

Former Baker Ave. Lady Writes From Greece

Anatolia College, Thessaloniki, Greece, Nov. 10, 1953

To the Editor, The Stouffville Tribune, Dear Mr. Editor: Having been four months in Greece I should redeem my promise to my home town paper to send some news. First, let me say how often my thoughts go back in affectionate remembrance of the many friends I made in my short stay among you, and how happy I am to know that my little house is in good hands. It was a shock to learn of the death of my good neighbour, Mr. Hoover and my sympathy goes out to Mrs. Hoover.

I had a delightful trip across the Atlantic in June on the Italian steamer, the Saturnia. It was a great thrill to pass the Azores Islands, Cape St Vincent (Portugal) and particularly to anchor off mighty Gibraltar on a moonlight night and watch the sun rise behind its massive grandeur. We touched at Barcelona, Spain, saw Nice and Monte Carlo from the ship, called at Genoa and Sicily and so to Naples. There I changed to a much smaller ship, built to go through the Corinth Canal, which greatly shortens the trip to Piraeus. It was the sunset hour when we finally sailed into Piraeus with the beautiful city of Athens behind it, and all the mountains were that lovely shade of deep, evening blue, that one soon learns to love all over Greece. My first visit to the world famous Acropolis, however, was by full moon. At every full moon they open the Acropolis for three nights and it is worth the extra fee charged to see it thus. The Parthenon, with its exquisite proportions even in ruins, has been called the only perfect building in the world, and indeed one can't imagine anything more graceful and serene. Another lovely trip I took quite soon to Delphi, on the slopes of Mt. Parnassos where the famous oracle was located in ancient days. The scenery is rugged and most gorgeous, the ancient theatre and the stadium where national games were played are in amazingly good repair, thanks to the tireless efforts of archaeologists. While in southern Greece I also visited Corinth where the Apostle Paul lived for some time (now nothing but crumbling ruins) and had breakfast in Corinth, with some delicious Corinthian grapes. We drove through miles and miles of olive orchards that day.

No one knows Greece who knows only the mainland. The islands are many, as any map will show you and each has its own fascinating characteristics. In August I spent some weeks on Andros, one of the larger islands, famous for its ship owning families. It was heavily bombed during the war, and much rubble still lies about, but the hills are beautiful with olive groves, fig and lemon orchards with many tall dark cypresses interspersed. Mules and donkeys are the main means of travel and transport in the islands, though we went by modern bus. Farm implements are most primitive and furniture and cooking utensils are made by hand. Very few people do their own baking. You see boys running through the street with baking dishes to the public ovens. One soon learns to enjoy the Greek custom of sitting in an outdoor cafe, sipping lemonade or Turkish coffee and talking politics.

Thessaloniki, or Salonika, is the second city of Greece, but much less European than Athens. This whole northern province of Macedonia was under Turkish rule till 1912. In some of the remote villages Turkish is still spoken. There is an old Turkish quarter in Thessaloniki. Ataturk was (continued in second section)

SPECIAL NIGHT FOR CHAMP PLOWMAN

Local farmers will be interested to learn that a special night is being arranged Friday at Brampton to honour Jim Eccles, who won the World Championship Plowing title this fall. The affair is being sponsored by the Brampton Chamber of Commerce and the Peel County Plowmen's Association and a number from this locality are expected to attend.

LEAVE FARM AFTER FORTY-SEVEN YEARS



Mr. and Mrs. Wm. May were honored with a surprise presentation by the Fourth Line community of Uxbridge on Friday night. Mr. and Mrs. May recently took up residence in Goodwood after 47 years on their 4th concession farm. The community presented the couple with a beautiful picture mirror and a combination table

and magazine rack. Both Mr. and Mrs. May are lifelong residents of the community. Mrs. May was born only a short distance south of the home farm while Mr. May was born on the farm now owned by Mr. Earl Dowsell. Over 100 neighbors and friends were present at the gathering. Among the many well-wishers was Mr. Jonah Faulkner, an old-

time resident of Glasgow. Mr. and Mrs. May have three sons, John, Reuben, and Bert and two daughters, Mrs. Dean Percy of Markham and Miss Olive May in Toronto. The presentation on behalf of the community was made by Mrs. Dan Norton pictured above (centre.) The presentation address was given by Mrs. Dalton Alderson.

