

## COUNCIL CONSIDER ENGAGING PROV. POLICE

### Fire Destroys 100-Year-Old Mill At Mt. Albert

Fire Friday night destroyed the 100-year-old Hammett's mill at Mt. Albert. Four brigades battled the flames for three hours as sparks from the mill, which was loaded to capacity with season's grain crops, ignited a small bush 300 yards away.

The flames, shooting hundreds of feet into the sky, could be seen for 10 miles.

Motorists jamming the lone road into the mill blocked the entrance of fire trucks from Newmarket.

Fire Chief J. L. Coltham jumped down from a truck and acted as policeman to clear a path through the traffic to the blaze.

Volunteer firemen from Stouffville, Uxbridge and Mount Albert set up hose lines from a small pond near the mill. Mill-owner James Hammett dashed into the smoke-filled east wing of the mill to rescue three books and a number of important papers from his office. Coughing and choking he ran to safety as flames began to sweep through the wing.

Mr. Hammett said the 10 employees at the mill quit work as usual at 6 p.m. A farmer sighted smoke pouring from the top of the 60-foot high frame building about 7 p.m.

Farmers depended on the mill to chop their annual grain harvest.

For some time firemen couldn't approach the building for the intense heat.

Tons of water poured against the side of the building. As one wall buckled three firemen had to run to safety. No one was injured.

### U.S. Buying At Cattle Sale Hints Lifting of Embargo



Interest shown by U.S. buyers at the all-Canadian Holstein sale held recently in Toronto, was taken as an encouraging sign by Canadian sellers, who said it indicated U.S. confidence that the embargo on Canadian cattle, put on because of the hoof and mouth disease outbreak,

might soon be lifted. Nineteen of the 68 head sold went to American buyers, a percentage nearly equivalent to normal times. Largely due to the embargo, average price was down by more than \$300 compared to last year to \$840 a head. Total sales were \$57,135, which was "a good sale, con-

sidering the embargo." Top price of the auction, \$5,100, was paid for a bull consigned by S. B. Roman of King, Ont., and bought by Massey-Harris Farms at Milliken. One of Romandale Farm's calves is seen above receiving a pat from a youthful admirer, Jeanette Jerney of Barrie.

### Spokesmen for Chamber of Commerce Urge Increased Protection and Night Patrol

Stouffville Municipal Council members will have before them next Monday evening a contract from the Ontario Provincial Police under which this department would undertake the policing of Stouffville. While minor details of the contract are not known, the figure of \$6,600 has been given to the local clerk as the cost of such a police setup. In addition to this amount which covers the cost of two full-time provincial officers, there would be six cents a mile mileage for the cruiser. In return for the municipality undertaking this form of police protection, the government would pay 25% of the total cost.

Reeve Ogden told council members on Monday evening that the O.P.P. would not take on the Stouffville policing with less than two full-time officers. They insist, he says, on one officer for each one thousand residents. The two officers here would be resident men, on patrol duty sixteen hours per day and on call twenty-four hours.

The Reeve pointed out that while it was believed the Provincial Police System was the correct answer to Stouffville's growing problem, it was realized that the cost was considerable, and might add as much as three additional mills to the tax rate.

The town is presently paying a part-time officer \$1800 plus \$7 per trip to court bringing the yearly cost to some \$2,100. There is no grant on this expenditure with a local officer unless some form of pension scheme is in force.

Councillors expressed the opinion that while they believed Constable Rusnell who has held the position for a considerable number of years was giving as good a service as could be expected from any part-time local officer, they believed the job was becoming too great and action must be taken in some direction.

are particularly bad," said Mr. Wagg. "It's too much for one man, the town's getting too big," he added.

Mr. Wagg further stressed that the Chamber of Commerce believed they would be doing youth a good service by curbing the wild driving before a fatality occurred. "I think we should try a 'get tough' policy and lock up a few for the weekend," declared Mr. Weldon.

