

Loses Leg, Then Son Killed



Most everybody enjoyed a happy holiday year-end, but not Mr. and Mrs. Harry Shea of Hamilton. They planned the holiday with their three adopted children. A week before Harry Shea, one-time hotel

owner, was taken home from hospital after having a leg amputated. Just at this same time little Joseph seen sitting in front on the pony raised at Gormley, was fatally crushed under the wheels of a big truck.

Resident 52 Years Fred Cockerill Passes

Following a long period of poor health Fred Cockerill died at his home on Blake Street this Wednesday morning at four o'clock. Born at Sharon north of Newmarket 77 years ago last Saturday, Mr. Cockerill united in marriage with Annie Pickering, the ceremony being performed in Toronto. They immediately located in Stouffville. That was 52 years ago and they lived here continuously together until death now intervenes. Mrs. Cockerill and one son Gordon of King City together with four daughters all survive. The girls are Hazel (Mrs. Roy Lewis) of London, Norine of Detroit, Edna (Mrs. Bert Edwards) of Owen Sound and Verna at home and with the B. & S. Telephone Co. on the exchange. Fred Cockerill was a highly respected citizen possessing a quiet unassuming disposition, a man who enjoyed his home life above everything else.

Something new for Stouffville will be Saturday night hockey games, commencing this week, Jan. 7th. The opposition on this occasion will be Toronto Meteors who are picked by some as the team to beat in this OHA Big Seven, Senior group. Stouffville Clippers are riding the crest of a four-game winning streak, and will be out to make it five in a row this Saturday. Public skating will be moved back from Saturday to Friday.

Council Sympathetic to An Unfortunate Family Forbidden Use of Hydro

"Too heavy a wage bill for such favorable winter weather," commented Councillor Wm. Clark at the inaugural meeting of Markham Township Council on Monday. Scanning over the pay roll, he observed that from Dec. 15 eight men were constantly on the township pay roll costing \$110 each.

"As far as I am concerned road costs have got to be cut, if we are to reduce the tax rate," continued Mr. Clark.

Mr. Rumney, newly elected Deputy Reeve declared it could be done, and Reeve Win Timbers said it was for council to decide whether to keep these men full time or part time, and the discussion dropped at this point.

Councillor Clark led off again when he declared himself in favor of the council acting as a planning board. "We handle all the other business and can do this work too," he said.

Reeve Timbers suggested that regular council meetings could be held on specified dates, perhaps first and middle Mondays in the month, and planning board meetings, councillors agreed might be held in the evenings following the council sessions.

It was decided to insert a standing notice in the weekly press circulating, the township in the coming events indicating the dates council would meet and for what purpose.

The press urged council to furnish them with a copy of the minutes of each meeting, and this was seriously considered, and may receive final approval after

VIOLETS IN BLOOM—OUT OF DOORS

Yet there upon that upland height
The darlings of the spring—
Blue violets—were blossoming.

Many poets have spun verses about the "darlings" of the flower families—the delicate violets, that bloom in spring. Wonder what they would compose, had they saw the delicate heads of the bunch of "darlings" bravely blooming out of doors this Christmas week on the south side of a fence row sheltered by bushes on the farm of Mr. John Brillinger, Bethesda. Probably the brave little flowers would have been dubbed "orphans" or something of the sort or perhaps they could be construed a gift from Santa Claus. In any event, a gift from the Great Creator, the more impressive because of the unusual time of year for the lovely delicate violet to spring forth.

New Year Baby At The Brierbush

At 7 a.m. on New Year's morning, the first 1950 baby was ushered into this world at the Brierbush Hospital, Stouffville. A bouncing baby girl weighing seven pounds, two ozs. is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Flewell, Uxbridge. There are two other children in the Flewell family, two brothers, Ronald, aged eight, and Reginald, three.

Thieves Enter CNR Station at Goodwood

During Thursday night thieves forced an entrance into the CNR station at Goodwood and carried off the hundred pound safe, containing papers and about \$40 or \$50 in cash.

The safe was later found near the farm of Jos. Betz at Mongolia with the door forced. Entrance to the station was made by forcing up a window, and opening the door from the inside.

Agent F.W. Marshall said it is only six years since Goodwood station was robbed before.

Horse Flesh Enjoys "Sentimental" Home in Whitchurch Township

The old gray gelding "ain't what he used to be," but he has a record that will take some beating, so thinks Garnet Evans, farmer on the 3rd concession of Whitchurch at Mt. Pisgah. Mr. Evans has a gray gelding twenty-five years old, and its third generation of its breed held in the family continuously now for 65 years.

Mr. Evans and his brother Lorne Evans recall that the breeding traces back to the famous Messenger, and the third generation back was born 67 years ago. The mare was acquired by the Evans family when she was young. She was a good brood mare, and at the age of 21 gave birth to a filly which they chose to name "Tory." The name followed because the filly had a full brother a year older that was named "Grit." Mr. Evans says that in spite of their names the brother and sister were always on best of terms, and teamed along together as good horses should. Not even an election disturbed their liking for each other.

