

# The Stouffville Tribune

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## Interesting Letter From Miss Trotter In Greece

Anatolia College, Thessaloniki, Greece. January 14, 1954

My dear Friends:

I have decided reluctantly to resort to a mimeographed letter in order to acknowledge the lovely Christmas mail and generally give an account of myself within a reasonable length of time. I can assure you that while addressing the envelopes and re-reading the messages I shall be thinking very personally of each friend. There is, of course, one bit of comfort about the mimeograph—you will be able to read what I say.

September first I came to settle in here at Personnel House, where six of us live and where fourteen, men and women, Greeks, Americans and this one Canadian, eat our breakfast, tea and dinner. Lunch we eat with the students. I enjoy Greek cooking very much. Nevertheless it is pleasant to have some meals American style, particularly breakfast. Our social life is delightful. I even find comrades for canasta and chinese checkers. The school has a beautiful campus on a hill two miles above the city. We have lovely gardens a gorgeous view of ocean and mountains, including Mt. Olympus, snow capped just now. Our buildings and equipment suffered severe damage during the occupation, being occupied in turn by German and British armies and we have many urgent needs, but much has been accomplished. The girls' school has two new buildings since the war, oil heated and at Personnel House our wood furnace has just now been converted to oil, giving us a good even heat at last.

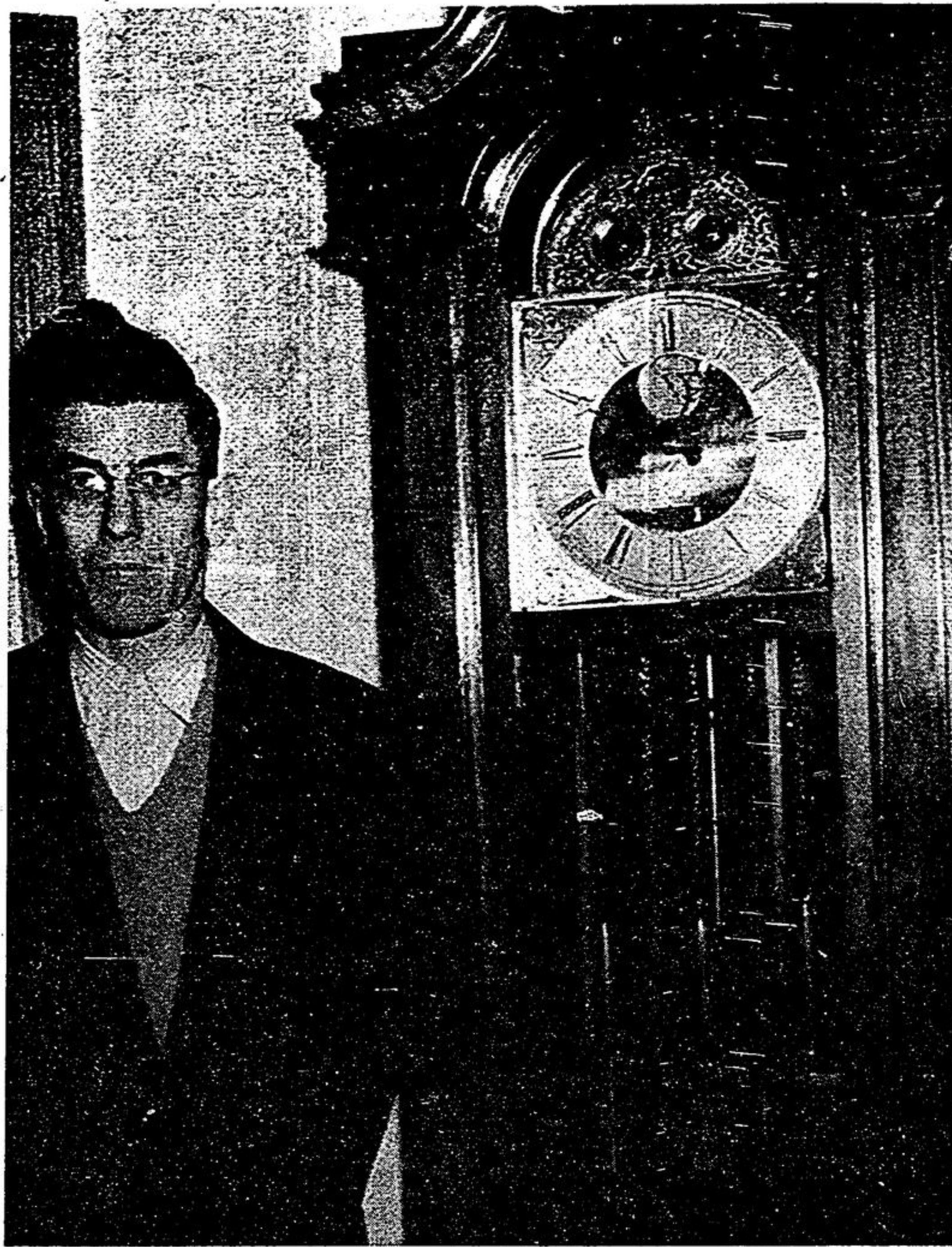
In November I saw more enchanting scenery and met many stimulating people when I attended a conference under the World Council of Churches on the Island of Poros. Helen Nichol, fellow Canadian, the dynamic president of Pierce College, Athens was there too. The World Council maintains a good staff in Greece, doing constructive work both in relations with the Greek Orthodox Church and in aid of refugees of whom there are pitiful thousands needing care.

