

Interested Whitchurch Women Wants To Know



ROYAL COMMISSION on liquor was questioned at convention. Mrs. E. M. Starr, New-

market, stands between Rev. A. Johnson, new general secretary, and Rev. M. J. Aiken,

Peterboro, re-elected president. Ontario government's liquor policies were castigated.

Historic Unionville Church Seeks New Ownership

Place where Ralph Connor, Novelist, Preached his Student Sermons May Sell to Highest Bidder, as Markham Township Seeks to Dispose of 70 Year-Old Building

The decision of Markham Township Council to offer for sale the former old church property in Unionville used as a township hall since 1927 until only a few years ago when the offices were moved across the road, and the old church building left unused excepting as a public hall, has brought forth great interest around Unionville where the hall, such as it is, proved quite a convenience for public affairs.

Some are asking the question about what the council will do when it comes nomination time. Where will they hold the meeting, should the hall be demolished or out of their control, and not available. Well, said one councillor the other day, "there are several halls in the township, one at Buttonville, another at Victoria Square, that could be obtained if necessary should the Unionville hall not be available for a public meeting."

In any event the place is in poor condition, and should undergo costly repairs before long, especially if the township determines to hold on. This building was erected in 1879 by the Congregational Church people. The late Mark Braithwaite donated the lot, plus \$150, in cash toward the project.

The church was dedicated in February, 1880, and was regarded as a wonderful accomplishment for a small band of Christian workers. First minister was Rev. C. C. Silcox. The church was occupied by the Congregationalists until 1890, other ministers in charge being Rev. E. Ebbs and Rev. W. Wilnot. The building was purchased by the Presbyterians and used by that body until church union in 1925.

Three resident ministers served the Presbyterian congregation during the 35 years they owned the building. Rev. P. Nielwell was minister when the building was bought. He resigned in 1896, and was followed by Rev. G. P. Duncan.

It is interesting to note that during summer months prior to Mr. Duncan's arrival, the celebrated Ralph Connor, a student at the time, filled the pulpit, and it is further recalled now that the noted Canadian author made Unionville the setting for some of his future novels.

Rev. Frank Rae after Mr. Duncan's resignation in 1907, remained until 1925, the time of union.

The church building stood unoccupied from 1925 to 1927 when purchased by Markham Township for a place of meeting. The reeve at that time was George B. Padget, still a veteran member of the municipality, and the deputy reeve was the late John R. Campbell. Accommodation was badly needed at that time for nomination meetings, and for council sessions.

The church building has stood in its picturesque setting now for 70 years amid a valued landscape. It was one of the show spots of the district with its historic connection

FORMER MEDICAL DOCTOR IN UXBRIDGE CELEBRATES 85 YEARS

Dr. Horace Bascom who practised medicine in the town of Uxbridge from 1885 to 1912 when he retired and moved to Whitby declared that youthful hoodlums should be spanked. Just a bit of sage advice expounded on his 85th birthday. Scores of homes throughout the Township of Uxbridge recall the country doctor who is now sheriff of Ontario County, a position he has held since his retirement from medical practice.

Staff Changes At High School

Mr. Ross E. Robinson who recently resigned from the Stouffville high school staff will teach in Almonte near Ottawa next term. Likewise, Mr. Paul Sherk who resigned will go down east also, to Smith Falls, beginning next term. With the retirement of Mrs. John Scott from the staff at the end of this term, on account of her recent marriage, Stouffville will require three new teachers next term.

Mrs. Annie Elizabeth Tripp, mother of Mrs. Stanley Hall, died at Lemonville on Tuesday, and will be buried today (Thursday) at Glenora. Mrs. Tripp survived to the great age of 94 years.

Miss Barbara Chase, who has delighted many in Stouffville with her singing, won the Power-Lite Scholarship at the Davenport Sacred Music Festival on Monday evening. The scholarship is \$50, if taken in lessons or \$25 cash.

