

# The Stouffville Tribune

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TEN PAGES

## OUR CAPITAL CORRESPONDENT

Written expressly for The Stouffville Tribune by Dean Wilson

With no one attempting to minimize the seriousness of the spy probe itself as well as its possible aftermaths since developments are likely to be followed by appropriate action, the atmosphere prevailing in Ottawa at the moment is an air of great, feverish tenseness which is reminiscent of few other crises in the recent history of this nation's capital.

However, it can be reported with proper emphasis that as development follows development there seems to be a strong desire that rumours, speculations or gossip should be disregarded in favour of official declarations since any opinions which are based on such loose and unsubstantial structures, often without reason or plausibility, do not represent the true pattern of the plot and such misunderstanding can only serve to "embarrass" the Federal Government, leading to unfortunate repercussions on the international scene. This means, in short, that misunderstandings or misinterpretations must be avoided in the best interests of the United Nations Organization which has only just been established and of Canada so that official disclosures should be given strong preference over mere speculations, rumours or gossip.

Naturally a veteran observer on Parliament Hill knows that, whatever any probe takes place "in camera" or behind closed doors, such rumours, speculations or gossip are bound to come forth and this has been true of Canada's first major spy probe in Ottawa. Nevertheless, this investigation by Royal Commissioners, Mr. Justice Robert Taschereau and Mr. Justice Roy Lindsay Kellock, both of the Supreme Court of Canada, had to take place "in camera" owing to the kind of evidence, involving official secrets and counter-espionage perhaps, which had to be considered, with suggestions heard in this capital that there was much which any spy might seek information about in Canada since Canadian scientists and officials are widely reputed for their remarkable work connected with the atomic bomb, radar, and other means of big military values.

Then again, it should also be stated here that spy probes may involve extremely serious consequences so that great caution must be exercised by investigators. If a spy probe should uncover evidence in time of treason, it might lead to the death penalty when the facts warranted such a judicial decision. In addition, if there is no fact indicating a link between espionage and treason, there might be evidence of violations of the Official Secrets Act as passed in June, 1939. When civil servants are found guilty of such violations in certain cases, they are liable not merely to lose their posts, their superannuation and other benefits but they are exposed to severe penalties, including a fine not exceeding \$2,000 or by imprisonment for a term not exceeding seven years, with or without hard labour or by both fine and imprisonment.

Meanwhile, officials in diplomatic circles in Ottawa have not recovered from the initial shock which has stunned them and they are silent, deadly silent, about the likely effects of this discovery of a spy ring within Canada. These officials are notoriously careful about making any comments but it cannot be recalled when these officials were so cautious about revealing the probable effects or consequences of these latest developments. It is stated that Russia's Ambassador to Canada, His Excellency George N. Zaroubin, had departed from Canada in December, 1945, for a first visit to his homeland since he came here in Ottawa early in June, of 1944.

## Boy Awarded \$50 Bond for Honesty

Nine-year-old Viggo Christensen, who several weeks ago found \$6,000 railway bonds while kicking through the snow on his way home from school has just been presented with a \$50 War Bond by the Bank of Nova Scotia in appreciation of his honesty.

The lad had turned the find over to his father who in turn gave them to Constable Ben Gayman, Unionville. Police later established the bonds as part of a number of bonds stolen from the Markham Branch of the Bank of Nova Scotia.

Murray Lawrence and Robert Lance, arrested a day after the robbery, were sentenced to two years less a day, each.

Presented the award by Alexander Stewart, branch manager of the bank, little Viggo happily announced that he would put the bond into the bank since his father dealt with a Unionville bank. It would not go back to Mr. Stewart. "To bad," said Viggo.



The ashes of an unknown Canadian soldier, rescued from a shattered and burnt-out tank by Maj. Rev. Robert Currie Creelman, recently returned padre of the Presbyterian church at Weston, Ont., are now resting in his church and may

become the central symbol in a national memorial to Canada's dead of world war II. A national memorial chapel and a tomb to hold the ashes of an Unknown Soldier as a memorial is the ambition of Rev. Creelman.

## Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Meyer Married for Fifty Years

Married fifty years on Monday, Feb. 25, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Meyer, Church St., Stouffville, have spent their entire lifetime within a few miles of the farms where they were born.

Mrs. Meyer was a daughter of Henry and Jane Byer, born on the 8th concession of Markham. She was one of a family of four, of which only herself and a brother, Jos. Byer, remain.