Salonica is a very old world city in appearance, population about 250,000, sprawling along the sea-front and taking its time about things. Most stores and markets are closed one to four the year round. I like its leisurely air. I love poking about its copper market and flower market. I spent a happy Christmas here. We had turkey and all the trimmings. Then I had eight enchanting days in beautiful Istanbul. We saw exquisite mosques, the delicately carved sarcophagus of Alexander the Great, the famous covered bazaar and Egyptian spice market; we sailed up the Golden Horn and up the Bosphorus; we lunched at Cornelia Roberts' old school, saw Robert College, ate in delightful cafes, marvelled at the many luxury shops filled with expensive goods and the streets crowded with modern American cars. Our shops here are just beginning to be at all normal and when we go driving it is usually in the school jeep. It makes a difference whether a country has been torn by war and revolution or not.

School reopened January 8, on a lovely sunny day that tempted some narcissi to burst into bloom in the garden. In chapel I talked just as I would at home about packing bags for a new year, about some of the things we need to take with us and some things best left out. In my English class with sixth form I was so lucky as to be teaching Wordsworth's sonnets on Westminster Bridge and on the beach at Calais. The girls are so sensitive and appreciative. It made a good day, and though on Saturday the weather was horrid, with wet snow turning to rain and slithering mud, and not a mountain to be seen, it didn't matter.

We have about 260 girls, 300 boys. They have no classes together but they join in interest groups, such as the lovely chorale group that sang for us for the School for the Blind, the Old People's Home and over the local radio at Christmas. They are together in Press Club and International (continued on page 5)

## This Clock Took More Than Two Years To Build



Trees from Jos. Hoover farm Provided Cabinet for this big Timepiece

## Hand-made Clocks Built By Local Craftsmen

In the home of Mr. Jacob Smith, Stouffville jeweller, stands a huge grandfather's clock. According to Mr. Smith it took almost two years to build the priceless timepiece. Work on the clock was started in 1935 and completed in 1937. The solid walnut case was constructed from trees cut on the former Jos. Hoover farm, west of town and the precision parts for the movement were obtained in England and Germany. The large eight pound, 10 carat gold plated pendulum hangs by an invar steel rod. This metal is least subject to temperature changes. Although time checks have not been made on the clock for more than a week, Mr. Smith believes that it will not vary more than six seconds a year. The local jeweller constructed every inch of the huge clock with his own hands even to the carving of the Roman lettering on the dial. This delicate task took two weeks to complete. The clock chimes every fifteen minutes. Although buyers have requested that Mr. Smith place any price on his valuable timepiece, he has, up to the present time refused to do so. The clock is thoroughly cleaned and oiled once a year.

