

PROMOTED



Word has been received of the promotion of pilot officer Jim Thomas, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. R. W. Thomas of Stouffville to the rank of Flying Officer. Flying Officer Thomas is captain of a crew of four engine bombers and has taken part in a number of raids over Italy and Germany.

25 Deaths Here, Average Age 77

That Stouffville is a very healthy place to live in you may believe as it is revealed by the report of the village clerk in his annual report of the births, marriages, and deaths just recorded for 1942. Out of a list of 33 people who died here during the year, 25 of them averaged 77 years of age.

There were 58 babies born here during the year, three of them still born, and two others lived only a few hours. That's an excellent record too, and indicates that increased attention is being given to care of mothers and babies.

Another figure that has soared away up is the registration of marriages, of which there were 33 recorded, but all we can say about this is that congratulations are due the ministers. The town and district is well supplied with ministers and it takes quite a lot of marriages to keep them all busy.

Judge Disallows Account Now Paid

Mrs. Jos. Winterstein has been granted the privilege of bringing action against the estate of the late Anna Stapleton by His Honor Judge Shea, although disallowing her claim when passing the accounts for the said estate. The executors are F. W. Mertens of Weston, Mrs. Wm. Fockler, and Mrs. Jos. Winterstein.

Mrs. Winterstein, one of the executors filed a claim against the estate for \$611 which was paid by the executors, but when the accounts came before Judge Shea for final approval, this claim was disallowed, and the money ordered returned to the estate. His Honor at the same time allowed Mrs. Winterstein the right to bring action against the estate for the amount of her claim without prejudice.

The account in dispute was made up of various items, including \$25 for expenses incurred in connection with the funeral of the deceased. The estate of several thousand dollars is to be distributed among some 28 legatees.

BELIEVED DEER SHOT IN WHITCHURCH

Police are seeking the identity of the slayer of a deer said to have been shot and quartered in the township of Whitchurch recently. Constables Barraclough, Windsor and Dawsbury are investigating the case. The killing was said to have taken place on the second concession in the neighborhood of the Walter Playter farm.

"WHAT AM I?"

Unusually large attendance turned out to hear Rev. G. A. Leichter of College street Baptist church, Toronto, at the monthly dinner meeting of Stouffville Lions' Club on Monday evening. The speaker talked on the theme, "What Am I?" He humorously quoted opinions of scientists and theologians in answer to the question. He then went on to show what a good answer might be. Man has three sides—mind to think clearly; heart to feel deeply; will to accomplish much. The speaker was introduced by Lion Frank Riches and thanked by Lion Andy Williams. The Club discussed plans for the ice

Found Helpless in her Home, Mrs. Gray Dead

Highly respected resident of Ballantrae for some 40 years, Mrs. James Gray was found in a helpless condition on the floor of her home near the turn from the 5th concession to Musselman's Lake, on Wednesday afternoon last week, and although rushed to the hospital, she passed away on Friday in her 78th year. Death was due to a stroke.

Circumstances surrounding the passing of Mrs. Gray are rather pathetic. She was found on Wednesday afternoon by the merest chance, in an unconscious condition. There was a Red Cross quilting that day at the home of Mrs. John Clark, and enroute to attend the event Mrs. Davis, neighbor, called for Mrs. Gray. Receiving no response at the door, Mrs. Davis became alarmed and Dr. McPherson who happened to be nearby at the home of William Over, was summoned. He forced an entrance and there found the helpless woman half frozen lying on the bedroom floor. She never regained consciousness. She was rushed to Newmarket hospital.

On Tuesday evening before the tragedy Mrs. William Coppings was at the home of Mrs. Gray and the two women had a cup of tea, and Mrs. Gray appeared in the best of health. Mrs. Coppings left around five o'clock, and what happened after that is purely circumstantial, but quite clear. It would appear that Mrs. Gray was emptying the ashes from her stove when she felt a strange feeling coming over her, and she recognized the symptom. She apparently hastened into the house and put the pan down, and was working over a bottle of brandy to get the top off, when she fell to the floor before she accomplished what she was trying to do. This may have been around six o'clock, and she must have laid there all night, as fires were out and with the bitter zero weather the house was freezing cold.