Mr. Meyer was born not far from his bride, on the 6th concession of Markham, a son of Edward and Magdalena Meyer. The elder Mr. Meyer came to this country from Switzerland. Mr. Meyer has two sisters, Mrs. Levi Grove and Mrs. Will McNair, a brother, Albert, and a half brother Noah Baker.

The couple were married at the Byer home by Rev. Percy of Stouffville, on a bright crisp day in Feb. 1896. At the gathering held on Monday to mark the occasion, both the bride and groom, Mrs. Will McNair, and Jos. Byer, the best man, were able to be present.

The young couple set up house-keeping at lot 31, concession 9, Pickering, on a farm owned by Mr. Meyer's father, and they remained there about twenty-five years, when they retired to town. Mr. Meyer was noted as an industrious, hard-working farmer, and was not given to taking part in municipal affairs, although he did serve for three years as school trustee for Atha.

The couple have always been identified with the Altona Union Church and the Mennonite Church, and Mr. Meyer served as a parsonage trustee for 15 years.

The Meyers have one son Allan, who resides on the home place on the 9th of Pickering. There are three grandchildren, Dorothy, Paul and Ruth.

Eighteen friends and members of the family gathered at the home on Monday for the occasion while the couple received the congratulations of a host of other well-wishers through calls and cards. The couple received a lovely set of silverware and Mr. Meyer a handsome cane, from the family.

## Born in Stouffville Nearly Ninety Years Ago

The death of Mrs. Minnie Cooper at the Brierbush Hospital, Stouffville last week removes a member of one of the few remaining families who settled here over a century ago. Mrs. Cooper who was in her 89th year was a daughter of the late Hiram and Laney Yake. She was born in the house at corner of Main and Tenth streets, Stouffville, now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Thorne.

There were seven children in the family, being the late Mrs. Williams, (Jane); Mrs. Marritt (Esther); Mrs. Harding (Alice); Mrs. Cooper who has just passed on; Calvin, Arthur and Harmon the latter being the only surviving member in his 95th year.

A strange coincidence is that each member of this family outlived

## MARKHAM SOLDIERS COMMITTEE POSTPONE MEETING

The Markham Township committee charged with giving consideration to what sort of recognition the municipality should extend to the returned men of the war, which was to have met on Tuesday night, had to cancel the engagement because of bad weather. This meeting will now take place on Monday, March 4th, at Unionville. W. C. Gohn, former reeve, is chairman.

## CHARGED WITH MANSLAUGHTER

A charge of manslaughter has been laid against the youth who is alleged to have shot Ronald Paradine of Uxbridge, then dragged his body to a sugar bush on the farm some rods where the five-year-old lad met his death on December 27. The accused is a 12-year-old lad from the Ontario training school who claims to have accidentally discharged the gun, and then it is presumed that he became terrified and hid the body.

## Junior Game Creates Big Interest

The exhibition hockey game scheduled for the local arena next Monday between Stouffville and Markham is expected to draw considerable interest between these old rivals. While Markham is a Junior 'B' club and Stouffville a 'C' outfit, the home team is a little above the average in the 'C' grouping, and is expected to be able to give the higher club quite an interesting time.

Markham was recently eliminated from the Junior 'B' race by Oshawa. It is planned to play home and home games with Oshawa, although both may be played in Stouffville.

The game will commence at 8.30, and there will be two referees on hand for the affair.

ed their life's companion.

Minnie Yake married Frank Cooper and lived in the house now owned by Mr. and Mrs. John Castle, where they had a large garden, then moved to a farm at Ballantrae and later retired to Sunderland where Mr. Cooper died twelve years ago. Since then Mrs. Cooper lived alone, keeping her own house until last August. After a short stay in the hospital, was cared for at the home of her niece Miss Effie Harding until a few days prior to death.

Rev. D. Davis of the United Church conducted the funeral service at the Harding home, and the pall bearers were all nephews of the deceased. Interment was made in Stouffville cemetery.

## A LAUNDRY WANTED IS THIS YOUR CHANCE?

It has been called to the attention of the writer that of all business enterprises in Stouffville, the place is without a public laundry of any kind. Not since the days when Stouffville boasted a Chinese laundry have collars and shirts been done here, and those who cannot get them laundered in their own homes must send them to the city. This is awkward and difficult.

Said one woman, "Why we are having more and more garages and some of them are not very busy right now. How is it that someone doesn't start a laundry?" Well, there you have the question, and it might be a good one for some young fellow to ponder over.

