

Costly Local Fires



Two costly fires, one in Stouffville and the other north of Ballantrae last week caused an estimated \$12,000 damage. The blaze in the partially completed home of Mr. Harold Lewis, Lloyd Avenue, Stouffville (above) completely destroyed the structure. The fire broke out on Thursday morning and in a matter of minutes it was out of control. The local brigade poured gallons of water onto neigh-

boring residences belonging to Messrs Les Wilson and Wes Jack in order to keep the outbreak from spreading. The efforts of firemen were hampered by an extremely high wind which fanned the flames. The fire started when the stove toppled over a small oil stove on the floor of the house. Mr. Lewis, the owner, was burned about the hands and face when he attempted to squelch the blaze with a blanket.

On Saturday morning, the insulbrick home of Mr. and Mrs. Elwyn Eby, Cherry St., north of Ballantrae, was almost entirely destroyed by fire. The fire started when the remains of the structure is pictured in the lower photo. The Mount Albert fire brigade answered the call but lack of water hampered their efforts. Mr. and Mrs. Eby were married only last summer. Both are employed in Stouffville.

Caretaker Returns to High School with Boost in Pay

Reviewing the events at an emergency meeting held to consider the matter of janitorial services at the High School, the trustees at their last meeting confirmed the return to the caretaking position of James Bickett at an advanced salary. Notice was previously given to the Board of Mr. Bickett's resignation, and Mr. E. Jones was named to succeed him in the position. Mr. Jones in turn turned down the job when the nature of the work was more fully explained, and the Board met to consider a new offer from Mr. Bickett. By the terms of the new contract, the salary for the caretaker is to be \$3500 from the first of this year, an increase of \$500 from the previous salary scale. It was pointed

out that the work involved in caring for the school has required the services of the caretaker's wife, and Mrs. Bickett is to be paid \$500 per year, dating back to the beginning of last September.

FRED WICKS TO HEAD RURAL SAFETY CAMPAIGN

Mr. Fred Wicks, 9th concession of Markham, will represent the York County Federation of Agriculture in the recently-organized Rural Safety Campaign which will start on Monday, Feb. 20th and conclude on Sat. Feb. 25th. The campaign is receiving the all-out support of the Ontario Provincial Police and the Attorney General's Dept.

May Abolish Markham Twp. Game Preserve

The Department of Lands and Forests have informed Markham they are considering the future status of the Township's Crown Game Preserve. The preserve which covers approximately 2,000 acres was established some 15 years ago. The Department has suggested the Township consider abolishing the preserve and re-classifying it as a regulated hunting area. Several members of Council are receiving complaints that the increased number of foxes in the preserve are creat-

ing havoc with farmer's flocks of poultry. Even in a game preserve, people are allowed to destroy any vermin found on their own property. Councillor V. Griffin suggested the establishment of a Township conservation club might be the answer to the problem of certain animals which are destroying farmers' property. Before taking any action on the game preserve question, the members will first consult with their Game Warden, Everett Harper.

MARKHAM FAIR SHOWS PROFIT

The financial statement for the year 1955, just released by the executive of the Markham and East York Agricultural Society reports a profit for the past year of \$1,613.20. This is in contrast to the previous year when the Fair wound up in the red to the extent of \$1,036.21. The report will be presented to a meeting of the Society which is scheduled for next Tuesday night at 8 o'clock, in the Markham Veterans' Hall. The election of officers for the coming year is on the agenda, and general business will also be dealt with at this time.

During the year just past, the report reveals, revenue from admission tickets sold soared to exceed the \$8,000 mark, almost double the figure for '54. There was an increase also in the total of grants and donations to the society, with \$10,714.23 being the figure for 1955, as against last year's sum of \$7,453.29.

Items of expenditure which were increased in the past year in comparison to the 1954 figure were prize expenditures, band and costume costs, and prizes for harness races and commercial features.

During the year, a loan of \$50,000 was obtained by the society, the greater part of this being spent on the erection of the new buildings and on improvements to the grounds. The summary of assets now places the value of the buildings at \$125,000, while the grounds are valued at \$25,000. In summary, the assets of the corporation are reported to exceed the liabilities by \$107,232.67.

COMPANY TAKES NEW PARTNER

A half interest in the Stouffville Creamery Co. has been purchased by Mr. Fred Crossen, long-standing employee of the firm. Mr. Crossen began work there as a young lad in 1918 and has continued for thirty-seven years.

