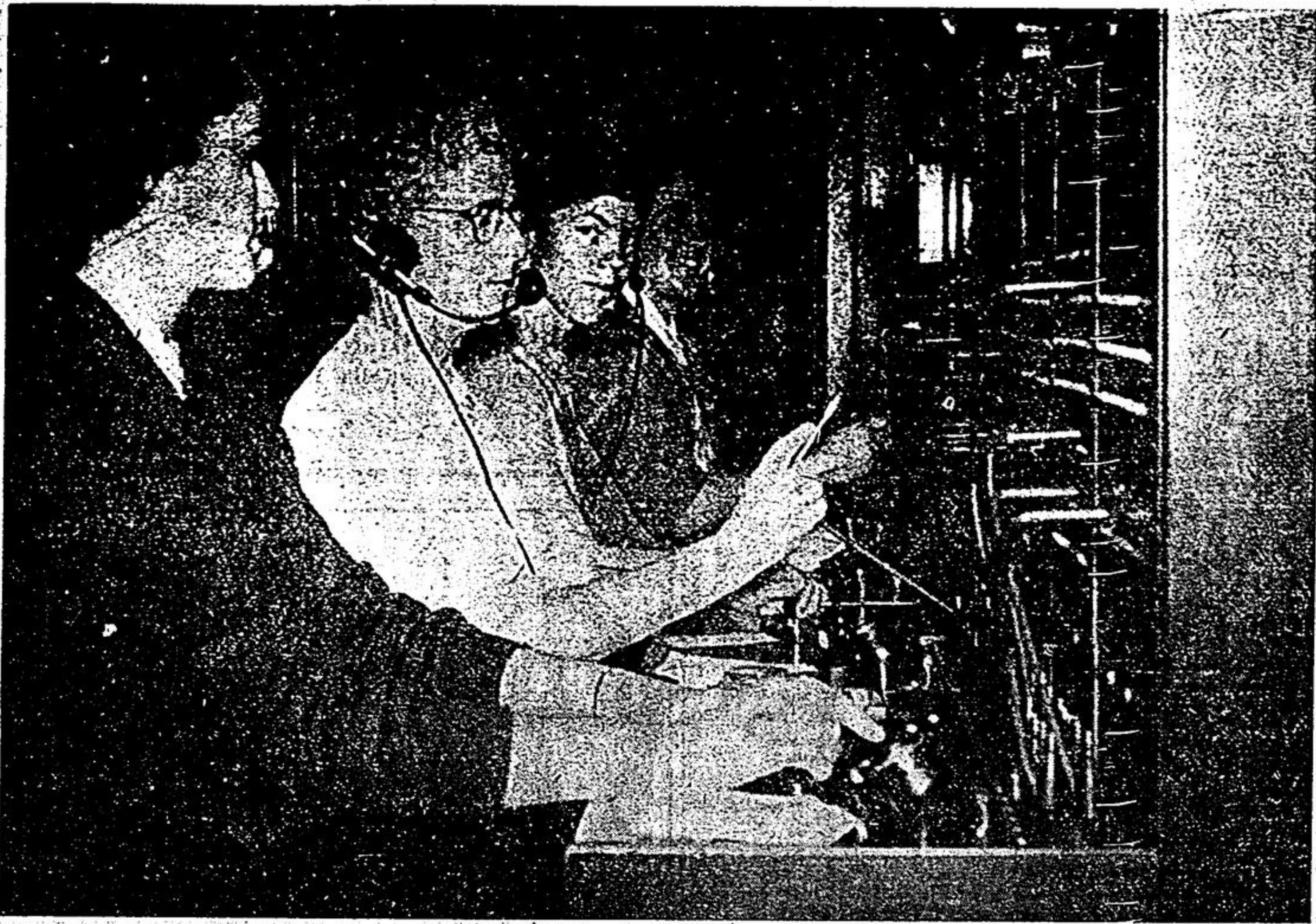


Two of Busiest Places in Town this Christmas

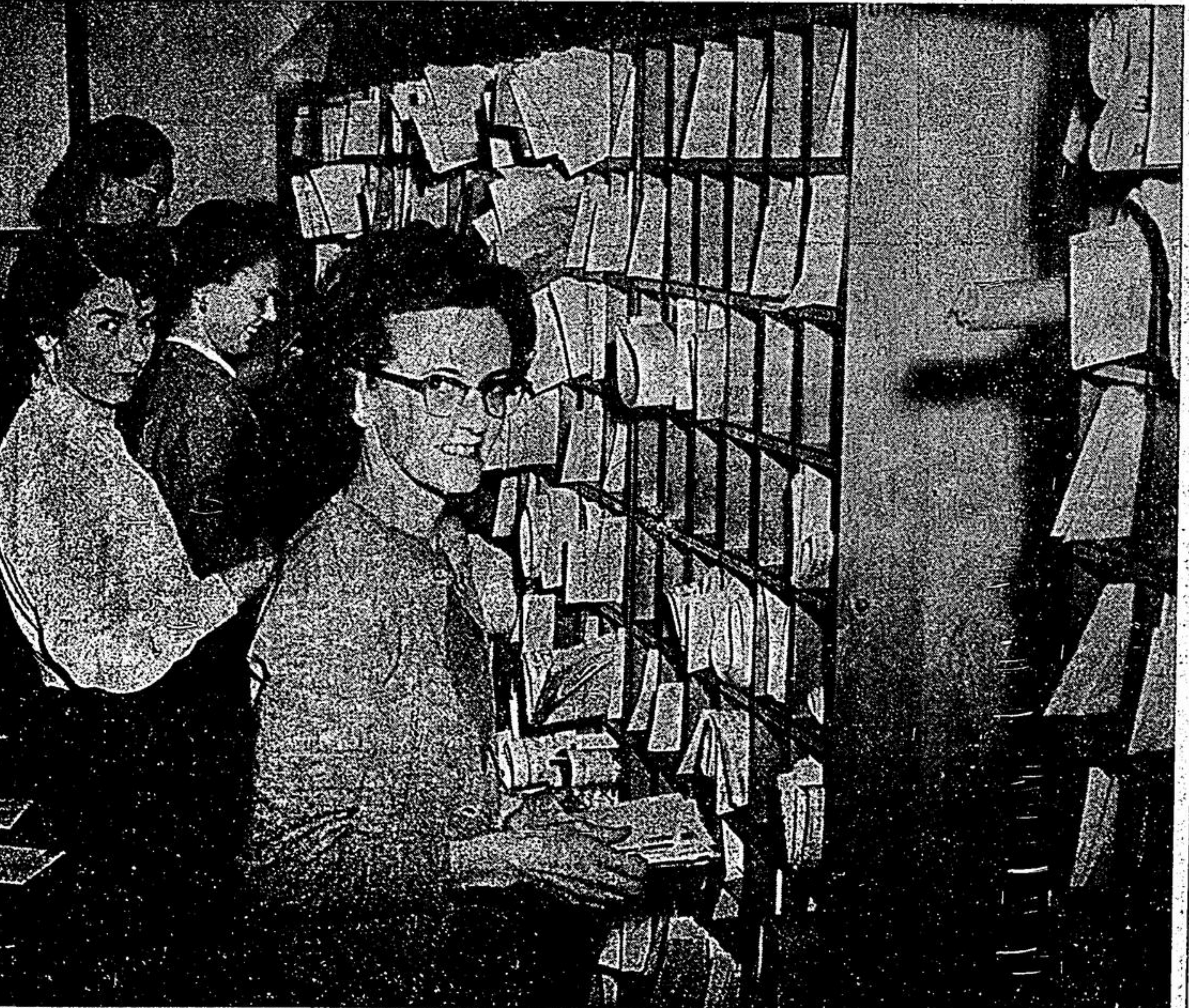


This is the switchboard of the Bethesda & Stouffville Telephone Co., where between 8,000 and 10,000 calls are being handled

each busy day during the Christmas rush. The operators seen here by The Tribune camera are, left to right, Dorothy Meyers,

Mrs. O'Boyle, Shirley Bielby and Mrs. Hamm. Other operators are, Mildred Barkey, Olive Hutchison,

Marjorie Conner, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Stewart, Miss A. Lehman, Mrs. H. Warriner, and Mrs. Reg McKay.