"Why don't Whitechurch police look after these people at the hall, they could be stopped right at the westend," said Councillor Harry Ratcliff.

Reeve Ogden assured the deputations that council was moving to improve the situation, but reminded them that it would cost considerable money.

### Former Sectionman Here Dies at Home in Newmarket

Following a series of strokes and continued failing health for some years, Joseph A. Wild passed away at Newmarket on Friday, Oct. 31st. Mr. Wild was resident in Stouffville for a number of years, the family occupying the present residence of Mr. and Mrs. McCowan, eastend. He was in his 67th year.

The late Jos. Wild was born in England and came to Canada 50 years ago. During his years in Stouffville he worked as a C.N.R. sectionman. Twenty-nine years ago the family moved to Mt. Joy where he farmed for some years. More recently he and Mrs. Wild have been residing in Newmarket. Deceased was identified with the Anglican Church.

Surviving are his wife, the former Mae Davis whom he married in 1911 and one daughter Ivy (Mrs. Colin Madill), Brock Rd. There are three granddaughters, and a brother and two sisters still living in the Old Country.

The funeral on Monday afternoon was conducted from the L. E. O'Neill Chapel by Rev. H. Lackey of Claremont. Pallbearers were Russel Grove, Lorne Grove, Roy Grove, Arthur Heaton, Gordon Lunau and Harold Jarvis. Interment was made in the Stouffville Cemetery.

### Announce Dates For Christmas Overseas Mail

Deadline dates have been issued for mailing Christmas parcels to the Canadian armed forces serving in the Orient and on the continent of Europe.

Mail intended for delivery by Christmas should be posted by the following dates:

To Canadian forces in the Orient: parcels and ordinary letters should be mailed in time to reach Vancouver not later than Nov. 7; Air Mail by Dec. 5.

To Canadian forces in Europe: parcels from this district should be mailed by Nov. 21 for delivery to the continent, and by November 25 for delivery to Great Britain. Letters should be mailed by Nov. 25 to the Continent and Nov. 27 to Great Britain.

### Pickering Twp. To Purchase New Truck

At the regular meeting of Pickering Township Council on Monday afternoon, it was decided to purchase a new 4 ton gravel truck complete with 12 ply tires, gravel box and hoist. The new vehicle will replace the old truck purchased in 1946 and will be used for plowing snow in addition to hauling gravel. The tenders will close on Nov. 17.

### Notice to All Veterans Of Stouffville And District

You are invited to attend the Remembrance Service on Sunday, Nov. 9th, in the Presbyterian Church, Stouffville. All veterans will meet at the Memorial Hall at 1:45 p.m. to parade to the cemetery for the purpose of placing poppies on the graves of departed comrades. Following this parade they will move to the service in the Presbyterian Church.

### Only Twelve Appeals Whitchurch Assessment

Only twelve appeals were heard at the annual Whitchurch Court of Revision on the 1953 assessment roll on Saturday afternoon. Of these eleven were sustained and one was granted a reduction of \$50. Members of the court were Messrs. L. P. Evans, Ed. Logan, C. E. Toole, L. Hennessey and Clifford Wallwork.

Mr. McDonald, lot 8, plan 288, Wilcox Lake, appealed against a total assessment of \$550 on land and buildings. He claimed that the land was waterlogged and the building incomplete and used only three nights in the entire year. His assessment was reduced \$50.

Largest appeal was that of the Stouffville Sand & Gravel Co. where the assessment was increased by \$5,625, partially on business. It is now the policy of the county, according to Assessor Fred Cummings to assess such firms on such equipment as washing plants and to increase the assessment over the figure of farm land. It can be said to be viewed as industrial land.

In the case of William Kelley, Musselman's Lake, the assessor pointed out that the county assessment officials had viewed all the assessed cottages in the area including Mr. Kelley's as too low rather than too high. His assessment of \$500 was sustained.

