

'Fishing' for Water is this Markham Township Dowser



Well-finder Edward Ludwig "twigs" reached the right spot and his water. Behind him, James Courtney, his assistant, has not yet with a watch! When the well-



man holds it over a place where water lies, it bobs. Ever been fishing for water? Fantastic, you say

If you are a dowser, or if you have the powers of a dowser, this is just an every day performance. All you need is a rod—a divining or dowsing rod—or if you are versatile in the art, a piece of string, a long twig and watch will do.

It really should be part of every successful well digger's equipment for according to Edward W. Ludwig, 59-year-old Markham district well digger, it leaves nothing to chance. "You just can't miss that's all," says Mr. Ludwig who during his 41 years of well digging has had a "strike every time."

Mr. Ludwig, though, is a well digger, the dowsing—a valuable asset to his trade—is just a sideline. At present he is drilling a series of wells in the Port Union area and his towering, eight tons of drilling equipment can be seen some distance away.

The drilling, a rather monotonous affair to the onlooker, is just "a sideline" to the observer. The main attraction is the cheapest piece of equipment he possesses, the divining rod. There is no financial outlay for this mystic switch. You just reach up to a tree, break off a twig, trim it down and you have it.

Before going further we might explain that the divining rod, preferably a willow switch, is used by those who have the power to operate it, in locating water, ore and

even oil. Grasped firmly between the hands, palms upward, the croch shaped twig will remain stationary until water is located in the depths of the earth and with a resounding smack swings over against the breast of the person holding it.

Mr. Ludwig and his assistant, James C. Courtney, who also hails from Locust Hill, near Markham, readily gave an exhibition to a rather dubious reporter and an enthusiastic photographer. The enthusiasm, on the photographer's part, was spontaneous. He early found that he possessed the powers to operate the rod while the reporter discovered, much to his dismay, that whatever was required in the physical makeup to successfully complete the act, he was sadly lacking.

The well diggers and the photographer walked slowly around the lot each operating a divining rod while the writer looked enviously on. He was assured, however, that not one in ten possess the knack, so if you should, try, and have little success, don't be discouraged.

We recall others who possessed that "something," namely Ralph Allin of Bethesda and the late John Nicely, who located water for more than one farmer in his day.

Courtney invited the reporter to hold one side of the beech twig

fork while he held the other. "Hold it tightly and don't let it turn," was Courtney's advice. We mustered all the strength our left wrist could produce to stop the twig from turning. As we approached the water line an upwards pull took possession of the stick and we pushed down with everything we owned. The twig did not turn over, as expected, for because of the pressure it snapped cleanly off at a point just above the writer's hand.

"You see, it works every time," Mr. Courtney explained.

In the meantime Ludwig was tying his watch to a piece of string which he in turn fastened to a long, thin twig. The object, it was explained, that if there was water the watch, held about an inch above the ground, would start to bob up and down.

Held above the water line that ran across the property the watch started a rhythmic motion that carried it six inches above the ground. This kept up for some time until the motion finally subsided and the watch lay on its side. Ludwig explained that the up and down motion was an indication of the depth a well would have to be drilled before water was reached, each up and down motion representing a foot.

Well, the writer counted 88 com-

plete motions and without advising the performer of his intentions to shatter his theory, inquired as to the depth of the well next door. "It's 85 feet," was the answer. This experiment, while not always accurate, can well be expected to come within five or ten feet of the actual depth.

In his 41 years of well digging Mr. Ludwig has drilled more wells than he can remember. His occupation has taken him to Listowel, Sarnia, Forest, Wingham and Drayton. At Petrolia he drilled for oil. He first ran a wood-burning drilling but now operates his 20-year-old apparatus with gasoline. His drill stands 30 feet high and the plunger weighs 1,700 pounds.

He was born at Listowel, Ontario and as a boy helped his father on the farm. Also as a boy he used to tie the horses to a fence and high-tail it across the field to watch his uncle drill. The work so fascinated him that he left his home and went to work for his uncle, and has been at the business ever since.

While he can't explain where he gets the power to operate the divining rod, Ludwig stated that his mother, had a relative, a hypnotist, who was a seventh son of a seventh son. "Maybe I have a drop of that blood in me," he said.

DICKSON HILL

Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Stouffer of Minden, visited with Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Wideman on Saturday evening.

Messrs. G. Gamble and Sandiford attended a meeting of the Guernsey Association at Richmond Hill last Wednesday afternoon.

Mr. Walter Grove is home convalescing from an attack of pneumonia. We wish him a complete and speedy recovery.

The teacher, Mrs. Reid and pupils are busy preparing for their Christmas concert. See notice elsewhere in paper.

Mr. Ed. Warby, formerly of Stayner, and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Walker spent a few days with Mrs. Redshaw.

It appears by the vote taken on Monday that our people were interested in the election to a greater extent than usual, and polled one of the heaviest votes of any division.

