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## Trusty Thumb Brings "Sunshine" 3,000 Miles in 10 Days

The following is taken from the Roseland Miner, weekly newspaper in British Columbia and describes the latest trip of the well-known local "knight of the road", Theodore Neilson, popularly known in Stouffville as "Sunshine." This hefty fellow with the hearty laugh walked into town on Sunday and presented us with the excerpt of his exploit as taken from the B.C. paper.

He walked into the office Wednesday afternoon, wearing a pair of faded blue overalls and carrying his lunch bucket like any other working man. But Theodore wasn't an ordinary workman—in fact he wasn't a working man at all and that's why he came to be in our office. He was on his way to Vancouver where he hoped to find work.

"Nothing to Lose" There he was—big, jovial, talkative Theodore Neilson—three thousand miles from home and ready to start on the last leg of his journey. Ten days before he had left Richmond Hill, Ontario, with as he said, "nothing to lose." He stood on a corner and wagged his thumb and from there the log of his trip reads like a railroad time table. That night he stayed in Ottawa and was away again by 8 a.m. He pulled out of North Bay at 8:14 a.m. January 5, and from Hearst, Ont., the next afternoon at 2:30. He wanted to "make like a bunny" out of Hearst but couldn't because his boots were frozen stiff and the mercury stood at 24 below.

The remarkable part of the whole journey, Theodore said, was the amazing way in which he was able to get lifts, particularly at this time of the year. He hadn't walked a five-mile stretch in the more than 3,000 mile journey to Roseland and had ridden in everything from '53 Packards to huge transport trucks. For the most part, though, he had travelled in private cars.

Blizzard on Prairie Travelling across the prairies proved to be the most hazardous for the hitch-hiker, but fortunately he had to spend only a very little time on foot. Leaving Winnipeg 5:45 on the morning of January 9, he spent the night at Davidson, Sask. The first attempt to leave Davidson on the following morning was unsuccessful as the car ran into a howling blizzard and had to turn back. Edmonton was 15 below on January 11 and it was 20 below when he left Calgary the next morning but the weather turned mild as he travelled westward into B.C. and the trip from Jaffray to Trail on January 13 was made in a balmy 45 above.

Theodore Neilson is no young teen-ager out for a lark. It was 32 years ago that he first came to Canada from Liverpool and since that time has done a bit of moving around. He comes from hardy stock—his father was born in Oslo, Norway, in 1850 and served as a sea captain for 24 years. Like his father, Theodore is always

Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Arnold accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Dunning of Aurora are enjoying a six week journey through the Southern States. They will visit New Orleans for the Mardi Gras, then go to San Diego, Calif.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Johnston, Carol and Douglas, are moving to their new home at Carlisle this week. Mrs. Johnston is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Foote, 9th con. of Whitechurch and the couple have been living at Dundas. Bert is an employee of the Studebaker Corp. and the couple have recently purchased a small holding under the V.L.A.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Briard Wed 60 Years Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Briard were honoured at a party on Saturday evening, Feb. 7, on the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. Mrs. Briard wore black velvet with a corsage of carnations.

Mr. Briard was born in Jersey, Channel Islands, and Mrs. Briard was born in Oxford, England. Both enjoy good health and will celebrate their 83rd birthdays this year. They came to Canada in September, 1893, and settled in Gaspé, Quebec, where five sons and five daughters were born to them. They later went to Montreal where Mr. Briard owned a tailoring establishment and Mrs. Briard plied her trade of dress-making. Upon Mr. Briard's retirement they moved to Toronto and in 1941 came to Stouffville, moving back to Toronto in December, 1952.

With them on this happy occasion were their daughters, Mr. and Mrs. L. Gee (Hilda) of Montreal, Mr. and Mrs. E. Woodcock (Doris) of Detroit, Mich., Mrs. C. McBride (Corra) of Toronto, and their sons, Mr. W. H. Briard, Montreal, and Mr. N. H. Briard, St. Bruno, Que., also grandchildren and great grandchildren. Their eldest daughter, Mrs. A. J. Chedore of Gaspé, Quebec, and their eldest son, Mr. W. Briard of Collingwood were unable to attend because of illness. Two sons, Arthur and Gladstone, and a daughter, Mrs. J. Corcoran (Sylvia) are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Briard have 15 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren.

The table was centered with a lovely three-tiered wedding cake, and their home was tastefully decorated throughout with bouquets of roses, tulips, daffodils, snapdragons and fern. They were the recipients of numerous cards and gifts, including a purse of money from their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. They received a letter of congratulations from Mayor A. Lampert. We wish Mr. and Mrs. Briard many more years of good health and happiness.

ready for adventure and looking for new horizons. That is why 1950 found him at Whitehorse, Yukon, where he was employed by Poole Company on a construction job for the airforce, and that is why "Kitimat" lured him away from his beloved Ontario and sparked this trek to the west coast and, he hopes a job in B.C.'s new frontier town.

