

Vol. 60, No. 40

THE TRIBUNE, STOUFFVILLE, ONT., JANUARY 19, 1950

## STOUFFVILLE TO AUSTRALIA Touring Honolulu in "U-Drive" Car, Pleasant For Local Travellers

(By Cliff Salmon)

Written from the "Aorangi"  
Lat. 10° South, Long 170° West,  
Pacific Ocean

Hi! Folks!  
I had hoped to get around to writing a letter in time to post from Honolulu, but here we are South of the Equator and almost to Fiji. We are supposed to arrive at Suva to-morrow night. Today is Wednesday, Jan 4th—tomorrow will be Friday, Jan. 6th!!! There is no Thursday this week (for us) believe it or not! This is because we are crossing the 180 degree of Longitude known as the International Date Line. As you travel Westward, you catch up to the day after tomorrow—and as you travel Eastward you go back and live to-day over again. Funny, isn't it?

Except for Friday, Dec. 23rd when we ran into rather heavy seas just South-West of Victoria, the old Pacific Ocean has been living up to its name. Right now, it is like a mill-pond. We were all affected a bit by the rough going on the second day out—all except Gail, that is! She ran around the state-room getting a great kick out of the motion of the boat which made her wobble and take big steps when she didn't expect to. A gleeful time was had by all till she ran into the corner of a cupboard and bruised her nose. We have our sea-legs on now, however, and hope to complete the voyage without further annoyance from the loose gravity.

I see my last epistle was written from Bellingham, Washington. That seems ages and ages ago to us now—a lot of water has passed under the boat since we went aboard at Vancouver. Of all the places we have been, we stayed the longest at Vancouver, and saw the least of it of any. Between last minute shopping, sailing arrangements, disposing of our car and trailer, etc. we barely had time to visit with the good friends who had invited us to park on their side lawn. So a great many things went by the boards, including this circuit letter. Factors we had not allowed for, such as poor driving conditions, heavy traffic, parking problems, trying to get service in stores during the Christmas rush, etc. ate away valuable time. We seemed to be getting no place very fast most of the time, and ran behind schedule until we finally made the boat. We had hoped to describe Vancouver as one of the highlights of our trip, but the B.C. weather was at its worst the whole time we were there. I think we had sunlight for about 45 minutes out of 3 weeks.

