

THE STOUFFVILLE TRIBUNE

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NOTES and COMMENTS

Soaring Tax Rate Predicted Here This Year

As various figures are compiled for Stouffville's 1952 municipal budget, it is evident that the local tax rate is in for the greatest increase in years, and the fact of the matter is, there are no real drastic reductions which can be made. At the present time your writer is aware of additional expenditures in this new year which will amount to at least six or seven mills on the present tax rate which stands at forty-two. At least half of this increase at the present time will be taken up by the increased public school budget. Additional improvements in equipment and service at the town office will make some increase. More improved fire-fighting equipment is to be asked for, while the Community Centre Board is expected to present a budget equally as large as last year.

The local High School budget is still unknown, although not too great a change is anticipated until some movement is underway towards the new school. Public School reserves have been wiped out so that this year's budget cannot look for any financial aid in that manner. Repairs to the Municipal Building also, cannot wait much longer.

It would appear that the Community Centre budget would most likely be in for the most drastic paring, if council is to make any effort to stem the rising tide of taxes. Schools and other necessary services cannot be scaled down to any great degree, although council should certainly make it plain to school boards that they expect a real effort to keep costs to a minimum and "cut out the frills," if Stouffville like other municipalities is to "ride out" the period of costly living.

Essential service such as the new high school and sewers will have to be faced before the next ten years have passed, and these will not be nearly so burdensome if taxpayers are not forced "up to their necks" in taxes before that time arrives. Only in the debenture department can local ratepayers breathe easily at the moment. Stouffville's debenture debt is practically nil and this fact may provide a cushion for the above-mentioned expenditures when they come.

"Missing the Boat"

Both the town, the local organizations, and the Stouffville Arena Company are "missing the boat," by neglecting to make some effort to place a floor in the town's artificial ice arena. While we are fully aware that the arena is operated as a stock company, something for which the ratepayers may be thankful, the fact that so many townfolk are shareholders in the concern make it to a large degree a community project.

While we do not intend to suggest in this column how the financial angle of installing a floor should be handled, the fact remains that the revenue to be derived, and the accommodation and convenience which would be provided, are untold.

Stouffville, as a municipality, would be provided with a wonderful rallying place for any large community undertakings, local organizations who are hard-pressed for means to raise funds because of the lack of a large auditorium for various types of entertainment, would find the flooring in the arena a real boon. The Arena Company itself, is losing out, through the loss of revenue which could be so easily derived through the idle summer months, and without the heavy operating overhead which must be carried in the winter.

The churches too, might appreciate the added convenience. It has been suggested that if the place were floored, all churches in the community might participate in holding one joint evening service during the summer months, and possibly stimulate sagging attendance at this time of year.

The handling of the arena and manner in which the company's original debt has been reduced to less than half its original figure in less than three years, has been a real credit to the officials, and the fact that this project was never placed as a direct charge on the tax bills should give local ratepayers never-ending satisfaction.

At this very moment, council is confronted with a problem which could be handled to the best advantage if the arena were floored. The question of holding street dances could be readily solved, and all such affairs could be put on without fear of the weather or of disrupting traffic. In fact the work of "setting up" for such dances could be handled much more simply in this large enclosure than on the street.

Would Reward Folly

It is highly unlikely that Mr. St. Laurent will have Miss Agnes MacPhail called to the senate. There are fifteen vacancies. There likely always will be about fifteen vacancies until close to an election in which, mayhap, the Government thinks it may be turned out of office.

