

Darling Child Meets Death By a Simple Accident

One of the largest and saddest funerals in Markham township for some time was held on Monday afternoon for Betty Byer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Byer, who met such tragic death late Saturday afternoon playing around the home of her parents on the 8th concession, 2 miles north of Markham village. Betty Irene was barely four years old. She had been playing with her sister Lorraine, and little brother Garry, when a summons from the parents was received by the children to "come in."

Two of them ran for the house, probably the three, but Betty did not reach the door with the others, and little Gary said "Betty is coming." When Betty failed to come in within only seconds, a further check was made, but never suspecting anything amiss. The child was found lying in the ditch in front of the home where she had fallen running in, or had been playing. She had slipped and struck her head on ice, the bruise was evident on the lovely face of the child as she lay in the casket. Betty evidently was stunned from the fall, and rolled over so that her face was under water in the ditch course. The father must have picked her up within minutes of the fall. Rushed to the house, medical aid was summoned, and although two doctors from Markham labored for an hour with artificial respiration, it was of no avail. Dr. S. S. Ball, coroner, was called, and decided no inquest was necessary.

Story of the other wee tots in the home indicated that the three children had been playing outside, and they thought that when the call came from mother or father, they all ran for the house. No one appeared to notice that Betty had fallen, and it was expected she just didn't respond as quickly as the others.

"It seemed only moments before when we saw Betty out there playing with the others, until she was picked up," said a neighbor lady next door. Mrs. Byer, herself, was keeping watch through the window every little while to make sure the children were all right. They had a safe place to play, and the simple manner of the child's death has startled the whole neighborhood, while the parents are doing their best to withstand the terrible ordeal.

Mrs. Byer was the former Joyce Cleare, and Mr. Byer is one of the youngest sons of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Byer, (a twin brother). The parents with brother Garry and sister Lorraine, and the grandparents (Mr. and Mrs. Jess Byer) were among the mourners at the funeral with many other relatives, and a countryside of sympathizers.

Ontario County Sets Up A New School Area

Takes in Wide Territory Within Two Miles of Stouffville

Ontario County Council, in special session on Saturday, passed by-laws dissolving present high school districts of Uxbridge and Port Perry and establishing an enlarged district to take in the Town of Uxbridge, the Village of Port Perry and the Township of Scugog, Reach, Uxbridge and Scott.

This action came as the result of requests from the various municipalities, the aim being towards more efficient administration and the provision of such services as bus transportation.

A. A. Archibald, Secretary of the County's Consultative Committee on Education, advised Council that it was in the interests of the county for such by-laws to be passed as quickly as possible. There would then be sufficient time to make provision for improved transportation to the Uxbridge and Port Perry schools by next September, he said. Mr. Archibald indicated that sections of neighboring municipalities would yet be given an opportunity to join the district and if any changes were desired, the by-law could be amended at the June session of County Council.

W. H. Westney (Reeve, Pickering) spoke of the proximity of Stouffville to parts of Uxbridge and Pickering Townships and suggested that some pupils from these municipalities might prefer to attend the Stouffville school. Stuart Ball (Reeve, Uxbridge Township), replied however, that pupils in this section of Uxbridge Township had indicated their desire to attend Uxbridge High School.

Thomas Harding (Reeve, Reach), who introduced the by-law, stressed that amendments could be passed later to provide for any changes in the district which might prove desirable.

Stouffville Youth for Christ will be held on Saturday, March 27th at 5 p.m. in the Presbyterian Church, duets, choruses, question box, and films.

BUSES PROPOSED FOR YONGE RADIAL LINE

Members of Richmond Hill, Vaughan and Markham Township Councils Monday night expressed dissatisfaction with reports and recommendations made by the TTC in connection with the proposed change from radial cars on the North Yonge route to diesel buses. The complaints were voiced at a meeting of the three councils and North York Township Council in Willowdale.

"There is something mysterious in the statements of the TTC and its reports are generalized too much," charged K. W. Tomlin of Richmond Hill.

Said Reeve Vernon Griffin, of Markham Township: "The TTC has not given us a proper picture of the situation as it stands. It seems anxious for us to get rid of the radial cars. It has given us the idea that they are unsafe, and is trying to undermine what good there is in radial cars."

NEIGHBORS HONOR MR. AND MRS. EARL DAVIS

Neighbors gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jake Baker on the 8th concession of Whitchurch for a croquette party. During the evening, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Davis were completely surprised when they were presented with a lovely floor lamp, and electric iron. They were tokens of goodwill on the eve of their departure from the locality to live in Bloomington.

