

Writes Interesting Reminiscences

By Mrs. Andrew Pegg

The big Whitchurch Centennial is all over. We enjoyed it very much. It was well planned and most of the speeches were good. The dinner left nothing to be desired, in fact, it was sumptuous.

It was rather disappointing to me in one way—no local colour. I feel guilty about that. I should have written something about the early days in Whitchurch, part of the time before the centennial, I was busy helping to initiate a new grandson into the ways of a cold world, but mostly it was the feeling of—"oh leave it to George."

Apparently those of the older generations have "passed on"—leaving so much history of Musselman's Lake, Church Hill and Ballantrae untold.

I fully expected to meet some old friends but in that was disappointed.

I recognized Mr. Evans, but he was so busy with the dignitaries, there was no getting near him.

One of the speakers mentioned the Dutch, the Quakers, and the Christians, as having exercised a religious influence over the people of Whitchurch. While I have the greatest admiration for the denominations mentioned, I was sorry he forgot the Wesleyan Methodists, who laboured for so many years in that district in the Master's service.

My father often pointed out, the old log building, a little to the west of Pine Orchard, on our right, as we went to Newmarket, saying that was a Quaker meeting house.

There was a log building similar to it, built by the people of the neighborhood in 1843, to be used as a public school during the week, and for divine service on Sundays.

It was the Wesleyan Methodists who held the meetings. Sometimes they were fortunate in having a travelling preacher speak to them, otherwise they held a prayer meeting.

These meetings were well attended. The ministers who came riding on a horse from Cobourg were always made welcome by my grandfather, in fact, they made his home their headquarters while visiting all through the district.

Grandmother said they were men of God and she felt as though she was about to receive a blessing when they entered the door.

The remuneration was small in cash and it was a hazardous and exhausting life. But they were filled with the spirit of love to their fellowmen.

They formed classes where the people were interested, buried the dead when called upon to do so, married those who wished to marry, held prayer meetings, and gave religious instruction to all.

After forming a class, someone was appointed to meet with it every Sunday.

When the cavalcade passed up the tenth concession, it passed by a place called Lincolnville where my father met with a class every Sunday morning for years, walking through the bush to get there.

Sometimes he had dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Sangster who owned a farm nearby (father of Dr. Walter and Dr. Alex Sangster). Then on to another class at the Island Lake. It was quite a step from there to his father's, south of Musselman's Lake. These classes were discontinued at these places after the churches at Bloomington and Church Hill were built.

Once a neighbour said to him, "how much do you get for all your missionary work Mr. Hill?"

Father said, "Well, every time I help a soul to find the Saviour a star is added to my crown."

I believe I have forgotten to say just where the old log school house was situated.

If you travel west on the south side of Musselman's Lake towards Ballantrae, it was on the north side of the road about 25 rods past the lake. I remember seeing it many times, when it was used as a dwelling house afterwards.

As far as I can remember those who were interested in the school paid a small tuition fee, and the teacher boarded around for some (continued on page two)

Markham Twp. Building \$14,127 a Day in Sept.

Markham Township's building figures for 1950 are well on the way to topping the two million mark. The month of September hit a new high with permits averaging a daily value of \$14,127. This great building boom is widely distributed throughout the municipality, according to Building Inspector Ross Norton.

For the first eight months of this year, value of new buildings reached \$1,741,425, as against \$976,660 last year.

SIZE WON A PRIZE



Earl Brethour of Blackwater, Ont., lifts prize-winning pumpkin, one of the entries that brought him 13 firsts in grain, root and vegetable classes at Scott Fair, Uxbridge. His other entries placed second in six of the classes.

Contract Let for Unionville Ice

J. L. Wilson of North Toronto was the successful tenderer for the artificial ice plant to be installed in Crosby Memorial Arena at Unionville. The price was \$23,415.

Work is proceeding at top speed to ready the arena for use this winter. The west end of the building has been removed, and some extension will be made there so that the ice surface can be made 180'x70'. A two and a half foot excavation has been made in the ice surface area to give greater head-room.

UNIONVILLE PONIES SUCCESSFUL AT STREETSVILLE SHOW

On Saturday, Sept. 30, two trailers of ponies left for Streetsville. Mr. Gilbert Beck took two ponies, "Little Mitzl," and "Sonny Boy." In the single harness pony over eleven hands "Little Mitzl" was placed first. The team of ponies took second and the tandem was placed third.

Miss Betty Rae took her pony "Lea of Daviburn," and won the saddle pony class.

Mr. Lloyd Weatherill showed his three-year-old Shetland pony. In the single harness pony under eleven hands "Tiny Babe" was placed second over ten other entries.

Truck Driver Bruised

Marvin Harrison, Aurora, suffered minor bruises Monday night when his light truck went out of control and overturned near here. His companion was unhurt. The truck was extensively damaged.

Councillor Fred Timbers of Whitchurch, and renowned local plowman, left on Tuesday for Eastern Ontario where he will judge a number of plowing matches, including East Carlton, Glengarry, Grenville and Leeds. This Saturday he will officiate at the championship matches of the Eastern Townships being held at Mallory Town.