At 21 years old "Tory" gave birth to the gelding now owned by Mr. Evans and this veteran animal can still do a day's work but he is seldom called on to do much since the farm is equipped with power machinery, and the old gray gelding is tolerated largely or wholly because of sentiment.

It is not likely that this record for horse flesh on one farm can be duplicated in the whole township, perhaps not in the county.

Lions Launch New Car Help Summer Program

A spanking new Pontiac car is on the road now bearing the crest of the Stouffville Lions Club, and on which tickets are being sold for a draw in a few months time. The net proceeds from this project will go to various local Lions work, principally their Memorial Park improvement program which is ready for its second stage this spring.

Already the Lions have expended nearly \$2,000 in the park in play equipment, new baseball bleachers, and a new fence which is on hand ready to be erected in the spring. The next stage which was previously planned for 1950 was the hard-topping of the tennis court area.

In addition to the good works done by the Lions, and mentioned above, the service club expended in 1949 several thousand dollars in the new arena, in providing a free eye checkup for every pupil in the local schools, free TB chest X-rays, help to the North York children's summer camp, and the Veterans' Memorial Hall.

All in all, some \$5,000 was raised to cover these various charitable works last year.

Sudden Death of Percy Cober, Aged 51

The sudden and shocking death is reported from Fordwich of Percy Cober who passed away with little warning on Tuesday afternoon. He had been away from his home on a visit, went to bed with a cold and heavy coughing during which he died.

Only in his 51st year, he was born in Markham Township. He married Ruth Steckley, daughter of Mrs. Steckley of Gormley, and the late Peter Steckley, who survived him together with four daughters and two grandsons. The family moved to Fordwich about two years ago.

Funeral will be held this Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock in the Hill Church, with interment in the adjoining cemetery.

Whitchurch Twp. Council Returned by Big Lead Over Opponents

The expression of opinion so often heard in Whitchurch the last week that an election was not warranted this year, because of the type of candidates coming forward to oust the 1949 councillors, was proven by the result of the vote.

Alex Campbell's attempt to gain the office of deputy-reeve was the most outstanding mistake. Mr. Campbell is a small holder in the township, has no municipal experience whatever, yet offers himself for a position which demands experience in the council at least. His poor showing against Ivan McLaughlin indicates that the ratepayers were aware of the situation, and voted accordingly.

Much the same trouble was indicated when two subdivision residents sought seats on the council when they are scarcely known in the municipality. Mr.

Styles made a poor showing last year and there was nothing to indicate he would stand in better favor this year. He didn't, and polled a negligible vote. Stanley Rule was the strongest of the new comers, but at that was a long way behind.

The old council now returned intact, can settle down quickly to business. There is a general feeling, we believe, that council should heed the request of these subdivision people and when they ask for roads under local improvements. Local improvements costs under the bylaw are paid for directly by the area benefitted, therefore should cause no worry to other parts of the township.

The strong support accorded the old councillors in Monday's contest indicates that the electors have every confidence in the council of their choice.

The Vote by Polls

	Oak Ridges	Bethesda	Lemonville	Bloomington	Armstrong	Pleasantville	Cedarvale	Vivian	Total
Deputy-reeve									
Alex Campbell	268	12	6	2	5	6	19	8	326
I. McLaughlin	159	124	119	135	58	144	100	144	983
For Council									
R. C. Baycroft	122	123	115	111	61	118	34	98	782
Sid. Legge	136	103	100	95	65	142	105	115	861
Stanley Rule	421	9	17	5	7	12	9	12	492
Geo. E. Styles	17	5	13	15	6	12	91	47	206
Fred Timbers	88	98	118	132	49	120	45	133	783

Envision Stouffville Swallowed by Great Metropolitan Area

Little did anyone dream that the village of Stouffville would be embodied in a metropolitan area scheme with the city of Toronto, and some day be the outer rim of the great city.

Creation of such an area is now envisioned, one that would embrace not only the townships of Vaughan and Markham, but the village of Stouffville which would form the corner stone in this north-east corner of what would be the largest city in the world.

Such district if created in the metropolitan area would entail setting up boards to handle basic municipal services, the recently released reports of the Committee on Metropolitan Problems, Civic Advisory Council of Toronto, states.

The report refrains from singling out any one plan to solve the growing pains of the metropolitan area. Recommendations will be made in part two of the report. This will be issued within the next three months.

Dealing with the formation of a new metropolitan county structure the report says:

"The merit of a scheme creating a metropolitan county would lie in the fact that it would utilize some of the existing forms of administration with which municipal officials are familiar and within which they are accustomed to work.

"Such a scheme would leave

untouched, in part certain local situations in which resistance may develop on the basis of threats to local autonomy. On the other hand, creation of a metropolitan county on the grounds of palatability might make it difficult to implement more drastic forms of administrative revision which might be required to solve the major problems of the metropolitan area."

The report deals with borough system and its virtues and disadvantages. Application of this system to Toronto would not be a simple expedient, it suggests.