The Stouffville Creamery was begun by Jos. Borinsky, his late father Isaac and a brother Jacob, the year that Mr. Crossen began his employment. The business has grown and prospered and its output of butter poundage has gone way past the million mark per year. A thriving locker business was also added.

The new partnership of this old-established firm will be welcomed in the business fraternity of Stouffville.

Board Wants School Cafeteria To Pay Its Way

Summarizing his opinions with regard to the operation of the cafeteria at the Stouffville High School, chairman A. G. Thompson has stated that cafeterias in other schools will be studied in an effort to improve the paying position here. Already several members of the board have inspected the cafeteria at the Markham High School, which each month is able to report a substantial profit. The inspecting members were impressed by the operations there, and have expressed the belief that the financial side of the local school restaurant can be improved.

First step in the tightening up of the operations will be the tabling of regular reports with the trustees. The problem is presently in the hands of the management committee, composed of C. E. Edwards and Mrs. Button, who will bring their findings to the board at a later date.

The Tribune has new Remington Portables for sale.

Livestock Claim at Buttonville in '54 Still Not Settled by Council

Markham Township Council received recently a report from the Provincial Livestock Commissioner dealing with a long-standing claim submitted by Mr. Charles Hooper of Buttonville. The claim for livestock killed was sent to the Commissioner by way of appeal when settlement was refused by the township. The letter from the Commissioner, Mr. W. P. Watson, has been referred to the township solicitor for study.

The first claim is for 60 laying pullets which Mr. Hooper, a Buttonville farmer, maintains were killed by dogs in July, 1954. Council refused payment of the claim on the grounds that the provisions of the statute had not been complied

Will Expand Public School Facilities to Ease Crowding

At the next meeting of the Stouffville Public School Board which will be held on Feb. 9th, the members will give careful consideration to the question of increased facilities to meet the present day and future needs of an increasing attendance problem. Both the purchasing of a new school site and the erection of a new addition to the present building will be discussed with Inspector Hallman. Principal Lorne Roadway will also meet with his staff to obtain their views on the problem. The annual Budget Meeting will be held on Monday, Feb. 20th.

The hiring of two additional teachers was discussed briefly. At the present time there are 11 teachers on the staff including the Principal. It was believed that another teacher for Grade 8 would allow Mr. Roadway more time for supervision. After considerable discussion it was agreed that Progress Reports as recommended by Inspector Hallman, should be obtained. These reports will follow a pupil through Public School and will be passed on to the High School Principal when the student enters Grade nine. The Stouffville Ministerial Association will be contacted this week with regard to Religious Instruction in the school.

The Standing Committees for 1956 were appointed as follows: Management, Mrs. Mary Smith and Len Wilkes; Property, Keith Middlemiss and Wm. Malloy; Finance, Mrs. Ethel Mole and Cec Hendricks. The establishing of a scholarship in honour of Mr. Cedric Watson who recently resigned from the Principalship of the Stouffville Public School has been dropped. No provision is made in the Public School Act for the establishment of such a scholarship and Mr. Watson informed the Secretary that he was not in favor of the plan.

JUDGE UPHOLDS THREE APPEALS

Three appeals by Markham township residents against their 1956 assessments were recently upheld by York County Judge F. G. McDonagh.

The three successful appeals were made by residents living on the 7th concession in the back part of the municipality.

Mr. Fred Vacher, lot 5, Concession 7, had his assessment reduced on a 14-acre plot of vacant land from \$70 an acre to \$50 an acre. In his submission Mr. Vacher maintained the property in question should be taxed as agricultural land and not as residential.

Mr. Vacher is the former unsuccessful candidate for Ward 3 in December's voting for the 1956 Markham township council.

Planning Board Named By Markham Twp.

Mr. C. J. Laurin, who has one more year to serve on the Markham Township Planning Board, will continue as chairman for 1956, it was disclosed at a recent meeting of the township council. Mr. Vern Griffin was named as the representative of council for this year.

The other members of the Planning Board, with their term of office are as follows: Frank Brumwell, Victoria Sq., 2 yrs.; Alvin Gamble, Unionville, 2 yrs.; Hugh Brennan, Bayview, 3 yrs.; Henry Sissons, Box Grove, 3 yrs.