The belief that Mrs. Gray was seized shortly after Mrs. Coppings left is formed from the fact that the cups and saucers they used for tea were still undisturbed on the table. Mrs. Gray would have had them washed and put away had any considerable time elapsed after her neighbor went home.

Born in Scott Township on the old homestead, Mrs. Gray's maiden name was Ruth Hall. She was the second wife of the late John I. Gray who died at Ballantrae about 15 years ago. There were no children to this union but of several step-children there still survives two daughters, (Rebecca Ann) Mrs. William McLean, Toronto; and Miss Margaret Gray, also one son William James Gray, all living in Toronto. The late Irwin Gray of Stouffville was another step-son. Mrs. Gray is also survived by one brother John Hall living on the old homestead in Scott near Sandford.

The funeral on Tuesday afternoon was in charge of Rev. Norman Rowan assisted by her former pastor Rev. Mr. Irwin of the Lemonville circuit.

Death Separates Markham's Oldest Active Farm Couple

Mrs. Jordan Hood died on Sunday at her farm home on the 10th concession of Markham, just south of Mongolla. Her passing separates a couple who are believed to be the oldest active farmers in the whole township. Mrs. Hood was 83 years of age, and her husband is some years her junior. It is a tribute to the good neighborhood in which they live that here and there along the way the neighbors gave the couple a lift with the work. The couple lived alone on a 100-acre farm.

The late Mrs. Jordan was born in Markham Township, her maiden name being Martha Madill, sister of Mr. John Madill of Stouffville, and the late Theo. Madill. She spent her long life all within a few miles of where she died.

Funeral on Wednesday proceeded to St. John's cemetery, Pickering township.

Miss Velma Stover of Stouffville has been spending a week with her aunt and uncle Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Reesor, also Mr. and Mrs. Archie Stover of Milverton.

carnival to be held on February 11. Plans were laid also to continue help for the Boys' Band.

WALKED FIVE MILES IN DEEP SNOW TO FIX LINE BREAK

To give the same uninterrupted service that telephone companies so often give, the Bethesda & Stouffville Co., have to keep around them a loyal and willing staff. Recently a break occurred on the local lines north of Altona on the second of Uxbridge. The service was broken down and its resumption during the terrific storms of a week ago could not be resumed until the linemen located the trouble and remedied it. To do this the Jennings brothers waded through the deep snow for two and a half miles from Altona north when they located the broken down line almost opposite the Wm. Smith farm. They quickly repaired the damage and the telephone service was restored. Farmers are never in greater need of the telephone than during winter storms when they cannot get off the farm, hence in this instance they were loud in their praise and appreciation of the good service of the local men, and they did not hesitate to inform the press of what had been done.

Air Cadet Squadron is One Year Old

Unit Will Complete One Year of Operation in February — Could Place Another Dozen Cadets Now to Fill Out a Flight.

Stouffville Air Cadet Unit No. 94 will mark the first anniversary of its formation the latter part of February, and it has been announced that the boys are planning for a social evening at the school to mark the occasion. The unit is to be congratulated on the strides that have been made since its inauguration. Some forty boys are availing themselves of the splendid opportunity to secure valuable training.

At present the unit is open to receive applications of about a dozen more boys to complete a Flight here, that is, two squadrons. The necessary forms may be had at the office of Mr. Reg Button, at any time. While enrolment in the Air Cadet League does not in any way involve enlistment in the R.C.A.F. the course prescribed for Air Cadets is approved by the Department of National Defense for Air, and therefore represents the last word in Air Force training. The course also teaches discipline, smartness and mental activity. The boys are outfitted with attractive well-fitting uniforms, and the local Squadron is in charge of officers of the highest calibre, headed by acting Commanding Officer, M. E. Watts.

RECOVERING FROM HOSPITAL ILLNESS

Mr. F. H. Stiver of Unionville has sufficiently recovered from his recent illness as to be able to leave the hospital in Toronto, and he is now recuperating at the home of his daughter, at 27 Sandford avenue, Toronto. Mr. Stiver is the father of Mrs. Percy Tarr and Mrs. Roy Curtis of this town, and is widely known over the countryside as a carpenter and builder.