Mrs. Redshaw was hostess at a party when Mrs. Williams very capably demonstrated Wear Ever products. This novel method brings neighbours and friends together to spend a pleasant evening.

BALSAM

About sixty-five friends gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Day on Nov. 28th, to present Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Westgarth (nee Doris Day) with a shower. Many lovely and useful gifts were received after which the bride and groom thanked all in a very pleasing manner.

Mr. John Briggs of Rowletta, Sask., spent last week with Mr. and Mrs. F. Disney.

Mrs. Ralph Jones stayed a few days last week with her mother, Mrs. Sadler, of Highland Creek who has been sick.

Mr. and Mrs. Nowal McAvoy of Layton spent Sunday with Mr. I. McAvoy.

Mrs. C. Davies stayed a few days last week with her mother and brother in Toronto. While there she saw the Ice Capades.

At the afternoon service of Mt. Zion Church Sunday a baptismal service was conducted when John Wayne, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Carson, Mary Linda, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Reg. Hoskins, Michael Dennis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Shipton and Sharon Jane, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Jones were christened.

Some of the Sunday visitors at Mr. and Mrs. Reg. Hoskins were Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kingswill of London, Mr. and Mrs. D. V. Hoskins and Dorothy of Toronto and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Brandon of London.

For the winter months Sunday School will be at 1.30 in the afternoon, and church at 2.30. Everyone is welcome.

Sunday visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Shipton were Mr. Shipton's mother of Willowdale, Mary Crowe of Toronto, Ernest Holingsworth of Leaside.

Appreciated!

We take this opportunity of "THANKING" our many customers for their Co-operation during time I was engaged in agricultural labour, to which we tried in spare time to serve you to our best ability. We are now permitted to work full time at Watch repairing and will give your Repairs prompt attention. We will be located at our home on FAIR STREET till such times we are able to locate on Main street. Thanking you kindly,

Jacob L. Smith, Stouffville

JEWELLER and WATCHMAKER.

Baby Boy a Girl Sues for \$100,000

Mrs. Alta Jacobs Hull, of Checotah, Okla., has just filed suit for \$100,000 charging that for 10 days in a hospital she was assured she had given birth to a boy, only to discover the child she took home was a girl.

father of a boy. She said she named the child Charles Chancy.

It was not until 10 days later, when she attended the child for the first time, the petition continued, that Mrs. Hull discovered the baby was a girl.

We suggest the best thing to do is to name the baby "Carol and Chance It," since hospital authorities can not very well hand out another child at this late date.

A petition, naming the hospital, a doctor and nurses as defendants, said Mrs. Hull, wife of a soldier stationed in Germany, cabled her husband, Charles Hull, he was the

The Tribune—An Ideal Christmas Gift.

The Church Services

CHRIST CHURCH, ANGLICAN

Rev. F. Herman, Rector
Sunday, Dec. 9th
Sunday School 2.00 p.m.
Holy Communion 2.30 p.m.
Christmas Concert to be held at the home of Mrs. Harold Dixon, Main street, Dec. 18th, 8 o'clock.
Visitors Always Welcome.

SECOND MARKHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Norman Rowan, Pastor
Sunday, Dec. 9th
9.55 a.m.—Sunday School
11.00 a.m.—Morning Worship
The God of heaven He will prosper us; therefore we His servants will arise and build. Nehemiah 2:20.
Friday, Dec. 7th, 8 p.m. Young Peoples' Christmas programme.
Tuesday, Dec. 11th, prayer meeting at the home of Mr. A. Steckley, 5th concession.
Worship with us.

GORMLEY and BETHESDA MENNONITE BRETHREN IN CHRIST CHURCH

Rev. F. Huson, Pastor
BETHESDA
Sunday, Dec. 9th
Preaching service 7.30 p.m.
GORMLEY
Sunday, Dec. 9th
2 p.m.—Sunday School
Communion service 3 p.m.
Young Peoples' service 7.30.

MENNONITE CHURCHES

DICKSON HILL and MT. JOY
Rev. S. S. Shantz Minister
Sunday, Dec. 9th
MOUNT JOY
10.00 a.m.—Sunday School
11 a.m.—Divine Worship
7.30 p.m.—Service lifted in the interest of the special services at Dickson's Hill.
Monday, 6.45 p.m. Sunshine Gospel Band.

DICKSON'S HILL

Sunday, Dec. 9th
10.00 a.m.—Divine Worship.
11.00 a.m.—Sunday School.
7.30 p.m.—Evangelistic service.
Rev. R.H. Hamilton, evangelist, will speak at both services.
The Ladies' Trio will sing.