Strange Things Happen at Night

Last Friday night Constable Russell was called to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Forfar on the school hill; after Mrs. Forfar heard someone trying the front door, and later tapping on the window. When she heard the tap Mrs. Forfar screamed, and her father, Mr. Len Keeping, sleeping in the other half of the double house, was aroused and hastily made investigation.

The constable and Mr. Keeping toured the town without success, but in the west end they did stop a car travelling slowly without lights. It contained six young men from Toronto, touring aimlessly about and the hour was 2 o'clock in the morning. Their names were taken and the car license, just in case they may be wanted for questioning later.

Only two weeks ago a west end home was alarmed when a window peeper frightened the inmates, and a similar occurrence up on Church street was reported where a ladder was said to have been used to reach a window.

Window peeping is undoubtedly the work of some "cracked" individual, who until he is caught, causes no end of annoyance and fear to householders.

with one of Canada's famous authors, plus its fine architecture of the Victorian days.

Three Fires on Church St. in Week

For the third time within less than a week the fire alarm sounded for a blaze on Church street north. Twice at the Pierre poultry place, and on Tuesday night the barn belonging to R. S. Fenwick on the Gunn property was discovered a mass of flames at 11.30. It was a total loss despite the fact firemen had trouble reaching the place with a good head of water. Mr. Fenwick was in Montreal and his wife a hospital patient in Toronto. The children are boarded out. Contents of barn included articles in storage, it is believed. Cause of fire is unknown.

Win Timbers Called For Prize Second Time - Missed

Call it the height of fortune or fate or something, but the name of Win Timbers, deputy-reeve of Markham Township, was called for the second time within a month on Photo-Nite at the Stanley Theatre on April 14. On either occasion when Mr. Timbers' name was called he would have been the recipient of over \$200 — the deputy-reeve was not present, probably isn't a theatre goer, we don't know, excepting that he did not respond to his name, and thereupon the money was restored to the "kitty" for the next Photo-Nite.

Many people would consider themselves highly fortunate to have a chance at one draw, but our west end farmer was called for the money on two occasions within a month.

Close to this sort of luck came Mrs. Sam Fockler, north of town, who on April 21, heard her name called and this Thursday evening will collect \$275. Mrs. Fockler won a substantial amount only last fall.

MUSICAL SHOW

You will be sorry if you miss the variety show featuring ballads, modern and popular songs with a splendid array of beautiful costumes, presented this Friday night, April 29th, in Veteran's Hall. Billie Bell Gregg has had 18 years in musical shows and vaudeville and chautauqua in U.S.A. and Canada, and 10 years on Canadian radio chain. She was the first contract to be used exclusively by the radio corporation and was chosen to represent Canada at the opening of Radio City, New York. She is a vocal teacher and the modernists are a group of senior students being presented in the public. This concert is sponsored by the Women's Institute and is an entertainment well worth attending.

Athletic Club Plan Gala May 24th

Stouffville Athletic Club is planning for a bangup sports day here on May 24th. Feature of the program will be a baseball tournament with two games in the afternoon and the final, a twilight fixture. There'll be races for the little tots and free ice-cream.

In addition to a big bingo party in the evening, there'll be a band concert in the park, and the public is invited to bring along lunch and enjoy the day in the fine surroundings.

Less Than \$4,000 from Goal In Campaign for Artificial Ice

Latest figures in the Artificial Ice Campaign on Wednesday morning show that more than \$16,000 has been subscribed. This is an increase of \$8,000 in the last week, and shows the canvass to have averaged nearly \$2,000 subscriptions per day for the twenty-three days since it started.

The campaign is headed down the homestretch to the \$50,000 mark, and canvassers are optimistic that they may reach it by the end of the week. In any case, an announcement will appear in this paper next week concerning a meeting of the shareholders at which time the preliminary directors will be named, and the machinery of company formation set in motion.

In order that we may have an artificial ice arena in operation for next winter, urgency is felt to complete the canvass this week. A week or two may elapse before the permanent directors of the company take office, and they will be the men who will be empowered to enter into contracts for the job. Even before a shovel has been put in the ground, enquiries are coming to committee men from Toronto clubs regarding the possibility of contracting for practice time well in advance. This fact bears out the contention that once the arena is in operation, the management will find itself "swamped" with applications for use.

