

Four Members Bow Out Of York County Council

Four members of York County Council gave their Swan Songs at the final session of the 1956 council on Tuesday, Dec. 11. Two of them had retired from municipal politics and the others were defeated at the polls.

Deputy Reeve Albert Rutherford of Vaughan Township said he had enjoyed his five years as a member of County Council and he cherished the opportunity to sit there, but the electors had decided otherwise. He asked County Council to receive Vaughan's new representatives as well as they had him.

Reeve George Lamont of Sutton, who was defeated for the post of 1957 Reeve by Deputy Reeve William Sellers, thanked the council members for their

co-operation and assistance. Mr. Lamont was a County Commissioner this year.

"I'll guarantee that next year you will have shorter sessions," quipped Reeve Alf LeMasurier who resigned this year from his post as Reeve of Markham Twp. Deputy Reeve William Clark defeated Charles Hooper to become the 1957 Reeve. His post was filled by Donald Deacon, a former councillor.

"I'm sure just the same, you will miss me," continued Mr. LeMasurier. "I have enjoyed working on County Council. Thank you for your support," he added.

Also retiring from municipal office is Warden Marshall McMurchy, Reeve of Vaughan Twp. He thanked council members for their willingness to work together and said it had been an honor to serve as warden.

"There has been more discussion in County Council this year than for some time," added Mr. McMurchy. "That is a good thing. It brings out all sides of a question and helps clarify issues, giving members a better understanding of the problems."

Vaughan Township's reeve-elect is John Perry. He defeated Mr. Rutherford in the municipal elections. Deputy Reeve for 1957 will be Robert Kirk, both newcomers to County Council.

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GAL. OF OIL FROM TON OF CEDAR

A legal "still" is belching steam this fall on Brassell's Creek, north of Burritt's Rapids, in the Rideau district of Eastern Ontario. The raw material it uses is white cedar branches purchased from local farmers for \$20 a ton. The still product is cedar oil, with a commercial value of over \$25 a gallon.

The Ont. Dept. of Lands and Forests reports that about a gallon of light brown cedar oil is obtained from steaming a ton of cedar, with small branches giving a higher yield. White cedar growing in swamps gives a better grade of oil than high land cedar which usually grows on light sandy soils in Eastern Ontario.

The raw cedar oil, after further rectification, is used as an ingredient in liniments and other therapeutic preparations which are applied externally. Without further processing, cedar oil is an important component of floor and furniture waxes as well as being used as a residue carrier in insecticides.

In the process, four and a half tons of cedar branches up to one-quarter inch diameter (suppliers are advised to bring nothing larger than a lead pencil) are placed in a circular upright cooking tank seven feet in diameter and eight feet high. Steam is forced into the covered tank under 70 lbs. pressure per square inch and the branches are steamed for three hours. Then the oil and water mixture is pumped through a condenser.

AUDLEY

Mildred Puckrin The W.A. met at the home of Mrs. Frank Puckrin on Thursday evening with sixteen ladies present. Mrs. C. Clemence, the president, opened the meeting with a poem, followed by a hymn, the Creed and Theme song. The annual reports were given during the business period. The roll call was answered using the word "light".

Mrs. Wm. Guthrie Jr. conducted the Christmas worship service using the topic "His Constant Lamp," with the following ladies taking part - Mrs. Frank Puckrin, Mrs. Wm. Guthrie Sr., Mrs. J. Cowie, Miss Susie Puckrin, Mrs. C. White, Mrs. G. Astley, Mrs. C. Clemence, Mrs. G. Astley sang, "O Come, All Ye Faithful." Several Christmas carols were sung. The Rev. Buttars conducted the installation of officers. The cast group served refreshments. The W.A. Officers for 1957-58 are as follows: Hon. presidents,

Mrs. W. H. Guthrie, Mrs. D. M. Buttars; Pres., Mrs. Bert Guthrie; 1st Vice-pres., Mrs. Fred Puckrin; 2nd Vice-pres., Mrs. Geoff. Astley; Treasurer, Mrs. Arch Bell; Rec. Sec., Mrs. John Puckrin; Corr. Sec., Mrs. Charles Puckrin; Press Sec., Mrs. Fred Puckrin; Baby Band Supt., Mrs. George Squire, Mrs. G. Astley; Flower and Friendship Committees, East - Mrs. G. Astley, Mrs. C. Clemence, Mrs. Frank Puckrin; West - Mrs. Mac Hedge, Mrs. Fred Puckrin; Quilt Comm., Mrs. C. Clemence, Mrs. John Puckrin, Mrs. Wm. Guthrie Sr., Mrs. Frank Puckrin, Mrs. C. White, Mrs. Arch Bell; Parsonage Comm., Mrs. Frank Puckrin, Mrs. C. Clemence, Mrs. W. H. Guthrie; Citizenship Comm., Mrs. J. Cowie, Mrs. G. Astley, Mrs. A. Thompson, Mrs. A. Bell, Mrs. G. Peacock; Pianist, Mrs. A. Bell, Mrs. C. Clemence; Group Leaders, East - Mrs. Wm. Guthrie Jr.; West - Mrs. George Squire; Auditors, Mrs. G. K. Pratt, Mrs.