If a suitable cement block building was erected and modern machinery installed, there is little doubt that a splendid patronage could be worked up. Look at the clothing being sent out to laundries and cleaners, that might be handled locally if washing and dry cleaning could be done. Of course all this takes both money and experience, but the right sort of energetic young fellow would be establishing quite an exclusive business that would have possibilities of enlargement by establishing agencies in nearby centres.

## Birthdays of Aged Couple Week Apart

Continuing a long, unbroken union Mr. and Mrs. Richard Thomas of Whitchurch Township passed another milestone marking their eighty-eighth birthdays only one week apart.

Residing on the third concession, the remarkable old couple are well, and able to attend to the duties of their own home.

Mrs. Thomas is the eldest daughter of the late Samuel and Mary Agar, born in the township of Vaughan eighty-eight years ago Feb. 13th, 1858.

Mrs. Walter Bone of Carrville in Vaughan township and Mrs. Geo. Millette of Lang, Saskatchewan, are sisters. The late Robert Agar of Markham township was a brother. Mrs. Jarvis Story of Whitchurch is an aged cousin.

Mr. Thomas is the eldest son of the late Richard and Mrs. Thomas, born at Temperanceville in King township on Feb. 20th, 1858. He had seven sisters and two brothers.

The aged couple were the recipients of many beautiful cards, messages of cheer and wishes for continued health and happiness.

## Mr. and Mrs. N. Tarr 57 Years Wed

A highly esteemed couple living in town for some seven years, Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Tarr celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary Tuesday this week, at their home, corner of Albert street and Rupert Avenue. Retired farmers, Mr. Tarr will be 82 on May 7th, and Mrs. Tarr reached her 80th birthday this month, Valentine day.

"Yes," she was a Valentine baby all right," said Mr. Tarr to The Tribune. Mrs. Tarr does her own housework, and in a manner that the most fastidious could not find fault with.

The veteran yeoman was born in Pickering township, south-east of Claremont, while his better half first saw the light of day in the same locality. Her maiden name was Tillie Burgess, daughter of pioneer farmers in Whitby and Pickering townships.

Mr. and Mrs. Tarr farmed for 32 years on the 9th just south of Stouffville a mile and a quarter.

Five children were born to them, all of whom are happy to congratulate the aged couple on this auspicious occasion. They are Roy Clifford and Vernon Tarr, (Eva) Mrs. Andrew Green, 9th con. Whitchurch, and (Mary) Mrs. Rae Doolittle, the latter living at Orillia where she went to teach school as a young Miss.

Townspice generally wish us to extend hearty congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Tarr at this time.

## FARMS NOT GOING IDLE DESPITE BIG RUN OF SALES

Sixteen farm stock and implement sales are advertised in this issue. Last fall this paper carried as many as 32 in one issue, but the sales have eased off somewhat from the peak. Few districts have as many sales as are held in the area covered by The Tribune, and extending say 15 miles around.

It does not mean that farmers are going out of business which is a very popular notion some people have. Fact is, of all the sales held since last September, and they number around one hundred advertised in The Tribune, every farm on which one was held is still operating. It's a changing trend rather than one of abandoning.

The Home Manufacturing Co. intend to start operations in their new Stouffville factory in the Ratcliff block next week.

## Fatal Collision When Snowplow Rams Freight

### Claremont Native is Killed Another Seriously Injured

Colliding with the rear end of a standing freight train at Norwood station about 2 o'clock on Wednesday morning And. Fleming, workman on snowplow train was instantly killed, and Ivan Benson was seriously injured. He was removed to hospital suffering fractures and other injuries. Both men formerly came from Claremont. Fleming was a brother to Archie Fleming, now township assessor in Markham living at Unionville.

The men were operating the snow plow on the C.P.R. out of Agincourt on the run north. Arthur Fleming who was only 41 years of age, was a bachelor and resided with his mother at Malvern.

## RINGWOOD TAKES GOAL LEAD INTO HOCKEY FINAL

Ringwood will carry a goal lead into their final game with Vivian tonight (Wednesday), having taken the first game of the best of two series on Monday. Lewis, Goudie and Abel did the scoring for the Maroons, while for Vivian, Fockler, Mulholland and Hood were the sharpshooters. Vivian played Monday's game with only two substitutes, but expects to be at full strength tonight.