Santa Claus Parade This Saturday, One of Biggest Events of the Season

Led by the Newmarket Citizens' Band in full color regalia, Santa Claus will arrive in Stouffville on Saturday afternoon of this week for his annual visit. The schedule with a record number of floats, is scheduled to move off from the Legion Hall in the west end at 2 o'clock.

Fair weather has been promised for the big show and a throng of two thousand kiddies is expected to storm Santa Claus at his headquarters in front of the Fire Hall. Every girl and boy in town will receive a gift bag from Old St. Nick and the merry gentleman is also expected to visit the hospital and other nursing homes in town.

Between two and three hundred dollars in prize money is being offered for the best floats in the parade in the various classes which are listed in this week's issue. The parade will move through town to the east end and return. Santa's annual visit as in the past, is being sponsored by the Stouffville Chamber of Commerce.

Markham Council Quarters Are Sold

The sale was completed on Monday evening at the regular meeting of Markham Twp. Council of the municipal building and garage in Unionville. Council accepted the firm bid

of \$8,700 from Wignall and Shepherd, real estate agents, and the new owner will be H. V. Smith, local heating man. While there was some feeling in council that the price was not enough, the offer was accepted as council is preparing to move into their new building at Buttonville.

Milk Bottles Pilfered in Markham Village

Markham Township Police were flooded with numerous calls early this week concerning the theft of milk money taken from empty bottles. Constable Bill Shearn claimed that a number of residents had placed the money in the bottles Saturday night in order to catch the early Sunday morning delivery. Apparently someone arrived before the milkman and pocketed the loose change. Since the police were not informed of the thefts until some time had elapsed they are finding it difficult to track down the thieves.

Little Stir in Town Over Friday Night's Nomination

There is little stir in town over the annual nomination meeting this Friday evening, Nov. 27th and an acclamation for the present council is forecast. Owing to increasing interest which has been shown over the annual nomination meeting in the past two or three years, council has arranged to hold the meeting in the school where all can be accommodated.

Reeve Henry Ogden will again be standing for re-election and it is expected that his council members will seek re-election with him. Three Public School Trustees must also be nominated as well as one Public Utility Commissioner and two Cemetery Commissioners.

There are few "burning" issues at stake and the public as a whole seem generally satisfied with the administration. The change in the County of York, due to the formation of the Metropolitan Area may make for some increases in taxation next year and it is no doubt that the reeve will enlarge on this subject at Friday night's meeting.

Police Checking House Breakins

Thieves gained entry to the home of Mrs. Alex Brown, Orchard Park Blvd., Stouffville, sometime during the early hours of Tuesday morning apparently searching for money. The house was ransacked but a pocket watch was the only item of value taken by the robbers. Mrs. Brown called the local Prov. Police when she returned home on Tuesday night and discovered the break in. The thieves gained entry by breaking a small pane of glass in the front door.

We understand that the barn on the Fred Winn farm just north of town was also entered and two sets of car keys were lifted.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Marshall formerly of Stouffville, are now making their year round home at their summer place, Maple Beach, near Beaverton.

Federal Aid Asked on Swill-Feeder Issue

A delegation of swill-feeders from Markham Township appeared before council on Monday evening asking the council to amend their recently passed bylaw forbidding the transporting of swill on the highway. Messrs. Roxborough, Green, Cosburn, and Wesley were among those who appeared.

Reeve Timbers told the delegation that council would make no decision on the matter until the Municipal Board had handed down their decision on Markham's new Land Use Bylaw. The Board held a public hearing on this bylaw on Thursday. The bylaw contains a clause which will forbid the operation of any new swill-feeders in the township. The Board reserved their decision on the bylaw.

After a lengthy discussion, council agreed that a letter should be drafted and sent to the local Member at Ottawa as well as to the Federal Ministers at Ottawa, asking that no more government permits be granted to swill-feeders in Markham Township.