For '57, we've a wish sincere for you and those whom you hold dear. May the days of the coming year bring you peace and joy and all good cheer.

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New Year Greetings

HAROLD'S GRILL

Open from 8 a.m. - 10 p.m. New Year's SERVING SPECIAL NEW YEAR'S DINNER

Mac Hedge. The Club executives met at the home of the new president, Wm. Guthrie on Saturday evening to plan the activities for the next three months. Please

note that the next meeting which is to be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. Clemence will be one week later than usual - January 9.

Sincere sympathy is extended to the family of the late Mrs. Dick Squire, who passed away at her home on Tuesday of last week.

In September, our old church was torn down and construction on the new one was begun immediately by the Miller Construction Co. of Oshawa. Now it is completed; the pews are installed and most of the furnishings have been purchased. Because of the busy Christmas activities at present, the opening and dedication service will be held on January 6, at 2:30 p.m.

GORMLEY

Dec. 20 Rev. Joe Cober spent the weekend with relatives at Fordwich. Friends were sorry to learn that Mr. Ben Cober underwent a hernia operation in York County Hospital, Newmarket, on Monday. Mr. Cober is nearly 90.

Mrs. Ralph Empringham entertained recently at a baby shower in honour of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Empringham's twins.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Schelke are spending the winter in Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Farmer left on Wednesday for a two weeks holiday in Philadelphia.

RINGWOOD

Mrs. Fred Steckley Dec. 20 Mr. and Mrs. Almer Fockler called on Mr. and Mrs. Milford Rose on the occasion of their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Brownberger, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Brownberger had Sunday night dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Walter Pipher.

"To give is more blessed than to receive" was manifest on Sunday morning by the joyful smiles on the faces of children and adults as they brought their White Gifts to be distributed by and from the Toronto City Mission.

Mr. Leland Emmerson is enjoying a month's holiday with his mother, Mrs. A. Emmerson and family.

About one hundred and fifteen people enjoyed the Christmas supper held in the church basement on Dec. 10th. We would be thrilled to see everyone of you at Sunday School and church service.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Fockler of Medicine Hat, Alberta, are home for Christmas.

ALTONA

Dec. 17 Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Case of Mt. Albert were Sunday supper guests of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Bunker.

Congratulations to Altona School for winning second prize on their float at the Mt. Albert Santa Claus parade on Saturday.

Please phone your New Year's news to your correspondent and to 61313 next week, as it is hard to reach everyone by phone.

GLEN MAJOR

Dec. 20 Mr. Joe Paul from Edmonton visited with Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Johnson and family last week one day.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Hingston spent a day last week with Mr. and Mrs. Earle Parrott and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Biggs and family, Messrs. Cecil and Ross Wallis, Brooklin, visited with Mr. and Mrs. Jim Jones and family on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Lee and children spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Hingston.

Mr. George Gileson spent the weekend at his cottage here.

Mr. Joe Johnson spent Saturday afternoon with Mr. Rae Johnson who just returned from hospital on Friday.

Miss Hazel Jones spent Sunday at her home.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Jones visited Wednesday with Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Peddie and Artie of Claremont.

Mr. Joe Jones spent Friday afternoon with Mr. Bert Wilson.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish one and all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

PINE ORCHARD

Mrs. J. Pyle has been visiting her son and family in Toronto. Mr. and Mrs. Rae McClure were Toronto visitors last week. White Gift Service was held at Union Church on Sunday, also a special collection for Hungarian Relief.

Miss Church, R.N., was guest speaker at the W.I. meeting held at Mrs. Rae McClure's on Wednesday. A gift of jam, jelly and candy was collected for the residents of York Manor. Everyone joined in carol singing.

MIRACLE PLAY

Los Pastores, the hybrid Spanish-Indian miracle play introduced into Mexico centuries ago by Spanish monks and presented in San Antonio during the Christmas season, is enacted primarily for its spirituality.

A group of amateur actors go from house to house by invitation and because it is traditional that no one prompted by idle curiosity should witness the performance, only the initiated can find the scene of presentation.

Usually someone's back yard becomes the stage; the doorsteps serve as background for the Nacimiento. Manger scene: various objects are set on the stairs; pieces of crockery, tinsel, pin cushions, patron saints - anything the household considers especially beautiful. In the center of the lowest step, the Christ Child (a life-sized doll placed on a platter with divers gaudy candy) is surrounded by plaster shepherds, donkeys, etc.

A tent opposite the Nacimiento gives evidence of representing hell; a bonfire has been built within and live devils emerge therefrom.

The play has no definite time for beginning, but finally, a girl starts to walk back and forth reciting: Overdressed shepherds, one a seemingly endless song, Ermitano, the comic relief, carrying a rosary of spoils, also represents the soul of its earthly journey and is often accompanied by the white winged Archangel Gabriel.

It is a never-ending performance: seven devils, six in sequined black with animal masks and the fork-tailed Lucifer in brilliant red, are finally vanquished; likewise, a wild Indian is overcome and kisses the Christ Child; the shepherds and all in attendance kiss the Child, solemnly and as slowly as possible.

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