

# The Stouffville Tribune

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## Judgment Reserved in \$13,000 Car Accident

### Mr. and Mrs. Murray Slack Claim Action for Damages following Car Crash on No. 7 Highway

After a hearing that has lasted for the better part of two days in the Supreme Court at Whitby, practically all the evidence for the plaintiffs had been adduced last week when Mr. Justice Roach adjourned until this week an action brought by Murray Slack, and his wife Mary, for damages following a crash with a car driven by Luther Wilson on the highway near Brooklin on March 9th last.

The Slacks are suing for \$13,000 for injuries and attendant damages suffered, and Mr. Justice Roach has reserved judgment until later this week. In addition to the hearing last week the court resumed on Monday and sat all day. Evidence was given by Constable Waude who told the story over again as has been related in this paper and in previous evidence. Medical evidence was taken, then Wilson the defendant, on his own behalf was examined. He admitted drinking two pints of beer on the night of the accident in the home of a friend. It was later enroute home from Brooklin that he ran into the accident. He was blinded by the lights of the Slack car, he swore.

"The defendant hasn't done anything wrong and the plaintiff by being on the wrong side of the road has to prove his lack of negligence," said Mr. Greer counsel for Wilson.

As a result of the accident, Mrs. Slack, then residing at 270 French St., Oshawa, was in Oshawa General Hospital for 131 days, and her husband was away from work for about four weeks because of injuries to his hand. He is now employed in Toronto, and his wife is with her parents in Uxbridge where she is still recovering from the effects of the smash. The Slacks are represented in court by A.W.S. Greer, of Oshawa, J.F. McGarry, of Toronto, is acting for Wilson, a member of the R.C.O.C., whose home is in Balsam.

According to Slack, he was returning from the home of his wife's parents at Uxbridge to his home in Oshawa via Highways 7 and 12 with his wife and six-year-old daughter as passengers. It has been raining occasionally, he stated, and there were fog patches and the pavement was wet. As a result, he was going no more than thirty miles an hour, he claimed.

As he approached the scene of the accident, the witness testified, at about 12:30 a.m., he could see the headlights of a car approaching from the south about half a mile away. He was watching the side of the road carefully, he said, because of the fog patches, but glanced up occasionally. He noticed the approaching car next about 500 feet away and then at 200 feet, and nothing seemed to be wrong. His next recollection was that the other car was within 20 or 30 feet and directly in front of him, on the wrong side of the road.

It struck his right front wheel and fender, Slack declared, and came to rest against the right door after shoving his own car to the left and turning it across the road to the east. Then it backed away made a "U" turn and stopped on the east side of the road. The driver of the other car who turned out to be Wilson, didn't get out of the car for about ten minutes, Slack estimated. He himself was busy with his wife, who had fallen to the pavement through the door that opened partially after the other car had backed away. She was unconscious, he said, and an artificial limb which she had been wearing for some years had become jammed in the doorway.

A passing motorist was hailed, Slack stated, and he went for aid and then helped the witness to put his wife in his car and take her to Dr. W. W. Baldwin in Brooklin, about a mile and a half distant. As this was being done, he said, Wilson got out of his car and came over.

"He asked if anybody was hurt," commented Slack. "I told him my wife was hurt and asked him what he was doing on my side of the road. He stated that he didn't know."

Slack described how he had suffered injuries to his fingers that had resulted in his inability to close two digits on his right hand sufficiently to grip things tightly. This hampered him from lifting things, he said. Mrs. Slack, he declared, was not nearly so well as before the accident and he told how for seven years with the aid of an artificial limb that replaced an amputated

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### HOME FROM THE WEST COAST



Member of the Royal Canadian Navy doing coastal patrol duty in the Pacific Wireless Operator Harry Brown, is home from Esquimaut visiting his parents Mr. and Mrs. N. W. Byer. Harry was formerly at the Alaska base, and has had a varied and interesting experience with life at sea.

## Councillor Escapes Injury in Head-on Highway Collision

Councillor W. L. Clark and Mrs. Clark, Markham escaped serious injury on Friday afternoon when their car was completely wrecked in a collision on No. 7 Highway with a car driven by Mr. Howard Reive, of Markham Village.