## Big Interest in Gormley Convention

The recent Crop Improvement annual convention held in Toronto was the most largely attended of any on record, in fact the largest group of interested farmers ever assembled in convention in this province or as far as can be ascertained in the Dominion. Nearly 700 registered and were in attendance at the potato section held on the first day. Very instructive addresses were delivered by prominent growers and U.S.A. officials of the Departments of Agriculture of the provinces and Dominion. Also contributions from O.A.C., Guelph and Kemptville Agricultural Colleges. Reports of experiments held in demonstration plots on the various insecticides and fungicides were enthusiastically received and many new formulas give promise of heretofore unheard of control of insects and blight. More such experiments are to be carried on this year as requested by growers at the convention.

Full report in book form of the entire convention is being printed with a separate volume on potatoes alone. These may be secured early in March by contacting your local agricultural representative or writing direct to the Department in Toronto.

One of the high lights of the convention was the annual banquet held on the last night in the ballroom of the King Edward Hotel, attended by a record capacity crowd, ladies included. Guest speaker for the evening was the well-known Gratton O'Leary, editorial writer for many magazines and papers. This was followed by an hour's entertainment and variety show.

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WAS 89 TUESDAY



Geo. H. Vaughan of Bloomington, who reached his 89th birthday on February 26th.

## TO DISCUSS HIGH SCHOOL AREA

A meeting of the school board and municipal officers is called for this Friday evening in the High School at Markham for the purpose of discussing the high school area situation for this district. Nobody seems to know what it involves, or who will gain or lose by dividing the surrounding townships into high school areas, and it is hoped that something will be learned about the matter at this time. A representative from the Dept. of Education is expected to be present to talk on the question. Markham, Aurora, Stouffville Boards of Education have all been invited to attend.

## 41 Head of Cattle Sold Quickly

Despite the almost unprecedented run of auction sales advertised in this paper last fall, there are quite a few looming at this time, and good prices are being realized. Sellers & Atkinson conducted an auction last Saturday for Wm. E. Miller, three miles south of Stouffville. Good weather contributed to the size of the crowd which was large. Buyers were present from as far as Georgian Bay, and in the home district from Agincourt, Richmond Hill, Uxbridge.

Bidding was brisk and the two auctioneers took turns in running off that line of sales talk that keeps up the interest and the bidding. Some of the highlights were the sale of a mow of hay for \$120, mower for \$78, seed-drill \$79, cultivator \$49.

Cattle were a good quality of grade Holstein and fetched substantial prices. First three cows brought \$196, \$186, and \$179. Their calves sold extra. The 41 head were knocked off in a little less than two hours.

Mr. Miller has until April to decide his next move.

## WAR BRIDE EXPECTED ON SCYTHIA

Expected to arrive this week from Overseas when the steamer Scythia docks at Halifax is Nora Betty Smith, war bride of Pte. H. H. Smith, employed on the farm of Mr. Almour Clark, 6th concession Whitchurch. It will be their first experience in Canada for Mrs. Smith and her two-year-old daughter Laciara. Pte. Smith enlisted from Alberta, and now intends to locate here in Ontario. He was overseas four years.

## Residence in Heise Name 100 Years

Residents of Victoria Square see the possibility of a real estate boom in their hamlet from the recent property changes that have taken place, and numerous inquiries for places. One resident on the 4th concession of Markham immediately north of P. Willows general store has been sold by Mr. L. B. Heise to Cpl. C.B. Mount who has been Overseas for quite some time. On taking over the house and lot Mr. Mount says that of all the villages and hamlets he has been in Overseas, nothing appealed to him as a place to settle down quite like Victoria Square. It is interesting to note that this place has been in the Heise name for more than 100 years.

Mr. Heise has also sold a house and lot standing between this one and the corner store to Mr. V. Westbrook of Toronto, who will shortly locate at Victoria Square. For 20 years this place has been tenanted by the late Mr. and Mrs. B. Robertson.

After all, this hamlet is ideally located in the very garden land of Markham township, on a paved road, city less than an hour away, and daily bus service to and from Toronto. It has two stores, church, two garages, and some mighty fine neighbors.

## WIDEMAN FARM RENTED

Mr. Wellington Wideman intends to celebrate his 81st birthday with some semblance of satisfaction on April 4, because he has rented his 93 acre farm on the tenth of Markham and will be relieved of the attendant worry of such a place. When he was 75 Mr. Wideman retired from the farm and worked six acres of land on the townline where Mr. and Mrs. Wideman have been living. Tenants on the Wideman place will be Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hill now on the ninth of Whitchurch.

## ENGAGEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Everton Smith announce the engagement of their daughter Clara Pauline to Pte. Clyde Heyden Steckley son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Steckley. Marriage to take place quietly the middle of March.