C. E. Rainey, Uxbridge Born, Died in Ottawa

C. E. Rainey, prominent citizen of the town of Uxbridge for many years, died suddenly at his home in Ottawa on Tuesday morning this week. Only recently Mr. and Mrs. Rainey celebrated fifty years of wedded life, an incident that was accorded liberal space in the press of the district.

Prominent in sporting circles Mr. Rainey was long identified with the Uxbridge Journal during the days when that paper was regarded as the best published weekly north of Toronto. Not only an organizer of sport, such as football, lacrosse, etc., Ed. Rainey was himself a star player and distinguished himself in the lacrosse field, and as a champion runner. He rose to the rank of Captain in the local Militia, and drill instructor at the Uxbridge High School.

He married Maud Kay, Uxbridge girl, who survives him, together with four daughters, and two sons, and seven grandchildren.

Interment was made in Uxbridge cemetery this Thursday morning on arrival of the body from Ottawa.

In a letter received from the late Ed. Rainey only recently, he said: "Remember me to Ed. Pennock, Hughie Anderson, and any other old friends. Health permitting, I hope to visit you this summer."

The Stouffville Baptist congregation held their annual meeting on Wednesday evening last week, and heard encouraging reports from the various officers. Rev. J. K. Pequegnat presided. The Baptist congregation was first organized in Stouffville in 1873 and a church built on Main street east, opposite Baker avenue.

OSWALD J. SMITH



Under auspices of the Stouffville and District Business Men's Fellowship, Rev. Oswald J. Smith, will deliver an address to members of this group in Stouffville United Church on the evening of Thursday, May 5th. Dr. Smith will be supported on the program by a Ladies' Octette from his own Peoples' Church, Toronto. On this special occasion the men of the district are invited to bring their wives or lady friends.

Lions Invest \$1,000 In Artificial Ice

Stouffville Lions Club gave a generous boost to the current campaign for artificial ice when they voted to subscribe to ten shares or \$1,000 at their regular meeting on Monday night. The artificial ice arena will be a wonderful asset to the youth of the district, the Lions believe, and thus they heartily endorsed the project.

Vivian Farm Sold Twice In Two Months

It is just about two months ago since James Smith sold his 100 acre farm which lies east of Vivian to James Ridley, in order to take over his newly acquired farm at Ringwood from Delos Graham.

Last week Mr. Ridley sold his newly acquired farm near Vivian to J. Robinson of Richmond Hill, just two months after purchasing the property, which contains 100 acres, attractive barns and a good brick house. The sale price is reported to be \$8,500. Mr. Robinson sold a property in Richmond Hill, and was in urgent need, hence he lost no time acquiring the Vivian farm when the opportunity presented itself. Just how quick Harvey Moyer turned the deal can be realized when it is known that he listed the 100 acres one day and sold it the next day.

Engagements

Mr. and Mrs. Len Tait of 6 Cedar Street, Ajax, Ont., announce the engagement of their daughter, Doreen Helen, to Mr. George Alexander Shewan, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Shewan of Whitby; the marriage to take place on Saturday, May 14th, 1949.

Mr. Irvine Hawley wishes to announce the engagement of his daughter, Edith Irene, to Ross Maynard, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Maynard of Markham. The marriage will take place on May 28th, 1949.

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Gibson announce the engagement of their daughter, Velma Irene, to Mr. Allan Wesley Wideman, son of Mr. Seth Wideman and the late Mrs. Wideman; the marriage to take place on Saturday, May 14th.

48 Year Record Same Church Organ

When this newspaper last week revealed that Miss Nora Stapleton had recently completed 42 years as a church organist, (which fact later became radio news over the popular CFRB) it brought forth interesting information about another church organist in this district whose shattering record of service raises the hurdle for competitors still higher. Miss Janet Bruce, so widely known in the north Markham district and who resides with her brother, the well known A. D. Bruce, held the position of church organist at Melville on the 6th of Markham, from March 1887 to June 1935—forty-eight years and three months.