The Clark car was proceeding east at the time between Unionville and Markham just opposite the large concrete bridge when it was struck by the Reive car which was proceeding west. The Reive machine completely sheared the side off the councillor's car, and careened along 220 feet taking off seven guard posts, before coming to a halt, according to the constable.

The only injuries sustained by any of the persons involved in the mishap were a few cuts suffered by Hazel Clark who was riding in the rear seat of her father's car.

Charges of dangerous driving and careless driving have been laid against Howard Reive by Constable Gayman of Markham Township who investigated the crash.

## Gas Thief Nabbed by Farmer Clad in Night Clothes

William Simpson, Ballantrae, may have been dreaming or he may really have heard things one midnight last week when he jumped from his bed and looked out the window to see a car parked in front of his house and a man striding in his lane to the garage. Without waiting to dress he rushed down stairs and out to the garage, barefooted and noiseless. The would-be thief was now inside, and Bill slammed the door on him and locked it. He then returned and resumed his clothes, the night was cold and being outside almost without clothing was not inviting.

Returning to the exciting situation Mr. Simpson took the car number, and discovered a woman in the seat. He questioned her when she admitted the man was looking for gasoline or a can to put gasoline in. Next he released the gas-taker, and questioned him. He proved to be a man from Mount Albert district, and as gas has been stolen in the neighborhood, it will probably now stop, if this fellow is properly dealt with. The prisoner admitted his intentions and excused himself by saying that he was all but out of gas and had to do something, but of course he would not call at anybody's house in the night. That would disturb the house, and being a very considerate fellow he did not do that, but was willing to help himself.

The end came when Mr. Simpson supplied the chap with enough gas to get home with, and whether he hands his name over to the police is still another story.

## Stouffville will Be Served by Only the One Branch Bank

To many people the formal announcement made by the Bank of Nova Scotia on Friday evening by mail to all their customers that the branch in Stouffville would close its doors on Saturday, November 28, for good, and that the accounts would all be transferred to the local branch of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, came as a shock, but to others such an eventuality had been forecast for some time.

All over the country branches are being merged, the Commerce taking the business in one place, and the Nova Scotia elsewhere. Simultaneous with the closing of the Nova Scotia in town, the Commerce is closing its branch in Markham village. This is called a saw-off. To many the closing of the bank here will be like parting with an old friend. The Scotia opened here about 35 years ago, and first had its office in the Lehman Shoe Store, the shoe business at that time being across the road. Later the branch located one door west of the old Mansion House, west end, where Stiver Bros. are now, then for ten years it occupied the present dairy premises which was built for the bank by the late Alex. Grubin. In 1932 the present modern office was occupied, and is well located and finely appointed.

The Nova Scotia was said to enjoy a heavy savings deposit, which of course, will pass to the Commerce, Patrons, however, may leave accounts with the Nova Scotia or any other bank outside Stouffville.

Under present banking regulations it is generally assumed that one chartered bank is as financially safe as another. Facilities are the same in all as regards charges. In fact the only variation one might find would be in the staff, and bank staffs are usually all courteous and considerate.

Mr. Thompson, manager of the Commerce, states that everything will be done to facilitate the quick despatch of business even with the increased accounts. It is presumed that Manager Fred Marshall of the Nova Scotia, will be transferred to head office in Toronto or to another branch, but there is no information in this angle of the change as yet. Likewise, it is not known what provision is made for his staff, consisting of Miss Eleanor Marshall and Miss Margaret Byer.

The staff of six at the Commerce may have to be augmented. They are A. G. Thompson (manager), James C. Porter, Morris Hornsby, Misses Beryl Brillinger, Joan Baxter, and Gladys Stover.

### OWE ANY TAXES?

Those who pay their taxes in Stouffville in two instalments, should not overlook the fact that next Monday and Tuesday, November 30 and December 1 are the last days in which to pay the second instalment without having a penalty added. It is not necessary to wait until the busy last days either, and if you have the money around, it would be well to get it into the hands of the tax collector, K. R. Davis, right away.

