

Growing Pains Continue for B. & S. Telephone

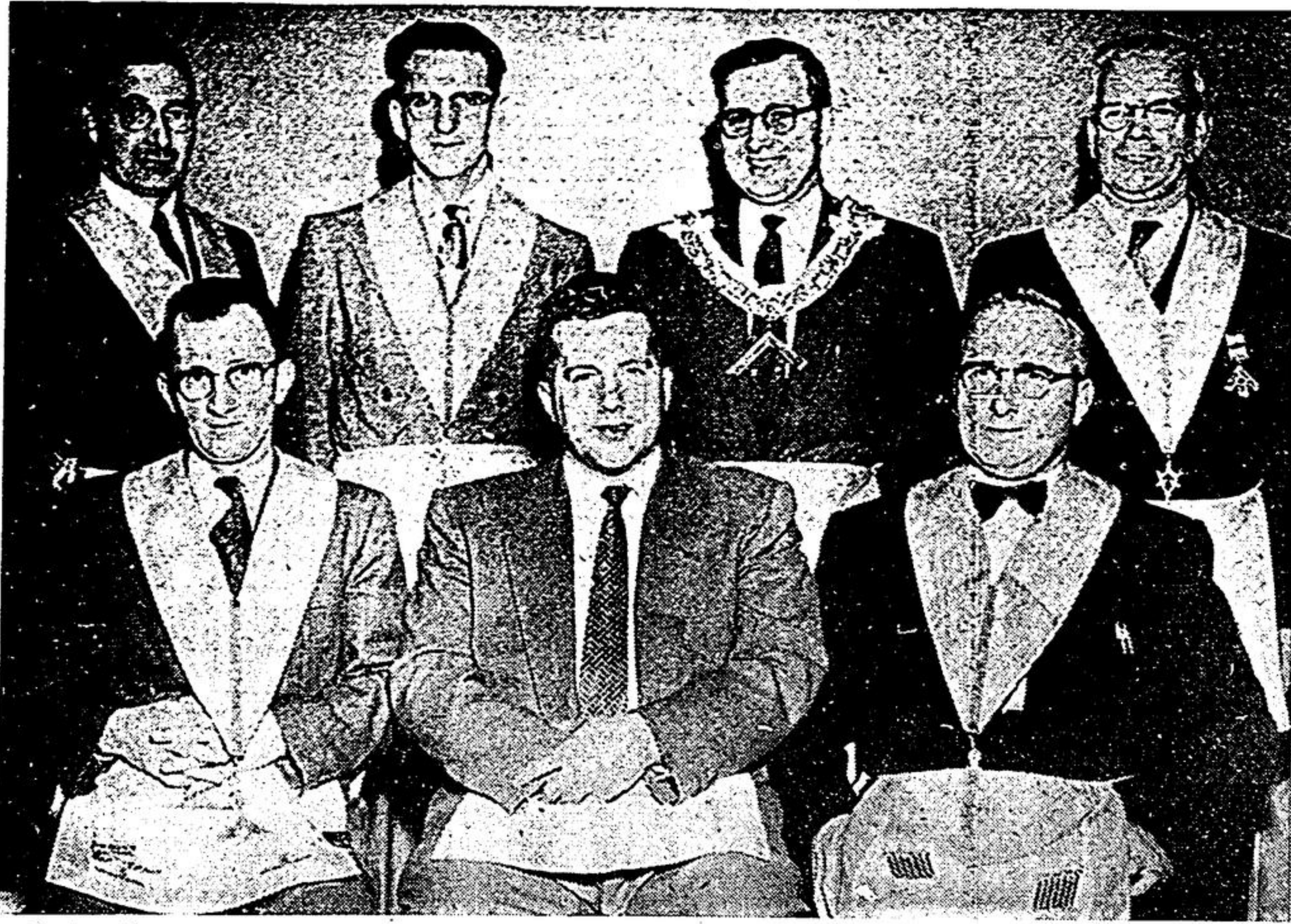
(continued from page 1)

his service. Very soon this service became unreliable because of the overload on our rural line. More and more frequently some person—after losing considerable time in vain efforts to ring a doctor—had to hitch a horse and drive to Stouffville. This was annoying to the subscriber, and brought upon us criticism that was understandable, but which we felt we scarcely deserved.

With the installation of the 50-line switchboard and the multi-division of our rural lines, the number of circuits that were in service became so great that it was impossible to give night service by leaving all rural lines and all doctors' lines connected with the switchboard throughout the night, and for some time even the presence of giving service between the hours of 10 o'clock p.m. and 6 a.m. was abandoned.