JOHN S. DOUGHERTY His friends in town were congratulating our former village clerk and treasurer, Mr. John S. Dougherty, who reached his 70th birthday last week. His ruddy complexion and robust physique would lead you to think that this life-long citizen of the district, was much younger.

WITH THE NAVY



Petty Officer Jack Barkey, R.C.N., whose wife and three children reside on Main St., has returned to his post on the east coast, after spending a couple of weeks at his home here. Photo by W.R. Sanders

Town Barber is Removed by Death

Following an illness of many months duration death claimed Archie Harding who passed away about 10 o'clock on Saturday evening from a serious heart ailment which was admitted weeks ago to be most critical. Archie, who was universally known to all his friends as "Mike" conducted a barbering shop in the old Mansion House block in conjunction with his brother Bill. He was only 41 years of age. Youngest son of the late Mr. and Mrs. William Harding, pioneer residents of Stouffville "Mike" was born in the east end and grew up there. He learned the barbering trade and was employed in Toronto until he returned to town to take over the late Len Vanzant's business.

Surviving are his wife, the former Edith Patterson of Huntsville, and a son Jack, high school student. Also surviving are three brothers, Arthur, Fenelon Falls barber; Oliver in Whitchurch township and William of Stouffville. Three sisters surviving are (Mary) Mrs. Beattie, (Viola) Mrs. Middleton, and Miss Effie Harding.

The funeral on Tuesday afternoon proceeded from the late home to the Presbyterian church for service conducted by Rev. T. D. Rayer and Rev. C. E. MacLeod. It was largely attended. Pall bearers were, Messrs. Frank Stiver, Ambrose Stover, Hugh Anderson, Delbert Holden, Sam Armstrong, Kenneth Zellers.

TO HEAD COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Councillor John Silverthorn is again chairman of the town streets committee and Councillor Hugh Boyd heads the water and light committee, according to a report brought in to the council by the striking committee composed of the Reeve and Councillor Nolan. These men were at the head of these committees a year ago and gave a great deal of their time to the work.

Mr. W. E. Smalley has resigned as secretary-treasurer of the Stouffville School Board.

Death Toll Exceeds Birth Rate in Markham Twp. Statistics Reveal

The inaugural meeting of Markham Council on Monday was marked by a quiet session, minus any deputations, and business was completed by five o'clock. Councillors took the declaration of office before Clerk Charles Hoover as follows: Reeve, James Rennie; Deputy Reeve, Charles Hooper; Councillors, Albert Reesor, William L. Clark, and Harry H. Barber. This is the 1942 council all returned by acclamation.

The vital statistics report presented by the clerk showed 48 births registered during 1942, 55 marriages, and 52 deaths. The stark it is seen is a little behind the Grim Reaper, but many township babies were born in nursing homes and hospitals to Markham Township mothers, so that the population is not down as might be presumed on first thought.

Constable B. Gayman was re-appointed Sanitary Inspector at a salary of \$50, while the Board of Health shows the same names as last year. Dr. MacKay, M.O.H., Charles Hoover, clerk, also Reeve James Rennie and W. F. Kincaid.

On motion of Councillors Clark and Barber Mr. James Gibson was named School Attendance Officer.

The Department of Highways was petitioned for a subsidy of \$20,433.84 on the 1942 road expenditures, being an increase of about \$2,000 over the requisition set out at the

Brierbush Hospital, Phenomenal Growth

When Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Good opened a nursing home on Church street back in 1933, they scarcely had visions of the present 24-bed institution that they now are at the head of, and which by their own ingenuity and enterprise they have developed. The Brierbush Hospital, Main street east, is second largest in York County outside the city. When F. L. Button, K.C. induced the Goods to take over the present property, then merely a large over-size residence with plenty of grounds, Mr. and Mrs. Good thought they would do well should they develop an eight or twelve roomed private hospital, but this goal was rapidly reached, until today Mrs. Good, R.N., is superintendent of a much larger hospital and her enthusiastic husband has a full time job at the head of the business. It is of course government licensed.

