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EIGHT PAGES

WHITCHURCH BOYS WERE AT HONG KONG

Allen Harper and Edw. Barlow Members of Heroic Garrison

Townline Couple Married 50 Years

Some forty members of the Wideman family gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wellington Wideman at the corner of the townline and the 9th concession of Pickering on Tuesday, Dec. 30 to mark the 50th wedding anniversary of this venerable couple.

Fifty years ago Tuesday, Mr. and Mrs. Wideman were married on the Howitt farm just north of Claremont. Rev. Wm. Percy then Christian church pastor in Stouffville tied the nuptial knot. Mrs. Elias Hoover, townline, bridesmaid at this ceremony a half century ago, was present on Tuesday to add her felicitations to those of the family.

The large room for the reception was beautifully decorated, chief among these being a basket of fifty poms. The couple were presented with a studio couch.

Mrs. Wideman was the former Sarah Jane Howitt and was born near Claremont, while her husband was born and raised on the farm at Mongolia, at the rear of which his present home now stands. Following their marriage in December 1891, the couple settled on the Wideman farm on the 10th of Markham, where they remained until Mr. Wideman's recent sale when they moved to the house and small lot known as the old Sherk property on the rear of the farm facing on the townline.

Members of the immediate family who gathered for this auspicious occasion were brother, Henry Wideman of the townline and a sister, Mrs. B. Reesor, also four sisters of Mrs. Wideman, they being, Mrs. George Coates, Claremont; Mrs. Art Carruthers, Alha; Mrs. John Forgie, Dunbram; and Mrs. John Soden, of Brougham. A son, Percy Wideman, Markham, and daughter Fern (Mrs. Everett Bright), three grandchildren, Dorothy and Marian, Markham, and Celeste were also present, and many others, wives, husbands and children.

Many Guests at Overland-Tran Wedding Event

A very pretty house wedding was solemnized at the home of the bride's parents, on Dec. 27th, when Katherine Isabel Tran, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Tran of Claremont, became the bride of Gordon Nelson Overland, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Overland of Claremont.

The ceremony was performed by Rev. I. E. Kennedy of the United Church under an arch of white crepe paper and ferns. Mr. Wm. Fleming, cousin of the bride, played the wedding music.

The bride, given in marriage by her father, wore a street length dress of Queen's blue crepe, and a gold bracelet, the gift from the groom, also a halo of Briercliff roses. She carried a bouquet of Briercliff roses.

Mrs. W. L. Douglas, sister of the groom, in a dusty rose crepe dress with a halo of Johanna Hill roses, was matron of honor.

Mr. Joe Tran, brother of the bride, was best man and Laurie Tran and Mr. W. L. Douglas were the ushers.

The reception was held at the home where Mrs. Tran received in a street length dress of teal blue crepe and Mrs. Overland in a wine sheer crepe dress. Both wore corsages of matching roses. Mrs. L. W. Overland of Toronto, aunt of the groom, and Mrs. James Barclay of Belleville, aunt of the bride, poured tea at the buffet luncheon.

After the reception the couple left on their wedding trip, the bride wearing a soldier blue coat, with matching wool dress, a brown fur

At least two Whitchurch boys are known to have been with the Canadian Forces at Hong Kong during their heroic stand. Pte. Allen Harper, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ross Harper of the 6th concession volunteered for service in July of this year, and following a short period at Camp Borden he was shifted to the West coast.



Pte. Allen Harper

From here he wrote to his home near Stouffville, his final letter being received while at sea. Only when the official listing of Canadians at Hong Kong was published last week were his parents certain that their boy was in the Far East war theatre.

The Harpers have three sons in the services. Allen with the Royal Rifles, overseas, Donald with the R.C.A.F. at Fingal and Kenneth who will go into training next week at an army trade school.

Gormley Man Also There

Pte. Edwin Barlow of Gormley is also at Hong Kong. He and his bride, Gd. Berg, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Axel Berg of Gormley have been married but five months. Private Barlow was swimming champion while stationed at Camp Borden and had hoped to get to England to see his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. Barlow of Burnley, Lancashire, for Christmas.

A fitter by trade, he along with 11 others went to Ottawa for a special training course late in Sept. He and one other passed. Mrs. Barlow said her husband didn't know where he was going, but when they issued him with summer dress, he knew it wasn't to England.

Although he cabled his wife of his safe arrival in Hong Kong, a letter he had written on the boat and posted on his arrival to go by air mail arrived before the cable.

"BRITAIN AT WAR"

The local Branch of the Red Cross will bring to Rattcliff's Hall on the evening of Tuesday, January 13, the Movie, "Britain at War." Proceeds are in support of the Red Cross British Bomb Victims Fund.

Bride of Few Weeks Suffers Broken Leg

Mrs. Herb. Wells, wife of the former councillor of Whitchurch Township who was married only recently, received a fractured right leg just above the ankle a couple of days ago in what appeared a most simple manner. Motoring from Uxbridge where Mr. and Mrs. Wells were holidaying at the home of relatives, their car could not make a slippery hill in the vicinity of Vivian. Mrs. Wells got out and attempted to push as the car slowed to a stop. In some manner her foot caught in a deep frozen rut, and snapped two bones.