By this time our subscribers were becoming so telephone conscious that there was a sense of being isolated—during the closed hours—such as they had never experienced in the days when there was no telephone service, either day or night. The demand for night service became so insistent that we began to consider what we could do to meet the demand. It was a serious problem, as keeping a night operator was beyond our ability, having regard to our income. Finally, on the suggestion of Mr. James H. Ratcliffe, we resurrected the discarded 10-line switchboard, and installed it in his bedroom. A cable was improvised from several strands of dropwire, and carried to the switchboard in the store. Lines were doubled up during night hours and we were able to give night service—of a sort—through lines within the village, other than doctors' lines, had no night service.

UNIQUE INITIATION CEREMONY AT RICHARDSON LODGE



No less than seven members of the Wagg family were involved in the initiation ceremony of Kenneth Wagg of Stouffville into Richardson Lodge last week. They are, from left to right, rear: Herb Wagg, Elgin Wagg, Worshipful Master Ken Wagg and Norm Wagg; front, Dean Wagg, Ken Wagg, candidate, and Laurie Wagg.

There were no push-buttons in those days; consequently every time the crank was turned, on any phone, the buzzer in James Ratcliffe's bedroom would sound and would continue to sound the alarm until silenced by the operator. Under these conditions it was imperative that subscribers should refrain from touching their telephones excepting when it was absolutely necessary. Co-operation of our subscribers was necessary, to make the service

successful. We made specific request for this co-operation, and obtained it from the vast majority. However, there were some who paid no attention, and one or two unresponsive subscribers could give a lot of trouble. On one line there was such frequent disregard that we issued a circular letter to every subscriber on that line, that night service would be denied to that line unless the unnecessary use of the line during night hours was discontinued. This warning was ignored and we discontinued the service for several weeks. This improved matters but occasionally, at social gatherings, some "smart" youths would deliberately ring central as a joke.

When harvest work began we were compelled to make a change in the service. Night service was instituted, primarily for emergency service—sickness of man or beast. When harvest time arrived, and threshing and silo-filling commenced, at six o'clock each morning there was such a flood of calls from farmers, arranging

for exchange of work, that James Ratcliffe had no further rest.

Service from 6 a.m. until the store opened for business had to be abandoned, and when the flood of calls began, the buzzer was silenced by pulling a switch and cutting off the switchboard. For convenience James Ratcliffe stretched a cord from the switch to the side of his bed. He could then silence the buzzer without rising from his bed. To his consternation, one morning he discovered that during the night the buzzer had sounded without thoroughly waking him and he had automatically reached for the convenient cord and pulled the switch, instead of servicing the call. The convenient cord had to be abandoned.

In the year 1911 we decided that better night service should be given. Thomas B. Rae was engaged as night operator. The switchboard in James Ratcliffe's bedroom was discarded and night service was given to all lines, subject to a night-service

Local and Personal Happenings

Mrs. Lloyd Moyer of Church St., Stouffville, visited Friday afternoon with her sister, Mrs. Henry Steckley of Gormley.

Mr. George Abel of Montreal, Mr. and Mrs. Sel Abel and Mr. and Mrs. W. Hardy of Toronto were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Abel.

First sitting of local Division Court was held in Stouffville on Thursday morning with Judge Shea presiding. Only case heard was one judgment summons.

Mrs. Warren Moyer and Norma Jennie of Dickson's Hill, Mildred Hayer and Ruth Walls, Stouffville, called on Friday at the home of Mrs. John Hawkins and Carolyn Joyce.

Mrs. A. F. Toogood, president of York-Simcoe Home and School Council, will be the speaker at the Founders Day meeting of the Stouffville Home and School Association, Feb. 2.

Weekend visitors with Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Hall, Springhurst Farm, Ninth Line, were Mrs. Eleanor Waite and a skiing party which included Carol Lord, Murray Burke, June Stewart and Fred Waite, all of Toronto.

As the final culmination to the meeting which the public school board had recently with parents who were protesting against the fact that pupils were kept out of the school building in the morning and noons, a letter was sent home with each pupil last week, setting out the new hours which had been agreed to by the deputation. Chief change is the fact that the school is open each morning at 8:30. Pupils are admitted to classrooms at 8:45. At noon hour the children may go to the basement and washrooms at any time and there is admission to the classrooms at 1 p.m. Street crossing supervision is provided in the morning, noon and afternoon.