Vaughan Reeve New Warden of York County

Marshall McMurchy, eleven years on the council of the Township of Vaughan, was elected County of York at the opening 1956 session on Tuesday of this week. Warden McMurchy has been township reeve for the past five years. The oath of office was administered by Judge Douglas Webster.

Ralph Corner, retiring warden, listed the new Family Court at Aurora and the Registry Office addition, Newmarket, as highlights during his term of office. Warden McMurchy, in his address to council, commented on the progress being made towards a settlement regarding the undue burden caused the county by reason of Bill 50. He pointed out the tremendous residential growth throughout the county and warned that industrial growth must come along as well or the services to be provided by the municipalities in 1956 would prove an onerous burden.

Whitchurch Boy Recovering After Shooting

Fifteen year old Lionel Bell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bell, 6th concession of Whitchurch, was accidentally shot by his 13 year old brother on Sunday afternoon. The bullet entered his right lung and liver and lodged against his spine. The wounded lad was rushed to the York County Hospital, Newmarket, in an O.P.P. cruiser from the Vandorf detachment, and an emergency operation was performed. The bullet has not been recovered as yet but his parents believe their son is now out of danger.

Mr. Bell said the two brothers were using the rifle for target practice and both believed the gun wasn't loaded. The Bell family were former residents on the 9th concession of Markham, three miles south of Stouffville.

Use Tribune scratch pads for your telephone calls.

A. G. Thompson Named Chairman H. S. Board

Mr. A. Glen Thompson was elected chairman for the coming year at the initial meeting of the Stouffville District High School Trustees held last week. He will be assisted by C. E. Edwards, who was the choice for vice-chairman. The election followed the swearing-in ceremony of the new board by village clerk Garfield Brown.

In his brief remarks following his election, Mr. Thompson called for full co-operation of the members, and urged brisk business sessions to speed the work of the group. He favoured fuller discussions in the committees. After this phase of discussion, he stated, the committee could then present their recommendation to the full board, who would then be able to give a speedy decision.

The meeting later selected the members for the committees, with the first named in each case being the chairman.

These are: Finance — trustees Williams and Edwards; Property — trustees Button and King; Management — trustees Edwards and Button; Transportation — trustees King and Williams.

The question of malicious damage to school property by members of the student body was discussed at some length. Principal O. E. Robbins reported that the incidence of damage was not very high. It was decided that it would be easier to keep the damage down by assessing the Students' Council in the case of malicious damage being done, and this step was then endorsed by the members for future action.

In discussing the approach to the school, it was regretted by the members that no action had yet been taken by the town toward providing proper sidewalks from Main Street to the High School grounds.

Lincolnvile Couple Wed For Fifty Years, Jan. 24

On Tuesday, Jan. 24th, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Courtney, residents north of Stouffville at Lincolnvile will mark their 50th wedding anniversary. Mrs. Courtney, the former Jennie Hardy, was born on the fifth concession of Uxbridge, the daughter of the late Robert Hardy and Gemina White. Mr. Courtney was born north of Clarendon, the son of the late James Courtney and Martha Carson.

The celebrated couple have been residents of Stouffville and district for nearly a half century. Following their marriage in the Uxbridge Baptist Church Parsonage, Mr. and Mrs. Courtney moved to Stouffville where they lived for some forty-five years. For the past four years they have resided at Lincolnvile.