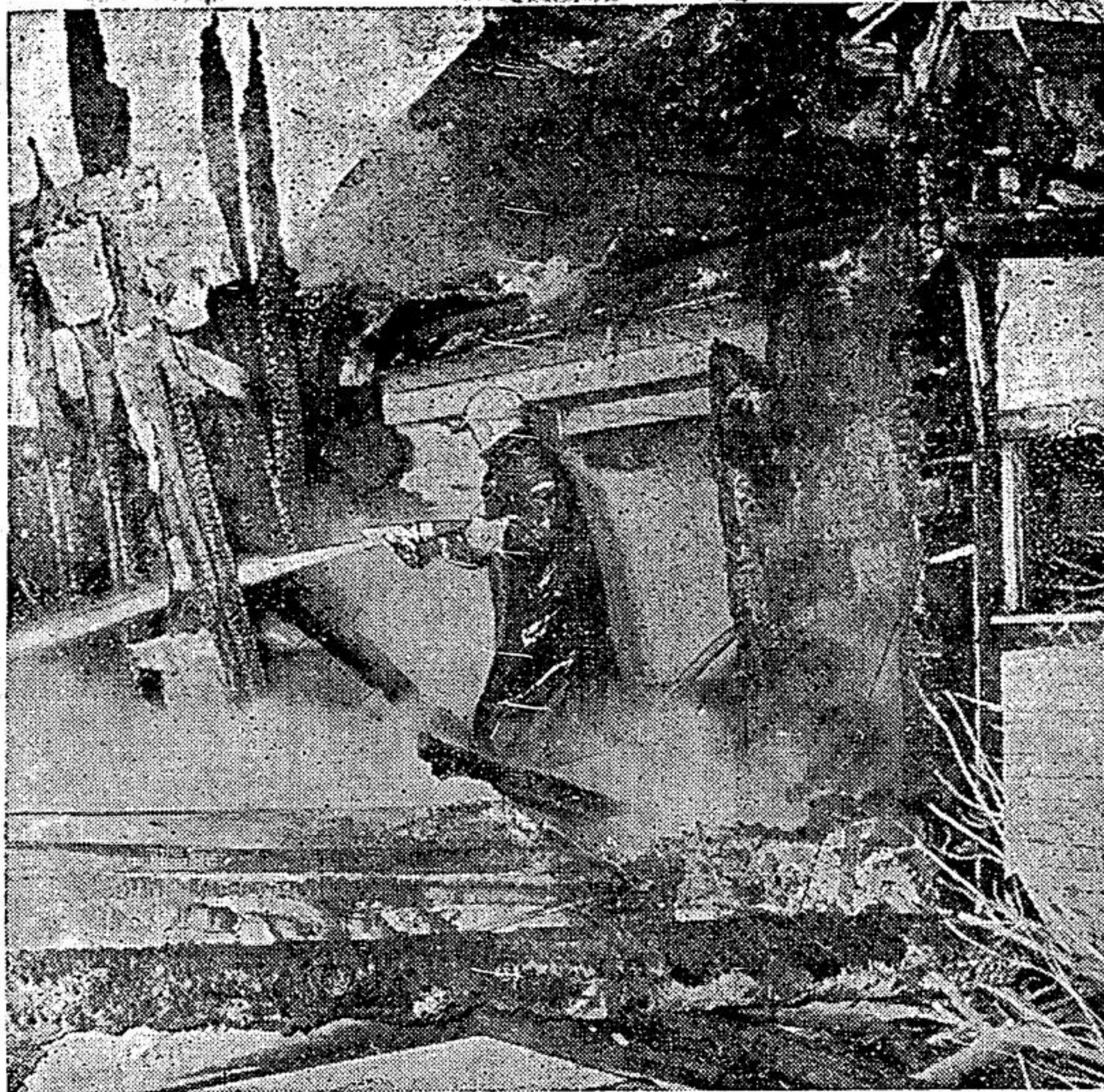
Coming across the Canadian border, we encountered some unexpected difficulty, and some rare good luck. We declared our U.S. purchases, but found the Canadian authorities wouldn't allow anything for the children. I offered to pay duty, but was told we just couldn't bring the surplus goods into the country. This left only the alternatives of sending them back to friends in the States, or confiscation! Then we mentioned we were en route to Australia. Magic! That changed the picture right away, and the customs officials let us go back across the line into Blaine, Washington, and send our things "in bond" direct to the Aorangi. So what started out to be a real headache, ended up better than we had dared to hope.

The drive from Bellingham to Vancouver was uneventful except for the border crossing. There was rain and fog all the way, so we couldn't take a picture of the famous "Peace Arch" which straddles the border. Passing over the Pastule bridge over the Fraser River, we were nicked the usual toll. The natives here call it the "Pay-toll-o" bridge! We finally arrived in Vancouver in the dark at 6.30 p.m. I haven't much to tell you about Vancouver itself because we actually saw so little of it. We did get a glimpse once or twice of the snow-capped mountains to the North and East. The scenery would have been very beautiful any time except mid-December.

Vancouver has a rather neat way of handling pedestrian traffic at the main down town intersection which we had not met up with in any other city. At one phase, the stop lights halt the traffic in all directions, and the people take complete possession of the intersection, walking in all directions at once. It struck me as being an idea that Toronto might install with advantage. Pedestrians have the advantage of crossing diagonally—and motor traffic can make right turns without nosing cautiously through pedestrians who have the right of way.