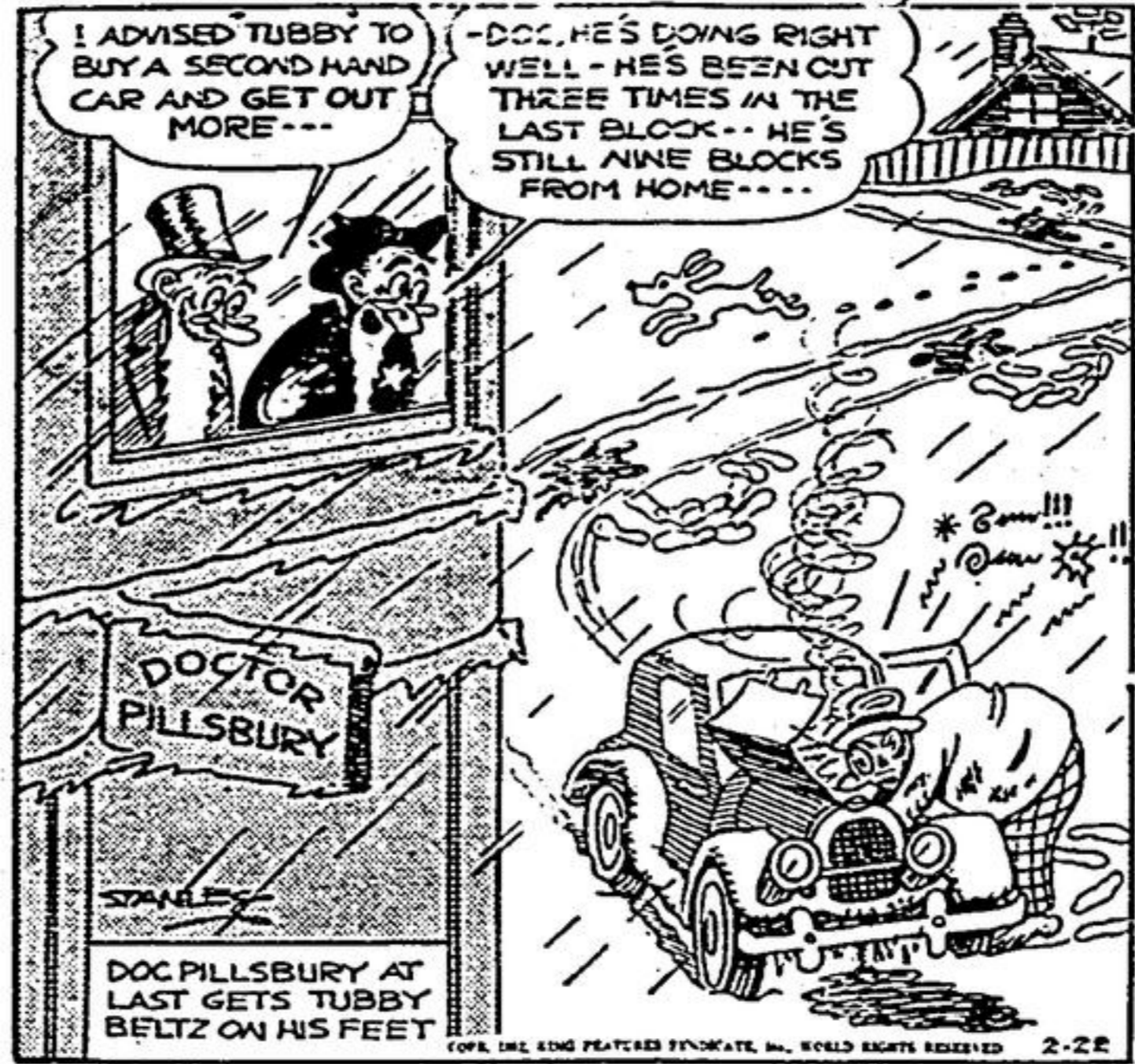
Mr. St. Laurent might think he would like to have a non-Liberal appointed. But he is not deliberately trying to alienate Liberals. So many of them are sure they are deserving of the honor. Probably a hundred are eyeing each vacancy. Each vacancy filled, therefore, means 99 persons disappointed, maybe even resentful. It is politically better to have 100 persons still ahopin' and willin' than 99 disappointed. So, as long as the Party controls the senate, vacancies are fine.

Another point is that to elevate Miss MacPhail to the senate would be to reward folly. She was a leader of pacifism in this country. (Remember her successful campaign against the high school cadets?) The woolly-minded socialists here, the isolationists in the United States, the appeasers in Great Britain, the potential collaborators in France were reasons for Hitler's rise, his determination to dominate, his belief that the world would be the Prussians' oyster for a thousand years. Hitler's reading of the signs in the countries he designed to conquer failed to note that the Anglo-Saxon nations can rouse themselves to reality. But it was not Miss MacPhail's fault that he didn't succeed.

Meanwhile, the Agnes-for-senator Bowmanville Statesman boom is booming, though it sounds like an idea that should have been saved for the dog days. And then forgotten.

—Printed Word

THE OLD HOME TOWN By STANLEY



BIBLE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Question — Where did Noah's ark rest after the Flood?

Answer — "And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seven-tenth day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat."

Q.—Do you think Jacob will be saved?