Council heard applications from three women and one man who applied for a stenographer position in the township office but failed to reach any decision and the matter was temporarily shelved. Deputy reeve LeMasurier questioned clerk Chas. Hoover on the wisdom of only advertising for applicants in one local newspaper rather than the three, and replied that he had been given no instructions from council.

"Pop Concert" By Skating Clubs Monday

A wonderful Skating Club "Pop Concert," a fall skating extravaganza, is being staged at the Stouffville Arena this coming Monday night, Nov. 30th. In addition to a great host of local talent a number of Canadian Figure Skating champions will be featured on the program, including Elaine Richards, and Wally and Betty Distelmeyer, club professionals here.

The carnival is sanctioned by the Canadian Figure Skating Association and will include members of the combined Oshawa-Stouffville Club. To date Stouffville has the largest number of members in the combined setup with Oshawa and Bowmanville under which the local organization is operating this year. Featured in Stouffville's portion of the program will be a great many of the younger skaters in a number "Tomorrow's Champions at Practice," and the "Fall Fantasy." Dawn Steckley and David Lawery, Don Jackson and Joanne Robb will be among the featured artists. Stouffville's 1953-54 Skating Club has seen the greatest turnout of skaters since the arena opened four years ago, and a packed house is almost a certainty on Monday night.

Whitchurch Council Get Full Acclamation for '54

With a crowd of less than seventy five ratepayers in attendance, the entire council of the Township of Whitchurch, was returned to office at the annual nomination meeting on Friday afternoon. Reeve Ivan McLaughlin will head the council for his fourth term with Fred Timbers, deputy reeve, and councillors, Sid Legge, E.L. McCarron and Delos Graham. Council expressed regret that more electors had not turned out for the meeting, but the small attendance was evidence that no great issues were at stake and that the ratepayers were well satisfied with the administration of the present council.

Reeve Ivan McLaughlin in speaking to the electors, dwelt considerably on county matters and the problems which were to be faced in the new and much reduced county set-up on Jan. 1st. A proposed new Home for the Aged considered by York County was now considered too expensive a job for the remaining county to undertake. The severing of the Metropolitan Area, he pointed out would also bring problems as to the upkeep of the present county roads and the caring for orphaned and underprivileged children.

Reeve McLaughlin revealed that a vote was likely to be taken next year on whether or not the new County of York with only twelve municipalities, should embrace the County Health Unit as a whole. There are presently three municipalities which handle their own health problems, Whitchurch being one of these.

He also cited the fact that Bill 80 which established the new county and Toronto area, made no provisions for the added school burden which the loss of assessment would bring. Every school in Whitchurch was already filled with the exception of two, 1400 children in all. As to township affairs the reeve pointed out that Whitchurch had a credit balance of approximately \$84,000 the largest in history.

Deputy Reeve Fred Timbers spoke briefly on his work as a member of the county Agricultural and Re-forestation Committees. He said that better grants had been gained for the fall fairs and plowing matches through the work of the Agricultural Committee.

"We will need good men in county council to handle the problems in 1954," said Mr. Timbers. The Deputy-reeve reviewed the growth of the township, and the growth of the staff and facilities required to carry on the business of the municipality. He also commended the assessor on the work he was doing. Mr. Timbers pointed out that the growth in assessment was not keeping pace with school costs, and that the municipality was due for a change in the system of assessment to

gain more equality. The Deputy-reeve who is council representative on the Township Planning Board touched briefly on the work of this Board and stated that the initial work dealt chiefly with older sub-divisions and an effort to bring these into line with existing regulations with as little trouble to owners as possible. He said that while he felt a Zoning bylaw for the township was premature at this time, the Planning Board was taking certain steps in that direction which would make the job of future boards easier in that regard.

P.S. Legge who was nominated for both deputy reeve and council stated that he would not cause an election though he had served on council for a considerable term. Mr. Legge spoke chiefly on matters pertaining to township road work. He pointed out that the budget had been reduced by the Highways Department by \$7,000 which curtailed certain work. To date 12,212 yards of gravel had been placed on the roads this year, 65 tons of chloride dust layer and 35,500 gals of weed spraying was completed on 70 miles of township road at a cost of \$1,538.