Generally speaking, the roads in Vancouver are poor, although there are some really nice ones when once you learn how to avoid the rough ones. Every thing you go to buy in B.C. is taxed except groceries and meat. The rate is 3% and is a provincial affair. It must be collected by law by the vendor and paid in to the gov't. In negotiating our car and trailer, I found that the B.C. license for a car is \$25.00 per year plus \$10.00 registration fee—a bit higher than

## Wind Causes Disastrous Green River Fire



Fireman of Brougham brigade trains hose on blazing timbers of Mr. and Mrs. Ben-

son Draper's home at Green River, which was destroyed by flames caused by wind

tearing the protective binding from Hydro wires and starting roof fire during recent wind storm of tornado proportions.

## Veteran Businessman Laid To Rest

Just two weeks from the day he formally closed out his long established tailoring business in Stouffville, John Monkhouse died early Monday morning, Jan. 16, at his home on north Church Street. In his 84th year the veteran tailor had no malicious disease, but his body was worn out, and he probably sensed his gradual weakening some months ago when he reached the decision to retire from business after 57 years of activity here on Main street.

Born at Altona east of Stouffville a son of the general merchant there John decided to learn the tailoring, and apprenticed himself to a tailor at Goodwood just 70 years ago. At that time there were several merchant tailors in Goodwood, and seven general stores there. John found a boarding house, but walked home every weekend during the years of his apprenticeship and walked back in time for opening each Monday morning at 7 o'clock. At the age of 17 he had completed three years and looked for promotion. He had received \$60 for his third year, and much less for the two preceding years of apprenticeship.

He held several jobs and gained valuable experience, so that in 1891 or about 60 years ago, he decided to embark in business for himself and opened a stand in Stouffville, making the fourth tailor shop here at that time. He enjoyed a long and favorable patronage, and was making suits for fourth generation of a family, as he recalled on one occasion a few years ago when he told a young man he was measuring for a suit, that he had made suits for his great grandfather.

Mr. Monkhouse married Blanche Bartholomew, and to them one daughter and one son were born. Mrs. Monkhouse died when only 37 years of age during a typhoid scourge that took many lives in this district. The bereaved husband never married again, but maintained the same home on north Church Street for some 50 odd years. Surviving is his daughter, Miss Helen Monkhouse, school teacher at Niagara Falls, but who had been home with her father since the end of December. A son John is dead.

The late John Monkhouse was a life member of Richardson Masonic Lodge, a Liberal in politics and a Presbyterian in religion. Only a few weeks ago he called the reeve of Stouffville, A. V. Nolan, and told him that he intended to vote for his return to office in the December contest, and that it may be the last time he would ever mark a ballot. Mr. Monkhouse indicated by that remark that he realized his gradual weakening condition was growing steadily worse, and at his great age the inevitable end was

Ontario, isn't it.  
On Friday evening Dec. 16th the good ship "R.M.M.S. AORANGI" (continued on page 4)

## Uxbridge Township Groundhogs Bewildered

Old Man Winter certainly has the groundhogs bewildered this winter, and the theory for their presence about the fields on mild days this January is not satisfactorily answered by explaining that the little animal is being drowned out of his winter quarters. One day last week Mr. Dan Norton and his son Ivan were walking from the barn to the house on their 4th concession farm, when a comfortable-looking groundhog was sighted a few hundred yards away. Ivan decided to give the animal a chase and as he closed in on it, the groundhog made for its hole and was soon safely out of reach. The hole, Ivan explains, was high and dry above any possible reach of water, consequently the impulse that led the animal to come out of hibernation at this mid-winter season may be taken that instinct tells the little brown plodder there is to be no long-extended winter season. Perhaps he knew this last fall and didn't fatten up enough to carry him over a long period of hibernation. In any event when the Nortons saw him, he was filling up on standing dried weeds in the field, indicating he must have been hungry.

Uxbridge gets wardenship  
Rae Ferguson, reeve of the town of Uxbridge, was elected Warden of the County of Ontario, at the opening of the 1950 county council session on Tuesday.

Miss Bertha Davenport of Toronto is a visitor this week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Gayman.

