

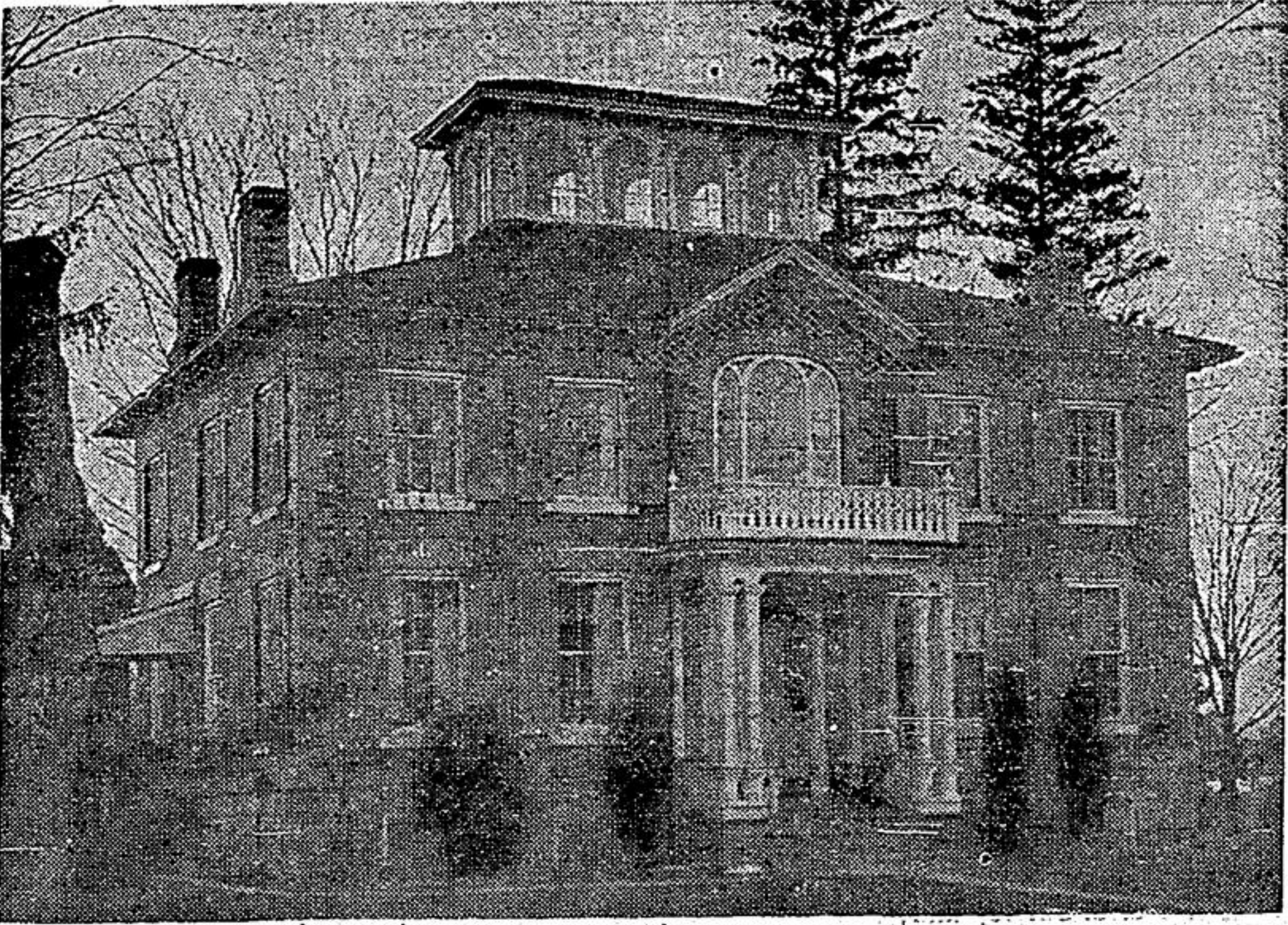
Reminiscences of Brougham Village



Above is a photograph of the old Commercial Hotel at Brougham, as it was about 70

years ago. Now remodelled, with a new veranda replacing the one shown above, it is at

present the township hall where the township council meets.



This is the old Bentley home, one of the original brick homes built in the village of Brougham.