Engagement

The engagement is announced of Bernice Isabel, second daughter of Mrs. Redshaw and the late William Redshaw to George (Joe) Thomas, Ringwood, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Thomas, Ringwood. The marriage will take place Oct. 9th, 1950, at three o'clock in Stouffville.

New Sales Arena Opens Here Saturday, October 14th

Stouffville's new auction sales arena will open this Saturday on the site of the former Curling Club rink with Sellers & Atkinson, auctioneers. The new method of buying and selling will render a service to the community, according to Mr. Walter Atkinson, proprietor. Community sales are very prominent in the United States and the idea has gradually found its way into Ontario.

The old curling rink has received an extensive overhaul job, and while not the largest sales arena of its kind in Ontario, the owners declare it is one of the best equipped.

There is a large sales rink and auction stand with good seating capacity.

The opening sale is being held next Saturday, Oct. 14th, with sales thereafter being held every Saturday. On opening day, two sales rings will be in operation.

Free afternoon tea will be served all the ladies present.

Local Veterinary Gives Up Practice

Dr. S. T. Bodendistel, who for more than twenty years has served a wide area about Stouffville as a veterinarian, is giving up his practice owing to ill health. The partnership between Dr. Bodendistel and Dr. Ron. Smith who entered the business a few years ago, is being dissolved.

Dr. Bodendistel has enjoyed a wide circle of patronage since coming to Stouffville in the 1930's, and has served the farmers exceedingly well. He estimates that he has travelled more than half a million miles on the country roads surrounding Stouffville and Markham.

Only recently the local Veterinary partnership established an up-to-date office and drug dispensary on Main St. in the west end business block. Dr. Bodendistel will take on lighter employment he informed The Tribune.

Fenelon Falls vs Stouffville, Tri-County League finals, Wednesday, October 11th.

Markham Twp. Farms Help Build Up Big Foreign Trade With Purebred Cattle

Markham Township is perhaps the most outstanding township in the County of York helping to build up a half million dollar export business in purebred cattle. Twenty-five years ago the value of purebred animals being shipped to the United States, Mexico and South America from York County amounted to less than \$50,000. This year these sales have risen to more than \$300,000 for Holsteins alone.

James Russell of Unionville is one of the outstanding breeders of Shorthorn beef cattle for export. He claims that this County is the real home of the Shorthorn breed in Canada, as they were bred in this township a century ago. Other important beef breed, although not so numerous, is the Hereford, and in this connection our Burnbrae Farms of Geo. Rodanz, Ringwood, excels.

On Monday of this week forty-five animals were disposed of on the W. J. Russell farm in Markham, more than half of the sales being made to American buyers. The auction totalled \$34,000 with the highest Shorthorn going at \$2,000.

On Tuesday of this week, an additional 46 animals were auctioned at the Ken Deacon farm on the 6th con. Total amount of this sale was \$25,785 with the highest animal being purchased by an Illinois buyer for \$1,000. Twenty-three of the forty-six sold went to the U.S.

The auctioneers were C. D. Swaffer, Tulsa, Okla., Robt. Anfos, Moffat, Ont., and Duncan Brown, Sheldon, Ont.

Breeders of Holstein purebreds in York County now number 700, and this number is continually growing. However in spite of this

growth, the number cannot come close to supplying the demand for this popular breed of milk cow. Geo. S. Henry's farm near Oriole is an important cog in the sales of this breed.

Many Aberdeen Angus and Jersey sales are continually being made to the U.S. from the Don Head Farms on the outskirts of Richmond Hill. In addition animals have been shipped to New Zealand, South America and Mexico. One young Angus bull brought \$11,000 at a Chicago sale last year. Today the livestock at this well-known farm includes 300 Jerseys, and 160 Aberdeen Angus.

Leitchcroft Farm in Markham is one of the fastest-growing centres for Ayrshire cattle, and these are finding their way to the U.S. market.

Money from the sale of purebred cattle to the U.S. has become a major source of U.S. dollars. During the first eight months of 1950, sales to the U.S. alone brought in more than \$10,000,000 for cattle from all parts of Canada.

One only needs to travel the country lanes in this vicinity to witness the great change in cattle herds which has come within the last twenty years. At that time, scrub cattle of indeterminate breed were the most common sight. Their milk production was low and they did not produce high-grade beef. Today all this is changed, and the majority of farmers are building up purebred herds. While they are perhaps not all the prize variety, they do have the required better standards of production.

Fine looking cattle on every hand is what one sees as he travels the country, particularly in Markham Township.

Local Men Involved In Early Morning Crash

Two trucks were damaged, an old-model car was smashed to junk and one driver was injured in a crash on Brodie's Hill on the Markham - Whitchurch townline early Thursday morning.

Fog was blamed for the smash in which Robert McDowell, Markham, received concussion and lacerations. He was taken to Brierbush Hospital, Stouffville, where his condition on Wednesday was reported as much improved, and it is expected that he will be able to be discharged shortly.

Police Chief Clarence Wideman of Markham said McDowell was driving east up the steep hill when he was sideswiped by a truck driven by Douglas Ward, Stouffville, and struck a following truck driven by Jack Cummings.