The Women's Association of the Stouffville United Church met in the church parlors for the first meeting of the new year, with Mrs. Donald Middleton, Vice President, presiding. After the singing of the hymn "Standing at the Portal of the Opening Year" and prayer, the officers for 1955 were installed by the Rev. D. Davis, as follows:

Pres., Mrs. Arthur Wood; Vice Pres., Mrs. R. Button and Mrs. D. Middleton; Recording Secretary, Mrs. A. Logan; Treasurer, Mrs. G. Thomas; Pianist, Mrs. Claud Brillinger; Asst., Mrs. C. Nolan; Parsonage Committee: Mrs. Wes. Schell, Mrs. Fred Campbell; Card & Flower Committee, Mrs. A. Campbell and Mrs. J. McCreight; Social Comm., Mrs. Topham, Mrs. Elson and Mrs. Fairles; Kitchen Committee, Mrs. Hammersley, Mrs. W. Ford and Mrs. G. Ford; Victor Home, Mrs. N. O'Boyle.

Mrs. Wood, our new president, conducted the business, and the annual reports were given. Our guest speaker for the evening was Miss Brooks, who chose as her theme "At the Portals of the New Year." Sorrows and joys of 1954 are behind us; let us go into the new year with Jesus Christ as our guide and he will give us strength to face the trials of each day.

Two beautiful selections were played on the piano by Miss Hisey and Mrs. Ross Winterstein entertained us with two delightful recitations.

Mr. Davis closed the meeting with prayer and a social half hour followed.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Zeller, Mongolia, accompanied by Mrs. Ern Madill and Wayne of Toronto, spent the weekend in Galt visiting Mr. and Mrs. Les Perrin.

On Tuesday, January 18th, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Little, Wilcott Hill Farm, Agincourt, celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary. The couple, who are life-long residents of Scarboro Township, were at home to many callers and were showered with gifts and cards. Mr. and Mrs. Little's family consists of James of Tilley, Alta., Audrey (Mrs. Alex B. Meiklejohn) of Toronto; and three grandchildren. Another son, Flight Lieutenant Stewart W. Little, D.F.C., lost his life overseas in 1944.

The Stouffville Women's Institute met in Christ Church Parish Hall on Thursday afternoon, Jan. 20th. Mrs. Sanderson, the president, conducted the business. The programme, in charge of Mrs. Baxter, convener of Historical Research and Current Events, and her committee, consisted of readings, a "History of the Sangster Family" as compiled by Mr. Allan Sangster, and a contest. The draw for the quilt and doll was made, the quilt going to Mrs. A. V. Nolan and the doll to Mrs. Milt. Burk. A social half-hour followed.

The regular monthly meeting of the Afternoon Auxiliary of the Women's Missionary Society of the United Church will be held in the church parlors on Thursday, Feb. 3, at 2:30 p.m. Mrs. Albert King will conduct the worship period, Mrs. Kellington, soloist, and Mrs. S. S. Ball will review the work of the Church in India. A special offering will be taken for our supply work. A very cordial invitation is extended to all the women of the congregation.

—O. I. Winterstein

A water break on Church St. Monday caused a shutdown in the service there for a short time.

Plan not to miss that musical treat being brought to the Stouffville High School Auditorium on Feb. 17 and 18, the Ross Caldwell Singers, direct from Eaton Auditorium. Tickets will be on sale this week at various business places. Proceeds are in aid of the Lions Club welfare work.

Stouffville Fire Brigade was called to the Eugene Lemon farm on the 9th cent. of Whitchurch on Monday just at the supper hour, when a spark from the chimney threatened to ignite the roof of the house. However, the threat was soon squelched with no damage resulting.

Mr. Don Moyer, former Stouffville boy, and teacher now for some years at Malvern Collegiate, was a visitor in town on Saturday night. Mr. Moyer's daughter is presently in the Sick Children's Hospital undergoing an operation and he himself did not enjoy the best of health during the recent Christmas vacation period; friends will regret to learn. However, both are now "on the mend."

Lois Perkins, 11, of Richmond Hill, was first place in the York County public school students' public speaking contest held before county council members at Newmarket on Thursday. Lois was complimented by the judges for her well prepared address, and will represent the county in the provincial finals this spring. Second place was awarded to Barbara Rhodes, of Newmarket, and Donna Graham, of Woodbridge, was given third prize. Judges for the competition were Mrs. Elton Armstrong of Armatage; Rev. Geo. H. Thomas of Markham, and J. H. Knowles of Aurora.

We arrived REFRESHED . . . by bus

There's plenty of fun and plenty to do when you go on a trip. Enjoy sightseeing all the way and arrive in the mood for enjoyment—by bus.