Forty-six bags of mail, a thirteen year record for one shipment, was handled by the staff of the Stouffville post office one day

last week. Part of the staff under Postmaster E.B. Leavens is seen here distributing some of the mountains of mail. Front

to rear they are, Mrs. Ella Morden, Mrs. Louis Mortimer, Doris Taun, and Margaret Bennett. Other members of the augmented

Christmas staff are, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. H. Elson, Mrs. O. Fretz and Mrs. A. Morden.

Councillor Hooper Charges Corrupt Practices During Markham Township Election

What may be the final meeting of a dying council in Markham Twp. ran true to the form of the last couple of years on Monday evening. Councillor Hooper lashed out vigorously against Reeve Timbers and brought raised eyebrows as he charged that corrupt practices had taken place in the Langstaff polling subdivision at the recent Markham Township election.

Councillor Hooper interrupted the meeting which was just nicely underway to ask the reeve why this particular meeting had been scheduled for the new office at Buttonville and then moved over to the old premises at Unionville. Reeve Timbers explained that the meeting was to be held at Buttonville if the building was ready but he claimed that it was not. This explanation failed to satisfy councillor Hooper and he continued to insist that there was collaboration between some of the councillors on the change.

"I told the Returning Officer our clerk about these corrupt practices and he hasn't done anything about it," Mr. Hooper declared. "Are we going to let Communism run our township or not?" added Mr. Hooper.

special meeting to deal with his charges of election violations. The reeve replied that it was up to council if they wished to call a meeting.

"I'm here to deal with the business of the township and I'm not going to sit here and row all night," stated Reeve Timbers.

"If there were corrupt practices they should be brought to light," declared councillor Lennie.

Mr. Hooper declined to say what the specific offence was which he was referring to in his charges.

Councillor Hooper then veered from the matter of the election to demand apologies from deputy reeve LeMasurier and councillor Clark for charges which he said had been made against him earlier in the year.

"Either you ask for these men to apologize or I will withdraw from the meeting," councillor Hooper stated to Reeve Timbers.

Reeve Timbers replied that he didn't care to hear any personal rows and if councillor Clark and deputy reeve LeMasurier didn't think they had any statements to make, that was up to them.

Both Clark and LeMasurier declared that they had no statements to make. Councillor Hooper then proceeded to demand that the reeve ask the two men to leave the meeting and failing this he himself retired.

Clerk Chas. Hoover, in reply to councillor Hooper's charge stated that the councillor had only mentioned the matter to him, and he believed that if a formal application for investigation was being made it should be made in writing. Councillor Clark supported Mr. Hoover in this contention.

Councillor Hooper continued to hold the floor and demanded that Reeve Timbers call a

meeting to deal with his charges of election violations. The reeve replied that it was up to council if they wished to call a meeting.

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Forty-Three Head of Cattle Destroyed in \$40,000 Blaze

Forty three head of holstein cattle, some implements and a quantity of grain and straw were destroyed on Tuesday night when the barn belonging to Mr. Howard LaRose, 7th concession Markham was burned to the ground. The loss is estimated at approximately \$40,000. The fire broke out between eight and nine p.m. and although the Markham and Unionville fire brigades were summoned to the scene they were unable to save the frame structure. The house, located only a short distance away was threatened for a time but was saved. Mr. and Mrs. LaRose were not home when the fire started.