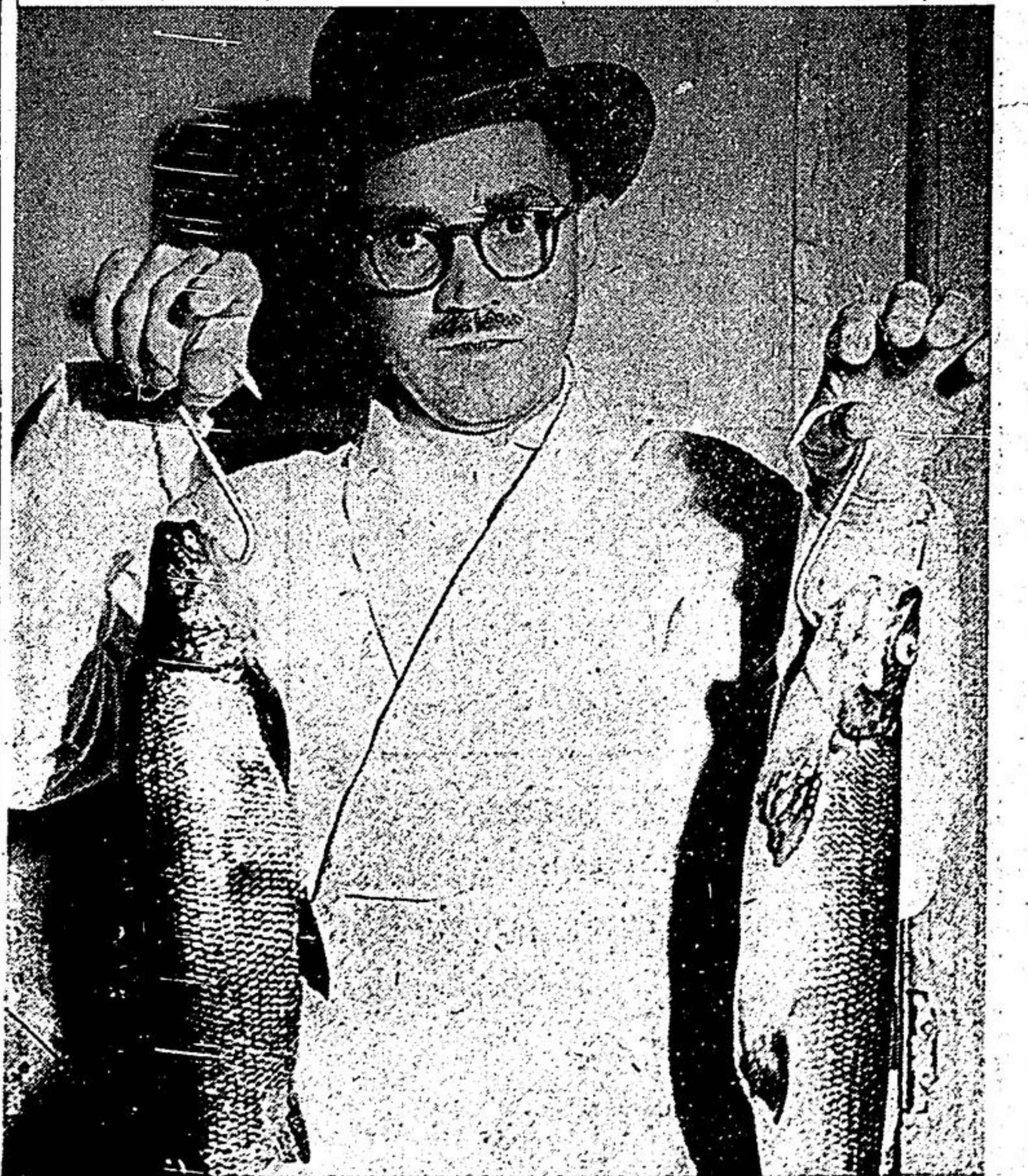
Mr. Courtney recalls vividly his wedding year of 1906. In a direct contrast to most winters a number of years ago, there was no snow during the winter and transportation was made almost entirely by horse and buggy. Mr. Courtney was very active in sports, holding down

a position with the famous Green River Shamrocks of football renown and also playing on the Clarendon football team. Such well-known Clarendon family names as Forsyth, Ward, Evans, Linton and many more are very familiar to Mr. Courtney. A few years ago, he worked as a carpenter at a wage of 40¢ per hour. Carpenters today earn more than \$2.00 per hour. Mr. and Mrs. Courtney have one son, Ted, who resides north of Stouffville. Mrs. Courtney has three brothers, Will Hardy of Orillia, Frank of Uxbridge, Ray of Scarborough and two sisters, Mrs. Roy Coppins of Clarendon and Mrs. T. Waynes of Toronto.

The Lincolnvile couple will celebrate their 50th anniversary quietly at home. The Tribune takes this opportunity of wishing them many more years of health and happiness together.

You can get a lot of service by putting a Coming Events notice in this newspaper — Cost is only 75¢.

Local Fisherman Displays Nice Samples



Mr. Norm O'Boyle, local butcher, is pictured above, holding samples of two fine 3-pound whitefish caught by a group of Stouffville fisher-

men early this week in the Lake of Bays District. Along with the men, Messrs. Ernie Austin, Roy Heaton, Norm O'Boyle and Dr. Button pulled in over fifty pounds of

fish. Mr. O'Boyle said that the waters were swarming with fish, many weighing between six and eight pounds apiece. The ice on the lake is about one foot thick.