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Build Up The Sunday Schools or Church Will Be Lost

Speaker at S.S. Convention Issues Challenge at the 81st Annual Meeting

The Markham Township Sunday School Association held its 81st annual rally in Stouffville last week and was largely attended, with the opening session in the United Missionary Church in the morning and the afternoon and evening sessions in the United Church the evening session of which filled both the auditorium and the gallery.

Rev. H. S. Hallman led the opening devotional and extended an enthusiastic welcome to the visitors. He set a high standard in his convention address.

Mr. E. J. Stiver presented the annual report, indicating a small cash balance.

Mr. Arthur Rouse of Toronto spoke on "Junior Recruiting for the Kingdom." He stressed the importance of bringing the child into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, issuing a real challenge to parents and teachers.

The afternoon session in the United Church was led by Mr. Lambert Stouffer, when Mrs. J. H. Peacock of the W.C.T.U. delivered a temperance address. Statistics given were alarming, indicating the great inroads made by the liquor traffic. She pleaded that the only safe course for the young people was total abstinence.

Former Stouffville man, Rev. Oscar Burkholder, pastor of Breslau Mennonite Church, Breslau, in his remarks took a reminiscent mood when speaking on Intermediate Recruiting for the Kingdom.

Many of Mr. Burkholder's old friends in and about Stouffville were glad to welcome him. He gave splendid advice to parents and teachers of intermediate grades.

At the evening session Mr. Ewart Stiver gave the report of the nominating committee and Rev. H. S. Hallman reported for the resolutions committee. Rev. J. McLachlan installed the officers.

There was special music by the Stouffville choir, also by a male quartette from Langstaff Baptist Church.

Continuing with the theme, "Recruiting for the Kingdom," Rev. Mr. Burkholder delivered a brief, but stirring message on "Recruiting the Adults." He stressed the need of Sunday School teachers and officers who themselves have a rock-bottom conception of God, thoroughly grounded in the faith once delivered to the saints, that they in turn might be ready to give an answer to the questions of enquiring youth. He counselled his listeners to stick by the Book, let it be our authority and live by it.

Rev. Frank Wellington, internationally linked with Children's Welfare in Canada and United States, caught up the convention theme and throughout his discourse simply bubbled over with enthusiasm as he related his findings through his large field of service.

Children, he said, are ready to accept teaching and will trust adults, but the adults must first be prepared to seek the children and win them.

He maintained that in our present day it is not only secular education alone that is needed, for the majority have more education than they have stamina and strength to control, and as a result we see genius out of check.

It is still the adult mind that is dominating the mind of the child, but sad to say the majority of the adult world have forgotten God and forsaken His laws, and this influence is descending on the children.

With the passing of a few decades we have seen increasing numbers of empty pews in once-filled churches. We also see the horrible mounting of crime in statistical reports, the increase in liquor production never has brought prosperity and happiness but just the opposite. Alcohol and empty churches go hand-in-hand.

The churches will be lost if the Sunday School is not built up. It requires our shoulder to the wheel that the Sunday School which is the basis of the church be well established.

The speaker challenged the adults in these difficult days to demonstrate by persistent effort, for after all the sheep will lead the lambs.

Officers elected: Past President, Mr. Win Tubbers; President, Mr. Archie Little; 1st Vice President, Mr. Bruce Clark; 2nd Vice President, Mr. Norman Reid; Sec'y-Treas., C. R. James; Ass't. Sec'y., Mr. E. J. Stiver; Departments - Beginners, Mrs. Don Ratcliff, Mrs. B. Gayman; Girls' Work, Miss Margaret Moyer, Mrs. N. Reid; Boys' Work, Mr. Charles Ratcliff, Mr. Ross Wideman; Young People, Miss Elva

"Rigfoot Farm" At Mongolia Stables Triplets



(Photo by Cadieux)

Mother cow looks in wonderment at her three calves that arrived on the coldest night this winter (Jan. 2) and shocked Gus Middleton and his helper shown here, when they reached the barn in the twilight morning hours to do chores. Triplets are seldom heard of outside the Holstein breed, and to make it more unusual all three babies are heifer calves. Mother will nurse two, while a foster

mother is raising the third. Mr. Chas. Carruthers, farm owner, being very ill at his Markham home will have his first look at the calves when he sees this Tribune picture.