Amalgamation, or piecemeal annexation, is described as "the natural method of setting the problem of growth in a metropolitan community." After referring to the substantial administrative difficulties which would follow amalgamation, the report says:

"If the metropolitan area outlined by the committee is accepted, amalgamation would involve elimination of 22 political units. For this reason alone it would be resisted strenuously on the grounds of local autonomy. It is probable that amalgamation could only be achieved by provincial leadership and mandatory legislation. But the fact is, if amalgamation is going to take place, it would be much preferable to the municipalities in the area to initiate the amalgamation themselves."

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Goudie spent New Year's day with his parents, Rev. and Mrs. S. Goudie, Mill St.

Mrs. Blake Sanders has left for Napanee where she will spend the winter months.

Everybody Pays Their Taxes No Defaulters for 1949

Just a day or two before the end of the year, Tax Collector K. R. Davis showed the press a statement of the tax situation in Stouffville. It indicated that probably by the time this appears in print, not a single taxpayer in Stouffville will owe one cent on their current 1949 demand. With a few days to go, a sum less than \$100 was outstanding, but on which arrangement for payment had been made, and within days at that.

Such a record for promptness in paying taxes would be hard to beat. Of course, it couldn't be beaten, but few municipalities could do or equal it.

The total collection amounts to \$32,568, and this Collector Davis has received. Credit is due him and the taxpayers too. Revenue from our public utilities, water and hydro electric would be more than the general taxes, and we have no defaulters in these two services either. Stouffville's financial position is certainly enviable both from the moderate taxes demanded and the ability of the people to pay and pay promptly.

Cemetery Opposed In Markham Twp.

Because land between Langstaff and Thornhill has been designated for residential and commercial purposes, Markham Township Council last December decided to apply for a writ to prohibit use of two lots at Langstaff for a Roman Catholic cemetery.

Although the diocese had offered remuneration for loss of taxes, it would not equal the revenue the township could receive from industry, it was said by township officials. Also there is the possibility that a cemetery, once established, would be enlarged by confiscating additional lands.

Devaluation of property in the vicinity, according to retiring reeve Vern Griffin, would be inevitable. At the inaugural meeting of the new council on Monday the matter was not considered at all, and the writ is proceeding, we understand.

Sunday Hockey Practice Allowed, But Public Barred

Stouffville has its own Sunday sports problem, not so serious as Toronto, however.

By a vote of 250 to 69 shareholders in the new Stouffville Arena decided to allow Sunday hockey practices, but banned the public from watching them.

Leading the group objecting to any activity at the arena on Sunday were the Rev. Douglas Davis and Rev. Norman Rowan, supported by W.D. Atkinson.

Mr. Rowan charged that three or four shareholders, whose main consideration was the extra profit made by operation of the arena on Sunday, had tried to dominate proceedings. He said Sunday operation for money was a violation of the law of the land and God.

Dr. Stanley Ball, president of the Stouffville Hockey Club, led the pro-Sunday practice faction with a resolution leaving it to the arena directors to decide who might be admitted. This was withdrawn after much argument. The motion allowing no one but hockey players into the rink on Sunday was approved. Geo. Rodanz and F. L. Button also spoke on the pro-Sunday aspect.

John L. Lewis Fangs Touch Stouffville

The coal shortage now being felt by the railways, has hit the C.N.R. line passing through Stouffville. It is announced that the Sunday night passenger train from Peterborough and Lindsay and passing through here at 9.26 will be cancelled after January 9th which is next Sunday night. It will be the last train out for Sunday C.N.R. patrons until the coal situation improves.

In cancelling this service the railway is making a real sacrifice, because we understand it is the best paying train in operation on this line. However, to cancel any of the daily express trains, there would be a serious disruption to mail and express service, and the C.N.R. must have taken this into consideration when they decided to cancel the Sunday night train.

Coal stocks are at a serious low level, due to union activities in the United States. The situation will no doubt induce the great national lines to concentrate more than ever on oil burning locomotives of which they now have a goodly number in operation. Seems as though the laborers of whoever is responsible for the constant upheaval in the coal mines, are ultimately going to do themselves out of a job.

Thornhill Will Seek Separation From Markham Twp.

Stung, no doubt, by the recent Markham Township municipal election which leaves the village of Thornhill without any representation on the council, the trustees of Thornhill village are moving fast to make application to have Thornhill designated a village with its own council, and control of its affairs, removed from the rural district which has little common interest with the development of the village on Yonge Street.

Application for incorporation as a village soon will be made to the Ontario Municipal Board by the trustees of the police village as a result of the expansion of the area, trustee E. W. Anstey said last Thursday.

Mr. Anstey said plans call for the squaring off of an area from Steeles Ave. on the south to Langstaff on the north, and a half mile on both sides of Yonge St. as the village boundaries.

"The population living within what is at present taken for granted as the boundaries of Thornhill is more than double the required number for a village," Mr. Anstey said.

The trustees predicted that within a few years the population within the proposed boundaries would be approximately 10,000 — almost enough for a city.

"At present, our prime objective is to pipe water into every home in Thornhill," he said. "Water is our greatest need and we hope to end the problem this year."

"Once there is a water system in Thornhill the growth of the community will be even far more extensive than it is today."

Mr. Robt. Bone, local insurance man, was heard this week over the air on that popular show, "What's Your Best?"