Mr. Ezra Grove, farmer and carpenter on the 7th concession of Markham has two grandfather clocks in his home one is hand made while the other is a 150 year old heirloom that has been handed down from generation to generation. The newer of the two clocks contains a case which was constructed by Mr. Grove. He obtained the works from an old movement. Other than cleaning and oiling once a year, both timepieces require no further adjustments or repairs. Mr. Grove has also turned his hand to other forms of wood construction. Numerous pieces of furniture in the Grove home are products of the owner's craftsmanship. Chairs, buffets, china cabinet, etc. are among some of the articles which have been constructed in his workshop. Grandfather clocks are not common in today's homes but for those who are fortunate enough to own such a timepiece, they are a most treasured possession.

## Studying Ward System Boundaries

In the first report tabled by the special committee, Councillors A. Lennie and A. Little, set up to study a ward system for election purposes, the committee stated it intends to hold a series of meetings with interested parties as a means of collecting data after which the committee will attempt to arrive at some conclusions regarding the boundaries. The committee have already received requests from the Federation of Agriculture and the Highland Park Association to meet the committee. The township solicitor has suggested that council appoint someone else besides a Police Officer as School Truant Officer for the municipality. In a letter to council Mr. Lucas stated that under the Police Act Constables must devote their full time to the exercise of their police duties and therefore are not eligible to assume additional responsibilities. The members plan to suggest other names at a future meeting of Council.

The Department of Highways have approved the appointment of J. Howard as Road Superintendent, effective January 12th. A sum of \$2,050 of Mr. Howard's salary will be eligible for grant purposes from the Highways Department.

The members have set the new salary scale for township employees for the coming year. The actual yearly salaries are as follows: Engineer and Road Superintendent J. Howard, \$4,500.00; Clerk C. Hoover, \$3,720.00; Deputy-clerk L. Gohn, \$3,000.00; Treasurer D. Ryder, \$3,300.00; Assistant Treasurer Mrs. R.B. Rae, \$2,300.00; Assessor A. Fleming, \$3,420.00; Assistant Assessor R. Thompson, \$2,900.00; Police Chief C. Wideman, \$3,420.00; Police Constable H. Cox, \$3,100.00; Police Constable B. Shearn, \$3,100.00; Police Constable G. Clayton, \$3,100.00; Police Constable D. Dukes, \$2,500.00; Road Foreman A. Buchanan, \$3,100.00; Labourers on the road gang, \$1.00 an hr.

## Markham Offers \$300 Standby Time To Local Firemen

Markham Township Council agreed on Monday evening that they would pay Stouffville \$300 standby time for their fire area, \$60 a fire for the first hour and \$24 an hour after that. Stouffville representatives had appeared at the previous meeting of council and asked \$500 standby time with the above-mentioned per fire rates.

The council agreement was reached on receiving the report of councillors Lennie and Little, the fire committee. Richmond Hill is receiving \$300 and its not fair for Stouffville to be asking \$500, declared councillor Lennie. "If they are not satisfied, we'll work out an agreement with Unionville to cover the east area," he continued. "We own 75% of the Unionville equipment, we might just as well use it," stated reeve LeMasurier.

"If we accepted the Stouffville price, we'd have Markham and Richmond Hill right back here wanting more," said councillor Lennie.

## Uxbridge May Buy Tank Truck

Mr. Ross Rodman, Uxbridge fire chief, appeared before Uxbridge Twp. Council on Monday afternoon to suggest any way in which the brigade could better serve the municipality. Mr. Rodman pointed out that the big problem that confronted fire brigades when fighting farm fires was lack of water. The Uxbridge chief said that the purchase of a new 1,000 gallon tank truck was under consideration. This truck would be equipped with a portable pump and 500 feet of hose. Two additional men would be required to operate the new machine.