She was taken to the hospital at Newmarket where the injured member was placed in a cast. The newly married couple were about to move from the 2nd concession of Whitchurch to Toronto where Mr. Wells is employed, but this will now be delayed for a couple of months.

hat and brown accessories.

The happy couple will reside at Kingston, Ontario.

Oldest Native of Musselman's Lake A. Graham Buried

Recalled Oxen Working on Neighboring Farms. He was 87 years of age.

Oldest living citizen born at Musselman's Lake, Andrew Graham, died at the Brierbush Hospital on Friday, Dec. 26th, 1941. He was 87 years of age just two days before his death, but it is doubtful if he was conscious enough to realize it, for his old boyhood friend and neighbor, W. A. Quantz called at the hospital, and when he informed him that it was his birthday Mr. Graham in his weak condition raised his eyes but made no other reply.

Andrew Graham's father Richard settled at Musselman's Lake in the fore part of the 18th century. Although he was not among the little band of settlers that located there in 1794 when sixty families emigrated from New York, it is thought that he may have been one of the rear guard of that movement. They were undoubtedly attracted by the water, for it certainly was not the quality of the land that carried them into the dense bush of that day. Now the bush has vanished, but the sand land remains and yields up a living since there are many summer residents to feed. Like many of the other early settlers to those parts the Grahams were of mid-European ancestry.

Son of Richard Graham who married into the Helmday family, Andrew who died on Friday last, lived all his life in the district around Stouffville. He aided his father in clearing their home farm which is now west section of Shadow Lake Farm belonging to the Eaton Co.

Andrew had told the writer that he never drove oxen but neighboring farmers had them, and he recalled the yoked animals on the slopes around the lake. As a young man he married Catharine Colford, and to their union there survives two sons, Chester Graham of Regina, and Frank Graham of Calgary. Following the death of his first wife Andrew married the widow of Leonard Morden, who died a few years ago in Stouffville. For many years Mr. Graham was employed as deliveryman for Silver Bros.

Andrew's three brothers were Fred, George and Henry Graham, and his four sisters, Mrs. William Reynolds, Mrs. Samuel Cook, Mrs. Jac. Hutchinson and Mrs. Geo. Powell.

Like his forebearers Andrew Gra-

Reeve Retires in Uxbridge Township But No Election

There will be no election in Uxbridge township. The rather small turnout at the nomination meeting seemed to indicate they were not urging a contest and the old council quickly settled matters up.

Reeve Ashenhurst retired from public life, and Deputy Reeve Edgar Kidd stepped into the office, while Councillor Walter Beach was given an acclamation for deputy reeve. John Rae and Stewart Ball are returned to the council with Harold Dickinson from the southern end of the municipality filling the vacancy on council caused by the elevation of Mr. Beach.

FLYS OVER GERMANY



M. P. S. Robson who enlisted at Stouffville last July is mentioned in despatches as taking part in weekend raids over Germany in recent flying. He was employed on the farm of Mr. Ross Winterstein at time of enlistment and has numerous friends in the district as well as the Wintersteins who have received regular mail from him.

LOSES SISTER

Just as we go to press we learn of the death of Mrs. Risebrough, sister of Mrs. McCullough, who only left town a week or two ago to spend the winter in the city with her sister. Death occurred Tuesday night.

ham had a deep respect for things sacred, and was a member of the Congregational-Christian Church at Stouffville. From this edifice the funeral took place on Tuesday afternoon for interment at Stouffville cemetery. Rev. E. Morton conducted the service.

Reeve of Village Accepts 12th Term

Reeve Arthur Weldon accepted his 12th term in municipal office Monday evening rather reluctantly, when he was acclaimed reeve again by



Reeve A. E. Weldon

acclamation. It is his 6th term as reeve and twelve years in all on the council. All councillors were returned by acclamation, being Ross E. Brown, Ira R. Rusnell, Hugh Boyd, and John Silverthorn.

Others nominated were Walter Brillinger, Frank Rowbotham and

A. V. Nolan, all of whom failed to qualify.

For school trustees Dr. H. B. Freeland and Lloyd Turner were returned with J. W. McMullen taking the place vacated by A. V. Nolan who did not qualify. He has served ten years in all, four this last time, and refused to accept office again.

The attendance at nomination was better than a year ago, and a short meeting was held. Reeve Weldon and Councillors Brown and Rusnell spoke briefly, also Hugh Boyd, Councillor Silverthorn was not present.

Dr. Freeland spoke for the school board, followed by Mr. Nolan. The other member whose term had expired, Mr. Turner was absent.

Mr. Weldon and R. E. Brown were both nominated for reeve but the latter refused to stand. Frank Rowbotham and Walter Brillinger nominated for councillor were not present, hence A. V. Nolan was the only one to speak outside the old council. He declared there must be a sharp step up in the matter of building sidewalks and that finances of the town were in such shape that council could afford to build the necessary walks without scarcely affecting the tax rate.