The record made by Miss Bruce is more interesting when it is learned that from start to finish over the nearly half century, she played the original instrument. It was a Dominion organ, and at the beginning was the only church organ on the market in those early days. "It was considered rather complicated, and I was the only person who could play it for many years," said Miss Bruce. This made the position rather exacting, for Miss Bruce was called to play at every event held in the church as well as for the Sunday services. This organist must have given many hours each week to the service of her church, for it is recorded that this still interesting personage was choir leader for thirty years during the period she was organist.

When Miss Bruce took office Melville Church was under the banner of Presbyterianism, but later followed into union to become a member of the United Church of Canada.

Births

ANDERSON — Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Anderson are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, a sister for Sharon, on April 12th, 1949, at General Hospital, Whitehorse, Yukon Territory.

TAKING EXTENDED EUROPEAN TRIP

Mrs. Reg. MacKay of Stouffville leaves today by plane for the United Kingdom for an extended visit with relatives. She also plans to spend some time in Paris, France and Interlaken, Switzerland, returning to Canada in July. Mrs. MacKay has been engaged on the exchange for the B & S Telephone Co.

Another Claimed by Death from Old Goodwood Family

The death occurred on Friday of John Francis Davey at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dudley White, Altona. Member of a former well known Goodwood family, Mr. Davey was in his 89th year, and was laid to rest in Hartman cemetery, near Mount Albert on Monday.

John Davey was the fourth son of the late James and Mary Ann Davey of Goodwood. He was born in Alderney, Channel Islands, in October, 1860. Coming to Canada with his parents he lived as a boy in Goodwood where the family located and where his father was section foreman for 34 years with the old G.T.R. Following in the footsteps of his father, John Jr. entered the employ of the railway and became a foreman at Vivian on the old Stouffville-Sutton line in operation before the first great war. On retirement he located on a farm north of Ballantrae, but on the death of his only son Norman, Mr. Davey and his wife, the former Matilda McKeown, retired in Mount Albert. Here Mrs. Davey died and Mr. Davey continued there alone for some years, when he moved to the home of Mr. and Mrs. D. White, east of Stouffville. Mrs. White had spent her girlhood days with the late Mr. and Mrs. Davey.

John Davey was of a family of eight sons and two daughters born to John and Matilda Davey who came from the Channel Islands. Only three remain today of these worthy sons and daughters. They are William Davey of Ottawa, Peter H. Davey and Walter Davey, Toronto. All three are retired from long and honorable records in their respective callings. Another brother, the late E. J. Davey of Stouffville also served the railway and lived to enjoy a retiring allowance which he received for years, and which only came to those who were deserving.

James Davey, the eldest of this large family died in March 1924, Thomas in December 1909, Richard John November 1937, John Francis April 1949, Edward Joseph November 1947, Jane (Mrs. Hill) December 1945, Elizabeth Ann November 1948.

The death of John Davey recalls the grim fact that there has been one member of the group called by death in 1947, 1948, and in 1949.

Markham Tp. Tax Rate Points Higher

Markham Township Council met several times last week, striving to strike the tax rate for 1949, and finally completed the job.

Taxes will be collected in two instalments, June 30th and October 30th.

While the general tax rate of 10 mills is likely to hold, the county rate is advanced, which along with increased secondary school rates, has advanced the over-all rate by about three mills.

The public school rates will be advanced in more than half the sections, and this is something over which the council have no control, although council did convene the trustees in an effort to have them stabilize their demands. This increase is to be added to the general increase referred to in the foregoing paragraph.

Collecting taxes in two instalments is new to Markham Township, but it is argued that two small bills are more easily paid than one large bill. Likewise, if half the taxes are paid in June, bank borrowings are reduced. While the second instalment may be paid with the first, it looks as though there will be no discount allowed on advance payment, hence it will be interesting to see how the ratepayers will react to this situation.