MELVILLE, BETHESDA AND PEACH'S CHURCHES

Rev. R. T. Chapin, Minister
Sunday, Dec. 9th
Worship Service
Peaches 10.00 a.m.
Melville 11.30 a.m.
Bethesda 3.00 p.m.
Sunday School
Peaches 11.15 a.m.
Melville 10.30 a.m.
Bethesda 2.00 p.m.
Melville W.A. will meet Monday evening, Dec. 10 at the home of Mrs. Maunders.
The Peaches W.M.S. will meet Tuesday afternoon, 2.30 at the home of Mrs. Hoskin's.

BLOOMINGTON, RINGWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

Rev. G. W. Brown, Pastor
Sunday, Dec. 9th
11 a.m.—Bloomington.
7.30 p.m.—Ringwood.
Sunday School at 10.00 a.m.
Classes for all ages.
Children's meeting in Ringwood church, Monday, 7.00 p.m.
In Altona church, Wednesday, 4.15 p.m.
Bloomington C.E. meeting, Friday, 8.00 p.m.
All are cordially invited to attend.
PLAN TO COME

STOUFFVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. D. Macgregor, Pastor
Sunday, Dec. 9th
10.00 a.m.—Bible School.
Classes for all ages.
11.00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7.30 p.m.—Gospel service.
The Toronto Baptist Seminary Quartette will sing at this service.
You will enjoy their singing and the service.
Wednesday, 8.m. Prayer service.
Come and Receive a Blessing.

STOUFFVILLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Charles Montgomery, Pastor
Miss Nora Stapleton, Organist
Sunday, Dec. 9th
10.00 a.m.—Sunday School.
11.00 a.m.—Morning Worship.
7.30 p.m.—Gospel Service.
Friday 7 p.m.—Children's Meeting
Friday, 8 p.m. Christian Endeavour
The Christian Church Christmas Concert will be held Thursday, Dec. 20th.

CHURCH HILL

Sunday, Dec. 9th
2.00 p.m.—Bible School.
3.00 p.m.—Divine Worship.
Friday, 4.30 p.m. Children's meeting at Mrs. Forfar's house.
The Children's Christmas Concert will be held in this church on Dec. 21st at 8 o'clock.

STOUFFVILLE UNITED CHURCH

Rev. Douglas Davis, Minister.
Sunday, Dec. 9th
10.00 a.m.—Sunday School.
11.00 a.m.—Divine Worship.
7.30 p.m.—Evening Service
Thursday, 2.45 W.M.S. at the church.
"Birthday and Mite Box service."
7.00 p.m. C.G.I.T. 8.15 p.m. Choir
Friday 7 p.m. Wolf Cubs.
8.00 p.m. Scouts.
Monday, Dec. 10th at 8.30 p.m. the Official Board will meet at the church.
Wednesday, Dec. 19th the Sunday School Christmas Supper and party.

STOUFFVILLE MENNONITE CHURCH

Rev. E. Moyer, Pastor
Sunday, Dec. 9th
10.00 a.m.—Sunday School
11.00 a.m.—Divine Worship
7.00 p.m.—Evangelistic
7.30 p.m.—Altona, Communion
Thursday Eve—Prayer Meeting
Next Week
Monday Eve—Young Peoples Meeting
Wednesday Eve—Altona Prayer Meeting
Special
Wednesday, December 12 — The York County Holiness Association meets in the Stouffville Mennonite Church. Look for detailed notice elsewhere in this issue.
Sunday Eve, December 23 — A Christmas Missionary Program will be put on by the Sunday School. Special Offering for European Relief.

ST. JAMES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, STOUFFVILLE

Rev. T. DeCourcy Rayner, Minister
Sunday, Dec. 9th
1.30 p.m.—Sabbath School and Bible Class, also Young People's Bible Class with the Minister.
2.30 p.m.—Divine Worship.
"GOD'S GLORY BECAME VISIBLE."
Once a man dared to ask God to show him His Glory; thus voicing the great longing of wondering humanity. Did God's Glory ever become visible? When and How?
NOTE: Two services on Sunday, Dec. 16th, at 2.30 p.m. and 7.30 p.m.
The Gormley Male Quartette sings at the evening service.

COLD WEATHER Car Needs



CALL TO SEE OUR NEW BATTERY CHARGER & ANALYZER

NO RENTALS—Battery charged in your Car or Truck while you wait.

Supertest Gas and Oils

Super-Pyro Anti-Freeze



Windshield Fans and Defrosters

Used Car Dealer

Inquire about New CHEV. TRUCKS

RINGWOOD GARAGE

KEN. LAUSHWAY, Proprietor

PHONE STOUFFVILLE 5706

Dominion Royal TIRES

LARGE STOCK OF TIRES AND TUBES
(No permit now required for most Truck sizes)

BATTERIES

WILLARD, HART, MONARCH and EXIDE, 13, 15, 17 plate

BRIGGS and STRATTON Air-Cooled Gas Motors

CHAINS

ALL SIZES FOR TRUCKS AND CARS
DUAL CROSS-CHAINS

Tow Ropes, Tire Pumps

General Repairs