A cottage owned by Henry Swablie at Wilcox Lake and bringing in \$35 a month rent had an assessment of \$500 sustained. Mr. Swablie in his letter to the board stated that the area had deteriorated.

Other appeals were from Stanley Woolham, lot 67, Plan 348; Mrs. E. R. Waddell, Wilcox Lake; John M. Downey, 5th con.; Mrs. A. E. Weston, Wilcox; Alice Fisher, Cherry St.; R. M. Townsend, Wilcox; Earl Dalton, Oak Ridges; John Gemmill, con. 3.

### Chamber of Commerce Behind Move

Messrs. Alf. Mole, Lloyd Weldon, Ken Wagg and Harold Dixon appeared before council in support of a letter read by Clerk Brown and which urged a move for more and better police protection. The letter called for full 24-hour call service and night patrol.

Mr. Dixon stated that a brawl perpetrated by some out-of-town characters was a disgrace on Main St. Saturday night.

"I've seen our firemen out in the middle of the night in less than five minutes, and it was nearly half an hour before we could get the police to the scene Saturday night," said Mr. Dixon.

All members of the delegation cited the dangerous driving which occurs almost nightly in the late evening hours.

"We need patrol on the street and Saturday and Sunday nights

## Municipal Board Set Nov. 20 Date for Second Hearing on Markham Municipal Building

As agreed upon at a public hearing some weeks ago the Municipal Board will hold a second hearing in Unionville on Thursday, Nov. 20th, for the purpose of hearing complaints against the issuing of debentures for a new Municipal Building at Buttonville.

The Board at the earlier hearing had requested that council obtain a complete cost figure and this has been set at \$69,678 with a few minor items to be added such as the well and septic tank. Council has stated its intention to dispose of its present holdings in Unionville and the income derived from this sale is expected to reduce considerably the debentures which will ultimately have to be sold.

The regular council meeting on Monday afternoon saw resumption of heated debate among members of council over the erection of the building and Councillor Hooper threw a barrage of charges against Councillor LeMasurier whom he claimed was attempting to stall and delay council action by "peeling peanuts."

"This delay and misrepresentation by Councillor LeMasurier has cost this township money."

"Why don't you tell the people then what the cost is," replied Councillor LeMasurier.

"That's what we're trying to do," replied Deputy-Reeve James.

"We all know Councillor LeMasurier is just playing for votes," charged Councillor Hooper.

"I'm not stopping you, go ahead and vote me down," said Councillor LeMasurier.

"Well, it's too bad we can't get some co-operation in council. Councillor LeMasurier has made this council a laughing stock from Montreal to Winnipeg," said Councillor Hooper.

At this juncture Councillor LeMasurier turned council's attention to the annual financial statement as presented each nomination meeting by the township

clerk.

"That's the most fantastic statement I ever saw and I'd like to move that we scuttle the statement, it's deceiving the people—are we going in the red again this year?" asked Councillor LeMasurier.

"Are you suggesting that the clerk is falsifying the statement, or what are you getting at?" asked Deputy-Reeve James.

Clerk Hoover explained that the statement given at nomination was only a cash statement as of that date and not a balance sheet for the year. Numerous large sums had to be paid after nomination time and were not shown.

"That's okay but why is a true picture not shown, you can take off a balance sheet anytime," continued Councillor LeMasurier.

"You can't tell what road costs, mileage and the number of meetings will be from nomination to the end of the year, that's what we're trying to tell you," said Councillor Hooper.

Clerk Hoover stated that the auditor had advised him that to estimate these expenditures to the end of the year was such a difficult task he hated to see Mr. Hoover attempt it. The Clerk told council that they were well within their budget up to September the last time he had had time to check.

Deputy-Reeve James referred back to the municipal building cost and stated that many in the township would not contribute even a dollar a year to this expenditure.

On motion of Councillor Lennie and Deputy-Reeve James, the building committee was authorized to obtain the completed estimate on the building not to exceed \$75,000. Councillor LeMasurier voted against the motion and urged that these last figures be obtained and then brought back to council.