A.—It is written in Luke 13:28, of certain workers of iniquity, "Ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out."

Q.—Does the Bible claim that

it is inspired?

A.—The Bible uses such phrases as "thus saith the Lord," or "God said," about 3,800 times. In 2 Samuel 23:2, David said: "The Spirit of the Lord spake by me, and his word was in my tongue."

Q.—My friend tried to tell me that we will observe a special day of worship in the new earth to come. That isn't true, is it?

A.—How about Isaiah 66:22, 23? "For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the Lord, so shall your seed and your name remain."

Working Together

The Township of Whitchurch planning board has shown again its keen awareness of the need for group action in its invitation to representatives of the 14 northern municipalities to discuss common planning problems. Not long ago, the township board addressed public notices to its neighboring municipalities on the need for inter-municipal planning. Now the board has narrowed its objectives to a discussion of conservation, recreation, municipal planning and land use problems and discussed these matters at a meeting in Whitchurch Municipal Building on Friday evening.

The advantages of such discussions are immediately obvious. The 14 municipalities, Vaughan and Markham Townships and north, are pretty much of a unit within the county. They are semi-rural communities for the most part. Their populations are individually smaller than those to the south. Their problems are pretty much the same. All of them are expanding, the urban municipalities into the rural municipalities; the latter experiencing the development of new urban centres. There is a need here for collective planning if this growth is to be orderly and economical, and if measures are to be taken now to provide for park space and proper proportions of industrial, residential and agricultural development.

But such a meeting has a deeper significance. The amalgamation by Toronto of its immediate neighbors is yet to be settled. Should the city proceed, those same 14 municipalities will be in their turn a county unit. It is to their advantage that they learn early to work together upon the solution of their common issues.

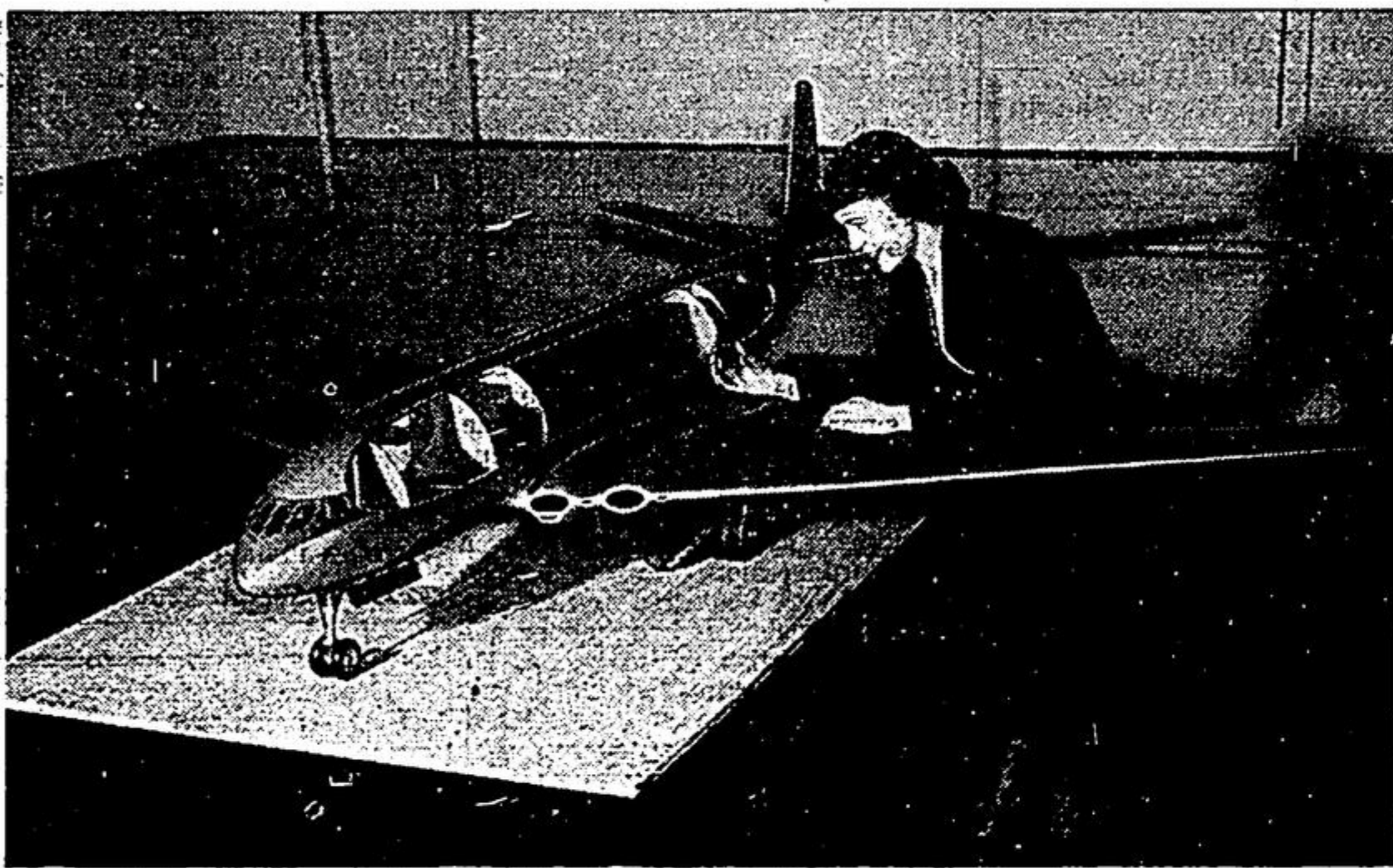
And it is not a bad thing at all that the municipalities with so much in common, but so at odds with the rest of the county, have a chance to know each other better. Even though Toronto remains confined to its present borders, a certain amount of solidarity in the north would be an advantage in settling some of the county issues.