Mrs. D. Hodgson, of Roland, Manitoba, is visiting her sister Mrs. Robb, O'Brien Avenue, Stouffville.

## Harry Worling is Believed Safe But is Prisoner of War

Stouffville friends of Rev. Harry Worling, one-time minister of Stouffville and Church Hill Christian Churches, will be delighted with the latest news that he is believed safe in India, although a prisoner of war. A letter from Mrs. Worling at Spring Hill, Kotagiri, S. India, just recently received by her parents Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hay, of 6 Keystone Avenue, Toronto, contains the satisfactory news. Mrs. Worling's card said:

"I have just received word of Harry. Some time ago I wrote enquiring from a Lt.-Col. who had been in the same brigade as Harry, but who was wounded and escaped from Malaya and is now in India. I just received his reply which states: 'I think I can say that I have fairly good news of your husband in that he got away from the forward area and was in Singapore Island. About the end of January, when in the hospital, some of the officers of the Bde. came in and told me that your husband and the B.O.W.O. had been left with the wounded who could not be got away. Later, about the 5th of February, other officers came in and told me that your husband had been seen on the Island and that he had been wounded in the lower part of the arm. The wound was fairly serious but as many doctors and some nurses remained behind I think he had every chance of being looked after and you have every reason to hope for the best. I do really think you can assume your husband is alive as a prisoner of war. He was a very fit man and so could stand up to a lot. I expect you know we named him 'Pop,' and as such he became a very popular officer in our brigade."

## May Enter O.H.A. Again This Season

Negotiations are underway with the O.H.A. by Markham hockey interests as to the advisability of entering a team, either Intermediate or Juvenile in the Ontario series this coming season.

Biggest problem being faced by hockey officials is that of transportation, due to the order prohibiting travel outside a 30-mile radius. The matter was discussed at a meeting held in Markham during the past weekend and is now under review by Mr. Hewitt of the O.H.A. Entries for this year's schedules are expected to be placed by this Wednesday.

When interviewed by The Tribune Messrs. Grant Nighswander and Stan Pringle, two of the guiding lights in the local hockey world stated that it was hoped that possibly a league could be arranged including such centres as Markham, Stouffville and Aurora which would not involve such extensive travelling. The cutting of the player limit to eleven men will also be a help, in that a minimum of cars would be needed to transport the players.

Mr. Geo. Lee, trucker, has been confined to his home on Main St., south side, for some time, suffering with an attack of shingles.

## Friday is Nomination Day for Stouffville

### VETERAN PAST WARDEN ATTENDS PRESENTATION

Mr. Seneca Baker, 92-year-old resident of Whitchurch Township was a guest at the York County Chambers in Toronto on Tuesday to witness the honors bestowed on Warden Toole by his colleagues in council. Not since Mr. Baker himself carried off those honors back in 1907 has Whitchurch Township been given the wardenship. Mr. Baker's portrait hangs on the walls of the high chambers, and his features have scarcely changed any since that picture was taken 35 years ago. He was singled out for special mention by Hon. George Henry during the course of a brief speech by the former premier.

### HOME TOWN PAPER PRAISES FLT. SGT. ROBSON

The Colborne Express publishes a lengthy article on Melvin P. F. Robson who held the rank of Sergt. Pilot, and was an air gunner and wireless operator who had been reported missing since last February but has since been presumed dead, according to official notification given his mother Mrs. James T. Robson of Colborne. Sergt. Pilot Robson enlisted from the township of Whitchurch in June 1940, when



he was employed on the farm of Mr. Ross Winterstein. He had resided in the neighborhood long enough to be appreciated as a very fine and courageous young man, highly respected.

When he made his fateful trip over enemy territory, it was just one more of the many forays he had taken part in, but on this last occasion Sergt. Robson formed one of the crew that included several Ontario men, and as the Colborne Express states: "Brave and courageous men they must have been to be selected time and again to carry out attacks."