Main St. Business Premises Gutted by Smoke and Water

Mr. and Mrs. William Simpson and their roomers or boarders next door to The Tribune Office were forced out of their quarters in a hurry on Friday night just before 12 o'clock, when fire suddenly broke out in a bedroom occupied by Jack Valteau. Two streams of water were played into the building before the flames were subdued, and while fire damage was not extensive, smoke and water just about ruined the interior rear part of the dwelling. Mr. Valteau entered his room between 11:30 and 12, and everything appeared to be in order. However when he returned to his room after an absence of four or five minutes during which time he was in the adjoining room, he found the place in flames and smoke which made any attempt to extinguish the blaze impossible.

Cause of the fire is a complete mystery, and appeared to have gained headway in the wall or above the ceiling although there was no wiring near the apparent area where the fire started. The firemen fought the blaze for a time from the roof of The Tribune office. The heavy cement outer walls made good fire walls for the protection of neighboring buildings. The Simpson place had been doing service on Main street for probably sixty or more years, and was once a grocery and telephone exchange. Recently Mr. and Mrs. Simpson gave up the store business also the restaurant, but have kept the place filled with roomers and boarders.

Masonic Lodge Makes History Counting Fathers and Sons

Three fathers had the honor of initiating their own sons in the Ancient Order of Free and Accepted Masons at a function held in the Masonic Hall on Friday evening, A. E. Weldon initiated his son Lloyd, Harry Brillinger his son Claude, and Earl Howsam of Greenbank introduced his son Keith into the mysteries of the Order. The offices were all occupied by fathers and sons who this is said to be a record for a lodge the size of Richardson.

Many visitors were present, and other members with their sons were Joseph Borinsky, Wm. Garrett, Dr. S.S. Ball, Fred Baston, Wm. Wallace, Frank Riches, Reuben Pearse, Harvey Moyer. Several fathers were absent, but all together fathers and sons total 27, reports O. M. Madill, historian of the lodge.

Mr. Harvey Moyer of Lloyd Ave., Stouffville, has accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Ward Hallman, Markham Twp. on a motor trip to Hollywood, Florida.

Kirk, Mr. Melvin Wellman; Adult Dept., Mr. Garnet Williamson, Mr. T. Nichols; Home Dept., Mrs. Alf Miller, Miss A. Wideman; Missions, Mrs. F. Barker, Miss E. Raymer; Temperance, Mr. H. Smith, Mr. F. Reesor; Religious Education, Mr. Hugh Boyd, Mr. C. Hoover; Teacher Training, Rev. R. T. Chapin, Rev. Cyril Berry. These officers were installed by Rev. J. McLachlan.

NEW POSTMISTRESS FOR UNIONVILLE

Everybody will be pleased to note that Miss Vera Weighill has been appointed postmistress for the village of Unionville to succeed Mrs. G. A. M. Davidson, resigned. We understand that plans are under consideration for modernizing the office which will be carried on in the same convenient place on the Main street of the village.

NURSERY TEA

A group of Nursery School mothers held a bridge and tea last Friday afternoon, the proceeds for which were in aid of the local school. Mrs. John Button graciously loaned her charming new home on O'Brien Ave. This group wishes to thank all ladies who so generously contributed to their cause and helped to make the afternoon such a pleasant social occasion.

Markham Couple Honored at Sixtieth Wedding Occasion

When Mr. and Mrs. Peter Reesor of Markham celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary last Sunday at their farm home adjoining Markham village highlights of historical events over the past century were recalled.

Friends came in great numbers all day Sunday to offer congratulations, and the Order of the Eastern Star turned out in an imposing manner, Mrs. Reesor being a member of the Markham Chapter.

Though Mr. Reesor is 82 and his wife 79, they both enjoy excellent health. With them on the home-stand is one son, Max, and in Toronto are Lloyd and Percy.

An adherent of the Markham United Church, Mr. Reesor is a member of the Masonic Order and the Scottish Rite. His wife is a life member of the Markham Chapter of the Eastern Star.

Mr. Reesor told interested friends that his great-grandfather bought the property on which he now lives, and obtained it for a horse, saddle, and bride. One of the Pennsylvania Dutch that great movement from the United States to settle in Markham Township, his ancestor purchased the property in 1804 from an ex-officer in the British Army. He then walked all the way back to Pennsylvania for his family.

Proudly Mr. Reesor displayed the bill of sale on real sheepskin parchment—by which the original owner of the property received the land from George III. The five-inch seal bearing the monarch's coat-of-arms and dated 1801, is also in his possession.

Echoes of the tough pioneer life could be heard when Mr. Reesor related stories of old Ontario hardships. "I remember my old father Jacob saying: 'When I started out all I had to my name was a horse, a set of wooden farrows, a plow and a wife.'"