It was built by James and William, who settled there in the early 30's of the last

century. It is now occupied by Mrs. C. Shepherd, a granddaughter of the original Bentleys.

(continued from front page)

In 1850 the Sons of Temperance came into being, and became a great power for good in this district. At first the members were all men, mainly heads of families, but later women and teen-agers were admitted, in some cases whole families. These young people grew up as total abstainers, and had a great influence on public thought. When the township had a plebiscite on local option, the Sons of Temperance, with time and money, persevered through tedious litigation until a favorable verdict was obtained. A signal honor was once conferred on two of its members, G. B. Smith and Sylvanus Sharrard, when they were elected to office in the National Division of North America.

Hotels in the Village

At one time three hotels flourished in the village. The old Central Hotel was built and operated by Powell Woodruff. The Commercial was built by Charles Matthews, and Sampson Webb built a front to his residence as a hotel. The old Central is now Mrs. Woodward's store. The Commercial houses the council chambers, and the Webb is now the residence of Albert Grey.

In early days, a place of accommodation was a real necessity when produce and grain had to be transported from the back townships with horses and wagons, to the lake front for shipment. The accommodation was very welcome, but some tragic events in the history of the village were caused by strong drink.

Agricultural Fair

Another organization that flourished from 1850 to 1889 was Pickering Township Agricultural Fair. With the coming to the county of well-to-do farmers, like the Millers of this district, bringing with them stock imported from the old land, stock breeding grew rapidly in the township. Shows were held in different places, with plowing matches in connection with them. These grew in popularity until 1850 a fall fair was organized. Brougham and Greenwood were both claimants for having the annual fair, but in 1866 four acres of land were bought from James Hubbard for \$350, and Brougham people helped to raise the money, so that the Pickering Agricultural Fair was established on a permanent basis in 1866 and continued until 1889. The first fair ground was on a lot north of the Dean Mair's residence, but it is now incorporated in the Mervin Annis farm.

The new fair ground was surrounded by a fence too high for boys to climb over, and too low for them to crawl under. Pens were built for animals and a fine hall. It was a most popular fair until in 1887 and 1888 pouring rain made the annual show's impossible and the fair was discontinued. This co-operative movement was a great benefit to agriculture, the fact of the farmers meeting and working together united them in a common bond of fellowship. Brougham has one genuine Scottish shepherd, who "kent well hoo taek the lift the sheep's faces adjust locks for exhibition." The agricultural hall was used for a time as a skating rink until John Cowan bought it and used the timbers in

building the church. The land is now the property of M. Harlock.

Public School

The public school plays a great part in the history of any community, and Brougham school has a long history. The earliest records of the school are those of 1836. Several of the earliest teachers were women, but the earliest I remember were Alvan Herrick, Amos Ferrier and Hector Baxter. The latter was a young man of little experience but with a forceful character which made itself felt in the community. He was a strong advocate of temperance, and his principles made him enemies of the then three hotels, from which he suffered persecution. He made the school grounds into a show place, with artistically arranged flower beds and planted trees. He inaugurated township school picnics. These picnics remained a happy memory throughout the years, with the women and children all enthused by them. Brougham had its eight horses hitched tandem, with Charles Hubbard at the lines; No. 12 school had a square of horses. There were bands playing as in the contest, Brougham was the banner school and was named "Maple Lodge School." Clergymen, politicians and educationists were all proud to be guest speakers and the pupils had contests. One of the prize winners for elocution was Emma Woodruff (the late Mrs. W. Alloway, Pickering). Mr. Baxter also staged grand entertainments, at one of which his presence of mind averted a tragedy, a curtain took fire while the township hall was packed with people who jammed the doors, which opened inwards. For a time panic ensued. But Mr. Baxter crushed the fire with his hands and calmly restored order. For some years male teachers were the rule, and they were almost necessary, as in the winter months the farm boys went back to school, either to finish their education or do a bit of courting.

Medical Profession

The most important of all professions is that of the M.D., and in this Brougham was well served. In the early days Mr. Tucker of Duffin's Creek served the community, but in 1862 a newly graduated doctor, William Ferrier, took up permanent residence in the village and remained there until 1832 when he went to Claremont. He was followed by Dr. Eugene Freil, a very popular young doctor, who was followed in turn by Dr. Basson, Dr. Fish and Dr. McKinnon and since the last named doctor's death Brougham has been served by doctors from other centres. Natives of Brougham who became doctors years ago were Dr. L. Bentley and Dr. G. Lamoreau, Dr. B. Churchill and Dr. F. King.