The list published also contained the names of other Canadians, members of the crew that were lost with Flt. Sergt. Robson. They are Wing Com. McAllister, Barric; Flt. Sgt. Phillips, Edmonton; and Flt. Sergt. Piers, Montreal. There were also two other members of the crew, Sgt. Dyson of Australia and Flt. Lieut. Robson of the R.A.F. of Dumfries, Scotland. The pilot of the plane was Flt. Lieut. Robson of which the force has no more skillful or daring operator. These six formed the brave and gallant crew that lead the successful attack that night over . . . and from whom no word has been

## All Members of Council and School Board Are Open for Re-Election

This Friday evening the annual nomination meeting will be held in Ratcliff's Hall for the selection of candidates for the offices of reeve, councillor, and member of the board for the village of Stouffville for the year 1943. The meeting is called earlier in the year so as to avoid a collision with the busy Christmas season, but of course, the 1942 council and members of the school board serve out their full term of office to the end of the year.

An election does not seem to be in sight at the moment, yet anything can happen and from the most settled state of affairs, an eruption could well ensue.

Reeve Weldon, we believe, is willing to remain in office for another term. He has given the town generously of his time, has shown good judgment, and it looks as though there will be no opposition to his retaining the high office he holds. Members of the council may not be so sure of their seats as the reeve, although the press has no inkling of opposition. It would appear that the old council would stand for re-election, but some members would not contest their positions at the polls.

Councillors Wm. Ratcliff and A. V. Nolan were elected during the year owing to vacancies caused by the retirement of R. E. Brown due to illness, and to I. D. Rusnell, who became the town constable. There have been some unusual problems confronting the present council, not the least of which is the Williamson estate. One law suit over this endowment has been settled in what appears very satisfactory manner, but other actions against the estate over the payment of certain accounts are now threatening. Every citizen or ratepayer is interested in these actions as the municipality is a legatee of this estate. If you wish to learn any further information about the standing of the will case, or any other municipal matter, come out to the nomination meeting this Friday evening.

It is the duty of the municipal authorities to tell the ratepayers all they can at that time, and it is your duty as a ratepayer to be on hand to listen and ask questions.

Members of the School Board whose term of office has expired and who will be up for nomination for another two year term are trustees C. E. McLeod, Ira Aldred, and Ambrose Stover. These men have all had long experience and are expected to stand for re-election.

## Local Masons Hold Inspection Night

Warden Toole of York County Among Visiting Brethren

The annual inspection of Richardson Masonic Lodge held on Friday evening was marked by not only the presence of the District Deputy Grand Master Rt. Wor. Bro. Harold Locke of Toronto, but by Warden C. E. Toole of York County. Warden Toole said he was impelled to visit Stouffville because one of the officers of the lodge, Edward Logan, was one of his councillors in the township of Whitchurch. The deputy reeve of the township, Geo. Leary, was also among the guests who were welcomed by Joseph Borinsky, acting director of ceremonies.

The District Deputy declared his visit to the Stouffville brethren was highly satisfactory and provided a splendid evening of fraternal friendship. Fred Crossen, ruling master, officially welcomed the visitors who were entertained to a luncheon at the close of the lodge meeting.

Wor. Bro. Walter Craig of Markham Union lodge referred to the long and happy affiliation existing between Markham and Stouffville, two of Ontario's oldest lodges. Markham was instituted at Unionville in 1879, and Richardson at Cashel two years later. In the early days these lodges had membership in Toronto and the brethren drove from the city by horse, and records indicate they were regular attendants.

### BIRTHS

BRILLINGER—At Grace Hospital, Toronto, on Monday, November 23, 1942, to Mr. and Mrs. Brown, Brillinger, a daughter, Master Anne.

## Warden Toole Wears Robe of his Office



NEWMARKET, ETOBICOKE AND LEASIDE PUPILS WIN ORATORICAL CONTEST

Mary Little, 13, of Newmarket public school won first prize of \$25 at the annual contest sponsored by York county council. Six girls and five boys were competitors in the contest which was held in the coun-

cil chambers last Friday. Left to right are: Mary Little; Douglas Hewton of S.S. No.15, Etobicoke township, who won the second prize of \$15; Reeve C. Earl Toole of Whitchurch township, warden of York county; and Yvonne Brown of

Bessborough Drive school, Leaside, winner of third place and a \$10 cash award. The other competitors each received a \$5 war savings certificate.