Councillors favoring the motion expressed the opinion that this was only a move to delay action.

### Evening Classes At High School Proving Popular

The evening classes sponsored by the Stouffville High School District Board have so far proven very successful according to Principal Geo. A. Pearce. The classes opened on Tuesday evening, Oct. 28th, and will continue for sixteen weeks. The interest in the art class under the supervision of Mr. Arnold Hodgkins has been very encouraging with sixteen attending the opening class. There are fourteen in the wood-working group handled by Mr. Donald Bacon. Of this enrolment, two are ladies. Mrs. Mildred O'Neill is in charge of the sewing class with an attendance of ten. Mr. Wm. Sherwood and Mr. Lloyd Oliver head the English class for New Canadians. The total enrolment is expected to crowd the one hundred mark.

## New Hydro Rates not Likely Heavy on Local Consumers

The increased cost of hydro electric power as announced recently by Mr. Saunders, will cost the Stouffville Hydro Department some \$400 per month more for power. The new rate effective Jan. 1st, 1953, will be \$43.75 per Kil, the former rate being \$39.50. Stouffville's power bill last month was \$2,976.32.

Mr. Geo. Storey, secretary of the local department, told council that the new rates would be set for local consumers and council would be advised shortly. He suggested that a 2 increase in the second rate would cover the additional cost of power to the town, and this slight increase it was believed, would not inconvenience anyone to any extent.

The local system it was revealed was in a sound financial position although the department's bond holdings had been depleted considerably over the past few years because of capital expenditure. The local system had shown a profit of more than \$3,000 this year up until September, Mr. Storey revealed.

### Two Senior Hockey Games Here

Stouffville Clippers will skate out on Saturday night here against Orillia Terriers to make their debut before the home fans for this season.

On next Wednesday night the Clippers will move into their second home game here against Peterborough who will be very strong contenders for the Clippers' hockey crown won last year.

Public Skating next week moves from Wednesday to Monday night.

### DRAMATICS

The Stouffville Dramatic Group needs your active interest. Express your interest by attending this group in the gym at Stouffville High School, next Tuesday night, or by phoning Bud Sanderson, 3674.

### Member of Well-Known Quartet, Percy L. Steckley Passes

On Monday, Nov. 3rd, Mr. Percy L. Steckley, a member of the famous Kinsmen Male Quartet for over fifteen years passed away in the East General Hospital following an illness of two months duration. Born at Bethesda at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Steckley, the deceased lived in both Ottawa and Toronto where he was employed with the civil service. His wife, the former Florence Rae Hoover survives. He attended the Ringwood Christian Church.

The late Mr. Steckley will long be remembered for his connection with the Kinsmen Quartet which brought messages of song to crowded churches both in Stouffville and surrounding district. After fifteen years the foursome disbanded. Besides Mr. Steckley, the other members were Mr. Jess Pike, Mr. Arthur Pike and Mr. Oliver Raymer.

Besides his wife, the deceased leaves to mourn his passing one son Howard of Montreal. There are also five brothers, Norman on the sixth concession of Whitechurch, Floyd on the 9th concession of Markham, Fred of Ringwood, Durwin of Oshawa, Harry Ratcliff of Stouffville, and three sisters, Mabel (Mrs. G. Rosser) of Ottawa, Verna (Mrs. J. Grove) on the 8th concession of Markham, and Della (Mrs. A. Paisley) west of Stouffville.

Funeral service was held at the chapel of L. E. O'Neill, Stouffville, on Wednesday afternoon, at 2:30 p.m., conducted by Rev. G. Brown with interment in the 6th line Baptist Church Cemetery. The pallbearers were Norman Steckley, Floyd Steckley, Fred Steckley, Durwin Steckley, Art Paisley and Jacob Grove.

This Saturday, Nov. 8th, will be Poppy Day.