8th Con. Whitchurch Farm is Sold

The 100-acre farm on the 8th concession of Whitchurch adjoining the William Ratcliff farm to the south was sold this week to Wellington Reid of Highland Creek. The place is now being vacated by Mr. and Mrs. Earl Davis who were renters from the owners Ratcliff Bros.

Willoughby Farm Agency through Harvey Moyer negotiated the sale.

Mrs. Abijah Brown, a bride of two weeks when her husband died, is recovering from the shock, and is able to be about as a patient at the Brierbush Hospital where she was taken in rather critical condition at the time her husband died.

Directors of the East York Dist. Women's Institute was held at the Y.W.C.A., Toronto, on Tuesday. The Stouffville branch was represented by Mrs. Geo. Saunders, Mrs. Garfield Kellington, Mrs. Jas. Ridout, Mrs. Gordon Lemon and Miss Sadie Stewart.

Top Point-Getters for Red Wings



Gordon "Polly" Minton

Keith Jewett

These two players in their third year with the Stouffville Red Wings have each collected a total of 38 points. Jewett scored the greatest number of goals,

while Minton was highest in the assist department, with 21. This is Keith Jewett's last year in Junior hockey, while Minton has a couple of seasons yet.

Fine Christian Lady Slips Away in her Sleep

Early Thursday morning, March 18, Mrs. Joseph Grove passed away in her sleep at the age of 78 years. She retired as usual the previous evening, and evidently died without the slightest evidence of pain or distress.

Born at Lincolnville, Fanny Barkey was the eldest of a family of four daughters and four sons born to the late Jacob and Elizabeth Barkey. Survivors of this family are two sisters, Mrs. John Lee, (Nancy, of Stouffville, Mrs. Truman Grove (Edith) of Ringwood, and four brothers, Isaac and Edward of Stouffville, Henry of Edmonton, and Abe of San Pedro, Cal.

The subject of this sketch married Joseph M. Grove in 1893, Mr. Grove died in 1930 and surviving the parents is an only son Roy.

After farming a few years, Mr. and Mrs. Grove bought the Lemonville store where they remained eight years, then purchased the Ringwood store 31 years ago, and here they continued until his death when the business was assumed by their son Roy.

A devoted mother and devout Christian, and member of Ringwood Christian Church for over 50 years, Mrs. Grove was active in the work there, teaching in the Sunday School, and faithful to the weekly prayer meeting. Possessing a fine voice, she sang in the choir at Ringwood and Lemonville, and maintained her interest in the Lemonville W.A. throughout the years, and the organized groups of the Ringwood Church.

Her cheerful disposition and helpful christian life endeared her to a wide circle of friends. During war years she was a constant knitter and member of the Red Cross.

The funeral on Sunday followed a short service at the late home, and a public service in Stouffville Christian church conducted by Rev. Gibson Brown, assisted by former pastor Rev. E. Morton. A duet was rendered by Miss Alta Fockler and Mrs. Robt. Winterstein, accompanied by Mrs. Clarence Stafford. Interment was made at Stouffville cemetery.

The funeral proved to be one of the largest seen in the district in years.

SALARY INCREASES LIKELY

Stouffville Board of Education held a meeting on Tuesday night to consider further increases for high school teachers, and as a result, it was understood that a new scale of salaries will be submitted at the next regular meeting that will indicate increases all along the line, to keep them in balance with salaries paid for top teachers in surrounding schools.

Deaths

Crossin, Iona Mary—entered into rest in Lindsay, at the Ross Memorial Hospital, on Saturday, March 20, 1948, Iona Mary (Rowe) Crossin, beloved wife of A. James Crossin, and sister-in-law of Fred of Stouffville. Funeral on Tuesday, March 23rd, with interment at Riverside vault.

Markham Orders Second Maintainer At Cost of \$15,000

A second road maintainer costing over \$15,000 will be in operation in the township of Markham next year, if the Dept. of Highways approves of the purchase made on Monday by the Township Council of second Sawyer-Massey Austin Western No. 99 machine, more powerful than the one now in use from the same makers. There were six firms tendered, all around the same figure of \$15,000 for a fully equipped machine with plowing equipment. Delivery is promised the first quarter of 1949. Mr. A. Fellows from the Dept. of Highways warned council that they must not exceed last year's budget of \$45,000 for road expenditures this year. He said the province is paying fifteen million dollars on this item over the province and was not prepared to expend more. However, the matter of road grader with delivery next winter will not be an item of expense in 1948. Actual cost of the new grader is \$13,687, plus \$2,150 for the plow.

