The Stouffville Tribune

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Notes and Comments

Should We Drop Christmas Market Day? Last Thursday both Uxbridge and Stouffville held special days. In the northern town it was a Christmas market day, and in Stouffville a horse show competition . provided the attraction. Our neighboring town was greeted by great crowds of people, while the horse show in Stouffville attracted only a small attendance. The excuse that it was too cold, is hardly sufficient. reason for the small attendance in Stouffville, since it was just as cold in Uxbridge.

Our neighboring town really makes a day of Christmas market, provides a prize list for poultry, ample show room accommodation, and a good market place wherein produce may be weighed, and sold.

Here in Stouffville such accommodation is lacking. We have no hall, and no effort was made to substitute some other premises for the occasion. As a result the so-called Christmas market was not as good a business day as the ordinary Christmas trade might have brought without any attempt at the unusual.

One of our leading merchants said, that things must be improved here. If we are to retain our good name as a leading business centre we must do better.

There is another school of thought that indicates a market is not necessary. It makes a lot of work, brings the crowd all in one day, to the detriment of other trading days.

There is some truth in this argument too, but the merchants should consider the whole matter. Market hall accommodation can be found without trouble, if a market is considered an advantage to better trade. However, if the majority of merchants are against a market, then it might be better to drop the effort entirely. It is up to the business interests to settle this matter.

Women Drive More Safely

Men drivers are so much more numerous than women drivers that it is not surprising that men motorists are responsible for most of the traffic accidents in Ontario. But the larger number of men who operate cars is not the only important reason for men being involved in a larger number of accidents. The records suggest that men drive more recklessly than women do.

Official figures for the year 1946 show that for every hundred women drivers in Ontario there were only .67 accidents whereas for every hundred men drivers there were 2.83 accidents. In other words, men caused more than four times as many accidents as women did in proportion to their numbers.

Women drive more slowly than do men and with more consideration for the rights of other motorists and of pedestrians. They may drive more hesitantly, on the whole, and not signal their intentions as well as do men. But they keep their cars under better control and do not take so many desperate chances. Fewer of them drive when inebriated.

Destructive Field Mice

Farmers have to contend with many pests that destroy their crops. One of the most damaging is the field mouse, of which there are many varieties. They are most prevalent in the West, but the amount of damage caused by this pest in Western Ontario is greater than the average farmer realizes.

Kerry Wood, writing in the Family Herald and Weekly Star, reports that during the bad year of 1942-43, farmers in Alberta and Western Saskatchewan found as many as 30 field mice under a single stook, and as snow delayed threshing until spring, the average yield was 20 bushels compared with an expected 40, the mice having eaten the rest. Field mice were so plentiful that threshing machines ran red with blood and the works were clogged with mashed bodies, while farmers themselves suffered from an ailment called "mouse ringworm" or "mouse eczema." Such a plague can occur again-and it may spread into Ontario.

The mice breed rapidly, having five or six litters a year of six to eight youngsters, which start raising families of their own at three months.

Research has shown that each mouse can eat 30 pounds of green stuff a year, so that 60 of them will eat one ton.

What protection has the farmer against field mice? It is pointed out that a single weasel will kill hundreds of mice in a season. Weasels, unfortunately, also kill poultry out of sheer murderous instinct. Next come owls and hawks. Foxes and skunks are also mice killers, although the latter prefer grasshoppers which are another farm pest

Possibly field mice are becoming so much of a problem because so many of their enemies are being dstroyed, thus upsetting the "balance of nature." The indiscriminate shooting of hawks is partly responsible. So says Dr. J. D. Detwiler, professor of zoology at Western University. He points out that repeated examination of stomachs of at least six common types of Western Ontario hawks show they eat practically nothing but field mice which are destructive to small trees and crops.

SEE HOT CONTEST FOR COUNTY WARDEN

nounced their condidatures. Reeve also left by the thieves. Weldrick has been in county coun- Last Friday night, Mrs. Len cil longer than either of his oppon- Selby, Sharon, had a number of ents and is expected to poll heavily turkeys stolen and Sam Mitchell, from the rural areas. Reeve Thomp- who lives between Newmarket and son is heavily favored in the south- Bogarttown, had from 22 to 25 ern part of the county, while Reeve turkeys stolen. Strath, who previous to this year

Send The Tribune to absent friends.

also strong support.

served as deputy-reeve to Ex-

THEY HELP THEMSELVES FROM AROUND NEWMARKET

With only a few municipalities Turkeys have been stolen in large yet to hold their elections, the 1948 numbers from three different York county council picture finds owners around Newmarket in the many new faces, and some hot last couple of weeks, according to electioneering in the interim be-the Era and Express, Mrs. William tween election and council sittings | Sweezie Sr., R.R.2, Newmarket, said for the office of warden. Reeve that they had 15 turkeys and about Boynton Weldrick, Vaughan town-dozen chickens stolen a week ago ship; Reeve Kenneth Thompson, Thursday. In the brooder house Weston; and Reeve John L. Strath, was found an empty bag of dog New Toronto; have already an- food, and two chicken heads were

Warden William McDonald, has "The Egg and I" is coming to the Stanley Theatre on January 12 and 13, with three showings each night. Then on January 16 and 17 "The Royal Wedding in technicolor"



report to Parliament.

in the minds of those who are close to do less in this House. to the matter, that if Western shaping in such a threatening man- tions may not be raised next year. ner as they are at the present time. Charges that the National Film tion is to realize, that the situation even to comment. . is indeed a very serious one."

significant statement in the House Finance Minister Abbott in Ottawa of Commons it should not be diffi- where the group claimed "business cult for the man-in-the-street to profits had been so marginal as to comprehend the seriousness of the be an insignificant factor in the situation, especially when these upward spiral of prices." words come from not only the head | Chateau Laurier Hotel in this of the Canadian Government but capital is jammed with worried one of the most experienced in the businessmen as a result of the new British Commonwealth.

speed up the process of passing the warrant such speed, there has been observed strong objection against this speed, especially on the part of some private members, so that FIRST SINCE 1899 aggravated in no small measure by the first time since 1899. enactments affecting business and town now boasts of 1297 electors.

