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THE TRIBUNE, STOUFFVILLE, ONTARIO, MARCH 30th, 1950

Markham Ranks Third Oldest Township in County of York

Markham is situated east of Yonge Street, which forms the boundary between it and Vaughan, and north of the township of Scarborough. It comprises 67,578 acres. It was first settled about the year 1790, some years before any survey was made. It was partially surveyed in 1794, being the third township in the county marked out. In laying out the township Yonge Street was made the base line. There are ten concessions fronting on Yonge Street, each comprising thirty-five lots, the township being almost a square, excepting the eastern line, which is also the boundary of the county, and does not run parallel with the concession lines. Some of the lots in the 10th concession are consequently deficient in area.

The general character of the soil of the township is argillaceous. About one-fifth of the area lying in the north of the township is heavy clay. A belt of sandy loam, being about one-tenth of the acreage, runs through the centre, and the southern section, being about three-fifths of the whole, is clay loam. Black loam tracts are interspersed in the flats of the Don and Rouge Rivers, amounting to one-tenth of the area. The soil is principally undulating in character, and nearly all cultivable, four-fifths of it being considered first-class land, the average price of which is \$80 per acre. Second class land is valued at \$60. Water is obtainable, by digging, at an average depth of thirty feet.

Though a few scattered pioneers had here and there taken up land before that date, there was no systematic attempt at settlement until 1794, when a number of Germans came over from the United States, under the leadership of William Berczy. Governor Simcoe, believing that many U.E. Loyalist families still remained in the United States who would be glad of an opportunity to settle in Canada if encouraged to do so by offers of land, held out inducements which were responded to by a good many, who were not actuated so much by the motive of establishing themselves under the rule of King George, as of securing land grants. Among these were sixty-four families of Germans who had but recently arrived from Hamburg, having been brought out by agents to locate on "Captain Williamson's Demesne," or, as it was also called, the Putney Settlement, in New York State. Here they could have been in the position of tenants, under the "patron" system then prevailing in New York. The prospect of owning their own farms in Canada was more inviting, and, in the face of great difficulties, they made their way to Markham. There were no roads and no stores and supplies had to be procured from the south of the lakes; some few articles could be got at Niagara, but nearly everything required in the way of tools, farm implements and provisions had to be brought from the settlements in New York State. York was then a mere hamlet. Yonge Street did not exist, though the line had been marked out. But Berczy, the leader of the expedition, was a man of indomitable energy and boundless resource. He had, during his residence in the United States, constructed a wagon road all the way from Philadelphia to Lake Ontario, and under his direction the immigrants cut their way through the unbroken forest, and made a wagon track from York to the southern portion of Markham, which, winding in and out among the trees, marked the beginning of Yonge Street. Over this primitive road they set out on the journey from York with their families and household effects. Their wagons were ingeniously contrived so that they could be used as boats on an emergency. Made of closely fitting boards with the seams caulked, the body of the vehicle being removed from the carriage could be floated across small bodies of water, carrying a considerable load. Thus they crossed the Don and other streams in their journey. Where the banks were steep they lowered their wagons down the declivity by ropes passed round the trunks of saplings, and pulled them up on the opposite side in a similar manner. They settled on the banks of the Rouge, sometimes known as the Non River, which they at first supposed to be a tributary of the Don, but on following it to its outlet they discovered that instead of leading to York it entered the lake nearly twenty miles to the eastward. This route afforded them easier access to the front than Yonge Street in its primitive condition and for many years it was the one mainly in use.

The first saw and grist mills in (continued on page 15)

Swollen Flood Waters Worry Goodwood Funeral is Forced to Turn Back at Cemetery

Former Resident Bert Miller Gone

Stouffville friends will be shocked and surprised to learn that a former resident, Robert (Bert) Miller died at his home in Toronto on March 23 after a short illness. Bert Miller will be recalled as a resident on O'Brien Avenue about 25 years ago when he was employed as a linesman with the Bethesda & Stouffville Telephone Co. He was a member of Richardson Masonic Lodge, and is survived by his wife and one son Jack, and three grandchildren. Interment was made on Saturday afternoon at St. John's cemetery, Norway.