Hundreds of volunteer workers were on the scene within minutes of the outbreak and were able to save two tractors and a few pieces of machinery. A threshing machine and a new rubber-tired seed drill were destroyed. Cars parked in the long laneway by thoughtless drivers hampered firemen and many cars had to be pushed or driven into a nearby ploughed field before the engines could proceed.

Interment was made in Goodwood Cemetery on Monday afternoon for the late Mrs. John Nettle, the former Margaret Watmore who passed away at Whitby.

High School Board Being "Squeezed" By Department Is Claim

Stouffville High School Board was faced at their recent meeting with what they viewed as a "squeeze play" by the Department of Education to force them into paying for students within the Stouffville Area, but who are choosing to attend the Newmarket High School. Only a year ago, children of local farmers on the fringe of Stouffville but in Pickering Township, were forced to attend the Pickering School since the Pickering Board advised Stouffville that they would not be paid for if they attended the local school. The Dept. of Education who sanctioned this move, has now made a right-about-face and in an "off the record" way told Stouffville they must pay.

Earl Toole, the Whitechurch member on the Newmarket Board is chief spokesman for the northern Board in the matter, and one member of the local Board voiced the opinion that he believed pressure had been applied on the Dept. of Education to force Stouffville into payment.

Principal Pearce advised the Board that a spokesman for the Dept. had passed the information to him that Stouffville would be well advised to pay Newmarket.

A.G. Thompson, local Board member stated that he was opposed to these pressure tactics. Chairman Don Chadwick said that he could see no alternative but to pay and other members agreed. Mr. Thompson further maintained the Dept. of Education was using underhanded methods in asking the school principal to carry information rather than putting it in writing.

Steps are being taken to alter the high school areas of Newmarket, Aurora and Stouffville to accommodate some of the students who wish to attend other schools, but this new plan cannot go into effect until 1955.

A majority of the Board agreed that the students in the contentious Vivian section should be advised they could attend Newmarket but no resolution has yet been passed sanctioning payment for them if they do so.

Four Brigades Answer Call To Sunday Barn Blaze

Five fire reels and dozens of volunteer workers battled through smoke and flames on Sunday afternoon to save the barn belonging to Arthur Uens of Almira. The outbreak was discovered by Norm Anderson of Unionville and he, along with neighbours endeavoured to squelch the blaze with pails of water. When the flames spread from the stable to an upstairs hay mow the Unionville and Stouffville fire brigades were summoned. Lack of an adequate water supply hampered firemen and the trucks had to leave the fire scene and reload from a small creek one half mile distant.

Within minutes dozens of spectators arrived and under the direction of Bert Tait, a member of the Stouffville Brigade, the volunteer workers entered the smoke filled barn to remove some forty tons of

baled hay. One by one the bales were carried from the building until the entire mow was emptied. With the arrival of two large water tank trucks from Agincourt, firemen were able to douse any fresh outbreaks with a steady stream of water. Brigades from Richmond Hill and Aurora aided in finally extinguishing the stubborn blaze. Some of the volunteer workers were almost overcome by the intense heat and thick smoke. Although parts of the barn were badly scorched by flames, the damage to the building was not extensive. The contents belonged to Mr. Allan Wideman. Some forty head of cattle were herded out of the stable when the outbreak was first discovered. Loss in the blaze is estimated at over \$1,000 and the exact cause of the outbreak is unknown.

Noel

For now... for always...
Joy to our friends and neighbors, Peace to our nation, Good Will to all.

ADMIRE'S GRILL
Mr. & Mrs. Meyers

Greetings for CHRISTMAS

We'll go along with Santa in wishing a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to All.

STEDMAN'S 5¢ - \$1.00
STOUFFVILLE

Blessings at Christmas

May we all experience the glorious feeling of peace and brotherly love this Christmas and throughout the New Year.

SCOTT'S SNACK SERVICE
Stouffville, Ontario