The Stouffville Chamber of Commerce regular meeting is being held this Thursday evening in the municipal hall. Important to all is a new safety program which is to be presented by the local Provincial Police for public school children. The Chamber of Commerce is the chief booster and needs your attendance. All businessmen and others interested are urged to attend.

## Pickering Election Procedure Will Be Aired in Court

A County Court order calling for the seizure of all ballots and papers in the Dec. 7 election of Pickering Township was issued in Whitby following an application by a ratepayer.

He asked that the election be set aside because of irregularities.

County Court Judge J. E. Pritchard has ordered the township clerk to deliver to the clerk of the court, all papers and ballots involved.

The action was brought by Gerald Allman of Claremont.

His application was against Reeve George Todd; Deputy-Reeve Dr. Kenneth Roberts; Councillors, Wm. G. Newman, Hugh Michell and William G. Lawson and the Township of Pickering.

It is expected that a hearing will be ordered next week.

The court also ordered that all documents involved in the vote to set up a municipal water supply system also be delivered in court.

## \$400 Fine or Two Months for Selling Booze

Walter Thorn, Gravel Hill was fined \$400 or an alternative two months in jail for selling booze at his home. The Crown requested that his premises be declared a public place and Magistrate Hollinrake so ruled. Costs amounted to \$18 and accused was not immediately able to produce the fine imposed.

The case had been adjourned for a week and proceeded on Tuesday in Newmarket court. Thorn was represented by solicitor J. Vale.

In Tuesday's evidence Mrs. Thorn testified that she sent her daughter to call the police because her husband had been drinking for two days and "threatening us." "We did not sell liquor that day, he offered to give it away," Mrs. Thorn denied that she told officers she was fed up with all this bootlegging. She said that glasses of beer sitting around in the house had been left there by her husband and not the young men who were discovered there by police.

Under cross examination Mr. Thorn testified that he was a truck driver and had made \$3500 in six months last year. A liquor permit produced in court showed nineteen bottles purchased in December and 120 purchased on two permits since last July.

Accused stated that he could not remember making any statement to the police. "Have you ever been convicted under the Liquor Control Act?" asked the Crown. "Yes, eighteen years ago, but I was bribed into that," "Too late to appeal it," commented the Crown Attorney.

Messrs. Hopkins, Benson and White found by police at the premises the day the police were called testified that they had had nothing to drink that day.

Constable McDonald called to the stand stated that Thorn got \$1 for three bottles. "I saw all three men and they had been drinking, smelled it and were unsteady," he stated. Defence counsel Vale said in asking for dismissal, "there is no evidence of sale on Jan. 8th."

Magistrate Hollinrake replied, "This man is in the wealthy bracket by the amount of liquor he buys."

In summing up the Magistrate stated, "The statement of the accused that he makes \$3500 in six months and buys 120 bottles since last July. Admission of buying eight cases of beer at a time and no recollection of where the other beer came from. All these things support evidence under the Liquor Control Act. I do not believe the three young men at all, and for these reasons I am making a conviction. Accused did keep liquor for sale on Jan. 8th. The fine should bear some relation to the financial position of the accused as well as the amount of traffic, \$400 or two months."

Cy Bellman, your local Lincoln welder will hold a Welding Clinic on Friday evening, Feb. 12 at 7:30 p.m., Main St., Stouffville. Everyone welcome.

## Board Agrees on Kindergarten, Will Hire New Teacher

Stouffville Public School Board meeting in regular session on Tuesday evening agreed by resolution that a kindergarten be opened as part of the regular public school course to commence next September. A new teacher will be required to handle this new room and the position is being advertised this week.

While it is known that a kindergarten in the public school will absorb the greater proportion of the children now attending the Nursery School class operated in the United Church Sunday School, a survey will be taken early in the spring to ascertain the exact number to be expected for the new class.