Trades Represented

One of my purposes in writing this historical sketch was to show the interdependence of farm and village in earlier days, before the time of the large department stores delivering goods direct to the homes. Formerly, almost every trade was represented in the village. One of the most important to farmers was that of the blacksmith. Among the earliest were two brothers, Sandy and Jake Smith from Aberdeen, at the old smithy one and a half miles west

of the village. They went to the United States and their brother-in-law, Robbie Greig, came in 1852 and took over. In the village Tom Middaugh has the Brown carriage shop, where Robert Brown also made coffins. In 1870, William Mosgrove bought the Brown shop, and worked there for 50 years until his death in 1924, when the business ceased. A number of Brougham boys learned the trade in Mr. Mosgrove's shop.

Another trade of importance was that of the harness-making. Among the earliest to engage in it were S. Grosse, George Crowhurst, Van Buren Woodruff, W. Woodruff, M. Morris, in the eighties, Adam McDowell, who employed three men, followed by Messrs. Hargrave Coakwell and Jewel until the trade ceased.

A tannery was operated on the creek, behind what is now the M. Harlock residence. This tannery was operated by Andrew Patterson and Son and fell a prey to fire in 1878. The house on the lot was burned years later and rebuilt by Mr. Harlock.

Industries in Village

Several industries used to flourish in the village. A sizable creek used to flow through the flats, and on it, in 1859, a saw mill was built. This was burned down in 1867, and rebuilt the same year, with the addition of a tub factory, the proprietor being George B. Stock. My earliest recollection of it was a basket factory, under the joint management of A. Pennell and W. Wilkinson, employing twelve women and five men. The late William Barnes bought the business in 1874, and transferred it to Green River.

The medicine factory was also operating at that time, under the management of N. Woodruff and W. Bentley, employing five or six girls and the manager, but it was soon after sold to a Toronto firm, Milburn, Bentley and Pearson. The factory building was sold to the farmers' organization known as "The Grange" and was used for meetings and as a farmers' co-operative store, until the early eighties, when, with two houses and an implement shop and livery stable on the south side of Main Street, it was destroyed by fire. The Presbyterian, now United Church, was built on the corner. Another disastrous fire in the eighties was that at the extensive carriage making shops of Sampson Webb and Sons, which extended from Easton's corner to the then Methodist Church lot. Three shops were never rebuilt.

The shoemaker trade was represented through the years by Joseph Reeves, Richard Underhill, James Murdock and W. J. Bodell, whose shop was the rendezvous of old retired citizens, who met there and discussed and settled to their own satisfaction all problems, political, economic and moral. Possibly the untidy shop was a contrast to too much order at home. W. J. Bodell, who lived his life of over eighty years almost entirely in the village, had two wives and a large family which had grown up and scattered. Left alone, he seemed part of the village and he passed away over twenty years ago.

In the seventies, Thomas Hamilton was the baker, employing three men. William Smith was a

Happy NEW YEAR

Your most cherished wishes - Health - Contentment. Have them all in the year to come!

Marion Sanderson



We greet you with a wish for all of the health, happiness and prosperity the New Year holds.

Raxlin Furniture Store

SCHOOL BOARDS CAN DECIDE FOR SELVES

The Minister of Education, Dana Porter, says school boards will be able to decide for themselves if they wish to accept the newly announced four-level grade system of education, at least, for the time being.

Under the new system, primary and secondary schools will be reorganized into primary, junior, intermediate and senior. But Porter said last night that the Department will probably not take a firm stand on the matter until September of 1951, when the first experimental year is over. He says it may take teachers some time to adapt themselves to the new system.

QUADRUPLETS DEFEAT JAIL TERM FOR MOTHER

Unborn quadruplets saved a 38-year-old London barmaid from a prison term. Accused of stealing from taverns at which she was employed, she was sentenced Nov. 23 to a year's

stone mason, James Thornton, a butcher, and James Howitt, a weaver of woollen goods in those days when wool was spun at home for home use. Mrs. Brown was a rag carpet-weaver from 1886 to 1914. Tailors were Miller and Pat Doyle. Dressmakers were Mrs. Helen Marr and her daughter, Mrs. T. Thornton, Elsie Smith, Almira Wilson and Bell Brown. Jorham Littlejohn was the well digger. Village men and farm boys without trades became farm helpers, but earnings were only \$15 to \$20 a month for men and \$4 to \$5 a month for domestic servants, with no stated hours of work. These conditions sent many would-be good citizens to seek homes in the west, where many became well-to-do and occupied important positions in their adopted communities.