These municipalities have already had some experience in working together. Eleven of them administer a county health unit. Three other groups work together on conservation commissions. They share among themselves several high school areas. And there is room for still other combinations working together on the solution of common problems.

Meetings such as that called by Whitchurch Twp. were unthought of 20, even ten, years ago. They are necessary today. It is to Whitchurch's credit that they have taken the lead in this instance.

—Newmarket Era

New Jet Plane for Trans-Pacific Air Service



Pretty Ann Martin of Montreal takes time out to pose with a seven-foot, nine-inch model of a De Havilland jet aircraft which will go into service on Canadian Pacific Airlines' trans-Pacific service this year. To be displayed at Windsor Station, Montreal, early next week, the \$15,000-model will go on tour to Winnipeg, Vancouver, and Honolulu, in addition to appearing at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto this year. Of plastic and metal construction, it

has a wingspan of nine feet seven inches with rubber-tired wheels on a retractable undercarriage which can be operated by hand to fold into the belly of the aircraft. A removable panel in the side displays the interior of the model which consists of crew compartment, showing pilot and co-pilot seat in front of a detailed control panel. The wireless operators dials and range sets are aligned in one corner while the navigators

working table is shown in the other. The next section shows lounge room. The lounge section which accommodates two sets of four chairs has tables with folding leaves, which the body contains 28 reclining chairs, with the hand luggage rack overhead. The sectional view of the rear compartments discloses ladies' and men's washrooms and the service compartment of the stewardesses which is located at the rear of the aircraft.

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NEW HEIGHTS OF ADVENTURE
JEROME COURTLAND
TONI ARDEN
with Audrey Lind - Dick
Winters - Lynn Bari

Monday and Tuesday

March 3 and 4



Wednesday and Thursday

March 5 and 6

"THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL"

with Michael Rennie and Patricia Neal
Plus Selected Short Subjects



Southern Indian, a little heard of lake, is the fourth largest in Manitoba.

Cheap Ice Storage

Though the modern refrigerator using electricity or other means of energy, is replacing the ice-box in many rural areas, ice can still be used to advantage when a source of supply is readily available. And it can be stored without providing an elaborate ice-house.

Any unoccupied corner of a shed will serve as a site for a rough-board enclosure. An enclosure ten feet square and eight feet high will hold enough ice to provide 50 pounds a day for 130 days, after allowing for a reasonable amount of wastage. The smaller the amount stored, the greater the proportion of wastage.

The bottom of the enclosure should be covered with about one foot of sawdust. If the soil beneath is impervious clay it will be better if there are a few inches of gravel below the sawdust. In putting in the ice the boards can be taken away for one side and be replaced when the ice is in position. A space of one foot should be left between the stacked ice and the side boards and this should be filled with sawdust. The ice should also be covered with sawdust.

It is the sawdust that keeps the ice from melting, and the drier the ice the longer it will keep.

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