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the cost of living.

Even simple motions or questions of procedure have been arousing much excitement early in this new session and this atmosphere is being interpreted as a forerunner of things to come, probably resulting in one of most exciting peacetime sessions in Canada's history and reflecting the frame of mind of the legislators.

that no longer can we proceed with "I would hestitate even to pre-the debate on the speech from the tend to say anything about condithrone as we have done in the past, tions, had I not had the opportun- and that the farmers cannot have ities I have mentioned, and had I the members who represent them not received a good deal by way of in Parliament air their grievances," what one would regard as inside said one prominent Opposition MP, information, I might call it more speaking on a question of procedaccurately authoritative informa-ure. "That they must air them in tion, in regard to what is taking the garages and barber shops and place at the present time," said that the business people must air Premier Mackenzie King referring them in the offices of their executo his observations abroad and tives. I did not come here for that hinting about the seriousness of purpose. I could be employed in current world developments in his other places. No hon, member came here for that purpose. We did "There seems to be little doubt not accept an increased indemnity

Europe cannot be saved from the The statement, reportedly made appalling position in which it is at by External Affairs Minister St. the present time, if there are to Laurent at a political gathering continue to be millions of people that he prefers "the family allowwith insufficient food and clothing, ances be paid than to grant these if there is to continue to be social exemptions," referring to Roman unrest fomented from underground Catholic Bishops of Quebec's sources, the whole continent may request that present income tax get more or less out of hand alto-exemptions be raised, may have gether," Premier King declared in been a purely personal opinion but part. "I think I have said sufficient it has caused much gossip on Parliato indicate that I believe there has ment Hill as possibly a hint of not been a time, except prior to things to come. It is interpreted as the recent war, when matters were meaning that possibly tax exemp-

While it is difficult to suggest what Board of Canada has a "nucleus of can be done to meet the situation, Communists" are practically ridiperhaps the first step in that direc- culed here, though officials refuse

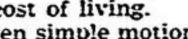
A delegation from the Canadian Reading between the lines of this Chamber of Commerce interviewed

import restrictions and excise taxes, rivalling now in political

All through the house...

unusual excitement has resulted in Listowel residents are going to this session, with conditions being vote for a deputy reeve this year for

the apparent pressure being put on Listowel is now elegible to send members by representations of two representatives to Perth businessmen and others who are County Council. And with more worried about the changes in their than 300 names of tenants and operations through the latest owners added to the voters list the



"If I am to resume my seat I shall go back and tell my people

With the Government aiming to "tips" Parliament Hill itself. Milk sales are said to be

emergency measures before Parlia dropping across Canada as a result ment because conditions appear to of rising price, an undesirable development from a health point of

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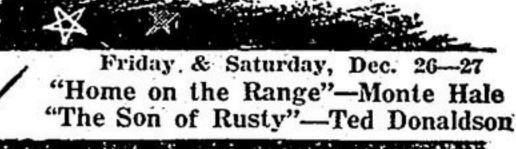
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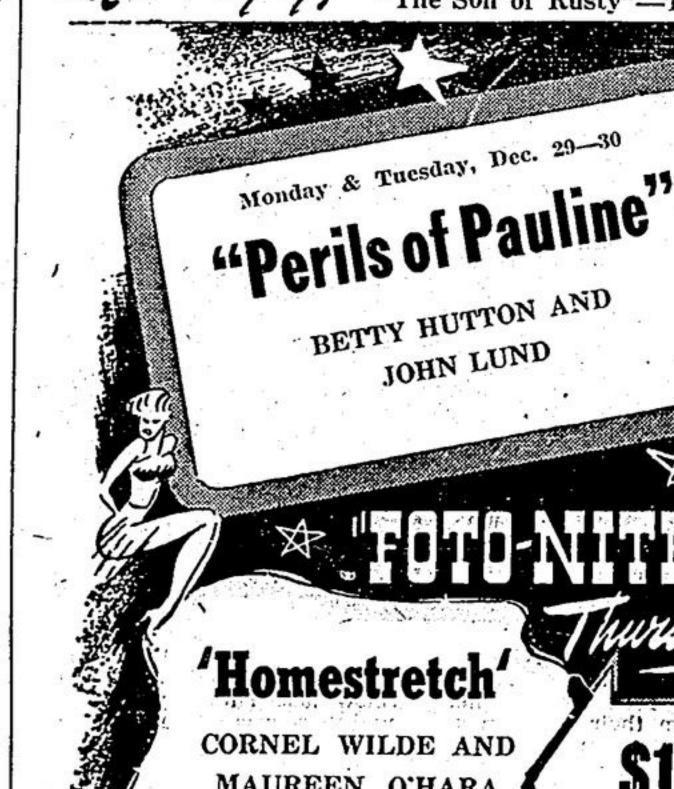
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MAUREEN O'HARA

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