Stores of the Village

The first store, built by the Bentleys in 1835 had as storekeepers the Bentleys, James Smith, James Logie, John Burk and Moses Linton. Mr. Linton was the owner when it was burned in 1878, destroying his store and dwelling, the dressmaking and millinery business of Elsie Smith, Peter Hoyle's tailor shop, the residence of E. Wade, the house and harness shop of M. Morris and the Sons of Temperance Hall. In 1880, a double store brick building was erected on the site and a brick Temperance Hall replaced the old one. The first storekeeper in the new store was J. Douglas, and it was occupied in turn by Messrs. Morton, Willis, Gleason, Alger, Phillip, Annis, Gannon and Knox. This store was burned down in 1923 and rebuilt the following year by E. Annis.

The stores of these early days were well stocked with everything necessary to supply the needs of a self-sustaining community, the storekeepers often having to exchange goods paid for in cash for unsaleable butter and ancient eggs, and smile while they did it. The only store building of the originals is the store and residence of Mrs. Brown, where the public library has been located since 1922. Brougham has now once again entered on a period of expansion. Much building is going on. The Citizens' League and the Women's Institute look after the social life of the community. The United Church is binding the people together in worship. Past history is not so important since World War No. 2, but the staunch and noble characters of the old generation have descended to the youth of today, to fit them to grapple with present day problems.



EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

by Don Graham

Is it worth while trying to keep in touch with all of our friends? Indeed it is! People are necessary to our success and happiness. We depend on them for help, understanding, companionship and appreciation. So to enjoy life to the full we should make a systematic effort to keep each fire of friendship aglow.

This may be done in several ways. For instance:
1. Make a list of all your friends and acquaintances, together with addresses. Keep it up to date.
2. Phone or write a note to at least one of these people each week. Even a brief note, containing just a couple of sentences or a clipping which you think may interest that person, is an effective contact-renewer.
3. Answer all your mail faithfully.

4. Ask people for information or get them to help you in other ways. They're glad to be of assistance—and every contact improves your relations with them.

5. Be helpful in every possible way to others.
6. Do your share of entertaining—with a plus, even if you can only do so on a very modest scale.

Follow this program and see how it adds to your enjoyment of life!

Have you been in touch with your life underwriter lately? Since you last saw him, changes may have occurred in your family situation which call for changes in your life insurance program. He'll be glad to help you bring that program up-to-date.



Mel Emmerson

imprisonment.

Appearing for Diane Fletcher before the appeals committee, her counsel, J. F. Eastwood, said that physicians first reported that she would give birth to twins in a matter of weeks. After a second examination they said it looked like triplets, and now they have increased their prediction to quadruplets.
A. W. Cochburn, presiding official, quashed the prison sentence.

PIGS DROWNED IN RIVER

An unfortunate accident occurred on the farm of Mr. Clarence Smith, 9th concession, Arran, in the Walkerton district, recently, when six three and a half months old pigs were drowned. Mr. Smith had driven the pigs out of the barn while he cleaned out the pen. They strolled down to the river and out on the thin ice, where they broke through into about three feet of water and drifted under the ice. Mr. Smith noticed the pigs missing and on investigating found their tracks leading to the hole in the ice. The pigs all weighed around 85 pounds each.—Tara Leader.