Colored Ice for Lions Carnival

Stouffville Lions Club Easter Carnival next Wednesday will present an innovation at the Arena with the use of coloured ice. The effect is very fine, and should enhance the evening's entertainment. The carnival will get underway at 8.30 with a professional trick-skating display by Roland & Hartley. Then there'll be public skating, prizes for the youngsters and a number of cash specials. Those Stouffville skaters who brought honor to town in the Silver Skates Derby will be officially recognized. The Bill Ball Trophy will also be presented to Don Couch of the Stouffville Clippers. The evening will wind up with dancing, music by the Stouffville Legion Aires.

LOCAL GIRL IN NEWMARKET DRAMA
The Newmarket Drama Club is presenting its play, "Dark Lady of the Sonnets," this Thursday night at the Central Ontario Drama Festival, Hart House, Toronto. The play is produced by John Kudelka, son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Garfield Kellington, and one of the four members of the cast is Mrs. Ken Rusnell, a former Stouffville girl, and daughter of Mr. Herb Ferrier.

TURN EDITORIAL PAGE OVER TO 'H.S. STUDENTS

The editorial page of this issue has been given over entirely to the students of Stouffville High School, and it will take another issue to cover all the material on hand on which students have submitted editorials.

While we do not hold ourselves responsible for the views presented, we congratulate the students on their presentations, which on the whole are well done, and disclose a good deal of ability.

Our readers will find the editorial page especially interesting this week, and if you take adverse views to those expressed or wish to commend them, it is the privilege of our readers to write a letter to the editor, which will be published.

Markham Mother Injured in Crossing Crash

Mrs. May Pollock of Markham village is in Toronto East General Hospital following a level crossing accident at Milliken on Monday. Mrs. Pollock was being driven by John Dasylyw of Toronto, a 21-year-old youth who failed to see the oncoming freight train. Front of the automobile was crushed in like an accordion, while the driver and Mrs. Pollock were taken out of the wreckage by police officers and other help, both critically injured. However, their condition is last reported as "good" from the hospital. Mrs. Pollock is the widowed mother of three children.

Engagements

Mr. and Mrs. J. Harold Johnston, Claremont R.R.2, announce the engagement of their daughter, Florence Yvonne, to Herbert White, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph White, Claremont R.R.2; the marriage to take place the latter part of April.

Arena Booked for Big Evangelistic Campaign

An evangelistic campaign sponsored by the churches of the community, and the Christian Men's Fellowship is being planned for August 20th to Sept. 3rd of this year. The meetings are to be held in the Stouffville Arena. Ministers and laymen representing the churches of the community have been meeting together to lay the plans for these special meetings, and a great deal of enthusiasm is in evidence. The whole district has been divided into several zones, and prayer meetings will be held at the following places: Stouffville, leader Rev. D. Davis; Claremont, leader Rev. H. Lackey; Goodwood, leader Rev. Gorman; Melville, leader Rev. R. Chapin; Gormley, leader Rev. L. K. Sider; Ringwood, leader Mr. Jacob Grove.

At recent executive meetings Rev. H. Hallman was appointed chairman, Rev. D. Davis, vice chairman; Rev. G. W. Brown, secretary, and Mr. Chas. Ratcliff, treasurer.

Further information will be given from time to time concerning this special campaign.

Geo. Hunt, Whitchurch Suffers Loss of Wife

The death of Eva Elizabeth Shropshire, wife of George N. Hunt at the family home on the 4th concession of Whitchurch on March 17th removes from the district a highly esteemed woman of the neighborhood. Mrs. Hunt was only in her 61st year, and was laid away in Newmarket cemetery on March 20.