Reeve Weldon reviewed the work of the past year and cautioned against over-expenditures because of conditions of the war. Dr. Freeland spoke briefly on school matters.

Whitchurch Has Fight For Seats on Council

Four in the Field with Three to be Elected. L. P. Evans and Herb. Simpson Aspire for the Vacancy Caused by Resignation of Herb. Wells.

Seldom has a more congenial lot of ratepayers gathered for a nomination meeting than was assembled in the township hall for Whitchurch on Monday. Reeve C. E. Toole and Deputy Reeve George Leary were returned by acclamation, there being no candidates nominated in opposition to them. For council Edward Logan, Eugene Baker (both last year's councillors,) and L. P. Evans and Herbert Simpson were nominated.

As there were no withdrawals from among the four nominations for councillors, the issue will be fought out on election day, Jan. 5. The four candidates for council are now busy rounding up their supporters for the contest.

Reeve Toole in an able address told the well-attended meeting that this was the 50th consecutive year that the county had a balanced budget and no bank loans. All municipalities had met their county levy without exception, and the debenture debt of the county of York had been reduced substantially over the nine years since the county adopted the "pay as you go" motto.

As evidence of the splendid condition the county is working into Mr. Toole said their debentures were selling for \$15 over par.

Turning to township matters he pointed out that the municipality showed a credit balance of \$1,400 over receipts for the year, while \$1,000 had been paid off the bank loan of \$23,900. To offset this bank loan unpaid taxes of \$33,000 were outstanding. An effort is being made to clear this situation up.

Visions of the future Mr. Toole declared that no one knows what is ahead of us. The Dominion authorities are invading the provincial and municipal field of taxation, instancing the succession duty tax which all farmers would ultimately feel. Then great farming areas are being converted into war plants, and being tax free, may prove a serious problem. Many homes for war workers in the plants have only limited taxes. The plant in the south end of this county and the one at Pickering were evidence of this. "We may feel the sting of war, far greater in the future," concluded the Reeve.

Tribute was paid to the late Jess Cook and the late John Williamson. The township and council had suffered a real loss in their passing. "Finally," said Mr. Toole, Councillor Herb. Wells took himself a wife and left the township for Toronto. Herb. knew how to build a road. The two new men elected to council seven months ago, he declared, were a tribute to the office, and he looked forward to splendid service by them.

Deputy Reeve George Leary referred to the Reeve as York County's next warden, and did so because of his observations at the county council. Mr. Leary said this would be his 14th year in council. He discussed various problems of township interest.

"I am proud we have a man like Earl Toole at the head of our council," were the opening remarks of Edw. Logan nominated for council. "He can explain things so nicely." Mr. Logan pointed out that the council had reduced taxation this year by \$960 in the face of increased costs all along the line. The road foremen did excellent work, he declared but there is something to complain of he said, and that is the unsightly tin can dumps on township sideroads, and steps should be taken to stop this sort of thing.

Eugene Baker, with seven months experience, said he was amazed when he entered council to learn of the complication of duties devolving upon the clerk of the township. "This printed statement of finances presented to you today is most complete. I happened to show one to a financial man from another municipality and he said it was the most concise and complete he had ever seen," said Mr. Baker. He advocated more attention to "back roads" while keeping up the main roads.

L. P. Evans, a member of council 5 years ago said he reluctantly allow-

58 YEARS OF SERVICE



Donald R. Beaton

Clerk Donald Beaton who on Monday presided at the annual Nomination Meeting of Pickering Township for his 58th consecutive year. Mr. Beaton and his father before him have served this township for over a century, and this fine gentleman with his vast knowledge of municipal affairs was receiving the congratulations of councilmen and friends.

One Lone Ratepayer Came to Hear the Markham Statement

While the Markham Township council offered every facility to the ratepayers to hold a public meeting last Monday in the township hall on the occasion of the presentation of the annual statement, there was but one lone ratepayer turned up to hear the reeve and councillors. The council is elected for two years, and as there was no election in sight, ratepayers were content to stay home and not bother about the public meeting that always follows the nomination. Next year, when there could be a contest, it will be different.

Reeve Rennie, deputy Reeve Hooper and all members of the council were on hand Monday prepared to take part in any discussion, but with no body of ratepayers to talk to the thing just petered out.



Captain John A. Reid, young Toronto physician, and nephew of Mr. J. F. Reid, C.N.R. station agent at Goodwood, and son of Mr. Harry Reid, Manager of the Canadian Linotype Co. is in Hong Kong with the Canadians and word of him is anxiously awaited.

ed his name to go into nomination, but it had been pointed out to him that it was a patriotic duty as he had previous municipal experience. "However," declared Mr. Evans, "I don't want to see an election. It's up to Mr. Simpson and myself to come to some understanding." Mr. Evans said he heartily approved an increase given the clerk last year and said it was long overdue. Mr. Simpson said he labelled himself as a green man, but is willing to learn. Having polled the highest vote in the bye-election to the successful candidates, he thought it warranted him stepping in at this time.