Constable Hilliard appeared before the Board and presented the much publicized "Elmer the Safety Elephant" plan for educating the children in the rules of safety. The officer stated that he was also preparing a number of short talks which he would give to the children in the school in conjunction with the safety elephant program. It was hoped that the local Chamber of Commerce would act as sponsor for the program and shoulder the expenses involved and Constable Hilliard told the Board that he would approach this organization at their meeting on Thursday night.

Mrs. Anna Schell is presently staying with her daughter, Mrs. Lloyd Moyer, Church St.

Mr. and Mrs. John Wallwork and daughter Linda attended the dinner on Saturday in Toronto for Mr. and Mrs. W.E. Briard.

The regular I.O.O.F. meeting will be held on Monday evening, Feb. 15th.

The Stouffville Youth for Christ band, under the direction of Mr. W.E. Ryan is an entry in the 11th annual Kiwanis Music Festival which will be held from Feb. 15th to 27th.

A packed house greeted the Ambrose Brothers of Toronto on Sunday evening at the Y.F.C. Fireside Hour. The winter season of Sunday Night Fireside Rallies is already half gone. If you have been wanting to attend one of these Rallies, better drop around this week, to the Second Markham Baptist Church at 9 p.m. The film this week is one of the beautifully coloured series on the Life of Christ, entitled, "Jesus and the Fishermen."

## Markham Road Budget Set at \$154,150 for 1954

After careful deliberation, Markham township council in special session Wednesday of last week passed, subject to the approval of the Provincial Department of Highways a \$154,150 road budget for 1954.

This year's road budget which was presented to Council by Road Committee Chairman Deputy-Reeve W. Clark and Committee member councillor Mrs. K. James, met with a good reception by the other members of Council.

The largest item in this year's budget is \$35,000 for calcium and oil (dust control) followed by the machinery account of \$29,100 and gravel account of \$25,000. On these items in 1953, \$20,000 was set aside for calcium and oil; \$30,100 for machinery and \$25,000 for gravel.

This year's total budget figure of \$154,150 is \$11,850 increase over the 1953 road budget of \$142,300 but still lower than 1952's road budget of \$164,550. Early last year the Department of Highways arbitrarily cut the proposed budget by \$25,000. However as a result of a series of meetings between Council and Govern-

## Five Generations For Birthday

Five generations were present last week to help Albert Hoover, well known Ringwood resident, celebrate his 85th birthday. The occasion was marked at the home of his daughter Mrs. Algie Thomas of Oshawa. Present were Mrs. Myrtle Davis, a daughter from Ringwood, granddaughter Mrs. Arnold Kemp and her husband of Toronto, great granddaughter Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Benzinger of Toronto and great great granddaughter Linda Irene Benzinger, also a number of friends.

## Big Vote for Warble Fly Control

Markham Township Federation of Agriculture reports that the circulation of the Warble Fly and Brucellosis petitions has been completed in Markham Township. Ninety-five per cent of the cattle owners voted in favour of spraying for warble flies and ninety per cent voted in favour of calfhood vaccination for the control of Brucellosis. These petitions will be presented to the council at an early date, so that final arrangements may be made to carry out these two programs.

The executive of the Federation of Agriculture wishes to thank all those who helped with circulating the petitions.

## Mr. and Mrs. Briard Wed 61 Years

Mr. and Mrs. W.E. Briard were honoured at a dinner Saturday evening, Feb. 6th on the occasion of their sixty-first wedding anniversary. Both are in their eighty-fourth year and enjoy good health. Residents of Stouffville for many years they are now residing in Toronto.

## ROBT. HOLMAN HEADS LOCAL LEGION

Robt. Holman has been elected president of the Stouffville Legion Branch No. 459 at the recent annual elections. Other officers and committee members named are as follows: 1st vice pres., Harold Murphy; 2nd vice pres., Jack Skinner; secretary, Murray Sinclair; treas., Jack Garrett; sergt. at arms, Bernie Tunney; padre, Rev. Douglas Davis; executive committee, Bert Lickorish, Wm. Malloy, Fred Castle, Walter Smith, Arthur Heaton; in charge of renting, Walter Smith, Wm. Malloy.