Tenders will be called at once for gravel for township roads this year. Ten thousand yards will be purchased at the pit, of which township will spread 6,000 with their own truck.

SURPRISE SANDFORD COUPLE ON 45th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Friends and members of the family of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Pollard of Sandford gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Meyers, Goodwood, on Saturday night to honor this couple on the occasion of their 45th wedding anniversary. The couple was presented with an electric floor lamp and an electric tea kettle from their children, while their six grandchildren gave them a bouquet of spring flowers. Nineteen sat down to the supper.

Victoria Square Couple Married 66 Years

"Moderation in everything" was given as the recipe for a long, happy life, by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Burnham at Victoria Square on Monday. Mr. Burnham is 89 and Mrs. Burnham 83. On Monday they reached their 66th wedding anniversary. They were married by the late Rev. Robt. McKee, Methodist minister at Orillia, where they spent the greater part of their lives on the farm at Jarrat. They located at the Square in 1943.

Mr. Burnham was born at Sandford in Scott township and his wife near Orillia. Their only son Clifford is on the farm near Orillia, and two daughters are Mrs. John Duggan of Streetsville, and Mrs. Ross Nichols at the Square.

Monday's anniversary was a quiet affair observed by members of the family to which the best wishes of the community are heartily extended.

Council Has No Right to Instruct Township Assessors, Markham Reeve Insists

"I don't propose to allow this council to enter into a discussion giving instruction to the assessors," declared Reeve Vern Griffin on Monday when the two assessors, Louis Nichols and Archie Fleming sat in to talk over their work with Markham Twp. council. "I don't want to take that attitude, but if I must then I will," continued the Reeve.

Council Harry Barber chipped in with the statement, "we have no right to direct them."

"But last year you agreed we were on the right track reducing farm lands and advancing residential properties," countered Deputy Reeve Dalton Rumney who further maintained that, "under the card system you would introduce, farm lands actually draw higher assessments."

The Reeve said he did not agree with that view, and that under the system he wanted to introduce he wished to see a levelling out of assessments. He termed the present assessment "a lop-sided affair."

Getting back to the matter of directing the assessors, Councillor Fred Hicks said he considered that as the council hired the assessors "we can also tell them what we want."

The matter ended without opening up the work of the assessors, and arrangements were made to meet Unionville ratepayers or their officials next Monday night to discuss the taxation problem as between the village and township. A similar meeting will be held with Thornhill on Tuesday.

Council decided to open the Hedford dumping ground on the 3rd concession from April 15 to 21 inclusive.

Reeve Griffin brought before council the matter of increases for township workers, and suggested it be placed as a cost living bonus. He anticipated that living costs would go down before the year is out. A ten per cent boost for all employees would cost the township slightly more than \$1000 per annum, if the present high rate of living continued. No decision was reached and a crowded agenda prevented council from entering a full discussion on the issue. "Don't settle it now. Let us think about it," said Councillor Win Timbers.

Ward Hallman, 7th concession farmer, asked permission and council's cooperation to change the course of the creek passing over his lands. The situation will be viewed when council makes a spring inspection of roads.

F. Fairty, south townline resident charged he wasn't treated fairly when his claim for fox bounty was reported this season. He was informed that in future he must submit the hides for marking, and if council find that three foxes claimed killed to be correct they may pay the bounty. Six witnesses signed a paper declaring to the correctness of Fairty claim.

Markham Squeeze Out Bisons 2-1

Markham won the first game of their best-of-three semi-final round against Crowland-Welland Bisons on Tuesday night by the score of 2-1, in an intermediate 'A' hockey fixture. The second game will be played in Oshawa this Thursday night. If a third game is necessary it will also be played in Oshawa on Saturday night, since Markham won the toss.

ELECTRIC REFRIGERATORS AND RANGES AT RAXLIN'S

Raxlin's furniture store in the Collard block are prepared to open D.V.A. accounts for their big spring offerings, and are prepared to make immediate delivery on Frigidaire refrigerators and electric ranges, also 60 cycle Norge refrigerators now in stock and gas stoves for the new bottled gas available in this district. Raxlin's invite everybody to drop in and see the John Ingalls washing machine.

These and many other lines on display in future. Watch next week's Tribune for display announcement which the publishers could not give us space for this week.