# Local and Personal Happenings

Tribune scratch pads are handy, three for a quarter.

Whitechurch Township Council will hold their first February meeting this Saturday afternoon, Feb. 14th.

Have you made your contribution yet to the British Flood Victims' Fund? Do it today.

The Bank of Canada plans to start issuing a new series of paper money late in 1954 and bearing the figure of the Queen.

Mr. and Mrs. John Scott of Blackstock were visitors here on Saturday.

Mrs. Harvey Moyer left by TCA for Florida on Saturday due to word received of illness in her family.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank P. McDonald of Hamilton have just returned from Winnipeg where they spent a month with Mrs. McDonald's sister, Mrs. Harry G. Banner, and Mr. Banner.

Ken Jennings, member of the Tribune staff, is visiting Mt. Tremblant in the Laurentians this week where he is enjoying some skiing at this famous winter resort.

This is Baby Week at Houston's Drug Store—read the large display in this week's issue about how easy it is to have a free picture of your child taken right in the store.

Stouffville Chamber of Commerce will meet this Thursday evening in the Municipal Hall and all members are urged to make a special effort to attend. Business pertaining to the 1953 program of town improvements is on the agenda.

Harold Zellers of Toronto and former Stouffville boy was a visitor in town last weekend. He learned the tailoring trade here many years ago with F. E. R. Mrs. Zellers has not been in the best of health and is presently nursing a broken arm.

Stouffville Oddfellows Lodge will convene on Feb. 16th at which time 25 Year Jewels will be conferred on several local members. The presentations will be conducted by the Deputy District Grand Master. Lunch and entertainment will follow the business portion of the meeting.

The United Church Auditorium was filled on Thursday evening for the visit of the Star Weekly Free Concert entertainers, the Commodores Quartette and the Enchanted Strings. The local choir under the leadership of Lorne Bowdway rendered several numbers preceding the visiting entertainers.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bovill and Mr. Jim Bovill of Smithers, B.C., called on Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Aida here on Sunday. They leave on Tuesday on the Empress of Scotland for Ireland where they will spend a few weeks with relatives and friends. It has been 25 years since they have seen one another.

In its fifth year of service to the community, Stouffville Kindergarten - Nursery School is holding "Open House" on Friday, Feb. 13, from 3 to 5 p.m. and 7:30 to 9 p.m. A warm welcome is extended to the public. There will be staff members on hand to answer questions. The creative work of the children will be on display and the Parents' Executive is serving tea. Come and see why "Life Begins at Nursery School!"

If and when Stouffville Municipal Council signs a contract as they have agreed upon, with the provincial police to commence duties here on April 1st, a new lockup may be installed here and police court sittings held in town every two weeks. The OPP are anxious that the jail be established to facilitate their handling of prisoners rather than transporting them to North York station. Richmond Hill's share of fines collected by the OPP in that municipality in 1952 was \$2,000.

The regular monthly meeting of the W.M.S. of the United Missionary Church met at the home of Mrs. Harry Stover on Tuesday night, Feb. 3rd. The president was in charge of the meeting. The Gray sisters sang two special numbers. Mrs. Willis Hunking, returned missionary from Africa, showed slides and gave a very interesting talk on their work in Africa. Special prayer was said for missionaries on the field and those on furlough. A social time was spent at the close of the meeting. Sixty were present.

Sam Miller Explanation We, the undersigned feel our friends, neighbours and the countryside should have an explanation on a radio report broadcast a few days ago by three Toronto stations and in a Toronto morning paper, seeing they have not corrected it: Mr. Miller is not a retired farmer; his wife is not dead; did not have pleurisy (just a cold); was not without food and heat for six days; was not rushed to hospital in a semicoma. I went to see my father Monday morning and made arrangements to come back Tuesday at 9 a.m. with a car. When I arrived he was dressed and ready to go to Stouffville Hospital (not much of a semi-coma). We hope the next time that Toronto reporter, whoever he is, will be more careful and get things correct before he writes them. Signed: Son Walter Bro. Bert

## WELL-KNOWN HOMES IN STOUFFVILLE



Another familiar residence in town erected more than a half century ago, is the present Chas. Ward home on O'Brien Ave. This brick dwelling with its several verandahs and upper fancy work was the "Dick" Underhill home for many years. In the

early 1880's Mr. Underhill was located in the present Spofford Block with his shoe business and he was very famous in the locality for his homemade work. The name "Underhill" is a most familiar one with our elder residents of long standing. The late

Frank Sangster, followed by the late James Turner occupied the house following Mr. Underhill, and it was most recently purchased by Chas. Ward. The place is pleasantly situated with a large lawn and garden to the south.