## Reserved Seats On Sale for Saturday Night Hockey

Reserved seat tickets are on sale for the Stouffville-Markham Senior hockey game this Saturday night, at the Arena, at "Shine" Davis, and in Claremont, at Harry Porter's Barber Shop. A large section has also been provided for Markham fans, and these tickets are on sale in Markham.

## Seek Accommodation For Local Kindergarten

A delegation of twelve mothers and fathers waited on the Stouffville Public School Trustee Board on Monday night at their inaugural meeting. Members present were F. Riches (re-elected chairman), Elmer Daniels, Dr. S. T. Bodendistel, Reg. Stouffer, Len Wilkes and Mrs. John Button.

A petition for the establishment of a kindergarten in Stouffville was presented to the Board by Mrs. Norman Baker who in a few words pointed out the great need for a kindergarten at the present time. The statistics gathered by the petition revealed that there are about 60 children in Stouffville five years old and under.

After a discussion on the subject it was suggested by the secretary of the Board, Mr. John Hamersley, that a committee comprised of two parents, Mrs. Lorna Button and Mrs. Janet Baker, and two members of the Board, Mrs. June Button and Mr. Elmer Daniels, be formed to investigate the cost and the possibility of establishing a kindergarten in Stouffville.

## Fear Car Stolen Constable Goes Hunting

Fearing that the family car had been stolen from alongside their home a Mount Joy (Markham) resident telephoned Constable Russell in a hurry reporting the car had headed north toward Stouffville. Noting full particulars the chief was out on the road in a matter of minutes. Checking oncoming cars brought no results, but shortly the wanted car was spied parked on a side street in the west end of town, and the constable knocked on the door of the house where the car occupant appeared to have called. When all the exchanges had been made, it was discovered the young chap had been given permission to use the car to visit friends in Stouffville, and the owner had forgotten about the promises momentarily when it first was seen leaving the home billowack.

## Retrenchment Policy is Adopted by Council In Markham Township

Markham Township Council has asked for the resignation of its plumbing inspector, and will embody the work with that of the building inspector. The council has also cancelled the restriction bylaw that regulated the size of lots, where buildings may be located on property, and other regulations embodied in the bylaw created only last year, but was never put into force. It awaited the approval of the Ontario Municipal Board, but this will not be asked for now.

"I think we are getting all tied up with restriction bylaws, and the people are bitterly complaining," said Councillor Charlie Hooper who took his place at the regular council meeting on Monday after his return from England.

Deputy-Reeve Dalton Rummy said that certain clauses may be embodied in the building bylaw, as printed in book of 70 or more pages.

Mr. Hooper asked council to set up a budget, so council could stick to it, when a bylaw was presented providing for the borrowing of necessary funds to finance the township until taxes for 1950 come in. "I think the fact we have to start borrowing right away, is a sign that our finances are not good," he maintained. Mr. Hooper suggested there is something wrong when the township has to start borrowing right away, when the financial report presented to the ratepayers showed a nice surplus. "We haven't had to do this for years."

Clerk Charlie Hoover explained that the schools are making demands for a larger percentage of their 1950 payments much earlier than in past years, and this affects the cash position only, he said.

Road Superintendent Harold Cowie placed before council the need for a weed spraying outfit costing around \$1500, also a machine for loading sand. Two

machines were referred to costing \$1140, or \$825 for a lighter machine. "We have to cut our costs," said Mr. Hooper. "I understand from outsiders (and they may be wrong) that we have eight or ten men on pay of the road department. Mr. Cowie said somebody's arithmetic was bad, and he finally stated that there are five men besides himself on regular work in his department, not counting Mr. Maxwell.

Reeve Timbers claimed that while expenditures must be cut if at all possible, there are times when a new machine is advisable. Sand is usually loaded in the rain and its a slow job. Renting a sprayer was all right if you can get it at the right moment, otherwise it was waste of money.

Continuing the reeve said he was not pressing for action, just placing the issue before council for consideration.

Councillor Hooper said he was not opposed to the use of a sprayer but thought one could be rented cheaper than buying an outfit, and Councillor James thought this was not the time to buy new machinery.