Mr. Legge revealed the township was faced in the near future with the purchase of a new maintainer as the one machine being used had been in service fourteen years. E.L. McCarron, councillor, was concerned with the possible taxation increase by virtue of the new county set-up. York County was losing to Toronto 85% of its assessment.

"Taxes are going to be higher," he said, "but they need not be a lot higher if we have the best men we have there to hold the line against the new Metropolitan Area." In answer to a critic from the floor concerning a promise to try and bring industry into Whitchurch, Mr. McCarron said that work was being done in this connection and many letters were on file from prospective firms.

Mr. McCarron also spoke on the work of repairing the Gravel Hill road which he said was the most dangerous road in the County of York. He also spoke of the drainage problem at Wilcox Lake and the long process which council had been forced to go through to alleviate the situation. Councillor Delos Graham commended the press on their good reports of the council meetings which he said gave the public a good picture of council work. Mr. Graham stated that this was his second acclamation and that he would favour an election any time. Reeve McMurchie of Vaughan Twp. who was present, addressed the ratepayers briefly and Cliff Wallwork and Geo. Richardson spoke on behalf of the Community Centre Board.

Tommy Burton with the R.C.A.F. in Quebec, and Mrs. Burton spent the weekend in town with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Orville Burton, and visited other relatives.

Christmas Shopping Hours Announced

The Retail Merchants Committee of the local Chamber of Commerce has announced increased shopping hours in local stores for December. Commencing on Wednesday, Dec. 9th, the stores will remain open each Wednesday, all day, until Christmas. (Stores will not be open on Dec. 2nd, as announced earlier in display adv. in this issue.) Commencing Friday evening Dec. 18th, the stores will be open each night until 10 p.m. Dec. 19, 21, 22, 23 and 24.

Ballantrae Lady Injured, Car Overturned in Fog

Mrs. Margaret Stickwood of Ballantrae suffered an arm injury on Saturday night when the car in which she was a passenger rolled over in the ditch on the 8th concession of Markham. The heavy fog was blamed for the accident. Mr. Lorne Morgason was following the Stickwood car when the accident occurred. He brought the injured passenger to Stouffville for medical attention. Constable Bill Shearn of Markham Twp. Police investigated.

Town Planning Board Holds First Meeting

Stouffville's newly appointed Planning Board met for their inaugural session on Thursday evening of last week. Mr. A.G. Thompson was named chairman of the Board and Mr. Alf Mole, vice chairman. Mr. Gar. Brown, local clerk is secretary of the Board. Other members are Henry Ogden, Reg. McKay and Chas. Nolan.

First consideration will be given to having up to date maps prepared of the municipality including all the new sub-divisions which have been opened as well as an addition to the west of town which annexation is expected to be completed shortly with Whitchurch Township. A point of interest was reviewed by the Board in the case of the new High School which is just outside the corporation. Because of this fact hydro service is being brought in by a new pole line all the way from the 9th concession of Whitchurch and the High School Board will suffer considerably by the high rural hydro rates as compared to the lower town rate. However, it was not deemed possible to go anything concerning this problem at the present time.

CROSSWALKS FOR MORE SAFETY



Here is Bill Lennox, Stouffville Public School caretaker getting a hand from Stouffville Provincial Police Constable W. Hilliard, as he paints the new cross-walk stripes on the Main St. pavement in front of the school building. It is expected that council will be asked by the Board to have a new block of walk placed immediately opposite the school entrance so that the new lines will have proper entrance on the north side of the street. Stouffville Public School Board has been pressing for two years for more adequate safety for the hundreds of kiddies flocking in and out of the school and who have to cross the busy highway. Mr. Cec Hendricks has

been the leader in this work and it is through his efforts that the orange cross-walk was authorized by the Highways Dept. as well as new warning signs. Local police constables, it is expected, will be on duty at the school in the mornings and noon hours, for a time at least to see that the new controls are observed by motorists.