Mr. Reesor likes to think of the way his ancestors joined "General" Button's Boys around Stouffville and drilled for battle with William Lyon Mackenzie's rebels. There is the story of Mr. Reesor's grandfather. He was asked to leave the Mennonite Church for marrying an Irish girl. His son used to say, "I'm the worst combination on earth—half Irish and half Dutch!"

ATHLETIC CLUB SKATING PARTY

Stouffville Athletic Club will sponsor a big skating party with prizes galore in the Arena here next week, Saturday, Feb. 4th. This is the Club's big annual winter carnival to raise funds for the promotion of next summer's baseball for girls and boys.

New County Court To Be Opened Soon

A new county magistrate's court for East York, Scarborough and Markham townships, where Leaside and Stouffville cases will also be heard, will be opened in East York Council Chambers, Feb. 6, according to an announcement made by Reeve Harold Simpson of East York.

Hugh Donald, inspector of legal offices for the attorney-general's department said one of the three present county magistrates will preside at the new court.

It is to be remembered this is merely what is known as a traffic court, and deals only with traffic charges, which of course, form the far greater number of cases that may arise from Stouffville and Markham area.

Mrs. James Brodie Succumbs in 79th Year

Following an illness of seven weeks duration, Mrs. Charles James Brodie passed away at her home in Stouffville Sunday evening, Jan. 22nd, 1950, in her 79th year. Mrs. Brodie was a woman of keen perception, and a rare sense of humour; and devoted to her home life. Although not active outside her home since moving to Stouffville some 13 years ago, she was a zealous worker for the War Branch during the recent war.

A former member of Melville Presbyterian and St. James Presbyterian Churches, she was active in W.M.S. and Bible Class work. Of recent years she was an adherent of Stouffville United Church. Her maiden name was Lavina Allison Wells, her parents being Mr. and Mrs. James Wells of Eversley in King Township. Her mother's maiden name was Janet Gray, who came from the district south of O'Sullivan's Corners.

Over a year ago her husband predeceased her and surviving are her daughters Mary Helen (Mrs. R. Kelly of Oakwood), Janet Gray, who lived with her mother, and one son, William James, on the home farm west of Stouffville and five grandchildren. A daughter, Edith Frances died 16 years ago.

The service on Tuesday afternoon was held in O'Neill's funeral chapel and the funeral proceeded to Melville Cemetery in Markham conducted by her minister, Rev. Douglas Davis, assisted by Rev. Roscoe Chapin. The pall bearers were Messrs. W. J. Brodie, Robt. Kelley, Ross Kennedy, Byron Kennedy, A. A. Kennedy, and H. Edward.

Big Loss in Thornhill Fire

The entire Main St. business section of Thornhill was wiped out by fire on Tuesday night. The loss included a hotel, barber shop, hardware and grocery stores. Thornhill has no domestic water system to fight fires and help had to be brought in from Aurora, Richmond Hill, Unionville, North York and Toronto.

Tower Chimes and Church Addition Forecast at United Annual Meeting

There was a glimmer of great satisfaction at the annual meeting of the Stouffville United Church congregation on Tuesday evening when Pastor Rev. D. Davis announced that a gift had been offered the church, that the whole community might enjoy in the nature of a set of chimes that will be capable of broadcasting every Sunday morning, and on other special occasions. Mr. Davis said the family making the gift wishes to remain anonymous.

It was indicated that a special tower will be constructed to house the chimes which may be played from the console of the big organ or by using recordings.

Along with this interesting announcement Mr. Davis pointed out that the church is becoming more and more a community centre, since the Horticultural Society; the Mothercraft Clinic; the Day Nursery hold their regular activities there. The Toronto Bible College held a special Christmas service when the accommodation was not sufficient for all who would attend. The Youth for Christ held their annual banquet there and the Markham Township Sunday School Convention had a record attendance.

Apart from these special features this church the pastor claims is confronted with inadequate facilities to meet the needs of its own organizations. The Sunday School is sadly handicapped to do efficient work and the C.G.I.T., the Explorers, and the Mission Band, are all asking for better accommodation. In the church's endeavour to take care of the needs of the Nursery and Beginners Department, Mr. Davis said, this had deprived the choir of their dressing rooms. There is also a serious lack in the absence of a minister's vestry in the church. In view of all these things a special committee was appointed to prepare plans to submit to this meeting. These include an extension from the west end of the church going north, 40 by 22 feet. We are anxious, Mr. Davis explained to the community and the responsibility to give good leadership from the stand point of church activities. The downstairs will be devoted to children's work. The upstairs will contain ladies' and men's choir rooms with wash room conveniences, the minister's vestry and parlors for smaller meetings when it is not necessary to use the church auditorium. It is hoped to carry out construction this year.

