. "I can remember when they built the railway and how we all got skeptical after the first train blew up with a bang that threw bits of the train all over the country. An investigation showed that the engine crew had trouble getting up enough steam so they tied down the safety valve."

"And I've seen Musselman's Lake turn into a summer resort," said Mr. Hill. "And I don't think there's anything wrong with the bathing suits they wear either. Why should young people always be criticized by their elders?"

Mr. Hill has four sons, Alex at Aurora; Walter at Toronto; Russell at Peterboro; and Howard at home. There are five daughters, Mrs. Ernest Davis, Mrs. Watson Fairles, Edna, Elma and Laura. There are four grandchildren.

Mr. Hill's father John died at the age of 56 years in the year 1866, but his mother whose maiden name was Hanna Lewis lived to be 92, while her father attained the remarkable age of 102. The Lewis family hailed from the U.S.A.

200 Cheques Issued To Pay Only \$1,428

The new system of book-keeping instituted for looking after road accounts has some worth-while features, but one of them is not the number of cheques that will have to be issued to pay the army of men who work on roads. At Uxbridge Township council meeting last Saturday, it was revealed that 200 cheques would have to be issued to pay out \$1428.18 for work done during the month of March, all for snow shovelling. Each cheque must bear a 3c stamp, and it takes another 3c for mailing to say nothing of the clerical work.

The man who actually does the work must receive his own cheque, and this applies in cases where farmers send out their hired help. One reason for this is obvious. Municipalities are liable for accidents to men working on the roads, and most of them carry liability insurance to protect the ratepayers. If a farmer's hired help was injured and his name was not on the pay roll, he would not be covered, and the township would have to bear the brunt. At least one case is on record where a township without insurance on a workman is paying \$40 to a comparatively young widow for life, and her two children are awarded \$10 each until they become of age.

A lengthy discussion concerning the purchase of a power maintainer was heard. Such an outfit with snow plow complete would cost around \$7,500, and would have to be financed entirely by the township as the government last January withdrew the old agreement where they paid half the cost. It was said that debentures would have to be issued to raise the money, and this procedure was frowned on by members of the

council. However, it was pointed out that the Dept. would pay a daily rental for the machine at the rate of \$1.75 or \$2 per hour which would go some way toward the cost. One problem advanced was that one snow plow could not cover the township satisfactory as its services would be demanded all over at the same time.

Several ratepayers on the fourth appeared to lodge a complaint against the way the road was being opened in their section. They suggested a change in the foreman.

Notice was received that four patients had entered hospital, and clerk was instructed to repudiate the liability, one of them is not a resident of the township it was stated.

Work Started on Ballantrae Church

With Mr. Arthur Smith of Bloomington as foreman, work commenced last week on the new United Church building at Ballantrae, which will replace the one burned last fall. Carpenter work being done by day labor forged ahead at a good rate and on Saturday the cellar windows were in, floor joists laid, and the siding going up. A good deal of free labor is being donated.

The building is being erected on the site of the former church, and will be the same in size, but perhaps a bit more convenient and attractive. The exterior will be finished with insul brick. So far as the cost is concerned it is not expected that it will place any strain on the members and adherents.