There is surviving besides her husband, a daughter (Lavina) Mrs. Ivan Kay, and a son Harry Hunt at home. Also surviving are three brothers, Charles Shropshire, Detroit, George of Toronto, and Gordon of Newmarket. Mrs. Robert Patterson of Newmarket is an only sister. There are four grandchildren.

Goodwood Village was battling the annual floods that threaten the comfortable hamlet just north of Stouffville a few miles every spring. Even up on high ground north of Goodwood, the cemetery is so saturated that the burial of William Hackney is delayed into the third day, after the funeral cortege was turned back on Monday afternoon, and the body returned to O'Neill's Chapel in Stouffville.

The early part of this week water was rising over the roadway in the south part of the village, and reaching out over lawns and up veranda posts so that some of the people were ready with boats to meet an emergency. Car owners had to leave their cars out on the main highway, and this brought the wrath of the police down on them. The road with high piles of snow was narrow and parked cars, police claimed, created a danger. John Todd helped out by using his bulldozer down in the church yard to clear a nice area so that parking space was afforded those who could not reach their homes, and were glad to leave their cars at church.

Not only were the householders worried, but the Old Biddies who do the egg laying were in distress and had to perch high up and stay all day. If the floods continue, folks claim their only solution for egg producers is to turn to raising ducks. Cellars are flooded and some have to use high boots, others rafts to reach the fruit shelves. With a slight stiffening of the weather the water subsided on Wednesday, and the menace is over for the time at least. In the meantime George Taylor has a new boat ready for action. Engineers have failed to provide an over-all draining plan that would not be too expensive for the village to pay.

The death of William Hackney will be learned by old-timers with regret. For many years he farmed near Goodwood, and was a popular individual widely known in Uxbridge township. Mr. Hackney died last Friday and was to have been buried on Monday afternoon in Goodwood cemetery. However, on Wednesday morning there was no indication just when the cemetery grounds would be available for use.

Once Markham Pastor Rev. W. H. Yates Dead

Ministers of United Missionary Churches throughout the Markham district were in attendance at the funeral for the late Rev. W. H. Yates of Listowel who died in his 63rd year on Saturday.

Mr. Yates retired from the Scott field only recently because of ill health, from which he never recovered. The funeral service held Monday afternoon at New Dundee saw many ministers of the conference in attendance.

Born in Southampton, England, W. H. Yates received a public school education before leaving the old land to migrate to Canada. He reached here at the age of 16 years, attended Business College in Toronto and the Toronto Bible College from which he graduated in 1912. He was converted at the age of 19 and entered the ministry after his graduation to fill fields in the M.B.C. charges at the Bruce Peninsula, Manitoulin Island, Owen Sound, Collingwood, Sunnidale, Hanover, Kitchener, Maryboro, Markham, Toronto West, Aylmer and Scott. He was an able preacher and successful pastor, and his ministry was highly regarded by his fellow preachers who turned out in astounding numbers to pay last respects to this beloved brother.

The late Mr. Yates married Meranda Hunsberger, and after her death he united with Muriel Wetzel in 1916. They had six children, Vernon a high school teacher,

Lions Purchase Incubator for Brierbush Hospital Work

"The Top Six Inches" was the subject of an address given by M. F. Cockburn, before members of Stouffville Lions Club and their farmer guests Monday evening at the regular dinner meeting. The Agricultural Representative couched his remarks in a manner that held both farmers' and business men in rapt attention.

It was announced at the meeting that the Club had decided to present a "baby incubator" to the Brierbush Hospital, to fill a need in the equipment, and which will be of invaluable service in the future.

Howard Summerfeldt Buried at Unionville

The passing of Howard Summerfeldt at his farm home near Cashel on the 6th concession of Markham, means that death has made another inroad on an old established family of the township. Howard who was in his 77th year, was a son of the late George Summerfeldt who settled here over a century ago. There were four sons and three daughters, and only surviving now is a sister, Mrs. Resor of Sunderland, and a brother, Ab. Summerfeldt of Ringwood, who has been prominent over the years in the public life of the township.