SAP NOT RUNNING GOOD

Hundreds of trees have been tapped in Markham Township in the vicinity of Victoria Square, but up to Monday the run was reported as hardly fair.

A good deal of rain and the absence of frosty nights, are contributory factors to a poor run of sap.

MRS. W. HELMKAY DIED SUDDENLY

Stricken with a thrombosis on Tuesday, Mrs. Wellington Helmkay died early this Wednesday morning at her home on Main street west. She was in her 84th year. The funeral will be held this Saturday afternoon, with service at the late home at 2:30 o'clock.

Old Nichols Farm on 4th Of Markham, is Sold

We understand the Anson Nichols estate has sold the 100 acre farm at Victoria Square (Markham Township) to Mr. Stanley Dafeo of Leaside, prominent business man there. The property has a large poultry house some 70 feet long, and the sale price for lands and building was between \$23,000 and \$24,000.

The property was known as the old Nichols estate, and had been rented by descendants for years.

Vandorf Institute Mark 40th Anniversary

The 40th anniversary of the Vandorf branch of the Women's Institute was celebrated in Vandorf Community Hall, March 17. This Institute was organized by Miss Campbell of Brampton, in 1907. A lovely luncheon was provided for more than 100, some coming from Barrie, Toronto, Newmarket, Aurora, Gormley and Bogartown. The tables were very pretty with blue and gold trimmings, and bouquets of yellow daffodils which were presented by members of the family in memory of the first president, Mrs. J. A. VanNostrand. A beautifully decorated three-story birthday cake, made and decorated by Mrs. Sleeth and Mrs. R. Brown, with 40 blue and gold candles, adorned the head table, around which were seated Mrs. H. White, president, Mrs. Esther Hawton, 1st sec-treas. of this branch and of the district; Mrs. Charles, a district sec-treas. for many years; Mrs. Corner, 1st vice president of the district, representing Mrs. Baines of Keswick; who is district president; Mrs. Sinclair also brought greetings from the district and the Mount Albert branch.

Mrs. F. H. VanNostrand, past president, Miss L. Carroll, oldest active member, Mrs. Ralph Willis, active member for 35 years. Mrs. Colville district publicity convener, representing Bogartown branch; Mrs. Baycroft who brought greetings from the Gormley branch; Miss McDowell and Mrs. Wilfred Adams of Aurora, who furnished lovely piano and vocal music for the occasion.

Mrs. Wm. Powell of Aurora is another of the first members of this Institute. Mrs. Ralph Willis gave the history of the Vandorf branch.

A moment's silence was observed in memory of members who have passed to their reward.

Letters were read from past members who were unable to be present. Roll call was responded to by the members standing as the year in which they joined was called. Mrs. Colville told the legend of St. Patrick. Mrs. H. Stephenson and her daughter Merle who are moving to Maple, were presented with a beautiful lamp and a cup and saucer.

Mrs. Arthur VanNostrand then enumerated the offices held, and work done by Mrs. Ralph Willis since coming to this community nearly 36 years ago and on behalf of the Institute presented her with a life membership certificate and pin.

Scott Retired Farmer, 87, Lived on 7th Whitchurch

At the age of 87, James Benjamin Keetch walked down the street of the little village of Zephyr in Scott Twp., hale and hearty, and able to enjoy the good things of life. It can almost be said of him as one of the great Bible characters: "His natural force was not abated." He stands erect and walks with a good and steady step. The main impairment to his natural vigor is that today he is considerably deaf; one has to talk quite loud to make him hear.

He was born in Georgina township four miles south of Sutton. He boasts he was the smallest baby. Weighing only three pounds, he came to be the heaviest in a family of ten, and also to live the longest. He was one of twins, and his twin sister predeceased him 20 years ago. He has a family, one son farming on the seventh line of Whitchurch, a daughter living near Aurora, and one son dead.

By trade he was a mason, though for a number of years he farmed south of Zephyr and also in Whitchurch township. In height he is 5 feet, 11 inches. He was always a great walker and thought nothing of walking to Newmarket, or Uxbridge, or Mount Albert. His wife predeceased him about 16 years ago. Today he enjoys good health and while retired he is able to do many chores. Only four times in his lifetime has he had to have a doctor, once he had typhoid, another time smallpox, and another time he broke his ankle.

Retall One Cent Sale at Boardway's Drug Store on March 31st, April 1, 2 & 3.



Charming little Betty Irene Byer not quite four, buried on Monday afternoon, at the Wideman cemetery.