New appointments to the Board of Managers are Truman Baxter, Delbert Booth, and John Hammersley.

Reports read indicated that 19 teen agers were received into the church during the past year. The pastor also reported 16 funerals, 14 marriages, and 19 baptisms. The church membership now stands at 383.

South Gormley School Area Seeks Annexation With Stouffville

"We're being asked to do something on which we have no information," said Markham Township Councillor W. L. Clark, when a petition signed by forty-two people was considered at the regular meeting of the township council on January 16.

Signers of the petition requested that the boundaries of the Richmond Hill High School area should be changed to permit pupils from the east half of Lot 35, Concession 2, and the west half of Lot 35, Concession 4, Markham Township, to attend Stouffville High School as residents of the Markham-Stouffville area. They have always gone to Stouffville, but are assessed to the Richmond Hill area. The same request was made when the area was set up, but evidently little notice was given it.

As an added reason, it was stated the change was desired because of certain facilities being available at Stouffville which are not available at Richmond Hill, namely a complete shop course.

Refusing to take action, councillors indicated that they believed that the matter could not be undertaken without much more consideration and certainly not without the opinion of both the Richmond Hill and Markham-Stouffville High School area boards being given. "We are going to get into a lot of trouble if we act too hastily on this," said Councillor Charles Hooper. "It's a ticklish thing and there are many angles to consider," he stated.

Instructions to have the matter considered by both school boards were given.

Native of England J. J. Curtis Buried At Heise Hill

Joseph John Curtis died on Thursday, January 19 at the home of his daughter, Mrs. T. Canning of Gormley, in his 80th year. It was on this farm that the deceased lived during his active days and farmed for many years, or until about 20 years ago when with his wife they retired at Bethesda, Whitechurch Township. Born in England the late J. J. Curtis came to Canada with his parents in 1878. They first located in Ottawa, later lived in Toronto, and as a young man J.J. took up farming and settled in Markham Township on the third concession just south of Gormley.

He was predeceased by his wife whose maiden name was Clarissa Nigh, and surviving the parents are one son, Frank of Bethesda and the daughter, Mrs. Canning, on the homestead. An only sister surviving is Mrs. Ada Whittle of Milliken.

The funeral service was held in Bethesda United Church on Sunday afternoon, service being conducted by Rev. Roscoe Chapin, assisted by Rev. L. K. Slider. Interment was in Heise Hill cemetery.

Five Candidates Contest Vacant Pickering Council Seats

Five candidates, two for deputy-reeve and three for council, will contest the two vacancies on the Pickering Township Council, at the second municipal election there, to be held next Tuesday, Jan. 31st.

Geo. Todd, councillor, will be opposed by Dr. N. E. McEwen for the deputy-reeveship. For council three new men will seek election, Jas. Coates, Alan Lishman and Fred Zinkie. This is Mr. Zinkie's second try in as many months, since he sought election at the regular poll back in December. Mr. Coates, a resident of Claremont, is the only candidate representing the ratepayers north of the 5th con. Mr. Lishman is a south-township resident, and chairman of the High School Area Board in Pickering.

There was raised during the year \$11,579, almost \$3,000 of which was given directly for missions. Two Esotane stoves, a gift or donation, had improved the kitchen facilities greatly, it was announced.

RATCLIFF & PIPHER SEE NEW TRUCK LINES

Harry Ratcliff and Walter Pipher, local International Motor Truck dealers, recently attended a sales conference and presentation of International Harvester's new "L" Truck Line.

"The completely re-designed and re-engineered line of international trucks," said Mr. Ratcliff, "is entirely new from front bumper to tail light."

"The new L-Line," added Mr. Ratcliff, "is the result of International's 43 years of truck engineering know-how."

Clippers Lose to Lowly Flyers

Stouffville Clippers dropped their Senior OHA hockey game to the lowly Midland Flyers on Tuesday night by the score of 7-5. The Flyers had a 6-5 edge as the last minute of time approached, and the Stouffville goalie was taken off in an effort to tie the count. As in so many cases, the move back-fired, and Midland clinched the game with their seventh goal.

The win is only Midland's third of the season, and the loss did not affect Stouffville's position in place.

Stouffville High School Senior Choir won a first in the Collegiate choir group at the Toronto East Music Festival on Monday, Jan. 23.