Howard after he left his father's home married Sarah Bond, and the couple took up farming at Cashel where he died. Besides his wife there are three sons; and three daughters, namely Mrs. L. Middleton, Mrs. H. Larose of Unionville, Mrs. A. Duncan of Gormley, Clarence of Unionville, Chas. of Woodbridge and Mervyn of Pine Orchard.

The funeral this Thursday afternoon will proceed from the late home to the Lutheran cemetery, Unionville.

Elect Executive for Boy Scout Work

The Boy Scout movement is being revived in Stouffville and an enthusiastic meeting on Tuesday evening elected the following executive who will supply the leadership for this worthwhile boys' work: Scout Master, Ken Wagg; assists, Ted Cadieux, Earl Lehman; Scout Com., Rev. D. Davis (chairman), Lloyd Weldon (vice chairman), Lloyd Ham (secy.), Len Wilkes (treas.), Elmer Daniels (promotion).

All boys nine years and over and who are interested in becoming scouts, are asked to contact Ken Wagg at the Jewellery Store. The Committee in charge has a building in view which it hopes to have erected this summer for scout purposes.

Glenn a banker, Dr. Paul Yates, Pearl, the eldest daughter and her husband Arnold Sherrick are in evangelistic work. Grace is Mrs. John Pipher, while another daughter, Muriel, is home with her parents. The family are all musical, and their talent has been well used.

Prize Unionville Shorthorn Receives Attention



Sales and auction of beef cattle held at the Royal Winter Fair buildings under auspices of the Ontario Beef Cattle Improvement Association, drew some local animals to front rank. In this picture we see 19-year-old Jocelyn Easton of Klaymore Farms, Unionville, as she combs and curls the roan hair of their prize Shorthorn. The blond girl explained that the best oil for the animal's hair was good for both humans and animals, but she wouldn't use it herself.

"Yes, one of the oils in that combination is the stuff they use in beauty parlors," admitted Miss Easton. George Rodanz, Ringwood Farms, Stouffville, is president of the big sale, and one of the lads from his estate was calmly wearing a red shirt before the lineup of bulls being judged before the auction. Jim said, "that stuff about bulls getting mad about color red is just an old maid's dream." He claimed they do not even recognize red

from any other color, many of them come from home stables all painted red, and lots of them are red themselves. Experience has shown that cattle are absolutely color blind, and this goes for bulls too. This second annual show drew 190 animals compared to only 90 last year, and besides some outstanding contributions from Stouffville, and Markham areas, animals came from Ottawa, Owen Sound and London districts.

County Population Nearly 400,000 Excluding Toronto

According to the Municipal Directory for 1950 just issued by Hon. G. H. Dunbar, Minister of Municipal Affairs, the official population of the County of York is 397,418, and if the City of Toronto is included the area has an overall population of one million and seventy thousand. The village of Stouffville has a population of 1571 and the assessment on which taxes are levied stands at \$843,180. The village spreads over 455 acres and contains nine miles of streets. The village of Markham has a population of 1475, an assessment for taxing purposes of \$657,903, and eight miles of streets to maintain.

Township	Populations	Assessments
Richmond Hill	1954	\$1,104,385, with 6 miles of streets.
Aurora	3,676	assessment for taxes \$2,055,248, and 7 miles of streets.
Newmarket	4,807	assessment \$3,988,159, 15 miles of streets.
Township populations and assessments:		
Georgina	1501	\$1,440,445
Gwillimbury E.	3816	1,913,935
Gwillimbury N.	1918	3,115,550
King	5,676	5,064,275
Markham	8,224	6,418,857
Vaughan	8,596	5,355,567
Whitchurch	3,796	3,053,719