LOW ROUND TRIP FARES (Subject to Change)	COLONIAL VIRGINIA Package Tour 8 Days—\$69.77 (From Toronto) RETURN FARE Sightseeing and Hotel Room (Double) 5 nights Ask your Agent for details of this or other Package Tours
MONTREAL \$ 17.50	
PHILADELPHIA 24.70	
BUFFALO 7.95	

Tickets and information at **SNOWBALL'S BARBER SHOP**
Phone 270j2

UP TO \$25 TRADE-IN ALLOWANCE
FOR YOUR OLD WATCH*
ON ANY **NEW BULOVA**

FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY!

GODDESS OF TIME
17 Jewels, expansion bracelet \$7500

IRENE
17 Jewels, expansion bracelet \$5950

ARDSLEY
17 Jewels, expansion bracelet \$6750

*Regardless of Age Make or Condition!

"QUALITY" "SERVICE"

Fuel Fuel Fuel

"Reliable" Hard Coal (stove, nut coal)
Pocohantas Stove Coal, Stoker Coal.
DOM FUEL
STOVE OIL
KEROSENE
DIESEL FUEL

STIVER BROS.
Stouffville Ontario

Stanley Theatre Program for February

Monday & Tuesday — 31st & 1st "HELL BELOW ZERO" ALAN LADD & JOAN TETZEL Short & Cartoon	Wednesday & Thursday — 2nd & 3rd "RAIDERS OF THE SEVEN SEAS" JOHN PAYNE & DONNA REED Comedy, Travelogue & Cartoon	Friday & Saturday — 4th & 5th "APACHE" (Technicolor) BURT LANCASTER & JEAN PETERS Comedy & Cartoon
Monday & Tuesday — 7th & 8th "DIAL 'M' FOR MURDER" color—adult entertainment RAY MILLAND & GRACE KELLY Sport Reel & Cartoon	Wednesday & Thursday — 9th & 10th "Turned Out Nice Again" GEORGE FORMBY "Throw A Saddle on a Star"	Friday & Saturday — 11th & 12th "BLACK HORSE CANYON" JOEL MCCREA & MARIE BLANCHARD "Prowlers of the Everglades" Cartoon
Monday & Tuesday — 14th & 15th "THE LONG WAIT" (adult entertainment) ANTHONY QUINN & CHAS. COLBURN Shorts & Cartoon	Wednesday & Thursday — 16th & 17th "MAN WITH A MILLION" GREGORY PECK & JANE GRIFFITHS Sport Short & Cartoon	Friday & Saturday — 18th & 19th "GREAT DAN PATCH" DENNIS O'KEEFE & GAIL RUSSEL "Laurel & Hardy in the Foreign Legion" Cartoon
Monday & Tuesday — 21st & 22nd "DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE" DIRK BOGARD & MURIEL PAVLOV Comedy & Cartoon	Wednesday & Thursday — 23rd & 24th "SO BIG" JANE WYMAN & STERLING HAYDEN Short & Cartoon	Friday & Saturday — 25th & 26th "ARROW IN THE DUST" (color) STERLING HAYDEN & COLEEN GRAY "Jungle Gents" THE BOWERY BOYS Cartoon

Skating Club's Spring Carnival To Be April 1st

An open meeting of The Stouffville Skating Club was held on Thursday, Jan. 20th, at the Municipal Hall. The President, Mr. Foord, outlined a sketch of the plans for the forthcoming carnival. The date set at the local arena is Friday night, April 1. The following committees were arranged—Programme, tickets, property, costume, music, and publicity.

Last Thursday afternoon the first visitor's day was held at the club. The "Tots" was the first group to entertain a number of their little friends.

The following events will take place in the near future Preliminary Tests at Stouffville Arena, Saturday, Jan. 29, at 8:30 a.m. Interclub at Peterboro Sunday, Feb. 6th.

The audience at last year's local carnival will readily recall the very clever performance of young Donald Jackson of Oshawa, especially his comedy number with the rag doll. This past week-end Donald at the age of 14 won the Canadian Junior Figure Skating championship. None of Donald's scores were below 8.3 out of a perfect 10. "Those are exceptional scores," one veteran skater observed, "especially for a youngster in his first real competition. He's going to be a great skater."

—F. J. Vacher

CO-OP
HOG FEEDING PROGRAM
More Pounds for Less Cost.

from **BIRTH TO MARKET**

Stouffville Co-op
Stouffville Phone 269 or 122