Ward's truck had its rear wheels and axle torn off and Cummings' truck had a front headlight and fender smashed.

NEW THEATRE POLICY

Patrons are asked to kindly note the change in time at the Stanley Theatre Show now commences each evening at 7 and 9 o'clock, with doors open at 6.45. Saturday and Holidays, show commences at 6.30, doors open at 6.15. Matinee each Saturday at 2 o'clock.

GET READY TO DRAW FOR NEW CAR THURSDAY

Stouffville Legion is preparing to pick the lucky person who will drive away their new Deluxe Chev. Sedan. The draw will be held next Thursday, Oct. 12, at a big dance to be staged in the Legion Hall here. Proceeds of the ticket sale are going to help complete the hall.

Christian Men's Fellowship Sends Bibles to Japan

Monday evening saw more than a hundred and twenty-five men of the Stouffville and District Christian Men's Fellowship gather for their initial fall meeting in the Stouffville Baptist Church. A report of the 1949-1950 season given during the meeting, showed that approximately \$343.00 was given in offerings, and of this amount \$145.00 was used in providing of Bibles for Japan, through the British and Foreign Bible Society. This work, President Alvin Farmer stated, would be the objective of the Fellowship for the current season.

Rev. W. E. Brackstone of Fenelon Falls was the guest speaker and he took as his text, the 37th chapter of Ezekiel. Musical numbers were rendered by the Male Quartette of the Toronto Bible College, and by Mr. McClary on the violin.

Next Monday, October 9th, will be Thanksgiving.

Nearly Quarter Million Supplementary Assessment

Markham Township total assessment has climbed another \$238,400 with the figures just released on the supplementary assessment for 1950 which covers properties now under construction. The additional assessment covers 312 properties.

The E. T. Stephens' subdivision came up for further discussion as to whether or not the township would sanction improvement of a \$19,000 road expenditure in the area, when there was little more than this of assessable property. "Let the Municipal Board decide—I don't see why we should sit here and tell those people that they can't have a road," stated Councillor Chas. Hooper.

"More people might build homes there if the road was built," commented Deputy-Reeve Dalton Rummy.

Council finally agreed to get a new estimate on the proposed improved roadway, and try and eliminate a costly bridge which had been included in the original estimate.

Mr. Jackson questioned concerning the building of homes on a private road.

Hear Complaints of Howling Dogs and Night-time Carpentering

New complaints never cease to arise before township councils, and Monday's session of Markham Township Council was no exception. From Hunt's lane on the west side of the municipality, a lady complained that the dogs were howling, while in the Elmwood sub-division, the pounding of hammers at night and on the Sabbath was jarring the ears of several distraught citizens in this vicinity.

"Well we have a bylaw against such things, if you can enforce it," commented Clerk Chas. Hoover.

Such a bylaw is in force in Markham Township which prohibits the blowing of horns, ringing of bells, shouting or causing any unnecessary noise which may be considered a nuisance. The penalty provided is a maximum fine of \$50 or not more than 21 days in jail.

Baker Show Team Goes to Ottawa

That prize-winning show team of fine Clydesdales, belonging to Vince Baker of Altona, has been sold to an Ottawa buyer for \$900. The team was disposed of as part of the large auction sale conducted by Sellers & Atkinson, auctioneers, at the Baker farm on Thursday.

The stable of grade Guernsey cattle averaged more than \$300 each, with the top cow going at \$337.50. They were well fitted and sold rapidly as they entered the ring. Buyers came from as far west as Clinton and as far east as Ottawa.

Forty tons of hay went at \$18 per ton while a milking machine brought \$230.00. Mr. Baker's show harness was sold to a Barrie bidder.

In the spring the Baker family will move to the farm recently purchased near Oakwood.

OVER 50,000 FINGERLINGS ADDED TO WHITCHURCH FISH POPULATION

The Department of Game & Fisheries re-stocked Whitchurch lakes and streams this year with the largest number of fingerlings ever deposited here. Six thousand speckled trout were dropped into township streams, and 45,000 large-mouth black bass added to the large waters.

Over 500 pheasants were also released in the municipality by the department. Three hundred were sent out in the first shipment with 150 in the second lot, and an additional 125 old birds.

AWARDED WINGS



Pilot Officer Robert M. (Pete) Knox-Leet, shown here, was one of 23 RCAF Flight Cadets who were awarded their pilots' wings and commissions at a ceremony held Sept. 22 at the RCAF Flying Training School at Centralia, Ontario. Pilot Officer Knox-Leet, 23, is the son of Commander and Mrs. R. W. Knox-Leet of Moyné House, Markham. He received his education at King's College School in Windsor, N.S., and at Royal Roads Military College, British Columbia. Wings were presented to Pilot Officer Knox-Leet by his father, Commander Knox-Leet who is in the Royal Canadian Naval Supply Branch, Ottawa. A brother, Flying Officer E. R. Knox-Leet, DFC, is with the RCAF at Trenton, Ontario. The graduation climaxes 40 weeks of intensive ground and air instruction. Pilot Officer Knox-Leet will attend a two-month air armament course at Trenton, after which he will be posted to "RCAF" operational duties in Canada.