Dr. Chas. McKay was reappointed Medical Officer of Health, a position he has held for 35 years, which is probably an outstanding record in the province.

## Radio Taken from Local Hardware

Somebody picked up a portable radio from the store of Mr. Frank Riches, and overlooked the usual formality of making settlement. Pale green in color the radio is easily recognized, and the police are investigating. It is hoped that the culprit will think better of his action, by making restitution before action is taken to force settlement in an embarrassing way.

## Local Firemen Answered Thirty-three Calls in 1949

The Stouffville Fire Brigade responded to thirty-three calls during 1949, Secretary Everton Smith revealed in his yearly report just made public. Grass and barn fires each accounted for six calls, and overheated stoves were the cause of five summonses being issued for help. Four chimney fires and four cottages are noted in the report also. Brooder houses caused three fires, and the total estimated loss is placed at \$100,000. Eleven calls were responded to in Stouffville alone, while in the Whitchurch fire area which comprises about half the township, 13 calls were responded to, six in Markham Township, one each in Pickering, Uxbridge and Scott Townships.

Fire Chief Del Jennings looks on 1949 as the banner year so far in fighting fires with the new fighting equipment in full use. It is hard to estimate the many thousand of dollars saved from flames were it not for the timely arrival of the firemen and water supply.

Often the burning building is doomed but nearby construction is usually saved.

Mr. Smith calls attention to preparedness in case of fire. By following a few simple rules, he says, many tragedies could be averted.

Every householder should ask himself how he and his family would escape in case of fire emergency. If a window must be chosen what means is there of reaching the ground. Plan these things in advance, and you may avert a catastrophe.

## Uxbridge Lawyer Mayor Heads Bar Association

Robert Harris, longtime mayor of Uxbridge was elected president of the Ontario County Law Association which held its annual meeting at the Genosha Hotel in Oshawa. He succeeds Allin F. Annis, K.C.

D. J. Cuddy, K.C. of Whitby was chosen vice president and A. G. Veach, the court reporter who succeeded Ross Scott, was elected secretary-treasurer. Members of the executive were Charles C. McGibbon, K.C., of Oshawa; Donald Ruddy of Whitby and George Dryman of Oshawa.

It will pay you to read the display ads. In this week's Tribune, Golden's, Spofford's, and Len Wilkes, are all offering mid-winter sale bargains, goods at greatly reduced rates.

## HOG PRODUCERS MEET JANUARY 25TH

With the unsettled hog market prevailing at present the directors of the York County Hog Producers are expecting to have a record attendance for their annual meeting in the Agricultural Board Room at Newmarket on Wednesday, Jan. 25th. With a full agenda the board plans to start promptly at 10.30 a.m. and are providing valuable door prizes to be drawn for by those present on time.

Guest speaker for the meeting will be Dr. H. L. Patterson, Director of the Farm Economics Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto. In addition one of the members just returned from Great Britain will have some pertinent remarks on the situation overseas and an interesting discussion period will round out a good program.

Following the business session of the morning free lunch will be served in the hall by the Association to all present. Secretary, R. J. Rogers of Newmarket states that there has been misunderstanding regarding membership in this association. The fact is that all farmers shipping market hogs are automatically members because of the fees deducted at the plants and therefore will be welcome at this meeting.

## Woodlots Average \$140 in Markham

Four acres of standing timber were sold in wood lot size of a quarter acre more or less on the farm of Mr. Thos. Reesor, Markham-Scarboro townline last week with lively bidding from the large crowd assembled. The wood was mostly beech, maple, ash of good size. The best lot sold for \$61 and the average for the sale was \$140 an acre.

Mr. Thomas Reesor told The Tribune the sale was made necessary because the Hydro Electric Power Commission would occupy the most of the ground when a new high power line cuts across his farm. He is a firm believer in keeping cattle out of young bushland, and then it will pay dividends in due time.

Prentice & Prentice conducted the sale on this historic Reesor holding.