Local shoe merchant Eric Lehman has been in hospital this week undergoing a tonsil operation.

Stouffville Lions Club voted to contribute \$100 immediately to the Flood Victims' Fund at their regular meeting on Monday night.

A collection of more than \$200 was contributed towards the British Flood Victims' Fund at the Stouffville United Church on Sunday.

The Stouffville Lions Club will make their draw for the new Pontiac car on which they have sold four hundred tickets, early in March.

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Stover, Barry and Barbara of Milverton were weekend visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harmon Hoover.

Mrs. Sisson and Miss Turner will leave for Florida by bus this Sunday on a three weeks' vacation tour. While they are away Mrs. Sisson's sister, Mrs. D. A. Harwood of Peterboro will visit at the home here.

Jas. Onglie of Ringwood who is an engineer on the new Toronto Subway gave the Stouffville Lions Club an interesting insight into the construction during their regular meeting on Monday night. Lion Jim who is a member of the local club, showed a sound color film and described certain aspects of the work.

Purse pilferers were at work at the church at Brown's Corners recently and here in Stouffville at the United Church on Sunday last. Some \$30 was lost by two young choir ladies in the latest thieving outbreak. This is a favourite type of purse lifting which usually breaks out in a rash once a year and possibly the safest way to combat it is to be sure no loose cash is left around handy in outside anti-rooms. Marion Murphy and Margaret Myers were the victims at Stouffville and the Buttonville girls, Ellen Hooper, Margaret Hood and Mary Gough, at Brown's Corners.

Mr. Harvey Moyer has disposed of his home on Lloyd Ave. and will hold an auction sale on Monday, Feb. 23rd. Mr. and Mrs. Moyer will leave Stouffville to make their home in the United States. Mr. Moyer farmed for many years at Dickson's Hill, later retiring to Stouffville where more recently he has engaged in real estate business. The Moyer bungalow was the first to be built on Lloyd Ave. in 1944 and the new owner will be W. L. Bert Silverthorn. Mr. Silverthorn is holding an auction sale at his farm on Feb. 19th.

A cordial invitation is extended to all mothers, sisters, daughters, wives and widows (18 years and over) of men who served with the Forces during any of the wars of the Empire, to attend an organization meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Canadian Legion, B.E.S.L., in the Veterans' Hall, at 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 16th. Officials will be in attendance from the Provincial Command of the Ladies Auxiliary to elect, install and instruct the new executive officers. Some 35 ladies have already signed applications for membership and it looks as if the Auxiliary is off to a good start. The aim of the 275 Branches of the Auxiliaries in Ontario is to assist the Canadian Legion and help with worthwhile community projects. Any interested ladies who have not yet filled out an application form for membership may obtain information by calling 133J3.

Garnet Gray, Optometrist, of Stouffville and Uxbridge spent last Sunday at the King Edward Hotel attending a study seminar and fitting course on the Mueller Welt fluidless contact lenses.

More than three hundred children representing a half dozen public schools took over the Stouffville Arena on Friday afternoon for a skating party. Ballantrae school brought along almost a hundred skaters from the one school.

The Stouffville Child Health Clinic will be open on Friday, February 13th, in Christ Church Parish Hall from 1:30 until 4 p.m. Mothers with babies and pre-school children are invited to attend. This starts the free immunization program for 1953.

A truck belonging to Bruce Harper, local Clipper hockey assistant playing coach, received considerable damage one evening last week when it overturned near Altona on collision with a car driven by Bill Watson, 4th con. of Uxbridge. The Harper truck was driven by Bruce Johnson.

On Wednesday night, Feb. 4th, a record crowd attended the Horticultural meeting in the United Church basement to hear and see Mr. Cliff Salmon's travelogue and pictures of

## WIRING BLAMED BROWN HILL SCHOOL BURNS

Fire swept through Brown Hill's one-room school early Saturday leaving 36 pupils without accommodation for Monday classes. The building and contents were a total loss.

The blaze, discovered by Mrs. Vivian Nichol at 4:30 a.m., had already eaten through the roof of the frame and cement-block veneer building. It is believed defective wiring may have started the blaze.

Mount Albert firemen were on the scene within 23 minutes, a record, since the firemen had to be roused from their beds and assembled before starting on the eight-mile trip. Damage is estimated at \$20,000, with only \$5,000 insurance.

his recent trip to Australia, New Zealand, and the Fiji Islands, Aurora, Unionville and Markham Societies were represented at the meeting. The Ladies' Quintette, comprising Mrs. G. Allison, Mrs. B. Silverthorn, Mrs. C. Wagg, Mrs. N. Raymer, Mrs. C. Heise, and led by Mrs. Ed. Nigh with Mrs. L. Forsyth as pianist provided music for the occasion. Monday, March 9th is the date of the next open meeting.

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