The annual report of the Brierbush for 1942 reveals some interesting facts. During the year 53 births were recorded, while adult deaths were ten. In one week of the year five births were recorded, three of them within 12 hours. Beds have been occupied over 82 per cent, a very high hospital average, accommodation being distributed between private, semi-private and public wards. Just at the turn of the year the hospital was filled and since that time two cases had to go elsewhere.

Just over three years ago an east section was added to the building, providing a public ward for seven more beds on the upper floor, a maternity ward, and a large basement for new heating plant and laundry.

Again last year a west wing was added, providing a private residence for the management, more dining and kitchen room space, and a small complete 3-roomed apartment in the basement. A modern kitchen with ample built in cupboards greatly facilitates the work of the culinary department. Meals are sent to the upper floor by elevator encased in a fire-proof shaft. There is a buzzer service from each bed to the nurses room so they may be readily called at night.

Sleeping accommodation for nurses is provided in a cottage at the rear of the hospital. The entire hospital building is wholly insulated with rock wool, so that its powerful heating plant, stoker fed, can radiate an abundance of heat in the severest weather.

Visitors are welcome at the hospital during regular hours and anyone who has not been through our hospital have missed something they should catch up with.

Mrs. George Honsberger is the longest standing patient. She had been there for five years and is in her 79th year. Robert Stewart, a recent patient, is the eldest, he being 90. Abijah Jones 86 held the record until Mr. Stewart arrived. He has been a patient for 2 1/2 years. There are four others over 80 years old. It's a wonderful thing for these people, who need hospital care to be able to get it right here in their home community convenient to their friends and families.

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IN ALBERTA



Ronald Gibbons, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Gibbons of Lemonville who is stationed with the Royal Canadian Air Force at Medicine Hat, Alberta. A brother Glenn has been overseas with the R.C.A.F. for some months.

Roadmen Ask Pay Increase

Messrs. Sandy Davis and Chancy Conner, two of the road foremen for Whitchurch Township appeared at the inaugural meeting of the council on Monday and asked that the rate of pay be increased for both the foremen and the workmen on the roads. Said Mr. Davis, "I think we should get more money for our work. As foremen we run around a lot and have to pay for our own gasoline. To Deputy Reeve Evans he said the workmen should be increased too. They will be hard to get he declared. He suggested they be advanced from 30 to 35c per hour, with foremen receiving 45c.

Reeve George Leary, receiving his first deputation since his elevation to the reeveship, asked the clerk to compile the number of hours involved in one year, so as to arrive at the probable extra cost to the taxpayers if the increase was approved. These figures will be available at the next meeting. Reeve Leary said he felt that even the apparent small advance 5c per hour for workmen and 10c for foremen might run into a formidable sum.

Deputy Reeve Evans said he thought the matter should be deferred until the figures were ascertained. Council all agreed to this course and the foremen approved of the action.

All members were in office when Clerk John Crawford administered the oath of office to the council. Then Warden Earl Toole who called in to congratulate the council on their return, spoke to the members briefly and promised them his support and advice at any time he could be of service.

Deputy Reeve Evans introduced a resolution calling on the clerk to obtain information about investing Clergy Reserve Funds. A letter on file from the Department indicates that the council is not bound to disburse these funds held for the school, and was at first presumed. As a result of this revelation, further funds may not be dispersed and if they are a more equitable basis of distribution will be sought, than that recommended by the Inspector of Schools. \$5,000 was distributed last year. Heretofore only the interest on the funds were distributed to the schools annually.

Frank Bennett filed a sheep claim for one animal molested by dogs and was compensated to the extent of \$5.00.

A resolution was passed asking for a further subsidy of \$1,000 on 1942 account on roads. Total expenditures of \$12,000 on roads overran the amount on which the subsidy provided for.

F. G. Cummings was reappointed assessor at the old salary of \$500 which sum includes payment for collecting dog taxes as well. Elmer Starr was returned as weed inspector and school attendance officer was divided between Constables Windsor and Dawsbury, one to act on each side of the township.

Mrs. Milton Clark of Peterboro, Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Klineck of Victoria Square, and Mrs. George DeWitt of Gormley were here with relatives over the weekend to celebrate Mrs. T. W. Klineck's 89th birthday.

A new 12 sided nickel, second within six months is to be issued.