RETIRED MINISTER DIES

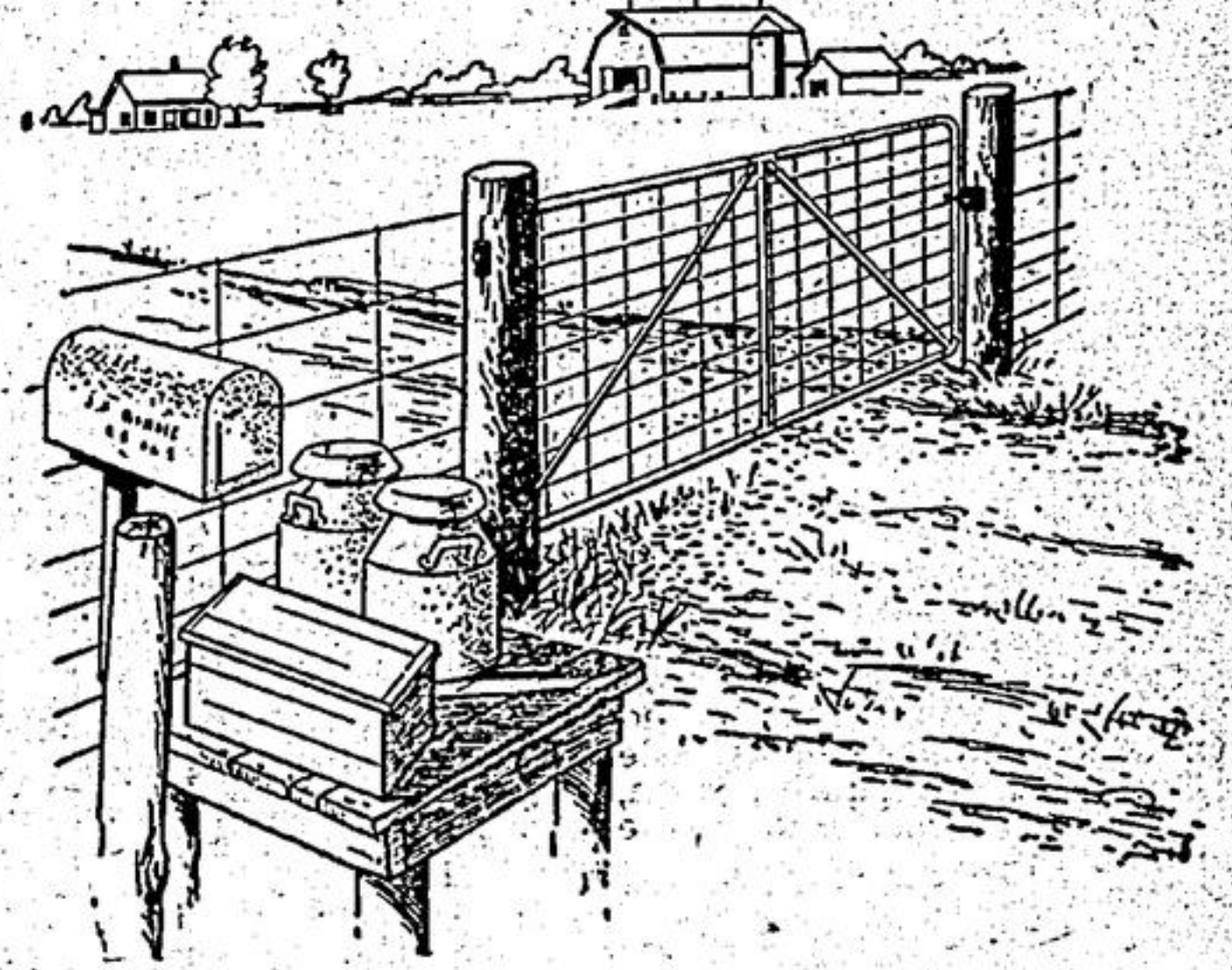
A missionary in India for 40 years, Rev. James Davidson, 76, died suddenly at his home in Toronto. A native of North Gwillimbury Township, he was formerly minister of the Presbyterian Church at Stratford. He retired in 1943.

As a rocket seeks a ceiling to the sky, so shall our efforts to serve you be unceasing in the months of the year to come!



P. HUTTON

"BEYOND OUR OWN GATE POSTS"



Fifty thousand Ontario Farmers operate a hundred and forty local co-operatives. "Beyond their own gateposts" they are doing jobs in purchasing and marketing which cannot be done on the home farms.

Through these local co-operatives they operate a regional co-operative wholesale for the province. Thus they do jobs in purchasing and marketing which cannot be done locally.

This regional organization (formerly under the name of United Farmers Co-operative) has completed its 36th year of operation. Total business for the year ended Sept. 30, 1949 was over 45 million dollars. Net earnings amounted to 322 thousand dollars.

United Co-operatives of Ontario

with which is affiliated the

STOUFFVILLE CO-OP ASSOCIATION